

black satin and jet; Mrs Williams (England), brown satin gown with deep lace on the bodice; Miss Williams yellow silk; Mrs Tolhurst, handsome black satin gown trimmed with jet embroidery and lace; Miss Lucy Tolhurst, pale pink silk trimmed with white lace; Mrs Macurthy, white silk, the bodice trimmed with narrow black velvet ribbon and lace; Miss Henry, black silk skirt, pale blue silk evening blouse; Mrs Bristow, black silk gown; Mrs Milward also wore a black silk evening gown; Miss Williams, black silk skirt and pale pink blouse; Miss Elsie Williams, black silk skirt, cream silk blouse trimmed with lace; Mrs Fancourt, black silk gown; Miss Fancourt, pale pink dress, the bodice trimmed with chiffon to match; Mrs Litchfield, black silk skirt, cream silk evening blouse; Miss Brandon, black silk; Miss Harcourt, cream silk with lace berthe; Mrs Quick, black silk gown trimmed with jet and lace; Miss Quick, cream silk; Mrs Pynsent, black satin and lace; Miss Miller, black silk, the bodice trimmed with black and white lace; Miss Seed, black silk skirt, and black and white check silk blouse trimmed with jet; Mrs Mee, black silk gown, the bodice trimmed with pale blue silk; Miss O'Connor, black silk gown with frills of white chiffon on the bodice; Mrs Butt, black silk gown with cream lace fichu; Miss Stafford, white muslin dress and others.

Mrs Wallis gave two very enjoyable

AT HOMES

This week, one on Tuesday and one on Wednesday. On the first day Mrs Wallis received her guests in a pale grey canvas gown, the bodice trimmed with white lace; her mother, Mrs Williams, was wearing a black and white striped silk gown trimmed with black lace; Miss Williams wore a cream pompadour silk gown trimmed with cream lace. A delicious tea was laid in the dining room, the table being prettily decorated with flowers. During the afternoon Miss St. Hill, of Hawke's Bay, sang, and Miss Pharaizyn played very nicely. Among the guests were Lady Hector, wearing a black braided costume and pretty black and blue bonnet; Miss Hector, dark grey jacket and skirt and white sailor hat; Mrs W. Pharaizyn, black silk gown and cape, pretty black bonnet with chiffon and pink flowers; Miss Pharaizyn, pale green muslin costume trimmed with cream lace, cream hat with pale green ribbon and violets; Mrs C. Johnston, black and spotted silk gown, the bodice trimmed with light ecru net, and finished at the waist with narrow band of deep orange velvet, black and white hat; Miss Johnston, white muslin gown, pale green sash, and white hat with wings and chiffon; Mrs Fancourt, black gown and mantle, black bonnet, with pink roses; Miss Fancourt, pale pink costume; Mrs Gore, brown silk gown, with vest of pale blue silk, brown and blue bonnet; Miss Gore; Mrs Quick, brown silk gown trimmed with lace, bonnet to match; Miss M. Quick, cream costume; Mrs and Miss Ashcroft, Mrs Martin, Mrs W. FitzGerald, the Messrs Ashcroft, Smith, Tripp, Rolleston, H. Johnston.

On Wednesday among the guests were Countess De Courte, who was

wearing a navy blue and white figure 1 silk gown, with bands of blue velvet at the hem, black hat trimmed with chiffon and deep yellow roses; Mrs Rhodes, black silk gown and cape, green velvet bonnet trimmed with opsyra to match; Mrs Williams, handsome black silk gown and jetted cape, cream lace bonnet with pale pink flowers; Miss E. Williams, cream costume; Miss Una Williams, white muslin trimmed with embroidery, blue straw hat trimmed with ribbon to match; Mrs Pynsent, black silk costume; Mrs Anson, black crepon gown trimmed with black and white silk, black and white hat; Mrs Turnbull, white muslin dress, with ribbon belt of blue silk, white and blue hat; Mrs and Miss Richmond; Miss Quick, pale blue muslin dress and toque to match; Miss M. Quick, white costume; Mrs H. Crawford, fawn costume, burnt straw hat trimmed with scarlet poppies; Mrs A. Pearce, Miss Gibson (Dunedin), Mrs A. Brandon, Mrs and Miss Stowe, Miss Fancourt, Mrs G. Hutchison, Mrs and the Misses Powles, Mrs Brown, Mrs and Miss Edwin, and others.

The

AFTERNOON TEA

given by Mrs Alec Crawford at 'Miramar' on Wednesday proved a delightful break in the social dullness which has prevailed in Wellington lately. The weather was lovely and one really wanted and enjoyed the delicious afternoon tea provided after the long drive from town. The dining-room was utilised as a tea-room, and strawberries and cream proved quite irresistible, dispensed on little rustic tables under the shady trees in the garden. Many of the guests bicycled out and managed, moreover, to do so without detracting from the freshness of their smart white gowns in spite of the dusty roads. Mrs Crawford wore a charming and most becoming costume of black and white striped silk, trimmed with black jet trimming; her sister-in-law, Mrs Harry Crawford, being in white pique, with large black hat, trimmed with yellow roses; Mrs Tolhurst wore black, with a pretty cream and black bonnet; Mrs Alfred Brandon was also in black, her large black hat being trimmed with pink roses; Mrs MacPherson wore a very cool-looking gown of mauve silk, and mauve velvet hat; Mrs Wynn-Williams, grey silk, and white hat; Mrs T. C. Williams, black and white; her daughters being charmingly gowned; Miss Williams, in blue cambric, braided with white, and white lace waistcoat and revers, and cream hat, trimmed with blue chiffon; Miss Hilda Williams, in blue silk, trimmed profusely with soft white lace, and dainty white hat; Mrs Ferguson was in white pique, her smart little toque being trimmed with pale pink roses; her sister, Miss H. Moorhouse being in electric blue cloth, with bands of old cream lace on the skirt, and white satin waistcoat and revers, and lovely white hat, embroidered on the white satin crown with blue sequins, and trimmed with lace and cerise-coloured primulas; Miss Buller looked well in black and white check tweed, her large black picture hat being brightened with pink roses; Mrs Adams, black, and pompadour muslin blouse, and

white hat; Mrs Higginson, black and white; Miss Pearce, black, and black and yellow hat; Mrs W. Turnbull, white pique and white sailor hat; Miss Izard, white, and pretty white hat; Miss Richardson wore a sweetly pretty gown of soft white muslin and insertion, and large white hat; Mrs Grace, brown and yellow striped silk gown, trimmed with gold passementerie, and bonnet to match; and Miss Cooper wore a black skirt and soft white blouse. The drive back to town in the cool of the evening was a pleasant ending to a most enjoyable afternoon.

Miss Richmond's Kindergarten School broke up on Friday morning, and a large number of relatives and friends assembled to see the children go through a most varied programme, embracing arithmetic, reading, astronomy, singing, and all the rudiments of learning, acquired evidently without any effort on the children's part. Nothing could have been prettier than the happy faced little children all in white, with scarlet ribbons and buttonholes, going through their programme with the greatest precision and evident enjoyment. Miss Richmond must have felt gratified by the many congratulations she received, on the successful result of her tuition. Miss Richmond and Miss T. Blackett, who assisted her in looking after the children, both wore soft white gowns, with buttonholes of scarlet carnations. Among many present I noticed Mrs C. Johnston in grey, with cerise coloured waistcoat and hat, Miss Johnston being in black and white, and white sailor hat; Mrs Fell, grey and black, and white hat; Mrs Grace, dark green tweed; Mrs Clarke (Christchurch), white, and black and white hat; Mrs W. Ferguson, blue and white zephyr, and white sailor hat; Mrs Anson, black; Miss Turnbull, black and white gown, white sailor hat; Miss Moorhouse, black tailor-made gown and dark green straw hat trimmed with lettuce green ribbon and tulle; Mrs Collins, white pique, black and white felt hat; Miss Fraser, electric blue tweed, and white hat, Mrs Manrice Richmond, black gown, with white revers, and waistcoat, and black and white hat; Miss D. Richmond black and black hat; Mrs MacKenzie, dark blue, and white sailor hat; Miss H. Moorhouse, blue print, and black hat trimmed with pink roses; Miss Blackett, black skirt and white blouse and white sailor hat. The schoolroom was most effectively decorated with scarlet and white flowers, and an artistically draped easel held a beautifully painted programme of the items to be performed by the children during the morning.

OPHELIA-CLARISSE.

The Rotomahana is to bring excursionists from Wellington to Picton on Boxing Day; also on January 2nd, weather permitting.

A BEAUTIFUL COMPLEXION.

Apply Sulpholine Lotion. It drives away pimples, blotches, roughness, redness, and all disfigurements. Sulpholine develops a lovely skin. Is bottles. Made in London.—Advt.

PEOPLE YOU KNOW

NO. 2.—THE POSTMAN.

A rural postman writes:—'I desire to add this unsolicited testimony to the sterling qualities of Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa. I am a rural postman, and exposed to all kinds of weather. I have used Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa daily this last eleven months, and I believe that I can do my work with less fatigue since I have used it. I can honestly recommend to my fellow postmen Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa for its sustaining qualities.'

Of late years many new manufactures, rejoicing in a multiplicity of names, have been brought before the public notice, but there are none which have bounded into favour so readily as has Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa. Throughout the country its sales have increased with great rapidity, and an article which only a few years back was unheard of has now become one of the most popular beverages of the people.

Merit, and merit alone, is what is claimed for Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, and the Proprietors are prepared to send to any reader who names the Auckland 'Star' (a postcard will do) a dainty sample tin of Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa free and post paid. There is no magic in all this. It is a plain, honest, straightforward offer. It is done to introduce the merits of Vi-Cocoa into every home. Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, as a concentrated form of nourishment, and vitality, is invaluable; nay, more than this, for to all who wish to face the strife and battle of life with greater endurance and more sustained exertion, it is absolutely indispensable.

Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa in 84d packets and 1/1 and 2/2 tins can be obtained from all Chemists, Grocers and Stores, or from Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, Limited, 269 George-street, Sydney.

On Anniversary Day, by the kind invitation of Mr and Mrs John Deans, of Riccarton, Christchurch, the St. Andrew's Sunday School held a picnic in their grounds. In the afternoon Mrs Deans entertained many friends at afternoon tea, and before breaking up Mrs Deans, senior, presented the prizes to the school children. The Rev. Gordon Webster spoke of the pleasure it was to again have Mrs Deans to perform that ceremony, hoping she would do so on many future occasions.

It is said that Mr Williams, of Dunedin, is to take Mr Marchant's place as chief surveyor, and reside in Picton.

Mrs R. McCallum provided a very sumptuous tea on Saturday afternoon at the Marlborough Tennis Courts, but as it set in pouring wet there were very few present, and those who were there were reduced to playing games in the pavilion. Tennis was impossible as the rain came down in torrents.

Mrs A. P. Burns, of Nelson, gave an afternoon tea last Wednesday, when Mrs Adams, Mrs Kingdon, Mrs J. Sharp, and the Misses Webb-Bowen (2), Haselden (Wellington), Leggatt, Trimmell (Wellington), Pitt, were amongst those present.

The Oldest Inhabitants say so, therefore it must be correct.

That never before, in the history of Auckland, have such crowds been seen in Queen-street. In front of IREDALE'S, the pedestrian traffic is particularly congested, so much so, that a considerable has been detailed solely for this part of the street in order to keep the crowds moving on and prevent obstruction. It is a funny sight to see IREDALE'S old 'Santa Claus' hobbling along, the delight of all the 'small fry' in the city, closely watched by the lynx-eyed man of the law, ready at any moment to pounce down on him on a charge of 'obstruction'.

IREDALE

IS HAVING A 'GREAT TIME.'

This remark is being made on every hand, both by residents and visitors, and the truth of it cannot be doubted.

IREDALE'S CHRISTMAS TRADE

Is exceeding his wildest expectations. The daily crowds are so dense that even with a largely augmented staff he has great difficulty in coping with them.

The Toy and Fancy Bazaar

Is an unqualified success. IREDALE runs this department at Christmas time merely as an advertisement, and as he has no room to carry any of the stock left over, he is now offering the remainder of his wonderful stock of Toys, Dolls, Fancy Goods, etc.,

AT EXACT COST PRICES!

Such an offer as this is bound to attract every man, woman, and child in the city.

Turning to other goods, that is, goods connected more directly with Drapery, pure and simple IREDALE is offering a series of the most remarkable lines ever offered to an appreciative public, such as the Auckland public has always proved to be to IREDALE. Take for instance—

Ladies' Tailor-made Coats and Skirts

In Plain and Fancy Pique, Holland, Drill, etc. IREDALE is offering as a special line for the holidays a wonderful lot of the very newest goods at 15s 11d, 18s 11d, 21s 6d, and 25s 6d the costume. Not one of them is worth less than 30s, and many were as high as 3 Guineas.

And Silk Blouses.

This is another seasonable sensation. Lovely Silk Blouses, assorted colours, all perfectly cut in the newest shapes, 10s 6d each, original price 21s.

Then Costume Skirts.

A Figured Lustré Costume Skirt at 10s 9d seems an absurdity, but is nevertheless true. IREDALE offers them this week at this price, and they are honestly worth 25s 6d. Remember, 10s 9d for a Handsome Costume Skirt.

Trimmed Hats Extraordinary.

IREDALE is selling Home Pattern Hats, all this season's importations, at 5s 11d and 12s 11d. The price may seem ridiculous, but they need only be seen to be immediately appreciated.

Sunshades are Cheap.

And now is the weather for them, especially when a pretty Sunshade, worth at least 15s 6d, may be had for 10s 6d. It is worth thinking about.

A Hundred Other Lines

Could be quoted, but sufficient has been written to prove that IREDALE is, as usual, ready for an emergency. His Special Bargains for the holidays are something beyond the wildest dreams of even the keenest bargain hunter.

IREDALE.....AUCKLAND.