



The engagement is announced of Miss Blanche Caro, third daughter of Mr L. L. Caro, Parnell, to Mr Thomas Keesing, youngest son of Mr Ralph Keesing, Park Road, Auckland.

ORANGE BLOSSOMS.

MR BELLAMY TO MISS JOHNSTON.

A very pretty but quiet wedding which excited much interest was celebrated at Bevesford-street Congregational Church, Auckland, on Wednesday last, when Miss Lizzie Johnston, youngest daughter of Mr George Johnston, manager of the Standard Insurance Company, was married to Mr George Bellamy.

The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. Joseph Parker.

The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in cornflower blue travelling dress with white silk plastron and sash, blue hat with clusters of cornflowers, and carried a lovely shower bouquet of choice flowers.

Miss Grace Wrigley, who was bridesmaid, was attired in a pink Siolian luster. Miss Muriel Campbell and Master A. Campbell (niece and nephew of the bride) also followed the bride. The former looked pretty in a soft white and yellow muslin frock, and the latter in white corduroy.

Mr. E. Johnston accompanied Mr Bellamy in the capacity of best man. Mr Hooton officiated at the organ, and played the Wedding March and Bridal March.

After the ceremony the guests, who were limited to relatives, were conveyed in a special steamer to Birkenhead to the picturesque residence of the bride's parents, where they were entertained at the wedding breakfast.

Miss Johnston wore a handsome black grenadine gown with blue and brown silk stripes, bonnet to match; Mrs C. Campbell, stylish gown of salmon pink silk grenadine, trimmed with black satin ribbon, brown and pink bonnet; Mrs Cousins, grenadine over a yellow silk slip, floral toque; Mrs Prior, fawn cloth skirt and coat, yellow jabot, cream hat; Miss Prior wore a combination of blue and white;

MR C. FALKNER TO MISS CORRIE JONES.

The wedding of Mr C. Falkner, of Motueka Valley, to Miss Corrie Jones took place at the Cathedral, Nelson, on Wednesday. The Rev. J. P. Kempthorne performed the wedding ceremony, and the bridegroom was supported by his brother as best man.

The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr Alfred Jones, looked exceedingly handsome in a beautiful gown of cream satin, with a court train falling from the shoulders. The bodice was softened with chiffon, and the long tulle veil was fastened with an orange spray. The chief bridesmaid was Miss Georgie Jones, sister of the bride, who wore white Indian muslin over pale green, long sash of pink silk, white chip hat trimmed with green chiffon and pink roses. The other two bridesmaids were Miss Falkner, sister of the bridegroom, and Miss Mary Curtis, who were attired alike in white embroidered muslin gowns, pink sashes and white hats with pink roses. The bride carried a beautiful shower bouquet of white flowers, and the bridesmaids equally beautiful ones of pink and white sweet peas.

The altar and screen of the Cathedral were tastefully decorated with white flowers by some of the bride's many girl friends, and as she left the holy edifice roses were scattered on her pathway. Each bridesmaid wore a gold brooch composed of two swallows attached by a chain, the gift of the bridegroom.

Mrs Jones, the bride's mother, wore a gown of black broche, with white lace collar and cuffs, bonnet to match;

Mrs Falkner, mother of the bridegroom, wore black silk relieved with white chiffon, black bonnet; Miss Lita Jones, elder sister of the bride, wore a pretty heliotrope costume trimmed with velvet of a darker shade, toque to match; Miss — Falkner, sister of the bridegroom, wore a grey costume with trimmings of pale blue, white hat; her three younger sisters were attired alike in cream dresses trimmed with lace, hats to match. Amongst the guests were Mrs Perrin, black costume, maure bonnet; Miss Perrin, becoming dress of deep heliotrope and white striped silk, hat en suite; Mrs R. Kingdon, white pique coat and skirt with vest of black and white chiffon, white gem hat; Mrs Holloway, black silk; Mrs Kempthorne, grey costume, cream vest, bonnet en suite.



AUCKLAND.

Dear Bee, December 28.

Once more Christmas has come and gone. Most of us strongly disapprove of the 'merrie festive' falling as this year on a Sunday. But it couldn't be helped, and I believe those who observe the day entirely as a religious one find it more convenient in many ways for it to be celebrated on a quietly-kept day.

Mrs Humphrey Haines gave a delightful

AT HOME

at 'Kin Ora' tea rooms, Exhibition, last Tuesday afternoon. The kiosk was prettily decorated with vases of galacias and miniature sunflowers. Of course, there was no actual decoration necessary, as the surroundings of the kiosk are a decoration in themselves. The band could be heard at a distance, which was sufficient to make a low accompaniment to the merry babel within the curtained walls. The girls who waited on the guests were charmingly gowned in canary costumes. Aces, strawberries and cream, cakes, and tea were dispensed.

Amongst those present I noted the following:—Mrs Humphrey Haines, grey figured fancy Japanese silk with violet velvet trimmings, floral toque of violets; Mrs Charles Haines, mode grey costume made with Eton jacket and handsomely trimmed with gold military braid; Mrs Edward Isaacs, black silk; Miss Edith Isaacs, fawn coat and skirt; Miss Eva Isaacs, white cambric with pink sash; Mrs Thomas Morrin, black and grey figured silk trimmed with blue silk and silver braiding; Mrs Baume, black silk; Mrs Thorne George, black mourning costume; Miss Ida Thorne George, white pique skirt, striped blouse, white bergere hat fashionably drooped over and hiding the face; Mrs Colbeck, white muslin; Miss Kohn looked remarkably pretty in a white muslin, white ruffled hat with canary flowers resting on coiffure; Miss Harrison, green silk of a dark hue, stylishly trimmed with passementerie, green hat with feathers en suite; Miss Jessie Savage looked dainty in a flowered muslin, with bands of rucked lilac silk; Mrs Kerr-Taylor, white; and her daughter were green; Mrs Raines, heliotrope satin, trimmed with fawn lace, picture hat with feathers; Miss Raines, white; Mrs Grierson, blue satin veiled in fawn canvas, blue satin blouse with fesselle lace; Mrs Lionel Benjamin, grey coat and skirt, bonnet with blue ostrich feathers; Mrs Moss Davis, black silk, and very handsome Parisian mantle of the new colour, elephant's breath, it was handsomely trimmed with passementerie and black lace, bonnet with pink roses; Miss Moss Davis, fawn tailor-made gown; Mrs Cheeseman (Marunui), grey tailor made gown; Miss Keay, navy costume of French delaine spotted with red; Mrs Reid Bloomfield, black costume with narrow red stripe; Mrs Lucas Bloomfield, grey cashmere finished with pink; Mrs George Bloomfield, brown relieved with pink, pink floral toque; Mrs Ruck, navy and white striped silk bodice, black silk skirt;

Mrs Leathern, dark skirt, white bodice with black bands trimmed diagonally; Mrs Bodle, white pique, black hat; Mrs Ware, grey; Miss Moss, white muslin, white hat; Mrs Isidor Alexander, very stylish fawn costume, relieved with white satin; Mrs Caselberg, cornflower blue costume; Mrs Devore, grey figured French muslin; Miss Devore, Royal blue French muslin; Mrs Collins, black coat and skirt, pretty white hat with snowflakes; Miss Horton, white; Mrs William Coleman, black costume with gold plaid; Mrs Louis Myera, white and black muslin over black silk; Mrs Dignan, fawn coat and skirt, pink vest, toque of pink roses; Mrs Henry Walker, black coat and skirt; Mrs McArthur, celery green profusely trimmed with passementerie; Mrs L. D. Nathan, very stylish English costume of black and white plaid, trimmed with rose pink; Mrs Schmidt, black mourning costume; Miss Lucas, grey; Mrs A. V. McDonald, fawn coat and skirt; and her sister, Miss Sutton, from South, wore white muslin; Mrs Arch Clark, mode grey; etc.

Mrs Kent, wife of the President of the Exhibition, held an 'At Home' at Messrs L. D. Nathan's pretty tea kiosk on Friday afternoon, 16th inst. The room was prettily decorated with lilac sweet pea, forming a lovely contrast on the salmon pink table cloths. Large palms and pot plants were dotted all over the large room, giving a very cool appearance (pink lights). The band was stationed immediately outside the entrance of the kiosk, where Mrs Kent received her guests, numbering about 60. Mrs Kent was delighted with the way everything was done at the kiosk, which is particularly well adapted for the purpose. The usual ices and strawberries and cream, lettuce sandwiches, were served. The following is a list of some of the guests:—Mrs Nelson, Mrs A. Nathan, Mrs and Miss Ledingham, Mrs J. St. Clair, Mrs Ruck, Miss Roskrige, Mrs Hugh Campbell, Mrs Tawley, Mrs Devore, Mrs Holmes, Mrs I. Alexander, Mrs Caselberg, Mrs Baume, Mrs Benjamin, Miss Kohn, Mrs and Miss D. Craig, Mrs and Miss Donald, Miss Swares, Mrs W. Coleman, Mrs F. W. Coates, Mrs Dawson, Mrs and Miss Holland, Mrs King, Miss Cooper, Mrs Lindsay, Mrs J. Macky, Mrs C. Marley, Mrs and Miss Myers, Mrs Louis Myers, Mrs Leo Myers, Mrs and Miss Macdonald, Mrs S. Nathan, Mrs Oihphant, Mrs J. Reid, Mrs Roberts, Madame Schmitt, Mrs H. L. Thompson, Miss Thompson, Mrs A. Taylor, Mrs W. Thorne, Mrs Vaile, Mrs and Miss Prouse, Miss Large.

On Friday afternoon the old people at the Costley Home were given their annual Christmas treat by a number of ladies from Remuera, Auckland, and the surrounding districts. This year a very pleasant addition was made to the usual entertainment in the way of music. A number of ladies subscribed money to have a band in attendance. This was a great pleasure to a great many who were not able to leave their beds, as they played in all the different wards. Strawberries and cream were sent to all who could not be present at the tea. There were numbers of visitors from all parts. Few people realise what great pleasure is given to these poor old people to see visitors, and to know that they are not forgotten by the outside world, and they fully appreciated the kindness shown them by all the ladies who so kindly and so liberally contributed to give them such a happy day. The following are the names of those present:—Mesdames Pritt, Nelson, Morrin, Moss Davis, Shera, J. Russell, Cotter, Ching, L. D. Nathan, A. H. Nathan, A. Nathan, Finlayson, Bassett, Buckland, Cheeseman, Lovell, Williams, Healdy, Bold, Craigh, Moore-Jones, Willoughby, Parsons, Young, Prouse; the Misses Westwood, Pick mere, Moss Davis, Alexander, Bold, Crowther, Whyte, Hewin, Taylor, Cameron, Richardson, Parsons, Hull (2), Willoughby, Morrin (2). Contributions in money from Mr D. L. Muddock, Samuel, Mr Herriott, Mr S. Abbott, H. B. Morton, and Mrs Johnson, etc., etc. Cakes, fruit, and lollies from Mesdames Richmond, Gillam, Hardie, Lennox, Munroe, Alexander, Haines, Malna, Crowther, Ashton, Winstone, Dargaville, Cochrane, O'Halloran, Miss Peak, Bodle, Somerville, Carpenter, M. A. Clark, Hanna, Wadell. Among the visitors were the Rev. W. E. Gillam, Rev. L. FitzGerald, Mrs Goldie, Mrs Holland, Mrs Gill, Mrs Stevenson, Mrs Caselberg, Mrs Luckie, Miss Black, Miss Peak, and Miss Bramwell. After tea songs were

sung by Mrs Moss Davis and her daughter, Miss Crowthee, Miss Alexander to banjo accompaniment, Miss Black, Mrs Fritt, Mrs Parsons, and Mr Gillam, and Mr FitzGerald, all of which were loudly applauded by the old folks. It was most pleasing to the visitors to witness the kind feeling existing between the nuster and master of the home and the inmates, and the courteous way Mr and Mrs Moss did all in their power to help the visitors to carry out the arrangements for the afternoon's entertainment.

The Principal (Mr Graham Bruce) and Mrs Ashton Bruce held a

LARGE 'AT HOME'

at King's College on Wednesday evening last, when the annual distribution of prizes took place. There was a large gathering of parents and friends of the pupils. As on the prior year, the function took the form of a Baden-Baden Concert, the items being given from an alcove in the school balcony. The school and grounds were gaily illuminated with Chinese lanterns and fairy lights, beside the soft rays of the moon, the effect being most beautiful and fairy like. The weather, which is a little peculiar for the time of the year, happily kept fine, and no heavy clouds floated round during the early part of the evening. The school prizes were presented in the gymnasium by the Rev. W. Beatty, and the reports of the Principal and of the examiner, Dr. McArthur, were read and were of a most favourable character. At the conclusion of the presentation of prizes a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Beatty for presenting the prizes. After the presenting of prizes the guests either roamed around the beautifully illuminated extensive grounds of The King's College chatting to their friends or seated themselves on various seats arranged for their benefit and listened to the delightful music, which was given from the school balcony, items being contributed by the German String Band, and songs by Miss Tilly, Mr Claud Kissing, and Mr Wilfred Manning, Miss F. Thorpe acting as accompanist. The sports prizes were presented by Mrs Heather from the steps of the verandah in front of the school. Refreshments were served in one of the schoolrooms, the table looking particularly bright with its simple decorations of bronze green and pearly vellor crinkly paper in fan shapes, and vases of white daisies, and privet and pots of maidenhair fern. Mrs Ashton Bruce wore a very becoming costume of blue flowered French muslin, with white silk chemisette, black toque, with coloured roses; Mrs Heather, handsome black silk, with black bead trimming, pale yellow vest, black bonnet, with yellow flowers; Miss Tilly, grey tailor-made gown, with rose pink vest, pink toque; Miss F. Thorpe looked well in her white silk costume, black picture hat, black feather boa. The guests looked particularly smart in their pretty summer costumes, but as colour is so deceiving by the rays of Chinese lanterns and the light of the moon I shall make no attempt to describe their dresses. Amongst those present were Miss Frodsham, Mrs Gorrie, Mr and Mrs Dalton, Mr and Mrs A. P. Griffiths, Miss Goldsbro', Mrs Cudall, Mr and Mrs H. Griffiths, Mr and Mrs Heather, Messrs Heather, Mr and Mrs Cochrane, Messrs Cochrane, Mr O'Halloran, Misses Hesketh, Miss Hull, Misses Hooper, Mr and Mrs Ashley Hunter, Mrs Inghall, Mrs Henry Johnston, Misses Kissing, Mrs Kempthorne, Misses Kempthorne, Mrs Baume, Misses Coleman, Misses Lennox, Mr Lennox, Mrs Cheeseman, Miss Keesing, Mr C. Major, Rev. W. Major, Mrs and Miss Aicken, Mrs Bamford, Misses Binney, Mr and Mrs Burns, Miss Burns, Mr and Mrs Bleazard-Brown, Miss Bleazard-Brown, Mr and Mrs Duncan Clerk, Mr and Mrs Matthew Clark, Mr Arch Clark, Miss Amy Barstow, Mr and Mrs Chatfield, Miss Chatfield, Misses Atkins, Mr and Mrs Ching, Mr and Mrs Aitken Carrick, Miss Conolly, Mr and Mrs R. A. Carr, Miss Norah Carr, Mr and Mrs R. C. Carr and Miss Carr, Mr and Mrs Duthie, Mrs Robert Dargaville, Misses Dargaville, Misses Draper, Rev. Mr and Mrs Beatty, Professor and Mrs Egerston, Mr and Mrs Murray, Miss McMurray, Dr, and Mrs Erson, Mrs Martin, Mr and Mrs H. Nolan, Mr and Mrs Bodle, Mr Ferguson, Mrs Fitzroy Pencocke, Miss Shepherd, Mrs Jno. Reid, Mr and Mrs Hanson, Mr and Mrs Robert Rose, Misses Stevenson, Professor and Mrs Seager, Mrs and Misses Tilly, Mr and Misses Whitney, Mr Whitson; Mr and Mrs C. Whitney; Mrs