

The New Zealand Graphic

And Ladies' Journal.

Vol XIX—No. XIX.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1897.

[Subscription—25s. per annum; if paid in advance, 20s. Single Copy—Sixpence.]

COPY 1162 517 2011



Ashley Hunter
97

WAITING.

(The Hon. John McKenzie is determined to rake up the whole of the Horowhenua case again, and to make things lively for Sir Walter Buller)

GOUT

Readers of this paper should know that to effectually cure Gout the great thing to do is to eliminate the urates from the system, which are the cause of the malady, and nothing does this so effectually as Bishop's Citrate of Lihia, which is strongly recommended by the "Lancet," and "British Medical Journal." Supplied by all Chemists in two sizes.

CURED.

most impossible looking places in the hedge, and plies her quest for worms, acacia, etc., in a stealthy manner, except when a more than usually dainty morsel evokes from her, in an unguarded moment, a chuckle of delight. Then only does the irate gardener become aware of her presence and of the damage she has done, but before he can take vengeance, she is gone with a derisive cluck. Now the instinct of every sane man would be to destroy the animal. But according to the law we can do nothing of the kind with impunity. What we must do is to serve the owner with a notice, or lodge a complaint with the police. We all know what either of these alternatives amounts to. The owner will probably swear that no hen of his would be guilty of such conduct, that he never allows them to mix with other hens in the street, and he will conclude by asking you to point out which hen out of half a hundred is the culprit. And if you call in the policeman it is likely he will spend the afternoon trying to arrest that hen, or afterwards to establish its identity? Try him. My belief is he would laugh at you.

THE MEMBERS' VADE-MECUM.

A WRITER in Australia commenting on the change that has come over the significance of many Parliamentary and political terms—party nomenclature especially—suggests the need that exists for another Johnson to re-define the old words and to give some fixity of meaning to many of the neologisms. A dictionary of the kind might be very useful, but if I might suggest a publication that would be equally serviceable to members of Parliament, it would be a dictionary containing a varied list of permissible synonyms and periphrases for unparliamentary expressions which a member could refer to when the Speaker called him to order for employing the latter. An old Parliamentary hand can usually manage fairly well to deliver a stinging blow at his opponent without provoking the wrath of the chair. In the House of Commons, where wordy warfare has, among the leaders, been developed to a science, a clever speaker can cut right and left among his opponents without their being able to find shelter, and the cuts are all the more telling because they are delivered so delicately. Here in our House the speakers, having only the common language of the marketplace at their command, are constantly being called to book by Mr Speaker when they get a little heated. Only the other day, Mr McGuire used the word 'coward' in a way that might be taken to reflect on some member of the Chamber. The Speaker pounced on him, and poor Mr McGuire had nothing for it but to deny that he was thinking of any honorable member—a course that not only detracted from the whole force of his argument, but made him look foolish to the bargain. Now if he had studied the book I am thinking of, he would never have come such a cropper. A little later on in the same debate poor Mr Crowther got hauled over the coals for applying the epithet 'un-gentlemanly' to the member for Caversham's conduct. Of course, he had to take it back and weakly substitute 'unmanly' and 'childish,' words carrying very different connotations. But what was Auckland's member to do? He knew no other way of putting it. With regard to that word gentleman, by the way, I think it would be a good thing not only for politicians but for everybody if its position and value in the language were better defined. It is not a matter to be settled off-hand by any means, but would have to be very carefully considered by such a Council, for instance, as was lately mooted for the maintenance of the purity of the English tongue. No difficult indeed is it that I would not care to make any suggestions beyond that some precaution should be taken against 'the grand old name' being 'defamed by every charlatan,' as is now the case. If we could return to the original simplicity of meaning it would be well, though it might be awkward in

certain cases, to have to resort to archaic forms. For instance, would it not be ludicrous to speak of a gentlewoman as a 'lady gent,' a title Spencer uses more than once in the Faerie Queene?

THE PAIRS DISPUTE.

THE squabble last week over the alleged breaking of the Parliamentary Pairs carries little interest outside of the House. But among members it wears a very important aspect. For there is honour even among politicians, though some people question it, and for a man to break a pair is to break faith in the most flagrant and unpardonable manner imaginable. It is probably the deadliest sin that one could commit in the House; for just see what it means. 'A' on the Government benches, who wants to visit a friend over at Oriental Bay, where they are having a quiet party, is anxious to get away from the House that evening. But an important division is coming on, and his vote is indispensable. The only way out of the difficulty is to get hold of some gentleman, 'B,' on the Opposition benches, who also would like to be away on that evening, and who intends to vote just the opposite way from 'A.' It might be thought that it would be a little difficult for either 'A' or 'B' to know how they would vote until they had heard the question argued; but, bless your innocent ignorance of politics! There is seldom any trouble about that. Most of our representatives know in what direction they will vote on every nine questions out of ten before they leave their homes for Wellington. Now then let us suppose that 'A' and 'B' have arranged matters between them—or, as more generally happens, that the whips have done it for them—and that it is understood that they can both go their ways and enjoy themselves without the strength of their respective parties being relatively changed when it comes to voting. Would it not be an awful thing if either one or the other sneaked back to the Chamber and took part in the division? Such an act is not only a case of going back on his friend; it is ten times worse. It is a piece of treachery that would not be countenanced by any code recognised in Parliamentary warfare. Even in the extremest moment of danger when the ranks of the Government are wavering and the standards of the Opposition are raised in glorious expectancy of triumph no Government supporter should dare, even in a fit of loyal madness, to break his pair if he ever again hopes to occupy those seats of the blessed without an ugly stain on his character. Now you can understand what a terrible unforgivable thing it is to break a pair; and why Mr Massey, the Opposition whip, declared last week, that unless the Ministerial whip apologised for having insinuated that two members of the Opposition were guilty of such a crime, the Opposition would grant no further pairs for the remainder of the session. Think what that would mean for some of the members. But I question whether the threat could be carried into execution so long as our representatives are the ordinary sort of mortals that love relaxation at least as well as work. When Walpole was in power it was actually tried, in the House of Commons, to put down the custom of pairing. A motion was made 'that no member of this House do presume to make any agreement with another member to absent themselves from any service of this House, or any Committee thereof; and that this House will proceed with the utmost severity against all such members as shall offend therein.' But that motion was promptly negatived, and any attempt to put down pairing in New Zealand will certainly meet with the same fate.

IRREGULAR MARRIAGES

AT the session of the Church of England Assembly, lately concluded in Melbourne, one of the clergy tabled a motion asking the Bishop to communicate with the Premier of the colony, urging on the latter the necessity for an alteration in the marriage law to prevent the traffic in

marriages carried on by matrimonial agencies. Neither the Bishop nor the Assembly, however, saw their way to interfere in the matter, and the motion was withdrawn. I fancy that not merely in Victoria, but everywhere else marriages of the kind complained of are rather on the increase, and for many reasons the fact is to be deeply regretted. These irregular contracts, as Churchmen would regard them—though, strictly speaking, they are perfectly regular so long as the law permits them—are decidedly calculated to detract from the sanctity, solemnity, and binding character of the marriage vows. People united by some unknown individual amid the common, dingy surroundings of a matrimonial agency run a big risk of regarding the alliance as a very commonplace affair; and in after life feeling less compunction in dissolving the bond. We are all of us slaves to forms and symbols in a greater degree than we even admit to ourselves; and I quite appreciate the sentiment which makes a girl look on a marriage even by the registrar with repugnance and insist in being Mendelssohned out of church in the good old fashion. Too often it is with no honourable intent that one of the contracting parties resorts to the hole-and-corner method of—to use a word that is meaningless in such cases—solemnising their union; and I quite believe that these marriages are a fruitful source of scandal and distress. Of course it may happen, and probably frequently does, that couples harbouring the most honourable intentions, have resorted to the matrimonial agency to be joined for better or worse. All marriages celebrated in church are assuredly not made in heaven; and many contracts entered into without the aid of priest or ritual cannot be said to have been made in the other place. One of the most curious methods of shirking the marriage ceremony is that in vogue in California, where the lovers, to escape the conditions attached to the performance of the marriage ceremony within the State, slip on board some coasting vessel and get a good-natured captain to mumble over their joined hands some words that have no legal significance whatever. Such a union is a farce, but still, for all that, it generally serves the purpose it was used for, that is, it compels the consent of the parents to a legal union of the parties.

THE TRAIL OF THE SERPENT.

ONE would almost think that Sir Walter Buller was bent on playing here just the reverse role to that which St. Patrick played in the Emerald Isle. I see from the newspapers that among the curiosities he has brought back with him from Fiji is a living serpent, and that he has presented the reptile to the Auckland Museum. I am surprised that so little curiosity has been shown about this latest importation, and that nobody has questioned Sir Walter's motives in bringing it here. For it is no ordinary snake, but according to the paragraph from which I cull my information, a monstrous 'seven feet in thickness.' One marvels what the Government were thinking of in allowing the brute to land. Surely the Minister of Lands—between whom and Sir Walter there is no love lost, as we all know—surely it was a time for him to cry, 'I fear the Greeks even when they bring gifts,' and to have ordered the vermin to be cast into the sea. We may be sure that the incident has been concealed from his knowledge in the House. Pending that inquiry, which is certain to come, we have a right to know whether the proper precautions are being taken to prevent the monster escaping, and whether—which is of much more importance—its mate may not have been smuggled into this fair land with the object of defeating all the care the Government has taken to protect us against pests social and other. You can just imagine what it would be if the breed of this terrible reptile 'seven feet in thickness'—bigger than a giant kauri in girth—became established in the colony. The weasels would be nothing to it, and they

TOPICS OF WEEK.

A KNOTTY LAW POINT.

ENTHUSIASTIC gardeners whose patience is often sorely tried by the depredations of their neighbours' hens, would do well to consult Mr Justice Edwards' decision on the legal status of fowls in this country before proceeding, as one is tempted to do, to summarily draw the necks of the trespassers. I confess I had always imagined that the latter method of dealing with vagrant poultry was countenanced by the law of the land, and such would seem to be the general opinion. But according to Mr Edwards this is not the case. A fowl, it appears, has its rights just the same as a horse or a cow, being an animal within the meaning of the Impounding Act; and before you can legally lay a finger on the merest bantam belonging to your neighbour, that has scratched up your early peas or made a dust bath of your carrot bed, you must give notice of your intention to the owner or the police. I don't know whether this ruling would have been tolerated some time ago; I rather think Parliament would have been appealed to against such a decision. Now, however, that our beneficent Government has taken the cocks and hens beneath its sheltering wing and has appointed a gentleman specially to look after them, it would probably be quite useless to make any complaint. Otherwise, I think it might be argued with a great deal of reason that a fowl is not entitled to be called an animal, and further, that even if it were so entitled, it is ridiculous to extend to it the consideration the law does to the horse or the cow. It is true that Mr Justice Edwards might plead a kind of Biblical authority for this implied misuse of terms. In Leviticus we certainly do read of 'all fowls that creep going on all fours.' But as both in the Geneva and Bishop's Bibles the honey bee is spoken of as 'but a small beast among the fowls,' it is very evident either that in these early days of the world natural history was anything but an exact science or, what is just as likely, that the translators got mixed up in the text. It is scarcely possible, however, that the framers of the Impounding Act contemplated a hen being regarded as an animal in the same class as the ox or the ass or the cow. Or if they did, the fact of their including hens in the same category as cattle and horses for the purposes of the Act, showed such a woeful ignorance of the habits of the domesticated fowl as would at once render them unfit to legislate on such a matter. Consider for a moment the wily character of the common Dorking when trespassing in a neighbour's garden. She makes her way through the

are bad enough, but it is one thing to have your poultry yard raided by a wasp, and another to have your house visited by a serpent seven feet through and of a length proportionate to its girth. Our Government may have warmed vipers in its bosom, but I fancy it will draw the line at reptiles of that size. Let us hope that it was merely for scientific purposes, and not with any political intent that Sir Walter presented us with what, at best, is something of a white elephant.

A TOUCHING TRIBUTE.

A PRETTIER story than that which has been going the round of the papers has not come in my way for a long time. My readers have in all likelihood seen it. A native lad lately died at Waikaremoana, and among his few worldly possessions his relatives found, carefully hidden away, a little hoard of money—presents he had received from time to time from the European settlers for doing small commissions for them. Instead of appropriating the money as they would have been quite justified in doing, especially considering that they were very badly off at the time, his relatives refused to touch a farthing, and determined to bury the treasure with their young friend. The notes they deposited in the coffin with the body, and the silver coins—half-crowns and florins to the number of eighty—they fixed, by means of melted sperm candles, so as to form a silver border round the coffin. The incident recalls to my mind that poem of Browning's about the 'beautiful girl so white' with the wealth of golden hair, who, when she was dying prayed her friends that they would not permit her locks to be disturbed. And so she was buried in the old church at Porirua; and years and years afterwards when some alterations were being carried out there the workmen came upon the dusty coffin and all that remained of the lady fair. But here is the strange part of the story. Her golden hair of which she had been so proud gleamed there, coiled in great masses around the unsightly skull but when it was touched, lo, it crumbled away disclosing no end of 'louis d'or' which the damsel had concealed in her tresses. The meaning and the moral of this story—for there is much of both in it—I leave you to find for yourself in Browning's beautiful verse if you are not already familiar with it. What strange conjectures may not the unearthing of that native grave at Waikaremoana give rise to in after years when the little incident, now fresh in our minds, is forgotten.

THE ETHICS OF BOXING.

EVER since a young Auckland was killed in a pugilistic encounter, some five years ago, the Auckland police have displayed a vigilance in putting down anything in the nature of prize-fighting. As the result of this commendable attitude towards the ignoble art of offence, which is usually all that can be learned from such exhibitions, they summoned the other day seven young men who had arranged to give a public display of the effects of human fists on human faces. The young men called the proposed entertainment a boxing match, and if, as they declared, the contestants were to wear the ordinary boxing gloves, it was probable nothing more was intended. But the police had apparently some reason to think that a different sort of display, to wit, a prize fight pure and simple, was on the ' tapis,' and so they interfered. The consequence was that the young men were bound over to keep the peace, which meant, as I understand, that they would have to take very good care that there was nothing in the proposed exhibition that could give a watchful and prejudiced constable a right to call it a prize-fight. I am glad to see that the Bench does not mean to rank prize-fighting with skin gloves and boxing with full-sized padded gloves in the same category. As for the former, I am entirely of the opinion that such contests are brutalising to those that take part in them and those that look on. If ever I should

be seized with a desire to gaze on one, the cinematograph will be quite sufficient for my taste; though I can scarcely conceive any sane man gazing for two hours on a screen on which is depicted the memorable contest between Fitzsimmons and Corbett, as I hear one can now do for a shilling. Boxing, on the other hand, I regard as a harmless, healthful and useful exercise. Major Broadfoot, I see, waxes enthusiastic on pugilism in a recent number of the 'National Review,' but advocacy of the virtues of the ring coming from the biographer of Tom Sayers has to be received with a grain of salt. What the Major says about training for fighting, 'teaching and enforcing self-restraint and planting successfully in soil not always the most promising, the seeds of chivalry,' sounds all very well, but practical experience and the lives of some of the exponents of the art and many of its devotees teach rather that! Fisticulture develops anything but chivalrous instincts. Against legitimate boxing, when not indulged in to excess, I have not a word to say, and probably it is legitimate boxing that the Major really intends to be the object of his panegyric, though his use of the word 'ring' suggests other associations.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Notice to Contributors.—Any letters or MSS. received by the Editor of the "New Zealand Graphic" will be immediately acknowledged in this column.

'An Old Girl.'—Very many thanks for your nice description, which, however, arrived too late. All news must be at the 'Graphic' office by twelve at the latest, on Monday morning. Please remember this another time, when I hope I shall hear from you again.

'Enthusiasm.'—I do not see the least objection to your forming a ladies' Hockey Club. It is a very good game for children if they are fairly strong, and really, there are few accidents with very ordinary care. You sometimes get knocked on the hands and shins, but not seriously, and the rule that sticks must not be lifted above the elbow should be carefully enforced. It is really a winter game.

'Summer.'—Prickly heat is certainly very trying in hot weather. Hot drinks greatly aggravate the evil. Avoid all irritating local applications. Bay rum is used by some people as an application, and the following powder:—Powdered boracic acid, 1 drachm, precipitated chalk, 4 ounces, oil of roses, one drop. Any powder used must be perfectly smooth; no sulphur should be applied. Bran baths are good, or alkaline bath containing two to four ounces of carbonate of soda.

'Housekeeper.'—I think you will find powdered borax very useful in driving away those troublesome cockroaches and ants. Sprinkle it liberally about their holes. Borax is also good for cleaning silver. Rub your gilt picture frames over with a piece of raw onion. This will remove the fly marks.

'Maude.'—I think recipes for preserving eggs for winter use have several times appeared in the recipe column. However, I will give you one here. Pour six quarts of boiling water on three pounds of lime, one ounce of cream-o'-tartar, and half a pound of salt. When quite cold, pour over the new-laid eggs, in jars. Tie the jars over with thick paper and stand in a cool place.

'Lydia.'—It certainly does not 'pay' to look dowdy when travelling, and it must be remembered that the travelling dresses of to-day are far more ornamental than they used to be; some show more braiding, and trimmings of all kinds are applied with a more liberal hand, according to people's tastes. But it is not a move in the right direction, though nothing can be worse than to travel in old clothes. The simpler the cut and the less liable to catch up the dust the better. For the moment, home-spuns of a light make or tweed or alpaca

will bear the brunt of the journey the best. For the river and voyages of any kind, not only have light coloured corduroys carried off the palm, but woollen ones also.

'Etiquette.'—M: A lady should never take a gentleman's hat and coat when he calls. Let him care for them. In making a short call he keeps on his overcoat and puts his hat on the floor beside the chair. If he has come for the evening he should leave both hat and coat in the hall.

'E. Cuthbert.'—There is no charge for answers in this column.

'Bazaar.'—I quite agree with 'M.' that bazaars are 'a dreadful nuisance,' and that some other way of raising money could be devised. As you require some hints, I will try and find some.

Boys' suits for those of tender years fill a want, because mothers who have money to spend are glad indeed to discover anything that can be turned to some useful account. New needlework attracts, such as babies' quilts, the Florine work, in which chenille appears, and linen cushion covers, worked with a Tudor rose, or with pretty bunches of lilac in relief, sometimes intermixed with paillettes. Brush and comb and wall bags at this time of the year, when everybody is travelling, are quickly disposed of. Small opera bags made of plush, and cases containing a couple of packets of Patience cards, or the new penwiper in the shape of a saddle, a suitable present for a hunting man, are attractive. Any kind of cigarette or cigar case affords an opportunity for gentlemen's purchases. Sometimes old china, quaint Delft, and the brown ware from Holland, bring in a most satisfactory sum if they can be bought to advantage.

'New Chim.'—If you make your kitchen attractive, I do not see why you cannot have your meals there as you have no servant. As there is no scullery-door, hang up a dark chintz or cretonne curtain over the door-way, with a loop so that it can be well fastened out of the way while you are working about. The kitchen, in most houses, the last room, is by no means the least, in influence and importance. The young housewife who asserted that 'the kitchen of her new home should be as cheerful and attractive as any apartment in it,' was a very judicious woman and gave excellent reasons for her resolution. Light, ventilation, and convenience are requisites. Papered walls become soiled and hold the odours of cooking, until they are very objectionable, while once painted they can be washed and kept sweet and fresh for a long time, and are easily renewed. Buff or light yellow for walls and ceilings, and oak-graining for wood-work, give a bright, cheerful appearance. Shades, and half-sash white muslin curtains, that can be put up clean every week, make the best window furnishings. The shades should be hung three inches from the top of the casing, so that the window can be lowered and the fresh air come in, while the smoke and heat go out. Screens are a summer necessity in the kitchen windows, and a screen door a great comfort, excluding the troublesome flies that are no respecters of people or homes. Have all your dressers perfectly clean and neat, closed cupboards are a great convenience, or curtains prettily arranged keep off dust, and look nice. All saucepans should be kept in the scullery.

'Bride.'—Your letter is very amusing, and I am quite sure if you only talk as well as you write, you cannot fail to interest your husband's guests. But you say you become 'shy and stupid' as soon as any stranger enters. Try and forget yourself, be interested in whatever your visitor says. Say what you think—politely, of course—and do not try to utter grand sentences. Talk of yourself, but not of your servants. This fatally fascinating form of conversation (!) must be carefully avoided in society. Be natural and be a good listener. Then most people will think you talk well.

'Desirable.'—You should have a special apron in which to clean your bicycle. Make it of some thick material which will

not let grease through to your dress; an old tweed skirt does admirably. Cut it as long as the hem of your dress, and to go as far as the under-arm seam in your bodice, that is, three parts round your skirt. It should have a half-round bib, with a hand long enough to slip quickly and easily over your head. You require a good sized pocket right across the front, subdivided into smaller pockets. In one you will require a dirty duster, in another a clean polishing cloth. Of course, if you are making one for a present, you can buy some dark mixed cloth and embroider it with wheels, lamps and bells, etc., etc.

'Visitor.'—If you are invited for a few days' visit, and arrive before lunch, you had better not unpack at once, but go straight down to your hostess for a little chat, that is, of course, if she is well off in the matter of domestic assistance. If she is not, she may be glad to hear you say, 'I will just put my things straight before lunch.' But you must be guided entirely by the style of house which you are visiting. If your hostess says she is going to drive you out immediately after lunch, put everything ready beforehand, especially if you are going to spend the afternoon with friends. In some houses, the hostess is very glad of an offer of help in arranging the flowers, dusting the drawing-room, etc., etc., in others you would not dream of giving any assistance except in making yourself agreeable to the other guests. Forget yourself, and be always bright, cheerful, and sympathetic. There is always some visitor who wants special looking after, and you can often be quite a comfort in attending a little to her fancies. No gentleman staying in the house worth thinking about, will consider you any the less for your little acts of kindness and thoughtfulness. A man may like a gay, inconsiderate girl to flirt with, but when it comes to wanting a wife, he prefers one who will be a domestic treasure for himself, not an amusement for other men.

'Veritas.' For your white straw sailor hat try the following plan: Give it a good scrubbing with a nail-brush and soap, using warm water into which you have put a little ammonia. The common ammonia, used for washing, does admirably. Let it dry thoroughly, then make a strong solution of tea, letting it stand until all the strength is drawn out of the leaves. Strain carefully, then soak the hat in it for about two hours, or longer. Let it dry, and repeat the process until the hat is dark enough. If too dark a brown, and you would like a golden-brown tinge, give it a last bath (when quite dry) in saffron-water.

NEW PARISIAN IDEA OF WOMAN'S FORM.

The fashionable woman of the coming autumn and winter must have a new figure. This decree comes from the modistes at Paris. It means, if adopted, a complete remodelling of woman's form, the important agent of which is a recently-invented and oddly-shaped French stay. This stay, worn by the up-to-date woman, will do these things: It will extend out of their natural proportions the size of the hips. It will compress the waist to an astonishing and most unhygienic smallness. It will lessen and flatten the bust and give the wearer the appearance of an animated hourglass.

But it will be adopted and worn with pride because it is new and startling, and has the sanction of the great modistes that are given over to the study of clothes.

It has been conceded that women would lace since the days of the early Greeks, when Hippocrates severely rebuked the ladies of Cos for so tightly compressing their ribs with their girdles as to interfere with their breathing powers. It remains for the 'new figure' to demonstrate the varieties of lacing and the results of a certain style effected by the new corset. The physical culturists, the Desartians and dress reformers have for a score of years been exploiting in every possible way the gospel of the common sense waist. They will be deeply pained when they see the effect of the new stay.

* Clarke's B. H. Pills are warranted to cure Gravel, Gout, Rheumatism, and all kindred complaints. Free from Mercury. Established upwards of 30 years. In boxes 6/6 each, of all Chemists and Patent Medicines Vendors throughout the World. Proprietors, The Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln, England.



A BIT OF 'SMOOTH' SLEDGING WITH THE DOGS.



THROUGH A MOUNTAIN PASS IN THE SUMMER SEASON.



WADING A CURRENT, WITH INDIAN GUIDES.



PACKERS FORDING A RIVER ON THE OVERLAND ROUTE.

ON THE ROAD
TO
KLONDIKE.



CANOEING DOWN AN ALASKAN STREAM.



ON THE WAY TO KLONDIKE—RAFTING ON THE YUKON RIVER.

THE WARFARE OF THE FUTURE.

THE next great contest, says a writer in Leslie's 'Weekly,' will show how far human ingenuity has revolutionised the methods and added to the machinery of modern warfare. The result cannot fail to be amazing. Not even the thought of the blood that must be shed—and all authorities seem to agree that the carnage in the next great war will be enormous—can obliterate the picturesque features of a struggle between men—and even horses—weighted down perhaps by bullet-proof coats, and equipped with military bicycles, dirigible balloons, 'fog-dispensers, carrion flies, trained dogs, and pet pigeons. By the time that war shall have been begun the so-called bullet-proof cloths will have been sufficiently tested, and they will either furnish an essential portion of the equipment of at least one of the contending armies, or have been relegated to the museums.

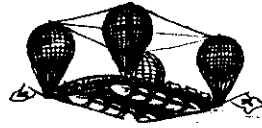
Balloons were used in the last great war between Frenchmen and Germans; captive balloons are conceded to have uses as yet undemonstrated but entirely practicable. The wounded could be hoisted out of harm's way in a hospital built on a rectangular platform, each corner of which should be supported by a captive balloon, which might as easily carry the fresh meat and other stores into a higher, purer atmosphere and convey camp baggage. But it is to the dirigible balloon that all eyes will be turned. The secret of steering air-ships at will is said to be in the possession to-day of both France and Germany. That alone may be the key to success. From a dirigible balloon explosives powerful enough to annihilate ships and army corps might be dropped with impunity. The new explosives themselves will constitute, perhaps, the most powerful weapons in use. Not those high explosives with which we are already familiar, in print at least, but other and newer and more deadly, such, for example, as that gas, one capsule of which would dissolve and blur instantaneously the life of every breathing thing in the vicinity. That capsule might itself be made light enough to float on the wind and dissolve in the sun, or to be discharged from the muzzle of a great piece of field artillery, especially designed for the purpose, which would project the strange missile gently

through the air until it burst over the enemy's camp. The feasibility of such a gentle projection of a delicate missile was demonstrated in the pneumatic torpedo-gun, which utilizes compressed air to hurl high explosives. There has been a suggestion that blunderbusses could be contrived to throw deadly vapours into a hostile community—hence the term 'fog-dispenser' applied to one of the new weapons whose merits are yet to be tested.

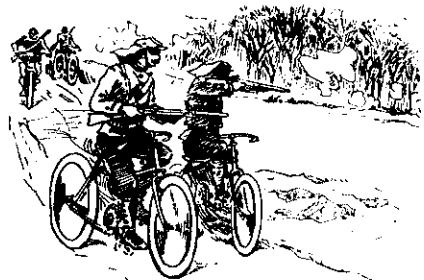
Turpin has set the genius of France to work at new machines of war. The French Minister of War received proposals, not long since, from the professor of one of the principal colleges in Paris that large blow-flies be bred and kept in cages, being fed upon blood placed between the artificial skin of lay figures dressed up in the German uniform. When war was declared these flies, he explained, could be rendered venomous by feeding them on the sap of tropical plants and taken to the front in their cages, from which they would be released, to make short work of the enemy. Another patriot

suggested that dogs should be trained to bite lay figures wearing the German uniform, and that each soldier should be accompanied by a dog in time of war. The most venomous, however, of all recent appliances for the destruction, in action, of

human life seems to be the one described in a dispatch from Paris: 'A French officer has submitted to the War Minister a rifle that will project a stream of vitriol for a distance of seventy metres. He proposes that the weapon be used only against



THE AERIAL HOSPITAL.



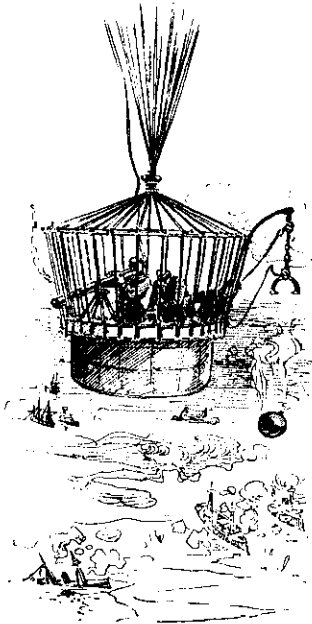
SKIRMISHING ON BICYCLES.



ADVANCE OF THE MOVING FORT.

savages, to prevent their making frenzied rushes.'

The military bicycle will have its first practical trial in the next great war. Already the European caricaturists are amusing themselves by depicting on paper combats between forces mounted on military bicycles and armoured in Dowe coats.



DROPPING HIGH EXPLOSIVES FROM A BALLOON.



GENERAL WAYLER.

Late Commander-in-Chief of the Spanish Army in Cuba, who has been recalled.

THE GERM THEORY.

'How are your microbes to-day?' may come to be one of the customary greetings to the sick when the latest discoveries of the bacteriologists are reduced to practical account.

As first promulgated, the germ theory was simplicity itself. For every contagious disease there is a specific germ. Destroy the microbe and cure the disease. Later discoveries, however, do not make the matter quite so simple. Drs. Roux and Metchnikoff and the chemist Duclaux, successor to Pasteur as director of the Pasteur Institute, have each been conducting separate experiments recently, but have reached practically the same conclusions. These men have discovered the most deadly germs in the human body when there was no accompanying malady. They are forced, therefore, to believe that the disease is due not to the presence of the germ, but to some diseased condition of the man. The man is sick, in other words, because he is carrying around a whole hospital of sick bacteria, and the question is to find out what ails the microbes.

This opens up a new and somewhat startling danger. Nearly every person, so these doctors think, has some of these cholera or other deadly microbes in his body most of the time. So long as they are in a healthy condition he is all right. But suppose they get sick. Well he must take his chances, just as he has always done before this latest discovery.

A GERM-PROOF HOUSE.

For the latest practical application of the science of germs one must go to Japan. Dr Van der Heyden, the famous bacteriologist of Japan, has constructed a house which is described as microbe-proof, as well as air-proof and dust-proof.

The walls of this house are made of double glass. The panes are of large size, a half-inch thick, and are set in iron frames with about four inches space between the outer and inner surfaces. No air is admitted except through sterilizing pipes. It is first forced through cotton wool and then against a glycerine-coated plate glass. If any microbes escape this treatment they are speedily destroyed in the warm sunlight which pervades the apartments.

Though the rays of the sun pass unimpeded through the walls, they do not superheat the apartments, since the spaces between the glasses in the walls are filled with solutions of salts which admit the light but absorb the heat. In the evening the salts radiate the heat they have gathered during the day. No fire is needed, therefore, even in freezing weather, unless several cloudy days follow in close succession. It is then supplied by heating the filtered air. The air escapes through several small openings near the roof.

ENGLISH ROTHSCHILDS.

The greatest financial genius of the Rothschild family, though there have been many of great talent, was Nathan Mayer of the second generation, who established the house of N. M. Rothschild and Co. in 1798 in London. He flew to the stars and grovelled in the mud for money (says a writer in Harper's 'Round Table'). He welcomed all transactions, big or little, wherewith to turn the banker's penny. He was the most daring speculator of his time on the Stock Exchange and the most successful. He had carrier pigeons and fast-sailing boats to bring him the earliest news from the war centres of Europe, and so help him to manipulate stocks. He followed Wellington's army to Waterloo in person, and had relays of the swiftest horses and a fast yacht lying in the harbour at Ostend. So he arrived at the London Stock Exchange, after the battle, twelve hours ahead of any public announcement of the victory, and made \$3,000,000 by one of the most tremendous series of speculations in history. In 1810, when the Duke of Wellington, then commanding in Spain, drew on the English Government for £3,000,000, and the English treasury was short, Nathan bought the drafts at a big discount and at once sent the money. The stories about this remarkable man are almost endless, and show how strangely he was alike equal to the most tremendous schemes and the pettiest tricks of avarice.

A NEW DEAL.

'Yes,' sighed the old man, sadly, 'I'm rich and plenty of people envy me, but I would give at least half of my worldly possessions to get rid of one haunting memory. I ran away from home and shipped as a cabin boy when I was ten. I was on my way home from the grocery with a can of molasses when this glorious vista of a life on the ocean wave was opened to my enraptured imagination. I hid the molasses and two hours later was started on my voyage.

'Years passed by as they have a way of doing, and I was given up for dead. But during most of those years I was in India, where the chances favoured a shrewd man in acquiring wealth, and I amassed an immense fortune. Then came the inevitable longing to revisit the scenes of my childhood. I wanted to be in the old village and the old home; to make everyone happy who had been associated with my early life.

'On landing I found the molasses just where I had hidden it, went to the house just as I should have done forty years before and simply said to the aged couple who looked at me as at a stranger, "Here it is." While they stared, I hoped in vain for recognition, and wondered if I were changed as greedily as they. When I told them who I was their greeting was a warm one, and they called me "son" in a way to delight the wanderer's heart. I suppose they had a legal right to do so, but in time came the surprise.

'What was that?
'Well, shortly after I left mother died, and father married again. Later, he paid the final debt of nature, and my new mother married again. Never before had I seen either of the aged couple, yet they were what was left of the old family in the old home, and I was "son." I did all that money could do for them, but it was very disappointing.'

POISONOUS WILD FLOWERS.

Recently, says an exchange, a small boy ate buttercups, and as a result died. Since then there has been published a list of poisonous wild flowers, popularly considered harmless, but certain to be fatal if eaten by a careless person or ignorant child. These flowers are: Buttercups,celandine, wood nemes, anemone, narcissus, lily, snowdrop, jonquil, wild hyacinth, monk's hood, foxglove, nightshade, briony, mezeron, and henbane.

If actresses and others desire to come before the public prominently all they have to do is to announce that they propose Klondiking next spring. Even the most suspicious copywriting editors fall into the trap.

Clarke's World-Famed Blood Mixture. - 'The most searching Blood-Cleaner and medical skill have brought to light. Sufferers from Scrofula, Scoury, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples and Sores of any kind are solicited to give it a trial to test its value. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Bottles 2s 6d each, sold everywhere. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.'



THE AERIAL ASSAULT BY A FLYING MACHINE.



[SEE 'ILLUSTRATIONS']

DEER-STALKING IN NEW ZEALAND.

SKIRTS PROHIBITED.

RATIONAL DRESS PILGRIMAGE FROM LONDON.

(From the "London Daily Mail.")

To-day those who want to see how the rational costume appears at its best on the huly bicyclist should look out for the departure from London of the delegates to the conference at Oxford of 'The Supporters of the Rational Costume.'

The ladies should create a dazzling effect, for according to a notice which has been issued by the convener of the gathering, Mr J. D. Ainsworth, three prizes will be given to the three ladies wearing the most approved costumes. Who will be the venturesome Paris who will undertake to award the apples to the rational beauties is not yet known.

Mr Ainsworth has convened the gathering in the names of a number of clubs, including the 'Ladies Cyclists,' the 'Ladies' Rational Dress,' the 'Ladies' South West,' the 'Mowbray House,' the 'Vegetarian,' the 'Western Rational Dress,' and the 'Yoroshi.' The Viscountess Haberton has consented to act as president for the occasion, and, among others, the following ladies and gentlemen have been invited to attend:—Lady Colin Campbell, Lady Randolph Churchill, Mrs Sarah Grand, Lady Richardson, Lady Henry Somerset, Miss Eva Maclaren, Miss J. Harrison, The Countess

of Warwick, Lord Coleridge, Colonel Saville, Mr W. T. Stead.

It is compulsory upon all ladies attending this congress to wear rational dress. This is the only condition which is made, and it will be enforced rigidly. 'Skirts will not be tolerated under any circumstances,' is the declaration in the marching orders; and in view of this emphatic pronouncement it is painful to imagine what might happen to any skirts which might dare to profane the occasion by appearing on the scene.

In order that there may be no sort of mistake about the matter, Mr Ainsworth has written to say that 'skirts will be entirely forbidden under any provocation, and the notion that the rider must carry a skirt to be put on the moment the bicycle is left will receive no toleration. Of course, it is understood that all the gentlemen riders who will attend are ardent supporters and advocates of the sensible costume. If we all do our best we shall have a gathering worthy of the occasion, and give the lie to those weak-minded and prejudiced people who are fond of saying that rationalists are dying out.'

The Englishwoman has hitherto steadily refused to bifurcate herself when she rides a bicycle, holding, it may be suspected, that a skirt divided against itself cannot stand scrutiny. Will this gathering, with its prizes for the three most approved costumes, give the rational cause a new impetus? Oxford has been chosen "mainly

because of its pleasant situation on the river between London and Cheltenham, the two centres of the Forward Movements in women's dress in regard to cycling,' and not because Oxford is the 'home of lost causes.'

A CLEVER CABBY.

The ways of the cabby are past comprehension, and the driver of the hansom in London is no different from his brother of the jinrikisha of Japan.

One of the latest and most amusing tales concerning the noble band of drivers comes from a little fishing village in the north of Scotland. The chapel of this queer and sparsely populated town depended entirely for its supply on the occasional help of the clergy in neighbouring towns. It so happened that upon a certain very rainy Sunday a new clergyman from the town of S—volunteered to conduct services in the little chapel, and in order to get there he engaged a vehicle which the Englishman knows as a 'fly,' in which through the pouring rain he was driven across the country to the chapel. Upon his arrival he found no one at hand, not even a sexton to toll the bell to summon the natives, so he took it upon himself to pull the rope, leaving the cabby meanwhile outside in the wet. For a long time nobody arrived, but finally one solitary in-

dividual did appear, and sat down in a pew nearest the door.

The clergyman then donned his surplice and began the service. When this was ended he observed that inasmuch as there was but one member of the congregation he thought it would be well to dispense with the sermon.

'Oh no, sir. Please go on with the sermon.'

When half-way through he expressed the fear that perhaps he was tiring his listener, and was much gratified to learn from his own lips that such was not the case.

'I should be glad to listen to you for hours, sir,' he said, and so the sermon ran on to an hour in length, and finally the service was concluded.

The preacher then expressed a desire to shake hands with so flattering an auditor. And then the trick came out—a trick which the clergyman's near-sightedness had prevented him from seeing at once.

His listener was none other than the driver of the fly, who was all the time charging him at so much an hour for the use of his vehicle!

The minister did not even have the consolation of getting even by ordering a collection.

'Where was Magna Charta signed?' asked a teacher in a South London Board School. 'Please, sir, at the bottom.'

THE CLOSE OF THE AUCKLAND HUNTING SEASON.



GETTING READY FOR THE DRAG.



DISCUSSING THE RACE.



Photos. by Slack, Auckland.

AFTERNOON TEA AT MR GORRIE'S, EPSOM.

MEN AND WOMEN.

The great German General Von Moltke married Miss Burt, a plain, not very cultivated girl, and lived most happily with her until her death, which took place on Christmas Eve, 1868. Very touching was his devotion to her memory. Upon his estate at Kreisan he built a mausoleum, situated on the eminence embowered in foliage. In front of the altar of this little chapel was placed the simple oak coffin, always covered with leaves, in which the remains of his wife reposed. Sculptured in the apex was a finely carved figure of our Lord in an attitude of blessing. Above were inscribed the words 'Love is the fulfilment of the law.'

When a boy, 11 years old, retired a few nights since his eyes were as usual. In the morning the pupils were dilated, fixed, not influenced by light. He could not distinguish light from darkness. No cause for the condition could be found until the teeth were examined, when it was seen that they were crowded and wedged together. Two permanent and four temporary teeth were extracted. The same night he could distinguish light from darkness, the next day objects, and in a few days his eyes were in a normal condition. He had no other treatment.

The poet Heine married a woman who could hardly read and write, and who was quite incapable of understanding what he wrote. Goethe, the greatest of Germans, married his housekeeper.

An experimental race was recently made in a French office between a skilful typist and an expert Frenchman, the test being the number of times a phrase of eight words could be reproduced in five minutes. The typist scored thirty-seven and the penman twenty-three.

A curious custom prevails in Bulgaria. All newly married women are obliged to remain dumb for a month after marriage, except when addressed by their husbands. When it is desirable to remove this restriction permanently the husband presents her with a gift and then she can chatter to her heart's content.

London contains about one-eighth of Great Britain's population, has a larger daily delivery of letters than all Scotland, a birth every minute and a death every six.

There is a hope which is one of the most subtle and deceitful which ever existed, and one which wrecks the happiness of many a young girl's life. This is the common delusion that a woman can best reform a man by marrying him. It is a mystery how people can be so blinded to the hundreds of cases in every community where tottering homes have fallen and innocent lives have been wrecked, because some young girl has persisted in marrying a scoundrel in the hope of saving him. Such unions can result in nothing but sadness and disaster. Let no young girl think that she may be able to accomplish what a loving mother or sympathetic sisters have been unable to do.

Why is it that a young widow is usually fascinating? Her charm is one which experience alone can give. She understands men. She knows the strength and weakness of men as no unmarried woman can know them, and knowledge is power. She has learnt a man's tastes, and she suits herself to them. She knows a man loves to be made comfortable, and she attends to his personal welfare. She knows he delights in being amused, and she makes herself amusing and entertaining. She has found out that an interest in himself is the thing man most appreciates in woman, and she shows him frankly how deep that interest is. She has perhaps learnt to take an interest in all mankind from her experience with one; that is a simple solution of the matter.

Among the Roman women at one period there was a morbid ambition to grow beards, and they used to shave their faces and smear them with unguents to produce these inappropriate appendages. Cicero

tells us that at one time to such an extent did the mania for beards grow upon women that it was found desirable to pass a law against the 'adornment.'

A writer in a leading magazine has made the prophecy that in 300 years from now the world will know only three languages—English, Russian and Chinese. The English language will be spoken all over North and South America, in Australia, India, Africa, New Zealand and the islands of Australia and the Pacific. The Russian tongue will have conquered all Europe except Great Britain and all Asia except India. Chinese will hold sway over the rest of the world.

Etiquette has been defined as 'the oil that makes the wheels of society run smoothly,' and no one will deny that a reasonably fixed code of social observance is useful and even necessary. But how deliciously funny some of our customs are. One of the most absurd of these, the 'high' handshake, is to be chronicled thankfully as rapidly becoming obsolete. It has for several years been the absurdest burlesque of friendly greeting.

In Russia a child of ten years of age cannot go away from home to school without a passport. Nor can common servants and peasants go away from where they live without one. A gentleman residing in Moscow or St. Petersburg cannot receive the visit of a friend who remains many hours without notifying the police. The porters of all houses are compelled to make returns of the arrival and departure of strangers, and for every one of the above passengers a charge is made of some kind.

Mr David Christie Murray, writing of America and the Americans, says:—'Nowhere on the surface of this planet, so far as I know, is popular credulity in such contrast with learning and capacity. The newspaper advertisements show you a hundred of the oddest ways of getting a living out of the folly and stupidity of mankind and womankind. The very name of American is with us a synonym for shrewdness and mental agility, and yet a casual glance at the advertising pages of the public prints shows you an abyss of ignorance, credulity, and superstition in which countless creatures of prey are at work on the body of a foolish humanity. Contrast heaps itself on contrast; strangeness crowds on strangeness. I have just laid down on the table before me a very beautifully printed and illustrated magazine, one of the cheap publications which somehow we have not been able so far to rival on our side. I find in it a full-page advertisement of a nostrum which is guaranteed to 'make the plainest woman positively beautiful: the sickest woman positively healthy.' Somebody pays for that, and it is certainly not the advertiser who does so in the last instance. Further on I read in the same pages:—'A beautiful woman must not only possess a clear and brilliant complexion, but must have also a properly developed bust. No matter how severe your case, write me, and I will make you a proud and happy woman.' I wonder how many proud and happy women owe their pride and happiness to this benefactress of their kind. 'Any lady made to look fifteen years younger without charge' is an announcement in another publication now under my eye. An 'eye powder,' whatever that may be, is offered to all ladies 'who wish to be beautiful.'

The wives of great men have much to bear. The wife of the late Professor Agassiz was one morning putting on her stockings and boots. A little scream attracted the Professor's attention. Not having risen, he leaned forward anxiously on his elbow and inquired what was the matter. 'Why, a little snake has just crawled out of my boot!' cried she. 'Only one, my dear?' interrupted the Professor, calmly lying down again. 'There should have been three.' He had put them there to keep them warm.

The most intricately decorated graves in the world are the negro graves in Zululand. Some of these mounds are garnished with the bottles of medicine used by the departed in their final illness, and the duration of the malady is guessed by the number of bottles.



The idea of the great electrician Edison's marrying was first suggested by an intimate friend, who told him that his large house and numerous servants ought to have a mistress. Although a very shy man, he seemed pleased with the proposition, and timidly inquired whom he should marry. The friend, annoyed at his apparent want of sentiment, somewhat testily replied, 'Any one.'

After a summer shower you must have often noticed that fresh, curious, but not unpleasant odour that rises from the new watered earth. Lately it occurred to a well-known man of science to investigate the cause. It proved to be produced by a new compound never before discovered, of which in a pound of soil less than one hundred-thousandth part of an ounce exists. This compound has, as far as known, some of the properties of camphor, but so very little could be obtained that there was much difficulty in conducting the experiment.

Von Moltke was an early riser, and loved early risers. Once, while roaming around the Silesian estate at daybreak, he found a woman bearing on her back a sack of potatoes which she had just dug, making a load heavy enough for a mule. 'Here's a thaler for you,' said the great Field Marshal; 'you see, the early bird catches the worm.' Afterward he found out that she was a night thief, who had ravaged his fields persistently, but whom his steward had never got up early enough to catch.

In 1875 a law was passed prohibiting the use of the portraits of living men on the United States stamps, thus placing living men in the same position that women occupied, whether dead or alive, for no woman's portrait has ever graced a stamp belonging to the United States, postal or revenue.

When Fred Archer, England's famous jockey, once consulted one of England's most famous surgeons, the surgeon said: 'You must not think me rude, Mr Archer, but I take no interest in any branch of sport, and I have never heard your name.' 'Well,' said Archer, 'I hope you won't think me rude, either, but till a friend advised me to consult you I had never heard your name, either, and when I asked my friend who you were, he said: "He is the Fred Archer of the surgical profession."'

A man recently, in New York, laid a wager that he would woo, win and marry within an hour a young lady whom, with his companions, he had just seen arrive at the hotel where he was living. There is nothing in the American marriage law to prevent this despatch. He introduced himself to the damsel; she smiled upon his suit, and a minister was called in and they were married within an hour. The wager, of no inconsiderable amount, was handed over to the bridegroom, who left with his bride on the following day. It was shortly afterwards discovered that the couple had long been man and wife, and that they had been travelling about playing the same trick at various hotels.

Von Humboldt, the great scientist, when on a visit to Dutch Hazler, near Bristol Bay, predicted that the mother vein of gold would show itself in Alaska in a parallel line. Recent discoveries indicate that this prophecy has been fulfilled.

If you are a true smoker, you will never really love more than one pipe at a time. You will possibly flirt with others, winking at them as they ogle you from your mantelpiece; patent pipes, wrapped in a sheet of directions for use, hygienic pipes, self-ejection pipes, unbreakable pipes, non-slipping pipes, non-alcoholic pipes, all of them unsmokable pipes. These are the passing follies of youth, though there are some people who never grow up. You will, therefore, select your pipe with care, reflecting that you are choosing a partner of your life, one that will be near you by day, and lie by your side at night—on the table by your bed.

PONSONBY AT HOME.

JUVENILE BALL.

The above Plain and Fancy Dress Ball will be held in the **PONSONBY HALL,**

ON **FRIDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 29th,**
At 7.30 p.m.

'BUS LEAVES CHORAL HALL AT 7 P.M.
NORMAN BAKER,
Hon. Sec.

District Land and Survey Office, Auckland, 7th October, 1897. **T**HE UNDERMENTIONED TOWNSHIP AND RURAL LANDS will be submitted for Sale by Public Auction at this Office on FRIDAY, the 26th day of November, 1897, at 11 o'clock a.m.

SCHEDULE.
TOWNSHIP OF HOWICK—Lot 32, Section 2, 2r 14p. Upset price, £11 15s.
SURFURDS OF MERCER—Lot 10, 3a 3r 15p. Total upset price, £7 13s 8d. Front the Waikato River, about one mile from the Waikato Railway Station.
TOWN OF OPUA—Lot 1, Block XXXII., 17 perches. Upset price, £2 2s 6d.
WAIPU PAIRISH—Lot 14, Section 4; 1a 3r 30p. Total upset price, £1 10s.
TUTAMOE S.D. (Hoklenga County)—Block 8, Section 1; 274 acres. Total upset price, £577 15s. Two-thirds Fern Land; balance covered with 50 Kauri Trees (about 200,000ft). On the Opu-tue River; about four miles from Makakakahi.
WAIPU S.D. (Hoklenga County)—Block XL, Section 13; 75a 2r 30p. Total upset, £100. Unshading Clay Land; mixed Forest, with 46 Kauri Trees (about 100,000ft) and 1000 logs and a few good Totara Trees. There are Driving Creeks, with dams in use on each side of section. Situated eight miles from Kaiti Railway Station, by dray roads.

TERMS OF SALE.
One-fifth Cash on fall of hammer, and the balance, with Crown Grant Fee, within 30 days thereafter, otherwise the one-fifth paid by way of deposit will be forfeited, and the contract for the sale of the land be null and void.

GERHARD MUELLER,
Commissioner Crown Lands.

District Lands and Survey Office, Auckland, 7th October, 1897. **N**OTICE is hereby given that a Lease of the undermentioned Crown Land, for a term of seven years, will be submitted for Sale by Public Auction, at the District Land and Survey Office, Auckland, on FRIDAY, the 26th day of November, 1897, at 11 a.m.

MOTUKARAKA ISLAND (Section 1, Block IV., Ota-huhu S.D.), containing 1a 2r 35p. Open and partly wooded. First-class agricultural land, in grass, about 2 miles from Howick Wharf. Steamers pass the island daily. Subject to £25 for roading, ploughing, and grassing.

TERMS OF LEASE.
Seven years from 1st January, 1898, without right of renewal. No compensation for improvements at any time. Rent payable half-yearly in advance. The lessee will be permitted to use the island for grazing purposes only.

GERHARD MUELLER,
Commissioner Crown Lands.

"DENOUNCING THE TREATIES."

To some people this phrase, recently seen in the cables from England, conveys the idea that there is a malediction about Mr Chamberlain's intentions regarding foreign nations.
It is not quite so severe as that. It means that he will give notice that the "most favoured nation" clause they now enjoy in the new Anglo-Chinese Treaty with England will be terminated, and that the colonies will be permitted, if they choose, to charge higher duties on foreign than on British goods.
For instance, the majority of the pianos imported come from the Continent. Beet sugar is another article, and upon which the German Government pay high bounties, so as to compete with sugarcane from Mauritius and Queensland.
Mr Chamberlain's commercial mind has grasped the fact that in British Possessions necessities of life can be grown on British soil without depending on the Continent for sugar or China for tea. China has recently shown her attitude to England by arranging with foreign Powers for railways, and Mr Chamberlain intends to give it for tea. He practically says to foreigners do not know when you are well off. I'll give the colonies leave to send their produce home on Free Trade terms, and enable them to charge extra duties on goods produced outside our Empire. This will give them an opportunity to reciprocate with Cayman, a British colony, at duty free, and a profitable tariff put on the production of the Chinaman, and on the other hand the Anglo-Chinese Treaty with the British Empire with something better than mere sentiment.
Recent British Tea is not blended with Indian. China has stated that that wonderfully economic household requisite you are encouraging the PROTECTION OF BRITISH TEA. IN THE MIND OF THE CHINESE, AN OPEN CHINA MAN FROM CHINESE HOLD.



On Monday next the Auckland Opera House will be occupied by the Original Banjo, Mandolin, and Guitar Club. The entertainments provided by this club are of the most enjoyable description, the decorations themselves being unique as a rule. On this occasion the club, we understand, have determined to excel all previous efforts. They have now dispensed with the piano, so that the instruments of the club are now as its title would indicate—banjo, mandolin and guitar. At the coming concert the club will play Henry Parker's 'In the Dusk of the Twilight,' and, judging from the manner in which they performed Asher's 'Alice Where Art Thou,' at their last concert, the number selected will no doubt prove a most enjoyable item. Miss Sybil Lewis and Herr Zimmermann are down for violin solos. Miss T. Hargraves and Mr Reg. Norman are the vocalists. The box plan is open at Wildman and Lyell's. The club have had a new set of scenery painted by Herr Vennermark.

The Bracey Opera Company, which is now in South Australia, had a most successful season in the Golden West.

During their next tour of New Zealand the Pollards will play 'Madame Angot,' 'Manola,' 'Nadgy,' 'In Town,' and 'Djin-Djin.'

Miss Edith Pines, of Wanganui, who recently went to England to study voice cultivation, is coming back to the colony, being in indifferent health.

The recent performance of Haydn's 'Creation' at Palmerston North is well spoken of. The chorus is a very good one, and the able assistance rendered by Madame Carlton and Messrs Hill and Prouse, who sang the solos, made the performance an unqualified success.

Mrs Gilbert Laing Meason, of Timaru, has written a drama which it is proposed to stage in a few months' time. A comedieta, written expressly by this lady for Mr Bland Holt, is to be produced in Australia shortly.

At last, says the Sydney 'Bulletin,' Albani will really visit Australia. This time Williamson has secured her, and he states that the prima donna will arrive here in March next, and will give 16 concerts. As a big figure alone tempted Albani to accept, the management is reconsidering prices of admission.

'Two Little Vagabonds,' with Titheradge and daughter in the cast, is to get a fair chance of catching on in Sydney. The Melbourne production of Simms' sentimental melodrama was obviously spoilt in the acting, although the pantomimic water-pipe scene appeared bound to discount its prospects, anyway.—'Bulletin.'

The Corbett-Fitzsimmons' Veriscope, we hear, has not been a great success in Melbourne. 'The light is defective, with too much silvery snowshimmer.'

It is said that Mr and Mrs Brough propose to return to Australia in two years.

Wagner's original intention was that the representations in the theatre at Bayreuth were to be for students only, who were to be charged a small admission fee, proportionate to their means. It was not to be a business enterprise, but solely for the sake of art. Philistines, unsympathetic tourists and the unesthetic public generally were not to be invited. But all this has changed, and the present managers seek to offer every necessary inducement to the hitherto despised 'globe-trotter,' whose money they need to insure the financial success of the festivals. The Widow Cosima likes money. In truth, it is a greater consideration with her than art. The box-office receipts must be kept up. As a part of this new scheme, the De Reszke brothers were offered leading roles. What would they charge for the great honour of appearing on the Bayreuth stage? 'But the price named is out of the question!' That is the simple explanation of

their non-appearance. Year after year they are invited, and year after year they accept upon certain terms, whereupon Cosima has a fit and the matter is dropped. The famous Polish tenor and his suave brother do not care to sing for glory. Bayreuth's prestige is naught to them. The economical widow can employ a score of Germans at the price they ask; hence the deadlock. Think of Jean de Reszke singing twenty times (the festival season), not to mention rehearsals, for \$400, which the limit.

A movement has been started in New York to do away with window lithographs and the free tickets which accompany them. It has the sympathy of many prominent managers. A circular which has been sent to managers all over the country says, in effect, that nobody looks at window lithographs, and that their only use is to create deadheads. 'A deadhead,' it says, 'criticises more acutely than one who pays his admission, and as window lithos cause deadheads, by not using them you destroy the main factor for deadheads.'

A literary Bohemian is at work on a great naturalistic novel, says a French paper. 'The marchioness,' he writes, 'became as white as a shirt.' Glancing at that very moment at his own wristbands he is seized by a scruple, and adds, 'Whiter even than a shirt.'

From time immemorial the stage has been recruited from the democracy. Peg Woffington's father was a bricklayer. Henry Irving's father was a shoemaker. Constant Coquelin's father was a baker. Sara Bernhardt's father was a wood peddler. Eleonora Duse's father was a barnstormer. The democracy breeds genius. The aristocracy seldom bequeaths anything except distinction of air. But politeness also has a place in the economy of nature, and for this reason Mrs Langtry and Mrs Potter have each earned a fortune, and Miss de Wolf is employed at the Empire Theatre. We observed that these new players conveyed with grace and naturalness that dignity of carriage and gesture which actresses lacking their training had spent a lifetime in imitating. Bernhardt can give us every phase of womanhood except the well-bred woman; Duse can illustrate with consummate dexterity of skill all the emotions of her sex except those whose expression is absolutely governed by social training.

There are various kinds of music critics besides good and bad. There are the heavy and uninteresting, the learned and unintelligible, whose technical words perhaps please some people, like the old woman who confessed she did not understand the sermon, but she did like to hear the Latin rolling over her head. And then there are the light and frivolous. The following, from the 'Raconteur,' is a good specimen of the latter.

HOW I HEARD PADEREWSKI.

"Of course I heard Paderewski. Let me tell you all about it. I had quarrelled with my dear one early in the day over a pneumatic tyre, so I determined to forget it and go and listen to some music.

"Music always soothes my nerves. "Does it soothe yours, gentle reader?"

"I went to hear Paderewski.

"Taking the Broadway cable car, me and my liver—my liver is my worst enemy; terrible things, livers; is life really worth the liver?—I sat down and paid my fare to a burly ruffian in a grimy uniform.

"Some day I shall tell you about my adventure with a cable car. Dear Lord, what an adventure it was!

"Ah, the bitter-sweet days, the long ago days, when we were young and cabled! Let me tell you how Paderewski played.

"After I reached my seat 4000 women cheered, and I was the only man in the house; but, being modest, I stood the strain as long as I could, and then—Paderewski was bowing and I forgot all about the women and their enthusiasm at the sight of me.

"Fancy a slender-hipped, orchidaceous person in 'pante,' an epicurean youth with Botticellian hair and a Nietzsche walk. Fancy ten fluted figures, and then—oh, you didn't care what he was playing—indeed, I mislaid my programme—and then it was time to go home."

A Parliamentary committee of France which was appointed to investigate the subject of theatrical passes has recommended to the Chamber of Deputies the adoption of a law to abolish season tickets for all dramatic and musical entertainments, and for imposing a heavy stamp tax on all free passes and a moderate tax on all tickets. The rate proposed for passes is 50 centimes. On this basis the income is reckoned at 1,445,000 francs on free passes in Paris alone, and a total of 3,543,750 francs on all classes of tickets.

Sir Henry Irving has already begun to study the literary and pictorial records by the aid of which he hopes to present us with a life-like portrait of Peter the Great. He has received an unexpected and valuable aid in his research, for most opportunely there has just been opened at Zaandam, in Holland, a fine exhibition of relics of Peter the Great, which, of course, our actor intends to visit.

When the King and Queen of Italy visit the German Emperor at Wiesbaden they will be shown, at the Wiesbaden Theatre, a 'Festspiel,' the idea of which—so it is stated—the Kaiser himself has supplied. The first allegorical tableau will show a thick forest, in which Germania and Italia clasp hands in friendship and swear eternal fidelity. To this scene there will be an accompaniment of 'Festmusik,' composed by Herr Schlar, the Court orchestral director. At a word from Italia the forest will disappear, and Rome slowly rise from earth in a second tableau.

The talk of Berlin lately was the decision of the Government censor forbidding the presentation of Sunderman's new play, 'John the Baptist,' on the ground that it was offensive to religious susceptibilities. The dramatist read the rejected piece to a small audience of his friends in Berlin on Wednesday evening. Those who heard it describe it as an exceedingly powerful drama, and they are at a loss to account for the official prohibition. The critics agree that it is in every respect a serious, moral and religious piece of work. The censor, by the way, intimates in his ruling that no dramatization of any portion of the Bible will be permitted in Germany. An appeal has been entered from his decision.

The position of the player at the piano and the position of his hand on the piano are of vital importance. The elbows should always be on a level with the keyboard, and the fingers of the hand, especially the second finger or finger near the thumb, should be gracefully curved. When first studying a piece one should never use the pedal, and before the piece is placed on the music desk the student should decipher the rhythm, for very often supposed difficulties in technique are merely rhythm misunderstood. No matter how well known, the piece to be studied should always be played slowly, and gone over in the most painstaking fashion. No other piece should be studied until the first has been thoroughly mastered. The indiscriminate running over of several pieces during practising hours is most unfortunate, for the students who do this invariably blunder through some half dozen pieces and play all abominably.

Mr Charles Morton, the 'father of the music halls,' celebrated his 78th birthday a few weeks ago. Mr Morton's first experience dates to 1843, when, at the Canterbury Arms Tavern, he had a 'free and easy,' in which the ball was kept rolling by two or three professionals. In 1861 Mr Morton, on the site of the Boar and Castle, erected the Oxford, which was subsequently burnt down, and then, with half a dozen bougians to carry the company backwards and forwards, he originated the 'turn' system. At the age of 78 he is still as quick to cater for the tastes of the rising generation, with its altered cast of thought and school of manners, as he proved himself in the Canterbury Tavern classical 'free and easy' of fifty years ago.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

OPENING OF THE AUCKLAND BOATING SEASON.

Next to the opening of the yachting season, the commencement of the boating season is a popular event among all lovers of aquatic in Auckland. Unfortunately, the state of the harbour somewhat marred the annual function this year on Saturday last, when the Northern Rowing Union had intended to hold the usual procession of boats. The programme could not be carried out in its entirety, but a very pleasant afternoon was spent by those in the boats and by the spectators on the steamers. The 'Graphic' photographer obtained some good pictures of the turnout.

MORE PICTURES OF THE KLONDIKE.

The additional pictures we publish of the road to the Klondike goldfields require no explanation beyond what their titles afford. They afford a vivid representation of the dangers of that dreary journey to the frozen North. The views are reproduced from an American contemporary.

DEER STALKING IN NEW ZEALAND.

The full-page picture of 'Deer Stalking in New Zealand' represents a scene that is getting more and more common in the colony. A few years ago a stag was a very rare animal in New Zealand, but now herds are to be seen in several districts, adding to the attractiveness of the bush and open country which they frequent. In some localities, indeed, they almost threaten to become a nuisance by their numbers. On the island of Motutapu, where our picture was taken, the gentle deer have multiplied so rapidly as to deprive the sheep of a good deal of grass, and, should in such a locality it would not be so difficult to deal with them as on the mainland, yet there exists a very natural reluctance to wantonly destroying the beautiful creatures.

THE BOWLING SEASON.

Special interest attaches to the opening of the Auckland Bowling Club on Saturday last as the club is the pioneer one in the North and has lately effected many improvements on its premises, the new pavilion, shown in our illustrations, being the most noticeable. There was quite a large attendance at the function in Grafton Road, the ladies being conspicuous by their presence. Hunter's Band was in attendance, and afternoon tea was dispensed by Messdames Thompson, Gorrie, and Kingswell, assisted by several young ladies. The President (Mr A. W. Thompson) delivered an excellent opening speech, congratulating the club on its present position. He read a telegram from Mr Holland, M.H.R. (a member of the club), who is now in Wellington on Parliamentary duty, wishing the club a successful opening.

THE CLOSE OF THE HUNTING SEASON.

The Auckland hunting season was brought to a close the other day by a point-to-point steeplechase, which was duly chronicled in our columns. This week we give some pictures of the meet on the occasion.

A BEAUTIFUL COMPLEXION.

Apply Sulpholine Lotion. It drives away pimples, blotches, roughness, redness, and all disfigurements. Sulpholine develops a lovely skin. In bottles. Made in London.—Advt.

ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL

Preserves, strengthens, beautifies the Hair, prevents baldness, restores colour and promotes a luxuriant growth. Authorities all positively assert that oil is absolutely necessary to nourish and preserve the hair; therefore use ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL; it also is a golden colour for fair-haired children and ladies.

ROWLANDS' ODONTO

A pure, fragrant, non-gritty tooth powder: it whitens the teeth, prevents decay and arrests decay, strengthens the gums and sweetens the breath. Ask Druggists and Store for ROWLANDS' articles, of 20, Hatton Garden, London, England, and avoid cheap poisonous imitations.

"SANITAS"

NATURE'S GREAT DISINFECTANT. Non-Poisonous. Does Not Stain Linen.

FLUID, POWDER, SOAPS, &c.

Of all Chemists and Stores. Valuable book, "HOW TO DISINFECT," free on application.

The SANITAS Co., Ltd., BETHNAL GREEN, LONDON.

NOTES FROM THE GALLERY.

(By Clarissa.)

Wellington.

ENSCONCED once more in my perch in the gallery, after an absence of many months, I place my note-book on the ledge and take a rapid survey of the personnel of the House. Right gladly do I extend a mental welcome to my old friend Mr Rolleston, whose solid knowledge and keen political judgment entitle him to so large a place in the estimation of the House. Sole representative of bygone days, what memories must your presence recall to Mr Speaker? Memories of days gone by, of foemen worthy of their steel, when Greek met Greek, memories of Featherstone, of Moorehouse, of Fitzgerald, FitzHerbert and Macandrew.

Involuntarily I glance at the chair. Mr Speaker sits there, by time unaltered, alert, impressive, immutable as of yore.

On the Government benches, the Right Hon. Richard, "With that vast bulk of chest and limb as seen."

So oft to men who subjugate their mind, sits lost in reverie, who shall say of what? His massive head thrown back, apparently unconscious alike of all, of bills, of even the environments of the House. Possessed of almost inhuman staying power, with faith in himself that is almost touching in its completeness, who shall say to what heights he soars in his ambitious musings?

Among new tenants of the Opposition benches I notice Mr Wason, air big, and the elect of Waipawa, Mr Hunter, who has already broken a lance with Mr Seddon and proved himself a man of strong convictions, and with the greater ease which comes of fuller self-confidence, will develop into a pungent debater. The present Parliament contains no less than three sons who have inherited the political tastes of their fathers, and perhaps at no distant date they will draw near to the Parliamentary position of their illustrious kinsman, and a McLean, a Montgomery and a Hunter will occupy the Ministerial benches.

With Captain Russell and his gentlemanly bearing and unvarying good manner; with Sir Robert Stout of aggressive manner, and rapid, but telling intonation; with Mr Hutchison, the immaculately groomed and button-holed, with Scobie MacKenzie, ever ready as of yore to delight the House with a sly hit, dexterously dealt, with sometimes just a spice of malice in the quip; with all these and many more, I renew an old acquaintanceship as they file into the House and take their seats, till, with a start, I realise that public business is about to commence. The House has resumed its wonted serenity, but the plumage of the member for Wakatipu is still slightly ruffled, and the whips keep a wary eye upon each other. On the motion of the Minister for Defence, the Financial Debate is adjourned until the evening and private Bills are proceeded with. The second reading of the Municipal Franchise Enlargement Bill, providing for the extension of the Franchise in elections of municipal councillors and mayors to all electors on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll, is moved by Mr Tanner, and procures a rather interesting debate. The Premier advocates the enlargement of the franchise, characterising the present law as defective, and thinks that with an enlarged franchise the municipal bodies would be more representative, and better work would be done. He condemns sanitary matters in the past, and also condemns plurality of votes, and thinks that the residential qualification should be longer than three months.

Captain Russell follows, and unhesitatingly condemns the Bill, which he thinks is a very bad one, the Bill containing in his opinion many palpably unjust provisions that he refuses to support. He will not admit that the principle of one-man-one-vote is a proper one, either as regards the Parliamentary franchise or the municipal franchise, and blames the inordinate desire of the unthinking portion of the ratepayers to rush into large loans, this in his opinion having proved the ruin of many towns in the colony. Messrs Rolleston, Carson, and Allen in short speeches strongly condemn the Bill, Mr McGowan being an advocate of the extension of the

franchise, but to a limited extent, and not so far as the Bill provides.

Mr Scobie MacKenzie twits the Government, who now pose as Liberals, as having firmly opposed the Bill when he had been an ardent supporter of it, and thinks the one effect of the Bill would be that one set of men would provide the money and one other lot would spend it, and moves as an amendment, "That it is inexpedient to pass this Bill until the House has had an opportunity of considering the whole question." Mr Moore seconds this amendment, and strongly opposes the Bill, followed by Mr Bolland in the same strain. Mr Wilson supports the Bill, and Mr Crowther, while opposing it, avers, amidst the laughter of the House, that the Wellington dock scheme was meant to monopolise the trade of Lyttelton, and avows candidly that 'We are all tarred with the same brush,' and 'are always trying to run our own little monopoly for all it is worth.' At 5.30 the House adjourns.

At the evening sitting the adjournment of the debate on the Municipal Franchise Enlargement Bill till that day fortnight is moved by Mr Thompson and agreed to. The "Debate on the Budget" is now resumed to full galleries and an attentive House. Mr J. W. Thompson in opening the debate declares that he had heard things said about the co-operative system that would almost make one's hair stand on end, showing clearly that we were not getting value for our money, and states among other things that the land on which the factories and workshops were erected has increased 17 per cent, and that all over the colony the land had decreased in value owing, the landowners declare, to the administration of the Government.

Mr Montgomery follows, making a telling and forcible speech, marred by an occasional hesitation for a suitable word. Referring to the Budget, he says there are 52 subjects in it, and that he has only 60 minutes in which to deal with them. The last year's estimates he declares were all over-estimated, and the expenditure the same, with six exceptions, and advocates some better arrangement for the future. He draws attention to the fact that for the first time in the history of the colony the Opposition acknowledges that there was a surplus, and defends the system of cash from land sales being taken to swell the surplus, which has been done, he avers, from time immemorial, and tells the Opposition it is a case of the pot calling the kettle black for it to take exception to the practice. He proceeded to show that Mr Ballance had not constructed any more public works out of revenue—strictly speaking, less—than the present Government had done, and defends them from the charge of want of self-reliance, pointing out that during the past six years nearly £300,000 has been transferred to the Public Works Fund from the Consolidated Revenue. He contends that the result of his Parliamentary experience proves that sinking funds were wrong in principle, and that it is not safe to tempt the temptation of this kind within the reach of Colonial Treasurers, preferring on his part the alternative of excess of revenue over expenditure, and warns the Minister that his £200,000 must be expended on rolling-stock, and not in maintenance; and urges the Government to institute a reform and bring down its Public Works before its Financial Statement. Here he looks towards the clock, as time to him is a serious thing, and anxiously inquires of Sir Maurice, "Can you tell me, sir, what time it is?" Mr Speaker relentlessly rings his bell, the delighted House roars, and Mr Montgomery resumes his seat. Mr Richardson and Mr Taylor continue the debate in strong terms of condemnation, averring that the surplus is not a fair one, as it was made up partly by amounts carried over from the previous year and the year before, and partly by the amount derived from the sinking funds, and congratulate the Premier upon the Cheviot Estate, which he thinks is now an assured success.

Mr Herries here moves the adjournment of the debate, which the House agrees to with alacrity, and soon after 12 the House adjourns.

In the lobbies there are numerous and contradictory rumours in circulation re the anticipated disclosures in connection with the dispatches that were forwarded to England by Lord Glasgow prior to his leaving

New Zealand, as these dispatches are to be laid upon the table of the House shortly by the Premier. In reference to Mr Ward's resignation, Lord Glasgow is said to have stated that Mr Ward took the step he did on account of warm and adverse strictures passed upon his commercial conduct by Mr Justice Williams. Dark and mysterious hints are thrown out of Ministers being kept in ignorance of the contents until the Governor had departed from the colony, and of the accidental finding of the documents at Government House. Nous verrons!

The Horowhenua Block Amendment Bill and the pairs dispute are, of course, the subjects of discussion in the lobbies, and very strong opinions are being expressed on both sides, and exciting developments in connection with the former are anticipated shortly.

In refutation of the supposed split in the Cabinet, the Minister of Lands convulsed the House the other day by declaring that 'The Premier and I have never had a row,' and when interrupted by the incredulous roars of laughter in the House, resumed, 'Well, there was at times just such a little difference of opinion as a man and his wife might have.' Here he was forced to desist, as the House was convulsed.

Upon the introduction of the solicitors' Fees Bill, introduced by the Premier last week, Mr Seddon explained that it provided, inter alia, for making it a criminal offence for solicitors to charge fees in judgment summons cases. Whereupon Mr McGuire wittily retorted, "That the Right Hon. gentleman was not only right honourable, but a doctor of 'common law,' and the House was enraptured with the joke.

Mr Silgo arrived from Dunedin by the Te Anau on Wednesday, and occupies a prominent seat on the Opposition benches.

There was a sense of impending dissipation in the air on Wednesday night, and a vacancy in many benches, which was accounted for by the fact that His Excellency the Governor was giving a parliamentary dinner, the following members being invited: Hons. W. Hall Jones, J. Carroll, R. H. J. Reeves, W. Kelly, W. H. Reynolds, J. Rigg, H. Scotland, J. Shepherd, S. E. Shrimpski, W. C. Smith, J. Kerr, L. Walker, H. Williams, W. Rolleston, W. C. Walker, W. Swanson, J. Jones, T. Kelly, W. Jennings, B. Harris, Sir Robert Stout, and Messrs M. J. S. MacKenzie, R. P. McLean, W. Symes, G. G. Wright, C. Wilson, W. Fraser, T. Parata, H. Kaihau, J. Bolland, H. Brown, G. Carson, H. A. Field, G. Fisher, M. Gilfedder, W. Heeries, J. Holland, J. Hutchison, C. Lewis, R. McKenzie, J. A. Millar, T. E. Taylor, J. O'Meara, R. Monk, R. Moore, M.I.R.'s, and Messrs Fison, Friend, and Willis.

Considerable excitement pervaded the House on Wednesday afternoon, when the Speaker and Mr Scobie MacKenzie engaged in a short sharp passage of arms on the question of order and privilege. Speaking on the subject of Standing Orders, Mr MacKenzie said when quoting from them that questions should be taken before orders of the day, and asked the Speaker's ruling. The Speaker maintained in response, that custom outweighed the Standing Orders in this respect, and decided against the hon. member. Mr MacKenzie again rose, and with some warmth, said he wished to bring a question of privilege under the notice of the Speaker, who replied that having ruled, he could not discuss the matter further, and in adamant tones requested Mr MacKenzie to resume his seat. Upon Mr MacKenzie hesitating to comply with his request, Sir Maurice proceeded, 'Sit down, sir; I will have to have recourse to the power conferred on me if you persist in a question of privilege. Sit down; you must not interrupt me.' With considerable heat and evident reluctance, Mr MacKenzie resumed his seat, Mr Speaker called on Mr Morrison to continue the debate on the Budget, and the incident ended.

A distinguished author remarks that most of the really brilliant conversations he has listened to have been accompanied by clouds of tobacco smoke; and he assures us that a great deal of the best literary composition of contemporary authors is produced by men who are actually smoking while they work.

MINING NEWS.

SHAREMARKET.

DURING the latter part of the week more disposition was manifested by speculators on the Exchange to invest in Upper Thames stocks. Nor is this to be wondered at, seeing that the gold returns this week total £19,073, all of which bullion came from the upper country mines. The ore put through this month by both the Woodstock and Waitekauri companies was of better average grade. The Waihi return, on the other hand, while an excellent one, shows a decline in the average value of the ore treated, added to which a less quantity of stone was put through the mill. Notwithstanding this, however, the return for 28 days totalled £11,640, which brings up the output of bullion from this mine since 1890 to £607,241 17s 3d. Important developments have taken place in the Woodstock mine with the result that shares for which 17s 3d was the highest price offered, subsequently sold at 26s 6d and have still an upward tendency. This is due to the fact that exceedingly rich stone is being got from a six-inch leader in the mine, and one ton of stone treated in Auckland yielded £126. As we usually expect to find large bodies of low grade ore in the Upper Thames this discovery is quite a surprise. At the same time it must not be forgotten that in the early days of Karangahake some very rich veins were worked by the original proprietors. Another important development took place in the Imperial mine which adjoins the Woodstock. Here the reef has been cut on the other side of a break and the stone shows gold freely. Assays made from stone got out of another portion of this reef during the week at the bank of New Zealand returned at the rate of from £20 12s 6d to £37 14s per ton. The result was that considerable business was done in shares in this company and the price advanced in consequence. That the Tairua district has a great future before it when the mines are properly developed and crushing plants at work may be judged from the fact that two tons of stone taken from the property known as Fleming's Leases yielded when treated this week at the Thames School of Mines, £30. The Thames mines show little development worthy of note this week and shares have consequently not been in much demand on the Exchange. Coronand stocks were also neglected, but towards the end of the week some of the lower priced ones were inquired for. The Welcome Find Company secured 20 pounds of good picked stone on Saturday, which it is to be hoped was the fore-runner of other pockets being obtained. Good accounts continue to be received from the Hauraki North mine and the crushing return is expected to be a satisfactory one.

WAIHI RETURN.

£11,640 FOR THE MONTH.
TOTAL OUTPUT £607,241.

This wonderful bullion producer of the Upper Thames has now yielded since the crushing began in 1890 no less than £607,241 17s 3d. During the four weeks ending October 16th 3,240 tons of ore were treated for a return of bullion valued at £11,640. This return although highly satisfactory is not equal to the previous month's yield, which, it will be remembered, was a record one, going over £12,000. The falling-off is, however, partly accounted for by the fact that 60 tons less ore were treated for the present return. The average value per ton of the ore treated this month was £3 11s 10d.

The following table shows the return from this famous mine since 1890:—

Bullion Won—	£	s.	d.
In 1890	21,112	13	6
In 1891	23,935	5	11
In 1892	44,888	2	4
In 1893	61,900	10	11
In 1894	82,827	2	2
In 1895	120,334	2	2
In 1896	137,321	8	2
In 1897 (to October)	114,922	12	1
Total since 1890	£607,241	17	3

WOODSTOCK RETURNS.

£2,765 FOR THE MONTH.
£126 FROM ONE TON.

For some time past it has been known that ore was being met with in this Karangahake mine which contained gold that was too coarse to be saved by the cyanide process of treatment. Lately very rich stone has been obtained from the

stope over the back of No. 5 level on the footwall branch of the Maria lode, where the reef is 3 feet wide and carries a vein 6 inches wide showing coarse gold very freely; in fact is the richest ore ever obtained from the mine. This ore is all being saved and bagged for future treatment. In order to ascertain the real value of the ore one ton was sent to Auckland for treatment by an amalgamation at Frower's plant. The result was very satisfactory, the yield being £126 16s. The ore not being won is even richer than that apparently, and is of course being kept separate. In the face of No. 4 level a splendid reef is showing; fully six feet wide, whilst in the stopes over the back of this level south of the break the reef is 9 feet wide and increasing in size, and the ore is all of first-class quality. The tailings from this ton of ore will also be treated by the cyanide process to save the fine gold.

The crushing return for the past four weeks from this mine was also satisfactory in so far that the average value per ton of the ore treated showed improvement, being about £2 14s 6d as against £2 12s 3d last month. During the past four weeks 1,015 tons of ore were treated for a return of bullion valued at £2,765. This yield is less than last month's owing to the fact that a less quantity of ore was treated. The average value, however, shows an increase of 2s 3d per ton.

WAITEKAURI RETURN.

£4,512 FOR THE MONTH.

The return for the past month from this mine showed considerable improvement owing to the ore being of better quality. During the past four weeks 2,095 tons of quartz were treated for a yield of bullion valued at £4,512 5s 9d, or at the rate of £2 3s 1d per ton. Last month 2,065 tons returned £3,650 9s 8d, and in August 1,830 tons yielded bullion valued at £3,900 18s 10d.

IMPERIAL.

The prospects of this Karangahake mine are steadily becoming more encouraging. During the week a considerable improvement has taken place in the reef south of the fault at No. 4 level, where the lode is a very promising looking body of ore, about 2ft in thickness. Samples of the stone from No. 4 level were sent to the Bank of New Zealand for assay, with highly satisfactory results. No. 1 sample returned at the rate of 85oz 16dwt of gold and 295oz of silver, the value per ton being £371 14s. No. 2 sample returned at the rate of 5oz 2dwt of gold, 2oz 14dwt of silver, the value per ton being £20 12s 6d. Such results should be sufficient to guarantee the reef proving payable when treated in bulk parcels. Later in the week the manager telegraphed:—"Cut main reef of the break No. 4 level. Gold seen freely in the stone, also excellent dish prospects. Reef fully 2ft thick." As this mine is well situated alongside the Woodstock Company's property there is little doubt that it has a good future before it, and the shares in this Company should be a good investment at the present low price.

HAURAKI ASSOCIATED.

Rich stone continues to be got from this Coromandel mine. This week the manager secured 50lb of picked stone from the stopes on the footwall leader. In the eastern stopes the lead widened out to three or four inches, with gold more evenly distributed.

PURU CONSOLIDATED.

The directors of this Thames Company met during the week, and decided to accept the tender of Mr J. J. Payne for the erection of a ten stamp wet crushing gold mill, which it is expected will be able to put through 1,000 tons a month. The mortars will be a special feature, being fitted with inside amalgamating plates. The whole plant has been designed by Mr H. D. Griffiths, and the iron work is to be supplied by the Union Iron Works, San Francisco, through their local representative, Mr Bruce Lloyd. The conditions of contract stipulate that the battery shall be completed by 20th March, 1898.

Sheridan.—The Napier Company that took over this Tapu mine are pushing forward development work with all possible despatch. The battery has now resumed crushing operations, the ten stampers having been renovated, and the five additional head erected.

GOLD RETURNS FOR THE WEEK.

Companies.	Tons.	£ s d
Waitekauri	2,095	4,512 0 0
Woodstock	1,615	2,765 0 0
Woodstock	1 (trial)	126 0 0
Waiki	3,240	11,640 0 0
Fleming's Lease	2 (trial)	30 0 0
Total for week		£19,073 0 0

NOTES.

Copper Ore.—Two samples of copper pyrites ore sent from Manakara by Mr Robert Bell were treated this week at the Thames School of Mines. No. 1 sample gave 10.95 per cent. of copper, No. 2, 3.32 per cent., the former being valued at £5 per ton and No. 2 at £1 12s 6d. This ore was obtained from the surface.

Curiosities.—The reef in the winze is one foot thick and the stone shows gold.

Paul Jones (Waiti).—An option has been granted to representatives of English capitalists over this mine on conditions that provide for the expenditure of at least £70 per month on the property in development work.

Great Barrier.—One ton of ore from the reef in the low level at this mine has been sent for treatment at the Thames School of Mines.

Chicago (Tararu).—Good gold has been struck in No. 2 drive of this mine, which was recently purchased by a Christchurch syndicate.

Orlando.—In breaking down the reef nice colours of gold were seen this week.

Hauraki North.—The western face and the stopes are supplying payable ore to the crusher.

Kathleen Crown.—Systematic development work is proceeding in this mine, and it is encouraging to note that the main reef at the 200 feet level has shown signs of improvement lately.

Mount Argemuth.—A block of fine-looking ore from the seven feet reef in the Great Barrier mine was sent to town this week. The stone is of first-class description, being almost black on account of the amount of mineral in it. Assays made from this reef went over £8 per ton, and showed a much larger proportion of gold than silver.

Kaitoke.—In No. 1 drive several small leaders have been cut during the month, also a reef, one foot thick, intersected, which shows silver freely.

Ni Desherandum.—No. 2 lead still carries a little gold, and the ground is getting much firmer as the drive advances.

Fleming's Leases.—Two tons of ore from this Tairua property have just been treated at the Thames, for a return of 11oz 2dwt melted gold, total value about £30. The ore is free milling.

Aulelaide.—Below the level the reef is now about 12 inches wide, and when broken down showed strong colours of gold.

New Golden Point (Tapu).—In the winze below the low level, the reef formation is now fully two feet wide, and some of the quartz looks very promising, a little gold being seen.

The Royal Standard.—Rich stone is being taken from the footwall of No. 1 reef. Assays all show the value to be £10 to £44 per ton.

Konata Reefs.—The battery is working most satisfactorily. At the mine on the reef in the low level the quality of ore so far as explored is first-class.

Native Chief.—The directors of this Company have accepted a working option. Home people paying working expenses of not less than £60 per month. On the ultimate formation of the English Company the shareholders of the local Company will receive one-fifth of the shares paid up to £1.

Golden Shore (Coromandel).—Considerable vigour is being displayed in sinking the shaft on this property.

Waitana.—At the low level the main reef carries a payable class of ore. Assays made going south prove that the ore should run about £5 10s per ton, and while going north as high as £11 4s per ton has been obtained.

Floesie (Kenesly Bay).—In winze now being sunk on the main leader the stone shows gold at breaking down.

Welcome Final.—In the stopes above No. 2 level the Southern lode is from 2 to 6 inches in width, and a few pieces of gold bearing stone have been selected from the general stuff.

Alpha.—Sufficient clearing at the battery site has been completed to permit buildings and excavations to be gone on with.

Hauraki North.—In the western drive the reef continues to give payable results at battery. In the rise the reef measures three feet in thickness. Two stopes have been started, and gold is frequently seen in all faces.

Grace Darling.—At the battery everything is in readiness to start crushing. Stone is being broken out from different parts of the mine, in which gold can be seen. The reef in the south end is fully eight feet wide, in the stopes five feet, and in one of the rises six feet. The ore is of a free milling character, and the manager does not anticipate any difficulty in saving the gold.

New Golconda.—Work is to be resumed at once in this mine, the requisite pumping and hauling machinery having been procured by the directors.

SHAREHOLDERS' MEETINGS.

During the past week the following meetings of shareholders in mining companies were convened:—

Kapai Vermont.—A meeting of local shareholders in the above Company was held in the Chamber of Mines. Mr N. A. Nathan presided, and explained that the meeting was called in reference to the liquidator being empowered to receive £1,000 as interest in connection with the sale of the property. He moved "that the liquidator of the Company be and is hereby authorised to accept payment from the mortgagees of the second instalment of interest due on November 1st. This was seconded by Mr S. T. George. Mr J. Russell said the Committee had decided that it was the most desirable thing to ratify the sale. Litigation to upset the sale would be a very costly affair, and meant calls. The position was difficult. It would involve a commission of some kind to take evidence, and if they did upset the sale they would have to repay all the money expended by the purchasers and that meant from £8,000 to £10,000. It was one of the conditions in assenting to liquidation that the claims for commission should be submitted to arbitration. He thought it was in the interest of the shareholders that they should ratify the sale under the circumstances. The motion was agreed to.

Royal Shield.—A meeting of shareholders was held at the Company's office. Mr C. C. McMillan, the Chairman, moved, "That the Company be wound up." This was agreed to. Mr E. J. White was appointed liquidator.

Rocky River Sluicing.—At an extraordinary meeting of shareholders this week a resolution was adopted that 5,000 of the unallotted shares be offered first to shareholders at 1s 6d each, and any balance to the public.

Flemington.—The half-yearly meeting of shareholders lapsed for want of a quorum. The directors' report stated that assays from the 60 feet reef discovered on this property yielded from 10s 9d to £3 0s 8d per ton. The statement of accounts showed total receipts £753 8s 8d, of which £518 16s 6d was expended in wages, and £41 8s 7d on mine requisites. The credit balance was £15 14s 0½d.

The October number of the 'Pall Mall Magazine' is as usual remarkable for the illustrations and interesting letterpress. Among the first those of Wilton House will convey to colonials a very good idea of the magnificence of some of the English country seats. In a country like this where we have little or nothing of that sort of thing, these pictures are especially interesting. The Northamptonshire village jottings with the accompanying letterpress are pleasant glimpses into the rural life of a part of England that is not nearly so well known as it deserves to be. An amusing article profusely illustrated is the 'Follies of Fashion,' and among the stories, in addition to the continuation of Louis Stevenson's 'St. Ives,' which, by the way, Mr Quiller Couch manages well, there is a tale of the Mexican prairie, and another ('Staine by Honour') by Jacques de Boys, and a third ('Amaranth and Asphodel') by Helen Hetherington. The article on that great soldier, Lee, of Virginia is continued, while there is the usual amount of poetry and the delightful notes from a Cornish Window.

CYCLING.

The New Plymouth Cycle Club had their first run on Thursday, and after an enjoyable spurt up Frankley Road, they were entertained on their return by the Te Henui Tennis Club at an afternoon tea, which they greatly appreciated.

The Christchurch polo season was opened on Saturday afternoon, on their ground, Hagley Park, the green being perfect. The pavilion was filled with spectators, but the delicious tea dispensed by Mrs and the Misses Gerard could scarcely keep them warm. Some interesting games were witnessed, but most of the visitors left early. Amongst the number I saw Mrs A. E. G. Rhodes, Mrs Stead, Mrs G. Gould, Mrs R. Macdonald, Mrs A. Scott, Mrs Fox, Mrs Pyne, Misses Bewick, Murray-Aynsley, Cotton, Tabart, etc.

The enormous sum of £100,000 has just been arranged as payment for the patent rights of a newly-invented bicycle wheel on the spiral spring principle. The inventors claim that it will supersede the pneumatic tyre, but it will have to do something very, very extraordinary to do this. Personally, I am unfavourable to any cycle appliance in which springs play a part, and if I were the inventor of a wheel such as I have described I should be more than satisfied to receive such a nice little present as £100,000 for it.

Some further particulars of the Pedersen cantilever bicycle, which is being introduced by the Humber Company, are to hand. One or two sample machines have been built, and these are fitted with 24in wheels, single tube tyres, wooden rims, a saddle made of cord, very light tubes, no brake, no footrests, or mudguards, and therefore scale very little. It is doubtful, however, if, when built with larger wheels and with all the accessories that the everyday cyclist requires, the Pedersen cantilever bicycle will weigh much less than the present type of machine, and, of course, its peculiar construction will make it a very expensive machine to build.

The Czar of Russia is very fond of cycling, and while riding his bicycle he is never happier than when he is handling a rook rifle. He prides himself on being able to bring down three rooks out of seven while going at a good pace. Most of these tidbits of information about Royal cyclists, however, have to be accepted with considerably more than the proverbial grain of salt.

In Australia (says a Sydney paper) there is a decided and an unreasonable objection to lady cyclists appearing on the wheel in knickerbockers. It is the only dress that can be described as suitable for bicycling, and until our fashions evolve to the point of accepting that costume unconditionally, cycling by women in Australia will not reach the stage of popularity which it has assumed in other countries. In France fashion censors are much more tolerating, and the whirling wheeling members of the fair sex in the gay centre not only discard the objectionable skirt, but also find stockings an encumbrance. This is what a well-informed correspondent from Paris says:—"Tout le monde" on the wheel! Bicycles, bicycles everywhere, and never a chance to cross the street. And such sights as one sees! Mon Dieu!—to be French—they are awful. Fancy a woman, all red bloomers and long limbs, without gaiters, and sometimes without stockings, and a big lace hat heaped with roses—that's what we are treated to in Paris, and there's no law against it, either. I have been here a week now, and I haven't seen a skirt yet. All bloomers and knickerbockers and gaiters, and not pretty ones very often, at that. The bare-legged women wear little short socks just above their low shoes, and their limbs gleam out pink and shocking in the Paris sunshine. You gasp at first, but you get used to it in a little while, and don't even turn your head as the bare extremities flash past. But they are daring riders, dashing in and out among the carriages and horses in the crowded boulevards, and accidents are exceedingly rare. Some of the women lean so far over their handle-bars that from the rear you don't quite know whether the thing is human or not. As in London, the best and the worst ride, and they ride all together and side by side. The President's daughters, countesses, duchesses, and the best of the American colony, wheel to wheel, with painted oocotes in costumes that make you groan. Even the Favourite St. Germain has bundled up its proud dignity, and gotten itself a-top a wheel, and there you are.

To the non-bicyclist it certainly seemed as though this year fewer wheels were to be seen in the streets of Paris and the Bois than last season, but if the figures given by the 'Figaro' are to be trusted the idea is a huge error. The number of bicycles taxed in 1896 reached a total of 329,816 for

DUNLOP TYRES.

FIRST IN 1888!

DUNLOP TYRES

FOREMOST EVER SINCE!!

Beware of Imitations.
GUARANTEED FOR TWELVE MONTHS.

INSIST upon having DUNLOP WESTWOOD RIMS to your Machine.

DUNLOP PNEUMATIC TYRE Co., LIMITED.

129, LICHFIELD STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

BOWLS.

At the Auckland Bowling Green, which was opened on Saturday, there was some good play on the Upper Green, the lower one being too wet. Nine rinks aside played a match of 15 heads, the President (Mr A. W. Thompson) being in command of the one side and the Vice-President (Mr W. Coleman) of the other. The result was a win for the former by 44 points, the scores being respectively 117 and 103.

The Parnell ground was in good order and a match of one rink a-side was played, while ten was dispensed to the players and visitors.

At Ponsonby four games were played. In No. 1 rink Mr T. Watson's team beat Mr C. Bloomfield's (22-18); in No. 2, Mr Ballantyne's side defeated Mr McDermott's (24-22); in rink No. 3 the sides were equal; in No. 4, Messrs Hutchison and Somers scored a win by 19 to 12 over Messrs Hutchison and S. McDermott.

Some four hundred people were present at the opening of the Remuera Green on Saturday. The place looked very pretty, and Boffa Bros.' band added to the attractions. The President (Mr J. Hardie) welcomed the visitors and made a few remarks appropriate to the occasion, mentioning among other things the formation of a tennis club, with Mr A. Brown as hon. secretary. In the match that followed, President v. Vice-President, (Mr T. Finlayson) the former won by 16 points, the scores being respectively 143 and 127.

The Thorndon, Wellington, Bowling Club was opened on Saturday by the president of the club (the Hon. Dr. Grace), several hundred people assembling on the Green, a delicious afternoon tea being provided by Mesdames Grace, Rose and Barry.

The rainy weather has necessitated the postponement of many opening matches. Last Thursday, however, it cleared up temporarily, and advantage was taken to celebrate the opening season of the

CRICKET AND BOWLING SEASONS. accordingly. At the Recreation Ground the opening match was played, which resulted in the victory of Mr S. Kennell's team v. Mr G. Barren's, the rival teams being hospitably entertained at an afternoon tea given by Mesdames Kennell, Holmes and Teed. The ceremonial opening of the Bowling Club will be

deferred for about a fortnight, until the new pavilion is completed, which will be a great attraction and enable the wives, sisters and cousins of the members to assist by their attendance, and enthusiasm to incite the emulation of their male admirers. The Green is still looking lovely now.

The Bluff Hill Bowling Club, Napier, opened their season last Saturday afternoon, when a pleasant afternoon was spent by the members, their friends and the visiting bowlers. Captain Todd, the president, made the opening speech, thanking the ladies for providing afternoon tea during the past season, complimenting the ground committee on the appearance of the Green, and welcoming the visitors. He then invited the wife of the hon. secretary to play the first bowl, and the Green was declared open for the season. The following are the scores:—

Visitors.	No. 1 Rink.	Club.
Stubbs	Todd	
Dean	Hindmarsh	
Evans	Crowley	
Shirley (skip) 24	Plafford (skip) 17	
No. 2 Rink.		
Banner	Hansard	
Marshall	Williams	
Smith	Wilson	
Sweetapple (skip) 23	Bull (skip) 19	
No. 3 Rink.		
Sandtman	Turnbull	
Simpson (skip) 26	Baxter (skip) 20	

CROQUET.

The Auckland Croquet Club had a very pleasant commencement to their season last Saturday. The lawn is pleasantly situated in the grounds of the Auckland Bowling Club. The President is Mr W. Ledingham, who declared the ground open for play. The Auckland Bowling Club entertained the croquet ladies and their friends at afternoon tea.

TENNIS.

The Thorndon, Wellington, Tennis Club opens its season on the 30th of this month, weather permitting.

AQUATIC.

The Picton Rowing club have started the season with a will. They intend to purchase two new boats—one a four-oar racer, and the other a clinker. The entries for races to be rowed on the first November were in on Saturday, when crews were drawn for pair oar races for two medals presented to the club by Mr A. G. Fell, and a trophy presented by E. W. Mills, of Wellington. In the event of Picton not being chosen as the course

for the Championship Regatta, the Picton Club have decided to vote for Dunedin this year. The Picton boys are very enthusiastic, and are likely—if their enthusiasm lasts—to render a good account of themselves in this year's doings. The Picton Snowball Minstrels are going to assist them by getting up a popular entertainment for their benefit, on the 9th November.

WHO INVENTED SPECTACLES?

Dr. Johnson expressed his surprise that the inventor of spectacles had not found any biographer to celebrate his achievement. It is known that a monk named Rivalto, in a sermon preached at Florence in 1305, said spectacles had been known about twenty years. This would fix the time of their introduction at 1285. Accepting that date, it is still left in doubt as to the person who introduced them. The honour is divided between two rivals, Spina and Salviuo, who flourished about that time. Some state that Salviuo was first to make the discovery and turn it to practical use for his own advantage. He made known the astounding fact that he could arrest the decay and restore the original strength and acuteness of sight even in those who were nearly blind. But he was careful to avoid giving even a hint as to the means by which he could effect this improvement. Spina, however, discovered the secret, and proclaimed it to the world. He did not attempt to keep the power he had discovered and use it for his own advantage exclusively. He generously made it common to all. Even if it be granted that Salviuo's discovery preceded that of Spina a few years in point of time, it does not in the least reduce the latter's claim to the gratitude of mankind, nor alter the fact that the world—that great portion, at least, afflicted with defective vision—is indebted to Spina for spectacles.

The famous sphinx near the pyramids of Gizeh was thoroughly investigated by Professor Erman, who at a recent meeting of the Berlin Academy delivered a lecture about its probable age. Careful researches show that it could not have been built previous to the so-called 'Middle Kingdom,' or about 2,000 B.C. Between her front paws there was originally the image of a deity, all trace of which has at the present time disappeared. For the building of the colossal work more than twenty years must have been necessary, even if 1,500 men had been employed all the time.

An idea of chloroforming plants that sounds like a fairy tale comes from Copenhagen. A scientific Dane claims that a sleeping plant exposed for some time to the fumes of chloroform or ether is roused into activity, the effect of the anæsthetic on the plant being the reverse of what it is on an animal.

be whole of France. In 1894 the number was 233,028, and in the following year 255,084. These figures, says the Minister of Finance, will be left far behind by the end of the present season. The popularity enjoyed by the bicycle may be estimated from the fact that last year the tax on them produced no less than 3,272,339fr., of which Paris paid about one-fifth of the sum, or 629,916fr. (The curious feature established by these statistics is the use made of the State pawn-shops by bicyclists as store-houses during the off season. Of course all the year round large numbers are left daily at the four branches of the Mont de Piete authorised to receive bicycles, but as soon as the actual season draws to an end there is a regular rush, as many as forty per diem being taken. As they are carefully stored, if the precaution be taken of well oiling them before they are turned over to the State, no harm can possibly come to them, while as for the cost, the bicyclist is a big gainer, as for from 1fr. 50c. to 2fr. he can store the bicycle for four months, whereas it would cost him or her 20fr. at the least to keep it in ordinary storage, without taking into account the feeling of security given by the realisation that the State is responsible for the safe keeping of the cherished wheel. If any proof were wanted that it is not necessity that causes this rush at the end of the season it would be found in the statement that so far the Mont de Piete has only had one machine left on its hands, and even then it was such a hopelessly old fashioned make that it did not bring in as much as had been lent on it.

Views on bicycles of next year's model are numerous. In 1897 the price attracted more attention than the wheel, but in 1898 the money question will be subordinate. Cyclists look upon the £20 bicycle as gone. The standard price will be somewhere, we suppose, between £10 and £15. Chainless wheels will surely be prominent next spring, promising to put the greasy chain wheels completely out of mind. Tubing next year will be about the same as it is now. Gears of high, low, and medium size will be on the market for choice, but during this season the liking for high gears has developed greatly, probably as the result of the greater strength which practice has brought to the average leg. The radical genius, who is being heard from, asserts that the 1898 bicycle will be operated by either the arms or legs. This sounds more risky than interesting. The wheel's most vulnerable point, its tyre, is being studied and experimented with, with ardent desire for its improvement and with no little hope. It must be possible to put into the rubber some element that would lessen its slipping on wet pavements; and it seems absurd that wheels destined to pass over jagged roads should be left so puncturable. A less puncturable tyre and a tyre which when inflated will remain full indefinitely is greatly needed. In spite of the promise of 1898, however, owners of good bicycles needn't worry. A good bicycle to-day will be good next year.

A bicycle has just been completed in London which promises to revolutionise the wheels of the world. The difference is that it utilises the entire power furnished by the engine of propulsion—the leg of the rider. For years bicycle manufacturers have sought some method whereby the waste of power could be prevented, and (says the 'New York Herald') Gerald Barker has found it.

The change is, of course, in the gearing, but it is not a chainless wheel—that sort which, it is said, will next year be the king of all wheels. If the opinions of experts are worth anything the new wheel is the one that will take precedence over all. There are three reasons why this new invention claims attention. The first is that it is far speedier, the second is that the propelling power is almost doubled without increase of exertion, and the third is that on a racing wheel the compound crank will be such a gain as it is hard to imagine.

It is asserted that by the use of the compound crank a cyclist is enabled to use at least a 40 per cent. higher gearing without increasing the stroke of the pedals or the pressure on them.

The cleaned hat was duly handed to the right honourable gentleman, and he sent his thanks to the woman, who vowed that the brush which had whisked the 'glair' from off it should never be debiled by being used for a less noble purpose.

While at the end of 1879, Mr Gladstone was in the thick of the Mid-Lothian campaign, his hat was blown off and whisked over a hedge into a newly-ploughed field. The headgear was promptly recovered by a boy, who carried it into a cottage by the roadside, when the guide-wife carefully removed the extraneous earth from the nap with a clothes brush.



Kinsey, Photo. Wellington.

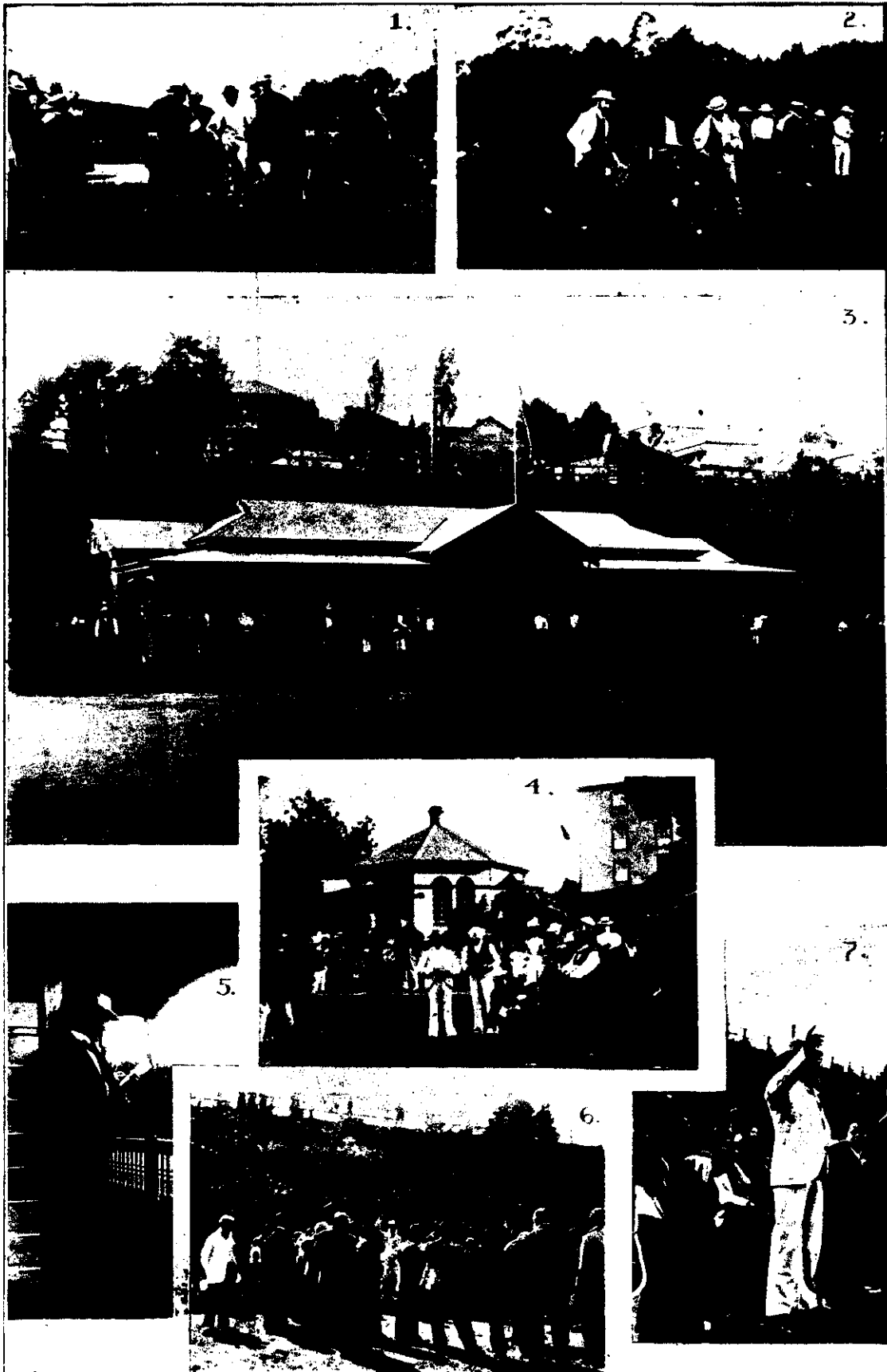
RUAHINE FOOTBALL (ASSOCIATION) TEAM.

WINNERS OF THE NEW ZEALAND CHALLENGE SHIELD, 1897.

BACK ROW.—A. HENDERSON (Referee), C. MATTHEWS (Swifts), E. NOSSITER (Feilding), H. STOWE (Wanganui College), J. R. ORFORD (Wanganui College).

MIDDLE ROW.—D. SHARPE (Swifts), P. GILLESPIE (Napier), E. W. ANDREWS (Wanganui College), F. G. HAWTHORNE (Swifts), J. E. BANNISTER (Wanganui College).

FRONT ROW.—E. HUGHSON (Wanganui College), F. S. SIMONX (Wanganui College).



Walrod, photo. Auckland.

OPENING OF THE AUCKLAND BOWLING GREEN.

1. A Disputed Point. 2. In Full Play. 3. The New Pavilion. 4. A Careful Shot. 5. The Secretary. 6. President Thompson delivering the opening address.
7. The President.

[SEE 'ILLUSTRATIONS.'

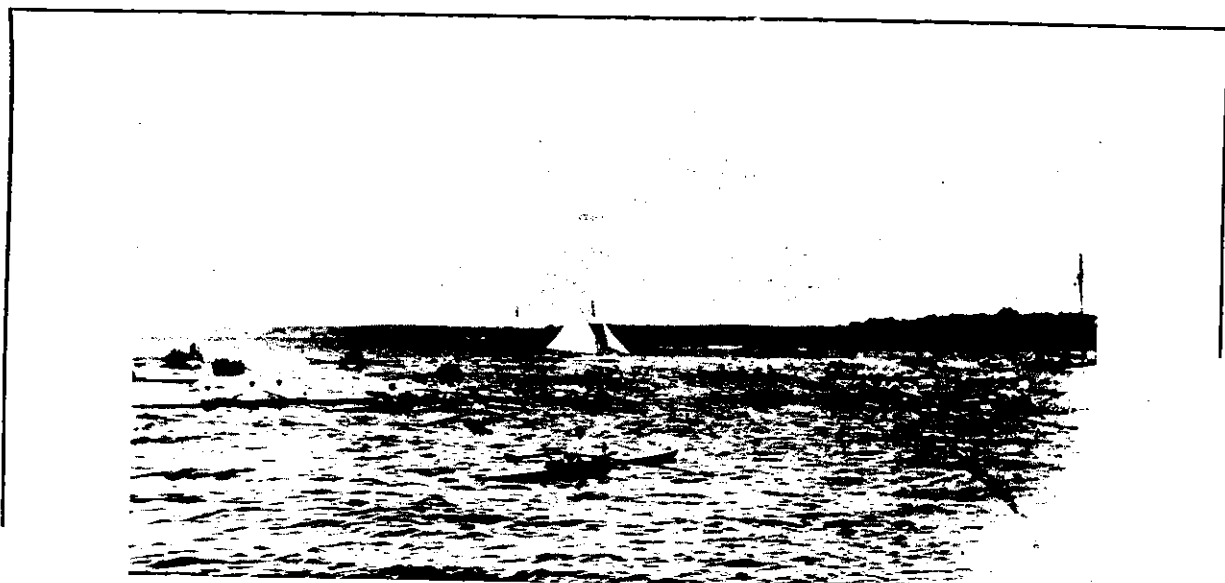
The Opening of the Northern Boating Season.



THE VANGUARD.



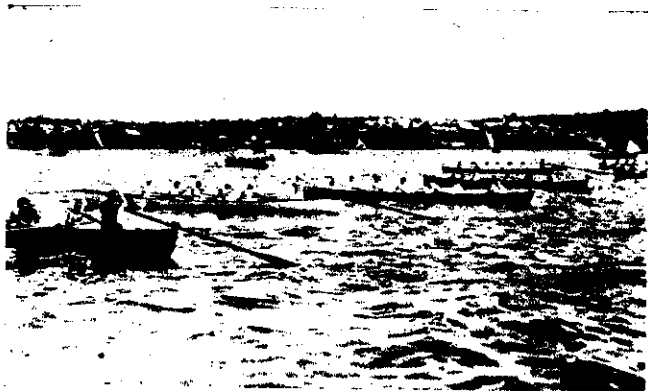
WAITEMATA WHALEBOAT.



Photos. by Slack.

AT THE STARTING POINT.

[SEE 'ILLUSTRATIONS.'



THE WHALEBOATS.



SOME OF THE AUCKLAND ROWING CLUB'S CREWS.

NEW ZEALAND GRAPHIC CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

POST BY THE OUTGOING ENGLISH MAIL

(Leaving on Saturday Next, the 30th).

A SPLENDID ISSUE.

PICTORIAL MAP.

In announcing the publication of the Christmas Number of the 'New Zealand Graphic,' there is no necessity to do more than simply draw public attention to the fact that this now deservedly famous annual can now be procured.

The public are excellent judges of a good thing and of its worth, so that the very obvious excellencies and artistic merits of the Christmas Graphic are certainly not likely to escape attention or to fail to command admiration.

In point of artistic merit, in point of printing, in point of paper, and indeed in all the details which tend to the production of perfection, the number now under review excels. We shall therefore make no attempt to extravagantly praise the various fine pictures, but merely mention a few of the subjects believing, as we do, that the quantity and quality of the work are eloquent enough in their own cause without the questionable assistance of puffery.

The whole-page engravings and half-tones which have been made a feature in the number this year comprise a series by Mr Kenneth Watkins on the Forest Kings of New Zealand.

No artist in this colony does the native bush such justice as Mr Watkins—he seems to catch the very spirit of the forest and its mighty denizens. The principal picture shows the felling of a giant kauri, while another and rather smaller picture represents the really stupendous spectacle of a 'fall' on one of the bush rivers after a winter flood when the logs are tearing down to the sea.

Those who know the grandeur of the sight when the logs fall in thundering confusion over some roaring bush cataract will easily imagine that so clever an artist as Mr Watkins has produced therefrom a spirited drawing.

TROUT Fishing is dealt with in a large picture by Mr Bob Hawcrige, who is also responsible for the engraving in a New Zealand Orchard, which will, we think, perhaps be the favourite plate in the number. It is the fruit season, and a winsome lassie of sweet sixteen is standing on a ladder placed against a well-laden tree, plucking the fruit and laughing down at the inevitable youthful adorer, who stands gazing up at her while a very characteristic specimen of the New Zealand younger sister looks on sympathetically.

Mr Walter Wright, whose lengthy visit to the European Art Schools has so noticeably affected his work, illustrates a brightly written article on 'Life and Luck on the Gumfields,' and that famous explorer and guide, Malcolm Ross, contributes

RAMBLES ON THE REMARKABLES, in which he clearly shows that he

has lost none of his charm as a writer and none of his power of producing lovely photographs of Alpine scenery.

The First Hoisting of the British Flag at Akaroa furnishes Kenneth Watkins with a subject such as his soul loves, and such as he does to perfection. His fine full-page picture showing this ceremony, the Maoris squatting round, and the marines firing the salute, which is answered from ships seen in the bay, is supplemented by a series of photographs of historic interest.

Pay Day at the Waihi Mine and the Tairua Gorge are dealt with in large pictures by Mr Kerry, who has made his name in pictures of this class.

As we have said, it is not our intention to mention or describe every picture, and the beauties of the

'SOURCE OF THE AVON—A NEW ZEALAND VINEYARD,'

and the profusion of other fine engravings may be left with confidence to public appreciation.

The letterpress is full, and comprises two prize stories.

'Dr. Branton's Marvellous Operation,' a cleverly imagined and exciting story, by Mr Burford, of Auckland, and

'A BUSH CREMATION.'

A really admirable bush yarn. The dramatic interest and characteristic New Zealand atmosphere of the 'Bush Cremation' will commend itself to all, and it will be generally admitted that two such stories by New Zealand authors have not previously been published.

But the most novel and the most important feature is

THE COLOURED SUPPLEMENT.

In this the proprietors have struck out an entirely new line. A

LARGE PICTORIAL MAP,

beautifully executed, printed in several colours, and covered with numerous picturettes showing the scenic beauty or natural resources of the district or country. It shows at a glance what are the characteristics of each particular portion of the colony, and it will unquestionably do more to clear away the ignorance of New Zealand which prevails to so large an extent amongst our friends across the sea than thousands of letters and descriptions would do. Nothing better for sending away to friends can be imagined, and this attraction alone will certainly command for the 'New Zealand Christmas Graphic' a record sale.

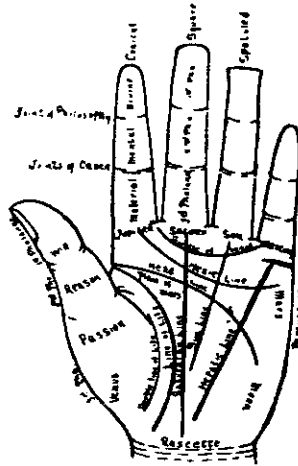
It is well known that Queen Victoria has a great dislike of smoke, so much so that she does not allow smoking in her immediate neighbourhood. And yet the cigar bill for her guests is a very heavy one. The principal item is the thousand of the finest Havana cigars which are specially made for her, and sent to Windsor in glass tubes hermetically sealed. It is said that Queen Victoria's cigars could not be had even in Cuba at wholesale prices under one dollar a piece. The men who make them receive 30 cents for each cigar, and none but the oldest and most skilful workmen are entrusted with their manufacture. At this rate they can earn quite a small fortune, for 200 cigars a day can be turned out by the most expert.

CHIROMANCY

Or the

SCIENCE OF READING HANDS.

THERE has been so much interest taken in the Graphology Column, that it has been decided to start a 'Chiromancy' Column, under the able guidance of Madame Vero. This lady has devoted a great deal of time and thought to this very interesting subject, and has thoroughly studied it in all its branches. Her 'readings' have been extraordinarily successful, and 'The Graphic' is fortunate in securing her services. A sketch of a hand with all its lines is given, as a guide to those wishing their hands to be read. No one has all the lines indicated on the specimen hand, but some few of them will be found on each hand. The following suggestions will help in drawing the hand:—



Lay your hand, palm downwards, on a piece of clean white paper, the fingers as far apart as they will comfortably go. Then with a pencil trace all round it. Next hold it up against the window, and reverse it so that it will appear with the palm uppermost, as in the sketch. Then ink it carefully all round, taking pains to have the fingers the exact length. In the first sketch indicate the joints as you come to them by dots; this makes it much easier to get the correct distances when filling in the lines. Draw all the lines you see, as far as possible at correct distances from each other. Put no names in. Then send your hand with 24 penny stamps, to

'MADAME VERO,

Care of the Lady Editor, "New Zealand Graphic," Auckland.'

CHERRY RIPE.—Your hand is a most interesting one, but it is also very complicated. I have been studying your diagrams carefully, yet I am doubtful whether I can unravel the tangled skein of lines, nor am I confident which is the predominant mount. I think you are a subject of Apollo, and if so, inventive, imitative, quick in temper, and somewhat incapable of close friendship, which endures; yet generous, benevolent, and even devoted, were it not for the inseparable strain of fickleness. Your fingers denote love of excitement, movement, and general activity, independence in thought and action, and realism in preference to imagination. This is contradicted by the head line. The thumb differs much in the two diagrams, but I think your will is fairly strong. The life line in the left hand indicates two illnesses, before 25, of a serious nature—the first about twelve, the second ten or twelve years later. Soon after the latter there are signs of increased wealth and prosperity, and the line denotes a long life, but not a strong old age. The heart line or lines (for there are distinctly two in the left hand) are most difficult to understand. I infer that you possess warm affections, but that in youth you are fickle and capricious. You have many attractions for the opposite sex, and several admirers. I think there is a broken engagement, of which pride is the cause, but this is not marked in both hands. There is another and much more lasting attach-

ment, which commences about 25, perhaps younger, and there is no love affair marked in your drawings after that. I am afraid that I cannot predict that all will run smoothly then; and the course of true love seldom does; and the signs of caprice disappear as time advances; but there is trouble connected with this last deep affection, although of what nature I cannot tell, neither can I fix any date for marriage, as the line is absent. Some very dark person—a gentleman, I presume—has a great influence in your life. There is no line to signify interference, and you are not of a jealous disposition. You have to contend with three if not four enemies, of which sex I am unable to discover. The head line betokens a vivid imagination, especially in youth. You must beware lest it mislead you, as with such a heart line as yours its influence must be powerful. The fate line rises well, shows a change in position for the better at 28, or thereabouts, and another between 35 and 40. I am not sure if the latter be so advantageous as the former. Rising high on to the Mount of Jupiter, this line displays lofty ambition, but I am doubtful if it be fully gratified. Again, there is an indication of an unfortunate and misplaced attachment which causes unhappiness and is a bar to success; but remember this is not confirmed in both hands. There may only be a fear of such unhappiness. Three voyages are marked two long and one short, with some danger attendant on one of them, or from water in some way. I think you possess dramatic talent and very acute sensibilities. VERO.

MOPSY.—You have made my task an easy one, your diagram is so clear, and with few exceptions remarkably fortunate. No mount appears to be distinctly predominant, and the harmony of the faculties is shown by the equal division of the spaces. You are honourable, sociable, and cheerful, equable in temper and a lover of order and method. Not only are you reasonable and logical, but you like to have a practical reason for both motives and actions. You analyse a subject thoroughly before you form your opinions, yet you are decisive and independent, and although sufficiently imaginative, not any too ready to trust and place confidence in untried theories. I draw these inferences from the shape of the fingers and thumb, which, as I think you understand something of my favourite study, you will easily comprehend. The life line is strong and good. The upper angle is perfect in proportion, and as such, says Ed. Allen, indicates nobility of disposition. You lost some near relative, not a parent, at or about the age of 10, and at or near 25 you had an illness of some severity. Between 45 and 50 a lawsuit appears to cause you annoyance, but an access of wealth will follow it, and prosperity and advancement late in life are also predicted in your hand. The life line extends to a great age. The heart line displays exceedingly strong and self-sacrificing affection. Your love is faithful, tender, and true; and, but for one slight and youthful disappointment, I think it is fortunate. Apparently you are to be twice married, as there are two distinct crosses on the Mount of Jupiter and two marriage lines. The first marks the age on the fate line, soon after 20; the second union is after 30, and further than that I cannot tell the date. The head line confirms the indications of constancy, decision, and high intelligence shown in other parts of the hand, but its commencement betokens that you are deficient in self-confidence. The fate line rising from the Plain of Mars denotes that your success in life will not be attained without effort on your own part. There are two important changes of position or residence before 20. Soon after that age a fresh and auspicious influence appears in your life, and your path, from the diagram, continues smooth until 45, when there is another change, and yet another at 50; after which, with the exception of one trouble, your life seems peaceful and happy to an advanced age. The triangle below the little finger gives skill in politics. The branch from the line of life to the Mount of the Moon shows a tendency to rheumatism, according to some authors, and I have seen this confirmed. Others consider it to signify 'much travelling.' No enemy lines are visible, and there are not any decided indications of legacies. VERO.

FOR COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE
THE LANGHAM HOTEL,

PORTLAND PLACE AND REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

IN THE MOST FASHIONABLE



CONVENIENT & HEALTHY LOCALITY

Near the Best Shops, etc. Modern improvements. Table d'Hotel, 6.30 until 11.5. Artisan wall water. Electric light throughout. Moderate tariff.

NARCISSUS' POETICS.—I find it impossible to decide upon the ascendant mount in your hand. You appear to combine the energy, quickness, and cleverness of Mercury with the qualities of Venus. These mounts, in combination, give wit, humour, gaiety, love of beauty, and easy and sympathetic eloquence. Your fingers show attention to detail, but also impulse, love of travelling, freedom, and independence in action. The thumb is very different in your drawings. The 'will' phalange is strong in both, but in the left hand the resolution is accompanied by 'tact' (this is shown by the shape of the second phalange). Legacies are marked on the thumb, and acute intelligence is signified by the lines on the little finger. The lines in the 2 diagrams also differ very much, but that is, of course, frequently the case. The right hand, as you have given it, is the most fortunate. The life line is good in both. Some illness is indicated between 15 and 20, and the death of a near relation before you are 21. There are no other breaks or signs on the line until quite 50 years of age, when there is the line from the wrist, which betokens 'an important rise' in position late in life. The heart line, in the left hand, leaves much to be desired. There is plenty of it! Your feelings of like and dislike, I fear I must say of love and hatred, are intensely strong; but if the line be really as you have drawn it, from early youth until middle age, you suffer many cruel and bitter disappointments, and there are also indications of a broken engagement. Although they may only refer to a very severe heart trouble, such as the death of one you love much, there is no special line given which enables me to tell you anything with reference to marriage. In the right hand drawing the heart line is more fortunate. I hope it is so in life, and that the disappointments are not confirmed. The head line is good. It tells me that you are very ambitious, prompt in decision, sufficiently imaginative, and that you will attain much commercial success.

The circle, or crescent, at the end gives warning of some danger to the sight. The fate line is most fortunate. Running as it does towards the mount of Jupiter, and losing itself in the heart line, is said to be a certain indication of a wealthy marriage; although I can trace no other marriage line. You have much travelling to do and many voyages to take. There are indications of wealth on almost every line, and I imagine your abilities to be far above the average. You possess both will power and resolution to overcome and triumph over obstacles and difficulties.—**VERO.**

FIST.—It is easy and pleasant to read your hand from such a clearly drawn and evidently accurate diagram. The mounts are, of course, always a difficulty on paper, but I think Mars and Luna have the ascendancy in your drawing. Their combination gives a great love of the sea and navigation. You should also be fond of music, have a good temper, and an abundant supply of courage, fortitude and presence of mind. You possess imaginative power and a taste for poetry. Of the latter I am not certain, although a development of Luna generally gives poetical ability. Your pointed fingers, indicate intuition, impressionability, and quickness of comprehension; but the 2nd phalange is the longest, and this adds reason, and the gift of reasoning well to the impulsiveness and intuitive power. The thumb, too, is strong in logic and good judgment. You decide quickly, but your decisions are rarely at fault. The nail confirms the equanimity of your temper, and the 1st phalange shows a strong, but not an obstinate will. The life line shows an illness between the ages of 12 and 15, and a very severe one about 35. The double line, or line of Mars, repairs the break; but in this hand your health is not satisfactory. I have actually seen lines join and improve, therefore, let me repeat the reminder that genuine chironomists proclaim nothing to be irrevocable. Your heart line is good, both morally and physically, but a sharp trouble

connected with the affections is marked early. This might be caused by the death of someone dear to you and have no reference to what is called a 'love affair,' although there is an attachment which ends in 'nothing' between 17 and 22. Another, which terminates in an unusually happy marriage, commences about 28, possibly earlier. The head line denotes sensitiveness, unselfishness, and a deficiency of self confidence in youth, but still the firmness and promptness in decision are so perceptible that they evidently over-rule the slight weakness. The fate, or line of Saturn, is not fortunate. The breaks indicate troubles and difficulties before you say farewell to your teens, and at the head line it stops entirely. This betokens either some grave misfortune caused by an error in calculation or a serious illness connected with the head. The break in the head line leads me to the latter conclusion; and I also think the illness is the result of an accident and that it has reference to the illness marked on the line of life. Several voyages of various lengths are indicated. I see no enmity lines or distinct enemies, but you have some few adverse circumstances or interferences with which to contend. Legacies are marked on the thumb, and high principles and possible advancement in position are shown by the lines of the wrist.—**VERO.**

LATE SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

The Tabernacle Football Club held an enjoyable social at the Y.M.C.A. Rooms on Thursday. The president (Mr W. P. Baker) presided and congratulated the club on their great success in winning the championship in connection with the Church Union Football Competition of season 1897, and with such a marked result, viz., matches played, 7; won, 6; lost, nil; drawn, 1; points scored, 62; against, nil—a very creditable performance, indeed. Presentations were made as follows: President's medal for best all-round play, Charles Lamb; medal from club to best forward, W. Kearney. An interesting programme was prepared of vocal and instrumental selections, also recitations, given by members and friends. Refreshments were handed round, after which Mr Mason, on behalf of the Tabernacle F.C., presented the President with a handsomely framed photograph of the team. Mr Baker feelingly thanked the members for the kind and unexpected gift. The gathering separated with the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne.' The photograph was from the studio of Mr F. W. Edwards, and reflected great credit on this well-known artist.

GOLF.

WELLINGTON, October 22.
On Saturday the monthly competition for the silver cleeck took place at the Miramar links, and after a very keen competition, resulted in a win for Mr Hadfield, who made the very good score of 82, which his handicap of 12 reduced to 70. The following were the other scores handed in:

	Score.	Hcp.	Total.
F. Hodson	81	10	71
J. Duncan	82	10	72
W. Higginson	82	12	73
E. Pearce	82	12	76
E. Jackson	85	6	79
J. Webster	85	6	79
L. L. Tripp	86	6	80
C. Gore	86	12	84
R. Kirkby	101	12	90
A. Duncan	84	owe 6	90
G. Todd	88	owe 5	94

**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.

Pears' Soap.

Makes the Hands white and fair, the Complexion bright and clear, and the Skin soft and smooth as velvet.

"Matchless for the Hands and Complexion."

Erasmus Wilson

Prof. Sir Erasmus Wilson, F.R.S.

Late President of the Royal College of Surgeons, England:

"PEARS' SOAP is an article of the nicest and most careful manufacture, and one of the most refreshing and agreeable balms for the skin."



"Since using Pears' Soap I have discarded all others."

Lilly Langtry



IT was with sincere regret the death of Mr Arthur Morton Olivier would be read by nearly every one in Christchurch, on taking up the paper this morning, though not entirely unexpected. He has been trying to recruit his health for some weeks past, doing the Island trip, but without much result. On his return from Sydney he was advised to go to Castle Hill, and only returned from there about 10 days ago, gradually getting worse until he passed away this morning. He has been closely associated with all athletic sports, especially cricket, and every cricketer throughout New Zealand will mourn the loss of so good a friend to the 'noble game.' He has been a true friend to many in Christchurch in a very unostentatious way, and was an enthusiastic alpine climber, also a clever and enthusiastic amateur gardener. He leaves a wife, two sons, and one daughter, for whom the greatest sympathy is expressed.

Yet another kinematographe! This time the machine which is to make its appearance in the Auckland Opera House on Tuesday next claims to be Edison's latest perfection of his wonderful invention, and in a letter from the inventor to the exhibitor the former refers to it as such. One great advantage which the new-comer promises to have over the machines that have yet been exhibited in the northern city is that the pictures are thrown on the screen by electric light. Among the views to be shown are several of the Record Reign festivities, the Niagara Falls, the Henley boat race, and the Corbett-Fitzsimons fight.

WONDERFUL Blood-Purifying Effect -OF- Ayer's Sarsaparilla

Mr. Charles Stephenson, a well-known Railway Employee at Kalapoi, New Zealand, writes:



"About ten years ago, while engaged in shunting, my foot caught between the rails, and my leg was fractured below the knee. It healed in time, but I have been troubled ever since with swollen veins, and have been obliged, at times, to wear a bandage. About a year ago it became much worse, and I feared I should be obliged to give up my work. A friend advised me to try Ayer's Sarsaparilla. I did so, and after taking four bottles the swelling disappeared, and I have not been troubled with it since."

AYER'S SARSAPARILLA

Sold Medals at the World's Chief Expositions.

AYER'S PILLS for Biliousness

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, with Lady Ranfurly, accompanied by Captain Alexander and the Hon. C. Hill Trevor, were present at the annual meeting of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, held in the Wellington Art Gallery last week. His Excellency presided. The Countess kindly presented the prizes offered by the Society for children's letters regarding cruelty to animals. The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to their Excellencies.

The Patron and Patroness (His Excellency and the Countess of Ranfurly) are to be asked to open the Wellington Horticultural Society on Wednesday and Thursday, 24th and 25th November.

Mrs and the Misses Gard (2) had a very pleasant gathering at Rouge-mont on Friday afternoon, among those present were Mesdames Allen, Howard, Philpotts, Stowe, Misses Millington (2), Philpotts (2), Howard, Greensill, etc., etc.

Mr Holt, of the Survey Office, who has been on a year's holiday to the Old Country, has returned to New Plymouth.

Captain Ayling, of the Miltiades, had the misfortune to break his leg whilst voyaging from London to Melbourne.

Miss Chappel (Picton) and her brother-in-law Mr Harvey cycled to Nelson and back recently. They enjoyed the ride and the scenery immensely.

Mr J. C. McKerrow has been on a visit to New Plymouth investigating the local claims which have been sent in under the Naval and Military Claims Act, 1896.

Lady Ranfurly was out walking in a lovely green-braided tailor-made costume and pink straw toque very much trimmed with roses and chiffon. The Countess was lately wearing a bright red costume made with a Norfolk jacket, and red Tam-o'-Shanter hat with quills at the side.

Mr District Judge Kettle has been on a visit to New Plymouth for the purpose of holding a session of the District Court there.

Mr E. Broad, New Plymouth, is staying with Mrs Webb-Bowen, Nelson.

Miss Krull, of Wanganni, left last week for her home, after spending a few months in Wellington with her cousin, Mrs Walter Mantell.

The Rev. Oliver Dean, of Napier, has a large order in the conduct of a temperance mission between New Plymouth and Palmerston. He has 12 centres to arrange for and manage.

Mr Holt, in the Survey Office, New Plymouth, who has been on a visit to England has returned to his home.

By the Ionic last week, Mr and Mrs Gee, Mr Kenneth Duncan, and Mr H. D. Crawford, of Miramar, arrived in Wellington from England, having thoroughly enjoyed their trip Home.

The chief engineer of the Talune is now Mr Dalrymple, transferred from the Rotomahana.

Mr Cullen (Cullensville), Picton, has been a much interviewed man of late. Mining experts are in the district, and it is probable that the ground at Cullensville will be tested for gold mining purposes.

Miss Tuckey who has been staying in the country with her sister, Mrs H. Hadfield, has returned to Wellington.

The Countess of Ranfurly, accompanied by Lady Constance Knox and Captain Alexander, opened the bazaar which is being held in the Rink in aid of the Garrison Band last Tuesday afternoon. Her Ladyship was wearing a pretty pink blouse and a black satin skirt, becoming pink and black hat; Lady Constance Knox, a green silk blouse and black skirt, burnt straw hat, with green satin ribbon. During the afternoon Lady Ranfurly was presented with a handsome bouquet of flowers.

Mrs Speed, Miss Jean Rutherford, and the Misses Millington (3), Picton, have been spending a few days together at Mrs (Captain) Kenny's, The Rocks, Queen Charlotte Sound.

Miss Graham, who has been the guest of Mrs Harding, in Wellington, lately, leaves this week for Dunedin.

Mr Wratt, of Wellington, takes Mr Howie's place at the Custom House during his absence from Nelson.

Mr Rutherford left Picton by steamer to join Mrs Rutherford in Wellington ere proceeding down South.

Bishop and Mrs Wallis and the Rev. A. Neild are expected to arrive in Melbourne about the 15th November, and will probably be in Wellington via Sydney, about the 23rd or 24th of that month, and arrangements are being made to welcome them at a conversation, which is to be held in the Skating Rink.

Miss Leslie (Motueka) is staying at Mrs Philpott's, 'Aecham.'

Mrs H. D. Crawford has returned to Wellington from her trip to England, looking very much better. Mr Kenneth Bunce returned in the same boat, his health much improved.

Mrs Garrett and her little boy left Nelson last week for their home in Melbourne.

Mrs Rutherford (Picton) has gone to Christchurch and the Hamner Plains for a change.

Captain Hood (late of the a.s. Anglian, 2,500 tons) has been appointed Harbourmaster for the port of New Plymouth, rendered vacant by the death of Captain Holford.

In the Auckland Point-to-point Steplechase, the riders finished in the following order:—1. Mr Gordon; 2. Mr Kintoch; 3. Mr Elliot; 4. Miss M. Buckland.

Mrs Orr, of Ashburton, is at present spending a few weeks with her daughter, Mrs H. Mackay, at Paeroa.

Mr J. Howie, Nelson, has obtained a month's holiday, and gone to Gisborne with Mrs Howie, from which town the latter shortly leaves for England, via Sydney.

Mrs G. Beauchamp (Anikiwa) spent a few days in Picton this week with Mrs Allen.

Mr F. J. Earle, of Wellington, has joined the literary staff of the Taranaki Herald, New Plymouth.

Mrs R. B. Smith, of Napier, has gone for a visit to Palmerston.

Miss Philpotts, Picton, has gone to Blenheim to be under Dr Cleghorn for a short time. She has been in ill-health for some time past.

Mr and Mrs Chinery Browne, late of Auckland, have taken up their residence in Paeroa.

Mr Whalley returned to Auckland on Sunday, after a six months' visit to England.

The children's dance in connection with the Ponsonby At Home comes off on Friday, October 29th, in the Ponsonby Hall.

The portrait of the late Judge Richmond, specially painted for the Wellington Law Society, was unveiled last week, Mr Brandon, President of the Law Society, asking Judge Prendergast to perform the simple ceremony.

The whole teaching staff of the Timaru High School are to receive notice to terminate their engagements with a view to a complete reorganisation of the school. The boys and girls are henceforth to be educated separately.

Mrs Varasour, who has been spending a few days at Blythfield, Blenheim drove out to Egbrooke yesterday.

The most Rev. the Primate of Australia has been made Archbishop of Sydney. In order to have an Archbishopric created, it is necessary that there should be three dioceses. In New Zealand there are six. What doth hinder, therefore, the transformation of the Primate of this colony (Dr Cowie) into an Archbishop.

Talking of clergy of the Anglican persuasion, it is interesting to note that the Right Rev. William Walsh, Bishop of Mauritius, has been appointed Archdeacon and Canon of Canterbury.

Captain Wald has been transferred to the Talune.

Mrs Bull, who has been spending several months in Auckland and Tauranga, returned to Blenheim last Thursday.

Miss Ida McMaster, of Auckland, has received the pleasant intelligence that she has passed the senior (written) examination in music in connection with the London College of Music. Miss Elsie McMaster has been successful in passing the junior examination. They have received their certificates, one of which is particularly handsome. They have received hearty congratulations from their friends.

Mr Edward Kenny, Government Valuator of Lands, arrived in Blenheim, from Nelson, on Friday evening.

Mrs Renwick returned from Nelson to Blenheim last Friday, and was accompanied by Miss Marsden. They drove out to Dumgree on Saturday.

The new Commissioner of Police, Mr Tunbridge, arrived in Wellington last week, and lost no time in getting into harness, being in his office, looking very business-like, the following day. He proposes making a police inspection tour of the colony shortly.

Dr Payne, of the Thames, has been ill, and is now, unfortunately, not advancing fast on the road to recovery; he will be unable to take up his medical duties for some time yet.

The Government poultry expert, Mr J. Henderson, is to lecture at the Canterbury Agricultural Show in November.

The Chairman and Secretary of the Auckland Harbour Board, paid an official call on the new American Consul, Mr F. Dillingham, last week. The latter was very courteous in his manner of receiving his visitors.

Mr Pound, the Australian Government bacteriologist, says that in Southern Queensland the rabbits have learnt to climb trees, owing to the soft sandy soil permitting their claws to grow long, as burrowing does not wear them down. One hop bush was found with all its foliage eaten to a height of 14 feet.

Viscount and Lady Aspern passed through Auckland last week on their way to Sydney.

Brigadier-General Westmacott, mentioned frequently of late in the cablegrams as taking so distinguished a part in the expedition against the tribesmen on the Indian frontier, is a brother of Mr Herbert Westmacott, of Christchurch, and brother-in-law of Mrs Westmacott, of Fitzroy, New Plymouth.

Miss Revell, of Kairanga, met with an unfortunate accident a few days ago. The horse she was driving bolted. In jumping out of the trap she fell heavily, being discovered in an unconscious condition.

Mr W. D. Holgate has gone to Sydney from Auckland.

Lord Ranfurly says that the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has his warmest support. He hoped the Society would also well work up that important branch of work, cruelty to children. The latter being practised in secret is harder to detect than cruelty to animals, which is more often performed in public.

Mr Stacy Griffiths, of Palmerston North, is enjoying his annual holiday just now, and having spent a portion of his time at Napier, is now visiting his parents in Blenheim, and his many old friends are pleased to greet him.

Captain Gibb is now on the a.s. Manapouri.

The Very Rev. Dr. Egan, O.S.B., of St. Benedict's, has been appointed by Bishop Lenihan Administrator of the Diocese of Auckland during the Bishop's absence.

The Rev. Father Ginaty, of Christchurch, is staying at the Bishop's Palace, Ponsonby, Auckland. He is soliciting alms on behalf of the Mount Magdala Magdalen Asylum, Christchurch.

A former master of the Auckland Grammar School, Mr J. Anderson, R.A., who is at the present time a resident of British Columbia, says that it is inadvisable for people to attempt to reach the Klondike until next spring.

Sir Walter Buller is again in Wellington.

NEW ZEALANDERS AT HOME.

Much interest has been taken in the sudden rise in the life of Mr Augustus Arthur Percival, who was born at Papanui, Christchurch, in June, 1856. After various adventures, he has succeeded to the title of Earl of Egmont, on the death of his cousin. His wife and he have been separated for years. She was at one time employed by Messrs Spiers and Pond, London.

Mr Nathaniel Hamer sails for this colony in the Valetta. He has been shooting in Shropshire and in Scotland.

Dr. W. A. Chapple, of Wellington, has had a most interesting visit to Russia, where he represented New Zealand at a medical conference held in Moscow. He is at present living north of London, at Hendon, and purposes returning home about the end of December.

The Pastor of the Methodist Church Mission in Dunedin, the Rev. W. Ready, is very busy lecturing. He has 4 months' engagements planned out. He hopes to realise £20 by each lecture in order to clear the debt of £1700 on the Missionary Society.

Dr. Fookes, who resigned from the Auckland Asylum on account of ill-health, has benefited greatly by his tour round Devonshire and Scotland. He has lost the insomnia which so worried him, and proposes returning immediately to New Zealand.

Mr and Mrs Herbert Cocker and family, of Wakefield, Yorkshire, England, propose settling in New Zealand. Mr Cocker is coming out for health reasons.

Mr J. Cathcart Wason, of Christchurch, N.Z., has acquired some property in Scotland. He paid £3500 for 243 acres, the estate of Poundland, in Ayrshire.

Mr Walter Kennaway is enjoying a brief holiday in fascinating Paris.

The tricks of the illicit diamond buyer in South Africa are legion. The 'Johannesburg Standard' recently reported a case of a man charged with receiving a package containing nine rough and uncut diamonds weighing six carats which were concealed in tablets of Vinolia soap and a pair of baby's shoes.

It is but seldom perhaps that the prosaic though useful clothes brush is venerated as a household god, but there is an instance of one, which was used to remove mud from the G.O.M.'s hat, being so revered.

Nearly eighteen years have passed, and the old lady still keeps the brush in her 'kist of drawers,' wrapped in a silk handkerchief, and, according to the gossip of the neighbours, she has given her relatives instructions that when she dies the article is to be placed in her coffin and buried with her.

OPERA HOUSE.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1st, 1897. A GRAND AND UNIQUE CONCERT. To be given by the ORIGINAL BANJO, MANDOLIN, AND GUITAR CLUB. Conductor.....Herr Zimmermann. Leader.....Mr A. A. Partridge. And use no other instrument but the Mandolin, Banjo, and Guitar. THE LATEST AND BEST MUSIC. Magnificent Stage Decorations by Mr and Mrs A. A. Partridge. Admission: Dress Circle and Orchestra Stalls, 2s. Stalls, 1s. Box Plan at Messrs Wildman and Lyell's. Booking fee, 6d. Tickets at Williamson's and Partridge and Co.'s, and from any Members of the Club. R. G. EDGECUMBE, Hon. Sec.

OPERA HOUSE.

POSITIVELY SIX NIGHTS ONLY. AND TWO-MATINEES-TWO WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY. Commencing TUESDAY, 2nd Nov., 1897. By Electric Light. EDISON'S LATEST KINEMATOGRAPH and the LATEST TALKING PHONOGRAPH.

Record Reign Festivities The Great Procession The Prince of Wales Niagara Falls, near the place where Webb was drowned Edison in His Laboratory Henley Boat Race

Seen Illustrated CORBETT and FITZSIMMONS FIGHT.

Black Diamond Express Water Melon Eating Contest—Coloured and Humorous.

Pices—3/ 2/ 1/ Price now open at Wildman and Lyell's. Day Sales at Williamson's and Elliston's

A MIRACLE IF EVER THERE WAS ONE.

DAVE KIRK, AN EX-MELBOURNE CRACK BICYCLIST, LEAVES THE HOSPITAL TO DIE.

SEVEN SPECIALISTS PRONOUNCE HIS CASE INCURABLE.

TERRIBLE RESULT OF A FALL AT THE SCOTCH COLLEGE GROUNDS A YEAR AGO.

PARALYSIS, HEMORRHAGE, SPINAL DISEASE, AND LOCOMOTOR ATAXIA.

NINE MONTHS' AGONY IN THE MELBOURNE HOSPITAL. NOW A HEALTHY, ACTIVE MAN. THANKS TO DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS.

(From the Melbourne 'Advocate.')

Dave Kirk, the well-known and highly-popular hero of the cycle track, was, on the 8th October of last year, training in the Scotch College Grounds, Melbourne, when, all of a sudden, and without any warning, the tyre of the leader broke, and becoming at once entangled in the wheel, brought the rider to the ground with terrific force. So great was the impact that not a single limb or member of the unfortunate cyclist's frame escaped serious injury. In all haste the victim was removed to the Melbourne Hospital, more dead than alive, and quite unconscious from shock and hemorrhage. A hasty examination of the patient by the medical staff of that institution showed them that the case was a most serious one, and the grave looks of the surgeons in attendance plainly indicated that they entertained but the slightest hopes of the unfortunate young man's recovery. All that the resources of that fully-equipped hospital could command were brought into play for the relief of the patient, but the gravest fears were felt as to his ultimate safety. The external injuries were not after all, the most serious—the symptoms of serious internal injury to the nervous system were all too patent to the practised and expert eye of the medical faculty. So serious, indeed, was the case of Dave Kirk considered, that an eminent surgeon who called to see the patient declared it as his opinion that the patient would, in all probability, never rise from his sick bed. There poor Dave lay, betwixt life and death, for about seven weary and exceedingly trying months of pain and suffering, unable to stir hand or foot, unable to move even from side to side—a victim of hemorrhage, spinal disease, pleurisy, dysentery, complete paralysis of the body, and last, but by no means least, locomotor ataxia, a fearful complaint, which utterly prostrates the human frame and destroys the power of the will; so much so that the common functions of nature are performed by a power absolutely extraneous to the will. An idea of the

dreadful injuries sustained by the patient may be gathered from the following details gleaned from Kirk by our representative. His left heel had to be removed, and 32 stitches were inserted in that part of his foot, 18 being placed in the right leg. The kneecap was smashed and had to be lifted. Altogether seven surgeons had to do with the sufferer, who was reduced to a very weak and almost comatose state after nine operations had been performed on him. Mortification set in in parts of the lower limbs, and artificial means had to be employed to draw off the urine. The system was washed internally four times every day with water and carbolic acid, the stomach being cleaned out by means of a tube. Injections were also largely employed. This was a most singular case, and one which must have afforded ample play for the physicians' skill and experiment, yet it remained for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to effect a radical and complete cure.

THE BRIGHT SIDE OF THE PICTURE. AN ASTOUNDING CHANGE.

After seven months of bed-ridden existence in the Melbourne General Hospital, Dave Kirk left that institution with faint hopes of ever being able to get about without the aid of crutches, with all hopes vanished as to his ability to again enter the cycle arena and carry off once more those brilliant laurels, which were at various big wheel gatherings wont to be his, for he was Victoria's largest scratch crack. In May last Kirk's friends, being impressed by the numerous authentic and spontaneous testimonials from persons of both sexes, of every age and condition in life, and in all parts of the world, recommended a course of the now world-famed Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People as a last resource. Marvellous but true as may be learned from the patient's own lips no sooner had he begun to take these wonderfully curative pills than Kirk experienced palpable relief. To let him describe himself the returning powers to his limbs and nervous system generally:—'Gradually the sense of numbness began to disappear, and the extremities acquired by degrees their wonted healthy glow and warmth. While under treatment in the hospital the sense of feeling entirely disappeared, so much so that when the surgeons would put a needle into any part of my body I was absolutely insensible to the fact. To be sure of the absence of the sense of touch, the doctors would conceal my vision, and then question me as to the part they were piercing; but my answers clearly proved to them that I was absolutely bereft of all sensibility!'

After a month's trial of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills I was able to throw aside my crutches. But one of the most powerful effects of the pills was the restoration of functional health. Bowel troubles had been a terrible trial to me ever since the day I met with the accident. Regularity in this direction was perfectly set up, and I am now, after four months' taking of these pills, in the enjoyment of perfect health. It wanted no assurance of this, as those who had seen the subject of this narrative are slow to express their surprise at the picture of health and almost completely resuscitated power of body and mind presented in the person of David Kirk.

But perhaps the most demonstrative proof of the absolute numbness and absence of all feeling in the patient while under treatment in the hospital was the fact that, although he received a shock from a powerful galvanic battery—a shock so strong that the operator declared it to be half a volt more than he had given to anyone in the institution for 40 years—Dave Kirk was utterly unable to feel its effect! A PRACTICAL ILLUSTRATION OF RESTORED VITALITY.

A few days ago Dave Kirk, who, by the way, is to be found at his hairdressing and tobacconist's establishment, 471, Elizabeth-street north, caught sight of a certain individual to whom he had let out one of his bikes on hire and who, it seems, was possessed of so bad a memory that he forgot to return the machine to its owner! As showing the restored strength and vigour of the erstwhile bed-ridden man, Kirk made a dash for the thief, and a hand-to-hand struggle ensued. His opponent was a powerfully-built fellow, and a much heavier weight than Dave. Blood flowed freely on both sides, but Dave proved one too many for his man, and with a dexterous effort managed, unassisted, to get him into a cab, and took him unceremoniously to the lockup, where a charge of theft was laid against the prisoner. That was, perhaps, the most practical evidence of restored vitality that could well be given on the part of the cycle champion. Naturally enough the thousand and one cheers of the once-thought-dead, but now very much alive, cyclist are loud in their praise of the world-famed Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and whenever

Dave goes out he is besieged with congratulations on his regained health. In common gratitude, the athlete never fails to give the whole credit of his recovery to that wonderful remedy discovered by Dr. Williams. Moreover, Kirk is able to trench a large garden at home, and walk two miles daily to his business place.

The following articles appeared in the Melbourne 'Argus' and 'Herald' last year shortly after Dave Kirk met with his terrible mishap, proving that his condition was considered hopeless:—

EXTRACT FROM THE MELBOURNE 'ARGUS.'

'Everybody has heard of Kirk, the crack racer. About a month ago he met with an accident whilst training, and has been in the Melbourne Hospital ever since. The medical authorities say that he will never ride again, as his spine has been so badly hurt that he will likely be paralysed for life.'

EXTRACT FROM THE 'HERALD.'

'Dave Kirk, residing at the Coffee Palace, Victoria-street, North Melbourne, sustained severe injuries this afternoon through falling from his bicycle while training on the track at the Scotch College ground. The tyre of his bicycle burst, and Kirk was thrown violently to the ground. He was removed in a cab to the Melbourne Hospital.'

The latter extract appeared in the 'Herald' on the afternoon of the accident, October 9th, 1896. The former appeared in the 'Argus' about a month later, after the physicians and authorities had placed him under treatment, and discovered that his injuries had resulted in paralysis, spinal disease, and locomotor ataxia, and that he was entirely beyond their aid. His case was accordingly, by the physicians who examined him, pronounced incurable, and they told poor Kirk that he would never rise from his bed again.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People have cured paralysis, locomotor ataxia, rheumatism, and sciatica; also all diseases arising from impoverishment of the blood, scrofula, rickets, chronic erysipelas, consumption of the bowels and lungs, general muscular weakness, loss of appetite, palpitations, pains in the back, nervous headache, early decay, all forms of female weakness, and hysteria. These pills are a tonic, not a purgative. They are genuine only with the full name, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and are sold by chemists and storekeepers generally, or the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Wellington, New Zealand, will forward on receipt of stamps or post order, one box for 3s, or half-a-dozen for 15s 9d.

THE PAULTON-STANLEY COMEDY CO.

IT is unfortunate that an unavoidable delay in Sydney has shortened the stay of the Paulton-Stanley Comedy Company in Auckland to one week, for the enthusiasm with which the opening piece, 'My Friend From India,' was received by a crowded audience at the Opera House on Monday evening gives an assurance of popular favour for a dramatic season of unusual length and brilliancy. The promised production of the ever-popular 'Niobe,' with its versatile author among its dramatis personae, is in itself a sure draw for several nights. Instead of laying the stores of Greek mythology under contribution, the author of 'My Friend From India' has invaded the field of modern mysticism, and the live Mahatma, not this time from Tibet, but from the shades of some cockney hair-dressing saloon, frisking about the stage in a yellow silk counterpane, negotiated that easy passage from the sublime to the ridiculous. Mr Paulton, who appears as a Mahatma, for the nonce played upon the risible faculties of his audience by saying the wittiest of things, while preserving a most serious demeanour. The unconscious humourist, unless he knows his business, may encounter a torpid audience or find the laugh following some minutes after the joke has been perpetrated. Mr Paulton shared no such melancholy fate, for bubbling merriment prevailed from his first appearance on the boards until his retirement for the night. Miss Alina Stanley, as Marion Moxon, a stately damsel whose professed faith in the occult one was inclined to suspect, acted the part of a rather hazy hang-over to the fringe of society admirably. Her majestic proportions served to dwarf still more the stature of the diminutive author-comedian. The grace of her carriage and excellent dancing were worn a quarter's tuition in deportment at any academy for young ladies of fashion. 'My Friend

FINEST SELECTION IN N.Z. For... SEEDS, PLANTS, BULBS. H. C. GIBBONS & CO. WELLINGTON. SEND TO ALL SEEDS POST FREE. Price and Brans excerpted. Write for Catalogues.

From India' is not a play with an Ibsenite moral, but it is not without its lesson. It teaches the role of priest or prophet consists chiefly in the gullibility of humanity. Augustus Frederick Dreghda, like some more illustrious predecessors, became a wizard and seer in spite of himself, and the facility manifested in seeing the marvels which were not perceptible to himself surpassed even the alleged imaginative fertility of the lover when contemplating the non-existent virtues of his adored one. Mr Olly Deering was well suited as the self-made Erasmus Chignell, an old gentleman from Sheffield, fired with a vain ambition to get into society, and Mr Cyril Keightley, his son, did justice to the part. The other members of the Company, Messrs Ilms Phillips, Fred Cumbernour, Carden Wilson, Albert Whelan, W. J. Beresford, Miss Lena Busch, Miss Lila More, Mrs Edouin Bryer, and Miss Minna Phillips, all acted very creditably. Indeed, the fact that the production in New Zealand is under the direction of Messrs Williamson and Musgrove is guarantee enough that all the members of the Company are equal to their work, and the scenic appointments are up to date.

SOCIETY ON DITS.

THAT the Countess of Ranfurly takes a great interest in scientific and art subjects. She, with a party from Government House, was present at Sir James Hector's lecture in the Wellington Art Gallery, the subject being 'Antarctic Exploration.' The lecture was excellent. If Mr Frank R. Stockton had heard it, he might have gained some hints for his fantastic Polar exploration story now running in 'Harper's Magazine.'

That the Speaker of the Legislative Council, the Hon. H. J. Miller, entertained His Excellency the Governor in the Council Chamber on the evening of Monday, 1st of November, at a dinner. The members of the Council will be present.

That teachers of the Pieton Anglican Sunday-school are getting up a garden party, Christmas tree, and other 'draws,' in aid of the school funds.

That Mr Bolland, M.H.R. for Waitemata, gave his ultimatum at the Charitable Aid Conference, Wellington, lately:—'I won't agree to the appointment of any more Government inspectors. Every third man you meet is a Government inspector, and it is said that if they all got a coat of luminous paint they would make the night as light as the day.'

That Miss Teed, of New Plymouth, gave a very enjoyable musical evening on October 20.

That the Poverty Bay Rowing Club presented their well-known sculler, Mr Rees Jones, with a match-box and handsome sleeve-links on his departure for Wellington.

That on Thursday evening the New Plymouth Golf Club's closing season's ball, held in the Foresters' Hall, attracted a number of invited guests, and was more especially intended for the enjoyment of the unmarried portion of the members, who, needless to say, fulfilled that expectation to the utmost.

That a Parliamentary dinner was given by Lord Ranfurly on Wednesday night. The following received invitations:—Hons. W. J. Hall-Jones (M.H.R.) and J. Carroll (M.H.R.), the Hon. R. H. J. Reeves, W. Kelly, W. H. Reynolds, J. Rigg, J. Scotland, J. Kerr, L. Walker, R. Rolleston, W. Swainson, G. Jones, T. Kelly, W. Jennings, G. Harris (M.L.C.'s), Sir Robert Stout, Messrs M. S. J. MacKenzie, R. D. McLean, W. Symes, C. Parata, H. Kainau, J. Bolland, H. Brown, G. Carson, H. A. Field, G. Fisher, M. Giffender, W. Herries, J. Holland, J. Hutchison, C. Lewis, R. M. McKenzie, J. A. Miller, T. E. Taylor, J. O'Meara, R. Monk, and R. Moore (M.H.R.'s), Messrs Fison, Friend, and Willis.

That the bridge over the Waikawa (Pieton) River was washed away by the last fresh, and the lady missionaries who intend to build Sunday-school at the pnh will have to wait, unless the Government re-build it. The bridge was only built a short time ago, but everybody who saw it prophesied its speedy destruction, so slight—only stones placed upon each other—were its approaches.

That Mrs Edwards gave a large afternoon tea on Friday in Wellington.

That many hope that the present variable weather will wear itself out before Saturday, when the Marlborough Tennis Club will open for the season at Blenheim.

That Constable R. Oliphant, of Auckland, was presented at the meeting of the City Council last week with the Humane Society's Medal for saving life.

That the Hibernian Band intend to hold a social in Blenheim next Wednesday in aid of the uniform fund.

That the Auckland School Children's Jubilee Address to the Queen was presented to His Excellency the Governor last Wednesday for transmission to England. Lord Ranfurly greatly admired the address.

That the Garrison Band will hold a Garden Party in Blenheim on November 9th.

That Captain Spence of the Brunner, is to be transferred to the Corinna, and Mr Shaw, chief officer of the Wainui, who is under orders to proceed to headquarters, will, it is understood, have charge of the Brunner. Captain Gibb came over from Australia by the Monowai to take command of the Talune. Messrs Westwood (chief engineer of the Mawhera), Young (third engineer of the Poherna) and Jordan (late second officer of the Onah, who came over by the Monowai from Sydney) are under orders to go on to Dunedin for instructions. Mr Rochfort, second officer of the Wainui, is promoted a step, while Mr Dawson, formerly of the Flora, has joined the Wainui as second officer.

That a special trip was made up the river at Wanganui on the occasion of the extension of the steam river service. The trip extended over two days, reaching the mouth of the Tangarika tributary. Several members of the House of Representatives were present. This now opens up about 650,000 acres. Wanganui will be rapidly going ahead.

That a Maori Princess, supposed to be Tono Marenau, daughter of King Paul, or Lumumonosas, is in search of a white man for a husband, who must be of good character, good habits, etc., and who will, therefore, help her to raise the status of the Maori race. The Mayor of Auckland, Mr Dignam, is now trying to find the princess, as an English suitor, now resident in America, has appeared for the hand of the dusky maiden.

That the question is being raised in Wanganui whether the present outbreak there of typhoid fever is due to the peculiar Chinese methods of forcing vegetables. This is a serious matter, and requires careful attention on the part of the health authorities of all New Zealand cities.

That the members of the old Pieton Tennis Club—defunct for the want of a court—have received a cordial invitation from the Blenheim club to attend the opening of the latter's court on Saturday next.

That Lady Douglas has worked very hard in getting up an entertainment which is to take place on Wednesday next in the Opera House in aid of the Boys' Club in connection with St. Paul's Church, Wellington. I hear that tickets are selling rapidly.

That a good deal of excitement was caused in Pieton this week when it became known that an old Pieton boy—now in the Telegraph Office, Wellington—was one of the lucky pair who drew 'Amberite' in Tattersall's Sweep. Heaps of congratulations were sent him.

That the Synod, in Christchurch, opened on Tuesday, and the town is full of clergy. The Bishop gave his opening address after evening service at the Cathedral on Tuesday night, which has become the usual thing now, enabling a very much greater number to hear it.

That large and very smart afternoon teas have been given during the week by Mesdames MacKenzie, Pynsent, and Edwards, and several informal little dances have taken place, with the object of practising the 'Washington Post,' two of the most enjoyable having been given by Mrs Williams and Mrs Travers.

MARRIAGES.

RAINGER—BRETT.—On September 6, at St. Peter's, Takapuna, by the Rev. H. S. Davis, William Joseph Rainger, of Parnell, to Ada Amelia, eldest daughter of H. Brett, of Takapuna.



The engagement has been announced in Wellington between Miss Alice Cameron (Masterton) to Mr Gordon Johnston, eldest son of the Hon. W. Johnston.

Miss Jessie Davies, of Wellington, is engaged to Mr W. G. Russell, Napier.

Miss Elliott, of Ellerslie, is engaged to Mr Claud Purchas, son of Dr. Purchas, of Auckland.

ORANGE BLOSSOMS.

MR WIGMORE TO MISS HOWARD.

ON Wednesday, 29th September, Miss Bertha Clemond Howard, a daughter of Mr A. G. Howard, one of Auckland's pioneer settlers, was married to Mr Robert Wigmore, of Mercury Bay, youngest son of the late Mr Robert Wigmore, J.P., M. Inst. C.E., at St. Sepulchre's Church, Auckland.

The ceremony was performed by the Ven. Archdeacon Dudley. By the courteous permission of Mr Rice, Organist of St. Sepulchre's, the 'Wedding March' was played by Mrs Edward Wigmore, R.A.M., London.

The bride was attended by her sisters, and Mr R. W. Swindley and Capt. E. Wigmore, late 8th E.Y.R., a cousin of the bridegroom, acted as groomsmen.

After the ceremony a very pleasant evening was spent at the residence of the bride's parents, the newly-married couple going on a trip to the Hot Lakes.

GADDUM—REYNOLDS.

The marriage of Mr F. E. Gaddum, of Mahia, with Miss Margaret Reynolds, eldest daughter of Mr R. J. Reynolds, of Childers Road, Gisborne, was celebrated last Monday in Holy Trinity Church, Gisborne.

The service was fully Choral, and the church was beautifully decorated with flowers and ferns for the occasion.

The Rev. Canon Webb officiated. Messrs Crombie, Graham, Guthrie Smith, and G. Reynolds acted as groomsmen, and there were five bridesmaids, the Misses Nora Reynolds, R. Reynolds, C. Reynolds, May Rees and Sherratt. Mendelssohn's 'Wedding March' was played by Mr T. C. Webb, the organist, at the conclusion of the ceremony.

MR QUARTERMAINE TO MISS TASKER.

The marriage of Miss Alice Tasker, Secretary to the Wellington Women's Democratic Union, to Mr A. G. Quartermaine, formerly of New Plymouth, created much interest in Wellington.

The wedding ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride's parents, 'Irembridge,' Wallace Street. She looked extremely well in her travelling dress, which was a dark blue face cloth. Her bouquet—a shower one—was very artistic.

Miss Annie Tasker, sister of the bride, was bridesmaid, and Mr C. Price (Wellington) was best man.

The bridegroom gave the bridesmaid a beautiful gold brooch with topaz and pearl.

Amongst the many wedding gifts was a marble drawing-room clock from the Women's Democratic Union, with which Miss Tasker was extremely popular.

Mr and Mrs Quartermaine have gone to live in Nelson.

MR W. P. GARNER TO MISS M. SEFTON.

The first wedding celebrated in the new Anglican Church, at Tataranimaka (Paranaki) was when Mr Walter P. Garner, manager of the Pungarehu Co-operative Butter Factory, was married to Miss Mary Sefton, second daughter of Mr J. Sefton, of Okara.

The church was very prettily decorated for the occasion with white flow-

ers and ferns, and although the weather was most unpropitious, the rain falling steadily the whole day, there was a large attendance to witness the ceremony.

The Rev. H. Mason was the officiating clergyman.

The bride, who was very prettily dressed, entered the church on the arm of her brother, Mr J. Sefton, and was accompanied by her sister, Miss Harriet Sefton, who was her bridesmaid, the bridegroom's man being Mr Bradley, of Rahoitu.

The bride was given away by her brother.

This being the first wedding in St. Peter's Church, the newly-wedded pair were presented with a family Bible, very handsomely bound.

After the ceremony the bridal party drove to the residence of Mr James Sefton, where the wedding breakfast had been prepared, to which the minister and a few friends had been invited. The health of the bride and bridegroom was drunk and suitably responded to by Mr Garner.

The bride received a large number of useful as well as ornamental presents, which were greatly admired by her friends.

In the evening Mr and Mrs Garner left for their home at Pungarehu, carrying with them the good wishes of all for their future happiness.



AUCKLAND.

Dear Bee, October 25.

The weather was so extremely unpromising on Friday that we made up our minds it would be quite impossible to enjoy any of the pre-arranged, and in many cases postponed, outdoor functions to which we were looking forward. The North Shore Bowling Green decided to defer their opening, as the gale blowing on Thursday and Friday seemed by no means to have exhausted its energy. However, matters weatherly changed for the better on Saturday forenoon, and the afternoon found us all in the best of spirits, thoroughly prepared to engage in the mimic warfare of bowls, or croquet, or even to risk our lives in a boat or on a bicycle.

AUCKLAND BOWLING GREEN

presented a very attractive appearance, and a smart and stylish crowd assembled to witness the skill of these veteran performers on the green. The President's opening speech was a very happy one, and elicited a good deal of laughter. The Club cheered nobly when the desirability for such demonstration was pointed out. But I am only concerned here with frocks and frippons, so will hurry on to them. First a word about the tea. This was given by the wife of the President, Mrs W. A. Thompson, and by Mrs Gorrie. The table looked chic, the Club's colours being displayed in the snowy white cloth, on which red and blue crumpled paper was tastefully arranged, and kept in place by various vases of flowers. Mrs Gorrie was not present, but Mrs Kingswell and the Misses Thompson and Gorrie were fully equal to their important duties as hostesses on such a pleasant occasion. There was an excellent band, and there were plenty of seats on which to sit and enjoy the delicious afternoon tea and cakes of every appetising variety. The Club's colours were deftly arranged over the ladies' croquet pavilion. Mrs W. A. Thompson looked well in black crepon, striped black and white silk vest, black jetted bonnet with purple iridescent-edged velvet and butterscup-coloured flower; Miss Thompson, fawn skirt, lilac and cream lace blouse, chic hat; Miss Gorrie, dark skirt, narrow green-striped blouse, white hat; Mrs Kingswell, navy coat and skirt over a drab vest, brown toque relieved with salmon roses; Miss Ireland was a study in violet in stripes and patterns mixed with white, violet velvet under hat brim; Miss

Bell, black skirt, light blouse; Mrs Dewsbury, black faced cloth costume, white vest, toque touched with magenta and the new black and cream lace; Miss Cuff, navy coat and skirt; peler blue vest, white hat; Miss Lewis, stone-coloured dress, lilac hat; Mrs Coleman, black and white silk blouse, golf-blue skirt, gem hat; the Misses Dewsbury, one in grey and one in navy; Madame Schmitt, black figured silk, black bonnet touched with gold and finished with a pink flower; Mrs Conolly, black, black bonnet with marsh marigold ribbon; Mrs Edmiston, fawn-drab coat and skirt, white hat with upstanding Athenian-red ribbon bows; Mrs Thomson, figured silk dress, black and lilac bonnet; Mrs Lusher, black costume finished with black and white striped silk and jet, white hat with black feather; Miss McDonald, royal blue silk bodice with ecru lace bolero, black skirt and feathered hat; Mrs Geddes, black silk, cream lace fichu, black and orange ribbon bonnet; Miss Cardno, brown; Mrs J. B. White, black, with magenta vest, these two colours combined in the bonnet; Mrs Jefferson, drab cloth coat and skirt, white pique vest finished with Cretan red ribbon, the same coloured ribbon on a gem hat; Mrs Kempthorne, black; Miss Kempthorne, grey skirt, pink blouse, white hat; Mrs Jones, black skirt, crimson and black mixed blouse edged with crimson passementerie, bonnet with pink shaded to crimson carnations; Miss Jones, Erin green cashmere with satin waistband; Mrs Leo Myers, a harmony in buff-slate and pink; Mrs Tewsley, black, green and black silk vest, magenta-tipped bonnet; Mrs Bloomfield, a mixed broche silk, with varying tones of crimson, brown, and bronze-green, black jet and lace-winged bonnet; Miss Rattray, black cashmere, trimmed with silk and jet, toque of brown shades; Miss Cooper, black; Mrs King, two shades of grey, black hat; Mrs Moritzon, speckly green costume, pretty hat with a good deal of veil; Mrs Reed, black skirt, grey blouse, white hat; Mrs John May, black silk, jet and lace trimmings, black hat with tulle and Becamier flowers; Mrs Hazlett, spring costume, I think, of grey; Mrs Hoskings, aluminium grey with passementerie, black jet bonnet; Mrs Fenwick, black, black and white striped bodice, jet bonnet, salmon pink roses; Miss Hilda Wells, black velvet, straw hat; Miss Philips, grey dress, black hat; Miss Hoskings, brown velvet, brown felt hat with feather; Mrs W. Cruickshank, black figured dress, with white under black insertion finishings, black and white bonnet; Miss Bias, dark skirt and coat, white hat; Mrs W. Rattray, dark dress, black hat with coloured flowers and lace, etc., etc. Amongst the many gentlemen I noticed Messrs Thompson, Conolly, Rees George, Stinchbury, Aicken, Thorne, Gittos, etc.

If any ladies' names are omitted from the tea, I can only plead that information was not as plentiful as refreshments.

PONSONBY AT-HOME.

The last dance of the 1897 season of the popular Ponsonby At-Homes took place on Friday evening, and was attended by a larger company than usual, between 60 and 70 partners answering to the call for the opening dance. The Committee had taken even more trouble than usual in their preparations, and Mr Norman Baker, to whom a special meed of praise is due for the manner he has discharged the onerous duty of Secretary during the present season, was most assiduous in his attention to the large company. 'Powder and patches' with fancy dress is the rule for this closing function, and the ladies had conformed to the custom with martyr-like zeal. Some people are not great admirers of this form of adornment, however dear it may have been to the hearts of our great-grandmothers. On a warm evening the powder is apt to be changed into streaks or little muddy rivulets, and the materials usually employed for fancy dress (unless at a great ball, when extravagance may be justifiable), are not always of a very substantial nature. However, the Ponsonby ladies did the best that was possible, and their originality displayed itself in the various costumes, which showed no little ingenuity and taste in their make-up. The supper table was prettily decorated with Nil green silk and vases of hawthorn and arum lilies. Dancing was prolonged by extras till close on 8 o'clock, when the company dispersed, tired, but regretful that another seven

months must elapse before they will have an opportunity of enjoying another similar reunion. Before separating, 'Auld Lang Syne' and 'God Save the Queen' were sung with great enthusiasm.

Mrs Devore, Spanish lady; Mrs Dufaur, pink satin, large black velvet hat with white plumes; Mrs J. R. Hanna looked exceedingly well in yellow satin brocade with black lace applique on skirt and bodice; Mrs Upton, rich black silk gown finished with jet; Mrs Littler, pretty Nil green brocade satin gown; Mrs Collins was very graceful in a lovely white satin gown en traine, low corsage adorned with pearl garniture and lace; Mrs Ralph, black gown, heliotrope silk sleeves, cluster of violet flowers on bodice; Miss Dunnett was distingue in heliotrope satin, brocaded with a design of large white poppies and marguerites; Miss Devore proved a very charming mandolin girl in white dress with vivid red hat, zouave and sash; Mrs W. Morpeth looked dainty in her bridal gown of white silk, chiffon berthe caught with knots of flowers; Mrs Goodwin wore a combination of black and yellow silk; Mrs C. J. Owen, Empire gown of pink mousseline de soie, clusters of pink roses caught in short bodice; Miss Masefield was much admired as a Grecian lady in pink with silver bands; Mrs Hitchcock, black silk, white satin epaulettes; Miss Hooper, cream, with spangled net over sleeves; Mrs Crawshaw, emerald green velvet gown; Miss Aitken (Westland) looked charming in pink satin, square cut corsage outlined with jet, accordeon pleated chiffon surmounted the sleeves; Miss Thomas made a bewitching representative of America in a gown of Stars and Stripes; Miss Kathbone, Carmen; Miss Laird made an attractive Elsie ('Yeoman of the Guard') in black with many-coloured ribbons; Miss Tucker looked pretty as Marguerite with many clusters and trails of that modest flower on her hat and frock; Miss Hickson; Miss Jaggard, white; Miss M. Peacock, yellow silk, gloire de dijon roses nestling on berthe; Miss E. Holland, fancy dress of white, large black velvet hat; Miss Percival made a fascinating Carmen; Miss Kennedy, pink lustre, white chiffon fichu, powder and patches; Miss Butters, rose pink crepon, satin sleeves and long ends; Miss Langford, cream silk, sere-leaf green silk sleeves; Miss Lelia Langford made a pretty gipsy 'ween in black velvet dress, scarlet zouave with profusion of sequins; Miss Kelsner, pink crepon finished with chiffon; Miss Caldwell, yellow gown; Miss Goodwin, white lady, dressed all in white; Miss Winnie Goodwin made a graceful Duchess of Devonshire in black velvet; Miss Vaite was dainty in white silk finished with chiffon and pale pink silk sleeves; Miss Upton, yellow silk, sunray chiffon on low corsage; Miss Atkinson, yellow silk with touches of red; Miss May Whitelaw looked charming in white silk, white lace falling from low bodice; Miss Boyd, pink crepon, clusters of deep red roses on shoulders; Miss Morrin made a sweet peasant girl in white skirt and floral paniers; Miss Raynes' Record Reign was one of the richest and most original fancy costumes in the room; white satin skirt with red satin stripes, blue satin apron and revers with V.R. and 1837-1897; Miss Stephenson, Yvonne; Miss F. Hart made a bright tambourine girl in white with scarlet sash and zouave; Miss Hemus, Queen Victoria, 1837; Miss Martin, white silk; Miss O'Mera, red, white, and blue; Miss Cardno; Miss Berry, Duchess of Devonshire; Miss A. Berry made an interesting representative of the 'Queen's Navee'; Miss Campbell, 'My Sweetheart'; Miss M. Campbell, tambourine girl; Miss Merritt, rose pink silk; Miss K. Merritt, white silk trimmed with Maltese lace; Miss Preece, roseate crepon and white lace; Miss F. Preece; Miss Hill, Swiss peasant girl; Miss B. Bell, Court lady in yellow silk; Miss Haven, pink; Miss Trendell, Grecian lady; Miss K. Morpeth, Bluebell; Miss Hill, pink with silver.

Among the gentlemen were Dr. Parkes, Messrs Dufaur, Hanna, Hatton, Collins, Littler, Jackson Pulmer, De Montalk, Baker, Owen, Langsford, Lawrie, Hewitt, Vaile (3), Hooper, James, Airey, Johnston, V. Masefield, Marriner, Philips, Wilson-Smith, Wyld-Hood, Caldwell, Hemus, Ralph, Shortt, Fleming, Upton, Gwynne, Peacock (2), Holland, Morpeth, Thomson (2), Dawson, Haven, Jourdaine, Cruickshank, Paterson, Cardno, C. Hay, Simpson, Harrison, etc., etc.

One of the

PLEASANTEST DANCES

of the season was given by Mrs Hope Lewis in her charming house, Karangahape Road, last Wednesday evening, the night being just delightful for amusements of this kind. The floor of the ballroom and the music were just perfection. Our admirable hostess had so arranged that ladies and gentlemen were about equal, if anything the gentlemen were in the majority, which saves the useless adornment of wallflowers, which is often in Auckland such a painful sight. Dr. and Mrs Hope Lewis both made ideal host and hostess, introducing the guests, etc., and attending to their comfort in a charming manner that was very much appreciated. A pavilion at the back of the house beautifully decorated with ferns and cabbage trees and enclosed with flags, had seats arranged for sitters out. This 'happy thought' was in much request. Here claret cup with cakes and other light refreshments were dispensed during the whole evening. Other rooms were thrown open for the use of wearied dancers, one upstairs, while downstairs were the drawing-room, Dr. Lewis' consulting room, and the verandah enclosed with canvas, so we had plenty of retreats. The supper table which was simply and sweetly decorated with yellow nasturtiums and buttercups, surrounded with the usual dainty and tasty things one receives at a good house. I do not think I shall be able to give you a brilliant description of gowns, as I was having such a good time myself that I had not any spare moments to note my neighbours' frocks. The honours of belle must be divided between Miss Brabant and Miss Kathleen Thompson. They were both looking very well. Mrs Hope Lewis, pale blue striped moire; Mrs Robert Rose, white brocaded silk; Miss Eva Firth, pink silk, finished with cream lace and pink roses; Mrs Mercer, combination of black and white; Miss Devereux, white silk; Mrs W. Bloomfield, white brocaded silk with bands of silver passementerie; Mrs Alfred Nathan looked well in white silk, with diamond necklet; Miss Ware, eau de Nil shimmering, with pink roses; Miss Pierce, green gown, and her sister, I think, wore blue; Mrs Challinor Purchas, black lace costume relieved with white; Miss J. Reeve, blue gown with black insertion; Miss Fenton, pink silk; Miss — Fenton, blue costume, I think; Miss Brabant, pale canary costume, which suited the wearer admirably; Miss Stevenson, blue silk; Miss Minitt, canary brocade; Miss Churton black; Miss Gillies, white; Miss Wilkins, black; Miss Constance Wilkins, white silk with black velvet bands; Miss M. Thompson, black, and her sister, white; Mrs Buddle, I think wore a canary costume; Miss Kerr Taylor, white; Mrs Greenway; Miss Beatrice Bull, blue with pink roses; Miss K. Isaacs, blue; Mrs Parkes, Purchas, Pabst, Prof. Egerton, Messrs Philson, Fielding, Fenwick, Anderson, Chambers, W. Bloomfield, Mercer, Buddle, Gordon, Rose, Fenton (2), Ridings, Lawford, Alfred Nathan, Gillies, Davaney, etc.

Miss Walker, of Green Hills, Ellerslie, gave a very large

GIRLS' AFTERNOON TEA

last Saturday as a farewell, as on the 27th of this month she will be quietly married by the Rev. W. E. Gillam, at Christ Church, Ellerslie, to Mr McCallum. If the weather had been made to order it could not have been better. The gowns worn by the guests were a delightful mixture of spring and summer, while the trimming of the hats was noted for brilliancy of colouring. On arrival we were received by Miss Walker and her mother in their usual courteous manner. We first made a tour of inspection of all the lovely presents, laid out in a small ante-room, in which, of course, all the guests were very much interested.

A most tempting and tasty afternoon's refreshments we found spread in the large dining-room of trifles, jellies, cakes, sweets, etc. The table decorations of purple crinkly paper, relieved with vases of purple flowers and Banksia roses, was quite a novelty in colouring and a work of art, being the handiwork of our little hostess, and which brought forth many expressions of admiration. The Italian band discoursed sweet strains during the first part of the day in the hall, and the latter part on the lawn, where the guests wandered about, listening to the entrancing music

or admiring the pretty flowers round the garden. The cynosure of every eye was the arch at the entrance door, covered with a beautiful and rare pinky cream rose creeper in full blossom, which made many break the tenth commandment.

Miss Tilly's rich contralto voice was heard to much advantage, as it floated over the lawn, stopping the girls' gay chatter, and they immediately clustered round the window. Other songs by Misses Mabel and Kate Hay, Dolly Walker, and Edna Bell, were also very much appreciated.

Amongst those present I noticed, Rev. W. E. Gillam, Mr R. Walker; Miss Gypsy Walker looked very pretty in white pique skirt, primrose taffeta silk blouse, finished with cream lace, latest style of white sailor hat; Miss Dolly Walker, green serge trimmed with velvet; the two youngest daughters looked dainty in pink muslins, finished with white lace; Mrs Walker, rich black mirror silk, relieved with black lace; Mrs Harter, electric blue, with ecru lace; Miss Wyld-Brown, dark skirt, pink silk blouse, black hat, with shaded pink roses; Miss A. Wyld-Brown, white pique skirt, striking spring green silk blouse, finished with chiffon; Miss Reay, dark skirt, striped black and white silk blouse, large black hat, with feathers; Miss McCallum, fawn tweed, with yoke and sleeves of lighter shade, cape sleeves; Mrs Forbes, dark skirt, pink blouse; Miss Cashel (Sydney), black and white striped zephyr, black hat; Miss Cawwell, dark skirt, light blouse; Miss Johnson, also in the green flowered silk, hat with blue convolvulus; Miss Nolan, dark costume; Miss Mitchellson, dark green costume; Miss Leece, shaded grey costume; Miss Hickson, navy; Miss Edna Bell, black; Miss Bailey, black; Miss Taylor, black; Miss Hesketh, dark grey skirt and coat style; and her sister, black skirt and satin blouse; white point lace, white sailor hat; Miss Elliot, black, with vest of pink and black chiffon; Miss Martin, grey check; Miss Morrin, riding habit; Misses Kerr-Taylor, white flannelettes; Miss Worsp, brown tailor-made costume; Miss D. Worsp, crushed strawberry lustre, trimmed with green; Miss Cotter, fawn tailor-made gown, with variegated chiffon tie, a Sydney hat of brown straw, relieved with rose pink ribbons; Miss Tilly, chocolate silk; Miss Pittar, navy; Miss Hay, pale blue flowered taffeta silk, trimmed with green velvet, toque, with flowers; Miss Kate Hay, violet serge, with lace applique, large hat, with floral decorations. I have only been able to mention half who were present, as I did not know the names of the rest.

Mrs Andrew Hanna, of Remuera, gave a small but very enjoyable

DANCE

on Friday evening last. Dancing was kept up with great spirit until about 12.30. A very recherche supper was laid out in the dining-room. The table decorations were very pretty and consisted chiefly of nasturtiums and grasses, with a high standing lamp in the centre of the table. Mrs Hanna wore a pretty grey satin blouse with a black satin skirt; Miss Jackson, pale blue blouse, black skirt; Miss Rose Jackson looked well in pink; Miss C. Jackson, white; Miss Cotter, pale yellow silk; Miss W. Cotter, cream; Misses Morrin (2) both wore white silk frocks; Miss M. Dargaville, white; Miss D. Hay, blue; Miss Ruddock, pretty flowered silk; Misses Gorrie (2) white silks; Misses MacFarlane (2), one in white and the other in blue; Miss Fenwick, white, etc. Messrs Hanna, Cotter, Tonks, Dargaville, Morrin (3), Tilly, Ware, Fenwick, Pritt, Whewell, Waymouth, Ruddock, Devereux, Nolan, etc., were some of the gentlemen present.

THE REMUERA BOWLING GREEN

was opened on Saturday afternoon last. There was a large number of bowlers present, also a large number of ladies. Messdames Dowell, Hardie, Finlayson, and Boddle entertained the visitors to a very sumptuous afternoon tea. The Italian band was in attendance and gave some very pretty selections during the afternoon. Amongst the ladies present were:— Mrs Beatty, green tweed costume; Mrs Hardie, handsome black satin; Mrs Williams, black; Mrs Pritt, black serge, large black hat; Mrs Heywood, black silk; Miss Heywood, grey costume; Mrs Finlayson, heliotrope; Mrs Jas. Russell, brown; the Misses Russell were similarly attired in fawn costumes; Mrs R. Boddle, pale blue

blouse, black skirt; Mrs F. Bodle, brown relieved with blue; Miss Stevenson, navy serge costume; Mrs Bold, black silk; Mrs K. Rose, grey tweed; Mrs MacMillan, handsome shot silk; Misses MacMillan, one in pink and one in blue; Miss Pickmere, fawn; Mrs Hay, black silk; Miss N. Hay, navy costume; Mrs Foster, green; Miss W. Cotter looked very stylish in a green cloth costume, sailor hat; Miss Carr, grey; Miss Cochrane, green, hat to match; Mrs Brown, handsome green silk, black bonnet relieved with white; Mrs Shera, navy; Miss Lennox, navy serge, black sailor hat; Miss Hardie looked well in a simple print dress, white sailor hat; Mrs Carr, electric blue cloth trimmed with fur; Mrs Payton, brown silk; Mrs Gamble, black; Mrs N. Gamble, blue blouse, black skirt; Mrs Ranson, blue serge; Mrs Cotter looked handsome in stylish mourning costume; Mrs Ching, stylish blue and white costume; Miss Ching, navy serge; and a large number of others whose names I did not know.

I paid a flying call at the combined studio of Signor Nerli and Mr Douglas Perrett, who have issued invitations to visit their artistic premises from Monday to Thursday this week. Some of the pictures are very pretty, including paintings and studies by pupils, several of which are extremely good. Signor Nerli has been happy in his figure painting, his pictures being chiefly heads, one of Miss Ireland and one of Miss Jessie Reid being very good. Mr Douglas Perrett is exhibiting pretty pastels, also a charming oil painting near Dunedin, with sundry other pictures.

Mrs Osmond's

FANCY DRESS BALL

for her adult pupils on Tuesday night was a great success. The hall was beautifully hung with flags, Japanese fans, etc. The march, which was led by Miss Connolly and Mr R. Bach, was very well done and looked extremely pretty, the costumes being very varied and lovely.

Some fancy dances were gone through during the evening, the French cotillon being especially admired. The supper, which was an excellent one, of every variety of jellies, trifles, cakes, etc., was much appreciated. The tables were prettily decorated with the Jubilee colours, red, white, and blue.

Burke's band supplied excellent music.

Mrs Osmond looked well in a black net dress trimmed with moonlight beads; Mrs Calder, powder and patches, a charming blue brocaded and pale pink silk, with diamond ornaments; Mrs Connolly wore a blue shot silk dress; Mrs Hanna, black satin trimmed with pink brocaded silk; Mrs Rainey, grey silk with sequin trimmings; Mrs Carder, a delightful combination of black and grey silk; Mrs E. Bedford, powder and patches, a nice black silk with a cream lace fichu; Mrs Bach wore brown satin; Mrs Raynes, a handsome black silk; Mrs Stichebury, black lace and silk; Mrs Gillett, black satin; Mrs Bell, black lace; Miss Harrison, grey silk; Miss Osmond, a modern Lady Teazle; Miss Connolly made a delightful Carmen; Miss M. Raynes, evening star, a white satin covered with silver stars; Miss Odum looked very well as Tessa; Miss Carder, gay as harvest; Miss L. Williams, sweet Juliet; Miss J. Yates, Nancy Lee; Miss Hanna, a gipsy countess, a lovely black velvet, red brocaded silk; Miss Raynes, cream, bordered with gold, Grecian lady; Miss L. Baker, dark blue satin skirt, white blouse, as Tessa; Miss Rainey looked well as red white and blue; Miss Stichebury made a graceful Duchess of Devonshire; Miss L. Vouden made a splendid Samoan princess; Miss E. Hanna, French belle; Miss A. Brigham, a picture after Sir Joshua Reynolds; Miss Oswald, yachting costume; Miss A. Mackenzie, Christmas; Miss V. Francis, Portia; Miss Gillett, white silk with lace; Miss Williams, white lace; Miss Hudson, pale pink silk; Miss C. Bach, skirt dancer; Miss Simpson, simple white dress; Miss Campbell, pretty cream dress relieved with red roses; Miss I. Bach, blue with lace trimmings; Miss Stuart, cream; Miss Wilson, white lace; Miss F. Hudson, blue silk; Miss S. Campbell, green with satin sleeves; Miss Trendall, white silk with lace; Miss I. Bowring, green; Miss Merritt, white silk; Miss Bach, pink crepon and silk dress; Miss Sloane, white relieved with pink roses; Miss P. G. Clare made a lovely

baby; Miss F. C. Clare looked well as sweet 17; Miss Bell, games; Miss Giltter, French officer; Miss Bowring, fortune teller; Miss M. Baker looked well as a Cachucha girl; Mr R. Bach, British admiral; Mr G. Stokes, Roman centurion; Mr C. Connolly, Dutch peasant; Mr P. Upton, tennis; Mr B. Calder, College Cadet; Mr B. Rainey, sailor; Mr S. Skeates, gondolier; Mr Booth, midshipman; Mr W. Haven, a Frenchman; Mr G. Rainey, yachting costume; Mr J. Caldwell, tennis; Mr B. Osmond, Spanish hildago; Mr W. Macindoe, cricketer; Mr Leyland, tennis; Mr Montgomery, officer; Messrs Stephenson (2), Allen, A. M. Paterson, Arey, Finch, Johnson, Rylance (2) Madill, Gilbert, J. Mackenzie, Dye, V. Masefeld, H. Haven, Baker, Povey, Sands, Oswald, etc., etc.

A brilliant and very enjoyable function took place at the beautiful seaside residence of Mrs Ralph, Waitemata-street, Mount St. Mary, Ponsonby, on Tuesday last. The invitations indicated

'CARDS, MUSIC, AND DANCING.'

and as one who is rather weary of the monotony and sometimes rather unpleasant rivalry of progressive euche, I hail with pleasure a diversion in favour of more artistic entertainments, giving play for greater originality in their arrangement. No doubt such a programme is more troublesome to the hostess and requires a good deal of tact to carry it through effectively, but when well done, the result repays the effort. Mrs Ralph's musical evenings are always successful, and the items on the present occasion were particularly choice. The chief reception room is a very fine salon, at least 40 feet long, overlooking the sea, and opening out on a balcony from which a splendid view is obtainable of the harbour, the wharf, and shipping lights and the city spread over the uplands rising from the margin of the bay to the encircling ridge. All the rooms were illuminated with incandescent lamps, and the balcony was lit up with Chinese lanterns. The music room looked lovely draped in olive green and gold hangings. The walls were covered with pictures, panels of bevelled glass and musical objects, viz., lyres, tambourines, and wall pockets, all appropriate to a music room. The flower decorations consisted of arum lilies and pampas grasses. There were between 40 and 50 guests, who were received by the hostess in the music room. Mrs Ralph wore a black lace gown with heliotrope silk sleeves. About half the guests, electing to play euche, passed on to the drawing-room where six tables were ready. Here they could enjoy the musical items in the adjacent room without interruption to their games. Vocal and instrumental pieces were contributed by Mesdames Ralph and Johnston, the Misses Tole (2), Lynch (2), Whitsted, and Darby, and Messrs Ralph and Adams. At 10 o'clock every one adjourned to supper, consisting of all kinds of light delicacies. The table decorations were sea-foam green crinkled paper, pink roses and grasses, which really looked very pretty. After supper dancing commenced with 'Mr Polly' waltz, which was played by Miss Rita Tole on the piano, Mrs Ralph on the harp, and Mr Ralph on the violin. The company dispersed about midnight, after a most enjoyable evening.

Mr and Mrs Devore, Mr and Mrs Collins, Mr and Mrs Cussen, Mr and Mrs C. Owen, Mr and Mrs Hanna, Miss Devore, Mrs Crawshaw, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Bedford, Misses Langsford (2), Misses Tole (3), Mrs McCabe and son, Miss McCabe, Misses Lynch (2), Misses Darby (2), Mr Darby, Mr Baker, Mr Phillips, Miss Phillips, Messrs Marriner Thomson, Shera, Smales, Carrigan, Lewis, Misses Hobbs, Matthews, Carrigan, Stanton, Lewis, Mrs Owen and Mr Owen.

On the following evening (Wednesday) Mrs Ralph entertained a large and merry company of

JUVENILES

at a dance at which the excellent rule of an early start and reasonable close were observed. Dancing began at 7.30 and was kept up with spirit till 11 p.m., with an interval for supper at half-past nine. Besides the usual dances, the minuet and cachucha were very prettily performed. The large ball-room afforded abundant space for the dances, and the children evidently spent a very happy time. Among the young people present were:—Misses Devore (2), Hanna, Hickson

(2), Margaret Tole, Eileen Tole, Nelly Tole, Margaretta Tole, Crawshaw (2), Cussen (3), Harris (2), Lynch, Carrigan, Hilda Johnson, Masters T. Devore, Hanna (2), Jack Tole, Haven, Bedford (2), Carrigan, Johnston.

OPERA HOUSE DRESSES.

All the ladies at the Opera House on Monday night were enthusiastic in their admiration of Miss Alma Stanley's exquisite gowns worn in 'My Friend from India.' Her first costume was the early Victorian style, a black gown with several net flounces on skirt to meet a wide design of white lace applique, and the usual poke bonnet trimmed with pink ribbons, such as our grandmothers used to wear. In the second act Miss Stanley wore a lovely heliotrope silk gown with a brocaded design of butterflies on the skirt, frosted with spangles, bolero bodice of orchid mauve velvet, black ceinture, a very stylish white lace hat profusely trimmed with roses of the same colour resting on her hair, and erect clusters at the back. She looked lovely in her third gown which was white silk spangled all over with a quaint design in silver sequins, which certainly set off her graceful figure. Her jewellery consisted of a magnificent coronet of diamonds and diamond necklace and bracelets. The handsome mantle worn with this elegant dress, was of heliotrope silk brocaded with white flowers. Among the audience I noted:—Mrs (Dr.) King, cream chine silk with touches of apple green silk; Mrs W. Bloomfield, black brocade and soft black net; Mrs Thorne George, black, covered with sequin net; Miss Ida Thorne George, white silk skirt, pink satin corsege profusely trimmed with cream Maltese lace, posies of violets; Mrs Blair, green silk, trimmed with narrow black lace; Miss Cheeseman, black satin, ecru lace bolero, and round low corsage; Mrs Hope Lewis, black evening dress; Mrs Rainger (nee Miss Brett), white silk; Mrs Porter, viene rose silk theatre blouse, dark skirt; Miss Porter, soft white frock; Mrs Houghton, velvet gown trimmed with ecru lace; Miss Earl, pink silk with white lace deftly arranged on bodice; Mrs Mercer, white silk, black velvet sleeves; Mrs A. P. Wilson, grey Ottoman silk, white lace fichu; Mrs Reznagel, pink and black stripe silk blouse, dark skirt; Mrs Walnutt, pink silk blouse; Miss Langsford, pink silk; Mrs Hansen, pink silk veiled with black net; Mrs Buddle, combination of yellow and black; Mrs Tewsley in pink silk, etc., etc.

What was a genuine

SURPRISE PARTY

took place on Thursday night, the surprised ones being Mr and Mrs A. H. White, of Epsom. The secret had been well kept till within an hour or so of the arrival of the guests, when Mr and Mrs White were informed of the honour which awaited them. The originators were Miss Little and Miss Otway, and the idea was well taken up by about 30 people. The evening was devoted to progressive euche, seven tables being arranged for this fascinating game. A very enjoyable time was spent; the prizes and supper were very good, and the merry party dispersed in excellent spirits.

A nice account of the girls' tea at the Grammar School reached me after we had gone to print last week, so I insert it to-day, hoping that all correspondents will remember that news must be sent in by noon on Monday.

The present girls of the school gave an afternoon tea to former pupils of the girls' side. The large hall of the school was transformed into a drawing-room by means of draperies, ferns, and bowls of flowers, all charmingly arranged, while the forms were replaced by chairs placed in sociable groups. The piano was on a raised stand near the centre of the hall, and musical items were rendered during the afternoon: piano solos by Misses Myers and Anderson, songs by Misses Armstrong, Dudley, Aiekin, Adams, and Pickmere, an instrumental trio by Misses Myers, Trevithick, and Rice, and a mandolin solo by Miss H. Fountain.

The tea was served in one of the class-rooms, and the decorations of the tables, which were entirely the work of the girls, were much admired. There were five tables, each with its own colour, the most noticeable being the centre one, a study in reds. That decorated with lilac also deserves notice, as well as one with tall glasses

of cream roses and small bowls of yellow and purple pansies.

Nearly two hundred 'old girls' were present during the afternoon, all pleased to renew old friendships with each other and the masters and mistresses of the school.

PHYLLIS BROYNE.

PAEROA.

Dear Bee, October 23.
Professor Paltridge and the members of his gymnastic class gave a very

ENJOYABLE ENTERTAINMENT in the Theatre on Tuesday evening, a portion of the proceeds going towards the Church of England Sunday School. There was a small but very enthusiastic audience. The Professor is to be congratulated on the efficiency of his pupils.

On Friday the Presbyterians gave a really

GOOD CONCERT

to a full house. Considering there are such a number of entertainments in a small place like this it is wonderful how on an average they are so well attended. The concert included an excellent programme of musical items, the orchestra playing 'Les Fleurs d'Australie' especially well. Mr Kreutzer was also heard to great advantage in his rendering of the violin solo 'Silvia.' The Madrigal 'Rose Queen,' in which five ladies and five gentlemen took part, in character, was very pretty. It was surprising where all the roses with which they strewed the stage came from. There were some pretty dresses worn, both by the performers and audience. Among the former Miss Freydel looked very pretty in a becoming blouse of pink surah silk, dark skirt; Mrs Burgess, shot silk blouse, black silk skirt; Mrs Mackay, grey costume, trimmed with velvet and passementerie; Mrs Harston, the able pianiste, black Ottoman silk; the lady members of the orchestra, as usual, wore white; Miss Fletcher, pink blouse.

Among the audience I noticed Mrs Edwin Edwards in a black crepon skirt, pretty shot silk blouse; Mrs Stevenson, black silk bolero, grey and white striped silk blouse, black silk skirt; Mrs R. T. Bush, black satin, relieved with lovely silk Maltese lace; her sister looked stylish in a pink and white muslin blouse, with a white crush belt, dark skirt; Mrs Sullivan, black, trimmed with watered silk, white vest; Mrs Bunskill, black; Mrs Bastings, dark tweed, trimmed very effectively with peacock blue plush; Mrs Wilk, stylish fawn tailor-made gown; Mrs Kreutzer, black; Miss Anderson, black skirt, striped blue and white blouse; Mrs De Castro, fawn checked crepon, relieved with white; Mrs Hanna; Mrs Pratt, black; Miss Buchanan; Mrs Lawless looked very handsome in a red velvet blouse and a black satin skirt; Mrs Pratt, stylish black costume; Mrs Orr, black silk; and many others.

We are all looking forward to the Bachelors' Ball, which comes off next Thursday, and promises, from all accounts, to be a big success. Granted fine weather there should be a great number there.—DORIS.

WELLINGTON.

October, 22nd.

The ball given at Government House on Friday by the Governor and Lady Ranfurly was a most brilliant one. I do not think that the walls of the ball-room, staircase, etc., ever had so much attention before. They were most beautifully decorated, and when dancing you could almost imagine you were in fairy-land, surrounded with flowers. The walls were completely hidden by Arum lilies, and at each corner were huge nikau palm fronds that drooped their weary but graceful heads across the ceiling, forming a sort of arch. The mantelpiece was also heaped up with Arum lilies, while the underneath was filled with growing ferns. Each side of the staircase was intertwined with yellow broom and willow trails, and on going up this prettily decorated pathway we found ourselves in a corridor which was made comfortable for 'sitting out' with armchairs and sofas, and at intervals were small tables daintily decorated with flowers and glass dishes of sweets, with which one could while away a few minutes very happily. At the end of this corridor tea, coffee, ices of various kinds, and cakes were served, and were duly appreciated. The roomy verandah was also made comfortable, and was carpeted with a handsome red carpet,

and chairs and lounges of all sizes and shapes were placed in two's here and there, while brightly-coloured flags were draped over head, and pot-plants filled up the corners and crevices, adding greatly to the tout ensemble.

In the reception-room I noticed some handsome pots of flowering azaleas, also other beautiful and delicate hot-house plants. The conservatory was a charming sight, and was very much in demand. Supper was kept going from half-past ten o'clock, and this time it was most temptingly laid on many small tables to accommodate four persons. The same plan of only a certain number of people being in at a time was adopted; and I still think it a very unsatisfactory one, though, of course, it is very enjoyable for the lucky ones who gain their entrance, but I know that on this occasion, as well as on the previous one, many did not even get in the supper-room. I suppose they really could have if they had preferred waiting at the door, which was carefully guarded by the butler, instead of dancing. Naturally, those who are fond of dancing, would rather go hungry instead of missing even one dance. The floor was not very satisfactory, but at the end began to improve, while the music, which was supplied by Minifie's String Band of four performers, was excellent. There were twenty dances on the programme, the Washington Post being one of the number. The latter is a very pretty and graceful dance when performed well; but, like all other dances, wants practice.

Shortly after ten o'clock, when all the guests had assembled, Lord and Lady Ranfurly, accompanied by Captain Alexander and Lady Constance Knox, entered the hall to the strains of the National Anthem. The first dance then started. His Excellency dancing with Lady Douglas, and Lady Ranfurly with Sir Arthur Douglas.

Her Ladyship was beautifully attired in a rich black satin gown, with short sleeves, caught with black velvet bands. There was very little trimming on the bodice, but I noticed some magnificent diamond and emerald ornaments on the corsage, glistening among some fine black lace, and on her head she wore a beautiful diamond tiara; Lady Constance Knox looked very nice in a lettuce green liberty silk frock, flounced at the hem and on the bodice with white lace, and tied at the waist with a sash of the same shade of green. There were a greater number of guests present on this occasion than on the last. Among them I noticed Mrs Seddon, wearing a handsome black satin gown, frosted with jet sequins, the bodice being softened with white chiffon; the Misses Seddon were both wearing pretty white silk dresses, the bodices made in pouch fashion and daintily tucked and run with bebe ribbon; Lady Douglas, handsome black velvet gown, with broad hanging revers of white satin; Miss Douglas looked nice in a white silk dress, veiled with net, with a deep flounce round the hem, through which was run many rows of narrow satin ribbon; the bodice was prettily trimmed with white flowers and finished at the waist with a sash of white satin; Lady Buckley was wearing a rich jetted gown of black satin, finished with chiffon; Mrs Barron, black velvet, with old lace on the bodice; Miss Barron, sky blue silk, with fichu of chiffon to match, caught with a bunch of scarlet roses; Miss E. Barron, cream silk, with berthe of cream lace; Mrs Biss, pretty gown of mauve figured silk, with fine coffee lace and mauve poppies on the bodice; Mrs Barclay, handsome black velvet-trimmed gown, with fichu of white lace; Miss Barclay, white silk, with mauve ribbon sash; Miss Coleridge, lemon figured silk gown; Miss L. Coleridge, white brocade, with ruches of chiffon on the bodice; Miss Bell (Nelson), black silk, with epaulettes of deep pink velvet; Miss Davy, soft white silk and lace; Miss Elliott, white silk, the bodice very much trimmed with white chiffon; Miss W. Elliott, also wore white silk and chiffon; Mrs Fancourt, handsome black silk gown, with fichu of lace; Miss Fancourt, black satin; Mrs Fitzherbert, black, silk, the bodice trimmed with jet passementerie and white chiffon; Miss Fitzherbert, white corded silk, with chiffon sleeves; Mrs Goring, cream satin, with pink roses and lace on the bodice; Mrs Gore, handsome black brocade trimmed gown, finished with jet and chiffon; Miss Gore, white Ottoman silk, with full sleeves of white chiffon; Mrs

Harding, a handsome gown of black and white brocade; the Misses Harding, in white silk dresses, with pretty soft lace on the bodices; Mrs (Dr.) Henry, cream satin, trimmed with pearl passementerie and pretty lace; Miss Henry was looking nice in a pale pink silk gown, with epaulettes of lace; Mrs Hislop, black velvet, with white lace fichu; Miss Hislop, blue silk, the bodice prettily trimmed with embroidered chiffon; Mrs Izard, handsome black silk, with old lace on the bodice; Miss Izard's dress was, I think, one of the prettiest in the room, being of white spotted chine silk, the bodice composed of beautiful white accordion chiffon, caught at the waist with an Empire belt of satin ribbon; Mrs Longdon, in a cream satin gown, with chiffon and scarlet roses on the bodice; Miss McKenzie, pink satin, trimmed with chiffon to match; Mrs Maxwell, handsome black velvet gown, trimmed with beaver and old lace; Mrs Menteth, white satin, the bodice trimmed with lilies of the valley and eoru lace; Mrs Purdy, handsome black moire, with black sequined chiffon on the bodice; Mrs Pynsent, handsome mauve satin gown, the bodice trimmed with a darker shade of velvet and delicate lace; Mrs Quick, claret satin gown; Miss Quick, black satin, relieved with yellow; Miss D. Quick, cream satin and chiffon; Mrs Captain Rose was wearing a handsome black velvet gown, with sleeves and panels of grey brocade, and the bodice was trimmed with lovely lace; Miss Rose, pale yellow silk, trimmed with embroidered chiffon to match; Miss A. Rose, green figured silk, with panels of white satin, under jetted lace; Miss Richardson, stone grey velvet, with bands of beaver over the shoulder, and epaulettes of deep white lace; Mrs Rhodes, black satin, handsomely embroidered with jet, and she wore scarlet flowers on the bodice; Mrs Riddiford was wearing a very pretty and uncommon pale green brocade gown, with a little lace on the bodice; Miss Richmond, a very stylish salmon pink mervelleux, with epaulettes of violet velvet and bunches of violets on the bodice and in the hair; Mrs Rawson, heliotrope silk, trimmed with a figured chiffon and passementerie; Mrs Malcolm Ross, grey satin gown, with sleeves of velvet to match, and trimmed with pink roses; Mrs Reynolds, handsome black silk gown; Mrs Reynolds, white silk, with frilled sleeves of the same, and lace on the bodice; Miss Reid, white silk, with Zouave of blue silk, embroidered with pearls; Miss Medley, pale pink brocade, trimmed with white lace; Miss Graham (Dunedin), pink figured silk; Miss Heywood, pale pink surah silk, with fine white lace on the bodice; Miss Fairchild, black silk, relieved with yellow silk; Miss N. Fairchild, a pompadour silk gown, prettily trimmed with green chiffon; Miss Rose, white silk, with revers of the same, embroidered with silver, and bunches of lilies of the valley on the shoulder; Miss Ross, a pretty white satin gown, with deep lace on the bodice; Mrs Simpson, black silk, trimmed with black and white embroidered chiffon; Miss Simpson, soft white silk and chiffon; Miss K. Skerrett, green figured silk, prettily trimmed with lace and passementerie to match; Miss J. Skerrett, a pretty white and yellow brocade, the bodice trimmed with pearl embroidery; Mrs Seed, handsome black silk gown; the Misses Seed, cream silk, trimmed with chiffon to match; Mrs Stowe, green figured silk, trimmed with chiffon; Miss Stowe, pale pink satin; Mrs Stafford was wearing a handsome moonlight blue satin gown; Miss Stafford, white satin with sleeves of spotted net; Mrs Samuelli, sage green brocade, trimmed with passementerie to match; Mrs A. Smith, black satin, the bodice trimmed with scarlet velvet; Mrs Young, black silk, with old lace on the bodice; Miss Young, a pretty gown of sky blue silk, trimmed with chiffon to match; Mrs Tolhurst, handsome black velvet and silk gown, trimmed with lace and jet; the Misses Tolhurst were wearing dainty dresses of white satin, trimmed with chiffon and delicate white flowers; Miss Tripe, pretty and becoming black satin dress, the bodice finished with satin and trimmed with pink roses; Miss Willis, pink silk, with rucked sleeves of chiffon to match; her sister looked nice in a soft white silk gown, trimmed with lace and satin ribbon; Mrs (Judge) Williams, (Dunedin), a stylish black satin gown with bodice of white chiffon, trimmed

with jet; Miss Williams, white brocade, trimmed with pearl embroidery and chiffon; Mrs T. Wilford looked well in a black satin gown, with long rucked sleeves of black chiffon; Miss K. Wilford, white brocade, prettily finished with frills of chiffon; Mrs Watson (Canterbury), a handsome cream satin gown, the bodice trimmed with pearls and handsome lace; Miss M. Burnett, pale blue silk with berthe of white lace; Mrs Herries (Tauranga), a beautiful white brocade-trimmed gown trimmed with handsome passementerie and lace; Mrs H. B. Williams, red satin, with coffee lace on the bodice; Miss Watkins, a pretty white satin dress effectively trimmed with chiffon frills; Miss Blakeney was wearing an exceedingly pretty gown of sea green satin, with sleeves of accordion chiffon to match, and a little delicate lace was draped across the front of the bodice; Miss Buchanan (Akaroa), white silk and lace; Miss Fitzroy (Hawke's Bay), a pretty and simple dress of white satin, the bodice trimmed, silver spangled lace; Mrs MacIntyre, mauve brocade trimmed with light coffee lace and passementerie; Mrs MacGregor, a handsome black silk gown; Miss MacGregor, black satin trimmed with jet and chiffon; Miss S. MacGregor, white satin with full-frilled sleeves of chiffon; Mrs Macpherson, a very pretty cream satin gown, with a panel on the skirts of fine chiffon flounces, white pearls and chiffon framed, the trimming on the bodice; Miss Hamilton, black silk, with fichu of white lace; Miss Kingwood, white satin with pink flowers on the bodice; Mrs Mostayer, black silk; Miss Mostayer, cream silk with berthe of white lace; Mrs Haselden, a handsome gown of white brocade trimmed with bead fringe and lace; Miss Partrick, black silk trimmed with yellow; Miss Mackellar, a pretty pale blue silk gown trimmed with chiffon to match.

Among the gentlemen I noticed Sir Robert Stout, Sir Arthur Douglas, Mr Wason, M.H.R.; Mr Montgomery, M.H.R.; Captain Russell, M.H.R.; Major Madocks, and the Messrs Macpherson, MacGregor, Samuelli, Costes, Riddiford, Quick, Maxwell, Walter, Longdon, Barclay, Izard, Simpson, Rawson, Gore, Pearce, Harcourt, Cooper, Malcolm Ross, Duncan, Fitzherbert, Seed, Reid, Watkins, Rolleston, Anson, Robison, Huller, Jackson, Branfill, Tolhurst, Richardson, Richmond, Tripe, Herris, Luckie, Burnes, Young, Johnston, Higginson, Goring, Skerrett, Dr. Purdy, Dr. Henry, Dr. Martin, Dr. Fyfe, and many others. I must now tell you about the delightful

AT-HOME

given on Thursday afternoon by Mrs Wallace MacKenzie at her beautiful new house in Upper Willis-street. The whole house was thrown open, so that the guests could wander about and see all the pretty rooms. During the afternoon King's string band of four performers played musical selections upstairs. A delicious tea was laid in the dining-room, and also in a room upstairs. The table in the dining-room was very prettily decorated with yellow silk and numbers of glass vases of tulips, while the table was laden with all kinds of tempting cakes, sandwiches, sweets, etc. The table in the other tea-room was artistically decorated with lilac. A few ladies were helping Mrs MacKenzie to entertain her many guests, namely, Mrs (Dr.) Ewart, Mrs Hutchison (Taranaki), and the Misses Tuckey, MacGregor, and Rawson. The drawing-room was a mass of most beautiful flowers; in fact, every room was adorned with flowers. There were about 200 guests present. Mrs MacKenzie received in a handsome black silk gown, the bodice being of white silk veiled with black chiffon and trimmed with jet; Mr (Dr.) Ewart, pretty black silk gown trimmed with jet; Mrs Hutchison was also wearing black silk and lace; Lady Stout, neat brown tailor-made costume, and felt hat with wings to match; Mrs Adams, green costume and floral toque; Mrs Butts was wear-

ing a black and white costume; Mrs Ashcroft, black silk gown and mantle, and black bonnet with yellow roses; Miss Ashcroft, light brown dress, and straw hat to match trimmed with wings; Mrs Barron, black silk trimmed with white satin under jet, and pretty jewelled bonnet; Mrs Ian Duncan, handsome green glaze silk dress, with lace collar, and pretty hat to match, with chiffon and two shades of green velvet roses; Mrs Grace, handsome dark green costume; Mrs Bothamely, very handsome black silk gown trimmed with beautiful jet embroidery and black bonnet with pink flowers; Mrs Barclay, black and white costume; Mrs Fulton, dark brown cloth costume and pretty yellow floral bonnet; Lady Hector, grey gown trimmed with brocaded silk to match, and black and red bonnet; Mrs G. Hutchison, black jacket and skirt, and white straw hat with wings; Mrs Knight, fawn tailor-made costume, and black hat with blue ribbon and cornflowers; Mrs Haselden, black costume, black hat with tips and pink flowers; Mrs Leckie, black silk gown and cape and black bonnet with white flowers and ospreys; Mrs Miles, a handsome green canvas gown trimmed with passementerie and bonnet with green and pink flowers; Mrs Rose, black crepon trimmed with jet and very pretty green bonnet with lilies of the valley and lace; Mrs Rhodes, handsome black silk gown and cape frilled with pleated chiffon and black and violet bonnet; Mrs Reynolds (Dunedin), black gown and cape trimmed with jet and bonnet trimmed with mauve poppies; Miss Reynolds, grey jacket and skirt and white hat with ribbon bows; Mrs Rawson, neat blue tailor-made costume and becoming black and red toque; Mrs Malcolm Ross, blue serge Eton costume and boat-shaped hat with ribbon and quills; Mrs Rhind, black jacket and skirt and violet bonnet; Mrs Simpson, green jacket and skirt and pretty mauve bonnet; Mrs Stafford, green canvas dress trimmed with passementerie, and pink and black bonnet; Miss Stafford, fawn dress and pretty white hat with bright blue ribbon bows; Mrs Samuel, violet costume trimmed with velvet and sparkling passementerie, and pretty bonnet to match; Mrs Tuckey, black costume; Miss Tuckey, green lustre, with a vest of cream chiffon; Mrs Travers, neat black tailor-made costume and vest of pink silk, becoming pink and black hat; Miss Bell, black dress, green velvet cape, black hat with feathers; Mrs Tripe, black satin gown and cape, and pretty black bonnet with white tips; Miss Tripe, a neat grey costume; Mrs Milward, blue braided costume, black hat with white tips; Miss Dransfield, black jacket and skirt, and black hat with pink ribbon and roses; Mrs Denniston, black costume; Miss Harcourt, blue serge, white sailor hat; Miss Gore, navy blue tailor-made suit, and bright pink hat; Miss Cox (Christchurch), grey jacket and skirt and white sailor hat; the Misses Harding wore black costumes and white sailor hats; Miss MacGregor, grey costume, and straw hat to match trimmed with striped ribbon, etc., etc.

It turned out a fine day for the opening of the

THORNDON BOWLING GREEN

last Saturday afternoon. There was a large attendance of both ladies and gentlemen. Delicious afternoon tea and cakes were provided by Mrs Grace (wife of the president of the club), who was assisted by her daughter and other ladies. The tea table was prettily decorated with Arum lilies. A few who were present were Mrs Grace, who was wearing a stylish green costume; Miss Grace, in blue serge and a burnt straw hat trimmed with black chiffon and lilies of the valley; Mrs Knight, fawn tailor made costume and burnt straw hat, with black tips; Mrs Marchbanks, neat green costume and straw hat to match, trimmed with pink and green roses; Mrs A. Smith, blue tailor made suit, black hat with yellow flowers and lace; Mrs Waldergrave, fawn costume, and very pretty green

INDIGESTION
SPEEDILY CURED BY Condyl's Fluid.

Book of Directions and Physicians' Reports on every bottle. Sold Everywhere. Insist on buying "CONDY'S FLUID."
CONDY & MITCHELL, of LONDON, ENGLAND, are the Sole Manufacturers.

straw toque with yellow roses and lace; Mrs Stafford, black silk gown and pink bonnet; Miss Stafford, dark skirt, shot silk blouse and burnt straw hat with black and pink ribbon bows; Mrs Edwards, green canvas over yellow silk, the bodice trimmed with black chiffon, and toque of pink roses and ribbon; Miss Edwards was wearing a black velvet skirt and silk crepon bodice, burnt straw hat with black tips; Mrs Maxwell, black costume and bright pink bonnet; Mrs Murison, fawn jacket and skirt, and white sailor hat; Lady Douglas, black crepon gown, velvet jetted cape, and pretty black and pink bonnet; Mrs Fisher, black striped silk gown and lace cape, black bonnet with yellow roses; Mrs Quick, brown corded silk, trimmed with black and yellow lace, green bonnet; Mrs Brown, black costume; Mrs Janisch, black jacket and skirt, and bright red waistcoat, covered with ecru lace, burnt straw toque with red roses; Mrs Montgomery (Wanganui), brown costume and black and yellow bonnet; Mrs Litchfield, violet shot lustre costume and stylish bonnet to match; Mrs Samuel, green jacket and skirt, and felt hat to match, trimmed with velvet and wings; Mrs B. Wilson, blue jacket and skirt and white sailor hat; Miss Rose, a white costume; Miss E. Rose, blue spotted muslin and white sailor hat; Miss Elliott, fawn dress, white sailor hat; Miss Friend, blue tailor made costume, burnt straw hat trimmed with black chiffon and red poppies; Miss Hislop, blue costume, white sailor hat; also Mrs Denniston (Dunedin), Mrs Menteth, Mrs Fulton, Mrs and Miss Percy-Smith, Mrs and Miss Fancourt, the Misses Mason, Rowlands, Holmes, Milward, Tolhurst, Nathan, Halse, Brandon, Bendall, Harecourt, Cox, Newton, Allen, Fraser, Laishley, Campbell, Partrich, and others.

A very enjoyable afternoon tea was given by Mrs Quick on Tuesday last. During the afternoon songs were given by Miss Quick, Mrs Reynolds (Dunedin), Miss L. Tolhurst, and Miss Graham; while Miss J. Parker played some pretty pianoforte pieces and Miss Henry the violin. Tea was laid in the dining room, the table being prettily decked with primroses and other spring flowers. Mrs Quick received her guests in a handsome black silk gown, trimmed with jet and embroidered lace; Miss Quick was wearing a black silk skirt and stylish black and white blouse, trimmed with jet; Miss M. Quick wore a dark skirt and silk blouse; and Miss D. Quick a pretty cream serge costume. Among the guests I noticed Lady Stout in a stylish brown braided tailor made costume and black and scarlet bonnet; Mrs Bell (Dunedin), handsome black silk crepon, the bodice trimmed with pale green chiffon, covered with passementerie, and pretty green velvet bonnet with tiny tips; Miss Bell, a very uncommon grey canvas dress, the bodice draped with white lace and tucked with yellow bebe ribbon, and a pretty hat to match; Mrs Rhind, black costume and becoming green straw hat with pink stock and cream lace; Mrs Somerville, black silk gown and cape, trimmed with lace, black and pink bonnet; Mrs Miller, handsome black silk gown and cape, and pretty black bonnet with green and pink roses; Mrs Marchbanks, neat green tailor made costume and toque to match; also, Mrs and Miss Reynolds, Mrs Purdy, Mrs and Miss Rose, Mrs Fitchett, Mrs MacTavish, Mrs Henry, Mrs Graham, (Dunedin), Mrs and the Misses Harding, Mrs Samuill, Mrs Menteth, Mrs and Miss Ashcroft, Mrs and Miss Fancourt, Mrs and Miss Friend, Mrs and Miss O'Connor, Mrs and the Misses Tolhurst, Miss Campbell, Miss Halse, Mrs Wardell and others.

Mrs Quick also entertained a few ladies at luncheon last Thursday, among them being Lady Douglas, Mrs C. Izard, Mrs Tolhurst, Mrs Hutchison, Mrs Butt, Mrs Watson and others.

OPHELIA.

DUNEDIN.

Dear Bee, October 23.
On Wednesday evening Mrs Gibson (Anderson's Bay) gave a small dance as a farewell to Mr Cecil Maitland, who goes away from our midst shortly to take up his residence in Balclutha. Everyone, I am sure, will miss him greatly, as he seems to be very popular in the social world. Dancing was kept going until about

2 a.m. All appeared to enjoy themselves most thoroughly.

On Thursday Mrs Michie, of the Bank of New Zealand gave a

SMALL LUNCHEON PARTY.

There were only very few present.

On Friday evening Miss Wright gave

A SMALL DANCE

for Miss Webster, who is to be married shortly to Mr Chaffey, of Canterbury North. Mrs J. T. Wright received in the drawing-room, and wore a handsome gown of black brocade, a ruffle of white chiffon round the neck of the bodice; Miss Wright, simple gown of turquoise blue corded silk, daintily trimmed with white lace; Miss J. Wright, soft white liberty silk, the bodice lavishly trimmed with white chiffon.

Amongst the guests were Miss Webster, buttercup silk, the swathed bodice trimmed with white chiffon; Miss S. Webster, black satin gown, the bodice trimmed with chiffon; Miss Gibson, handsome black satin; Miss P. Gibson, yellow corded silk, the bodice trimmed with white net and bunches of pink roses; Miss N. Gibson, white satin, the bodice made in cross-over-style, with bunches of lilies of the valley; Miss K. Neill, pink satin, trimmed with sequins, gimp, and lace; Miss R. Neill, white silk, bows of blue ribbons; Miss Ruby Neill, white crepon, bodice swathed with white striped satin; Miss L. MacLaren, handsome black velvet gown, the bodice trimmed with Maltese lace; Miss E. MacLaren, heliotrope crepon, zouave of black satin, edged with passementerie; Mrs E. Mills, white striped brocade, black velvet band round the neck; Miss G. Roberts, yellow corded silk, bodice trimmed with Valenciennes lace; Miss G. Morris, pale pink crepon, bodice trimmed with cream lace and pink chiffon; Miss Bartleman, white silk; Miss H. Williams, heliotrope, with trimmings of heliotrope chiffon and jet; Messrs Tapley, Webster, Morris, MacLean, Macassay, Sale, Maitland, Cameron, Harris, Law, Sergeant, were among the gentlemen present.—

ALLEN.

MAPIER.

Dear Bee, October 21.
Mrs Coleman, of Waititirau, gave a DANCE

on Tuesday night at the Gaiety Theatre. It was numerously attended, and dancing was kept up with great animation till past 1 o'clock. The ball-room was prettily decorated with ferns and palms, and mirrors were arranged round the walls. As it is late in the season for dances, there were very few new dresses. One of the handsomest in the room, a deep cream satin, was worn by Miss Russell, of Hastings; Mrs T. H. Lowry wore bright yellow watered silk, with clusters of purple pauties; Miss Anderson looked well in pink silk; Mrs A. Williams, beautiful white brocade trimmed with lace; Miss Nellie Cottrill was becomingly dressed in pale green silk; Miss Cornford was in cream figured silk and chiffon; Miss Lovell, white satin covered with lace; Mrs Davis Canning was also in white satin trimmed with guipure lace.

It was a fine though windy day for the opening of the HAWKE'S BAY TENNIS CLUB last Saturday when a great many people assembled at the courts. Afternoon tea was provided by the Club, and some enjoyable games were played by the men and three or four of the ladies. Several pretty blouses were worn. Mrs Bowen was in brown cloth; Miss Wood, electric blue drill; Miss Mary Dinwiddie looked well in a brown coat and skirt, a blue front and a sailor hat; Miss Tuke, navy blue serge relieved with red; Mrs Ronald was also in navy blue, and wore a white hat with pink flowers; Miss Locking, pretty white muslin and lace blouse, dark skirt; Miss Sutton, blue and white blouse, black serge skirt; Miss Donnelly, pink and white; Miss Halfour, black serge coat and skirt, and a light brown hat. The Misses Lyndon, Hamlin, Watt, Heath, Hindmarsh, and Whitelaw, and Messrs Harron, Humphreys, Headley, Watkins, Hurke, Brabazon, etc., were also present.

MARJORIE.

Wilson Barrett is expected to visit the colonies soon after Christmas with a number of new modern plays.

NOW READY.

NEW ZEALAND GRAPHIC

Christmas Number

SUPERB PRESENT for FRIENDS AT HOME!

PICTORIAL COLOURED MAP OF THE NORTH ISLAND.

THIS MAGNIFICENT MAP is literally covered with beautiful Pictorettes, showing the chief beauties, industries and resources of the North Island of New Zealand. No description can give any idea of this unquestioned novelty, which for beauty and utility excels any Coloured Supplement ever given away with the Christmas GRAPHIC.

Full-Page Engravings and Beautiful Half-tone Pictures.

Prominent amongst them will be found

OUR FOREST KINGS (FIELDS LIFE AND LUCK ON THE GUM-A NEW ZEALAND TROUT STREAM IN QUEST OF GOLD—	THE SOURCE OF THE AVON, CHRISTCHURCH
PAY-DAY AT THE MINES PROSPECTING ON TAIRUA RIVER IN A NEW ZEALAND ORCHARD NEW ZEALAND VINEYARDS	FIRST UNFURLING THE BRITISH FLAG AT AKAROA POPULAR PLAYS BY A PRECOCIOUS PUPPY RAMBLES ON THE REMARKABLES (BY MALCOLM ROSS)

Two Prize Stories:

"DR. BRUNTON'S MARVELLOUS OPERATION" (FULLY . . . ILLUSTRATED)

And a highly realistic and very characteristic Bush Study— "A BUSH CREMATION"

(SEVERAL ILLUSTRATIONS).

A host of interesting reading matter makes up the

PREMIER CHRISTMAS NUMBER OF AUSTRALASIA.

May be had of all Booksellers, News Runners or STAR Office.

PRICE ONE SHILLING
(INCLUDING PICTORIAL COLOURED MAP).

CASE OF DISCERNMENT.

Hunter sat over the fire in his rooms, smoking and thinking; smoking rather discontentedly, and thinking, quite impartially, of two women. And the impartiality was the trouble. If he could have felt a preference, or if it had been only one woman, matters would have been so simple. But there were two, and both were charming exponents of their respective types. Grace Firth was perhaps the more obvious of the two; Dorothy Dallas, on the other hand, possessed three subtler charms which gave you a nice respect for your own powers of observation.

It was a comfort, at any rate, that he had not compromised himself so far with either. Not in the least. In fact, he would probably have remained in the comfortable, quiescent state of friendship if people had only left him alone. But it seemed to him that all things had been conspiring against his bachelorhood of late. His mother, Lady Hunter, had written tedious letters about the estate and responsibilities. Then Thornton had been in to see him this afternoon; and Thornton, just back from his honeymoon, and radiating matrimonial bliss, was enough to disturb the most rooted of bachelors.

Also, he had just remembered Salter's case, which had led to reflections. Salter had gone, rigid with self-control, to say good-by to Miss Fenwick before his departure for the Sudan, and she had broken down at the last minute, nearly kissed him, and made a scene in which he quite kissed her. Hunter was leaving England in about ten days. How would it be if he kept his destination and the term of his absence vague—he was really going to Italy for six weeks—and make his good-bys as a sort of test? This might greatly influence his indecision. He had so often read that love creates love. Not that he wished to get definitely engaged just at present. Not at all. That would interfere with Italy and be altogether inconvenient. But it would be amusing to know how matters stood, and the knowledge would enable him to make up his mind slowly and carefully during his absence.

Why not do the thing at once? What was to-day? Tuesday, Mrs Dallas' at home day. He would be certain of finding Dorothy. He glanced at his watch; quarter to 6. A hansom would get him to Cumberland place by six o'clock. If there were other visitors they would be leaving, and he would get his chance. He knocked out his pipe, jumped up with the energy of resolve, passed through his exquisite sitting room to the exquisite bedroom beyond closed on the electric light and took trouble with his appearance.

Two carriages drove away from the house in Cumberland place as he drove up. There were still one or two visitors in the drawing-room, but it already had an atmosphere of decayed gaiety; close air, disarranged chairs, used cups everywhere. Mrs Dallas greeted him with an over fatigued smile. Dorothy was sitting between two parasitic girl friends. When Hunter shook hands with her she looked to the height of his scarf pin, and immediately resumed her talk with the girls. Mrs Dallas talked to Hunter with a little confidential air which she did not spend on everybody. He was an old friend; and really a young man with an income nowadays.

Through her long sentences he caught snatches of the girls' talk: 'Pale blue,' 'ridiculously expensive, I think,' 'too much jet,' 'the Barings' dance,' 'all put on,' etc. At last they left in a cloud of appointments. Mrs Dallas muttered something about letters, and went upstairs.

When Hunter had closed the door after her and turned round, Dorothy was warning her hands at the sinking fire with an air of conscious unconsciousness. If only her mother wouldn't do those painfully obvious things!

'Have you had tea, by the way?' she asked directly.

'Nary a cup,' said Hunter. 'Stay me with tea, comfort me with talk—I shall enjoy both.'

She got up and poured out some poisonous drags. She was not looking her best, he thought. She was very variable. He had seen her look almost plain—once, he remembered, when she was talking to an aunt from Australia, and once when she had told him of the death of a friend. But he had also seen her look exquisite, with a spiritual, emotional beauty that made more diffident people afraid of her. She stooped a little, lookably, and wore sentimental things by preference.

'You've missed several friends this afternoon,' she was saying.

'Tant mieux.'

'For whom?'

'For me. I came on purpose to talk to you to-day.'

Her eyelids fluttered imperceptibly.

'We're never alone on Tuesdays, you know,' with a slight emphasis on this 'we.'

'On the other hand, I'm sure of finding you then. No sugar, thank. I've come to bid you a rather long farewell.'

Specially prepared as a Beautifier of the Skin & Complexion.

Dr. MACKENZIE'S
CELEBRATED
ARSENICAL TOILET SOAP.

It is prepared with special beautifying ingredients and will produce the most lovely Complexion, free from blotch, blemish, cosmetics, redness, freckles, or pimples. Deliciously and expensively perfumed. One Shilling per Tablet. Doctor's certificate with each cake, certifying to its harmlessness, purity and beautifying qualities. Beware of insidious imitations. At all Chemists & Stores. Madame Adeline Patti writes: 'I find Dr. Mackenzie's Arsenical Toilet Soap most excellent.' S. HARVEY, 4, DENMAN STREET, LONDON BRIDGE, E.C.

KING'S COLLEGE, AUCKLAND.

"THE TOWER," REMUERA.

VICTOR: REV. W. BEATTY, M.A.

PRINCIPAL: MR GRAHAM BRUCE, B.A., with Honours of the University of London. Assisted by a Large Staff of Resident University Graduates.

Telephone 906.



LIST OF SUCCESSORS FOR THE YEAR 1897.

Four Boys passed the Matriculation Examination.

Four Boys passed the Senior Civil Service Examination.

Nine Boys passed the Junior Civil Service Examination, two of whom gained the 18th and 38th places in New Zealand on a List of 238 successful candidates.

Special Has Arrangements for Day Boys. Prospectus may be had on application to the Principal, or from Messrs Upton and Co. Queen-street.

Last Term began Tuesday, Sept. 21st.

Premier
Vinolia
Soap

FOR DELICATE
SENSITIVE
IRRITABLE SKINS

VINOLIA CREAM (For Itching, Sunburn, Insect Bites), 4 sizes.
VINOLIA POWDER (For Redness, Roughness, Toilet, Nursery), 4 sizes.

DELICIOUS AND NUTRITIOUS.

BIRD'S
CUSTARD
POWDER

Supplies a Daily Luxury—Dainties in endless variety.
The Choicest Dishes and the Richest Custard.

THE FRUIT SEASON and BIRD'S CUSTARD.
BIRD'S CUSTARD advantageously takes the place of cream with Fresh, Stewed or Tinned Fruits. So rich yet will not disagree; enhances the flavour. So cooling, agreeable and wholesome.

BIRD'S CUSTARD is THE ONE THING NEEDED with all Stewed or Tinned Fruits.

NO EGGS! NO TROUBLE! NO RISK!

Wholesale agents obtain supplies of Bird's Custard & Bird's Concentrated Egg Powder, Bird's Baking and Bird's Biscuit-Mixing Powders, from all the leading Wholesale Houses.

She went back to the fire and stooped low over it.

'Going away?' she asked, brightly.

He followed her to the fireplace, cup in hand, and took the chair nearest to which she knelt.

'Yes; the spirit of travel is upon me again. And London is too trist for a bachelor in the winter.'

'Going to Paris again? Wasn't it Paris you went to the other day, or the other month, or something?' she said, without looking around.

'Yes, but I'm bound for more distant climes this time. I think of going in Cook's office and asking for a ticket to the furthest point from civilisation. Perhaps I shall return whiteheaded and incoherent in a hundred years, a la Rip.'

She laughed a completely new laugh and rubbed her hands together.

'Well, I hope you'll enjoy it immensely; and please come and see us in the Rip condition when you return—if ever.'

'Of course.'

There was a pause. He wished she would turn her face to the light, but the voice boded no compliment to his vanity. It was particularly cheerful. He stroked his admirable moustache. She curled the end of her ribbon around her forefinger.

Hunter reflected that she had always been just a little difficult, conversationally, even during that charming summer at Pontresina, two years ago, when he had found himself obliged, for conscience sake, to check the course of a Platonic friendship he had been at some pains to create.

A large Persian cat that had been asleep in its basket till now, suddenly remembered the world, and came back to it with a long stretch. Dorothy caught it up in her arms and surprised and annoyed it with a torrent of affection.

'Do you think that mass of wool appreciates all that?' asked Hunter, rather peevishly.

'(One can only hope so,' said Dorothy. 'I believe in the stupidity of cats.'

This reminded him of a good cat story and he told it well. It launched them into ordinary conversation, where they laboured more or less for the next twenty minutes. At the end of that time he came around to his journey again.

'When do you start?' she asked.

'Soon, in a few days,' he answered seriously.

'All alone, or with Dick again?'

'Alone. My companionship, you see, is not a frenzied demand. I shan't even have the comfort of leaving a few broken—or even clipped—hearts behind me, I fear.'

She should have her opportunities. She only gave a short laugh.

'Monsieur ne se flatte pas,' she said, with a little mock bow.

It brought the light on her face at last, and he saw one of her plainest renderings of herself. She was pale, with hard lines about the mouth.

'Well,' he said, rising and holding out his hand, 'you are tired, and I am busy. I must say my good-bys now. Good-by till—I don't know when. Wish me well.'

'Of course,' she said promptly. 'I—I do wish you well, and—good-bye.'

He paused a moment at the door. He made a gesture of impatience and went.

She stood quite still for awhile. When the front door banged she made a little low sound in her throat and put her hands over her face.

Later a servant came in to remove the tea things. Dorothy had not moved. But she went upstairs then to dress for a dinner in South Kensington.

'My dear child,' said Mrs Dallas, in the hall, as they were starting, 'you look like your grandmother to-night. Most provoking!'

Hunter, walking briskly homeward, was saying to himself: 'Well, that's one point settled. These small, pale women have no blood in their veins!'

On the following evening Hunter stopped at Strudwick's on his way to Trevillian's. 'At Home,' and got tulleuses for his buttonhole. Tulleuses was Miss Firth's favourite scent, if he remembered aright.

He arrived late (he never made bourgeois mistakes), and the rooms were already packed. The subtlety society roost reached the hall. Grace Firth was there, as he had anticipated. When he first caught sight of her through the crowd she was talking to a tall man with a foreign accent. Now and then she laughed consciously, and Hunter was glad to note that this annoyed him a little. What was that two-penny organ grinder saying to her?

Animated and handsome and picturesque she looked, as usual. Her figure was superb, her eyes decorative, her smile generous. She had realised Hunter's presence at once, but made no sign. He placed himself where he could see and be seen by her, and waited, speaking to such of his acquaintances as were crushed past him from time to time.

Presently Miss Firth rose, threw off her companion with the airy ease that is one of the finest products of civilisation, and made

for the door. She had to pass close to where he stood. He joined her at once. "Whither away, Miss Firth?" "Oh, how do you do? I hadn't seen you. I was withering away for my chaperone. I can't struggle any longer with Monsieur Duber's English shot with French. Will I do instead of him and instead of your chaperone?" "I had harboured thoughts of going. It's late and hot. But—" "But you'll harbour them no more. That is kind." He gave her his arm. "Mrs Firth is enjoying herself immensely. Depend upon it." "I'm here with Mrs Hardinge to-night."

She nodded her head in the direction of a young married woman in yellow satin talking to three men. Mrs Hardinge always enjoys herself immensely," he said. "Where are we going?" "To that seat on the landing for a little while, and a little air, if you will." "Yes, I will."

She had subdued her voice in talking to Hunter. As a rule it was a shade too high and staccato. He observed this; also, that she made no more allusions to departure. But he did not notice the symptoms of suppressed amusement that struggled in her face as she left the room with him.

When he looked at her again, in fact, her eyelids were heavily drooped. She raised them slowly, with a look of fatigued gratitude, as she leaned back against the cushions on the landing seat. He heard her sigh.

"This is better, isn't it?" he said. "Much better." She sighed again. "And what have you been doing since I last saw you—at the Richter?" he asked.

He had last seen her at the Thompsons, but she let that pass. "Oh, so much—and so little," she said, word wearily. "This new touch of sadness was not 'dams son' type. What did it mean? It made it a little difficult to talk the usual trifles. He knew that she must feel this, too, when she began to ask him about himself.

"And you?" she said. "What have you been doing? Tell me something very interesting."

He took the question seriously, and told her he had been in a despondent mood. She was very sympathetic. She, also, had been feeling simply suicidal of late. And then she began to draw him out, delicately—to ask him about his 'work' (he wrote little drawing-room 'chansonettes' now and then), about his ambitions, his travel in Japan, his singing. She listened attentively to all he said, and he said a good deal. What gorgeous eyes she had! But, far above all, what a charming and intelligent mind! And what hair!

Half an hour flew by. Mrs Hardinge appeared on the landing below. She was looking for somebody.

"Oh! I must go," said Miss Firth, gathering up the fan and the lace handkerchief from her lap. "It must be nearly to-morrow by now."

"Don't go yet," said Hunter. "I had counted on seeing you here to-night."

"Had you?" simply. "I came, really, to take this opportunity of bidding you good-by, Miss Firth."

"Good-by! What?—I don't understand."

"I am going away—abroad—perhaps to the East again."

He saw her fingers tighten on the fan. "This is very sudden," she said, in an altered voice. "For how long?"

"I may be back in a few months or a few years," he answered, watching her. She bit her underlip and her eyelids flickered. She laughed bitterly.

"Oh, how grateful you ought to be, you men! We poor women—"

She got up brusquely and her voice changed again to a forced stage calm. "I am dreadfully tired to-night, Mr Hunter. I don't know why. I must ask you to find Mrs Hardinge. Say I'm in the cloak room. I'll wait there."

"And what shall I say to you?" She looked up at him with a little helpless smile. "I hardly know. I—no. Good-night and good-by."

He raised a detaining hand. She gave him hers. It turned into an ordinary handshake; and before he could speak she had swept around once. He was slightly dazed.

When he got back into the crowd he forgot his message to Mrs Hardinge until she passed him in a few minutes and said, "Can you tell me where Miss Firth is?"

"Oh, I had a message. She's in the cloak room. She was tired. I was to tell you not to trouble—"

But she went down stairs at once. "Mrs Hardinge's carriage!" The two women entered.

"Well," began Mrs Hardinge, as soon as the carriage door was closed, "you seem to have a—mused yourself to-night, you naughty."

"Mollie, I've had such a joke. I could not resist it. Do listen. You know that lately Percy Hunter has been paying sort of half attentions to me 'entre autres.' Say you know."

"Of course."

"And the way he picks his steps, and shilly-shallies, and chaperones himself generally is too much for mortal woman. I had to see if I couldn't fool him into a little flutter—is there a man who can resist a few compliments laid on with discretion?—and oh! it was such a glorious success. When I think of his silly smile—Mollie."

And she laughed until her satin bodice creaked again. "Well, you're a nice little girl to take to a nice little party," said Mrs Hardinge,

catching the laughter. "Go on; tell more."

And Miss Firth gave a full description of what had taken place on the landing, with a really funny imitation of Hunter's voice and manner.

"His going away gave me such opportunities, you see," she wound up. "The worst is, he may want to go on with this game. But, after all, what is easier than to—"

"I don't know why on earth you don't take him when you've quite done fooling him about. He's good looking, and would not—"

"Is it likely that I would seriously consider that mix? But it's a refreshing change to score off that sort of man once in a way—calculating, careful, cucumber-headed prize that they are!"

And Hunter was saying to himself: By George! evidently gone deeper there than I had intended. Poor girl; shows one can't be careful enough. Well, it's fortunate for once, as it happens. Of course, I chuck Italy."

And in the end he married a very young girl, of the retiring violet type, from Yorkshire. Miss Firth had become Mrs Ormston Ellis. Dorothy had taken to wood carving and a poor girl's club in the Edgware Road. Her personal appearance is Mrs Dallas' despair.—'Black and White.'

THE RULING PASSION.

The sufferer slowly raised his eyelids. "Where am I?" he asked. "You were run into by another bicyclist," answered the attendant.

Later, as he was about to breathe his last, he asked in a touching manner, "What was the name of his machine?"

PLAIN ENOUGH.

Tom: "Charlie Deadbroke married a very rich woman, didn't he?"

"Alice: 'I guess so. I heard the minister interpolate something in the service about the holy bonds and mortgages of matrimony.'

BEAUTIFUL SKIN
Hands and Hair Produced by
Cuticura SOAP

The most effective skin purifying and beautifying soap in the world for face, hands, and hair, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and nursery.

Sold throughout the world. British Depot: F. NEWBURY & SONS, London. POTTER & CO. CORP., Sole Props., Boston.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

For Colds, Coughs, Bronchitis, Sore Throat, Influenza, and Incipient Consumption, no remedy approaches Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It has long been the most popular and successful anodyne expectorant in Pharmacy, and is everywhere approved and recommended by the Faculty. It soothes the inflamed membrane, breaks up irritating mucus, allays coughing, and induces repose. As a family emergency medicine, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral takes the lead. For the relief and cure of croup, whooping-cough, sore throat, and all the pulmonary troubles to which the young are so liable, it is invaluable. No household is quite secure without

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

PREPARED BY
Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co.,
LOWELL, MASS., U. S. A.

Gold Medals at the World's Chief Expositions.

Beware of cheap imitations. The name—Ayer's Cherry Pectoral—is prominent on the wrapper, and is blown in the glass of each bottle.

EPPS'S COCOA
ENGLISH BREAKFAST COCOA
Possesses the following Distinctive Merits
DELICACY OF FLAVOR. SUPERIORITY IN QUALITY. GRATEFUL and COMFORTING to the NERVOUS or DYSPEPTIC. NUTRITIVE QUALITIES UNRIVALLED in Quarter-pound Tins only
Prepared by JAMES EPPS & Co., Ltd., Homeopathic Chemists, London, England.
EPPS'S COCOA

NERVE, BLOOD SKIN DISEASES
CURED BY TAKING
HERR RASSMUSSEN'S
(The Celebrated Danish Herbalist)
ALFALINE HERBAL REMEDIES
(Registered)
A PERMANENT CURE FOR NERVE, SKIN, AND BLOOD DISEASES.
HERR RASSMUSSEN
The Celebrated Danish Herbalist and Gold Medalist, of 81 Lambton Quay, Wellington, and 547 GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY, is world-renowned for his
THOUSANDS OF CURES which have been effected by his HERBAL REMEDIES, and the
THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS speak for themselves as to the immense virtues of these Herbal Remedies.
ALFALINE VITALITY PILLS Are a Certain Cure for Weak Nerves, Depressed Spirits, Debility, and Weakness of the Spine, Brain, and Nerves. Special Powerful Course, 45s. 6d.; Ordinary Course, 25s. 6d.; Smaller Boxes, 12s. and 6s. posted. Send for Free Pamphlet.
ALFALINE BLOOD PILLS are unsurpassed as a Blood Purifier and Blood Tonic, and will eradicate the most obstinate Blood and Skin Affections. Price, same as Vitality Pills.
His Alfaline Universal Pills for Female Complaints, Rheumatic Pills, Asthma and Cough Pills, Fat Reducing Powders, Varicose Powders, Gouty Powders, Flesh Producing Powders, Worm Cakes, Bath Tablets, Eucalyptus Oil and Jujube, Hair Restorer and Complexion Beautifier, Liver and Kidney Pills, and Instant Headache Cure, are all simply wonderful.
Send for his Free Book, which contains all particulars and many useful hints and MEDICAL TESTIMONIALS. ALL CORRESPONDENCE PRIVATE and CONFIDENTIAL. Write without delay, and address
HERR RASSMUSSEN
81 Lambton Quay
WELLINGTON, N.Z.

MILKMAID BRAND CONDENSED MILK



The "Milkmaid" Brand is guaranteed to contain all the cream of the original milk. In the process of manufacture nothing but water is removed, nothing but the best refined sugar added.

Avoid low-priced brands from which the cream has been abstracted, and ask for the "Milkmaid" Brand, the best for all purposes.

MASON'S EXTRACT OF HERBS
FOR MAKING NON-INTOXICATING BEER
IMITATED, BUT NOT EQUALLED.
One Tablespoonful of Mason's Extract of Herbs makes One Gallon of splendid Non-Intoxicating Beer.
The Most Refreshing and Pleasantest Beverage obtainable.
Mason's Wine Essences
for making NON-INTOXICATING WINE, produce in a few minutes a delicious Temperance Wine or Cordial—Ginger, Orange, Raspberry, Black Currant, etc.
NEWBALL & MASON, Nottingham, England.
AGENTS—Messrs. Chrystal & Co., Christchurch, N.Z.



DR. LAMONT'S STRONG FINGERS.

'I was afraid you were going to slip through my fingers,' said good old Dr. Lamont.

The writer was a boy of about seventeen then. While a student at school, more than 300 miles from home, I was taken down with pneumonia. I had a tough time, and for two or three weeks my life was despaired of. But youth and good care won the fight, and one bright morning I was ready to go home with my dear father who had come for me. I was weak still, but well and happy clear up to the brim. Oh, what a ride! Oh, what sweet air! Oh, what a glorious world I had got back into! and what a reception from mother and sisters at the familiar house. Oh, life! Oh, health! Oh, "dulce, dulce donum!"

Such an illness, if one survives it, only makes the sense of existence and its blessings more keen and delightful. It is good rather than bad. Lucky boy, not to have slipped through the doctor's fingers.

But when a man with most of his days behind him has to write a line like this 'All my life I have suffered more or less from disease'—why that is another and sadder story. It is the odds between an occasional thunderstorm and a sky always covered with clouds.

We quote what he says, reminding the reader that in this matter Mr William Hodgkinson voices the experience of millions. He says: 'I always had a bad taste in the mouth, no proper relish for food, and after eating had pain and fulness at the chest.'

These sensations are symptoms of acute indigestion. In the stomach there is marked loss of power. The food is neither rolled over as it should be so that the whole of it in turn may be presented to the digestive fluid, nor is it duly moved on towards the outlet into the bowels. As a result it ferments and gives off irritating acids and gases, hence the patient complains of pain, weight, distension, acidity, and flatulence in that region. Thence the poisons proceed to every other part of the body, and headache, vertigo, gout, rheumatism, drowsed spirits, and a score more of evils follow; among them, possibly, nervous prostration, progressive anaemia, locomotor ataxia, and more or less complete paralysis.

'Frequently,' continues Mr Hodgkinson, 'I was sick, and as time went on I became very weak and feeble. I consulted one doctor after another, and took various medicines, but obtained no real or lasting relief from any of them. This describes my general condition until the fortunate day when I read about Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. I was impressed by the statements others had made concerning it, and proceeded to try it. After taking one bottle I found relief, and was soon entirely free from my old complaint. Since that time (now eight years ago) I have enjoyed good health. Knowing personally of its virtues I have recommended this remedy to hundreds, and have never heard of its having failed to give relief. But for Mother Seigel's Syrup I should have been in my grave years ago (Signed) William Hodgkinson, Hollington, near Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, August 11th, 1893.'

Mr Hodgkinson is well-known and highly respected. He is a local preacher in the Methodist Church, and by employment a quarry master. Had he gone into the grave, as he feared he should, he would have been missed and lamented by the community in which he has long been useful, and will live to be useful, we hope, for years to come.

Now let us repeat our leading thought. Short illnesses, even though sharp and dangerous, may result in good rather than harm. But a disease that drags its victim through decades of lingering distress—what shall we say of it? The trouble and suffering it inflicts is beyond estimate, and its name is indigestion and dyspepsia.

And the name of the medicine that cures it Mr Hodgkinson has done you the favour to mention with clearness and emphasis.

NERVES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED.

'Overwork and under-exercise result in nervous diseases,' said a physician recently. 'Preventive measures may be summed up in two words,' he continued—'physical development. Worry annually kills more people than work. One should strive, however, to avoid all things that tend to disturb the nerves. Throw away the pen that scratches and a pencil that has a hard spot in it. Discard a needle that squeaks and a basin that leaks. Use sharp tools, wear soft garments that do not rustle. Oil the hinges of the domestic door and fasten the creaking blind. These may seem trifles, but such trifles irritate the nerves as much as a piece of woolen does a sore.' Charles Lamb once said that a carpenter's hammer in a warm summer room would fret him more than midsummer madness.

ALASKAN CANNIBALS.

Along the coast of Southern Alaska dwell some very queer aborigines, as gold-seekers flocking to the Klondike region will surely discover. They do the most of the freighting across the passes into the interior, carrying loads on their backs, but their population during many centuries has been so shut away from other tribes by gigantic ranges of snow-clad mountains that they have developed a peculiar culture and customs unknown anywhere else. Hence the exceptional value of a monograph about them prepared by Dr. Franz Boaz, a distinguished ethnologist, which is to be published shortly by the National Museum.

These natives may be said to live largely in a world of imagination, inasmuch as their customs and habits of living are based to a great extent upon ideas and beliefs wholly supernatural. Creation, from their point of view, is peopled by strange monsters and demons, which, while normally hostile to man, may be rendered friendly and even helpful with the aid of certain ceremonials of a quasi religious character.

For example, according to a Washington special to the Cincinnati Enquirer, the most important of these monsters is a serpent which has a head at each end of its body and a human head in the middle. To touch this strange monster these natives believe is death, all the joints of the victim becoming dislocated, but specially favoured individuals are enabled to perform wonderful feats by wearing a belt of its skin, while its eyes, used as sling stones, will kill any animal, even whales. Another of these fabulous beings is a wild woman who lives in the woods. She has enormous breasts, and carries a basket, into which she puts children whom she steals for the purpose of eating.

One of the most remarkable of the festivals celebrated by the Indians is a carnival of ghosts, which is held each winter. It seems to be derived from a tradition that tells of a journey made by an adventurous individual to a region beneath the earth, inhabited by phantoms. The celebration itself is a mimic representation of the visit to Hades aforesaid, and the performer who represents the subterranean traveller wears a necklace and head-dress set round with skulls.

Cannibalism is very conspicuous in the myths current among these people, who have themselves been eaters of human flesh up to a recent period. Indeed, though the whites are supposed to have put a stop to such practices, it would seem that secret indulgence in them has not been wholly done away with.

Quite a number of strange demons are worshipped as guardian spirits—among them a cannibal demon that lives on the mountains and is always engaged in the pursuit of human beings for his table. The smoke of his chimney is the colour of blood, and he has a female slave who gets food for him by catching men and collecting corpses. In his house is a fabulous bird, with an immensely long beak, which lives on the brains of persons whose skulls it fractures with its bill. Anybody who is so unfortunate as to encounter the cannibal spirit may be transformed into a grizzly bear. On the other hand, if he can please the demon, he may obtain power to handle fire without being burned.

Another guardian spirit is a fearsome warrior who lives in the far North. He travels constantly, and never leaves his canoe. By obtaining his protection a man may become invulnerable, or he may acquire power to catch the invisible disease demon. This demon is at all times flying about in the air in the form of a worm. The fortunate protegee of the warrior spirit catching the worm can throw it into the body of an enemy, who will die at once. The suggestion of the modern germ theory of disease contained in this belief is quite interesting. Not to be neglected among the guardian spirits are certain ghosts, which bestow the power of returning to life after death.

Dr. Boaz has secured for the National Museum a large number of masks, such as are worn by the Indians of the Alaskan coast in their ceremonials. Some of them are of enormous size and astonishingly grotesque.

THE SPHINX'S AGE.

The famous sphinx near the pyramids of Gizeh was thoroughly investigated by Professor Erman, who at a recent meeting of the Berlin Academy delivered a lecture about its probable age. Careful researches show that it could not have been built previous to the so-called Middle Kingdom, or about 2,000 B.C. Between her front paws there was originally the image of a deity, all trace of which has at the present time disappeared. For the building of the colossal work more than twenty years must have been necessary, even if 1,500 men had been employed all the time.

In all parts of the World
THE NATURAL FOOD FOR A BABE
 is

MOTHER'S MILK

And this Does NOT contain Starch.

YOUNG INFANTS
CANNOT DIGEST STARCHY FOODS

A perfect Artificial Food for Infants must, therefore,
NOT CONTAIN STARCH.

MELLIN'S FOOD

CONTAINS NO STARCH

But makes a PERFECT FOOD for the YOUNGEST CHILD.

MELLIN'S FOOD for Infants and Invalids may be obtained
 of all dealers throughout the World.

MELLIN'S Food Works, Peckham, London.

A PRESENT WORTH A GUINEA.

AN OFFER OPEN TO EVERYONE.
256 PLATE PICTURES WITH APPROPRIATE LETTERPRESS, GIVEN AWAY.

The Proprietors of the "CANTERBURY TIMES" having made Arrangements with the Publishers of those most Beautiful and Interesting Portfolio Photographs

FAMOUS SCENES, CITIES, AND PAINTINGS.
 A RARE AND ELABORATE COLLECTION OF
 PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEWS OF THE ENTIRE WORLD OF NATURE AND ARE
 Presenting and Describing the Choicest Treasures of
EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, AUSTRALIA, AND NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA.

Have decided during the Months of OCTOBER and NOVEMBER to Present to every Person SUBSCRIBING to the "CANTERBURY TIMES" a Set of these Magnificent Photographic Views. The Set comprises 16 Parts, and each Part contains 16 Full Size 8 x 10 Views—256 Plates in all. These Pictures, with full Descriptive Matter, will be GIVEN AWAY FREE to anyone Subscribing to the "CANTERBURY TIMES" during the months named, and paying his Subscription in Advance.

THE YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION TO THE "CANTERBURY TIMES" IS 24s PER ANNUM. By remitting this amount the Subscriber will be entitled to a copy of the Paper for Twelve Months, and a Full Set of these beautiful Portfolios; or by remitting 15s, six months' Subscription, the Full Set of Portfolios.

To the Young and the 40,000 Staidous Readers of the "CANTERBURY TIMES" The Proprietors have determined to add yet another important feature to their already popular journal. In OCTOBER they will commence a Series of ILLUSTRATED COMPETITION PROBLEMS. These Supplements will be issued weekly, and Prizes will be offered for their Solution.

The "CANTERBURY TIMES" is the only newspaper published in the Colony that can claim to be a thoroughly representative Colonial Magazine.

THE "NEW ZEALAND CYCLIST" ROAD MAPS.

Four of these Maps have already been Published, and the run on the "NEW ZEALAND CYCLIST" has been so great that the paper has been sold out on each occasion on the day of publication. These Road Maps are being published fortnightly, and issued as a Supplement (GRATIS) to the "NEW ZEALAND CYCLIST." Tourists wishing to obtain them should apply at once.

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION TO THE "NEW ZEALAND CYCLIST" (including Maps), 6s 6d PER ANNUM, payable in advance.

The "NEW ZEALAND CYCLIST" is now recognised as the only Up-to-date Cycling Paper published in New Zealand, and is increasing in circulation and popularity daily. Copies are obtainable from any of the numerous agencies of the "CANTERBURY TIMES" throughout the Colony and Australia.

A NEW ZEALANDER ON TOUR.

NOTES OF TRAVEL BY MR
GEORGE HARKER.

Our London correspondent, writing on the 4th of September, says:—

‘Mr George Harker, of Auckland, has just returned from the Rhine and Swiss trip, which he appears to have enjoyed immensely. I hunted him up for an account of his doings, and in response to my inquiries he furnished me with the following interesting summary thereof:—

‘We remained a fortnight in Plymouth, touring lovely Devonshire and Cornwall, arriving in London on 1st May and putting up at an hotel South Kensington, but finding it very expensive and too far from the city, took a furnished flat at Gloucester Place, Portman Square, where we remained till our departure for the “Continong.” You cannot imagine the vastness of London until you try to get out of it. It seems impossible to get away from the bricks and mortar. I was impressed with the great wealth of its inhabitants, especially that of the upper middle class. There are miles and miles of streets in South Kensington alone, containing thousands of mansions commanding rentals of from £150 to £1,500 per annum, and occupied by carriage folk. Rotten Row in the season is quite a pageant, the horses beautifully matched, and the bonnets indescribable. On the reverse side, the slums are particularly slummy, and the drabs and denizens of Drury Lane could scarcely be equalled anywhere for debauched vileness. Of course we saw the Jubilee Procession. London was mad about it. In every space and window facing the route platforms were erected, and the modest price of from 3 to 60 guineas per seat was asked. The papers predicted that London would be so crowded with visitors that a famine would ensue.

Of course we caught the panic, and not feeling good enough to die a violent death by outward pressure, secured back seats in the Strand for 8 guineas, from which we had a very good view. It was very grand and impressive, but not spectacular. My predominant feeling was pride in our army as it marched by and the handsome boys composing it, so perfectly horned and dressed, comparing so favourably with the slouching undersized and badly fed rurtis of which the foreign armies appear to be made. We have been to most of the theatres and to the opera, and have heard Albani, Patti, Melba, De Rescke, and all the great stars. The theatres were most disappointingly small, dirty, and badly ventilated, and the productions only mediocre considering the Jubilee jollifications. The drama has evidently degenerated here into a medium for introducing music hall songs and dances. The prices for admission are most exorbitant—boxes 5 guineas, stalls 12/6, and 5/- for back seats in second gallery, where your view is liable to interruption from the “high ‘ats” of the more fortunate ladies in the front rows. The opera this season has been a very “one hoos” show, mostly Wagner (which the people pretend to like), with no stars of any magnitude, the principal prima donna being Emma Eames. I have heard no singer here (in my opinion) who could compare with Trebelli or Patey.

‘We have been staying with friends and have altogether had a real happy time in London. Had a most enjoyable trip on old Pather Thames, lasting four days. We went by train to Oxford, where we thoroughly inspected the ancient colleges and halls, and were hugely delighted, and then started by boat for London, passing through a lovely, well-wooded valley, with occasional parks and mansions with perfect lawns and flowers ad lib. lunching and sleeping at inns in old-fashioned waterside villages, passing through 33 locks and descending 180 feet.

‘On 12th June we started for our German and Swiss tour, journeying from Queensborough to Flushing, through Belgium to Cologne, thence up the Rhine to Mayene, thence to Heidelberg, Baden and Freiburg, where we took coaches and drove for three days through the Black Forest to the Rhinefalls at Nieuhaven, and then travelled right through Switzerland, going home via Paris, Rouen, Dieppe, and Newhaven. I never thought that at my base time of life I was capable of so much enjoyment. We had no trouble; everyone could apparently understand English, even the shoppirls, and in the uncivilised places our bad French was of vast assistance. In Belgium we visited the principal cities, with memoirs of the bad old times of the Spaniard and Inquisition, saw miles of pictures, principally Rubens, Vandyke and Co., and visited ancient cathedrals with wonderful carved oak pulpits and screens. The Rhine was disappointing, and I think overdrawn, although the vine-clad hills and crags with ruined castles of robber barons of mediaeval times were beautiful enough. The Black Forest simply enchanted us—steep hills and gorges clothed with sombre pines, with here and there a little village or homestead carved out of the forest, the houses being of huge size, built of logs, balconied, and lodging not only the farmer and his family, but his produce, cows, pigs, poultry and beasts of burden (meaning his dogs and his wife), each house having a picturesque and odorous dunghap under the drawing-room window.

‘The Swiss mountains and lakes are simply delightful, and we did thorough justice to them. We scaled the Rigi, Stanzerhorn, and Schiedegg mountains, played snowballs on the Jungfrau, and crossed a glacier on Mont Blanc, penetrated the wonderful gorges of the Aar and Trient, voyaged the full length of the principal lakes, lived and fared sumptuously, and enjoyed everything immensely.’

Mr Harker purposes starting for Scotland, the English lakes, Matlock and the North generally on next Monday, and will be away for about a month. He has taken passage for Auckland by the Himalaya, which leaves London on 15th November.

MOUNT ST ELIAS SCALED THE DUKE OF THE ABRUZZI'S DARING FEAT.

A telegram from Seattle, Washington, dated August 26, states that in his ascent of Mount St. Elias the Duke of the Abruzzi and his companions reached the summit at noon on July 31. The altitude reached was 18,100ft. The expedition, which was the most successful that has ever undertaken the ascent of Mount St. Elias, passed fifty-one days on the ice and snow. There were no cases of sickness in the party. The explorers declare that they did not see the slightest indication that Mount St. Elias had been volcanic. The Italian flag was planted on the topmost peak and photographed.

The Italian and American flags were then cached. The Duke and his party are now returning to the United States.

The Duke of the Abruzzi is a brother of the Count of Turin, who lately beat Prince Henry of Orleans in the duel near Paris. The Duke is an accomplished mountaineer. Mount St. Elias is just within the line that divides British Columbia from Alaska, and was once regarded as the highest peak in North America.

On the Moors.—First Guest (at lunch to second guest, who would talk during the drive): “I wish you’d remember that we don’t come out to shoot parrots.” Host (who has suffered bitterly): “Oh, I wish to goodness we had.”—“Punch.”

THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE . . .

NEW SEASON

IS ALWAYS A BUSY TIME AT

TE ARO HOUSE

AND OUR MARKING-OFF ROOM IS A VERITABLE BEEHIVE.

There may be seen the New Summer Goods, fresh from the cases, stacked in huge piles, waiting to be marked off and sent through to their respective Departments. Prints are greatly in evidence as usual, and we have a carefully selected and very complete stock.

THE LATEST NOVELTIES IN COTTON FABRICS ARE THE
New Bordered Prints, the New Double Stripe Print, and the Metallic Printed Fabrics.

We are making a Very Stylish Costume from the New Bordered Stripe Prints, for 19s. 6d. Complete. An illustration, with Patterns of above, will be forwarded on application to TE ARO HOUSE.

OUR NEW SUMMER STOCK IS VERY COMPLETE, AND CONSISTS OF

PRINTED AND WASHING FABRICS,
BEAUTIFUL SILKS AND DRESSES,
ELEGANT COSTUMES,

CHARMING MILLINERY AND PARASOLS,
LATEST BLOUSES AND GOWNS,
RIBBONS, FLOWERS, GLOVES, ETC.

The Prices of which are calculated on MESSRS JAMES SMITH & CO'S
RECOGNISED SYSTEM OF SMALL PROFITS.

RECOGNISED SYSTEM OF SMALL PROFITS.

OUR COUNTRY ORDER DEPARTMENT is worked on a Most Complete System, and all orders for Goods and Samples are Promptly Executed. When Cash is sent with order we forward Parcels, carriage paid, by Rail or Post.

SEND FOR PATTERNS AND PRICES FROM THE MOST COMPLETE STOCK IN THE COLONY.

TE ARO HOUSE, WELLINGTON.

**SERGES
TWEEDS
CLOTHS**

FOR

TAILOR-MADE GOWNS

AND

Cycling Costumes.

We Sell per Yard all our Dress Materials—
SERGES (double width) from 4s. 6d.
CLOTHS from 5s. 6d.

WRITE FOR SAMPLES.

NODINE & CO.,

LADIES' TAILORS,

WELLINGTON, N.Z.

YOU ...
MISS A. GOODTHING

By not using

WILTON'S HAND EMOLIENT.

Sold by all Chemists at 1s. per Jar. A Trial Jar posted to any address on receipt of 1s in Stamps.

G. W. WILTON, Chemist, Wellington.

KEMPTHORNE, PROSSER AND CO.,

WHOLESALE AGENTS.

KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.

This Powder, so celebrated, is utterly unrivalled in destroying BUGS, FLEAS, MOTHS, BEETLES and all insects (whilst perfectly harmless to all animal life). All woolsens and furs should be well sprinkled with the Powder before placing away. It is invaluable to take to the seaside. To avoid disappointment insist upon having "Keating's Powder." No other Powder is effectual.

KILLS
BUGS,
FLEAS,
MOTHS,
BEETLES,
MOSQUITOES.

Unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCKROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS IN FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in the dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

The PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that every package of the genuine powder bears the autograph of THOMAS KEATING; without this any article offered is a fraud. Sold in Tins only.

WORMS—"CHILDREN'S."
WORMS—"CHILDREN'S."
WORMS—"CHILDREN'S."
WORMS—"CHILDREN'S."

Keating's Worm Tablets is a unique medicine (A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT) both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering a certain remedy for INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS. It is perfectly safe and mild, especially adapted for Children. Sold in Tins by all Druggists.

Proprietor:
THOMAS KEATING, London.

LONDON AND PARIS FASHIONS.



THE Leghorn hat is still a power in the land of fashion; not flopping as in its primitive or bread-and-butter days of yore, but artfully nipped up here, and pinned in there, and ultimately looking very "chie" and picturesque. I was particularly fascinated by one

I recently saw at an afternoon At Home of the Lady Mayoress, when clever Mrs Jack Johnson told the story of the Children's Tribute to the fund of the Queen's Nurses, and looked very nice while so doing.

This special Leghorn hat was very large, the brim undulating becomingly round the fair face of the wearer by being pinned up here and there, as my sketch in Fig. 1 indicates; two bouquets of very pale pink roses being placed underneath, one at the side, the other at the back. Round the crown was a band of Leghorn-coloured velvet, studded with diamonds, terminating in fan bows, while three or four ostrich feathers of the tint of the velvet completed a most distinguished looking chapeau.



THE LEGHORN HAT.

There were many specially charming and smart toilettes on this occasion, though the gracious hostess herself was in mourning, unfortunately, for a relative lost in the terrible Paris fire.

At a noted milliner's I have recently seen some pretty things. One hat of black straw there, which is specially delightful, has the brim trimmed at one side with many rosettes of black tulle, on the other with many rosettes of white tulle, and from the centre of these comes a straight osprey with a curled piece waving towards the back over a white ostrich feather, and beneath the brim is a bunch of white carnations tipped with mauve. Delicious is the only word to properly express a hat of violet straw, draped with mauve tulle, with masses of many hued convulvi lending their decorative influence. A charming little toque is formed of black, trimmed with red glaze and poppies.

My second sketch gives a useful and pretty instance of the ever-in-request-



FOULARD OVER-ALL

juvenile over-all. It is composed of powder-blue foulard, has a broad shoulder collar and Cavalier cuffs edged with white guipure lace and tied by a long white satin ribbon. The hat in this sketch is of chalk-white erinoline straw, trimmed with white satin ribbon and a big rosette of cowslips.

White is very fashionable wear for children just now; in fact, one sees almost as many tiny mites white clad literally from top to toe as in Paris. It is a charming mode for the little ones; but, oh! the washing it entails in a town like London!

The spring patterns include several fancy washing materials in light pink and white and other mixtures. The cream Scotch winseys are excellent, and the fashionable cords like corduroy are greatly in demand by those who dress well. Some of the new cream stuffs have very silky surfaces, with broadcaded designs. The flannels in cream tones, shrank and unshrinkable, make the best of tennis gowns for summer, and many boating, cricket and tennis suits are being made of pure wool. Dark blue serges with line stripes, white and coloured, are singularly useful, as also a long range of fancy Royal serge, and white with coloured stripes. Indeed, summer serges are hard to beat in the matter of general service.

What a pity the bolero cape has already become so common. Otherwise it is a nice little garment and rather a handy one too. One of the most serviceable and yet not backwaded concoctions to be adopted at present is a shoulder-cape attractively arranged. For after-lunch wear, this kind of tippet is perfect and quite the thing to don when the sunshine thrusts itself defiantly in every corner to show up all the dust and defects of our heavy winter clothes. Here is a design to be easily copied in three or four summer materials. A plastron-cut in one piece with the 'cornet' collar is composed of some jet black satins covered with handsome cream guipure. This work is wide-meshed and fashioned with an important flower and leaf pattern. The girl's face emerges from a very soft and fussy ruffling of deep ivory taffetas and black lisse "en suite" with the wide full flounce. Where particular care is needed is in the placing of the hooks and eyes, which should be duly concealed.

An otherwise delightful mantle is often spoilt by the display of these necessary evils. With some of the new tailor-coats, a huge black satin bow, handsomely



A DRESSY CAPE.

buckled, is worn instead of the lisse or tulle throat ruffles. This fashion, however, only suits a certain style of face—the face that can stand the uncompromising hardness of a starched shirt, or the rigid lines of a riding-habit corsage.

The final illustration is a walking dress in fawn-coloured mohair canvas embroidered in gold and coloured silks. The vest is of fancy silk with fancy buttons to match. Satin straw hat in fawn with mauve ribbon and feather.

Muslin dresses are the height of the fashion for summer; some in blue, pink, or mauve French lawn, some in white, all made with a frilled flounce at the hem and horizontal rows upon rows of insertion let in above; the white being worn over coloured silk slips, and sometimes hand-some muslin embroidery replacing the lace, divided by rows of tucking. This is a return of the fashions of from thirty to thirty-five years ago. Butter-coloured muslin is



STYLISH WALKING DRESS.

TEN PUDDINGS of a PINT EACH can be made out of ONE POUND of good Corn Flour. THE BEST CORN FLOUR—

BROWN & POLSON'S PATENT BRAND—

Is a trifle dearer than ordinary Corn Flour, but the difference in price cannot be noticed when divided over ten puddings. The superiority in flavour and quality can be distinguished at once. Brown & Polson have been making a speciality of Corn Flour for nearly 40 years. They guarantee what they sell. See that your grocer does not substitute some other make. Many articles are now offered as Corn Flour, usually without the maker's name, and sometimes bearing the name of the dealer instead, which can only bring discredit on the good name of Corn Flour.

employed with much effect on pure white, and lace killings are one of the modes of the day.

Embroidery figures on all sorts of fabrics, and trimmings' knots meaner through by means of rows and forget-me-nots, and sometimes the festoons are interwoven with sprigues. Many women are busy working evening gowns, and those who are not inclined to embroider an entire frock might bestow their time on bands treated in the same style, or pretty belts, which are quite fascinating with their festoons of flowers or Empire wreaths at intervals, while the white satin waistcoats embroidered in the same style are as pretty as they well can be, and cost a great many pounds if they are bought ready made direct from Paris.

HOLLAND.

QUERIES.

Any queries, domestic or otherwise, will be answered free of charge. Correspondents requesting queries are requested to give the date of the question they are asked enough to answer, and address their reply to The Lady Editor, "The Zealand Graphic," Brisbane, and on the top left-hand corner of the envelope, "Answer to Query," as the case may be. The Rules for correspondents are few and simple, but readers of The New Zealand Graphic are requested to comply with them.

Queries and Answers to queries are always inserted as soon as possible after they are received, though owing to pressure on this point, it may be a week or two before they appear.—Ed.

RULES.

NO. 1. All communications must be written on one side of the paper only.
NO. 2. All letters (not off by hand) must be prepaid, or they will receive no attention.
NO. 3. The editor cannot undertake to reply except through the columns of this paper.

RECIPES.

Mutton Broth. Take one or two pounds of the best end of the neck of mutton, washed after it has been most carefully freed from all fat and skin. Cut the meat up small, and put it, with the bones, into a saucepan, and with one pint of cold water to each pound. Cover the saucepan closely, put it on a clear fire, and bring it quickly to the boil. Then take off the cover, and let it continue boiling for 20 minutes, carefully removing any foam that may rise. At the end of the 20 minutes take the saucepan off the fire, and strain the broth carefully through a clean cloth into a basin. It is to be served at once, remove any grease that may show itself with a piece of clean blotting paper. What is not wanted immediately should be allowed to get cold and then skimmed. No salt or pepper should be added until serving; indeed in most cases it is best not to put any into the broth, but to serve them on the tray.

Scott's Woodcock.—Mix a small piece of butter in a stewpan, and add a spoonful of rich gravy, pepper, and salt, and break in two eggs, stirring quickly. When the eggs are thick add a dash of anchovy, then pour the mixture on hot toast, and serve.

Preparation Balls for Gums.—In ingredients: 4oz of best steel, 1oz of raw seal, 1oz of beef, a teaspoonful of benzoin, 1/2 a grain of nutmeg, 1/2 a grain of cayenne, 1 grain of mace, 1 grain of cloves, 1 grain of nutmeg, 1 grain of pepper, and salt to taste, a teaspoonful of cream or milk, 1 egg. Mix all the ingredients well together and add into small balls, dip in bread-crumbs and fry until a nice brown colour.

A. Escallop Patties.—Some very delicious sweet Escallop patties can be made in the following way: Take half a pint of milk, one finely sieged pint of a lemon, one ounce of castor sugar, and two ounces of butter, bring the milk to the boil, and then add one and a half ounces of Escallop, taking care that the mixture is smooth, and free from lumps, let it cook gently for about ten minutes, and then set it aside in a basin to cool. When it is cool add two eggs well beaten. Butter some small tinned tarts, or one large one may be used if you prefer it, but the small mortars make a much prettier dish. Sprinkle some browned crumbs over the inside of the mortars, and fill them with Escallop mixture, place them in a stewpan with enough boiling water in it to reach about halfway up the mortars. After putting the patties into the pan let the water boil, and then place the cover on the pan and draw it to the side of the stove and let the patties steam for an hour. Then turn them out, and serve with the following sauce.—Take about half of a small pot of apricot preserve, put into a saucepan with one ounce of castor sugar, the juice of a lemon, and four table-spoonsful of water, a little cayenne, and a slice of a Maraschino cherry, mix all together, and then strain the sauce to the bowl, and let it cook for about ten minutes. After which strain it through a fine hair sieve or tannery cloth, repeat it, and pour round the patties. The sauce should be a pretty deep colour, and clear in appearance. Inside cover, by that I mean cream which has been allowed to stand over the night time before it is skinned is the best kind

to use for whipping. It is not always easy to procure, and at this time of the year milk so soon becomes sour. A creamer is really the best thing to use. People very often put the white of egg into the cream before whipping, but of course, the cream, though frothy, is not so rich.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Crape.—In restoring crape, had some water in a deep vessel, about three parts filling this. Throw into the boiling water a small handful of gum arabic and give it a stir. Over the mouth of the vessel put a piece of new brown paper once folded. In this arrange the crape and keep the water boiling during the operation. The material soon becomes damp and then resumes its former condition. The crape should be folded or drawn along the paper so that all parts are affected. When wet, the paper must be changed, and this should not be of too thick a quality.

AS SEEN THROUGH WOMAN'S EYES.

THE SICK ROOM.

In cases of infectious disease, no matter how slight, put everything that comes from the sick room into a solution of carbolic or any disinfectant your medical man recommends if you use carbolic, study the directions carefully, or you may chance to find you have made it so strong that the disinfecting ablutions necessary before going amongst the rest of the household are all but literally a bath of fire. To insure disinfection, linen of all kinds should be boiled, but remember the boiling must be complete, for at any less degree than boiling point the germs of infection positively flourish. Any linen, bed-folios, etc., that are to go near a patient must be thoroughly aired. Of course, you say indignantly, "Do you think I would let anything damp go near anyone?" Not if you knew it, I dare say; but may I ask, do you see to the individual airing of each article that comes from the laundress' cart; and even if you did, as you probably even in sickness try to adhere to the old orderly rule of using your linen in rotation, how do you know that it may not become damp? I will not say, but I shiver in the linen closet, and even that chill, which I grant you a person in health would never discover, might cause a relapse to the invalid. The linen need not—indeed, in most cases should not—be hot; do we not all know how grateful in sickness is the cool freshness of clean sheets, etc., but it must not be cold, so as to strike a chill. Then, in giving medicine remember we taste most quickly with the lips; so when any unpleasant draught has to be given, keep it from the lips as much as possible, and wipe them at once with a dry, soft handkerchief. In cases where the lips are dry and parched, lightly moisten them with any permissible liquid before administering the dose, or in that dry state they will absorb the moisture, and consequently the taste of the medicine to a most unpleasant degree.

Another thing very few women suddenly caused on to attend the sick, really understand, and that is position. Theoretically, everybody knows how these are made, but practically, if you watch the average woman, who has perhaps in the dead of night to position one, you will soon discover how far the journey is from theory to practice. A broad position, most people can make after a sort, though very often that is a pretty poor one. But lined positions? At the risk of insulting some of my readers, permit me to give the method of making both, which I learnt, alas! in the hardest school that of experience. When suddenly called to take my place at a sick bed, I found my "education" did not include even the A B C of the knowledge necessary to a woman who is a wife and a mother.

For a lined position, see that the water is really boiling; if possible, have it boiling beside you whilst you are getting the materials ready, scald out the bowl in which you are to make it that it may be really hot, then put in some linseed meal, and add the water gradually, stirring it steadily one way all the time, adding more meal as it is required, to get it to the right consistency, which should be just liquid enough to spread; add the meal little by little, sprinkling it in with one hand and stirring with the other. Have ready your cloth, spread the linseed quickly from thick with a wooden or silver spoon, if you have not a spatula; sprinkle lightly a few drops of oil over the surface to prevent it sticking, roll the edges of the cloth carefully up in a hem, and apply it at once; a position should be put on at once, as it does not bear rewarining again well; if you have to keep it hot, set it in a soap plate, with another over it, over a saucepan of boiling water. Lay over it a piece of waterproof or oiled paper, and in this way you can keep a large position in good condition without so much changing—no

slight advantage when incessant positioning must be kept up. Needless to say, a small position will not keep so long. If the position is for a wound, you must not put the waterproof on without the doctor's leave, as it is apt to draw it. In general, when mustard has to be mixed with the linseed, it is better to mix it dry with the linseed, and then altogether with the water, as this avoids the partial application which occurs very often when it is sprinkled at the last on the surface of the position; but remember that, if the effect is to be more than a slight increase of strength to the linseed, the mustard must be sprinkled at the last, as hot water takes away some of the strength of it. A well-made lined position should never stick, nor require a muslin between it and the skin. A mustard position, on the contrary, except in very rare cases, should have a layer of muslin, etc., between it and the skin. Miss Lockyer, the matron of the London Hospital, whose valuable "Lectures on Nursing" should be as useful to every woman as they must have been to the practitioners to whom they were addressed, recommends that a mustard position should be spread on tissue paper, folded to a sufficient consistency with one layer of the paper over its surface, as it lets less of the mustard through than the muslin. She also advises, when mixing mustard with linseed for a position, to mix the required quantity quite smoothly with the boiling water, before sprinkling in the linseed meal. Everyone who can do so should read these lectures, and study the valuable advice they contain, for very few women can escape having at some time or other to undertake the duties of a sick nurse, and a great number may have to face these duties at a distance from professional assistance, when until the doctor comes they may have only their own knowledge and common sense to rely on. A medical career is a possibility to comparatively very few, sick nursing will, at one period or other of her life, fall to the share of nearly every woman.

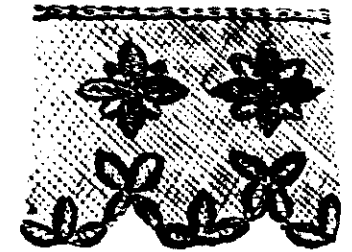
But where amateurs fail chiefly is in little matters. They cannot apparently realise "how on trifles all depends" in this life. They are in such a terrible hurry they fail utterly in the methodical, mechanical care of a skilled trained nurse (a care I have sometimes seen exaggerate to the amateur's impoverish, by the way). They ask you what you want—a huge pillow in the eyes of an invalid generally; they are so anxious to be quick that they slip the position as they put it on leaving a dirty, wet mark on the bed and night clothes, neither of which may very likely be changed. They bring up the beef tea and forget the salt, and run to fetch it, leaving the steam and smell to rise in the patient's nostrils, till by the time they return he loathes the food so necessary to him. They let the patient up whilst his bed is being made, and then discover suddenly the pillow-case is not quite aired, and by off for another, leaving the door open, and consequently a draught, till their return. But why multiply instances; it is ungrateful, I know; but if you have been yourself ill, look back and think of the aggravating little incidents you have yourself noticed, when some devoted but not very experienced friend has volunteered to take for a little while the place of the regular attendant.

Of course, all these stupidities are simply want of common sense in a way, but until, in some fashion, you have undergone a sick-room training, or do not realise either how important or how common these follies are. The fact is, there would not be a quarter the sickness there, but for this same stupidity.—La Vieille, in "The Queen."

WORK COLUMN.

There is an absolute craze for lace of all kinds this season, with which to decorate our summer gowns, but the quantity necessary and the extravagance of the prices only too often prevent those with shallow pockets from indulging in that filly and beautiful accessory to our toilettes. And under the circumstances I am sure my readers will be glad to have an explanation given them of how to make the lace shown in the sketch. The most chic of all lace-work is an evidence—there is a black background, the design being carried out in cream-colored beads. The black silk net and the lace beads can be purchased at any large draper's, but care must be taken to obtain the beads, and not linen beads, as the latter would be far too heavy and quite unsuitable to the work. The net must be cut to the length and breadth required and then tacked on to a piece of paper or glazed calico, which will give a firm background upon which to work. In the design sketched the beads are seen along the scalloped edges first of all, and then the swettes are made afterwards by four large loops of the broad band and four of the finer make. The dots inside each loop are merely stitches of fine silk to match the bead. It must

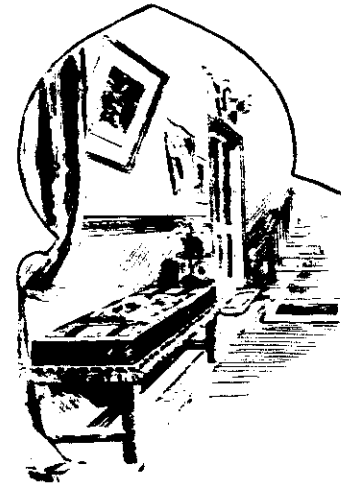
be remembered that as the paper is at the back of the net there can be no "fastening off" as is usual, and the needle must be run in and out of the lace for a few stitches in order to make the work secure. It is



A KEY LACE DESIGN.

quite wonderful how quickly this work can be done, after a little time has been spent in practising, and of course the designs can be very elaborate. Indeed, the results will often rival the exquisite hand-laces that come to us from abroad. To make a firm heading to the lace, the net should be turned over once, and one of the bands should be then threaded through the hem.

When the time of "sales" is on we pick up all sorts of "oddments," and do not know how to turn them to use, for who can resist beautiful bits offered to us at a less than cost price, although we have really no immediate need that they can fill. As furniture brocade is one of the most insinuating of materials, it is quite possible that many of my readers have some scrap they would like to turn to advantage, and to these I offer my suggestions of this very ornamental little bench. If the brocade is double width, only twelve inches will be required, and in addition, the framework



A BROCADED BENCH.

of the bench in white wood, a piece of sacking, some fringe, metal galon, plush for the border, a yard of plush to cover the wood if give these separately, as the two plushes may contrast in colour, between two and three pounds of horsehair, and lastly, four very thick copper nails to serve as supports for the two legs. You begin by nailing on the body of the bench three strips of sacking lengthwise, then ten strips across, so forming a strong sort of weaving; on this rests the cushion of the seat, made by stuffing an oblong bag of sacking with the horsehair, and tacking it firmly all the way round before covering it with the brocade, and plush border all the seams in which are neatly covered with the galon. This kind of seat is very pretty placed against the back of an upright piano, when the upper part of the back should be draped so as to harmonise, or look charming in a hall.

TO DARKEN GREY HAIR.

Lockyer's Sulphur Hair Restorer, quickest, safest, best; restores the natural colour. Lockyer's, the real English Hair Restorer, Large Bottles, 1s 6d, every-where.—Advt.

Ladies' HAND EMOLLIENT.

The expenditure of 1s. on Wilton's Hand Emollient will keep your hands soft and WHITE. Sold by all Chemists at 1s. per Jar. JUST TRY IT. A Trial Jar posted to any Address on receipt of 1s. in Stamps. G. W. WILTON, Chemist, Wellington. KEMPTHORNE, PROSSER AND CO. WHOLESALE AGENTS.



CHILDREN'S CORRESPONDENCE COLUMN.

Any boy or girl who likes to become a cousin can do so, and write letters to 'Cousin Kate,' care of the Lady Editor, 'Graphic' Office, Auckland.

Write on one side of the paper only. All purely correspondence letters, with envelope ends turned in, are carried through the Post Office as follows:—Not exceeding 100, 1d.; not exceeding 100, 1d.; for every additional 250 or fractional part thereof, 1d. It is well for correspondence to be marked 'Press Manuscript' only.

Please note, dear cousins, that all letters addressed to Cousin Kate must now bear the words 'Press Manuscript' only. If so marked, and the flap turned in, and not overweighed, they will come for a 1d stamp in Auckland, but a 1d from every other place.

THE 'GRAPHIC' COUSINS' COT FUND.

This fund is for the purpose of maintaining a poor, sick child in the Auckland Hospital, and is contributed to by the 'Graphic' cousins, readers of the children's page. The cot has been already bought by their kind collection of money, and now £25 a year is needed to pay for the nursing, food and medical attendance of the child in it. Any contributions will be gladly received by Cousin Kate, care of the Lady Editor, 'New Zealand Graphic,' Shortland-street, or collecting cards will be sent on application.

COT FUND ACCOUNT.

Per Cousin Blank: Pin Puginore, 2s; M.A.E., 2s; M. Moses, 2s 6d; Marick Moses, 1s; Vamdielt, 2s; P.H.E.M. (A.B.C. code used), 1s 9d; M.V.D., 1s 3d = 13s 9d.

Per Cousin Ethel (Waipawa)—John Pickett, 1s; Walter D. Pattison, 1s; L. Eames, 1s; A.M.G., 1s; E.R., 1s; Miss Power 1s = 6s. Bank balance £22 12s 2d, less £6 7s, paid for quarter's maintenance for Cousin Ada, equal £16 14s 3d.

THE 'GRAPHIC' COUSINHOOD.

PHOTO NO. 6.



COUSIN RIO.

Cousin Rio is an energetic little contributor, and the Cot Fund owes him many thanks for his collection and sympathy. This photograph and that of his brother Paeran (which appeared a week or two back) were taken some time ago. So that, could we see them now, we should find them quite big cousins.

Dear Cousin Kate.—It is a very long while indeed since I wrote to you last, so I hope you do not think I have forgotten you and the cousins altogether. I have just had my holidays and have been away a week at Hamilton West. I was there a month all but a day, and had a most delightful time. The house where I was staying is built on an old Maori pa. Part of the ground round about is all mounds; between these there are rows of peach trees, which look very pretty when they are in blossom. The house is on the banks of the river, so of course the scenery is very pretty indeed. My friends and I went fern-hunting one day and got a few ferns, but they are not of much account, though they look very pretty. We went to a dance when I was up there and enjoyed it very much indeed. It started at a quarter to eight, and ended at half-past twelve. We came away at twenty minutes to eleven, after having a very enjoyable evening. We also went to a concert, which was very good indeed. It consisted of all sorts of tableaux, songs, piano-forte solos, violin solos, dances, and shadow-pantomimes; I also enjoyed that very much. The night before I came away I had such a lovely ride on a dear little horse as frisky as a young pup. I rode about for half-an-hour. As I am very fond of riding, you may be sure I enjoyed it immensely, and how sorry I was to have to get off again! Where I was staying there were two very nice girls just about my size, so we had capital fun together. There were also a baby and a little boy about seven years old. The little baby was such a good little fellow, and he takes notice of everything. The photos of our Cousins Wilbert and Myrryn are very nice. Cousin Myrryn is a very little cousin, and I expect his letters are very unkindly indeed. I will send you one of my photos sometime soon. Did you go to Professor Carrolo's carnival? I went and enjoyed it immensely. I also went to Mrs Sowerby's juvenile fancy dress ball, and liked that very much. I am sending you a new riddle about the Queen, and some others, and if you don't think they are any good do not put them in. Now I must say adieu with love to all the cousins and yourself.—Your loving Cousin Agnes, Auckland.

At Mrs Sowerby's fancy dress ball in Auckland, for juveniles, I noticed Miss Brewer in pink; Miss Betty Yates, Spanish costume; Miss H. Davy, Spanish costume; Miss M. Geddes, white with a tartan band from one shoulder to the waist; Master Frank Best looked sweetly pretty as an ancient Roman in white trimmed with gold braid; Misses E. and A. Cooke, pink; Miss M. Gordon, pink; Miss G. Gordon, green; Master Sandy Geddes, sailor costume; Miss Nona Sinclair, green skirt dress and powdered hair; Master G. Kronfeldt, Scotchman; Miss J. Kronfeldt, white skirt dress; Miss R. Bean, cream; Miss E. Bean, yellow silk; Miss Daisy Anderson, Oriental girl; Miss Jessie Harrison, white, trimmed with pink roses; Miss M. Buttle, salmon pink; Miss M. Tulipian, cream; Miss M. Thorne, pink; Master Gummings, kilt; Master A. Male, kilt; Master A. Gierne, sailor; W. Hallett, sailor; H. Gorrie, evening suit; A. Sioman, evening suit; A. Taylor, sailor.

P.S.—Please send me a collecting card.

[You are very kind, dear Cousin Agnes, to ask for another card. You have had so many, and done so well with them that I think it is the turn of some other cousins to collect. Nevertheless, I will send you one, only do not hurry over it; keep it by you, and when you see a good chance ask for something. I am very glad you have had such a charming visit up the Waikato. Just fancy, I have not been further up that line than Ellerslie. I did not go to Professor Carrolo's Carnival, going out at night takes up such a lot of time, and makes one tired for work next day. Thank you for your nice description of Mrs Sowerby's juvenile dance. It was too late for the 'Graphic.' The lady editor says she must have news in by Monday morning. Thank you for your riddles. No. 7 is one that will not print easily, so I have left it out.—Cousin Kate.]

Dear Cousin Kate.—I have now much pleasure in forwarding to you the amount (£13 9d) which I have collected for the GRAPHIC Cousins' Cot Fund. The sum is not a very large one, but all the contributions have been given willingly. I must apologise for having got my card into such a disgraceful state, but it is through my carrying it about with me in my pocket. Please acknowledge this in next week's 'Graphic.' I must now beg to subscribe myself your affectionate cousin, Blank.

[Your welcome collection arrived safely, and I beg to tender hearty thanks for it. The Cot Fund has been very satisfactory throughout. It is a good idea keeping the card in your pocket; the only drawback is that the names are thereby rendered illegible. If you should happen to come across No. 1 and No. 4 donor, please explain to them that those are the best shots I could make at their names. You have generous friends. I am always anxious that the Cot money should be a willing collection. You will see that the cousins are kindly sending me their photographs to put in the 'Graphic.' Will you send yours?—Cousin Kate.]

Dear Cousin Kate.—I do not know what you will think of me for not writing to you for such a long time, but I am so busy; I have not written to any of my friends. Our examination was in August, and I passed into the Fourth Standard. I have collected 6s for the Cot Fund. I don't think I will have another card just yet. There have really been so many charitable calls this winter that most people have got tired of assisting. We are having a lovely spring, and the fruit trees in this district are covered with blossom. I am going to play in a music concert at Christmas-time. I have only got one of my photos taken two years ago. If I sent that could it be returned?—Your affectionate cousin, Ethel.

[Many thanks, dear Cousin Ethel, for your collection. You were good to collect so much. Please let me have your photograph; I will return it. Put one strong piece of cardboard against it, and it will come safely. I think you must be having a better spring than we are enjoying; the wind here is so cold for young plants. Tell me about your concert. What piece are you going to play? Are you fond of music?—COUSIN KATE.]

RIDDLES.

- 1. Why is the Queen like the rain?
2.—One, two, three.
A bonny boat I see:
A silver boat,
And all about
Upon a rosy sea.
3. When is a door not a door?
4. What letters are never out of fashion?
5. Hairy in and hairy out, hairy even at the mouth.
6.—2 x u r
2 x u b
i e u r
2 x 4 n e
COUSIN AGNES.

ARABIAN HORSES.

Nowhere else in the world is the horse regarded with quite the same affectionate consideration as in the East. There is an Arabian story, which is said to be true, but of which unfortunately no real proof exists, of a poor sheik whose entire worldly possessions consisted of a magnificent horse. He had refused many offers for it, for he could not bring himself to part with the creature he loved. At last a rich sheik, who had long coveted the other's horse, swept down upon the poor sheik's village, and bore him and the horse away captive. The party camped late that night in the desert, and, worn out by their long ride, all were soon asleep. Then the horse, who had somehow managed to free himself from his fastenings, came stepping carefully over the sleepers, so as not to awaken them, to the tent where the captive sheik lay securely bound. The horse tried for a long time to nuzzle the cords that bound his master and to help him to unbind, but finding himself unsuccessful he took his master's belt in his teeth, lifted him up, and picking his way through the camp without waking a single man, he ran at full speed one hundred miles, carrying his master all the way, until he came to his own village, and depositing his burden in front of the tent, the faithful animal fell over dead.

Another Arabian story which illustrates the love of the Arab for his horse is that of a sheik who owned a rare horse, and was much envied on that account. A neighbouring sheik sent to ask him his price, but the amount he named was so high that the would-be purchaser visited the owner in person, thinking that he could make a better bargain than his representative. After much haggling he agreed to pay the price demanded; but the other suggested that before the transaction was complete it might be well for him to show the owner of his steel. The visiting sheik consented, and the owner, meaningly and sailed about the desert like the wind. Coming back and observing his visitor's evident delight at the performance of his horse, he promptly doubled his price. A long argument followed; at last the visitor agreed to pay the increased amount; the owner once more proceeded to show off his animal, and again doubled

his price. This was repeated until the visitor had agreed to pay ten times the sum originally asked, and then the owner, laughing derisively, said there was not gold enough in the country to lay his horse, and rode away.

A few days later he met a lame beggar by the road-side, who demanded alms. 'I can give you nothing, for I have naught in the world besides this horse,' replied the sheik. Thereupon the beggar took him a tale of misery; how his mother lay dying in the next village, that he had travelled far, and that his only wish was to be by her side before the end, and he begged for a lift on the road. The sheik dismounted, and after infinite difficulty succeeded in getting the beggar mounted, intending to walk alongside and lead the horse. But no sooner did the beggar find himself on the horse's back than his lameness disappeared, his discourse was cast aside, and the poor sheik had the mortification of beholding his neighbour who had vainly endeavoured to buy the horse ride rapidly away.

'Stop!' he shouted. 'I have one thing to say before you go.' The other drew rein and listened. 'You have my horse,' continued the sheik, 'all that I had in the world, and I cannot get him back; but I pray you never to tell anyone how you came to possess him, for if you do so one in this land will ever help a beggar again. Upon hearing these words the other rode back, dismounted, and handed the owner the brittle rein, saying, 'Much as I desire your horse, that is a price at which I can not take him,' and went away.

THE TRUE STORY OF DICK TURPIN'S RIDE.

A highwayman named Nevison, or Nicks, as he is more generally known, had a blood-mare, a splendid bay, whose courage and endurance were such that Nicks determined by means of these qualities to prove an alibi in case of danger.

About four o'clock upon a certain morning he robbed a traveller on the road near Gad-hill, then turned and rode straight off to Gravesend. He was obliged to wait there an hour for a boat, and he made the best use of this time by baiting his mare. Then crossing the water, he dashed across Essex till he reached Chelmsford, where he rested half an hour and gave his horse some ball. Then he mounted again and dashed on to Bramborough, Bocking and Wetherfield; fast across the downs to Cambridge; quick by roads and across country he slipped past Gt. Manchester and Huntington to Fenny Stratford, where he baited the good mare and took a quick half-hour's sleep. Then once more along the north road until the cathedral grew up over the horizon larger, larger, and whizz he darted through York gate. In a moment he had led the jaded mare into an inn stable, snatched up some food, and in a fresh green velvet dress and gold lace strolled out gay and calm to the Bowling Green, then full of company. The Lord Mayor of the city happened to be there; Nicks sauntered up to him and asked him the hour. 'A quarter to eight,' said the Lord Mayor, graciously. 'Your most obedient,' returned Nicks, with a profound bow.

Later, when Nicks was apprehended and tried for the Gad-hill robbery, the prosecutor swore to the man, the horse, the place, and the hour, but Nicks brought the Lord Mayor of York to prove an 'alibi,' and the jury promptly acquitted the resolute and sagacious thief.

LACE FROM LEAVES.

The beautiful lace known as Fayal lace is made from the fibres in the leaves of the butter-rose—grown in the Azores, or Western Islands—a relative of the common centary plant.

This lace is manufactured by women, but the necessary skill is so rarely attained that there are but twenty-five persons on the islands who can make it.

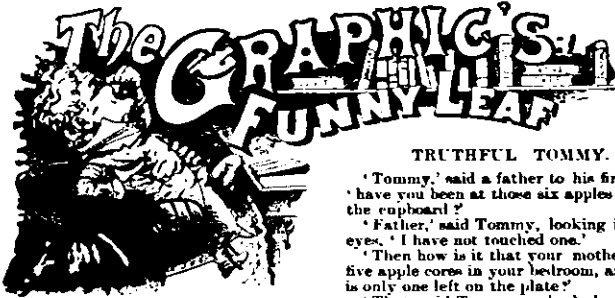
Caterpillars have been made to spin lace webs from the leaves of plants by the ingenious contrivance of a gentleman of Munich.

He makes a paste of the plant which is the usual food of the caterpillar, and spreads it thinly over a stone or other flat surface. Then, with a camel's hair pencil dipped in oil, he draws upon the coating of paste the pattern he wishes the insect to weave upon.

The stone being placed in an inclined position, the caterpillars are placed at the bottom, and the animals eat and spin their way up to the top, carefully avoiding every part touched by the oil, but devouring the rest of the plant.

A considerable quantity of lace was formerly made from the fibres of the alba by the peasants of Avessa, either of its natural cream colour or dyed black.

This lace would not, however, stand washing, being too delicate in its nature.



WHEN SHE CAME OUT.

She tripped across the shingle,
And she bathed her pretty toes;
My blood seemed all atingle,
And I coloured like a rose.
So sweet was her demeanor
That it made me want to shout;
But, heavens! If you'd seen her
When she came out.

She was dainty as a posy
When she faced the curling waves;
So creamy and so rosy,
All the ruffles were her slaves.
They didn't dare caress her
As she paddled all about;
But, heavens! If you'd seen her
When she came out.

RELIABLE.

'Yez know Casey, the contractor,' said Mr Doonan.
'Oi do,' replied Rafferty.
'Is he what ye'd call reliable?'
'He is the most reliable man Oi iver knew. Whinver he tells yez anythin' ye kin depend an it's not bein' so.'

A LOSS TO HIM.

An old lady was telling her grandchildren about some trouble in Scotland, in the course of which the chief of her clan was beheaded. 'It was nae great thing of a head to be sure,' said the good old lady, 'but it was a sad loss to him.'

HAM AND GROWL.

'It seems to me, Maria, we've had nothing but ham, ham, ham for breakfast all this week,' remarked Mr Brently. 'You forgot another thing we've had, Robert,' replied the better half, quietly. 'We've had growl, growl, growl for breakfast every day too.'

ALAS, TOO TRUE.

'My friend,' solemnly remarked the man in black, 'you don't know how hard it is to lose your wife.' 'Hard,' he echoed. 'My dear sir, it is simply impossible.'

TRUTHFUL TOMMY.

'Tommy,' said a father to his first born, 'have you been at those six apples I put in the cupboard?'
'Father,' said Tommy, looking into his eyes, 'I have not touched one.'
'Then how is it that your mother found five apple cores in your bedroom, and there is only one left on the plate?'
'That,' said Tommy, as he dashed wildly for the door, 'is the one I didn't touch.'

A DRAWBACK TO CYCLING.

Cannibal Chief: 'The soup tastes scorched.' Chef: 'Yes, your royal highness, the bicyclist was scorching when we caught him.'



MISUNDERSTOOD!

Polite Shopwalker: And what have you done us the honour of commanding, sir?
Colonel Hawke Eye, C.B.: Commanding! Confound your impudence, I commanded the 19th Dragoons before, you were born, you puppy!

INTENTION ALL RIGHT.

I thought you told me your Australian cousin was such a plain-spoken man—that he always called a spade a spade.
'Well?'
'Well, I find he doesn't. He calls it a spyde.'

HER EXCUSE.

'Mrs Frisque was at the garden party last night with her little son.'
'Why, her husband has been dead only six weeks.'
'Yes. She said she had come out to take the heir.'—Cleveland.

PRACTICAL.

'What nonsense it is,' remarked the sentimental girl, 'to take daisies and by plucking off the petals try to learn whether or not a man loves you.'
'Yes,' replied Miss Cayenne, 'it is very silly. A much better method is to take the roses he sends you round to the florist's and find out how much they cost.'

A SECOND SHERLOCK HOLMES.

First Tramp: 'Here comes a likely lookin' guy. I'll just brace him for a dime.'
Second Tramp: 'It's no use; he has no dough.'
'How d'yer know?'
'Why, if he had he'd be ridin' a wheel, not walkin'.'

GRACE APPROPÓS.

One day at the late Dean of Ely's table a legal gentleman was lamenting the gaps which death had recently made in his profession. 'We have lost,' he said solemnly, 'not less than six eminent lawyers in as many months.' The dean, who was quite deaf, at once rose and repeated grace: 'For this and all His mercies,' etc.

THE LANGUAGE OF LOVE.

Scene: Newly married pair on bench in park; old gentleman, supposed to be asleep.
She: 'My darling?' He: 'My dove.'
She: 'My doggie?' He: 'My pussie.'
She: 'My duck?' He: 'My pretty birdie.'
She: 'My goosie?' He: 'My lamkin.'
Old gentleman (interrupting, brutally): 'Can't you call each other Noah's arks and have done with it?'

THE BIT OF THE UNSEEN.

'My attention was called to the dog before I saw him,' said a witness in court. 'How was that possible?' 'He came up from behind and bit me in the leg.'

STATISTICAL.

'Before a man is thirty he falls in love with every pretty girl he looks at.'
'Yes?'
'And after he is thirty he falls in love with every pretty girl who looks at him.'

ITS ORIGIN.

Teacher (of class in rhetoric)—What is your idea of the derivation and significance of the expression 'a train of thought'?
Gifted pupil—It's got somethin' to do with a feller havin' wheels in his head, hain't it?

SNUBBED IN BIKEDOM.

'What a beautiful woman that Mrs Dackington is. She seems to be highly cultured, too, and yet I have noticed that she isn't much of a favourite in society.'
'No, she is almost ostracized.'
'I wonder why it is?'
'Oh, the reason is not far to seek. Her husband is in the tack manufacturing business.'

PACIFIED.

'Is that province pacified?' asked the Spanish general.
'Yes,' replied the officer. 'Now that the inhabitants have whipped us for the third time they seem quite contented.'

HIS MIND RELIEVED.

Shade of Shakespeare: 'Who is this approaching the Elysian Fields?'
Virgil: 'That is Professor Gumpertorfer, the great German critic.'
Shade of Shakespeare: Ah! now I shall have a chance to find out what I really meant when I wrote 'Hamlet.'

HORRORS OF THE GOLD FEVER.

'My wife will be the first Klondike widow.'
'Why? Are you going?'
'No; but I'm being talked to death by men who want to borrow money to get there.'

WHEN YOU DO FEEL IT.

'I am fast becoming convinced that there is no greater curse to man than an inherited thirst for strong drink.' 'I sympathise with you, old man; I've felt that way ever since we struck this prohibition community.'

A POLITICAL BANQUET.

First Cannibal: I wonder what was the rank of that clergyman?
Second ditto (smacking his lips): I don't know; I should say he was a prime minister.'

BETTER WITHOUT IT.

'Oh! that's all very well, Bill, but w'en I sees the miseries o' them as had good names and lost 'em, I'm bloomin' glad I never 'ad none.'

A RUNNING ACCOUNT.

'How long since Brokely settled down here?' asked the stranger in town.
'I don't know exactly,' answered the grocer, 'but I know it's nigh onto twenty years since he settled up with me.'

A MEMORIAL QUILT.

Clovertop: 'Yer see that quilt, young man? Marthy Ann made it out of ragged pieces of pants.'
Chappeigh: 'Aw, may I ask where you got so many fine samples of t'ousersings?'
Clovertop: 'Oh, Tige got 'em. He captured 'em from fellers what come ter see my darter Mary Ellen.'



AN APOLOGY.

Old Stolid: Mr Smiles, I was playing whist last Wednesday fortnight. You were my partner. I called you, sir, an ass. I spoke hastily, thoughtlessly.
Mr Smiles: Yes, I know, Mr Stolid. I knew, of course, you didn't.
Old Stolid: Well, I've thought over your play since; and I think it only right to tell you, sir, that, upon mature reflection, you were an ass.

NO WONDER.

'My wife cleans house eight times a year,' said the applicant for divorce.
'Decree granted,' said the judge, in a voice that shivered.



A PERFECT EXPLANATION.

George (jealously): What were you flirting with Alf Hawkins for? I saw you let him kiss you.
Maude: You needn't be jealous, George. I'm sure I told him I was engaged to you.

BOTH WAYS.

'Don't you know, my dear madam, that you are taking a terrible risk when you encourage your husband to go to the gold-fields? The probabilities are that not one man in 100 will bring back any gold, and not ten in 100 will ever return.'
'Yes, I know, an' I'm taking my chances both ways.'

WHAT BROKE UP THE CLUB.

'I onced belonged to an Anarchist club,' said Meandering Mike. 'It was a great organisation. We had some fine plans for reformation laid out.'
'What became of it?' asked Plodding Pete.
'De club disbanded.'
'What broke it up?'
'Dey refused to trust us for any more beer till we paid fur de last keg.'

INCONSIDERATE.

Spoons: Was it not disgraceful the way in which Smiggs snored in church to-day?
Stiggs: 'I should think it was. Why, he woke us all up.'

A QUIET EVENING.

N. Peck: 'I think I shall stay home this evening and enjoy a good, quiet, homelike evening—something I have not done for some time.'
Watts: 'A homelike evening? I thought your wife was out of town.'
'She is.'

ANOTHER THING.

Wife: 'You saw Mrs Browser last evening.'
Husband: 'Yes, but not to speak to her.'
'What a story! I heard you were sitting with her for more than two hours.'
'That's so; but it was she who did the talking.'

WE UNDERSTAND.

'Doesn't your wife's mother live with you?'
'No; I am living with her. Of course, the house is mine and I furnished it, but yet—'

A LUCKY MAN.

Spriggs: 'Hello, old man, I'm awfully glad to see you again. I heard that the doctors gave you up.'
Bowles: 'Yes, I guess I'd have died if they hadn't.'

THEY NEVER DO.

Morgan: 'Do you believe a woman will lie about her age?'
Shetland: 'About it? Oh, dear, no; nowhere near it.'

FROM ONE POINT OF VIEW.

The two girls strolled by the sad sea waves.
'Shall we go in bathing?' asked one.
'What's the use?' demanded the other. 'There isn't a man on the beach.'

A QUESTIONABLE PEDIGREE.

Newrich: 'I'm going to plant a lot of shade trees around my house. What sort is the best, do you think?'
Bunsom: 'The shadiest kind of a tree I ever saw was that family tree of yours that you showed me the other day.'



A FRANK EXPLANATION.

Magistrate: 'What excuse have you to offer for assaulting your wife so brutally?'
Prisoner: 'I'm sorry, your worship, but it's 'er own fault: she won't shout up, she won't, and I'm rather 'ard of 'earing; and I really didn't know as I'd give 'er more than the regular dose—I didn't on my honour, your worship.'

GENEROUS.

In the nursery: He: Give me a bite of your candy, please, Flossie?
She: No, but you may kiss me while my mouth is sticky.

THEOLOGY.

Ethel: Didn't grandpa go to heaven, mamma?
Mamma: Yes, I hope so.
Ethel: Then why did they put 'Peace to his ashes' on his tombstone? People who go to heaven don't have ashes, do they?