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A DAY AT SUMNER, CHRISTCHURCH.

Of the many seaside resorts in New Zealand Sumner is undoubtedly one of the most delightful. Situated as it is about eight miles from Christchurch, and reached by steam tram, it becomes the rendezvous of some thousands of pleasure-seekers during the summer months, anxious to enjoy the refreshing sea breeze. Leaving Cathedral Square, the tram hurries through the busy streets, passes suburban residences, and is soon crossing the Heathcote River, when the line follows the seashore with high frowning basaltic cliffs on the right, till the little township of Sumner is reached. Hurrying to the sea beach the crowd disperses,

the majority 'anchoring' on Cave Rock for the day. Fishing, sea-bathing, swinging, and riding on the donkeys and ponies are among the attractions for children, and often even the elder members of the female sex may be seen galloping along the beach enjoying 'a threepenny ride on a donkey.'

Many people remove to Sumner for the summer months, hiring houses for the occasion, while others pitch their tents in sheltered places, pursue their ordinary occupations in town during the day, and return to camp in the evening. It is a wonder that people in New Zealand do not adopt this delightful picnic mode of existence more. In Sydney there are hundreds of families who live under canvass during the summer months.

MEN WHO HAVE EARNED SUCCESS.

MR WILLIAM SCHWENCK GILBERT—THE MAN WHO PUT 'THE MIKADO' TOGETHER.

MR GILBERT is about as easy to interview as the Mikado of Japan. There was a young man on this paper once who spent almost a week hanging about the stage-door of the Lyric when 'His Excellency' was being produced. No good. Mr Gilbert used to go to lunch through an 'extra exit,' and return by a skylight. There was a middle-aged American lady interviewing, who went and camped outside his place at Harrow for a week, and determined to catch him. At the end of the week she was

