

PERA HOUSE MONDAY EVENING, DEC. 27, 1897.

RETURN RETURN with RETURN with a RETURN with a New RETURN with a New RETURN with a New Repertoire. RETURN with a New Repertoire.

BLAND HOLT

And his PREMIER DRAMATIC ORGANISATION In one of his latest purchases. A MILITARY DRAMA OF INTENSE INTEREST, entitled

FOR ENGLAND! FOR ENGLAND! FOR ENGLAND! FOR ENGLAND!

SEVEN WEEKS Theatre Royal, Sydney. SEVEN WEEKS Theatre Royal, Melbourne. SEVEN WEEKS

Illustrated by a series of BRILLIANT TABLEAUX AND MAGNIFICENT SCENES.

Prices: 3s, 2s, and One Shilling. Box Plan at Williamson and Lyell's. Day Tickets at Williamson's and Partridge's.



Dear Bee. December 20.

The compliments of theseason seems the most fitting commencement to my letter this week, and a very hot, dry season it seems to be. However much as we want rain for gardens and crops, for our outdoor festivities this weather is simply perfection—so long as one is simply a spectator and not a worker. But I have much to tell you and must not bask longer in the tropical heat.

A MOST ENJOYABLE AFTERNOON TEA

was given by Mrs John Roach, at her pretty residence, Avaton, St. George's Bay Road, Paruelli. Mrs Roach received her many guests on the verandah, whence they wandered through drawing and dining rooms, balcony, and verandah, the two last-mentioned being canvased in and furnished like rooms. Flowers of every beautiful description were lavishly placed in all conspicuous spots. Strawberries and cream, with the choicest of cakes, accompanied by tea and sweets of every variety were handed round. Mrs Roach was ably assisted to entertain her guests by Miss O'Keefe.

The table decorations were of the most exquisite description. The ground-work was a white Damask cloth, handsomely embroidered, pink and green ribbons were artistically brought diagonally from corner to corner, and the centre was relieved with specimen vases of pink ivy geraniums and greenery. Amongst those who contributed towards the musical items were: Songs by Mrs Ching, Misses Mabel and Kate Hay, Miss Kathleen Thompson, etc.

Mrs John Roach wore a chic nignonette green silk, veiled in white muslin; Mrs Ching, heliotrope striped costume; Miss Germaine Ching looked sweet in white muslin, sailor hat; Mrs Lyons was very much admired in white China silk skirt, handsomely embroidered, mauve and white striped silk crepon blouse, the stripes running diagonally on bodice, the epaulettes on shoulders were finished with mauve chiffon, mauve and white chip hat en suite, trimmed profusely with mauve flowers, mauve and white striped parasol, Miss Aubrey, white India silk finished with yellow, black hat with pink roses; Mrs Thomson (Wanganui), a combination of grey and yellow, and her daughter, white; Mrs Toucher, dark skirt, heliotrope blouse; Mrs Pollan looked very pretty in a becoming blue muslin with white lace, smart bonnet of green straw and trimmed

with lilac chiffon, rosettes and pink flowers; Mrs Rathbone, lemon coloured Empire gown with pink epaulettes; Mrs Gordon, grey; Miss Gordon, grey; Mrs Hay, black; Miss Hay, pretty blue muslin with narrow black velvet bands, black hat with flowers; Miss Kate Hay looked chic in a pink muslin similarly made as her sister's; Miss Shepherd, black silk, white lace vest; Miss H. O'Keefe, dark skirt, light blouse; Mrs Percy Dufaur, fawn tailor made gown; Mrs Chambers-Taylor, black silk, with lace dolman, black bonnet with yellow roses; Miss Chambers-Taylor, brown tailor-made gown pink vest, yellow tie, white sailor hat; Mrs Ruck, fawn flowered costume; Mrs Lucas Bloomfield looked well in grey flowered muslin, large picture hat with flowers; Mrs Harry Bloomfield, white pique, pink vest, pink straw hat, with black chiffon; Mrs Herbert Thompson, black silk, black bonnet relieved with roses; Miss Kathleen Thompson, light summer costume; Mrs Kerr-Taylor and her daughters were studied in white; Miss Thomson (Paruelli), pink and white striped cambric with fawn lace, large white hat with pink chrysanthemums; Miss Von Der Hyde (Sydney), pale pink cambric, black hat with pink flowers; Miss Frater, green striped cambric, white chip hat with pale lettuce green chiffon trimmings; Mrs Tewsley, becoming pink creponette with fawn lace, red velvet toque; Mrs McCormick, grey; Mrs Ashley Hunter, chic black and white striped gown; Mrs Leatham, dark costume with short green sleeves; Mrs Cheeseman, black; Miss Cheeseman, very striking black skirt and zouave, white bodice; Mrs Kilgour, black mourning costume; and many others.

ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES

in connection with the King's College, Remuera, took place last Friday evening, when the Principal and Mrs Ashton Bruce gave a large At-Home, receiving their guests beneath an arch of ferns, lighted with fairy lamps, the centre of which was the King's College coat of arms. Mrs Ashton Bruce wore a handsome costume of spuce, toque en suite. The garden, the building, and lawns surrounding the College were tastefully illuminated with Chinese lanterns, the general effect being remarkably beautiful, reminding one of Jubilee night. After the distribution of prizes a Baden-Baden concert was given, which is quite a novelty in Auckland. The performers were stationed in an alcove in the balcony, where they could be heard all over the grounds to great advantage. Eady's orchestra band also discoursed their excellent music from this alcove. Mr F. Uppell gave a song, 'I am goin' to Dixie' (with banjo accompaniment) and chorins by Mr Leslie Hunt's male voice club. This song was the gem of the evening. Songs were also rendered by Mrs (Col.) Banks, Miss Mabel Tilly, Mr Tracey Hall, Mr Geo. Reid; duet (vocal), Mrs Banks and Miss Mabel Tilly; duet (vocal), Messrs Geo. Reid and Tracey Hall; quartettes by Mr Leslie Hunt's male voice club. During the early part of the evening speeches by Rev. W. Beatty, the Principal (Mr Grahame Bruce), Mr Tewsley, and Mr Fern were given from the beautiful fern-decorated pavilion on the lower lawn, and then the school prizes were distributed. During the interval in the middle of the programme Mrs Duncan Clerk distributed the sports prizes from the main entrance of the house. Then refreshments were dispensed in the ball-room, the table decoration consisting of canary and red crinkly paper with large vases of lilies and daisies, etc. It would be impossible for me to give a description of dresses worn by guests, as I could not distinguish colour by the light of Chinese lanterns, and also among four or five hundred guests I could not recognise many by this soft light. The following is the list of those I noticed:—

Rev. W. and Mrs Beatty: Major and Mrs Banks; Mr and Mrs Bodle; Mr and Mrs Alfred Buckland, jun.; Mr and Mrs Cochrane; Mr and Mrs Cheeseman, the latter wore a black evening costume, white ermine cape; Miss Hlades, black velvet costume; Mr and Mrs Charles Baker, the lady wore a mauve costume; Misses Conolly; Mr and Mrs Cooper; Mr and Mrs Archie Clark; Mr and Mrs Matthew Clark; Mr and Mrs Ching, the lady wearing a white China silk, tulle bonnet en suite; Miss Ching, white muslin, sailor hat; Misses Dudley; Dr. and

Mrs Dawson; Mr and Mrs Irews; Mr F. Earl; Miss Lucas; Mr Ferguson; Mrs Gamble; Mr and Mrs Ransom; Mrs and Miss Burns; Mr Mackay; Mr Bruce; Mr Mercer; Mr and Mrs Tewsley; Misses McFarlane; Mrs Tilly; Misses Tilly; Mr Tilly; Mr and Mrs Ware; Miss Ware; Mr and Mrs Robt. Rose; Mrs Bamford; Misses Thorpe; Mrs and Misses Walker (Ellerslie); Mr and Mrs Youngusband; Mr and Mrs Gorrie; Misses Gorrie; Mr and Mrs Windsor; Mrs Lennox; Misses Lennox; Mr Lennox; Mrs and Misses Tisdale; Misses Stevenson (Glenholm); Mr and Mrs Finlayson; Mr and Mrs Smallfield; Mrs Sam Morrin; Mr and Mrs R. A. Carr (Epsom), and Miss Carr; Mrs McFarlane; Mr and Mrs Winstone; Miss Jursill; Mr Cuney; Mrs and Misses Gorrie; Misses Percival; Mr and Misses Draper; Professor Talbot Tubbs; Miss Tubbs; Mr and Mrs Luckey; Miss Goldsbro'; Mrs Payton; Mr and Mrs Alfred White; Miss Little; Mr and Mrs Heather; Mr and Mrs Ashley Hunter; Mrs Hitchcock; Misses Hooper; Mrs E. Hesketh; Misses Hesketh; Mrs Heywood; Misses Heywood; Mr Johnston; Mr and Misses Kensington; Mrs S. Kissling; Misses Kissling; Dr. and Misses Erson; Mr and Mrs Morton; Mr and Mrs Marriner; Rev. H. Major; Mr Major; Mr and Mrs Mitchellson; Misses Mitchellson; Mrs Thomas Morrin; Misses Morrin; Mr and Mrs Cotter; Mr and Misses Cotter; Mr and Mrs H. Nolan; Mr and Mrs Robertson; Misses Pierce; Mr and Mrs John Reed; Mrs Lonsdale Pritt; Mr Pritt; Mr and Mrs J. M. Shera; Miss Shera; Miss Shepherd; Mrs Kerr Taylor; Misses Kerr Taylor; Mr Chamberlain; Mr and Mrs Hooper; Mr and Mrs Duncan Clerk; Misses Devereux; Mr and Mrs R. C. Carr, and Miss Carr.

Mrs Conolly, of Remuera, gave a LARGE AFTERNOON TEA

last week in their pretty garden. A function of this kind is always more appreciated than one that is given within four walls, as the last-mentioned is stiffer and more ceremonious, while in the garden one always feels free and buoyant. Chairs and sofas were placed round the lawn, and were soon taken possession of by the many guests. Strawberries and cream, cakes and tea were handed round during the afternoon by the Misses Conolly (two), Pickmere (two), Baker (two), and Little, whose attentions were much enjoyed as they flitted in and out amongst the numerous guests with their large trays of dainties. Mrs Conolly was ably assisted to receive her guests on the lawn by her two daughters. Our hostess wore a very handsome black satin, relieved on the bodice with pretty coloured lace, bonnet with flowers, black parasol; Miss Conolly, pretty pink striped costume; and her sister wore a dark skirt, light blouse; Mrs Wigmore, very striking cerise pink flowered material with black ground, hat with pink flowers; Mrs Tilly, peacock blue cashmere; Mrs Cotter, very stylish costume of black satin, with silver passementerie, white chiffon vest, toque en suite; Mrs Thomas Morrin, spring green silk, veiled in brown figured net, plaid ribbon collar and Empire belt, black plumed hat with shaded roses; Mrs Hesketh, black silk; Mrs Shipherd, grey cashmere, white hat; Mrs Worsp, dark costume; Mrs Kerr-Taylor, white; Miss Larkins, green shot with violet; and her niece, Miss Baker, simple white muslin; Misses Baker, (two), dark costumes; Miss Lucas, black relieved with pink; Miss Outhwaite, fawn; Mrs Donald, dark cherry silk, veiled in black; Mrs Dr. King wore a very picturesque blue silk veiled in a fawn and blue muslin, toque of forget-me-nots; Mrs Winstone, grey lustre; Mrs Nelson, Gamble; Mrs A. Carrick, heliotrope striped gown; Mrs Hugh Campbell, navy blue flowered delaine; Miss Pickmere, dark skirt, light blouse; and her sister, a white pique; Mrs Robert Rose, grey tweed; Mrs Hamlin, black; Miss Pearl Little, dark skirt, blue and white striped zephyr blouse; Mrs Robert Dargaville, grey muslin; Mrs John Roach, green silk veiled in white muslin; Mrs Ransom, dark skirt, lettuce green silk blouse; Mrs Tewsley, pretty soft pink creponette trimmed profusely about neck and corsage with billowy fawn lace, red velvet toque; Mrs Bush, black with old gold; Mrs Hardie, old gold and black striped fancy material; Mrs Baume, pretty black and white figured muslin; Mrs Coleman, absinthe green silk skirt, white silk blouse; Mrs Duncan Clerk, dark costume; Mrs Ching, heliotrope and fawn striped costume; Mrs

Sydney Nathan was very much admired in bouton d'or silk veiled in embroidered grass lawn; Mrs Lawry, black costume; Mrs (Dr.) Beattie, very becoming mode grey trimmed richly with silver passementerie, hat en suite; Miss Hooper, white; Mrs Archer, black, relieved with heliotrope; Miss Roskrugs, black and white striped zephyr; Mrs Brabant, violet costume veiled in black lace; Mrs Bewes, white muslin; Mrs Henry Johnson, dark costume, blue silk vest; Mrs Hazard (Ponsonby), pretty summy pea green muslin; Mrs Clifton, Mrs Bamford; Mrs Richardson, pretty blue flowered muslin; Mrs Williams, black; Mrs Lonsdale Pritt, black; Mrs Griffiths; Mrs Colegrove, grey, trimmed green; Mrs Laishley, dark green costume; Mrs Ashley Hunter, spuce coloured costume; Mrs Bassett, heliotrope striped costume; Mrs Jones, very stylish mauve silk, veiled in mauve and green flowered muslin; Mrs (Major) George, handsome shot alpaca; Miss Aubrey, and many others whose names space forbids me to mention. On Tuesday night next Mrs Conolly will entertain the unmarried girls in the garden.

Mrs J. Y. Stevenson gave a large children's party at her pretty residence, Glenholm, Remuera, on the same afternoon as Mrs Conolly gave her garden party, and many of the mothers left their little ones at this rendezvous while they went on to their own grown-up entertainment.

The members of St. Peter's Church, Hamilton, held a

VERY SUCCESSFUL SALE OF WORK

in the Volunteer Hall, on Tuesday, 14th inst. Numbers of useful articles were disposed of during the afternoon, and a brisk trade in sprays and buttonholes was carried on by several young ladies. Delicious afternoon tea was dispensed on the stage. The proceedings were brought to a close in the evening by a most successful concert arranged by Miss Sandps, and to this young lady great praise is due for the novel and extremely pleasant entertainment. Much regret was felt that Mr Schatz (Auckland), who was advertised to sing, was unavoidably absent.

The breaking up of the Hamilton Convent School for the Christmas holidays and the distribution of prizes took place on the 16th inst. There was a great number of visitors and relatives of the children present in the large schoolroom, which was prettily decorated for the occasion. After the pupils had gone through a short programme of vocal and instrumental music, and some pretty action songs, by the younger children, the prizes were distributed by His Worship the Mayor (Mr W. Dey). A quantity of plain and fancy work, paintings, drawings, etc., were exhibited, the work of the pupils for the past year, which reflects the greatest credit on both pupils and teachers.

Miss Milly Heywood and her pupils gave a LARGE AT-HOME

last Wednesday in St. Luke's Hall, Remuera. A programme of various pretty and difficult pianoforte pieces was most creditably gone through, viz.:—Duets by Misses I. Hardie and Rose, Misses J. Draper and M. Dargaville, Misses E. Percival and J. Ireland, Misses N. Stibald and E. O'Halloran, Miss D. and Master L. Gillilan, Misses G. and N. Russell, Misses J. and K. Stevenson, Misses Cotter and Moss; pianoforte solos by the following lady pupils: Misses Queenie Nelson, Grace Endean, Alice Morrin, Nellie Russell, Elsie Gillilan, Dorothy Ware, Daisy Hay, G. Ching, Esme Elliot, C. Draper, W. Cotter, Lily Rose. The hall was beautifully decorated with branches of bamboo, rata flowers, pink hollyhock roses, pink ivy geraniums, etc. The stage was banked with white lilies and daisies finished with greenery; in the centre was placed a charming picture, a Christmas present to Miss Milly Heywood from her pupils with a case of gold sleeve-links. Mrs Heywood and Miss Heywood received the guests as they entered the hall. There must have been about 70 to 80 present. Forms, chairs, and tables were placed about the hall in conversazione style. Tea, cakes, and sweets were handed round to the guests by Miss Heywood and her pupils, who were all most charmingly gowned in white, and many of the guests came to the conclusion that not a prettier batch of girls has ever been seen in Auckland. Mrs Heywood, handsome black costume, white lace cap with pink