

Rothschild's agents for his famous collection.

Mrs S. Von Sturmer, wife of the President of the Parnell Bowling Green, gave an At Home on the lawn last Saturday. The weather was by no means favourable.

Dr. and Mrs. Kenny have been entertaining their numerous friends during the past week prior to their leaving Hamilton. Dr. Kenny has been appointed medical superintendent at the Sanatorium, Rotorua, and will be taking up his new duties at the end of January. They will be much missed in Hamilton.

Dr. Kenny entertained about forty of his gentlemen friends one evening last week at a card and musical party and supper. A most enjoyable time was spent. The following evening Mrs. Kenny gave an impromptu dance to her young friends. Though the rain came down heavily, which kept a good many away a great number of guests were present, and spent a delightful evening.

Mrs De Courcey, Drury, gave a very pleasant euchre party on Friday evening in Hamilton. There were nine tables. The fortunate prize-winners were the Misses F. and H. Graham.

The At Home of Captain Browne and officers of H.M.S. Tauranga, for which invitations had been issued for the 18th, has had to be indefinitely postponed on account of sailing orders for the 16th. This is somewhat of a disappointment to the would-be guests.

A town clock to strike the hours and quarters of the hour, is to be placed in a tower the Government intend to erect on the Government Buildings in New Plymouth. The cost will be met by public subscriptions subsidised by the Borough Council and General Government.

A very curious halo was observed round the sun on Thursday between eleven and one o'clock in Auckland. It was said to be due to the existing prisms of ice floating in the air, or to the diffraction of light by small globules of fog in the air. Broken weather was foretold by the learned after this halo, and the event justified the prognostication.

It may be interesting to know (says a Paris correspondent) that few of the sovereigns of Europe are good horsemen. The German Emperor is fond of horses, but he has not what can be called a good seat, while King Humbert is celebrated for his falls. The Emperor Nicholas is not precisely a master of the art of equitation, and the Kings of Sweden, Greece, and Denmark detest riding. The King of Portugal labours under the disadvantage of embonpoint. Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria cannot ride for an hour at a time, and King Alexander of Serbia is afraid of horses. Queen Wilhelmina prefers a bicycle, and, incidentally, is not allowed to ride one. The British Royal Princes are, however, all expert horsemen. The King of Spain has hardly passed the period of rocking horses as yet, and the President of the Swiss Confederation does not ride because he does not possess a horse. Continental Europe can only boast of three sovereigns who are really at home in the saddle—the Emperor of Austria, the King of the Belgians, and President Felix Faure.

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PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, the Countess of Ranfurly and suite travelled overland from Nelson to Westport, arriving at the latter place on Sunday night. Here a grand reception awaited them. The Westport Coal Company liberally entertained His Excellency, who visited the Granite and Mohikiniul mines. A banquet was given the party on Tuesday night.

Lady O'Rorke, of Auckland, is at present in Wellington.

Mr J. Walker Bain, Chairman of the New Zealand and Scottish Investment Company, who has been visiting Auckland, has returned to his home in Invercargill.

The Wellington Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr H. Eyre Kenny, will probably be moved to a similar position in Nelson or Wanganui.

The body of Mr Tracy Hall, the unfortunate young vocalist who was drowned in Lake Takapuna, has not yet been recovered. It is proposed to erect some sort of memorial upon rocks by the edge of the Lake as a token of respect by musical circles to the late member of the Amateur Opera Company and Liedertafel.

Mr J. Sherwin-Butler, who has been staying with his friend, Mr Davis, St. Stephen's Avenue, has returned to Wellington looking exceedingly well after his short but very pleasant visit to all old friends in Auckland.

Miss Carrie and Miss Bertha Bayly, of New Plymouth, have gone for a trip to Auckland.

Mrs Street and Miss Rooke, 'Birdley,' St. George's Bay Road, Parnell, Auckland, returned last week from Oamaru, where Mrs Street has been staying, to be present at her grandson's (Mr A. W. Gillies) wedding.

Messrs Fox and E. H. Severne, who formerly lived in Napier, revisited their old haunts the other day on a walking tour to Wellington.

Miss Duff, who left Nelson about two years ago to study music in London, has been appointed pianoforte teacher at the Nelson School of Music, vice Miss Fell, resigned.

The Very Rev. Dr. Watters, rector of St. Patrick's College, Wellington, preached at St. Mary's Church, Nelson, on New Year's Day, and was the guest of Father Mahoney during the week.

An 'X' rays apparatus, and electrical appliances, of the best quality procurable, have been ordered for the Nelson Hospital, as the outcome of the splendid financial result of the floral fete held last month. With the surplus available other appliances for the Hospital will be ordered.

Miss Robertson and Miss Trolove went back to Nelson from Blenheim last Tuesday, riding their bicycles.

Mr and Mrs W. B. Common returned to Christchurch last week after a thoroughly enjoyable holiday in Timaru and Dunedin.

Mrs G. Hutchison, her son, Mr W. G. Hutchison, and two little daughters, have been ruralising in Blenheim for a week, and returned to Wellington last Wednesday. When in Blenheim they stayed at the Criterion Hotel.

Mr and Mrs W. Shaw, of New Plymouth, have gone for a trip to Wellington.

Mrs G. W. McIntosh, of Blenheim, with her three daughters, was staying in Picton for a few days last week.

Miss Hart, of Auckland, is paying her aunt, Mrs A. Goldwater, of New Plymouth, a visit.

Dr. Gibbs, of Nelson, is spending a holiday in the North Island.

Mr and Mrs Allan Strang (Manawatu) were in Blenheim last week, and were the guests of Mrs A. P. Green until they left for Nelson.

Mr and Mrs H. D. Carter and family (Christchurch) are at Springfield for one or two weeks for a change.

Miss Borlace, of Wellington, is visiting New Plymouth.

Mrs Ireland and daughters, of Hulme Court, Parnell (Auckland), have gone to Waitera for two months.

Mrs R. B. Smith, of the Bluff Hill, has returned to Napier after a visit to Bunnythorpe.

Miss Tottie Bush, of the Thames, is on a visit to Auckland.

Mr and Mrs W. Newman, of New Plymouth, have gone for a trip to Auckland.

Mrs Ruck, of Parnell (Auckland), has gone on a short trip to the Thames.

Mrs Bull (Blenheim) has gone to make a short stay in Picton, and is accompanied by one of her stepdaughters.

Miss Brett, of Lake Takapuna, Auckland, accompanied her sister, Mrs Walcot Wood, on her homeward trip to Christchurch on Thursday last.

On the eve of Inspector McGovern's departure to Napier, several friends met in the new Taranaki Club to wish him farewell, and to welcome Mr Gillies, his successor.

Mrs and the Misses Harris have gone from Nelson to spend the holidays at Picton and the Pelorus Sounds.

Mr and Mrs McGovern, of New Plymouth, have gone to Napier to live, the former (Inspector of Police) having been moved there.

Mrs Alister Clark (Melbourne) arrived by the Monowai on Friday, and is the guest of Mr and Mrs R. H. Rhodes, 'Otahuna,' Tai Tapu.

Mr Penn, editor of the New Plymouth 'Herald,' has gone for a trip to Wanganui.

Rev. Waters, Vicar of St. Peter's, Wellington, is staying at Warwick House, Nelson.

Mr F. Richmond, of Blenheim, is spending a few days in Nelson.

Misses Evans, of New Plymouth, have gone for a trip to Auckland.

Mrs Thorne George, of 'Cotham,' Parnell, Auckland, has gone to Rotorua.

The Rev. F. Chatterton and Mrs Chatterton, of Nelson, have gone on a walking tour to Collingwood and Takaka.

Miss F. Willis, of Johnsonville, Wellington, is at present in Blenheim, where she is staying with her cousin, Miss Nicholson.

Mr and Mrs Caselberg returned to Wellington on Thursday last, after spending the Christmas holidays in Auckland.

Mrs Mead, of Blenheim, is making a short stay in Picton, which is always a tempting resort during the hot weather.

Mesdames Paul, Hall, and Dempsey, of New Plymouth, have gone to Wanganui to witness the Bowling Tournament held there.

Mr Hardie and Miss Claudia Hardie, of Remuera, Auckland, are staying at Okoroire.

Mr C. Watts, of Nelson, has been staying in Blenheim with Mrs Monru, but is now the guest of Mrs Cleghorn.

Messrs Beatson, Holt, Maddison, and Land represented Hastings at the Champion Bowling Tournament held at Wanganui.

Mr and Mrs N. Reid, of Wellington, were spending a few days in Picton last week, and then came to Blenheim, where they stayed with their daughter, Mrs A. P. Green.

The Rev. Father Smythe, of Hastings, has gone for a short visit to Wellington.

Mrs and Misses Gillies, of Parnell, Auckland, have not yet returned from the South, Mrs Gillies having been present at her son's wedding, which took place at Enfield Church, near Oamaru. The two Misses Gillies were bridesmaids.

Mrs James Gammack, of Canterbury, returned from England in time to spend Christmas with her relatives, who assembled at her pretty home, Springston, for the festive season. Mrs Gammack travelled back through America, spending some five or six weeks in that wonderful country, and visiting several of her late husband's relatives. However, she is glad to be back in New Zealand, and is full of interesting chat of all she has done and seen in her eight or nine months' travelling.

Misses Moss-Davis, of Princes street, Auckland, have gone to Rotorua. Mrs Moss-Davis joined them last week.

Mr and Mrs Butt and family, of Wellington, have taken 'The Cliffs,' Nelson, for a few weeks, while Mrs and Miss Richmond are away.

Mr and Mrs Leask, of Napier, have returned home after an enjoyable visit to Wellington.

Mr Stacy Griffiths, who spent Christmas in Blenheim with his parents, had to leave for Wanganui on Monday.

Mrs Wilks, Mt. Albert, Auckland, is at present in Te Aroha. She and her family have been out camping.

Mrs Buckleton (Auckland) is in Hamilton at present, staying with her mother at 'The Lodge.'

Mr Crerar and Miss Crerar, of Napier, are in Auckland at present on a visit, the Exhibition being the attraction.

Mr M. McDermott, of Ponsonby, Auckland, is trying to inspire Cambridge bowlers with some of his own enthusiasm for the game.

Mrs Markham, of 'Clifton,' Mt. Eden, Auckland, has gone to the Thames for a week's stay.

The Hon. A. J. Cadman, who is again in Auckland, returns speedily to Wellington. He says he means to retire from politics.

Miss Clara Taylor, of Stratford, has secured one of the six scholarships offered by the Victoria College, which is of the value of £40 a year for five years. She also heads the list of successful candidates for Taranaki Education Board High School's Scholarship, worth £10 per annum for two years.

The Professor of Classics at the newly-established Victoria College of the New Zealand University at Wellington is Mr John Brown, M.A., of St. Andrew's, and B.A. of Oxford. At the present time he is senior assistant to the Professor of Humanity and Lecturer on Latin in the University of Glasgow. He took his M.A. in 1881, gaining the Guthrie scholarship for classic and English, the most valuable scholarship at St. Andrew's. In 1881 he was elected to an open scholarship at Worcester College, Oxford. In 1883 he was placed in the first-class by the classical moderators; in 1885, in the second-class by the examiners in the School of Literæ Humaniores; and he graduated as B.A. in 1886; in 1896 he received the additional appointment of lecturer in Latin in the University. He has a wife, but no family.

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