

gowns, trained, and the bodice softened with lace and sparkling with diamonds. Among the guests I noticed Col. and Mrs Penton, Sir Arthur and Lady Douglas, the Misses Douglas, Mrs and Miss Donnelly, Sir Walter Butler and Miss Huller, Bishop and Mrs Wallis, the Misses S. and E. Johnston, Mr and Miss Barclay, Mr and Mrs H. Crawford, Dr. and Mrs Collins, Miss Harcourt, Miss Duncan, Dr. and Mrs Purdy, Miss Moorehouse, Mr and Mrs Herria, Count and Countess de Courte, Miss L. Izard, Mrs and Miss Richardson, Miss — Holms (Dunedin), Mr and Miss Coats, the Misses McClean, Miss Elworthy (Christchurch), Hon. H. Molesworth, Mr and Miss Thompson, Mr and Mrs Wilford, Mr and Mrs Ian Duncan, Messrs Cooper, Rolleston, Buller, Duncan, Hatfield, Harcourt, Fitzgerald, Atkinson, Coleridge, Johnston, Pease, etc. There were some charming gowns worn. Mrs Arkwright wore a handsome and uncommon black and white gown; Miss E. McClean and Miss Donnelly both wore pretty pink gowns, the former's of silk, with lace on the bodice, and the latter's of beautiful thick satin, the bodice trimmed with white spangled chiffon and finished with a pale green belt; Mrs Collins looked very nice in white satin, trimmed with lovely passementerie; Lady Douglas wore black and red; Miss Douglas, a pretty white gown; Miss Coats, a handsome dark blue satin, with lace; Miss Holms, a very pretty white silk gown.

Three very pleasant afternoon teas were given during the week, the givers being Mrs Wallis, Mrs Brandon and Mrs Pearce.

One of the most successful

AT HOMES

of the season was given on Tuesday last by Mrs Waldegrave, Pipitea-st. So many people were there that it was almost impossible to see what anyone wore. Our hostess wore a pretty pale heliotrope chiffon blouse, and her two daughters pink and fawn muslins; Mrs Russell, black costume and pretty red and black bonnet; Mrs Johnston and Mrs Tegetmeyer, sealskin coats and smart toques; Mrs Litchfield, striking tartan costume; Mrs Amelius Smith, yellow and black silk blouse; Miss Smith, pretty pale blue. Amongst those present were Mesdames Longden, Edwin, Hickson, Simpson, Beere, Allan, Menteith, Lady Douglas, Misses Elliott, Fancourt, Simpson, Holland (Auckland), and many others. Quite a feature of the afternoon was the splendid music. Pretty little Celia Dampier, wearing a white frock, played several pieces, besides an obligato for Miss Chrissie Smith's song. Miss Hatherly was wearing a white costume braided in gold, and played Miss Daupier's accompaniments. Songs were sung by Mrs Finley, Mr Young and Mr Vaughan, and several pieces were played, but by whom I could not see. In the dining-room I saw Miss L. Halse in a sweet hat; Miss L. Johnson, wearing a Haymarket coat and felt hat; Mesdames Howarth, Pancourt, Vaughan, Kennedy, Murison and others. The table was most daintily decorated with pale green and pink silk and health and violets, and was laden with dainties of all sorts. The guests were waited on by Misses Waldegrave, Smith and Laisley.

AT HOME

given by Lady Ranfurly on Wednesday last at Government House, the Countess looked charming, gowned entirely in black, relieved by jet trimming on the corsage and sleeves, and exquisite diamond ornaments. Her hair was dressed high at the back and adorned with two high wings of jet, coming to a point at the top of the coiffure.

His Excellency the Governor gave his second

PARLIAMENTARY DINNER at Government House on Saturday last, the following members of both Houses being honoured by an invitation:—The Hon. B. A. Acland, C. C. Bowen, W. J. Jennings, C. J. Johnston, G. Jones, W. Kelly, C. W. Kenny, W. McCullough, G. McLean, R. Oliver, D. Pinkerton, H. Scotland, J. Shephard, W. C. Smith, W. C. Walker, M.L.C.'s; the Hon. A. J. Cadman, Messrs W. C. F. Carrance, W. Crowther, M. Gilfedder, A. H. Guinness, W. Herries, J. Holland, J. Kelly, F. Lawry, W. Larnach, P. McGuire, R. McKenzie, R. D. K. McLean, W. F. Massey, R. Meredith, C. H. Mills, R. Monk, W. Montgomery, J. O'Meara, P. O'Regan,

W. Pere, W. Symes, and Scobie Mackenzie, M.H.R.'s.

HOCKEY.

With a view, writes our Wellington correspondent, of selecting the probable team to play in the forthcoming match with Canterbury, a scratch match was played at Island Bay on Saturday afternoon, between a team picked from the most probable members of the Club and a team of All-Comers, resulting in the defeat of the Possible team by 2 goals to 4.

For the first time since the formation of the Club the game was controlled by a referee, Mr R. C. Kirk, whose frequent resource to the whistle pointed to the great laxity in the observance of the rules by the players, who have hitherto played in a very happy-go-lucky style, which is anything but conducive to scientific hockey. For the Probables Wilson, Cooper, Broad, and Hicks each scored goals; Driscoll scoring twice for the All-Comers.

GOLF.

The monthly handicap competition for the silver cleek took place at Miramar, Wellington, on Saturday, among the members of the Wellington Golf Club, Mr Charles Gore winning the competition with the good net score of 84, next best cards being handed in by W. Higginson 106, handicap 14, net 92; W. Cook 110, handicap 11, net 99; J. Webster 109, handicap 9, net 100; Malcolm Ross 120, handicap 20, net 100; Dr. Martin 122, handicap 20, net 102.

Among the players at the Miramar Golf Links during the week was His Excellency the Governor, attended by Captains Wellesley and Ward, A.D.C.'s.

The Ladies' Golf Championship was played at Miramar during the early part of last week, but was robbed of much of its interest owing to the absence of Mrs Lees, who was unable to play in consequence of illness, as otherwise a very close contest was anticipated between her and Mrs Todd, who, owing to her absence, won rather easily, Mrs Turnbull being runner up. The championship was decided by three rounds of medal play, and Miss Duncan (the Captain) presented the Championship, and Mrs W. Turnbull gave the second prize. The best scores were handed in by the following players:—Mrs Todd 98, 102, 110, total 310; Mrs Turnbull 112, 107, 108, total 327; Miss Duncan 108, 112, 110, total 330; Miss Dransfield 107, 116, 108, total 331; Mrs Adams 121, 124, total 366.

OPHELIA.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Dear Bee, July 20. Bargain-hunters are having a real happy time just now. Sales are on everywhere, and the poor, weary shop-assistants have my profound sympathy, not for the work they go through for genuine buyers, but for the endless putting straight after those who only go to pull over things, have stacks and stacks to look at, never like anything—you know the kind of person who is always looking for something for nothing. The weather is too gloriously fine to think of buying winter goods; we are already beginning to think of spring, and I hear self-colours will be the prevailing tone, especially grey; this colour to my mind will always hold its own. The huntsmen had two lovely days last week. There was

A MEET

on Tuesday at Courtney, on Mr Turner's property, who with his family entertained the field most hospitably, but, as is always the case when so far from town, spectators were limited. Among those following were Mesdames Woodhouse and W. F. M. Buckley, Misses Anson and Overton, Messrs Bassett, R. H. Rhodes, E. Turrell, Lill, Neave, Palairat, and others. On Saturday the meet took place in the Islington district, and some good runs were made with a good view of them for the spectators. Amongst the riders were Professor, Mrs, and Miss Haslam, Misses Westeura, Bassett (2), Beare, and Hill, Messrs J. D. Hall, G. Murray-Aynsley, F. Campbell, Ford, Cowlishaw, Neave, C. Turrell, Hawdon, etc.; and driving were Mesdames Ogley and Rose, Mr and Mrs C. Dalgety, Misses Nedwill, Cowlishaw, Lee, Mr and Miss Clarkson, and others.

CROQUET CLUB

has fair to become an established fact. A strong committee was formed at the meeting which took place at Mrs Vernon's house, and of which Mrs

Vernon, Miss Cowlishaw, and several more with plenty of energy are members.

The Victoria Lake in Hagley Park is a great attraction, and the number of model yachts increases every week. It is a pretty sight to see the little white-winged things skimming across the water.

Miss Cox's

CINDERELLA DANCE

last Friday was a very enjoyable one, perhaps because people felt it was the last of the season. A final ball is announced for August on the night of the Grand National, and that is sure to be a good one. Miss Cox wore black prettily trimmed with jet and chiffon; Miss McGregor (Wellington), very becoming yellow brocade, the bodice trimmed with white chiffon; Miss Davie looked handsome in her white satin with gold embroidered epaulets; Misses Henderson, Donald, Overton, and numerous others were present.

Miss Calvert's last assembly in the Linwood Hall took the form of a fancy dress one, and was greatly enjoyed by all present, some of the characters being exceedingly well carried out, though nothing new or very original.

A much-talked-of little person has come amongst us for a week or two, and that is little Celia Dampier, of Auckland, and a very clever little girl she is. She is winning all hearts by her playing and her sweet manner, and I hope it will reach people's pockets and touch them very deeply when it comes to be time to take tickets for her concert. Talent such as she possesses is worthy of recognition, and when it is taken into consideration the little girl is striving to gain tuition for herself, and what she will be when she has had that tuition, one can scarcely hesitate a moment in helping in such a small way.

On Tuesday afternoon Mrs Burns gave a large

MUSICAL AFTERNOON

at the Colonial Bank, Hereford-street. Among the guests were Mrs Denniston, Mrs G. G. Stead, Mrs Julius, Mrs Pat. Campbell, Mrs Ogle, Mrs Westmacott, Mrs F. M. Wallace, Miss Malet, Miss Constance Hatherly, Miss Celia Dampier, and several more. Little Celia's playing charmed everyone, and her pieces were asked for two or three times over. Mrs Burns also delighted her guests with some songs, and a duet from Mrs Westmacott and Mrs Burns was greatly enjoyed. Delicious afternoon tea was served, and an altogether unusually pleasant afternoon was spent.

A private recital will be given by Misses Hatherly and Dampier, assisted by friends, in the Art Gallery on Saturday afternoon, and a most enjoyable time may be anticipated.

Mrs G. Bennett, St. Albans, gave an afternoon tea on Tuesday, and a very pleasant time was spent amongst a few of her friends.

Mrs Graham, Gloucester-st. W., gave

A PROGRESSIVE EUCHRE PARTY on Friday evening. Mrs C. Cook winning first prize. Other guests were: Mr and Mrs Appleby, Dr. and Mrs Jennings, Mr and Mrs Parsons, Mr and Mrs Connors, Mr and Mrs H. D. Thomas, Misses Cunningham, Henderson, Garrick, Messrs Reid, E. Graham, etc. Cribbage is in high favour this season with us, and one party of twelve players meet at alternate houses and have most enjoyable evenings.

DOLLY VALE.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Dear Bee, July 22. Mrs J. Paul gave a very ENJOYABLE DANCE for the 'little wee' ones on Saturday evening in the Freemasons' Hall. All were there, of course, and bent on enjoying the dance, and that they did so to their heart's content was evident by the dilapidated condition of those that helped Mrs Paul at the end of the evening. All sorts of merry games were provided for their amusement as well as supper. During the evening two little girls, Misses Bedford and Clarke, danced the cuebucha for the benefit of the children. The supper was laid out in one of the side rooms, and the table was crowded with all the dainties of the season. Some of the 'wee dots' went about half-past eight, but the bigger ones stayed later, and this very pleasant evening ended up by everyone singing 'Auld Lang Syne.' Mrs Paul wore yellow silk veiled in black chiffon; Miss Paul blue and white muslin;

Miss Cunningham, white lustre with yellow satin belt; Miss Bedford, pale blue nun's veiling trimmed with cream lace; Misses Roy wore dainty green crepon dresses trimmed with ribbon; Miss M. Kerr, pale blue and white; Misses Evans, white with blue sashes; Miss Fookes, blue; Miss B. Thomson, white; Misses Mills, cream; Miss L. Ellis, white muslin; Miss Drake, white blouse, dark skirt; Miss W. Thomson, heliotrope; Miss L. Skinner, cream; Miss D. Bedford, pale pink nun's veiling with cream lace; Miss Avery, white and heliotrope sash; Miss B. Clarke, pink and cream lace; Miss A. Brewster, white with black ribbons; Miss Russell, white and yellow sash; Miss G. George, a very pretty white muslin; Miss L. Berry, cream; Miss K. Clarke looked pretty in white with blue sash; Miss Corrick, pink and cream lace; Miss McKenzie, fawn; Miss E. Corney looked sweetly pretty in pale pink and cream lace; Miss Q. Boult, green; Miss E. Cartlew, cream; Miss M. Crawford, white and yellow sash; Miss D. Bailey looked a dear little mite in cream; Miss D. Skinner, green; Miss W. Blyth, white and pink; Miss B. Beane looked very pretty in pale green; Miss M. Skinner, white figured muslin; Miss Hall, black velvet and cream lace; Miss N. Garry looked charming in pink; Miss E. Hoskins, yellow and green; Miss T. Hoskins, white and blue sash; Miss E. O'Brien, pink; Miss W. Strachan, white muslin; Miss G. Colson, green and yellow; Miss McDiarmid, white; Miss N. Collis, looked very dainty in white with yellow ribbons; Miss M. Falkner, white and pink; Miss D. Whitecombe, crimson velvet relieved with pink; Miss Goldwater, white muslin over white silk; Miss V. Gilmour, white and pink satin sleeves; and her sister was in white with blue sleeves; Miss E. Ellis, pale pink crepon; Miss M. McCoy, white and yellow; Miss A. Falkner, cream; Miss Biggs, pale blue. Among the gentlemen were Messrs Paul (4), Skinner, George, Gordon, Webster, Dougherty (4), Scott, Staudish, Stanford, Bewley (2), McDiarmid (2), Gilmour, Avery, Humphries, Allen, Ellis, Clarke.

A VERY PLEASANT DANCE.

given by the young men of New Plymouth, took place in the Freemasons' Hall last Thursday evening, and was originally suggested by Messrs D. Teel, S. Kennell, Canning and Knight, I believe, who arranged to take the hall, the ladies to provide the refreshments. The hall was not decorated, but the artistic abilities of the ladies had evidently been concentrated on the supper table, which looked charming with large stands of armillaries and smaller vases of carnations. These alternated with dainties of all descriptions. The floor and music were excellent. The girls were chaperoned by Mesdames Paul, Hursthouse and Fookes. Among those present were Miss L. Thomson, pink; Miss G. Paul looked exceedingly pretty in a cream cashmere skirt with cream broadened satin bodice trimmed with chiffon; Miss Berry, pink; Mrs Paul, green and lovely cream lace fichu; Miss M. Glynes, white and heliotrope ribbons; Miss Knight, grey and pink; Miss J. Cottier, white muslin and lace; Miss L. Cottier, white and green sash; Miss Cook, green nun's veiling; Miss M. Webster, heliotrope and black velvet; Mrs Hursthouse, black and chiffon sleeves; Miss Ellis looked pretty in cream relieved with red poppies; Miss Lawson, yellow; Misses Fookes, dainty white muslin; Miss Jacob, pink and scarlet roses; Miss V. Kennell looked very pretty in cream with pink roses; Miss B. Berry, pale blue; Miss C. Corrick, white and red ribbons; Miss Hursthouse, yellow muslin; Mrs Fookes, black velvet; Miss G. Morry, white nun's veiling; Miss Cottier, pale blue and satin trimmings; Miss C. Hursthouse, white; Miss B. Bayley, yellow; Miss G. Shaw, white; Miss Scott, pale blue satin and chiffon; Miss M. Scott, white silk; Miss Ambridge, white trimmed with net; Miss Cunningham, white figured silk and chiffon; Miss A. Biggs looked pretty in pale pink and white spangled chiffon; Miss Canning, green and pink; and her sister wore heliotrope and white; Miss Ramsay, heliotrope; and Miss — Ramsay, green and white lace; Miss — Fookes, white; and Messrs Salter, Wright, Stocker, Shaw, Woodhouse, Gordon, Hopkins, Webster (2), Teel, Kennell, Knight, Halne, Paul (2), Cottier, Faber, Canning, Cook, Hursthouse, E. Clarke, McIntyre, Ramsay, Glynes, Thomson.

At the New Plymouth Golf Links the first handiaps of the season among the members of the Ngamotu