The Misses Hislop leave next week for Dunedin, where they will probably make a prolonged visit.

Miss Rose, who, I am sorry to hear, has not been well for some time, has gone to pay a visit to the Misses Toxward at Palmerston North.

Miss O'Connor is staying with Mrs Henry Hadfield at Otaihanga.

Mrs Werry and her little daughter have returned to town after spending the summer months at Paikakariki.

I hear that Mrs and Miss Edwin intend to visit England shortly, probably going by the 'Ionic' on her next trip Home.

Captain and Mrs Fairchild and Misses K. and N. Fairchild, left to-day *en route* for England.

Mrs Graham is expected here on Saturday on her way to visit her daughter, Mrs Taverner, in the Rangitikei district. On her return journey we hope she will pay us also a visit to enable her many friends to see her again.

Lady Hector had a small tennis and garden party on Tuesday, which, being a general holiday, enabled many to be present who otherwise would be engaged in bank and other official duties. The same day Mrs Gilbert also gave a tennis party on her new lawn, which is now in excellent order.

MEVE

NAPIER.

DEAR BEE, MARCH 17.

THE NAPIER GRAMMAR SCHOOL SPORTS

were most fashionably attended. It was a perfect summer day, and Mr Monckton and Mr Gray, with the assistence of Messrs J. Parker and Morris, had all their work to do to get through the programme before the dusky twilight came on. Mr Monckton is most beneficent in his prizes, which, as on former occasions, were very costly and numerous. First and second prizes were awarded in every race, and were all silver. The band played all the afternoon, and delicious afternoon tea was brought round to one and all to the stand, an innovation duly appreciated. Mrs Frank Logan presented the prizes to the pupils at the conclusion of the day. Amongst the many smart gowns worn I noticed Mrs Welsman, in black; Miss Welsman, grey costume trimmed with silk; Mrs Margolionetti, navy blue; Miss Bower, navy blue with white lace insertion, black hat; Mrs Jardine, dark skirt and jacket, black hat with striped ribbon and quills, red roses under the brim at the back; Miss Newbould, grey dress, black hat; Miss Hallet, grey dress, white hat trimmed with flowers; Mrs Hallet, white dress, black summer jacket, white Marie Stuart bonnet; Misses Glendinning, stylish mourning costume; Miss Gleadow, black dress, sailor hat with striped ribbon bows; Miss Rhodes, rough cream canvas cloth trimmed with old gold silk; Mrs Dinwiddie, black crepon with black satin ribbon; Mrs Logan, tailor made coat and skirt, Tattersall vest, becoming hat with green shot ribbon; Miss Blythe, very stylish mourning costume, pretty hat; Miss Andrews, grey costume with black trimmings, black floral hat; Mrs Large, black silk crepon; Miss Large, grey dress trimmed with white; Mrs E. White, heliotrope and black gown; Mrs Powdrell, fawn costume, small bonnet; Mrs Orr, grey tweed; Mrs Menzies, grey coat and skirt, floral bonnet; Mrs F. Rhodes, navy jacket and skirt; Miss Hindmarsh, pink spotted zephyr, white hat; Mrs Hansard, pretty English dress of French grey trimmed with blue; Miss Carter also wore an English confection of fawn, a prettily draped skirt and bodice trimmed with black satin; Mrs Turnbull, grey costume; Miss Chapman, white drill costume; Miss Lyndon, pale blue, white hat and pink flowers; Miss Mary Dinwiddie, black serge skirt, shirt blouse; Miss B. Orr, serge skirt and blouse; Miss Miller.

HITHER AND THITHER.

Mrs de Lisle and her little daughter and Miss White have returned from a visit to Wellington.

Mr and Mrs H. Hill are much improved in health from their trip to Dunedin.

Mrs Balfour is away at her sister's place at Springhill.

Miss Mary Guy, from Danevirke, is in Napier for a few weeks, and looks well in a pale grey costume.

Mr W. Barron, the popular teller in the Bank of Australasia, has gone to Wellington for a holiday, where he formerly used to reside.

Sir William and Lady Wasteneys have gone to the South.

Mr Canning has returned from Auckland.

Mr and Mrs Nathaniel Kettle have come back from a short sojourn in the Hot Lake district.

Miss Greener is visiting Christchurch and Wellington.

GLADYS.

BLENHEIM.

DEAR BEE, MARCH 12.

Last Thursday the

WAIRAU MINSTRELS

gave a most successful entertainment in Ewart's Hall in aid of the funds of the cricket club. The hall was crowded with an appreciative audience, and the club benefited by over £30. The stage was very prettily got up in 'plantation' style, with cabbage trees, nikau palms, etc., etc., which formed an effective background to the darkies, whose disguise was complete. Mr McIntosh as Sambo was irresistibly funny, and was well supported by Mr Louis Griffiths, who made a first-rate bones, while Mr Conolly as Mr Johnsing, kept the ball off fun rolling. The local puns and jokes were really very smart, and literally brought down the house. Messrs Scott and McFarlane were well received in their banjeaurine and banjo duets. Mr Scott's singing of 'Poor Old Joe' was highly appreciated, and his sweet and cultivated voice, and accomplished banjeaurine playing make a valuable addition to the ranks of our Blenheim amateurs. Mrs Lucas ably presided at the piano, and looked very nice in a black evening dress; Miss Rose, as leader of the orchestra, looked well in red velveteen. Among the audience Mrs Richardson wore a very pretty cream and pink *chine* silk blouse with rose coloured ribbons; Mrs G. Robinson, pretty rose pink crepon blouse with lace; Mrs Kellas, pale blue satin blouse covered with black chiffon; Mrs McIntosh, pale blue blouse with jet; Mrs Weetman, black satin; Mrs Snodgrass, becoming white over green; Mrs Clouston, pink spotted muslin; Mrs Cleghorn, pretty pink blouse; Miss Harris, becoming pale blue blouse; Miss Rees, pretty cream and yellow blouse; Miss Waddy, red and white striped silk crepon blouse; Mrs Bright, cream; Mrs Lindsay, heliotrope silk blouse with black jet and lace; Miss M. Brown, pretty pink blouse with ribbons and lace; Mrs Conolly, cream; Miss Conolly (Auckland), pink; Mrs J. Redwood, shot pink silk blouse; Mrs Hiley, pale green silk blouse; Mrs Sharp, pale pink blouse with jet; Mesdames M'Intire, Griffiths, Winstanley, Bull, Carey, Meshane, Ferguson, Fenre, P. Douslin, Gridwood, Fuller, Thompson, C. Earp, Misses Horne (three), Sinclair (three), Flutton (two), Kitto, V. Robinson, McLauchlan (two), Bull (two), Farmar, Winstanley, Rogers, Harkness Messrs Techmaker, Richardson, Corbett, Griffiths, Bull, Weetman, M'Intire, Stoney, Howard, Thompson (two), Redwood (two), Black, Crawshaw, Greenfield, Sharp, Bunting, etc.

On Friday the afternoon was cold and the weather threatening, so only a few ventured up to Mrs Conolly's

TENNIS,

but it was just the afternoon for playing, and some good sets were enjoyed. Among those there were Mesdames Griffiths, Clayton, McIntosh, C. Earp, Misses Conolly (Auckland), Kitto, McLauchlan (three) (two), Clayton, Horton (two), Sinclair (two), etc., etc.

On Saturday Mesdames Snodgrass and Bull gave tea at the tennis, Mrs Snodgrass wearing a pale pink blouse and dark skirt, and Mrs Bull, pretty soft cream blouse, dark skirt and sailor hat; Mrs Richardson was much admired in white piqué skirt and cape, muslin and lace blouse, sailor hat; Mrs Stoney wore grey, and black moire and lace mantle, very becoming black jet bonnet with crown of pink roses; Mesdames Griffiths, Conolly, McIntosh, Kellas, Greenfield, C. Earp, Thompson, Misses Harris, Kitto, Redwood, Bull (three), Livesay, Smith, Horton (two), Sinclair (three), M. Ewart, Messrs Henderson, Griffiths (two), Bull, Snodgrass, Stoney, McIntosh, Greenfield, Crawshaw, H Robinson, Bunting, Matson (Christchurch), H. Horton, O. Waddy, etc., were on the ground. Inter-club matches are exciting some interest at present.

Mr and Mrs J. H. Hanna (Wellington) have been over for a flying visit (not half long enough for their many friends here), but left this afternoon for Wellington.

Last Tuesday Mr H. A. Sharp left Blenheim for Johannesburg, and before his departure he was the recipient of two purses of sovereigns from the Blenheim Rowing and Cricket Clubs, respectively, by whom he will be much missed, as well as by the legal fraternity and his friends in general.

To-day Mrs Griffiths had a great many people at her

'AT HOME,'

despite the threatening weather. Among them I noticed Mrs J. H. Hanna (Wellington), Mesdames McIntosh (two), J. White, Greenfield, A. Carter, Snodgrass, P. Douslin, Park, Lucas, Conolly, Kellas, H. Dodson, Jackson, Misses Conolly (Auckland), Waddy, Redwood, Carey, Farmar, Messrs Griffiths (three), Henderson, McIntosh, H. Robinson, Black, Wytchell, Bunting, H. Horton, G. Waddy, etc.

SINCERITY.

PICTON.

DEAR BEE, MARCH 17.

The many friends of Dr. and Mrs Scott arranged a

SURPRISE GARDEN PARTY

for Thursday last to take place in Dr. Scott's pretty grounds in Wellington-street. The family received an invitation to meet the 'push' at 3 p.m. at their town gate, but the *fates* looked frowningly down on the whole proceeding, and a bitingly cold south-easter, accompanied by a downpour of rain, prevented all but the most energetic from leaving their cosy fires. However, there were some who ventured forth, and these held an afternoon tea in the drawing-room at 'Sea View.' There was no end of fun, and some capital singing and music, Misses K. Howard, M. Philpotts, and Moran singing lively little songs, and Misses S. Philpotts, K. Howard, M. Seymour, and N. Allen contributing musical selections. Others present were Dr. and Mrs Scott, Miss Scott, Mrs Sedgwick, Mrs Allen, Mrs Seely, Mrs Duncan, Mrs H. C. Seymour, Misses Balfour (two), Seymour (three), and Harris.

A EUCHRE PARTY

was arranged for the evening, and some of the young people remained to prepare the large drawing-room for the euchre, when, in spite of the rain, a merry party assembled to do battle for the prizes. Miss Ethel Greensill and Mr Rutherford won first prizes, whilst Miss Nora Allen and Mr F. Seymour received the boobies. Mrs Scott was wearing black trimmed with lace, and Miss Scott also wore black. Others present were Mesdames Allen, Seely, Seymour, Misses Seymour (four), Philpotts (three), Allen, Harris, Howard, Speed, Messrs H. C. Seymour, Riddell, Wiggins, J. Greensill, A. Scott, etc. The evening was finished up with songs and music, Miss M. Speed playing 'The Harmonious Blacksmith' by request. 'Auld Lang Syne' and three cheers for Dr. and Mrs Scott ended a very jolly day.

Among the

VISITORS

to Picton just now are Miss Duckworth, sister-in-law of Mrs L. E. Duckworth, and Miss Harper, both of whom came out from England with Mrs Duckworth a few months ago. The two ladies have been 'doing' the whole of the South Island, including Milford Sound, Stewart's Island, the Lakes, etc., etc. They drove overland from Christchurch to the West Coast, thence to Nelson, and on again to Picton to spend a few days with Mrs Duckworth. They speak in glowing terms of the scenery, especially of a place called Paradise. It is their intention now to 'do' the North Island, visiting Taupo and Rotorua, so as to see the wonders of those wonderful places. Auckland is included in their visiting list. They hope to have finished in time to catch the Home steamer at the end of April.

Another visitor is from Melbourne—Mrs Christie, who is staying with her sister-in-law, Mrs James Greensill, and enjoying the fresh climate immensely.

JEAN.

GISBORNE.

DEAR BEE, MARCH 18.

During the past fortnight our small town has been unusually gay. A very large

RIDING PARTY

was arranged to the Ormond Quarry last week. A start was made from town at four, the party (about fifty) returning by moonlight. To Miss Lysnar is due the success of this most delightful picnic.

The same afternoon Mrs James Macfarlane of Te Hapara, gave

AN AFTERNOON TEA

to a number of lady friends. Mrs Macfarlane wore a becoming pink silk blouse, black crepon skirt; her daughters were frocked simply in white muslins. Amongst those present were Mrs Willock, in white pique, black hat with violets; Mrs Bennett, black silk, pretty black bonnet trimmed with pale blue; Mrs Fred Parker, electric blue crepon, small black toque with blue forget-me-nots; Mrs Douglas Lysnar, grey costume, large picture hat; Miss Reynolds, skirt and blouse.

A few days later the Misses Macfarlane gave a large

'AT HOME.'

Unfortunately the night was wet. However, this did not deter many of the guests. The two young hostesses looked charming in white. Amongst the dancers I noticed Miss Shenatt, Miss Esther and Miss Blanche Bradley, and Messrs C. D. Bennett, K. Campbell, and G. Bradley.

Mrs W. L. Lees on the same evening also gave a small

DANCE

as a farewell to Messrs Robson and Ferguson, who are leaving the district.

PERSONAL.

Mrs and Miss Watson have just returned to Poverty Bay after a year's stay in England. Mrs Watson looks very well in a grey tweed, small black bonnet; Miss Watson is wearing a handsome blue crepon, large brown hat trimmed with blue; Mrs Campbell (Christchurch) looks very smart in a fawn tweed gown, small toque with flowers; Miss A. Drummond wears a pretty heliotrope frock, white sun hat.

Mrs Von Der Heyde, from Sydney, is at present on a visit to her daughter, Mrs J. Dunlop.

Mrs Lucas Bloomfield, from Auckland, is also staying with friends in Gisborne.

RUTA.

THE engagement is announced of Miss Winifred Thorpe, daughter of Archdeacon Thorpe, of Christchurch, to Mr F. Williams, son of the Rev. T. G. Williams, also of Christchurch.

ORANGE BLOSSOMS.

MR WHITE TO MISS GRIFFITHS.

AN extremely pretty wedding was solemnised on Thursday, 19th inst., at St. John's Church, Ponsonby, the contracting parties being Miss Edith Griffiths, of Ponsonby, and Mr Percy J. H. White, of New Plymouth.

ALTHOUGH the hour was very early (8 o'clock a.m.), the church was well-filled with friends of both bride and bridegroom. The service was fully choral, a strong choir being in attendance. The church was prettily decorated for the occasion, and Rev. H. Bull was the officiating minister. Miss E. Bull played the 'Bridal' and 'Wedding March' on the entrance and exit of the wedding party.

THE bride, who entered the church on the arm of her father, wore a handsome trained costume of cream cashmere profusely trimmed with silk and lace, and the accompanying veil and orange blossoms. She carried an exquisite bouquet of white roses relieved with greenery.

THE bridesmaids were Miss S. Swales (cousin of the bride) who acted as first, and wore cream trimmed with heliotrope, while Miss M. Bouskill wore cream and old gold. The bridegroom was attended by Messrs G. White and E. Griffiths.

THE mother of the bride wore a black brocade relieved with lavender trimmings, while many other pretty dresses were worn by the guests, among whom were Miss Swales, in crushed strawberry costume; Mrs H. Swales, black and cream; Mrs Wm. Griffiths, cream; Mrs Bull, handsome black; little Miss Edith Griffiths (niece of the bride) looked extremely dainty in cream and pink, etc.

THE presents were valuable and handsome, coming from friends both far and near.

MR AND MRS WHITE left at noon for their home at New Plymouth, amidst hearty congratulations and good wishes. The bride's travelling costume was navy blue, hat to match.

Descriptions of the following weddings have been unavoidably held over till next week:—Mr Bamberry to Miss Marion; Mr Loveday to Miss Bowern; Mr Schwabe to Miss Chegwidden; Mr Green to Miss Noseworthy.

GRAPHOLOGY OR PEN PORTRAITS.

ANY reader of the NEW ZEALAND GRAPHIC can have his or her character sketched by sending a specimen of handwriting with signature or *nom de plume* to

MADAME MARCELLA,
'GRAPHIC' OFFICE, AUCKLAND.

The coupon appearing on the last page of cover of the GRAPHIC and twenty-four penny stamps must accompany each letter.

'SWEET WILLIAM.'—After mature consideration and much study of the specimen you send me I have decided that 'powerful' is the most appropriate adjective I can apply to your character. I think I have never delineated one containing stronger characteristics, or rather 'traits.' You have a most inflexible will, a lively imagination, and great tenacity of purpose; but the imaginative power is combined with keen observation, nothing escapes your notice. There is no impulsiveness in your judgment, and in expressing your opinions, although they are generally forcible, you never forget discretion and prudence With so vigorous an intellect you have a lofty standard of honour and justice. You like to rule, and you govern well. Your affections are also very strong, passionately so, I should say, but for the visible presence of self-control I feel convinced that your love must be tender and devoted, as unselfishness is also conspicuous. You are an ardent admirer of beauty, have excellent taste, and are very fond of music. You have a large share of pride and ambition, but you are too sincere for *finesse* or diplomacy.—MARCELLA.

'Pixie.'—You have a particularly courageous temperament both morally and physically. You are 'afraid' of neither man, woman, or child, and nothing will induce you to swerve from what you consider to be the path of duty. Your opinions are liberal, although you support them with steadfast tenacity, and to induce you to yield a point against your conviction would be an almost impossible task. You are sincere, truthful, and candid to the verge of 'bluntness,' but not in the least sympathetic where imagination is required, as you are too fond of reality for romantic dreams to possess any charm for you. You rule firmly, and to impose upon your credulity or in any way interfere with your 'rights' would be a very difficult matter. Yet you have a warm heart, and can be a genuine friend. You are neither hasty or impulsive, although your actions are prompt and decided. Your temper is good. You can be very severe when angry, but the provocation must be great. You have no extravagant tastes, but you like liberality, and everything on as large a scale as your discretion and prudence will permit.—MARCELLA.

'Margaret.'—Your specimen is more than sufficient, as I only require two or three lines, the sense of which I often do not even read, but I scarcely think your handwriting is fully formed yet, and consequently my delineation will be somewhat imperfect, which I regret, as you are deficient in self-esteem, and could well afford to place a higher value on your own merits. You have a clear and truthful mind at all times. You take care to make your statements as plain and accurate as possible. You have plenty of quiet observation, and you are conscientious, thoughtful, and discreet. You enjoy pleasure keenly, but you are contented and easily pleased. Your temper is a little quick; you feel acutely, but you have much amiability of disposition. You forgive readily, and are neither jealous or exacting. You require to cultivate perseverance and energy, and although you are not imaginative, and have no highly-flown ideas, I think you will find yourself quite as much at home in writing as in speaking. You are affectionate, but not demonstrative, and a little more firmness and decision would improve your character.—MARCELLA.