charming in heliotrope silk blouse prettily trimmed with lace, cream skirt; Miss B. Devore, becoming grey skirt; Miss Colley, pale green crepon dress; Miss Eva Hughes, shell-pink crepon blouse, grey skirt; Miss Slaton, green silk; Miss Cousens, very pretty white nuns veiling; Miss Butters, cardinal blouse, fawn tweed skirt; Miss Lena Owen, pale green blouse finished with crimson roses, dark skirt; Miss Kennedy, pale pink and fawn; Messrs Munroe, Wilson, Brabant, Hatton, Patterson, Brodie, Baker, Batty, etc.

The members of the St. George's Rowing Club gave their

ANNUAL 'AT HOME

last Saturday at the Boat-house, Judges' Bay. These functions are quite looked forward to with pleasure by the ladies, as they are so well managed. Afternoon tea was handed round from half-past three until six. Amongst the numerous attendance I noticed Mrs Holmes, in a dark skirt, heliotrope blouse; Mrs Lucas Bloomfield was much admired in a white spotted batiste gown, picture hat; Mrs Brett, very handsome black crepon, black bonnet with magenta-coloured roses; Miss Brett, black crepon relieved with fawn openwork net, and another sister, dark skirt, pink blouse; and the youngest sister looked *chic* in electric blue fancy cloth finished with black ribbons and trimmed with ecru lace; Mrs Dufaur was looking her best in a black seaweed crepon gown with canary-coloured bodice finished with orange rosettes; Miss Bertha Devore, steel grey lustre trimmed with butterfly silk bows; Miss Devore, fawn tweed tailor-made gown; Miss Dowd looked pretty in dark skirt, heliotrope blouse; and her sister a tasteful pale pink cambric; Mrs Arthur Taylor was looking admirable in galois grey lustre trimmed with green bows, black lace godet cape, becoming grey toque; Miss Power, dark skirt, pink blouse; Miss Flora Thorpe, absinthe green cashmere; Mrs J. M. Brigham, tinted green alpaca; Miss Brigham, becoming blue gingham; Mrs Rathbone, Miss Tusk was very much admired in a navy costume, and her little sister, I think, wore white; Mrs Chatfield, black silk, cape and bonnet; Miss Chatfield, white gown, and hat relieved with red tie; Miss E. Percival, nil green crepon; and her sister, dark skirt, light blouse; Miss Percival, galois grey; Miss (Barton) Ireland, silver grey lustre with corsage of pink veiled in ecru lace; Mrs A. V. McDonald, emerald green trimmed with brown silk; Miss Sutton, black and grey check; Miss Gertrude Buddle, grey crepon hand-somely embroidered, toque with cornflower blue ribbons; Mrs Nichol, handsome combination of black and white; Miss White, dark skirt and light blouse; Miss Otway looked exceedingly well in lilac; Miss Little, soft pearl grey with deep fawn lace; Miss Dargaville, white canvas gown with blouse finished with lilac, and her sister, cornflower blue gingham sailor hat; Miss Cotter, smart tinted rose-coloured alpaca; Mrs Gordon, grey lustre; Mrs Warre, *chic* dark grey tailor-made gown; Miss Ware, dark skirt, canary-coloured blouse; Miss Worsp, navy; Miss H. Worsp, fawn gown with heliotrope vest; the Misses Atkinson, dark skirts, pink and blue blouses, respectively; Miss Churton, dark skirt, blue striped glace silk blouse; Miss Mabel Churton, dark skirt, pink striped blouse; Mrs Kilgour, fawn tailor-made gown; Miss Tilley, neat-fitting fawn gown, sailor hat with wreath of small daisies; Miss Von Sturmer, dark skirt, black and white striped bodice; Mrs Lyons, white spotted muslin, black bonnet with white daisies; Miss Aubrey, grey skirt, white muslin blouse; Miss Eva Rich, dark skirt, heliotrope blouse; Miss Rose Laird, dark skirt, pink blouse veiled in white muslin, hat bedecked with magentaroses; Miss Laird, black; Mrs C. Haines, very handsome shot grey lustre trimmed with terra silk, bonnet of flowers; the Misses Isaac (three), dark skirts, pink, blue and striped blouses respectively; Mrs (Colonel) Dawson, tinted green alpaca faced with black, white vest, floral toque; Miss Elliot, dark skirt, pink blouse; Miss Thomas, blue striped crinkley, red tie and hand round hat; Miss Whitelaw, dark skirt, terra blouse; Miss Maggie McDonald, ciel blue cambric; Mrs Ching, green fancy curl cloth trimmed with beads, bonnet to correspond; Miss Dolly Davis was much admired in black mourning costume; Mrs Beale, navy skirt, pink blouse; Miss Kissling, dark blue skirt, light blouse, and her sister, wore white; Mrs Edwards, navy skirt, pink blouse, pink flowers in hat; Mrs Nicol, black satin; Mrs Theo Kissling, slate grey; Miss Hesketh, grey gown with grass green trimmed with green velvet and toque with green rosettes; and her sister, stylish blue grey check, blue forget-me-not toque; Mrs Johnstone, black silk; Miss Fannie Johnstone, black; Mrs Pritt, black silk; Miss Foxton, black; Miss Nichols, green cashmere; Mrs Bleazzard-Brown, brown with black lace dolman, and her daughter, blue and white gingham; Mrs Pollan, grey gown shot with pink; Mrs Knight, green trimmed with black lace; Mrs Leathem, brown tweed tailor-made gown; Mrs Bloomfield (Wonsna), brown trimmed with black beads; Miss Reay, green; Miss Rooke, brown; Mrs Dennistoun, moss green trimmed with black lace; Mrs Duthie, dark skirt, light blouse; Miss Hull, dark skirt, light blouse; Miss Z. Holmes, dark skirt, canary blouse; Miss Davy, navy serge; Miss Stevenson (Glenholm), navy, and her sister, mode grey; Miss Stevenson (Ponsonby), navy serge; Mrs Preston Stevenson, dark skirt, white blouse; Miss White, dark skirt, white blouse; Mrs Fred Ireland, black mourning costume; Miss I. Ireland, black, pink bows and pink in hat; Miss Ettie Ireland, dark green delaine trimmed with black ribbons, white sailor hat trimmed with black tulle and flowers; Mrs Walker wore fawn; Miss Gypsy Walker, navy skirt and zouave, with sky blue sleeves and yoke; Mrs Walker (Parnell), black silk; and her niece from Sydney wore grey, white hat with pink roses; Miss Sofeta Aitken, grey; Mrs Leslie Hunt, moss green, bonnet with pink roses; Miss Wylde-Brown, dark grey silk skirt, white bodice; Miss Grierson, neat-fitting grey check tailor-made gown, pink silk vest and collarette; Miss Fenton, grey, and her sister, navy; Miss Heywood, pink blouse, dark skirt; Mrs Heywood, black; Miss M. Heywood, pink coloured gown; Mrs Hay, black; Miss Hay, brown; Miss Kate Hay, navy with black ribbons; the Misses Lewis (two), dark skirts, pink blouses; Miss Dudley, green, and her sister heliotrope; Miss Dargaville, white drill, lilac cuffs and collarette, and her sister sky blue spotted gown; Mrs Thomson, grey, black lace cape and bonnet; Misses Anscombe, dark skirts, pink blouses; Misses Horne (two), dark gowns; Miss Hice, navy blue; Mrs Smith, dark skirt, light blouse; Miss Jessie Savage, fawn; Miss Tisdale, lovely lilac gown, black lace hat trimmed with lilac flowers, and her sister navy skirt, pink blouse; Miss Rita Tole, Miss Bankhardt, grey, and her sister black; Miss Birch, Miss Burcher, black and white striped gown; Mrs Goodhue, dark skirt, green glacé silk blouse; Mrs Fraser, dark skirt, pink blouse; Miss Brodie, neat-fitting blue gingham; Miss Lizzie Winks, fawn gown; Miss Bowl, dark skirt, light blouse; etc., etc.

The ladies connected with St. Mark's Church, Remuera, are busy preparing for the

BAZAAR

in aid of the church debt, which takes place on the 13th December. I hear that the Christmas tree will be unique of its kind, and that the dolls' stall, the furnishing of which has been undertaken by Mrs Winstone, will delight the hearts of the juvenile population. A collection of about a hundred dolls of all sorts and sizes, perfect marvels of wax, muslin, and millinery, have already been collected, and the roles are studies in fire and drapery. Altogether, much rest has been displayed by the ladies connected with St. Mark's over the event that its success is already more than assured. St. Luke's schoolroom, being deemed the most convenient building for the purpose, has already been secured.

HITHER AND THITHER.

Mr and Mrs E. Dennis O'Rorke have returned from their trip to Australia.

By the mail steamer 'Alameda' also arrived in Auckland Mr K. K. Bloomfield.

Dr. and Mrs J. L. Laing, the latter being a daughter of Mrs H. Chamberlin, of this city, arrived in Auckland last Saturday after an absence of six years. Mr Laing went Home to study for the medical profession, and graduated at the University of Edinburgh with distinction. He has been practising his profession for some time in England. Dr. Laing goes South to a very lucrative practice.

Miss Gertrude Kempthorne writes from Shanghai that she is quite charmed with China and the Chinese.

Mrs Gray Hassell has gone to Naseby (Otago) for the benefit of her health. For the same reason Dr. Hassell has exchanged the Auckland Asylum for Wellington, and goes there the beginning of the year. He will be greatly missed at the former place, for which he has done so much.

Dr. Irving has been visiting Auckland.

Mr and Mrs Cotter and family have returned from their Sydney trip.

PHYLLIS BROUNE.

WELLINGTON.

DEAR BEE, NOVEMBER 27.

The young people are having quite a gay time this week, as I hear they are all asked to a dance on Friday night, which Mrs Hutchison is giving as a farewell to Misses M. and I. Bell, who leave on their homeward voyage on Thursday, 5th December.

THE OPENING OF THE YACHTING SEASON

took place on Saturday, and was witnessed by large crowds of people both from the flagship, 'the Oamaru,' and the Queen's wharf. The yachts all look so spic and span with their fresh paint and clean sails that one is quite inspired with yachting enthusiasm for the time being, though I believe in most cases the craze for yachting dies on the first voyage from acute *mal de mer*, but that is beside the point. From our coign of vantage on the 'Oamaru' we can admire to the full the clean cut of the green or brown bow through the crested waves, and as each ensign dips on passing the flagship there arises a murmur of admiration. The gun which was fired at the close of each event caused a series of muffled exclamations to escape from the startled fair, and then tea came as a welcome interlude. The middies became transformed into waiters, and it was during that half-hour that those on the wharf cast envious glances on their more exalted fellow-spectators.

SPORTS.

We are certainly loyal to our hobbies here, for in spite of the 'opening' and the Athletic Sports, there were still a number of golfers on the links and poloists on their field. Lady Glasgow and her daughters drove to the latter, and there were also Mrs and Miss Williams, Mrs Barron, Mrs Johnston, and a good many others.

Mr Joseph Tripe has resigned his position in the Wellington College to enter the legal profession. The vacancy on the College Staff has been filled by the appointment of Mr G. G. S. Robison of the Nelson College, who was chosen from a list of fourteen candidates.

Miss Medley gave a

SMALL PUPILS' CONCERT

at her own home on Tuesday evening, which was organised chiefly for the gratification and pleasure of the pupils' parents, and as such it was a marked success, the pupils, one and all, performing with a care and precision, which reflects great credit both on their teacher's skill as a teacher, and their own patience and intelligence as scholars. These small concerts are, I think, a splendid institution, serving as an added impetus to the pupil, and dispelling amateurish nervousness.

Mrs Walter Johnston has gone to take possession of her lately-acquired house near Marton. Miss Ella Johnston accompanied her mother, while Miss Hilda and Miss Sydie stay with friends in town.

Dr. and Mrs Fell are expected here by the 'Kaikoura,' which is due next week. The same boat also brings Dr. Hector, the second son of St. James Hector, who after passing through his medical examinations with marked honours, returns to his native shore a full-fledged doctor, accompanying the ship in his professional capacity.

Mrs Willis, of Rangitikei, is staying in town.

A most interesting discussion took place at the meeting of the

PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

on Wednesday evening. The subject strayed through the outlying islands, and as far as the ice-bound poles. Sir James Hector and Sir Walter Buller both spoke, and spoke well. There was a large attendance of visitors besides the members of the Society itself, and all expressed themselves as pleased with the meeting, which was both entertaining and instructive. The discussion was all the more interesting on account of the 'Lizard's' arrival in port after visiting several of the outlying islands.

Miss Bethune arrived from England by the last direct boat, and I am sorry to hear that she is still far from well, the exceptional roughness of the passage out having taken away much of the benefit received from the first portion of her visit.

Dr. and Mrs Grace have gone to Napier intend to go to Wanganui as usual this year, and will probably be in town most of the summer.

Sir Patrick Buckley has so far recovered that he hopes to take his place on the Supreme Court bench immediately on his appointment to the Judgeship.

We are pleased to welcome Mr Geo. Fisher as our Mayor, and accord him our hearty congratulations on his success at the polling booths.

The Misses Gore gave a very

PLEASANT LITTLE DANCE

on Monday night to about thirty young folks, the occasion being Miss Olive Gore's birthday. On the supper-table loomed the inevitable birthday cake, which proved a most appreciated 'extra.' The guests included Misses Atkinson, Bell (two), Fitzherbert, Hislop (two), Hutchison, Nunnelly, Quick, Rawson, Rose, Williams, Messrs Butler, Cooper, Dymock, Hutchison, Higginson, Kemp, Menzies, Rawson, Rolleston, Roberts, Tripe, Tolhurst, Williams. Miss Gore wore a dress of black lace; Miss A. Gore, black and yellow; Miss O. Gore wore a pretty white dress. Most of the young ladies wore pretty white frocks with coloured ribbons, which after all is by far the most becoming style for youth. Mrs H. Butler I noticed wearing a very pretty dress of soft cream figured silk trimmed with lace; Miss Nunnerly wore a pale yellow silk with chiffon frills; also Mr and Mrs Beddard, Mr and Mrs Baldwin, the Misses Grace, Beddard, Johnston, Cooper, Hislop, Rose, and the Messrs Cooper, Roberts, Dymock, Butler, Hanna and others.

MEYE.

DEAR BEE, NOVEMBER 29.

THE DANCE

given on Friday night by Mr and Mrs Buddard at the residence of Miss Malcolm, Tinakori Road, was a decided success. It was quite a treat to dance on that floor again. Unfortunately it was a very wet night, so that the splendid garden, which was to have been lit with Chinese lanterns, was much missed. However, there was ample room indoors, and the decorations were most artistic. Mrs Beddard received, and wore a becoming white satin gown handsomely trimmed with lace and pearls. Among the guests Miss Beddard (Australia), who wore white brocade trimmed with white lace, and caught on the shoulder with a pale blue ribbon bow reaching to the hem of her gown; Mrs Monteath, pale blue and white brocade very much trimmed with white lace; Mrs H. D. Crawford, cream striped satin relieved with scarlet velvet butterfly bows and cream chiffon; Mrs Abbott, very handsome stone grey satin trimmed with jewelled embroidery; Mrs Butler, black silk, with bodice of white pleated chiffon; Mrs H. Jackson, pale green silk; Mrs Higgins, cream silk with Empire sash of old gold silk; Miss Sat (England), pale pink silk trimmed with chiffon to match; Miss H. Williams, white brocade; Miss Grace, cream satin trimmed with lace and pink roses; Miss Phillips, pale pink silk; Miss Cooper, white silk trimmed with violets; Miss I. Cooper, white brocade with gauze sleeves; Miss Gore, sky blue velvet relieved with white lace; Miss A. Gore, black silk with empire bodice of pink silk; Miss Johnston, black satin; Miss S. Johnston, white figured silk; Miss K. Johnston, royal blue satin slightly trimmed with white chiffon; Miss Hislop, white silk; Miss McKellar (Palmerston North) grey, satin trimmed with brown fur; Miss Skerrett, maize coloured satin with bands of dark green velvet and cream lace; Miss Coleridge, pink crepon; Miss Dransfield, pink watered silk trimmed with jet embroidery; Miss Elliott, white silk trimmed with lace; Mrs Butt, cream satin relieved with red flowers; Mrs Hutchison, black satin with yellow silk sleeves; Miss Baker (Auckland), pink silk. Among the gentlemen present were the Messrs Coates, Hanna, Cooper, Butler, Dymock, Roberts, Gore, Pearce, Williams, Duncan, Higginson, Robison, Hull, Wilson, Tripp, Captain Preston and Major Elliott.

There was a very good attendance at the

ATHLETIC SPORTS

last Saturday afternoon, which were held at the Basin reserve. Afternoon tea was thoughtfully provided in the grand stand. A few present were Miss Heywood, who wore a cornflower blue gown with a black silk bodice, black hat trimmed with cornflowers and feathers; Miss E. Heywood, black jacket and skirt, white sailor hat; Miss Hitchings, heliotrope blouse, black skirt, black hat with tips and violets; Miss Dransfield, fawn tailor-made costume, sailor hat; Mrs and Miss Glover, the latter wearing a white muslin gown trimmed with embroidery, white lace hat with pink roses; Mrs and the Misses Barron, Miss Pownall, fawn jacket and skirt, white hat with pink roses and black bows; Miss Barber, grey costume, black hat with white lace wings and pink flowers; Miss J. Richardson, Miss M. Richardson, brown costume, white sailor hat; Mrs Hales, Miss Baker, Mrs Ronaldson, Mrs Crawford, Miss Moeller, Mrs J. King, Miss Rendall, the Misses Simpson, Morrah, Rose, Gore, Phillips, Upham, Seed, Halse, and many others.

Last Monday Miss O. Gore gave

A FAREWELL PARTY

to the Misses Bell, who leave for England in about a fortnight's time. Among her guests were the Misses Rawson, Baker, Williams, Bell, Hislop, Fitzherbert, Grace, Hutchison, and Higginson, etc.

Miss Ethel Hutchison is giving a dance on Friday next, which is also, I believe, for the Misses Bell.

The weather was perfect for the opening of the Port Nicholson Yacht Club last Saturday. There were crowds of people to witness this ceremony.

Miss A. Bonnett (Bulls) is staying with Mrs Izard.

Mrs Levin and her family leave for England by the 'Gothic' quite soon.

Dr. and Mrs Collins are expected back from their trip to the Old Country next month.

Mr. Mrs, and the Misses W. Johnston have left for the Rangitikei, where they intend staying for the summer months.

Miss Buller is paying a visit to friends in Dunedin so also is Miss Tolhurst.

Mr and Mrs A. Pearce have gone to their residence at Lowry Bay for the summer.

OPHELIA.

NAPIER.

DEAR BEE, NOVEMBER 26.

Mr Arthur Sidey, who is leaving for Dunedin, was entertained by the

NAPIER LIEDERTAFEL

on Saturday evening, and an excellent programme of glees, duets, songs and recitations was performed in a hearty manner. During an interval Mr T. Morison, on behalf of the Liedertafel, presented Mr Sidey with a handsome desk clock with calendar and thermometer combined, to which Mr Sidey duly responded. Mr Maginnity contributed excellent accompaniments, and a most enjoyable re-union, lasting till 11 p.m., when all joined in 'Auld Lang Syne' in true orthodox style. Mr Sidey invited about forty of his friends to a farewell supper on Thursday last at the residence of Mrs Dick, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by all. Messrs Maginnity and Morton assisted with the accompaniments.

A beautifully mild day was vouchsafed to the High School authorities at the

ANNUAL SPORTS

on Thursday last, and the recreation ground was largely patronized by the fair sex. Afternoon tea was dispensed by Mrs Wood to one and all. Mrs Wood wore a black crepon, large hat with flowers; Mrs Begg, black; Mrs Paterson, black with lace; Mrs P. McLean, tailor made tweed; Mrs Hamlin, black with violet silk, bonnet to match; Mrs Hoadley, summer tweed; her daughters wore pretty lavender costumes; Miss G. Watt, dainty pink crepon and lace, large picture hat with blush roses; Miss Nairn, dark skirt and pink blouse; Miss H. Whyte, a soft white cambric with lace, large white hat with wings; Miss Cotterill, navy blue; Miss Ormond, brown crepon and lace insertion over white, stylish hat; Mrs Cornford, tweed gown; Mrs Arthur Kennedy, blue beige with cream lace, and cape to match worn over a cream blouse, white sailor hat; Mrs Griffen, navy blue, black hat; Miss Bell, black skirt and maroon blouse; Miss H. Hitchings, black skirt and white blouse; Mrs Bacon, black silk; Mrs Pinkney, fawn tweed; Miss Sidey, mourning costume; Mrs Davidson, black; Miss Hall, green; Mrs W. J. Tabuteau, mode grey poplin, and stylish sleeves of white covered with black chiffon.

OUR PEOPLE.

Miss G. Cotterill has returned from Masterton.

Miss Spooner, of Christchurch, passed through Napier *en route* for the South.

Mr Guy Cooper, of Tomoana, was rather seriously injured on Saturday during a polo match, his horse rolling over him.

Mrs Heath is on a visit to Wellington.

The talented Greenwood family are in Napier, and occupy the Theatre next week.

Mark Twain gives his first 'At Home' on Thursday evening in Napier.

Miss White, sister of Mrs G. S. V. Wenley, has arrived from Edinburgh.

Mr J. Davies Ormond (junr.) has arrived from the Old Country *viâ* 'Frisco.

Mr Henry Warren, of Tomoana, is in Dunedin.

Mr and Mrs H. Humphries are in Wellington.

Mrs Eustace Fulton is on a visit to Napier.

Mr and Mrs E. J. Dickins's many friends will be glad they have decided to return to our midst and have booked their passages in a P. and O. boat.

GLADYS.

CHRISTCHURCH.

DEAR BEE, NOVEMBER 27.

Rain! rain! rain! mackintosh and gaiter weather day after day! So good for the country, you know, but very depressing for the frivolous: 'What charming weather, George! I really quite started to hear this original remark the other day from a bright little woman to her husband, who is a large runholder not two hundred miles away. 'Really! my dear! I'm glad you think so!' answered the runholder, quite surprised. 'Oh yes, George!' continued my little friend with a winning smile, 'if it rains hard, you can grow more grass.' 'Oh! of course, dear!' 'To feed more sheep.' 'Just so, darling.' 'To sell more wool.' 'Clever little woman.' 'To get more money.' 'Oh! that's it dearie!' 'To buy more frocks!' 'Oh! the ——,' and as things then took a very masculine turn we will pass on to the

MUSICAL UNION CONCERT

which took place in the Tuam-street Hall on Thursday night. In spite of continual showers throughout the evening the Hall was crowded to listen to that very tuneful cantata of Cowen's, 'St John's Eve,' the performance of which, it is perhaps not saying too much, that it was the most finished performance the Society has yet done. The soloists were Mrs Burns (soprano), Miss Lilian Smith (contralto), Mr Lovell (tenor), Mr Hugh Reeves (bass), the singing of the whole quartette delighting the audience. The chorus did their work excellently, and the orchestra accompanied them in a most finished manner, reflecting the greatest credit on Mr F. M. Wallace. This cantata was produced some two and a-half years ago, so some portions of it seemed quite familiar, but none the less enjoyable. Mrs Burns wore a rich white satin, the bodice trimmed with chiffon and crystal trimming, electric cloak with beaver trimming; Miss Lilian Smith looked very pretty in a dainty fresh gown of pink crepon, the low bodice trimmed with chiffon and bands of jet, soft white cloak. Among the vast audience I noticed Judge and Mrs Denniston and party, the latter wearing black silk with heliotrope trimming; Mrs Julius and daughters; Mrs Meares and daughters, Mrs W. B. Common, Mr and Miss Reeves, Mr and Mrs Gibbs, Mrs and Misses Gibson, Mr and Mrs Henry Wood, Mr and Mrs Ollivier, Mrs Robison, and Mesdames Lascelles and W. Reeves, Mrs Fereday, and Miss Macpherson, Mr and Mrs J. Little with a party of young people, Mrs Mathias and Miss Helmore, General Fulton and daughter, Mr and Misses Ainger, Miss Dorothy Rolleston, Mr W. Day, Mr and Mrs H. D. Carter, Mrs W. Wilson, Mr and Mrs J. Aikon, Miss Cox, Mrs F. Trent, Mrs Slater, Misses Gardner, Mrs F. M. Wallace, Mrs Wilding, and numbers more. As for one suburb only the tram was converted into a train, seven cars being laden for Papanui.

On Saturday it cleared enough to get out, and numerous parties went to New Brighton and Sumner, or up on the hills for a blow after the damp weather of nearly a fortnight. Polo was rather