

Personal Paragraphs.

Lord Ranfurly has denied that he intends to curtail his term of office in New Zealand. His Excellency likes the colony, and is in no hurry to get back home at present. In return all New Zealanders like both His Excellency and the Countess. It is certain they will leave the colony the most popular, as they have been the most hard working and hospitable representatives of Her Majesty that we have ever had in this colony.

The Rev. J. Campbell left Auckland for Sydney early last week.

Mr H. C. Bagnall, the highly popular manager of Bagnall Bros., Auckland, is touring the South with a view to meeting southern timber merchants for the purpose of putting the white pine export on a more extensive and satisfactory footing.

The well known South Sea missionary, the Rev. J. E. Moulton, has arrived in Sydney from Auckland.

Mrs Phelan, of Macreas (Otago) was the recipient of a very handsome presentation, the same being made at a farewell social tendered her previous to her leaving the district. The presentation—a handsome silver tea pot—was made by Mr W. Griffin, who in an appropriate speech, referred to the loss Mrs Phelan would be to the district. The gift was suitably acknowledged by the lady's husband, Mr J. Phelan.

Mrs McGrath, wife of Detective McGrath, who has been transferred to Wellington, was, prior to her departure from Dunedin, presented with a purse of sovereigns subscribed by the entire police force of Otago.

A few of the friends of Mr John Cowan met at the Royal Hotel, Southbridge, on Monday evening to bid him farewell on his leaving the district, having acquired land at Waiakahi. Mr T. B. Howson presented Mr Cowan with a purse of sovereigns and a travelling bag. Mr Cowan suitably replied and thanked the donors.

Congratulations are being offered to Major Collins, of Wellington, who has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Mr J. A. Ewen arrived in Auckland last week accompanied by his wife and Mr John Ross. Mr Ewen has now visited all the New Zealand branches of the great firm (Sargood, Son and Ewen) of which he is a member. On Tuesday evening a grand banquet to the managers and employees of the Auckland house was given at the Star Hotel.

Archdeacon Lingard, Christchurch, has been in Dunedin for the week, returning on Friday night.

Mdlle. Trebelli, Mdlle. Vaudour, Miss Florence Harding, and Mr J. Prouse left for Dunedin on Saturday morning, having had a most successful season in Christchurch, the only regret of the Christchurch people being that they have not had the opportunity of hearing two such artists as Mdlle. Trebelli and Mr John Prouse in the full swing of one of the grand oratorios with the necessary orchestral accompaniment.

Mrs Prouse (Wellington), who has been staying at Warner's (Christchurch) with her husband during the last fortnight, returned to her home on Saturday night. Mrs Prouse will probably meet the Trebelli party later on in Australia.

At the annual meeting of the Christchurch Liedertafel, Mr A. Appleby was elected president again for another year, and Mr F. M. Wallace conductor, whom they all hope and expect to see at the end of the year. Mr Appleby afterwards entertained the members at an oyster supper.

Mr W. H. B. Galwey, manager of the Bank of New South Wales at Hastings, has returned home after a long visit to Sydney.

Mr and the Misses Logan, of Dunedin, are on a visit to Napier.

Mr and Mrs Arthur Skerman, of Palmerston North, are staying at the Masonic Hotel, Napier.

Mrs R. Pollak, the daughter of Mr Maurice Harris, of Christchurch, is about to visit Auckland and Christchurch. While in Auckland she will stay with her sister, Mrs Caro, Stanley House, Parnell.

Mrs E. Marks, of Christchurch, is now on a visit to Auckland, and will remain in the north till February.

Mrs Lionel L. Harris, of Wellington, is now on a visit to Auckland.

The marriage of Miss Z. Moss Davis, of Auckland, to Mr Moss, of Sydney, will take place about the end of this month.

Dr. Ledger Erson, brother of Dr. Erson, Mayor of Onehunga, left Auckland for Sydney this week.

A presentation of a purse of sovereigns was made on Monday last to Mr J. H. De Carteret, of Messrs Arthur Nathan's warehouse. The presentation was made by Mr W. F. Tucker on behalf of the employees of the firm. He referred to the esteem in which Mr De Carteret had always been held by his colleagues, and wished him success in his new vocation in India. Mr A. Nathan endorsed these remarks, and spoke in high terms of Mr De Carteret's services in the employ of the firm.

Mr John Ross, who has been in Auckland with Mr Ewen, returned to Wellington on Tuesday.

Mr Callender, Inspector of the B.N.Z., is in Auckland for a short business visit.

Mr S. B. Browning, a well-known old colonist, who has for some time resided in London, is on a visit to Auckland to see his mother, a very old lady residing at Epsom.

Mr Robert James, late of the New Alburnia mine, returns to England by the Mariposa on Monday next.

The Misses Butcher, who are leaving Ngaruawahia for Auckland, were prior to their departure the recipients of a handsome presentation.

Mr Kirker, of the South British Insurance Co., has returned to Auckland from Australia.

Miss Cave has returned to Salthurst, Cambridge, after a visit of three months to Auckland.

Mr and Mrs Riddell have returned from Wellington and taken up their abode in "Cam House," Picton.

Mr and Mrs H. C. Seymour and the Misses Seymour have returned to "Tyntesfield."

Mrs and Miss Jane Chaytor, "Marchlands," have gone to "The Rocks," Picton, to visit Captain and the Misses Kenny.

Mr and Miss Philipotts and Mr Harris, Picton, are visiting Mr and Mrs Henry Harris, in the Pelorus Sound.

After spending a few days with her sister-in-law, Mrs A. P. Green, at the Bank of New Zealand, Blenheim, Mrs Moynihan returned to Nelson last Wednesday.

Miss Lilian Horne has returned to Blenheim from a three months' visit to Napier, and is looking remarkably well, having enjoyed her visit immensely.

Mr R. V. Lloyd, who has resided in Blenheim for several years, has decided to take up his abode in Palmerston North, and left for that place last week. He had been secretary to the Operative Society for some time, and, giving up that position in view of his approaching departure, it was taken by Mr Mirams, who has just received notice of promotion and transference to Wanganui, and will leave for there to-day.

Mr Hugh Fildes, of Wellington, has been transferred to the Bank of New Zealand, Blenheim, and takes the place of Mrs H. Pulliene, who has been moved to Opotiki. Mr Fildes is an old Blenheim boy, his father, the late Mr J. Fildes, having been manager of the same bank there for some years.

Mr and Mrs H. Horton returned to Blenheim last Friday, from a visit to Nelson and Wellington.

Mr Kennedy has recovered from his recent severe illness, and left Blenheim last Friday to stay in Wellington to thoroughly recuperate before resuming his duties.

Mr W. Jefferies, accountant of the Bank of New Zealand, Blenheim, who has been suffering from a poisoned foot, is now able to resume his duty, and his locum tenens, Mr McArthur, leaves for Wellington to-day.

Mr and Mrs Blackburns have taken a cottage on the hills near Rhodes' Convalescent Home, where they are getting the benefit of the dry hill air and a full view of Christchurch under snow. The view of the South-country Alps, and, indeed, the whole country this week, after the repeated falls of snow we have had is a glorious one.

Mrs G. G. Stead and family have taken a cottage at Sumner for a short change.

Mrs Chas. Clark, "Thorrington," Christchurch, gave a luncheon party in honour of her niece, Miss Reynolds, who goes to England shortly. Among the guests were Mrs Henry Wood,

Mrs Woodhouse, Misses Bullock, Reeves, Wyan-Williams, Tabart, Bewick, etc.

On Friday Mrs Henry Wood gave an afternoon tea for Miss Reynolds, at her residence, Avonside.

Invitations are out for a ball to be given by Judge and Mrs Denniston on the 15th August, in the Art Gallery. The Savage Club have their final "korero" the following evening, followed by a dance, at the same place; and on the 17th Miss Cox's Assembly dance, and these all come in Grand National week, so visitors to Christchurch will have a gay week.

Mrs Neave, "Okeover," has issued invitations to a dance on the 10th August.

By the Gothic, which left Wellington last week, Mrs MacIntyre left for her home in Scotland. She has been on a long visit to her daughter, Mrs Murray, of Kaipoi, and hopes to return to New Zealand for another visit. Dr. Murray went up to Wellington to see her off, and is spending a short holiday in Wanganui.

News of the death of Miss Emma Taylor, so well known in Christchurch, has just come to hand. She has been a sufferer for some years, and went first to America, thence to England, for special treatment, but without avail. She had been for some time past staying in the same house in North Malvern, England, as Mrs Colonel Packe, also well known in Christchurch, and who has been kindness itself to Miss Taylor during her last illness. At her own request her remains were cremated, the act of cremation taking place at Manchester.

Miss Ida Thorne-George, of Auckland, is staying with Miss Coates, for some of the Wellington gaieties.

Mrs Studholm and Mrs Temple, of Christchurch, are at present in Wellington, staying with Mrs Rhodes, "The Grange."

Miss Krull is staying with Mrs Dr. Martin in Wellington.

Lady Douglas and Mrs Newman (Wellington) gave very pleasant afternoon teas last week.

Mrs Wason is giving a small dance next Monday in the large ball-room at Miss Malcolm's house, where she is staying.

Mr and Mrs William Bidwill are in Wellington.

Mr and Mrs Barclay Hector have returned from their honeymoon trip in the North to Wellington.

Mr W. Newman, who has been on a short visit to Wellington, has returned to New Plymouth.

Mr Dempsey, who went to Wellington to attend the Teachers' Conference, has returned to New Plymouth.

His Excellency the Governor contracted a chill at the races, when the weather was exceedingly cold and wet, and has been confined to the house by it for several days.

Mr T. H. Hanna (Wellington) was presented by the combined staffs of the head office and local branches of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company with a gold pen-case and pen, and a set of very handsome gold studs and sleeve-links, suitably engraved, on the occasion of his severing his twenty-three years' connection with the Company. The presentation was accompanied by the kindest wishes of the whole staff for Mr Hanna's future prosperity and good health.

Miss Lindo Ferguson and Miss Butterworth (Dunedin) passed through Wellington this week on their way to Brisbane, where Dr. Ferguson joins them in a few weeks, to attend the Medical Conference over there.

HAIR HUMOURS Cuticura SKINS ON FIRE with Eosin instantly relieved by CUTICURA BLENDING

Mrs and Miss Stewart, from Wanganui, are at present in New Plymouth.

Mr and Mrs W. Bartol, of "Farnham," Featherston, are paying a short visit to Dr. and Mrs Adams, in Wellington.

Miss L. Halse (Wellington) left for England in the Gothic last week, on a visit to her relatives in London and the Channel Islands.

The Port Nicholson Yacht Club's ball takes place in the Choral Hall on the 11th August, and a large number of invitations are being issued for it by the members of the Club.

Miss Hilda Moorhouse is paying a short visit to Otaki with her sister, Mrs W. Ferguson.

Miss Williams (Wellington) is the guest of Mrs Walter Johnston, at "Highden," Rangitikei.

Mrs Wason has issued invitations for a ball in Wellington on Monday next.

Lady Ranfurly held an "At Home" at Government House, Wellington, from 4 to 6 on Saturday afternoon, which was largely attended in spite of the weather, which did its very worst, rain hailstorms and a southerly gale prevailing throughout the afternoon. But once within, cozily, having tea and listening to the strains of the band, the guests soon forgot the stormy elements without, so great are the transfiguring powers of cosy fires, electric light, flowers, and beautiful frocks. Lady Ranfurly wore a most effective gown of fawn colour, and diamond ornaments, and received her guests at the drawing-room door, with His Excellency, who has quite recovered from the cold he contracted at the races last week. Afternoon tea, fruit salads, sandwiches, and sweets were dispensed in the dining-room, which was charmingly decorated with palms, pot plants, and spring flowers, and the vice-regal staff were most assiduous in looking after the creature comforts of the guests. As usual, Lady Ranfurly proved a charming hostess, having always a keen sense of her position and its duties, and invariably throws herself very fully into them.

Sir Robert Stout left Wellington for Dunedin upon receiving news of the death of Mrs Logan, Lady Stout's mother, in order to be present at the funeral.

His Excellency the Governor is to open the eleventh annual exhibition of the Academy of Fine Arts at the Art Gallery on Wednesday afternoon next, at 3 o'clock.

H.M.S. Milder sailed for the South on the 31st, and the captain and officers, who are exceedingly popular, will be very much missed socially in Wellington.

Mr and Mrs Henton Rhodes, of "Taf Tapu," Canterbury, passed through Wellington on Saturday last, on their way to spend the remainder of the winter in Sydney, travelling by the Mokoi.

Lord and Lady Ranfurly give a large ball at Government House on the 25th of August.

OBITUARY

Mr W. H. Dampier, at one time a well known face in Auckland, passed away yesterday. An inquest was held in the afternoon before Dr. Philson, the jury returning a verdict that he died from disease of the brain. Deceased was a native of England and had been in the colony 36 years.

By the death of Mr Robert Rutherford, which took place in Christchurch on Friday, a well-known figure throughout Canterbury has passed away. At the time of his death Mr Rutherford had only reached the age of 52 years, but had been in failing health for about three. Mr Rutherford arrived in New Zealand from Adelaide with his father and brothers in 1860, and settled at Leslie Hills, Amuri, North Canterbury. He was educated at Christ's College, and afterwards had some commercial training with the old firm of Messrs Miles and Co. Some years later he joined his brother Mr John Rutherford, at Opaawa station, Albury, South Canterbury, and afterwards entered into partnership with another brother, Mr E. Rutherford, and took up the adjoining run, Mount Nessing, working that until a few years ago, when he came to reside in Christchurch, as his health began to give way. He was the owner at one time of some valuable racehorses, and took a keen interest in sporting, his Faugh-a-Balagh one year winning the Grand National Steeplechase. He leaves a wife and family of six, two of his sons being established on the Lake Station, Hurunui.