

That some extraordinary new disease is attacking the cattle in the Pictou district, and killing them off suddenly. Mr Gilruth, Government Veterinary Surgeon, arrived from Wellington to inquire into the circumstances. Twenty-four head of cattle died at Pictou, and one in Pictou.

That the Pictou spinners are endeavouring to arrange for giving another of their famous balls. Outsiders give Pictou credit for possessing an unusually large number of unattached bachelors, but they are hard to find just now. They have either been appropriated or they have gone away.

That the consecration of St. Mary's Cathedral, Parnell, Auckland, by the Primate to-morrow (Thursday), will be a very interesting ecclesiastical function, and should be largely attended. Bishop Wallis, of Wellington, will preach and special music will be rendered by the choir. There will be an "At Home" held in the afternoon, at which the bishops who take part in the consecration will be present.

That the complimentary concert, which is being tendered to Mr Ernest Schatz in Auckland on September 2nd, previous to his departure for Wellington, ought to draw a very large audience, for the programme is of an exceedingly attractive order.

That the Pollard Opera Company are drawing crowded houses in Wellington. The dresses and scenery are splendid.

That the concert held in New Plymouth on August 18th for the benefit of the City Band Fund, was a very successful one. The overtures played at the commencement of each part by Miss Halse, A.L. Cook and the Cottler Bros. were well received, and the Orpheus Musical Club contributed two glees. Mr Mullens, who was selected each time, sang "Das Freundschaftsbannerchen" and "All in All" (Juncker), and Mrs F. Watson contributed the song "The Holy City," and took part in the duet "Excelsior" with Mrs Beane. Mr A. Grey sang "The Bugler"; Mr Didsbury, "The Bitterless Steed"; and Mr W. Perry, "The Soldiers of the Queen." Miss B. McDonald, Mr E. Clarke, Mr C. Barracough, Mr J. Montgomery, and Mr G. McComish also contributed to the programme, the last three gentlemen giving comic songs. The Cottler Bros. gave a duet (cornet and clarinet), and Miss Halse played the accompaniments to the songs.

ORANGE BLOSSOMS.

A double wedding was celebrated at Havelock, near Hastings, on Aug. 17, when the marriage took place of Miss Alice Crawford to Mr John Harvey; and of Miss Bertha Crawford to Mr William Gimblett. Both brides, who are step-daughters of Mr Evison, of Pukahu, wore dresses of white lustre and white hats to match. The bridesmaids, who were the Misses Foreman, Guthrie, Gimblett, and Evison, wore pretty dresses of fawn and green. Mr Bridgman and Mr Ryner acted as groomsmen. Miss Watson presided at the organ, and played a pretty wedding march.

GOLDEN WEDDING.

A social gathering of unusual interest took place last Monday in the "Church parlour" of the Pitt-street Wesleyan Church to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr and Mrs F. L. Prime. Nearly eighty guests accepted the invitation, most of whom were colonists of 35 to 45 years' experience. Among the ministers present were Revs. H. R. Dewsbury (chairman), W. J. Williams, Dr. George Brown (secretary Australasian Conference), W. J. Watkin, J. H. Simmonds (principal of Three Kings College), A. Peters, W. Gittos and E. Best.

Practically at 6 o'clock the assembly gathered, and was hearty in their congratulations to Mr and Mrs Prime. After many welcomes had been exchanged by old friends the hall announced that tea was ready, and Mr and Mrs Prime led the way. The tables in the large schoolroom were laden with fruit, flowers, etc. The ceremony of cutting the bride's cake was performed by Mrs Prime, and the guests were then handed portions, and the ladies were loud in praise of its quality.

The Rev. H. R. Dewsbury proposed the health of Mr and Mrs Prime, and the gentlemen rose in honour of the toast. Mr Prime, on behalf of himself and Mrs Prime, thanked the Chairman and the

friends for their kindly feelings, expressing his gratitude in a most feeling manner.

On returning to the "Church parlour" the guests arranged themselves in order, with Mr and Mrs Prime in the centre of the room, Miss Elsie Reid playing Mendelssohn's "Wedding March." The Chairman in introducing the programme of the evening expressed on behalf of the assembly the pleasure of presenting to Mr and Mrs Prime two easy chairs, hoping that they would live long to use these articles of furniture.

Mr Prime, in a happy address full of feeling, recapitulated the leading events of his life, going far back to his arrival in Auckland in 1853, pointing out in an unostentatious manner the way in which he had been called to serve as a citizen, and above all as a Christian, in connection with the Methodist Church. The recounting of old and favoured events since his arrival in the colony gave great pleasure to the hearers, who were mostly familiar with them all. At the conclusion of the address, three cheers were given for Mr and Mrs Prime.

Congratulatory addresses were given by the Rev. W. J. Williams, Mr R. B. Shadders, Rev. E. Best (who composed and recited a beautiful poem for the occasion), Rev. W. Gittos, Rev. W. J. Watkin, Rev. Dr. Brown, Messrs T. Allen, J. L. Wilson, T. Biddle, R. Hobbs and J. Edson. Every speaker emphasised the fact that from a long and intimate knowledge of Mr and Mrs Prime they could testify they bore an unblemished reputation. During the evening a basket of beautiful white flowers was presented to Mrs Prime by Miss Lawry, daughter of the Rev. H. H. Lawry. The chairman (Rev. H. R. Dewsbury) sang "The Younger's Wedding." Mrs Dewsbury and Miss Elsie Reid played the accompaniments. The assembly broke up at 9.30.



AUCKLAND.

Dear Bee, August 23.

Miss Ware gave a large

GIRLS' AFTERNOON TEA last Wednesday at her pretty residence, "Stadacona," Remuera. Miss Dorothy Ware handed the guests into the reception-room, where Miss Ware, in her usual charming manner, received her many guests. The large hall was decorated with pink and white camellias, and the reception-room with arum lilies, acacia, and roses, etc. The afternoon tea-table was decorated with vases of yellow narcissi, jonquils, daffodils, marigolds, nasturtiums, violets and mignonette. Songs were rendered by Misses Dargaville, Tilly, (Arthur) Nathan, Thompson, F. Thorpe, etc. A pair of perfect black cats (pets of our hostess) strayed round the room and attracted a great deal of attention.

Miss Ware looked bonnie in black skirt, lovely lemon-coloured chiffon blouse; Mrs Ware, black silk skirt, black bodice, figured with cherry-coloured design; her sister wore a navy costume; Miss Dorothy Ware, dark skirt, white silk blouse; Miss Dargaville, navy Alpaca tailor-made gown; her sister wore a becoming violet serge, with picture hat en suite; Miss Draper, green; Miss Goldsbro', fawn costume, brown hat, with red roses; Miss Courtyard, navy serge, pretty toque of red velvet and wings of birds; Miss Morrin, fawn; Miss Devereux, brown costume, with Russian blouse; Miss Sybil Devereux, dark tailor-made gown; Miss Reed, slate grey coat and skirt, grey felt deer-stalking hat; Miss Kissling, Lincoln green, with dash of pink in hat; Miss Minnif, grey, with black braid; Miss Worsp, Lincoln green; Miss M. Buckland, navy; Miss Flora Thorpe, periwinkle blue coat and skirt; Misses Kerr-Taylor, scarlet; Miss McFarlane, brown; Miss Wynyard, navy; Mrs Wynyard, black; Miss Sybil Nathan, fawn, with brown velvet; Miss (Arthur) Nathan, navy; Mrs Noakes, dark green; Miss Bull, fawn coat and skirt, orange vest, fawn deer-stalking hat; Miss Blizard-Brown, green costume; Miss Haber, dark green; Miss Cotter,

fawn tailor-made costume; Miss Stevenson, navy; Miss Colbeck, grey costume, with silk vest, hat en suite; Miss Rooke, grey check, white muslin vest, relieved with cerise velvet, black picture hat, with cerise roses; Miss Gillies, blue, with black velvet trimmings; her sister, a crushed strawberry; Miss Percival, green; Miss K. Thompson, green costume; Miss M. Purchas, navy serge, black hat, with scarlet trimmings; Miss B. Banks, grey tailor-made gown, black velvet picture hat; Miss Carr, brown; Miss Otway, fawn; Mrs A. P. Griffiths, black; Mrs H. D. Griffiths, brown; Miss Isaacs, navy; Misses Russell, navy; Miss Conolly, brown; Miss Sarita McLaughlin; Miss Peacock, green; Miss Moss-Davis, an English costume.

A very large and fashionable audience assembled at the Opera House last Wednesday night to witness the complimentary entertainment tendered to the popular and talented Greenwood family. The programme was untidily prolonged by the encoring of so many items. I did not notice any particularly striking costumes worn by the ladies in the audience. The following are those I jotted down:— Mrs Scherff, black costume, fawn opera cloak; Mrs Hansen, dark skirt, canary blouse; Miss Eva Scherff looked very pretty in a white evening silk; Miss Dolly Scherff, dark skirt, maize silk evening blouse; Mrs (Prof.) Segar, dark skirt, green velvet blouse, finished with white lace applique revers and beads; Miss May Dawson, dark skirt, white silk evening blouse; Miss Mariel Dawson, green dress, with pink silk yoke and cuffs, veiled in white lace; Mrs Inghall, black silk, grey opera coat; Mrs Bullen, black; Miss Bullen, white; Mrs C. C. McMillan, black evening dress; Miss Kassie McMillan, old gold evening silk; Mrs Burns, black silk, broadened with white; Miss Burns, fawn; Mrs C. Phillip, black skirt, green striped blouse, finished with fawn lace and pink roses; Mrs Cheeseman, black; Mrs Bassett, brown velvet; Mrs R. A. Carr, dark skirt, light blouse; Miss Norah Carr, white; Mrs Grey, dark skirt, cream muslin blouse; Miss Sarita McLaughlin, white; Mrs Sam Morrin, dark costume; Miss Morrin, white; Miss Williams, dark skirt, blue blouse; Mrs Hope Lewis, black evening lace costume; Mrs Williams, rich black moire; Mrs A. Tayler, black velvet, the decolletage and sleeves of black chiffon; Mrs Thorne George, black; Mrs W. B. Colbeck, dark skirt, white blouse; Miss Thorne George, white; Mrs A. Hanna; Mrs Cotter; Miss M. Cotter, becoming pink blouse, dark skirt; Miss W. Cotter, blue; Mrs Myers, black; Mrs Archie Clark, black mourning; Miss Minnif, pink, relieved with narrow bands of green velvet; Miss S. Cruickshank, pink costume, with black bands of velvet; Mrs Mahoney, dark skirt, Nil green theatre blouse; Mrs Bell, grey satin, with white chiffon sleeves and collarette; her daughter, canary satin blouse, dark skirt; Mrs Devore, black; Miss Devore, white; Mrs Ralph, black; Miss Violet James; Mrs Wright; Miss Maxwell; Mrs Moss-Davis, dark skirt, grey bodice, with white silk yoke and sleeves; Miss Stevenson, dark skirt, claret blouse; Mrs Dufaur; Mrs Rigby, black; Mrs Stone looked pretty in pink, veiled in black; Mrs Chapman, white opera cloak, white silk costume; Miss Aubrey, black costume, pink vest; Mrs Caldwell, dark costume, finished with rose pink velvet; Miss Leece, pink silk blouse, dark skirt; Mrs Bankhart, black; Miss Mulvany; Mrs Reid Bloomfield, black; Mrs Lucas Bloomfield, black, finished with canary; Miss Reay; Misses Moss-Davis (3), dark skirts, light evening blouses; Mrs Niccol; Miss Phillips; Miss Nathan, white; Miss Dolly Davis, pink; Mrs John Chambers, black; Miss Whitson, pale pink; Mrs McArthur; Mrs Alfred Nathan, dark costume, red opera cloak; Miss Holland, dark skirt, pink blouse; Mrs Holland, black; Mrs Leo Myers, Mrs William Coleman, Misses Myers, Miss Gillies, Mrs Keogh, Mrs and Misses Lavington, Mrs Archer Burton, etc.

Misses Ireland, of 'Hulme Court,' Parnell, gave a

LARGE AFTERNOON TEA

last Friday to their many girl friends. Songs were rendered by the following ladies: Miss Blanche Banks, comic song; Misses Edna Bell, Reeve, and Nathan each contributed two songs; and Miss Kitty Lennox a pianoforte solo. The tea-table was artistically decorated with yellow daffodils and green ferns in white vases. The reception-room was adorned with arum lilies and large mirrors that reached from ceiling to floor. The Misses Ireland did all in their power to promote the enjoyment of their many guests, who chatted gaily and incessantly, many gave accounts of their own prowess in the hunting field, which, when discussed over a cup of tea, turns out to be prevelous feats. Amongst the ladies present I remember the following:—

Miss Etyte Ireland, black satin skirt, lilac and cream striped crepon blouse, edged with cream chiffon, her coiffure a la Pompadour; her youngest sister, Miss J. Ireland, wore a black lustre skirt, green and yellow shot silk blouse, figured with a yellow design, coiffure a la Pompadour; Miss Leece, dark skirt, very becoming pink silk blouse; Miss Reay, greeny grey cloth, with a cream vest; Miss (Arthur) Nathan, bright navy blue, made with Russian blouse, black velvet picture hat; Miss Sybil Moss-Davis, dark navy English costume, with jacket made in Russian style, black hat, worn tilted to one side a little, with flowers beneath brim; Miss Olive Moss-Davis, fawn tailor-made costume, black velvet hat; Miss Whitson; Miss B. Bull, fawn refer coat and skirt, felt hat to match; Miss Maud Buckland, navy serge; Miss Blanche Hanks, fawn tailor-made gown; Miss Elliot, navy; Miss Esme Elliot, brown; Miss Clara Fifth, black; Miss Worsp, fawn tailor-made gown, sailor hat; Miss Eve Smith, brown; Miss Maggie McDonald, dark grey tailor-made gown; Miss Brigham, navy; her sister, brown; Miss Mitchell, royal blue; Miss Ross, grey; Miss trimmed with black braid; Miss Kate Edmiston, stylish green costume, Hay looked as pretty as ever in Lincoln green tailor-made costume, red straw hat; Misses Kerr-Taylor (2), white; Miss Kitty Lennox, green costume, white silk Empire sash; Miss Mona Hay, navy blue; Miss Bush (Thames), navy serge; Miss Edna Bell, prune-shaded costume, with velvet trimmings; Miss Dolly Davis, navy serge; Misses Gorrie, navy nate serge; Miss J. Reeves, very effective costume of black, black picture hat, with yellow flowers; Miss Fanny Johnstone, slate grey, with black braid; Miss Thomson (Parnell), periwinkle blue; her sister, navy blue tailor-made, with fancy silk vest; Miss Hardie, navy serge.

The

PAKURANGA HOUNDS

met last Saturday at the Mangere Pound, and from here they went on to Mr Ellett's farm, Ihumata. The weather was showery in the morning but cleared up into a sunny and beautiful afternoon. We drew near the swamp and round Ihumata Mountain, when a puss was started from the seashore, followed by the field, who, like a charge of cavalry, thundered in rear. On account of the scent not lying well we did not kill until an hour after our find. The going was very slow, the hounds having to pick up the scent carefully. We had some awkward stone wall obstacles, with wire run along the top. A formidable rail fence out of the plough also daunted many of the riders. The next pussie was started from the opposite hill on the northern side of Mr Ellett's homestead, and ran away across the high road towards Ihumata Mountain, when stiff fences and hawthorn hedges had to be negotiated. In one hedge, with wire through it, Oeola got entangled; the owner dismounted and looked dolorously at his steed; that everlasting satisfied smile was gone. Another horse shot his rider over his head and galloped away into

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