Webb-Bowen, Preshaw, Field, Blundell, Mackie, Burton, the Misses Rowley, Sealy, Preshaw, Maginnity, Handcock, Mules, Oldham, Harris (Picton), Kempthorne, Gibbs, etc. Amongst the gentlemen were Rev. J. P. Kempthorne, Rev. A. H. Sedgwick (Picton), Archdeacon Wright, the Messrs Blythe, Joynt, Preshaw, de Castro, Maginnity, Kissling, L. Levien, Pitt, Mules (two, and many others.

During this week there have been several

CHILDREN'S PARTIES.

Mrs Robinson gave one last Wednesday evening, when about forty youngsters had a jolly time. The pretty play 'Cinderella' was very nicely acted by the Misses M. Robinson, S. Blackett, L. Tomlinson, L. Preshaw, Trent, and Handby. Miss Rowley acted as stage manager and managed everything most successfully. Miss D. Catley was pianist. Mesdames Cuthbertson, Lightfoot, Preshaw, Misses Tomlinson and Preshaw also assisted. Judge and Mrs Robinson to amuse the little ones.

On Tuesday afternoon Mrs Preshaw entertained some very little children. The next afternoon and evening the same lady gave a party for elder ones, which from all accounts was much enjoyed, and was pronounced by all a splendid 'wind-up' to the holidays.

To-day both Colleges re-open, and hard work begins once more.

PHYLLIS.

HAMILTON.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 4.

The first of a series of

SOCIALS

in connection with church funds came off at St. Peter's Sunday-school on Thursday evening. The room was well filled with an appreciative audience, every item being encored. Songs were given by Miss Payne (Thames), Mrs Kingsford (Cambridge), Mrs Whitaker and Dr. Kenny, and recitations by Mr Ross and Miss Wilson, the latter's piece, 'The Life Boat,' being certainly the gem of the evening. The orchestral string band, consisting of Misses Wright and Kingsford, Mrs Kenny, Messrs T. H. White, Drury, and Dr. Kenny, gave two pretty selections during the evening. The schoolroom was lighted with gas for the first time, which was a marked improvement on the lamps of old. The proceeds of the entertainment go to defray the expenses of the gas fittings, etc., and, judging by the large audience, there will be ample funds in hand for that purpose.

The whist parties established here last winter are again in favour. They come off once a week at the home of some one of the members.

Report says we are going to be rather gay for the coming months. I shall tell you more of our doings later on.

ZILLA.

GISBORNE.

DEAR BEE, MAY 30.

The event of the week has, of course, been the

CALEDONIAN SOCIETY'S BALL,

which was held on the 25th inst. at the City Rink. Unfortunately there were no bagpipes to enliven the proceedings, and consequently the reels were danced with less spirit than at the ball last year. All the dresses were pretty, perhaps the handsomest being one of yellow and brown silk worn by Mrs Hill, of Tolaga Bay; Mrs A. F. Kennedy wore a pretty gown of heliotrope brocade; Mrs Sherratt, black velvet; Mrs W. D. Lysnar, pink silk; Mrs Reynolds, handsome green watered silk trimmed with lace; Miss Reynolds, white and green; Miss N. Reynolds, green velveteen; Miss Sherratt (*debutante*) looked very pretty in her white silk frock trimmed with chiffon; Miss M. Churton (Auckland), becoming yellow satin; Miss Rees, grey silk; Miss Hill (Tolaga), handsome white silk; Miss Reeves (Tolaga), black velvet; Miss Campbell, black trimmed with velvet of a beautiful pale green; Miss Adair, white silk; Miss L. Tucker, cream with bands of gold; Miss M. Tucker, grey brocaded silk; Miss Booth, cream; Miss Johnson (*debutante*) looked very handsome in cream silk with a large bouquet of roses. Altogether the ball was a great success, and I believe everyone present enjoyed it.

The first of the

POVERTY BAY ASSEMBLY DANCES

took place last Friday night, and was greatly enjoyed by everyone present. We girls all looked exceedingly nice. This, I may remark, is not conceit on our part, but an acknowledged fact. The handsomest dress in the room was worn by Mrs Craig (who will be remembered in Auckland as Miss Belle Gordon). Her gown was of white satin trimmed with rich looking lace, and suited her to perfection; Mrs A. F. Kennedy looked very pretty in white silk; Mrs Willock, handsome gown of white silk relieved with red; Mrs W. D. Lysnar, white silk; Mrs Symes, black velvet; Mrs Mann, white silk; Miss E. Williamson (*debutante*), pretty white gown; Miss MacLernon (*debutante*), white silk; Miss Maude Tucker, pink silk; Miss Johnson, cream silk; Miss Sherratt, frock of white silk and chiffon; Miss R. Reynolds, white silk; Miss J. Lysnar, white net; Miss R. Campbell, white silk; Miss Stuite (*debutante*), pretty white frock and bouquet; Miss A. Drummond looked pretty in white with red poppies; Miss Evans, handsome gown of white silk.

RUTH.

NAPIER.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 5.

The great event of last week was the

HIGHLAND SOCIETY'S BALL,

held in the Garrison Hall. The sons and daughters of Scotia in all the glory of Highland costume were present in great numbers. The room was tastefully decorated, the Royal Standard of Scotland being very prominent. A Highland reel was danced by the Maraekakaho Highlanders, the Misses McIntre danced a double Highland fling very gracefully, and Mr Wm. Stuart treated the dancers to a Sabbath-reaua. The strains of 'Auld Lang Syne,' sung with truly Scotch fervour, brought a most successful and enjoyable gathering to a close.

PRETTY STREET DRESSES.

The autumn season is bringing out many pretty gowns. Amongst them I notice Mrs DeLisle, wearing an electric blue crepon relieved with velvet, dainty bonnet; Mrs Herbert Morton, stylish cornflower blue gown with tan suede vest and large black hat; Miss Spencer, neat tailor gown; Miss Wallis, well-fitting costume of black crepon, large black picture hat with feathers; Mrs Norman, black serge, and jacket; Mrs Bowen, stylish dress of brown crepon trimmed with blue; Miss Heath, black serge, large black and white check sleeves; Mrs J. King, black crepon trimmed with green velvet.

GLADYS.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 1.

A most delightful

LEAP YEAR BALL

was held in the Fitzroy Hall on Thursday night. Being a perfect moonlight night, about sixty couples were present. The hall was artistically decorated with pungas, ferns, and red silk intermingled. Curtains hung from every window, which looked very effective. The floor was in excellent order, and music supplied by Mesdames Westmascott, Gilmour, Miss Young and Miss Davidson, and Mr Lewis (Auckland). Left nothing to be desired by the dancers. A dainty supper was handed round by the ladies of the committee, and was much enjoyed. Miss Ada Young made a most efficient M.C. Now for the pretty dresses, which I must proceed at once to describe. Mrs Westmacott wore a handsome terra cotta dress covered with pretty black lace and white and gold trimmings; Mrs Gilmour, black mourning dress; Miss A. Young, very pretty white cashmere, gold trimmings, white opera cape; Mrs Goldwater, handsome salmon pink and black silk; Miss E. Young, pretty blue nun's veiling; her sister looked nice in black and black sequins; Miss D. Clegg looked exceedingly well indeed in a handsome red velvet trimmed round the neck with yellow silk; Miss P. Clegg, pretty black velvet relieved with amber satin ribbon; Miss Maud Clegg, charming yellow crepon Empire gown; Miss Humphries, black net; Misses D and H. Humphries wore pale blue trimmed with pink, those being the prevailing colours of the evening; Miss Crocker looked nice in blue and pink silk; Mrs Crocker, handsome black satin and yellow silk; Mrs Drake, white and black; Miss Skelton, pretty white; Miss A. Skelton, similarly attired; Miss B. Gabb, pretty blue and black; Miss Simmons, white; Misses Weller (two), blue and white; Miss Colson, pretty yellow and white; Miss G. Foote, cream and amber silk; Mrs W. Foote, lovely pink and black; Miss Richardson, white corded silk; her sister, white nun's veiling; Miss Hammond, pretty white; Miss King, charming blue; her sister, white; Miss Morey, blue bodice, dark skirt; Miss G. Morey, blue; Miss Laura Jackson, very pretty red blouse, dark skirt; Misses Hook, blue and pink; Miss Butler, blue; Miss Nash, white; Miss Bolton, in blue looked nice; Miss E. Allan, white; Miss L. Martin, white skirt and blouse; Mrs F. Foote, black; Mrs B. Foote, blue (very nice) and many more whose names I did not know looked very nice. Messrs Westmascott, Foote, F. Foote, B. Foote, R. H. Hughes, Ted Humphries, Stan Humphries, Clegg, Sam Clegg, A. Wright, Ryan, Avery, Lewis, Fagan, Bleasel (two), Stoker, Jackson, Treeby, King, Bellringer, Hook (two), Davy, Hammond, Skelton, Jury, Nipper Jury, Kirkby, W. Ross, Ribby, S. Hill, Colson, Scott, Booth, Richardson, — Richardson, Allan, Wallace, Crocker, and Martin.

A social is to be held in the town hall on the 11th of June in aid of the band. I hope the night will be fine.

MIGNONETTE.

WELLINGTON.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 5.

I have noticed some very becoming walking costumes lately. A few are Mrs Newman, in a very neat grey tweed tailor-made gown, small square crowned felt hat with high wings; Mrs Baldwin, brown tweed gown trimmed with velvet to match, brown straw hat with feathers; Lady Dorothy Boyle, neat blue serge jacket and skirt, sailor hat; Miss Grace, violet cloth gown braided with black, large black velvet hat with high feathers and ribbon loops; Mrs Collins, slate grey jacket and skirt, black toque with magenta flowers and black and white ribbon; Miss E. Williams, blue tailor-made costume, felt hat with wing; the Misses Chapman (Australia), black crepon skirts, striped silk blouses, fur collarettes, black felt hats with fawn wings.

Mrs Wallis gave an

'AT HOME' AT BISHOPSCOURT

last Thursday afternoon. The guests had the pleasure of listening to a very interesting address by the Rev. A. O. Williams about the Maori Mission, its advancement, its drawbacks, and its many wants. Bishop Wallis also spoke. Afternoon tea was laid out in the dining-room, the table being prettily decorated with chrysanthemums. Mrs Wallis received in a becoming black silk gown trimmed with lace. Among those present were Mrs and Miss Stowe, Mrs and Miss Percy Smith, Mrs Warren, Mrs Douglas, Miss Douglas, Mrs Rhind, Mrs W. R. E. Brown, Mrs and Miss Medley, Mrs Gee, Mrs Baker, Mrs Powles, Miss Powles, Mrs Ashcroft, Miss Ashcroft, Mrs C. Tanner, Miss Greenwood, Mrs and Miss Tolhurst, Mrs and Miss Blackett, Mrs and Miss Fancourt, Mrs E. B. Brown, Mrs and Miss Quick, Mrs and Miss Tuckey, Miss Williams, Mrs Mason and others.

OPHELIA.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 5.

Lady Douglas entertained a great many of her lady friends at her

TEA ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON,

when music and the race game 'Ascot' kept everybody happy. Lady Douglas was assisted in her duties as hostess by her daughters—Miss Blanche Douglas and the Misses Edwin. Lady Douglas wore a handsome black silk gown; Miss B. Douglas wore pretty fawn dress with a deep pointed colour of ecru guipure lace and black feathered hat; Mrs Douglas, navy blue dress, black bonnet; Mrs Biddle, dark cloth gown, large revers of shaded velvet; Mrs Butts, in a closely fitting black gown; Mrs Courtney, in a stylish dress of black silk with folds of mauve chiffon about the neck, black bonnet with violets; the Misses Halse, Mrs Harding, Mrs McTavish, black figured silk, black and cream bonnet; Mrs Molineaux, black silk richly trimmed with jet and lace; Mrs and the Misses Quick; Mrs W. S. Reid, black dress brocaded in deep maroon; the Misses Rose, Mrs Samuels, Miss Seddon, navy blue coat and skirt, vest of dark figured brown cloth, black hat with feathers; Miss L. Seddon, black cloth dress with silk trimmings and large clouded grey buttons, bows of striped ribbons in her hat; Miss Tuckey; Mrs Waldegrave; Mrs J. Wilson, etc., etc.

Mrs Gibson's

EUCHRE PARTY

on Friday evening passed off with great spirit, the first prizes falling to Mr C. Knight and Mr Clementson. Mrs Gibson wore a very handsome black silk dress; Miss Gibson, dark skirt, green velvet bodice with frill of pale green chiffon, Miss B. Gibson, pink flowered delaine bodice trimmed with cream lace, black crepon skirt; Miss Bertha Gibson, cream muslin dress, figured silk sash; Miss A. Campbell wore a pretty dress of cream nun's veiling; Miss Grison, a pale green gown; Miss Griffiths, dark skirt, pale pink blouse; her sister wore a soft pale yellow dress; Mrs Knight wore a cream muslin dress; Miss M. McGregor, pretty green velvet dress, the sleeves being of a paler shade, and pink carnations on the bodice; Mrs Reid, black skirt, pink blouse of brocaded silk; Miss Seed, black velvet, frill of deep creamy chiffon; her sister wore a cream dress with bands of black velvet; Miss Simpson, dark velvet skirt, cream blouse of rich corded silk with sleeves of striped silk; Miss Stafford, black silk, and cream silk blouse; Miss Tripe, black skirt, cream blouse of flowered French crepe; Miss Tuckey, pink crepon dress trimmed with tinted lace; Miss Wilson, pink nun's veiling braided in silver; Miss Young, white silk; Messrs Cox, Kember, Gill, Knight, Reid, Seed, Tripe, A. and J. Young, Dr. Young, and others.

Miss Tuckey's usual assembly last evening was very well attended. Among the guests I noticed the Misses Griffiths, Hoi Davy, Koch, Laishley, Lee, Johnston (two), Mowbray, Reeves, Reid, Rollands, Richardson, Seed, Stafford, Simpson, Von Sturmer, Mrs Stansfield, and Messrs Bligh, Derry, Hulme, Matthews, Moir, Morshead, McCrae, Reid, Seed, Schultz, Stewart, Tripe, Willis, etc., etc.

THE BALL

at the Lower Hutt last Friday evening was an unmistakeable success, and reflects every credit on those responsible for the arrangements. The hall was most artistically decorated with flags, pampas grass, nikau palms, and other green foliage, the flags being fitted most comfortably as a drawing-room. The supper was all that the most fastidious could desire, and was laid in most tempting and appetising profusion on flower-decked tables. A great number of the guests came from the city, the gentlemen driving out by brake and returning in the early hours that precede the dawn, while the ladies stayed with Hutt friends. Among those present were Mrs Gilbert, in lovely soft green silk, unlined with any foreign colour, complete in its own dim harmony; Mrs Howden wore a rich violet-coloured silk; Mrs Lee, black relieved with touches of pink; Mrs Alex. Mount (Blenheim) wore a white dress of lovely brocaded silk, with bodice composed chiefly of soft crinkled chiffon; Mrs Purdy, black silk with lace on bodice; Mrs Pearson, rich pearl white silk trimmed with deep lace; Mrs Riddiford, black silk, plastrons on the skirt and shoulder epaulettes being of white silk veiled in black net thickly wrought in glimmering sequins; Mrs Scales, black crinkled silk, soft and shimmering; Mrs Stansfield, red silk softened with lace; Mrs Treadwell was also robed in black silk; Mrs Turner, in a pretty yellow silk; Miss Barron, pink silk gleaming dimly through black lace; Miss E. Barron, pale blue silk with cream lace about the bodice; Miss Burnett, pale blue silk brightened with a narrow edging of glittering jewel trimming; Miss Mabel Burnett, black gauze dress with slashes of blue velvet; Miss Muriel Burnett, a charming dress of pure white, a silk underskirt completely veiled in net worked with sequins and glistening beads; Miss Chapman, cream brocaded silk; her sister wore pale blue with trails of single roses across the bodice; Miss Clinton, black; Miss Friend, also in black; Miss Grace, black, with shoulder revers of white silk; Miss Gore, pale blue velvet; Miss A. Gore, butter-coloured velvet; Miss Jack-on (Auckland), a very becoming white dress; Miss Johnston looked very well in rich yellow silk with jewel edging; Miss V. Johnston, plain white dress with satin waistband and quaint fancy passementerie; Miss Lee, white, with blue sash and bows; Miss Macleod, cream silk, with narrow panels of violet ribbon down to the edge of the skirt and finishing in a bow, and a spray of violets on the bodice; Miss Mowbray, cream silk; Miss M. Mowbrary, pretty blue veiling dress; Miss Wilford, pink veiling bodice of crinkled chiffon of the same shade; Miss K. Wilford, white silk; Messrs Anson, Arrowsmith, Barraud, Cooper, Duncan (two), Gore (two), Gilbert, Higginson, Kemp, Pearce, Minnitt, Richmond, Rolleston, Scaife, Treadwell, Tripe, Turnbrelle, Williams, Dr Purdy, Sir K. Douglas, and Mr Moir and Lieutenant Willis from the 'Ringdove,' and many others.

There were

THREE AFTERNOON TEAS

on Friday, viz., Mrs Adams, Mrs Tweed, and Lady Douglas. Mrs Adams' tea was given in honour of Mrs Gerald Tolhurst, who is still in town. The guests included Mrs and Miss Barron, Mrs Blair, Miss Coleridge, Mrs and Miss Izard, Mrs Ferguson, Mrs Mackenzie, Miss MacLaren, Miss Turnbull, Mrs and Miss Tolhurst, Mrs G. Tolhurst, Misses Williams, etc., etc.

MEYE.

DUNEDIN.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 6.

On Thursday Mrs Theomin (Royal Terrace) gave a large

AFTERNOON FOR GIRLS

in honour of her sister, Miss Michaelis (Melbourne). Mrs Theomin received her guests in most beautifully gowned in black satin, the bodice made with close fitting zouave, bright green velvet, full vest and epaulettes of black satin figured with blue and finished with an edging of black chiffon; Miss Michaelis, stylish blue grey serge with shoulder cape of velvet to match edged with brown feather trimming. The tea table looked extremely effective, the decorations being terra cotta red chrysanthemums with wide red ribbon standing on edge twisted in and out amongst the vases. A branch of silver candlesticks with shades of red bebe ribbon and crystal beads completed the excellent effect. Here are some of the many present, but the rooms were so softly shaded that it was almost impossible to see the costumes. Miss Ramsay wore brown tweed, brown velvet epaulettes edged with fur, large hat to match; Miss Reynolds, blue and black tweed, black velvet hat; Miss Webster, fawn covert coating jacket and skirt, large brown felt hat with pink wings and brown feathers; Miss Moss-Davis (Auckland), green cloth costume, the bodice beautifully trimmed with pompadour silk and passementerie, large black velvet hat; Miss Gibson, fawn covert coating costume, large black velvet hat with black ostrich tips; Miss Driver, black serge jacket and skirt, buff waistcoat, black velvet hat; Miss H. Driver, green cloth bodice prettily trimmed with Tribby silk, smart purple velvet toque, fawn cape; Miss Shand, green tweed costume, large black velvet hat; Miss Sise, neat brown costume, hat to match; Miss Cutten, green cloth dress, large brown cape, black hat; Miss Graham, black crepon trimmed with jet, small black chip toque trimmed with pale blue; Miss S. Graham, dark brown jacket trimmed with beaver, brown velvet toque with green satin ribbon; Miss E. Ulrich, grey tweed; Miss Goderin, blue velvet, black sailor hat; Miss Farquhar, brown costume trimmed with pink silk; Miss V. Farquhar, dark blue pelt jacket and skirt, small black hat; Miss Bell, fawn covert coating skirt; Miss Stephenson, dark brown ulster heavily trimmed with brown fur, floral toque; Miss Macassey, brown cloth trimmed with velvet and passementerie, large green and brown velvet hat with brown feather; Miss Scott, brown dress, smart fawn jacket, brown and fawn Tam-o'-Shanter hat; Miss Miller, black serge jacket and skirt, bright blue velvet hat; Miss B. Miller, black costume, large black velvet hat trimmed with black and white ribbon; Miss Fergus, brown costume; Miss Greenwood, brown jacket, small black chip toque; Miss Niel, fawn cape, green dress, yellow straw hat, and many others.

On Monday evening the opening of the

LADIES' SAVAGE CLUB

was held at Mrs Webster's (Howe-street). About seventy ladies were present, including several invited guests. The three presidents for the year are Mrs Sale, Mrs Stilling, and Miss Webster, and the programme for the evening was a very excellent one. The first item was a recitation by Miss Annie Cargill of a few excellent verses of her own composition relating to the doings and sayings of the Club. The next a brilliant pianoforte solo by Miss Gwen Roberts, and the third and last item on the first half was a song charmingly rendered by Mrs Robert Turnbull (Limmburn). Most excellent tea and cakes were then served in the dining-room, and the delicious cakes were done ample justice to. The table was prettily arranged with heliotrope chrysanthemums in pale green vases. The first item on the second half was an Irish jig performed by Miss Edith Shand in costume; she was most enthusiastically encored. Then Miss Buller (Wellington) sang in her usual charming manner that very quaint song, 'Go fin.' The proceedings of the evening were brought to a close after the last item, which was a very pretty song by Miss Lily Roberts. Mrs Webster wore a very smart gown of black figured lustre heavily trimmed with jet; Mrs Turnbull, stale and pink, Tribby velvet blouse trimmed with pink chiffon and jet, black satin skirt; Mrs Dennisten, black silk; Mrs Turton, brown cloth prettily trimmed with moss-green velvet and sequin edging; Mrs Hatchelor, crushed strawberry silk covered with black lace and trimmed with jet; Mrs Ulrich, black striped crepon lavishly trimmed with jet; Mrs C. Butterworth, white silk striped with heliotrope, bodice veiled in heliotrope chiffon and banded with bead passementerie, large white merveilleux hat with sleeve of black velvet and lace relieved with terra-cotta silk; Mrs Shand, black cloth, large black satin revers; Mrs Jones, stylish black crepon elaborately trimmed with silk and jet, dainty real lace cap; Mrs Sale, crushed strawberry silk blouse, black crepon skirt; Mrs Ogston, fawn cashmere with yoke and sleeves of handsome brocade to match; Mrs Settle, black silk; Mrs Stilling, black cloth with vest of bright red silk; Mrs Sinclair Thomson, grey silk with bodice of cherry-coloured silk trimmed with gray chiffon; Mrs Woodhouse brown crepon, dainty white muslin fichu; Mrs Melland, pale blue silk blouse, black crepon skirt; Mrs Napier Bell, black silk and lace relieved with terra-cotta; Mrs Howard Jackson, handsome black satin; Mrs James Allen, dark red silk trimmed with jet; Miss Webster, pale blue silk blouse, black velvet skirt; Miss Robinson, pale pink silk bodice, sleeves covered with araphane; Miss Rattray, green figured silk blouse; Miss K. Rattray, black crepon trimmed with green; Miss F. Rattray, pale grey nun's veiling; Miss G. Rattray, white muslin blouse, black crepon skirt; Miss Reynolds, crushed strawberry silk blouse trimmed with black lace, black velvet skirt; Miss Buller, stylish black merveilleux with black and metal lace; Miss E Shand, black velvet, bodice trimmed with jet; Miss H. Driver, handsome yellow figured silk blouse with a fall of cream Brussels lace over the shoulders; Miss Cutten, bright blue silk blouse with collarette and cuffs of real lace; Miss E. Ulrich, pale yellow figured silk blouse trimmed with chiffon to match, black velvet skirt; Miss Cargill, gray and black striped silk blouse, black crepon skirt; Miss Hathgate, terra cotta silk blouse trimmed with black satin ribbon; Miss Turton, red silk covered with white open-worked muslin; Miss Roberts, pale blue nun's veiling blouse trimmed with white lace and white satin ribbon, black velvet skirt; Miss L. Roberts, pale pink silk blouse, with a deep frill of real lace round the neck, black velvet skirt; Miss Bartleman, moss green velvet blouse with a box pleat in front and three beautiful brilliant buckles; Miss S. Bartleman, white sprigged muslin blouse with collar band and cuffs of sage green ribbon; Miss Graham, sea foam green silk blouse prettily trimmed with pearl trimming; Miss S. Graham, pale pink silk blouse with a large white collarette, black velvet skirt; Miss Haggitt, heliotrope cashmere, the bodice prettily trimmed with chiffon to match; Miss M. Sise, pale pink and green silk striped blouse, black velvet skirt; Miss E. Gilkison, pale pink silk blouse.

AILEEN.