CHRISTCHURCH.

DEAR BEE. MARCH 21.

It is not with ordinary feelings of regret that the announcement of

Inverest, will be reart by hundreds of people. The sad event was not unexpected, for the deceased lady was overtaken by serious linese some time ago, which she bore with great courses linese some time ago, which she bore with great course with great course of the same some time ago, which she bore with great course linese some time ago, which she bore with great course with their family on the plains. The trains and difficulties of those oarly times were shared bravely by Mrs. Anderson, who proved herself a real coloniat and a fitting helpment for her worthy husband, and many a family and wayfarer has had reason to hiese and the same and the same of the same shaderson. Who had and many a family and wayfarer has had reason to hiese and the same shaderson. Her whole life has been one long thought for others, which has endeared her to a very large circle of friends whose grief will be heartfelt, and the despeat sympathy is folt for Mr Anderson and the family—four sons and two daughters. Mr and Mrs Anderson were within eighteen months of their golden wedding, but this celebration is seldom reached.

Friday afternoon Judge and Mrs Denniston entertained a number of friends at a very enjoyable THE DEATH OF MRS JOHN ANDERSON, BENK.

number of friends at a very enjoyable and mrs Denniston entertained a number of friends at a very enjoyable GARDEN PARTY.

The day was all that could be desired, a still nor wester prevailing. Tennis and croquet were played during the afternoon. Delicious afternoon tea, etc., were dispensed about the garden. Among the guests I noticed Mrs and the Misses Tabart, Mrs and Miss Harley, the Misses Gerard (two), Miss Black, in a corollower but dill consume; Mrs and the Misses Cowishaw, the latter in put of corold wilk produced the Misses Tabart, Mrs and Miss Harley, the Misses Gerard (two), Mrs Dinck, in a corollower but of the Misses Tabart, Mrs Gibbs, Mrs Andrew Anderson, and many others.

News reaches us of a delightful journey under other colours, and that if of the trip through the Otica Gorge to and from the West Coast. This has been done by parties, including ladies, and that if of the trip through the Otica Gorge to and from the American Comping out, and making quite a pleasure trip of it, and recently a party of ladies only, with the exception of the waggon-drivers, had a most enjoyable time. But the last trip of it, coach was beset with difficulties. At Kelly's Creek a portion of the road was washed away, and from the Bealey to Springfield & denae fog provailed. However, in Mr Casality's hands they all arrived safely after a protracted journey in bad weather almost all the way.

THE EASTER ENGAMPMENT

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THE EASTER ENGAMPMENT
promises to be very successful this year. The various companies
have been working hand at the new drill, and a large attendance
is one of our pretitest drives, and on Sunday all visitors will be
estartated at attendance when the working true autumn
and the summan of the sum

nignt, and if this lasts it will be perfect.

THE CHRISTCHURCH LIEDERKRANZCHEN,
or Society of the 'Song Wreath' is in a flourishing condition. It
held its second annual meeting last week, Mrs. Julius. the president, being in the chair. The outlook for the new season, which
begins next month, is very cheering. The number of subscribers
is increasing, and great interest is evinced among the working
members. Our musical friends in Auckland might do worse than
start something of the same kind among themselves, and so help
to pass the winter pleasantly.

to pass the winter pleasantly. The great QUESTION OF PROHIBITION is at present in everyone's mouth, and to morrow is the momentous day for casting in our vote with one side or the other. The State of Maine is quoted to us by certain ardent spirite as an excellent example of what people should be. But, dear readers, what think you of this - A captain of a certain vessel and a native of Maine, attended a meeting of non-prohibitionists the other night, and when asked his opinion on the subject, he simply replied, want as the control of the state of the second of the second

DOLLY VALE

WELLINGTON.

DEAR BEF, MARCH 22
The members of the Wellington Club intend A LARGE PICNIC TO REAR ADMIRAL BOWDEN-SMITH,

A LARGE PICNIC TO REAR ADMIRAL BOWDEN-SMITH, and for which they had issued a number of invitations, but as it had rained almost incessantly for a couple of days before that fixed for the picnic, and the ground was, of course, very damny is a fixed for the picnic, and the ground was, of course, very damny is the fixed for the picnic. The weather was fine but cold, and was just the day for an indoor entertainment. The Club was prettily decorated for the occasion, and nearly all the rooms were thrown open. Mr Edward Pearce, the President, received, and all the other members were most attentive, and gained giden opinions as hosts. The guests were received in the billiard-room, and then passed on the lear-counting afterwards clipter dancer, and the day for the first country of the

THE DRESSES.

present from all three ships. The Admiral was also introduced to most of the leading guests.

A number of beautiful gowns were worn by the ladies, among whom I saw Mrs Ilowl, the eldest daughter of Mr Pearce, who has just arrived from Home, wearing a pale betra-cotta, gown trimmed with pale biscuit lace, and a black bonnet brightened with gold; Miss Pearce wore a deeper shalo of tera-cuta trimmed with black, and a black bonnet; Mrs H. D. Crawford wore a fawn gown trimmed with silk; Lady Buckley, who is looking the shalo of tera-cuta trimmed with black, and a black bonnet; Mrs H. D. Crawford black jet bonnet in Mrs Pynsent, a lovely black gown brocaded with heliotrope, and a heliotrope and white bonnet; Mrs Pynsent, a lovely black gown brocaded with heliotrope, and a heliotrope and white bonnet; Mrs Hida Williams, Gobelin blue cream and gold bonnet; Miss Hida Williams, Gobelin blue with wide epaulettes of lace, and black wilve that; Miss Elfie Williams, a prelty burquoise blue and black striped gown black and blue shot allk trimmed with bands of blue silk covered with black insertion, and a jet bonnet; Mrs Hida Williams, Gobelin blue with black insertion, and a jet bonnet; Mrs Hell, fawn tweet, and small bonnet; I lady Campbell, fawn brocade cloth trimmed with black jact and black are the wardrop, rawn tweed, son data in the match with black lace; Mrs Wardrop, Awn tweed, son data in binath. Miss Buller, who has just arrived from Home, wore a dull fawn, and a bat to match; Mrs Hidop, a brown costume; Mrs W. Ferguson, royal blue brocade trimmed with black striped with fawn, and a bat concade trimmed with fawn, and a bat to match; Mrs Hidop, a brown costume; Mrs W. Ferguson, royal blue brocade trimmed with black striped with fawn, and a bat to match; Mrs Hidop, a brown costume; Mrs W. Ferguson, royal blue brocade trimmed with office lace and a jet bonnet; Mrs Hidop, a brown costume; Mrs W. Ferguson, royal blue brocade trimmed with office lace and a jet bonnet; Mrs Hidop, a brown costume; Mrs Holmos, and a brack and

Gibson, Dr. Gillon, Dr. Purdy, etc.

AT THE CRICKET MATCH,
which took place on the Basin Reserve between a team arranged
by Mr Werry and one selected from the three warships, there
were present Captain Lang, Captain and Mrs Gibson, the latter
in black; Mr Werry, Miss Medley, Mrs Travors, in blue serge;
Miss Coloridge, Mrs Barclay, in black; Mrs T. C. Williams and
the Misses Williams; Miss Hilda Moorhouse, in white duck and
a black hat with flowers; Mrs and the Misses Gore, Miss Noske,
the Misses Hey wood, the Misses Henry, wearing white gowns and
white hata with pink flowers; Miss Graham, in mauve; Mrs
Barry Goring, Miss B. Knight, Miss Gardiner, Miss Turnbull, Mrs
and Miss Bethune, Mrs Butts, Miss Ashbolt, Mr Bell, Msjor
Leefe, Meers Abdy, Pelly, Warren, etc.

OUR PEOPLE.

Leofe, Messrs Abdy, Pelly, Warren, etc.

Of R PEOPLE.

The wharf was crowded to day, on the occasion of the departure of the Tarawera for Australia. Mr and Mrs Jellicos and Miss Ludbrook all left in her for a visit to England, and Mrs J.S. M. Thompson, who has been visiting Mr and Mrs Krull, of Wangan, and Mrs Martell. Of Wolliegton, also left by hor, returning to her Mr and Mrs Taverner, of Rangitikei, and Mr and Mrs Abraham also leave this week for a trip to the old country.

Town will be exceedingly dull during the Easter holidays, for besides those who have gone away by sea, hundreds have gone up country to spend the next four days.

OPHELIA.

OPHELIA.

HASTINGS.

DEAR BEE.

MARCH 19.

DEAR BEE,

RACES.

Our March meeting was undoubtedly a sucress. There may not have been quite as many people as at provious meetings but they have been quite as many people as at provious meetings but they was a provious meetings but they were Mesdames J. N. Williams, Fred Nelson, Frank Nelson, Fitzroy, Russell, Newman (Wellington), Kinross, White, Gorc, Fenwicke, Donnelly, Hoadley, Reed, Vickerman, Sydney Johnston, Lagan, Montgonery, Mason, Carlille, Italy, Carlyon, Lagan, Montgonery, Mason, Carlille, Italy, Carlyon, Lowry, Salle, Taylor, Tyreman, Donnelly, Shaw (two), Lowry, Seale, Taylor, Tyreman, Donnelly, Shaw (two), Lowry, Seale, Taylor, Tyreman, Donnelly, Shaw (two), Haker, Rhodes, Hughes, and crowds more. Some of the gowns were exceedingly pretty, Mrs J. N. Williams wore a lovely shaded plum silk gown, lovely bonnet to match; Mrs Fitzroy, grey gown, black and gold jacket, small bonnet; Mrs Fitzroy, grey gown, black and polling to match; Mrs Fitzroy, grey gown, black and heliotrope bows; Mrs Lean, paic green gown trimmed with black insertion, black hat with black feathers; Mrs Sydney Johnston, pretty brown costume, and bonnet to match; Mrs Montgomery, dark gown trimmed with magentaribon velvet, white straw hat with yellow flowers: Mrs Height of the straw hat with yellow flowers was likely and the straw hat with yellow flowers mother, Mrs Tanner, black broaded gown with yellow yoke and ouffs covered with black lace, black hat with yellow flowers mother, Mrs Tanner, black broaded gown, white wastecate, black flat hat with pilk rowes; Mrs Lang livelo is on a visit to her mother, Mrs Tanner, black broaded gown, with yellow flowers. Mrs Fenwick, lovel) septine, white hat with black bows and black withers: Mrs Gore, grey gown, small gold bonnet; Miss Mussell, pretty light gown, large white hat with black bows and thank with yellow flowers. The wind

Mr and Mrs Fred Nelson leave shortly for England. They will carry with them many kind wishes from the numerous friends they leave behind. Mrs Russell, with her sleter, are away in Dunedin, but are ex-pected back shortly. Miss Gertrude Russell has returned from

Mrs Russell with nor success and the section of the period back shortly. Miss Gentrude Russell has returned from Australia.
Mrs Carlyon has been on a visit to her mother at Ferahill.
Mrs Lang (Omnarul has been staying at Riversica.
Miss Busby has been stopping at Wikkoko.
Some of our cricketers left this morning for the South, where they play a number of matches. Messes Gore. H. B. Williams, and Ludbrooks were amongst the players. Mr Brathwaite accompanied the team as scorer.

OHERCH MUSIC.

The Story of the Crost is being sung every evening this week in St. Matthew's Church, the solos being taken by different members of the choir. The singing on Sunday evening last was good to listen to. ODING AND COMING.

Miss Allan (Wellington) is on a visit to her brother, who has taken Mr J. B. Brathwaite's bouse furnished for some months. Mr and Mrs Philono, of Russell. Buy of Islands, have arrived and will take furnished apartments until their fine new bank is finished.
Mrs W. Chambers (Gisborne) is staying with Mrs Chambers, sonr., at Te Maia.
Mr. Hobbs palas.

Mr and Mrs Yorke go south shortly. They will be much missed. Miss Cara Russell has returned from Weilington.

miss Cara Russell has returned from Wellington.

OWNS.

Mre Tyreman is wearing a preity fawn gown with black bands, Amazon hat; Mrs Howard looks well in a preity pink gingham gown, black hat with black feathers; Mrs Lean looks nice in a heliotrope striped crepon gown, black hat with white roses; Missellaw wears a preity pais plink gown, cream hat with red popples; wings bound with fur, sallor hat; Mrs trosse, grey gown, small cape, black bonnet with yellow flowers; Mrs J., Williams wears a handsone black gown with white pipings, black bonnet with white roses; Miss Cara Russell, pretty cream gown, black fat hat and blue flowers.

PICTON.

MARCH 20.

DEAR BEE,
The tennis match

PICTON VERSUS BLENHEIM. had to be postponed indefinitely on account of rain. We were all so sorry for the girls, who had worked like Trojans to put the court in order, to practise for the coming tug-of-war, and in preparations to receive the visiting team in a suitable manner, but the rain was a regular' knock down argument, which even the most enthusiastic could not resist.

At a meeting of the WATOHI FOOTBALL CLUB.

it was resolved that, owing to the unforeseen blows of circumstance, which had removed some of the best loather-kickers from the Club should cease to exist. The silver cup won by the Club some time ago was presented to Lieutenant W. J. Ballille, President of the Club, who has always been an emission of the comment of the Club have been an emission whose three some have always been ardent footballers and cricketers. The remnant of the Club have joined the Wairau Club, so that unless the river banks give way we shall have no matches to chronicle from Picton. As for cricket, Picton 'was a jolly place in times of old, but something asis it now, and its energy hat departed from it. Even for the coming regatts, when a little well-directed energy might cover them with glory, our boys, with the exception of one, are letting the time slip away. The one—Dugaid Campbell—is trading steadily for the sign excile race, and it goes without avaying that we hope he will serve to will.

The practices for

are a source of much amusement for our young folk. Dr. and Mrs Millington are working hard to teach the little ones their several parts in the first part of the evening sentertainment. Their little songs, dances, and theses will be quite an unique uffair, and the operetta "Trial by Jury," quite as effective and well performed as if performed by most of the professionals who travel through our district.

district.

PEOPLE IN GENERAL.

Mrs (Captain) Temple (Christchurch), Miss Neave, and Miss Stack are visitors of Mrs Mcllish.

Miss Howard has returned home, much improved in health after three months' sojurn in Kalkours and Wellington.

Mr Paton, R.A., and Mrs Paton have been sponding a few weeks in Picton, visiting all our show spots and sketching. They are considered to the construction of the construc

JEAN.



THE engagement is announced of Mr H. P. Stark, assistant manager of the Bank of New South Wales, Grahamstown, Thames, to Miss Meta Kenrick, of Parawai, Thames.

THE engagement has been announced of Mr Sandy Kennedy and Miss Blauche Pickering, both of Wellington, and also of Miss Connie Barclay, daughter of Captain Barclay, of Wellington, to Mr C. Armstrong, of Palmerston North.

I HEAR (writes our Christchurch correspondent) Miss Evelyn Harman has become engaged to the Rev. Mr Mayne on the passage out from England.

MR ROBERT B. LUSK, the rising young lawyer of Taranaki and well-known athlete, son of Daniel H. Lusk, of Auckland, is engaged to Miss Nellie Webster, daughter of Mr D. Webster, of New Plymouth.

THE engagement is announced of Mr Lockhart, of the Bank of New Zealand, Auckland, to Miss F. Power, well known in musical and social circles in Auckland.

Miss Eva Scherff is engaged to Mr Alec MacKellar, of akato. The wedding will take place about September.

'MADAME FAVART.'

PART from those who are immediately concerned in the production of an opera, the public know little and trouble themselves little as to the amount of labour or expense involved. They expect to see a creditable production and to get value for their money. The risk, in fact, is with some few enterprising spirits, who, for the love of the thing, provide amusement for all. Auckland Amateur Opera Club in their production of Madame Favart, commencing at the Opera House on Tuesday. April 10th, will stage at opera entirely new to Auckland. It will probably cost over £600 to produce, the dressing being an exceptionally heavy item, and it is hoped the Committee and all concerned may be simply rewarded by a lengthy and prosperous run.