

CHRISTCHURCH.

Dear Bee, December 14.
As surely as the holidays come round, assuredly each parish has its

FETE

or sale of work, or whatever name they like to give it for raising money. On Tuesday and Wednesday one of the former held sway at the Art Gallery in connection with Merivale Parish. Many devices had been hit upon to make a success of it, and not the least of these which helped to brighten the scene very much was the costuming of the various stall holders. Some were in Grecian costume, and a bevy of girls who looked after the strawberry and cream tables were all in white, with large hats trimmed with natural flowers. The afternoon tea dispensed by Mesdames Waymouth, Tyree and de Vries was very daintily served, and in great request. The attendance on the second day was disappointing, but in the evening a sparkling little play was given by Mr and Mrs Marsh and Mr Guise Brittan.

Among the visitors were Mesdames Cunningham, Wood, Hargreaves, Babington, Stead, Common, Secretan, Meredith-Kaye, Kettlewell, Lawrie, Matson, Allan, Martin, Bloxam, Jennings, Snow, Rhodes, R. Macdonald, H. Wood, Messrs Wood (3), Averill, Fraser-Tyler, Gibbs, de Vries, Weetman, etc.

BICYCLING PARTY

On Wednesday afternoon a party organised by Mrs Wardrop, rode to New Brighton, where afternoon tea was greatly enjoyed. After a delightful ride home in the evening Mrs Wardrop gave a charming little supper, finishing up with music. Among the cyclists were Mr and Mrs Ogle, Mrs J. C. Palmer, Mr and Miss Palmer, Misses Lee, Cowlishaw, Harper, Mr Wardrop and others.

At the **COMPLIMENTARY CONCERT** to Mr Wallace, among the audience were Bishop and Mrs Julius, and the Misses Julius, Mr and Mrs Embling, Mrs Denniston and Miss Bathgate, Mr W. D. and the Misses Meares, Mr and Mrs J. C. Wilkin, and Misses Wilkin (2), Mr and Mrs Wilding and party, Mrs F. M. Wallace, the Earl and Countess of Seafield, and Miss Townsend, Mr and Mrs Bourne, Mr and Mrs Appleby, Mrs W. Stringer, Mr and Mrs Wardrop, Mrs Ogle, Mrs Rose, Mr and

Came Very Near Dying

Blood Bad; Abscesses Formed; Health Gone.

We are glad to publish the testimonial of Miss Annie Snook of Auckland, New Zealand, who suffered intensely for years, and who was quickly cured when she obtained the right remedy.



"I was a strong, healthy woman until about five years ago, and while living in England was recovering from an attack of measles. I took a chill, had a relapse and came very near dying. My blood was left in a very bad state, abscesses formed on my body, I was confined to my bed two-thirds of the time. At times I was unable to move. For two years I failed to obtain any relief. So finally I was advised to come to New Zealand. After coming here I remained about the same, trying many remedies without obtaining any benefit. About a year ago after reading one of your advertisements I determined to try

DR. AYER'S Sarsaparilla

Very soon after using it the abscesses began to heal and my general health very greatly improved. I followed up the treatment and am now as strong as ever. I cannot too highly recommend Ayer's Sarsaparilla as a blood purifier and tonic."

For constipation take Dr. Ayer's Pills. They promptly relieve and surely cure. Take them with Dr. Ayer's Sarsaparilla: one side the other.

Mrs Barkas, Misses Fairhurst and Grant, Professor and the Misses Cook, Mr and Mrs Vernon, Mr, Mrs and Miss Izard, Mr Carrick, Misses Martin and Kinsey, Mrs Mathias, Mrs and Miss Williams, Mr and Miss Graham, Mr and Mrs Loughnan, Mrs and Misses Reeves, Mrs Boyle, Mrs and Miss Fenwick, Mr and Mrs Wethey, Mrs R. J. Thorpe, etc.

The **ROSE SHOW** was a powerful magnet at the Art Gallery on Friday, some other lovely blooms being shown as well, notably some magnificent iris from Mr I. Gibbs' garden, and the pelargoniums and geraniums were simply perfect and a blaze of colour. Mrs Denniston was in charge of the afternoon tea, with an army of girl assistants, who had a very busy time. The table decorations under the voting system were limited to height, and won by Miss Palmer, Miss Murray-Aynsley second, Miss Webster third. Some exquisite roses were to be seen on these tables.

Among the visitors were Mrs A. E. G. Rhodes, in dark blue cloth, braided and trimmed with tarta silk, large black hat; Mrs Stead, cream serge, floral toque; Mrs Denniston, black canvas over green, black toque, with green bow; Mrs G. Gould, grey striped gown, cornflower blue hat; Mrs Pitman, navy blue coat and skirt, braided with black; Mrs Palmer, handsome black costume; Mrs Cowlishaw, the same; Mrs Wardrop, dark blue skirt, blouse of silk; Mrs Ogle, pretty braided costume; Mesdames Hoyle, Hall, Clark, J. C. Palmer (in a dainty white muslin), Gore (Wellingington), Teuchemker (Blenheim), Johnson (Dunedin), Waymouth, Snow, Fenwick, Babington, Julius, Malet, Guthrie, Anderson, Currow, Wilkin, Woodhouse, Kettlewell, Secretan, Rose, Buchanan, Richardson (Wellington), Tonks, Bruges, C. Cook, Bourne, Gordon, Misses Reeves, Murray-Aynsley, Cowlishaw, Palmer, Lee, Nedwill, Way, Hill, Denniston, Tolhurst, Irvine, Studholme, Meares, Wilson, Tabart, Ainger, Kinsey, Martin, Garrick, McPherson, Drs. Levinge, Irving, Anderson, Moorehouse, etc.

BLENHEIM.

Dear Bee, December 12.

The most notable events of last week were the Circuit Cycling Races, and the triumph of Mr Purser, which, however, may be short-lived, as the General Exploration Company intend to appeal against the verdict, which, by the unanimous decision of the jury, was in Mr Purser's favour. A day or two of southerly wind preceded Wednesday, when the cycling races took place, and the day itself was cheerless and lowering, consequently the attendance at the races was not so large as had been anticipated. Some of the best cyclists in New Zealand competed, and though our local riders had good handicaps, none succeeded in winning a race, though in the final heat of the Wheel Race and Mile Handicap Mr Percy Redwood was second and third. In the Circuit Handicap, of five miles, the competitors who started away back, and at scratch, put on great speed until they caught up those who started in advance of them, then all slowed down, and round and round they went, one immediately behind the other, looking like a serpent undulating round the track. Three capsize took place, but those who fell were not much hurt, though no doubt they would feel a painful stiffness for several days. Seats were placed round the track for the convenience of the spectators, and very good afternoon tea was provided by Mr Rothwell, of the "Procedero," in a large tent. Mr A. P. Green was referee, and Messrs H. F. Thompson, F. Redwood, and C. Ball, judges. Most of the spectators were unknown to me, but among the few I recognised were Mesdames H. F. Thompson, A. P. Green, E. Richmond (Richmond Brook), Clouston, MacShane, H. G. Bell, Ball (2), Carey, the Misses Dobbie (Picton), Eyes, Green (2), Broughan (2), and Messrs Cottrell and Harden (Westport), F. Dodson, W. Seymour, F. Richmond, Clouston C. MacShane, and many others.

There was quite an exodus from Blenheim last Wednesday, when Judge Denniston and secretary, Sir Robert Stout, and Messrs H. D. Bell, Myers, of Wellington, and Messrs Braddon, Cottrell, Harden and a host of wit-

nesses from Westport took their departure, some going North, some

A SALE OF WORK was held in the schoolroom adjoining the Church of the Nativity last Tuesday afternoon and evening, and apparently a good deal of business was done. Amongst other attractive things in the stall managed by Mesdames C. W. Adams and Black was a collection of Sydenham pottery, consisting of teapots, vases, flower-pots, and jugs, etc., which seemed to sell very readily. I did not know that such things were made in New Zealand, and was charmed with many of them. A second stall was superintended by Mesdames McIntire and Smith. Little tables were dotted about the room, at which most delicious tea and cakes were served; and fruit salads were to be had for a small sum. Some of those I saw present were Mesdames Grace, Moore, Graham, Merewether, Duckworth, Monro, Carter, Howard, A. P. Green, McIntosh, MacShane, Currie, Collins, Jackson, the Misses Moore, A. Williams,

K. Smith, Waddy, Norgrove, Adams, etc. During the evening a concert was held and refreshments served.

Of those who went from here to Nelson to compete in the Cycling Club's sports, Mr Percy Redwood has been the most successful, having won two races: the Nelson Wheel Race, and 14 Mile Race. He also came second in another race.

The Amateur Opera Society have taken 'Tip Van Winkle' for practice, and are having the scenery painted by Messrs Hutchins and Ward, late of the Cowan Dramatic Company.

There was a large assemblage of members at the Marlborough Tennis Courts on Saturday afternoon, when Mrs G. Robinson gave the afternoon tea. Croquet is decidedly popular already, and there were many players. The day was a lovely one.

FRIDA.

Bobby (in a stage whisper): 'But, mamma, we said grace for this yesterday.'



MELLIN'S FOOD when prepared is similar to Breast Milk and is adapted for all climates.

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The Finest, most Refreshing, and Pleasantest Beverage obtainable. TRY IT.

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