

The third dance of Miss Hardy Johnston's series of four was given in the Sydney-street Schoolroom last Tuesday night. Among those present were the Misses Reid, Julius (Christchurch), Reynolds (Dunedin), McLean, Tabart (Christchurch), Butts, Simpson, Barron, Coleridge, George (Auckland), Elliott, Gaultier, Tolhurst, Young, Rose, and the Messrs Young, Johnston, Higginson, Grace, Gore, Pearce, Hume, Richardson, Leckie, Reid, etc.

The ninth annual social of the 'B' Battery of Artillery took place in Wellington on Friday evening last at Thomas' Hall, and was an unqualified success. The hall was most tastefully decorated with flags and bunting, and excellent music was provided by a string band under Mr E. J. King, and a most recherche supper supplied by Mr J. Godber. The guests included representatives from most of the local corps, among them being Captains Duthie and Moorhouse, and Lieuts. Cooper and Biss. The bright coloured uniforms, mingling with the dainty coloured gowns worn by the ladies, made the scene a very pretty one. The first set of lancers were danced by Lieut. Hume and Miss Rose, Lieut. Bisk and Miss Hargreaves (Christchurch), Mr W. Higginson and Miss McLean, Mr Arthur Pearce and Miss Johnston, Mr Williams and Miss Moorhouse, Master Gunner Richardson and Miss Holmes, Lieut. Cooper and Miss Legge, and Lieut. Rose and Miss Hilda Moorhouse. Mrs Rose wore a very handsome gown of black brocade, and grey and black opera cloak; Miss Moorhouse, a beautiful cream brocade, embroidered with pale pink roses, and pink chiffon sash and trimmings on corsage; Miss Johnston wore black; Miss Rose cream silk, with black bands of velvet on the skirt and bodice; Miss Hargreaves, cream; Miss H. Moorhouse, cream silk gauze, the bodice prettily trimmed with yellow beaded ribbon and cream lace; Miss McLean, white; Miss Sextant, grey velvet, with lovely red roses on the shoulders. The committee worked very hard and must have felt gratified that the social proved such an undoubted success.

CLARISSE-OPHELIA.

CHRISTCHURCH

Dear Bee, August 17.

We have had a really GRAND NATIONAL this year with more festivities than there were days in the week for, and we began by crowding two into one—the 'At Homes' of Mrs Studholme and Mrs G. Gould, on Wednesday. Mrs Studholme was assisted in entertaining her many guests, who came and went perpetually, by her daughter and two daughters-in-law, Mesdames J. and W. P. Studholme. Mrs Studholme looked very handsome in a rich black brocade, and made us so welcome. Tea was served in the dining-room, and some very good music was heard at intervals from the drawing-room. Among the guests were Mr and Mrs Heaton Rhodes, Mr and Mrs A. Rhodes, Mr and Mrs Burns, Mr and Miss Widdling, Mrs Wason, Mrs Reeves, Mrs Boyle, Mr and Mrs Palmer, Mr and Misses Cowlshaw, Mr and Mrs Wigley, Mrs and Misses Wynon-Williams, Mrs and Miss Julius, and many others. A great many of these guests passed on from Merivale to Mrs G. Gould's, and vice versa. The decorations at Mrs Gould's were lovely, so many spring flowers on the table in the dining-room, where afternoon tea was laid, that we quite thought spring had come to stay. On the landing in the hall, which was also beautifully decorated, and numbers of lounges and seats about a string band discoursed pleasant music. Mrs Gould wore a handsome gown of black brocade, the bodice trimmed with iridescent trimming. Among her guests were Mrs Ogle, Miss Lee, Mrs Grace, Mrs Mitchell Clarke, Mrs Payne, Mr and Mrs Lascelles, Mrs P. Baldwin, Mrs Dalgety, Misses Reeves, Tabart, Malet, etc.

On Thursday a very cold wind blew across the Riccarton racecourse, but a very large gathering assembled there and more visitors than usual for a Grand National. Some very handsome toilets were to be seen on the lawn, and sealskin capes and jackets more numerous than ever. We generally manage to get up some special excitement over the 'Ladies' Bracelet' races, but this time it was intense. Mr Wilfred Stead, eldest son of Mr G. G. Stead rode, and rode to win, gain-

ing one for his mother and one for his sister. Mrs Stead wore royal blue cloth gown and sealskin cape, pale blue floral toque; Miss Stead, navy blue frock, faced with white, and white vest, white felt hat, with scarlet feather, flowers and black wings; Mrs A. E. G. Rhodes, brown cloth gown and sealskin coat, brown hat, trimmed with brown and pale green and green wings; Mrs Elworthy (Timaru), pale brown satin gown, sealskin coat, black bonnet, with multi-coloured trimming; Miss Elworthy, prune cloth gown and fawn cape, black hat, with violet feathers; Mrs Denniston, rich brown dress, and vest brocaded with pink, black bonnet, with pink roses, sealskin cape; Miss Denniston, pale green costume, green straw hat, with pink chiffon and osprey; Mrs Dalgety, grey tweed dress, sealskin coat, brown hat; Mrs Wason, pretty grey cloth, with vest of white and gold, violet floral toque, with a touch of crimson; Mrs A. Roberts, grey tweed tailor gown, braided with black, black and pale blue toque; Miss Studholme, navy serge, braided with black, black hat, trimmed with vieux rose; Mrs G. Gould, a blue and grey check, made Princess style, fastening on one side, and thickly braided with black and pale blue, black velvet hat, and ostrich tips; Mrs J. T. Peacock, green cloth gown, sealskin jacket, and pretty bonnet; Mrs Gibbs (Wellington), navy blue, with flounced skirt and braided with black, black hat, with violets; Mrs Louison, very handsome black and blue brocade silk, sealskin cape, black hat, with yellow roses; Mrs W. Stringer, check tweed, the yellow vest braided in black, black hat, with ostrich tips; Mrs W. B. Cowlshaw, handsome violet cloth costume, hat en suite; Miss Cowlshaw, navy serge, light fawn jacket, and large black hat; Miss G. Cowlshaw, violet cloth dress, fawn coat, black hat, trimmed with green ribbon and violets; Mrs Payne, grey costume, with long saque jacket, black and white hat; Mrs Boyle, black gown, sealskin jacket, black hat, relieved with white; Mrs Ogle, green cloth, braided with black, seal cape, and small black toque; Miss Lee, navy gown, braided with white, black hat, and bunches of cherries; Mrs Burns, fawn tweed, sealskin jacket, black toque, with steel passementerie; Mrs Walcot Wood, dark gown, seal cape, black and yellow hat; Mrs C. Wood (Lyndon Downs), Mrs Babington, Misses Murray-Aynsley, Way, Graham, Ainger, Nedwill, Fairhurst, Turner, Mrs and Miss Harley, Mrs Morton Anderson, etc.

'Strowan,' the residence of Mr and Mrs G. G. Stead, was a scene of brilliance on Friday night that all the elements could not damp, although it poured in torrents. Mrs Stead, gowned in a lovely heliotrope and white brocade, in feather pattern, and diamond ornaments, received her guests by the drawing-room; little Miss Stead wore pale pink glauc silk and white lace, with powdered hair and white aigrette. Two rooms were used for dancing, the dining-room as a tea-room, and a supper-room, built off the verandah, which was all enclosed; the supper-room had a large horse shoe table, seating nearly 150 at one time; the floral decorations of wattle, narcissi, and lovely yellow satin ribbons were beautifully done. The hall, with its furnishings in a warm terra-cotta tone, had numerous lounges and seats and cosy corners were available at every turn. At one end of the hall Miss Scrivenor's Quadrille Band was stationed and gave charming music. The addition of the powder and the patches certainly enhanced the good looks of the ladies, and the hair in most cases was done up a little higher than usual; some lovely gowns were worn. Mrs Heaton Rhodes looked charming in petunia-coloured velvet and some exquisite lace draping the bodice, a little falling on the skirt, diamond necklet and ornaments; Mrs C. Dalgety, pale blue brocade, the bodice of pale pink chiffon; Mrs Denniston, maize satin, finished with jet; Mrs Grace (Wellington), black velvet and lovely lace; Mrs Mitchell Clarke, pale green satin, and cream lace; Mrs Louison, lovely pink brocade and diamond ornaments; Mrs J. Studholme, pearl grey brocade and white lace, diamond necklet and ornaments; Mrs W. Studholme, her satin bridal gown; Mrs P. Studholme, white silk, relieved with pale blue; Mrs A. Rhodes, Princess robe of petunia brocaded satin, the front of white, with wreath of blue at the foot, diamond ornaments; Miss Pearl Harley (debutante), white satin; Miss Denniston (debutante),

very pretty white satin, with bebe bodice and lovely floral posy; Mrs G. Gould, white and pink brocade, with wide flounce of pink chiffon; Mrs Ogle, pretty blue silk; Miss Julius, soft cream, with silk stripe; Mrs Halldwin (Wellington), lemon brocade and garlands of violets; Mrs Wason, rich red satin and pale pink roses; others present were Mr and Mrs J. Anderson, Mr and Miss Elworthy, Mr and Mrs Lascelles, Mr and Mrs Wanklyn, Mr and Mrs J. Guthrie, Colonel and Mrs Fox, Mr and Mrs Teschemaker, Mr J. and the Misses Tabart, Mr and Mrs H. Cotterill, Mr and the Misses Cowlshaw, Mr and Mrs L. Harley, Mr and Mrs P. Campbell, Mr and Mrs V. Hargreaves, Miss Cunningham, Mr and Miss Newton, Mr and Mrs H. Wood, Mrs Babington, Mr and Miss Graham, Mr and Miss Courage, Miss Meares, and others. Three of the gentlemen wore full court costume, as well as the powdered hair, and looked very fascinating.

Saturday, for the second day's racing, was very wet—a regular mackintosh and umbrella day.

DOLLY VALE.

NAPIER.

Dear Bee, August 19.

A EUCHRE PARTY was given by Mrs Lines and Mrs J. McLean at the residence of the former, on Wednesday evening. There were about 70 people present, and some pretty dresses were worn. Mrs Lines was in black and pink; and Mrs McLean also wore a black gown trimmed with light-coloured silk; Miss Gillum wore a dress of cream muslin and a pink satin sash; Miss Matthews was in black; Miss Cornford was in a pretty cream dress; Mrs Fenwick wore a handsome gown of pale heliotrope silk; Mrs Smith looked well in black silk with handsome steel buckles and bows of a bright butterscup colour; Miss Roberts (Dunedin) was in a pretty gown of cream brocade and bright green velvet; Miss Wood wore blue and cream; Miss Shaw was in black; Miss Russell (Christchurch) wore a beaming blue dress; Mrs Troutbeck's gown was black with white silk on the bodice; Mrs Thomson wore a becoming black gown trimmed with black jet; Mrs Ronald was also in black; Mrs Donnelly wore a dark violet-coloured gown; Mrs Goldsmith was in cream; Mrs Wood wore black and heliotrope; Miss Balfour was in a yellow brocade blouse and black skirt; Miss T. Nairn wore a bright blue dress with white chiffon; Miss Page was in black and mauve; Miss McMullan (Auckland) wore a pretty cream dress with pansies on the bodice; and her sister was also in cream; Miss Watt wore pale blue; Mrs Davidson was in a becoming black gown; Miss Maceabe also wore black. Some of the other guests were: Messrs Shaw, Macbean, Parker, McLean, H. Smith, Ronald, Hughes, Thomson, Dinwiddie, R. Smith, Barron, Fenwick, Wood, Davidson, Richardson, Williams, Ashcroft, Hartley, Hughes, Goldsmith, Guys, and Mathias.

MARJORIE.

NELSON

Dear Bee, August 16, 1898.
Last Wednesday evening Miss Huddleston held her second

ASSEMBLY at her residence, 'Maitai House.' There were a few more present than on the former occasion, and altogether a very pleasant evening was spent. The floor and music were good, and an excellent little supper was provided. Miss Huddleston wore a handsome gown of black satin, trimmed with rich black lace; Mrs Robinson also wore black; Miss Fell was much admired in a very becoming gown of China blue satin, figured with white; her sister also looked well in a pretty frock of white silk, the bodice of which was veiled with tucked chiffon, and finished with a wide chiffon sash fastened at the side; Miss Houliker (debutante), frock of white silk, finished with daisies on the corsage; Miss Hayter, pink crepon, with frills of chiffon on the bodice; Miss Sealy wore a cream evening dress, with lace and deep red roses on the bodice; Miss Leggett, white silk, finished with chiffon; Miss Perrin looked very well in a blue evening dress, relieved with bright red flowers; Miss Bunny, pretty white dress, finished with chiffon and ribbons; Miss Tomlinson also wore

white, relieved with forget-me-not blue; Miss Wright, pink silk, and her sister white; the Misses Preshaw (2), becoming evening dresses. Amongst the gentlemen were Colonel Pitt, Judge Robinson, Messrs Dixon, King, Drummond, Fell, Leggett, Ellis, etc.

The same evening a SOCIAL was held in the Provincial Hall in aid of the Organ Fund at St. Mary's (R.C.) Church. These entertainments are now well-known and extremely popular, and the ladies of the congregation are to be congratulated on the success of their social gatherings, especially as, with Wednesday's 'takings,' together with the proceeds from other socials, and some private donations received by Father Mahoney, the liability is practically cleared, and the organ is now free of debt. The programme was, as usual, varied and full, including a concert, supper and dance, all for one shilling, so those who attended received good value for their money. The hall and dais were tastefully decorated with foliage and flowers, whilst the supper was plentiful and dainty.

PHYLIS.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Dear Bee, August 19.
The members of the Ngamotu Lodge gave another of their very pleasant

AT HOMES in the Foresters' Hall, Gill-street, last week. These dances are always looked forward to with great pleasure, as they are the most enjoyable dances of the season, the music and supper being delightful, and last, but not least, plenty of partners to choose from. It is very seldom there are plenty of the latter at the New Plymouth dances, but these Masonic dances prove exceptions to the rule. Before I tell you about the dresses, I must mention the supper table, which looked extremely pretty, decorated with flowers and blue and white paper, and which also acted as doilies to the dishes, making them look dainty and tempting with the cakes, sandwiches and fruits nestling in their midst.

Among those present were:—Mrs Robinson, black; Miss Holdsworth, fawn; Miss C. Hayly, blue, trimmed with white lace; Mrs Penn, yellow; Miss Fraser, butterscup silk, veiled in gauze; Miss Tukey, black; Miss Hursthouse, white muslin; Mrs Cook looked handsome in a black skirt, green bodice, veiled in black net, lovely pink roses on shoulder; Miss Morey, cream and scarlet flowers; Miss Jackson, white, with violet trimmings; and her sister looked pretty in cream; Mrs Allan, black skirt, pink blouse; Mrs McAllum, black silk; Miss B. Bayly, white silk; Miss Humphries, pale blue; Miss Thomson, green velvet; Miss Goyett looked very quaint in pale pink brocade silk; Mrs Kerr, black, with bodice of pink and black 'Tribby' velvet; Miss Armstrong (Tikorang), white; Miss Furlong, pink crepon; Mrs Clarkon, yellow; Miss Skeet, black net over pink; Mrs Polten (Auckland), green velvet and lemon coloured sleeves; Miss Hanson, white; Mrs Blyth, Miss MacAllum (England), yellow and white satin respectively; Miss Campbell (Lepperton), blue velvet; Mrs Holmes, black relieved with red; Mrs Hall, white silk and pink flowers; Miss Glynes, white; Miss Cunningham, white, with crimson roses; Mrs Bacon, black, a very pretty bodice of heliotrope silk and chiffon; Mrs Messenger, cream nun's veiling; Miss Batten, an extremely pretty dress of yellow satin, with tiny sprays of violets round the corsage, and long chiffon sleeves; Mrs Connett, cream; Mrs D. Teed, fawn and black lace; Miss Irwin, white silk and chiffon; Miss R. Rennell, pink; Mrs F. Foote, black; Miss E. Rennell, white; Mrs G. Foote, black; Miss Arrow, amber satin; Mrs Paul looked as charming as ever in white satin, veiled in black lace; Miss Berridge, cream; Mrs D. McAllum, black; Miss Ambridge, white cashmere skirt, a pretty white satin bodice, trimmed with violets; Messrs Bartop, Enderby, Forte, Gilmour, Saller, Noble, Parker, Fairah, Didsbury, Allan, Kerr, Paul, Hall, Bacon, Corkill, Humphries, Thomson, Smythe, McGill, Wright, Robinson, Foote, Cornwall, Morey, Furlong, Hursthouse, McAllum (2), Connett, Messenger, Holmes, Penn, Hutchen, Tabor, Pollen, Berridge, Surrey, Hughes, Strouts, Blyth, Teed, Rev. EVELYN.

NANCY LEE.