

just as good as another, and a great deal better in the eyes of the owner. It was therefore decided to give each exhibitor a memento of the occasion, and these can be obtained by those forwarding their names to Mrs Campbell. The pig might well have been awarded a special. He was a gentlemanlike fellow, and had no grave differences of opinion with his master, Mr E. Smerdon. A pink poodle, dyed, and owned by a very pretty young lady, excited some interest. One wonders, also, how he looked after the rain.

FIRE ENGINE.

The Auckland Fire Brigade were awarded a well-de-

certainly a work of art, and of remarkable beauty. Miss Hesketh ran a close second, and Miss Rendall third. All those who exhibited in this class showed taste, and many considerable ingenuity.

COOKERY COMPETITION.

In connection with the *Fête* the committee had arranged a cookery competition. The following has been furnished as the prize list in this department:—Special, for largest and best exhibits cooked by gas: Miss Rosa Beedell. Iced Cake: Special prize, Miss M. Fort. Plum Cake: Miss W. Kissling, 1; Miss Alice Harris, 2.

JUVENILE COMPETITION.

Toffee: Miss Gubbins, aged 11 years, 1. Turkish Delight: Miss Cora Anderson, aged 14 years, 1. Plum Cake: Miss Effie Hanna, aged 13, 1. Rainbow Cake: Miss Cora Anderson 1. Sponge Sandwich: The first prize was awarded to a competitor, aged 12 years, whose sole identification was the initials L.N.W.

There is not much 'a mere man' can say of this competition saving that they were a considerable temptation to 'the Press' who had been obliged to come to the show before it was possible to get any lunch. Miss Rosa Beedell, who took the special prize, a fine gas stove, well deserved her honours. Her exhibit was a very creditable one. She has evidently the housewifely instinct, and many a man with a bad manager at home and a wretched cook must have envied the household where that stove will go. Miss Abbott's sweets, too, deserve more than casual mention. They looked very good indeed, and were, moreover, nicely arranged. Miss Cora Anderson is a clever and promising cook for cakes. She took more than one first prize.

Judging had now taken at least twice as long as was originally expected. It was approaching four, and there were yet no signs of the announced grand procession. Throughout the afternoon rain had threatened, and while the judging was yet incomplete it commenced to pour in a business-like way that made it evident that unless a miracle happened, and the rain supply was turned off abruptly, the *fête* must be ruined midway. For some time both public and exhibitors struggled on bravely, and tried to appear as if they thought it might clear up shortly. The unfortunate children who were doing the Maypole dance persevered pluckily in the drenching wet, but the spectacle was not inspiring, and as the violence of the downpour increased the patience of performers and onlookers was alike exhausted, and a break made for the friendly shelter of the sheds and stables. That was the beginning of the end. The judges descended from their posts, doubtless feeling as Coleridge felt when he wrote:—

Oh rain, if you will but take your flight,
Though you should come again to-morrow,
And bring with you both pain and sorrow,
Though stomach should sicken and knees should swell,
I'll nothing speak of you but well;
But only now for this one day,
Do go, dear rain, do go away.

But, alas! the watery god would not be appeased. The rain increased in fury, and it quickly became evident that the only safety lay in flight. 'Tis all over,' said the Committee in despair. And then that dread order—an order never issued save in moments of tragedy—was given, the order—'Sauce qui pent.' It was a cruel ending to one of the most brilliant functions ever seen in Auckland—a function which we hope to see become an annual fixture. To Mrs Nelson, Mrs Goodall, Mrs Haines, and the other ladies who took so arduous a part in arranging the affair the utmost credit must be given. Their task was one of the utmost difficulty, and the manner in which they carried it out must be a matter of pride and congratulation to them for ever and a day.

The photographs reproduced in this article were specially taken for us by Messrs Walrod, Utting, and Frith. Owing to the rain, a number of exhibits which would otherwise have been photographed were missed. A fine negative was obtained of Miss Ireland's turnout, but an unfortunate accident prevented our reproducing it. This is a matter we greatly regret, as the tandem was one of the prettiest things on the ground. Considering the badness of the light, and the difficulties in the way, we think the photographers did exceedingly well, and that the present issue will be appreciated by all.



MR J. E. SKEATES—1st prize.

Mr Rendall's Bicycle.

served special for a tastefully-decorated hose reel and manual engine.

PARASOLS.

Those who entered for these prizes were: Miss Jessie Webster, Miss Rendall, Miss Owen, Miss C. Donald, Miss K. Williamson, Mrs Lyons, Miss Westwood, Miss A. Thompson, Miss J. Thompson, Miss G. Thompson, Miss E. Andrews, Miss M. Hesketh. The honour of first place fell to Miss A. Thompson, whose parasol was

Sponge Cake: Miss Upton, 1; Miss R. Parsons, 2. Madeira Cake: Miss Binney, 1. Jam Sandwich: Miss Muir 1; Mrs Hyatt, 2. Rainbow Cake: Miss F. Preece, 1. Iced Coconut Sandwich: Miss Gregory, 1. Seed Cake: Miss Bain, 1. Pastry: Miss R. Beedell, 1. Scones: Mrs Hale, 1; Mrs Bruce, 2. Home-made Bread: Miss F. White. Sponge Squares: Miss A. Gillott, 1. Sweets: Miss Abbott, special prize for exhibit of 25 different kinds of sweets. Turkish Delight: Miss Nora Hay, 1. Coconut Ice: Miss Rosa Beedell, 1.



THE TANDEM THAT CAME TO GRIEF.