

white; Miss Isaacs, sweet in eau-de-Nil satin, jet trimmings; Mrs Robison, mauve brocade; Miss Kissling, black; her sister, white; Mademoiselle Bouillon, in maie Chinese silk; Miss Churton, black and white; Mrs Alfred Nathan, lovely lavender silk; her sister, Miss Clayton, black silk, red bows at shoulders; Mrs T. Morrin, rich brocaded silk; Mrs Foster, silk brocade; Miss Hay, pretty silk trimmed with red; Mrs — Nathan, amber satin; Mrs Beattie, black silk; Miss B. Dull, yellow; Miss Rooke, pink; Mrs Street, black; Miss Gillies, white. There were many more there who looked charming, but I cannot remember their names. Among the gentlemen I noticed Messrs James Russell (two), Williamson, Purchas, Fenwick, Fen-ton, Murray, Cotterill, Anderson, Morrin, Bloomfield (three), Scherff, Devereux, Philson, Drs. Lewis and Shazman, Messrs Wilson, Robinson, some of the 'Royalist' officers, Messrs Makgill, Major, Beattie, Gillies, Isaacs, Nathan (two), Major George, Messrs Duthie, Biddle, and a great number of visitors whose names I know not.

On Friday evening last a

**SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHERS'**

Conference was held in Epiphany Sunday-school where there was a large number of teachers, numbering about one hundred. Rev. W. Gillam ably read a paper on 'The Discipline of Sunday-school,' and Mr Kirkbright gave an excellent address on 'The Difficulties of Teaching in Country Sunday-schools.' Afterwards a discussion was indulged by the clergymen and teachers on the above subjects. Amongst those present were Archdeacon Dudley, Misses Dudley, Rev. F. Larkins, Mrs Larkins, Canon and Mrs Hazelden, Rev. W. and Mrs Johnston, Rev. W. and Mrs Calder, Mr Webbe, Rev. E. W. Lush, Miss Smith, Misses Cooke (3), McCallum, Paton, etc.

**A CAPITAL LITTLE CONCERT**

was arranged by Mrs and Miss Sellers in the Mount Albert Parish Hall last Thursday evening. The concert was very good, the supper excellent, and the dance which followed was much enjoyed. The following took part in the concert:—Misses F. Sellers, Baker, Harper, Messrs Klasing, Rathbone, Twiss, Gilfillan, and Mr C. Priestley recited. A few of the ladies' dresses I recollect were:—Mrs Sellers, handsome black satin; Mrs Hudson Williamson, dahlia-coloured blouse, black skirt; Miss Sloman, white blouse, dark skirt, white opera cloak; Mrs May, black, black and white bonnet; Mrs Newell, black, bonnet with coloured flowers; Miss F. Sellers, white silk blouse, dark skirt; Miss Maud Sellers, shot blue-green silk blouse, dark skirt; Miss May, brown dress with passementerie trimming, brown hat with coloured ribbon and flowers; Miss Miller, blue and white blouse, dark skirt; Miss Newell, white; Miss Maier, dark skirt, white blouse; Miss Ruby Newell, white; Miss Tanner, black and white striped blouse, black skirt; Misses Wright, mourning dresses; etc., etc.

**'AT HOME.'**

One of those charming 'At Homes' for which 'Rara Maunga,' the residence of Mr and Mrs Edmund Mahony, has become distinguished in the annals of Auckland Society, took place on Friday afternoon. Beautiful weather favoured the function, which possessed all the attractions of a garden party. Mrs Mahony, who is a perfect hostess, received her guests, and had amply arranged for their amusement. The programme of music was pleasantly diversified with croquet and promenades round the picturesque grounds of 'Rara Maunga.' The drawing-room, where the musical party gathered, was separated from the dining-room by an arch-way screened with flowing art curtains. The table was arranged with exquisite taste. The floral decorations consisted of tall vases of miniature sunflowers, while yellow fairy lights and shades on gas globes gave a lovely glow to the table, which was abundantly furnished with a wealth of dainties arranged with really artistic taste. The ladies who contributed to the music were Mrs Petrie, Mrs Keogh, Mrs E. Mahony, Misses Rita Tole, Tewesley, Woods, L. Wallnutt, and Mrs Archer Burton. Mrs Mahony wore a very pretty tone of orchid shade of pink silk; Mrs Dignan, grey tweed; Mrs Holland, rich black silk; Miss Holland, shot pink lustre; Mrs (Dr.) Bedford, dark costume; Mrs Petrie, black; Mrs Archer Burton, pretty blue figured silk; Miss Aubery, tailor-made gown; Mrs Clayforth, dark costume; Miss Tole, black; Miss Rita Tole, white muslin; Mrs Beale, heliotrope silk; Mrs Alf. White (née Hamlin) looked charming in heliotrope; Miss Towsey; Mrs Atkinson, black; Miss Atkinson, pink; Mrs Andrews; Mrs E. W. Burton, black;

Miss Spliers, blue velvet; Miss Kennedy, navy, cream vest; Miss Nora Greenwood, dark costume; Mrs T. Mahony, crimson silk blouse, skirt to match; Mrs Keogh, black; Miss Keogh, blue blouse, dark skirt; Mrs (Captain) Beaumont, black; Mrs Clayforth, dark gown; Mrs Harrison, Mrs Yates; Mrs C. Griffith, grey tweed; Miss Wallnutt, navy blue; Miss C. Wallnutt, white piqué, etc., etc.

The series of pleasant gatherings in connection with the Auckland Art Society's Annual Exhibition was brought to a close on Wednesday last by a

**PROMENADE CONCERT.**

Between 200 and 300 visitors attended in the course of the evening for a final inspection of the pictures and to enjoy the music. The following musical programme was gone through, and met with a cordial appreciation:—Piano solo, Miss Heywood; song, 'By the Waters,' Mr A. Mewburn; quartette (vocal); song, 'At Sight of Thee,' Miss Crowther; piano solo, Miss Goldsbro'; song, 'Love in the Rain,' Mr G. M. Reid; song, 'Now, Was I Wrong?' Miss Crowther; quartette (vocal); song, 'Every Inch a Soldier,' Mr W. George; pianoforte solo, Mr Alf. Bartley. The National Anthem brought to a close one of the most successful exhibitions ever held under the auspices of this popular Society. The public appreciation manifested during the continuance of the season should encourage the Society to redoubled exertions in the coming year. I hear that several sales were effected, but in this respect there is much room for improvement. Our artists labour under great disadvantages owing to the limited market for their pictures. One would think that the funds of the Mackelvie Trust might be employed with advantage in purchasing representative pictures of the Maori life which is fast passing away. It would be much more appreciated alike by residents and visitors than some of the imported works of art (?) which disfigure the walls of the Mackelvie Gallery. There were two or three pictures at least in the exhibition just closed which the Trustees ought to secure for the public.

Mrs H. Bruce Morton gave a most

**ENJOYABLE AFTERNOON TEA**

on Saturday last at her charming residence, One Tree Hill, Epsom. The garden and grounds were looking lovely—quite a blaze of colour with chrysanthemums, etc. Mrs Morton received her guests in the pretty square hall, which was beautifully decorated with flowers, gowned in soft black grenadine and silk, the bodice relieved with blue silk and jet passementerie. During the afternoon songs were sung by Miss Rimmer and Miss Best; piano solos by Miss M. Heywood and Miss Hooper, after which the guests adjourned to the spacious dining-room for tea. The table was most artistically decorated with pale yellow satin and yellow chrysanthemums, and was laden with all sorts of dainties. Amongst the guests were Mrs Morton (sen.), in black satin with lovely old lace; Mrs McMurray, black grenadine, black and white bonnet; Mrs Heywood, black; Mrs Beatty, grey and black dress; Mrs Pritt, mourning; Mrs Browning (sen.), black and white silk, black chiffon cape, bonnet to match; Mrs Williams, mourning; Mrs Monroe, black; Mrs A. V. Macdonald, gray tailor-made dress faced with black; Mrs (Col.) Dawson, black skirt, pretty flowered silk blouse, stylish hat; Mrs Herrold, black trimmed with handsome old lace; Mrs J. Russell, pretty dark heliotrope tailor-made skirt and jacket with moire waistcoat, bonnet to match; Mrs A. P. Wilson looked charming in black flowered silk skirt with dainty green silk blouse, pretty black hat with red and white roses; Mrs Heather, handsome black silk, stylish bonnet with red roses; Mrs Devereux, dark tweed skirt with flowered silk bodice; Mrs Carr, tailor-made skirt and jacket of gray tweed, black and green hat; Mrs Thomas, green skirt and jacket; Mrs Jackson, pretty blue gray costume; Mrs Gamble, black; Mrs Payton, brown silk; Mrs Ashton Bruce, black, pretty large hat with feathers; Miss Rimmer, black and white; Miss Hooper, tailor-made costume; Miss Burcher, navy blue serge; Miss M. Heywood, navy blue, picture hat; Miss Herrold, pretty soft gray costume; Miss Ware, tailor-made skirt and jacket; Mrs Ware, pretty lawn cloth costume; Mrs Cheeseman, black and white; Miss Keesing, black and pink; Mrs Gillies, black silk, stylish bonnet with roses; the Misses Russell, tweed skirts and jackets edged with fur; Miss Devereux, brown costume. There were a number of others whom I did not know.

On Friday evening Mrs Hardie, of Remuera, gave a

**MOST DELIGHTFUL DANCE**

as a farewell to her daughter, Mrs Clayton, who has been

on a visit to her mother, and is leaving for Sydney this week. The grounds were lit up with coloured lamps, and presented a very pretty appearance. Mr and Mrs Hardie received their guests in the large drawing-room. Mrs Hardie wore a lovely black silk gown finished with lace and jet; Mrs Clayton looked very handsome in rich white silk trimmed with gold lace; Miss Hardie wore a lovely gown of yellow silk and chiffon, which was very becoming to her; Miss Isabel Hardie wore a dainty white silk frock. The dance was given for young people, but there were a few married ladies present, amongst whom I noticed Mrs Beatty, wearing black silk and lace; Mrs Pritt, black; Mrs Shera, black skirt, pretty yellow silk evening blouse, lovely jewelled pendant; Mrs Gorrie, black; Mrs Ashton Bruce, black skirt, white silk blouse; Mrs Saunderson, white; Mrs Nelson Gamble, white relieved with blue; her sister, Miss Hepburn, white and gold; Miss F. Thorpe looked very charming in pale blue silk with large bunches of crimson roses on the shoulders, and gold bands in her hair; Miss Clayton, pretty black blouse with crimson bows; Miss Macfarlane, white silk; Miss Upton, pale yellow silk; Miss Lennox, yellow; Miss Stevenson (Ponsonby), pink, the bodice finished with green; Miss Stevenson, pink silk; her sister, white; Miss Hesketh, white; Miss Herrold, black with pale blue on the bodice; her sister, pretty heliotrope gown; Miss Baber, black; Miss M. Heywood, white and gold; Miss Pickmere, very stylish black grenadine; Miss Amplett, black with white; Miss M. Cotter, pretty white silk and chiffon; Miss Whewell, brown silk; the Misses Whitson, white; Miss Biddle, black skirt, coloured silk blouse; the Misses Gorrie, white and pink. Amongst the gentlemen were the Rev. W. Beatty, Rev. H. Major, Messrs Purchas, Paton, Herrold, Macky, W. Bruce, A. Bruce, Major, Stevenson, Ching, Shera, Pritt, Lennox, Ruddock, Sanderson, Hardie, Gould, Shuttleworth, Grierson, and a number of others. The supper-table presented quite a fairy-like appearance—silver lamps with crimson shades and a profusion of white chrysanthemums. As for the supper, it was simply perfect. It was one of the most successful dances that has been given in Auckland for a long time.

PHYLIS BROWN.

**NAPIER.**

APRIL 29.

**THE CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW,**

DEAR BEE,

which was held in the Gaiety Theatre last Saturday and Monday, was a great success, and the exhibits, considering the bad weather that horticulturists have had to put up with for the past few weeks, were very fine. Mr J. Vigor-Browne showed some magnificent Japanese chrysanthemums, and Mr W. C. Yates' exhibits attracted much attention. Mrs Randall also won a great many prizes, more especially for her beautiful pot plants. In the dinner-table decorations the first prize fell to Miss Gertrude Watt, and the second to Mrs Lusk, who also won the floral hat competition. At the annual meeting of the Society, which is to be held in about a fortnight, it is expected that a substantial amount will be given to the flood relief fund. Amongst those present at the show were Mrs Tanner, who looked exceedingly well in black with a handsome green and black cape, and a black bonnet; Mrs Lang also wore black; Mrs Davidson, black dress, fur boa, and a black hat with white wings; Mrs Stopford was in grey with a white sailor hat; Mrs Carr, black and red, black bonnet with red aigrette; Mrs George Moore, black canvas costume, and a stylish velvet bonnet lined with red.

MARJORIE.

**NEW PLYMOUTH.**

APRIL 30.

**A PLAIN AND FANCY DRESS BALL**

DEAR BEE,

At Rahotu, on April 23rd,

was given which proved very enjoyable to those who attended. A fair number of ladies appeared in fancy costumes, the rest being very neatly and tastefully dressed. The following were in fancy dress:—Mrs Cassidy, Sunflower; Miss K. Jeffries, Sailor; Miss McCoy, Florian Shepherdess; Miss Tyrell, Bulgarian Peasant; Miss Morgan, Fera; Miss Guy, Shamrock; Miss Cassidy, Queen of the Fairies; Miss Kelly, Fan; Miss Simeou, Neapolitan Peasant; Miss L. Simeou, Dolly Varden; Miss M. Harrison, Tambourine; Miss Wiley, Arcadian Shepherdess; Miss Coffey, Neapolitan Fishwife. Mr J. Simeou appeared in a very handsome dress of a Spanish nobleman.

VIOLKT.

**BLENHEIM.**

APRIL 26.

**A VALEDICTORY SOCIAL**

DEAR BEE,

was held in Ewart's Hall last week, at which a presentation was made to Mrs Charles Redwood, who, with her husband and family, is about to leave her old home of over thirty years to make a new one in Queensland, where two of her sons are already settled. The ladies of the town had subscribed to purchase a memento to remind Mrs Redwood of her old friends here, in her distant home, and a handsome brooch was selected, which, together with a considerable surplus, was handed to her during the evening. Mrs Sutherland McAlister, as one of the oldest residents in Blenheim, was the chief mover in the affair, and is to be congratulated on the success of her efforts. A very pleasant evening was spent, and the plentiful refreshments, contributed by the ladies, met with due appreciation.

FRIIDA.

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**CONSIDERATE.**

'You say,' remarked the debonnaire debtor, 'that I am owing more money than anybody else that your firm have on their books?'

'Yes, sir' replied the collector.

'And that I am about the only person with whom they have trouble in getting their money?'

'That's what they told me.'

'Young man, I like your looks, and I'm going to be a friend to you. If I were to pay up, the chances are that your firm would find collections so easy that they would discharge you.'