

bows; Miss Heywood, white batiste muslin, slightly figured in black, yellow shaded ribbon round neck; Miss M. Heywood, simply gowned in white, bouton d'or ribbon round neck; Miss Lily Rose looked well in white muslin; Mrs Conolly, black silk with black beads, bonnet with green rosettes; Miss Conolly, pink striped costume with fawn lace; Miss Inez Stevenson looked sweet in white muslin with cream face, white befeater hat with red poppies; Miss I. Hardie, white muslin; Mrs Nelson, black silk, coloured vest, pretty sea-blue ribbon in bonnet; Mrs Thomas Morrin, green silk veiled in brown; Miss Morrin, white; Mrs Robert Rose, canary silk veiled in muslin, sailor hat en suite; Mrs Clark (Mount Eden), black gown, black bonnet with violet flowers; Mrs Buddle, black; Miss Allie Buddle was very much admired in black mourning costume, black hat with ostrich feathers; Mrs Archer, black and white striped muslin, black toque; Mrs Ranson, navy flowered delaine; Miss Horne, grey check silk, floral toque; Mrs Lonsdale Pitt, black silk, black tulle bonnet; Mrs S. Kissing, black silk, bonnet with blue; Miss Tilly, cream flowered muslin; Mrs Tewsey, black silk, old gold brocaded bodice veiled in black tulle, geranium red velvet toque; Mrs Hasset, pink and black striped fancy cloth; Mrs Daere, black; Mrs Ashton Bruce, very striking peacock blue cambric with white stripe, black hat with forget-me-nots; Mrs Reed (Kohimarama), fawn gown trimmed with green; ar her daughter, dark skirt, heliotrope striped blouse; Miss Ruth Jackson, white gown with narrow black stripe, sailor hat; and her sister, dark skirt, pink blouse; Miss Batger, white muslin; Mrs J. M. Shera, black costume with orange silk vest, hat en suite; Mrs Devereux, black silk with grey tulle, toque to match; Miss Devereux; Misses Kerr Taylor; Mrs Cochrane, black; Mrs Draper; Mrs Lennox, black; Miss J. Ireland, white; Miss Colbeck, pretty black and white striped costume; Miss Elliot, white pique, burnt straw hat with pink roses beneath brim and black feathers on the top; Miss Esine Elliot was distinguished in white; Mrs Ware, mode grey alpaca, white vest finished with silver passementerie, black hat relieved with white; Miss Ware, pink flowered silk, black plumed hat; Miss Dorothy Ware, white muslin; Misses G. and N. Russell, white tucked muslins trimmed with embroidery; Miss N. Sibbald, white; Miss Baber, grey; Miss O'Halloran, white; Misses Kate and Momi Hay wore white muslins, black hats with various coloured flowers; Miss Daisy Hay, white; Mrs Ching, heliotrope striped gown; Miss Ching, white; Mrs Archie Clark, white silk with narrow black stripe; Mrs Sam Morrin, grey; Mrs Robert Dargaville, grey muslin, hat en suite; Miss Shuttleworth, blue cambric; Miss Outhwaite, fawn gown, plaid vest; Miss Lucas, black with pink; Mrs Cotter, striking cream flowered alpaca, passementerie vest, black toque trimmed en suite; Miss Cotter, exquisite Sydney costume of fawn and lettuce green striped gown, black plumed hat with floral decorations; Miss Millie Cotter, blue and fawn striped gown similarly made as her sister's, black plumed hat; Miss Winnie Cotter looked very pretty in white muslin; Mrs James Russell, grey flowered silk, large black hat with black and white ostrich feathers; Mrs Browning, black; Mrs Robert Browning, grey alpaca.

POLO

was played in Hunter and Nolan's paddock on Saturday. Mrs Harry Tonks, Mrs Andrew Hanna, and the Misses Hay gave the afternoon tea. There was a very large attendance of the gentler sex. The marquee was placed in the centre of the field, with its entrance facing the polo players, which was a decided improvement from the prior Saturday. Amongst the many present were:—Miss Hay, blue flowered cambric, black hat, with floral decorations; Miss Kate Hay, pink cambric, black hat, with floral decorations; Miss Mona Hay, white muslin; Miss Daisy Hay, pink striped zephyr; Mrs Harry Tonks, white zephyr, with blue stripe; Mrs Andrew Hanna, black and white striped muslin; Mrs (Col.) Banks, black silk, striped bodice; Mrs Mercer, very stylish fawn and blue combination, pretty hat, with blue forget-me-nots; Mrs Foster, red and white striped cambric; Mrs Buddle, white flowered muslin; Mrs Fred Purchas (England), white muslin, white befeater straw hat; Miss Purchas, dark skirt, light

blouse; Miss Mildred Purchas (who has just returned from her trip to the Auld Country) wore a white pique, pink ruffle round neck, burnt straw hat; Mrs Challinor Purchas, dark skirt, blue blouse; her little boy wore a blue and green; Miss Hesketh, dark skirt, green blouse; Miss Devereux, grey skirt, black and white striped blouse; Mrs Creagh, grey; her daughter also wore grey; Mrs Worsp, dark skirt, pink blouse; Miss D. Worsp, dark skirt, white blouse; Mrs Jackson (Wanganui), white-pique, black toque, with pink ribbons; Miss Jackson, pink cambric; Mrs Hope Lewis, black and white striped batiste; Misses Kerr-Taylor, white; Miss Mabel Churton, dark skirt, heliotrope blouse; Miss Stevenson, pale blue muslin; Miss Daisy Stevenson looked sweet in white, with yellow; Miss Cotter, dark skirt, white blouse; Miss Winnie Cotter, white; Mrs Torrance, black; Miss Torrance, green and white striped gown; Miss Beatrice Bull, red and white striped cambric; Miss Ware, riding costume; Miss Wilkins, lavender and white striped gown; Miss Maud Wilkins, white pique; Miss Elliot, black and white striped gown; her sister, pink cambric; etc. Messrs Lecky, Ivan Craigh, Burns, etc., were amongst the gentlemen.

THE GRAFTON WHIST CLUB EVENINGS

were brought to a close on Tuesday evening last, when Mrs (Judge) Smith entertained between 50 and 60 members and friends at her residence, Watea, Grafton Road. This Whist Club was inaugurated last winter, and the weekly meetings have proved most enjoyable during the past months. The club's meetings have been held one evening in each week at the homes of Mesdames Smith, Brabant, C. C. Baker, A. McCredie and Daere respectively, and it is with a general wish that they have come to a close now. Amongst those present on Tuesday evening were Mesdames Keogh, Brabant, H. Williamson, Hudson, Lindsay, A. Kenderdine, C. C. Baker, Snell, Watkin, Sloman, Daere, Ashton, Misses Brabant (2), Snell, Dudley, Watkin, Pierce (2), Sloman, Von Der Hyde, Brown, Biss, Aickin, Girdler, Choyce (2), Blades, Williamson, etc.; Messrs Daere, Lindsay, Brabant, A. Kenderdine, McCredie, C. C. Baker, H. Ashton, Sloman, Hudson, Lusk, P. Marshall, Ferguson, Biss, Kallender, Hay, Williamson, Sloman (2), Kissing, Connell, McCormack, Pierce, etc. The young people indulged in 'Progressive Flip' while the club members kept the whist tables well occupied until, and after, supper was dispensed. I must not omit mentioning that Miss Ruth Dudley and Mr Fred Sloman were the fortunate winners of first prizes at the 'Flip' Progression.

A VERY SUCCESSFUL CHRISTMAS TREE AND FETE

was held in Waite's Hall, Mount Eden, recently in aid of St. Barnabas' Church. The Hall was arranged to represent scenes and localities from Dickens, and looked remarkably well. Mrs Heather, assisted by the Misses Coates and Trevithick, had a refreshment stall representing the Blue Dragon Inn and Gardens, and seemed to be doing a big business. Mrs Barnett, assisted by Miss Chatfield and the Misses Brown, had a lollie stall representing Hungerford Bridge; Mrs Dawson, the Old Curiosity Shop, and it certainly was what it was supposed to represent.

Mrs Hoak had Bleak House, and the two Christmas trees were in the hands of the Misses Cooper, Williams, Rice and Stone, and looked very pretty. All the ladies assisting were dressed to represent characters from Dickens, amongst whom were Mesdames Heather, Johnston, Barnett, Hill, Black, Beaumont, James, Littlewood, Drury, Misses Hague, Eastgate, Drury, Aiken, Rice, Coates, Trevithick, Brown, and others, all looking very nice in their old-fashioned costumes. The Fete was successful in every way, and the promoters, Mesdames Heather, Johnston and Miss Rice, must have been well pleased with it financially, as everything was disposed of before the fete closed.

PHYLLIS BROUNE.

'O! don't mind the threats 'av 'im,' Mr Hogan explained, 'as much as 'is' insultin' style 'av his remarks.' 'And what did he say?' asked Mr Grogan. 'He says to me,' 'Hogan,' says he, "'tis a great notion O! have to jump on you and knock your face into shape.'

DUNEDIN.

Dear Bee, December 18th.

During this week most of the principal schools in the town have broken up. The Misses Millar (Braemar House) held their breaking up presentation of prizes on Tuesday afternoon, at the Choral Hall. The prizes were presented to the pupils by the Rev. — Hewitson, who made a short but very suitable speech before doing so. French and German plays were acted by the pupils, also recitations, songs, piano solos, duets, and quartettes were all most brilliantly gone through. There was a great number of people present; the hall had been very prettily decorated by the pupils. The Misses Millar received the guests at the entrance to the hall, and were all most becomingly dressed.

The same day Miss De Salmonds held her breaking up, and a number of people were present. The small schoolroom at her house looked very pretty, being decorated with all kinds of flowers. Tea, coffee, and cakes were handed round at intervals, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent by all present.

The evening of the same day Mendelssohn's 'Elijah' was given in the Garrison Hall. Those present were Mrs Williams, Misses Williams, Gibson, Wright, Reynolds, Holmes, Bartleman, Ulrich, Webster, Bateheler, Rattray, Graham, Chaffey, McLean, Driver, Cargill, Morris, Mrs Lindo Ferguson, Mrs Hogking, Mrs Mills, Mrs Monkman, etc.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

held their summer show on Wednesday and Thursday. It was the most successful which has taken place for years. The roses exhibits were perfect, Judge Denniston's blooms being very noticeable by their beauty. The competition for floral decoration of dinner tables was very good, Miss Tui Stephenson being successful both in the set table, which was arranged with lovely yellow columbines and grass, and the rose table which looked most tastefully done with William Allen and Richardson roses, candle shades to match. Miss A. Batigate came second in rose tables, hers being various shades of pink, crimson, and cream.

AT HOME

On Thursday evening a large was given in the Garrison Hall, to welcome back the Bishop of Dunedin. The hall was very nicely decorated. During an interval, tea, coffee, and cakes were handed round, these having been supplied by different parishes. The Bishop gave an address which was most interesting; he touched on Jubilee celebration in England. Several songs were sung, and every one spent a very merry evening. A few present were: Mesdames Turnbull, White, Michie, Webster, Turton, Longford, Ritchie, Bowden, Thomson, MacLean, Royle, Taylor, Graham, Lardels, Wright, Williams, Misses Kempthorne, MacDonald, Webster, Ulrich, Longford, Gregg, Logan, Graham, Royle, MacLaren, Turton, Neill, McAnsey, Bartleman, Ramsay, Jones, King, Rattray, Gibson, Wright, Williams, Jackson, Thompson, Robinson, Fitchett, Brown, Black, Goldsmith, etc., etc. Out of such a crowd I could not distinguish many.

ATHLEEN.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Dear Bee, December 9.

On Friday, at Thornington, Mrs Chas. Clark gave a delightful

GARDEN PARTY.

The garden and grounds on this beautiful day looking a perfect picture. The ornamental water with the graceful white swans lends such a charm to the scene too, and with the pretty bright costumes of the guests all added to complete the picturesqueness. Mrs Clark wore cornflower blue silk, covered with black lace, and pretty bonnet; Mrs Stead, very pale green silk, the swathe bodice of cream lace and chiffon and rosettes of green, floral toque; Mrs Alan Scott, black grenadine over blue silk, hat to correspond; Mrs Pitman, dress of Oriental silk, trimmed with cream lace; Mrs Julius, an embroidered black cashmere, bonnet of black and white; Mrs P. Campbell, white pique coat and skirt; Mrs Wardrop, green

and white silk, striped canvas; many of the ladies wore the same costumes as at the wedding the previous day, and the young ladies wore principally white. Among those present were Mrs and Misses Cowlishaw, Mr and Mrs J. D. Hall, Mr, Mrs, and Misses Meares, Mr and Mrs B. H. Burns, Mr and Mrs I. Gibbs, Dr, and Mrs Anderson, Mr and Mrs R. Macdonald, Mr and Mrs A. Rhodes, Mr and Mrs H. Cotterill, Professor and Mrs Cooke, Mr and Mrs Palmer, Mrs Rose, Mr and Miss Bewick, Mrs and Miss Bullock, Mr and Miss Turnbull, Mrs and Miss Wynne-Williams, Mrs Boyle, Mrs Cameron, Mrs and Miss Ronalds, Misses Palmer, Lee, Cowlishaw, Reeves, Tabart, etc. Strawberries and cream, ices, tea and coffee, and many dainties were in every shady nook, and croquet was kept up on both lawns through the afternoon.

On Saturday evening, Mrs Gould, Colombo-street, gave a

JUVENILE DANCE

for her niece, Miss Sellier, who is on a visit to her from Tasmania. Mr and Mrs R. Macdonald, Misses Cowlishaw, Tabart, and a few others helped to arrange matters for the young people, which they did so successfully that they were all sorry it was Saturday night. Mrs Gould wore a handsome black brocade and white cap, and her niece a simple white frock and broad sash. Fleming supplied the music, and a very enjoyable time was spent.

DOLLY VALE.

PICTON

Dear Bee, December 13.

The earthquake on Tuesday morning last rather alarmed us here, not for its violence, but for its length. Most people arose, wondering when it was going to end. Earthquakes, as a rule, change the weather down here, but this one has not done so. The weather is as fine as ever, though cold sometimes. The farmers are praying for rain. Many of the crops will be ruined unless rain comes very soon. As if, it were they are starved and poor. Here everything is as fresh and green as if we had rain as usual. Heavy night dew; and a good water supply keep things green and crisp.

A picnic party of Blenheim young ladies, chaperoned by Mrs Barlow, drove into Picton by bus on Tuesday and went round the beach to Mint Bay, where they spent a very jolly day. Afterwards they came into the town and flocked to the wharf to see the steamer come in, their gay sun-bonnets and pretty summer attire, attracting much attention. They drove back to Blenheim in the evening. I could not get all the names, but some of them were Misses Mills, Powell, Hewitt, Garrard, Horne, etc., etc. There were twenty altogether. Mr Alanson, Church of England Missioner, has been holding

A MISSION

in Picton this week. The Sunday services were well attended, except the men's. No less than six different services were held during the day, and a large congregation attended the evening service, many of them remaining to the after-meeting.

JEAN.

NELSON.

Dear Bee, December 15.

On Friday afternoon Mrs E. P. W. Cooke held a

PRIVATE EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS

in the building known as Campbell's Schoolroom, when both Mrs Cooke's own work and that of her pupils were shown, and very much admired by all. Tea and cakes, etc., were served at small tables about the room, presided over by Mrs Cooke's young lady friends. Mrs Cooke wore a black gown, effectively trimmed with heliotrope broche, which suited the wearer. Amongst the guests were Mrs Miles, black, black bonnet, with red flowers; Miss Miles, white blouse, dark skirt, chip hat; Mrs Kempthorne, black, relieved with terra cotta, bonnet to match; Mrs Selanders, dark green and white muslin, chic toque to match; Mrs Fenwick (Dunedin) looked well in a black and white, check costume, trimmed with black velvet, white felt boat-shaped hat, with black velvet bows; Mrs Adams, green silk under grass lawn, topen en suite; Mrs A. Grace, grey silk, lustre, trimmed with black chiffon.