

MR GLADSTONE'S DEATH.

That a meeting of Women's Political Societies was held last week in Auckland Y.M.C.A. Rooms. The meeting was called for the purpose of allowing the local delegates to the recent Women's National Council in Wellington an opportunity to explain what was done at the Convention. This very necessary explanation absorbed some time.

That another bush felling accident case, which happened to Mr Jeffs, of Whangamomona, was taken to the New Plymouth Hospital for treatment on Sunday afternoon. Mr Jeffs on the previous day was cutting a tree when it fell on him, and fractured his leg. The case is rendered more unfortunate, as Mr Jeff's wife is also in the hospital.

That Miss Benjamin, 'the full-blown barrister,' wrote a paper on the 'Equalities of the law regarding men and women.' But as she did not sufficiently bring out the terrible wrongs under which her sex groan, the paper was rejected by the Council.

That Aucklanders can now indulge in the luxury of private baths, and that during Thursday night, when the first heavy rain fell, several citizens thought of going outside and securing a clean douche, for fear the water works committee would not deem the supply sufficient to warrant turning on the bath taps in the morning.

That a feature of the concluding performance by the Pollard Company in New Plymouth was the number of floral contributions handed to the various performers, two or three bouquets being passed up at a time.

That the Basket Fair to be held in S. Sepulchre's Schoolroom, Auckland, on Thursday, June 2nd, and two following days, promises to be an extremely attractive affair. Mr Boulton has charge of Thursday evening, and his very inviting musical programme comprises several unique items, such as a quadrille from 'Alice in Wonderland,' Red and White Queen, Duchess and Carpenter, Tweedle Dum, Tweedle Dee, Alice and Mad Hatter, Tableau, Dream Faces, with verse of song. Tableau, Ten Little Niggers, with song. Mr Cecil Sharp's three sets of Nursery Rhymes in four part harmony. These were written for the Adelaide Cathedral Choir whilst it was under Mr Boulton's charge, and were performed by the choir at the Adelaide and afterwards at the Melbourne Exhibition, with immense success.

That on Thursday, June 2nd, a social will be held in the Theatre Royal, New Plymouth, in aid of the Cricket Club.

That the flagship H.M.s. Royal Arthur arrived in Wellington on Thursday morning. The usual salute was fired by the Permanent Militia, and a guard of honour for His Excellency the Admiral of the Australasian Squadron was furnished by the Wellington volunteers, accompanied by the Garrison Band, on his landing in Wellington. H.M.s. Torch, from Otago, and H.M.s. Tauranga, from Napier, are also in Wellington, and will remain until after the Birthday Ball on the 26th.

That a very enjoyable social was held on Thursday last in the Inglewood Wesleyan Church, to welcome the Rev. H. Williams, who has taken the place of the Rev. Blamires.

That a shooting party from Christchurch was entertained at Mount Grey by Mr and Mrs Ensor in their most hospitable manner. Amongst the party were Messrs G. Humphreys, Turnbull, J. J. Kinsey, J. B. Fisher, I. Gibbs, Jameson, Ensor (Temuka), and several more. Capital sport was found and a thoroughly enjoyable time was spent.

That the arrangements for the New Plymouth Volunteer Ball, held on 24th May, are progressing favourably, and the Drill Hall Committee have decided to line the hall, which will make it more comfortable, and will be much appreciated by the dancers.

That the Birthday Ball at Government House is to be on a scale of unwonted luxuriance. Rumour says there are to be three ball rooms, and a large marquee erected in the grounds as a supper room, and with no less than three men-of-war in the harbour to furnish additional partners, and such a perfect hostess and organiser as Lady Hanbury at the helm, the lucky 600 guests who are invited can surely find no just cause of complaint.

THE world-wide interest attaching to the life and work of the late Mr Gladstone is greatly intensified at this moment when the whole Empire is deploring the loss of that great statesman and unique character. The lineaments of the dead man are so familiar to Britons that it is almost unnecessary to reproduce photographs of him in these pages; but, on the other hand, now more than at any other time, perhaps, any presentment of the foremost statesman of our time as he appeared when among us will be gazed on with a deep interest. Among the pictures we give, one represents Mr Gladstone in the heyday of his intellectual and political

hold word. They were married on the 25th of July, 1839, in the village of Hawarden. At the same time Lord Lyttelton was married to Mrs Gladstone's sister, Miss Mary Glynne. Both sisters were known for their singular beauty and loveliness of character. 'This wedding,' says Mr Broadwell, in the 'Strand,' 'was eventful for Hawarden, for, at the invitation of his brother-in-law, Sir Stephen Glynne, who never married, Mr Gladstone made it his home. Hawarden was chosen because Mr Gladstone had no call for residence elsewhere, except, perhaps, at his father's estate, Fasque, in Kirriardineshire, where he paid regular visits with his family until Sir John Gladstone's death, in 1851.

Mr Gladstone's brother-in-law, the late Sir Stephen R. Glynne, then owner of the Hawarden Estate and Castle,

compels, but when a sense of propriety commends it. Thus Mr Gladstone himself long ago divided his living for the most part among his children, while at the same time setting aside a large sum for the founding and endowment of St. Deiniol's Library and Hostel.

It has often been one of his most grateful expressions that his children have never caused him, except by illness or death, a moment's anxiety; and he has, therefore, been able to see his way to make them all independent many years before his old age set in.

One of Mrs Gladstone's gifts has been an intuitive knowledge in matters of health and nursing; in fact, though Mrs Gladstone has the greatest respect for doctors and nurses, she is herself an excellent doctor and nurse combined. Husband, children,



MR GLADSTONE MAKING HIS MAIDEN SPEECH IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, FEBRUARY 21ST, 1833.

power speaking in that august assembly whose opinions he has so often directed by his wisdom and eloquence; another is one of the latest portraits taken of the right hon. gentleman. We also reproduce from the 'Strand Magazine' a series of pictures of Mrs Gladstone, taken at various times of her life, a picture of Miss Helen Gladstone, their fourth daughter, who was for many years connected with Newnham College, Cambridge, where she was latterly head of one of the two halls; a photograph of the Right Hon. Herbert J. Gladstone, M.P., who is a familiar figure in politics. In many respects Mrs Gladstone has been scarcely a less remarkable figure than her great husband. Hers is a character of singular sweetness and worth, and her devotion to Mr Gladstone and her family has passed into a house-

had very early to face the changes and chances of life. His agent of the day, to whom everything was intrusted, brought, by rash speculations in iron, the estate to the verge of ruin, which it will yet take generations to repair. Mr Gladstone was able to give great assistance in meeting this crisis. He himself also purchased properties in the vicinity, but, as is well known, he made over all his own property to his eldest son, not long after that son had succeeded by will Sir S. R. Glynne at his death, in 1874. The castle and grounds belong, however, to Mrs Gladstone for life.

'This surrender of his property in land so many years ago was only characteristic of Mr Gladstone's general principle in favour of devolving property and responsibility on the younger generation, not when death

and scores of friends and relations have had the benefit of her skill and care. It must be said that in this respect, notwithstanding her present strength of constitution, she never remembered to take much care of herself. Another gift is seen in the way in which by influence and organising power, by contempt for red tape and by ready resource, she has established and carried forward, for many years, valuable institutions by simple means and methods; the Orphanage and the Little Home, both of which are near, or rather, at Hawarden Castle, are an example of this. Here she has spent much of her time, and latterly encouraged her grandchildren to do the like. In other words, Mrs Gladstone is everybody's friend, and has an unlimited capacity for entering, with real sympathy, into the sorrows