



ADMIRAL WALLIS.

IN the death of Admiral Sir Provo-Wallis, particulars of whose demise arrived by the 'Frisco mail, we have lost the last living link which connected us with the times of Nelson. Sir Provo's name was first borne on the books of the Royal Navy in 1795, and there it remained without intermission for a period of over ninety-six years and nine months, his rank having risen from the nominal one of A.B. in 1795 to that of Admiral in 1877. Had he lived for two months longer he would have entered on his hundred and second year. It was a marvellous retrospect that the veteran sailor looked back upon. He served under Hardy, Nelson's favourite officer.

MRS TIPPING, of Hastings, is on a visit to Christchurch.

MISS MILNE (of Milne and Choyce) has left on a visit to England.

AMONGST visitors to Dunedin are Miss Isa Begg with Mr and Mrs Richard Carter.

MR LEAN, of Hastings, who had been on a visit to Taneera, has returned, looking, a correspondent says, better than ever.

MANY friends at various parts of the colony will mourn the death of Mr Tom Hitchings, only son of Dr. Hitchings. He had been a great sufferer for some time.

SIR ROBERT STOUT has lectured in Hastings on Liberalism. Amongst the audience were Mesdames Tyreman, Beilby, and Miss Bold, who are to be congratulated on their pluck.

MR AND MRS J. H. COLEMAN, of Napier, leave for England almost immediately. They take one of their children with them.

MRS NAT WILLIAMS and Miss Williams, from the same town, leave the colony in a month for Europe, and Mr and Mrs Newbeggan are on their way Home in the Arcadia.

A GUEST in Gisborne is the popular Mr Rich, sometime Collector of Customs at the Spit (Napier). He has been retired in the prime of life, and is now looking for something to do.

MRS WILSON, her little daughter Gladys, and Miss Mein, of Christchurch, sail for England at the end of the month. Mr and Mrs Percy Johnson, also of Christchurch, are likewise going shortly.

EVERYONE remembers the famous scene in 'David Copperfield' where Barkis' life 'goes out with the tide,' and the *Daily News* correspondent at Sandringham says:— 'One awe struck believer in old legends has assured me that on this Norfolk coast it is generally the case that the flickering light of life goes out with the tide. This pretty, if unfounded idea, is not confined to East Anglia, however, and, as to this particular instance, held to be a striking example of the value of old world superstitions, on turning to the January calendar I find that, as a matter of fact, the tide in the Wash had turned for a couple of hours and was running out strongly at the time when the Duke of Clarence breathed his last. The superstitious folks hereabouts are now remembering that during the whole of Wednesday night the dogs were howling in an unusual manner, and it is useless to remind them that it was a fine moonlight night and that dogs often do disturb the wakaful by baying at the moon. The fact cannot be disputed that the portent, if such indeed it was, was noticed by us all.'

MR AND MRS BODLE, of the Loan and Mercantile, are in Picton spending a well-earned holiday.

MRS MACFARLANE is visiting her mother, Mrs Robert Wilson, in Danedini, where her many friends are warmly welcoming her.

MR A. DEANE, of Ashcott, has recovered from the accident he met with while jumping recently. He was most unfortunate in getting done out of playing in the Waipawa tennis tournament, and his loss will be severely felt in the cricket field, for though better, it is understood he will not be able to play again this year.

I HEAR our Richmond (Nelson) friends are bemoaning their fate at losing the popular Dr. Kendal. Although Dr. Kendal was a comparatively new-comer at Richmond, he had made many friends, and by these his loss will be much felt. He is going to Hokitika as Surgeon of the Hospital there.

I HEAR that the Bishop of Toronto will shortly go to England for the special purpose of personally inviting the Archbishop of Canterbury to be present at the Provincial Synod in Canada, to be held during the course of the autumn of the present year.

THE talented young Auckland, Mr George Clutsam, who left here some years ago to travel with Miss Amy Sherwin's Concert Company as accompanist, and who has since achieved considerable success in the musical world at Home, returns to Australia next autumn with M. Gorski, the celebrated violinist. Mr Fred Clutsam has also gained distinction as a musician, and is now settled with his mother in Australia.

PICTON post office has for a month been in charge of Mr Salmon during Mr Gudgeon's holiday, which he has spent in various excursions down the Sound, and visiting his brother, Major Gudgeon, and other relations at Kapiti. Mrs Salmon and Mrs Hustwick, also had rooms for a few weeks at Alports.

MR AND MRS T. M. WILFORD passed through Nelson on their way to Wellington. Although they only remained there a day, Mr Wilford made good use of his time, and became the purchaser of three very fine horses, which he took with him to Wellington.

THE Rev. Mr Rutherford and Mrs Rutherford have lately passed through on their way to England, *via* Wellington. Mr Rutherford is an old student of Bishopdale, where he studied for the Church under Bishop Suter. He has charge of a parish now in Torquay. He formerly had a church in the East End of London, and has obtained a year's leave to visit some old friends in this district and recruit his health, which has somewhat broken down, owing to hard work.

THE new pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Nelson—the Rev. J. H. McKenzie—was warmly welcomed by the various religious denominations. Speeches were delivered by the Bishop of Nelson, and the Reverends Evans, Kempthorne, Allsworth (Picton), Chatterton, and Cowie. The hall was well filled with parishioners and friends.

MR AND MRS PERCY ALLEN passed through Picton to Blenheim the other day, where Mr Allen is now stationed. Mrs Allen is a daughter of the Hon. Major Erskine, of Nelson, granddaughter of Lord Erskine, late Lord High Chancellor of England, and a niece of Lord Chief Justice Erskine. Mr Allen is a son of the Resident Magistrate here.

ARCHBISHOP BENSON has £15,000 a year income as Primate of All England. It will scarcely be believed, yet it is absolutely true, that it is impossible to save one single penny out of this large sum. Subscriptions, hospitality, travelling, maintenance, and other expenses, which are simply enormous, absorb all the income. His Grace gives one-tenth of his income—£1,500 a year—away in charity. It used to be truly said of the late Archbishop Tait that, whereas when he was head master of Rugby School it was easy to save money, when he became Archbishop he never afterwards could save anything. If Bishops' incomes are large, their outgoings are simply innumerable, and frequently amount to more than they receive.

ARRANGEMENTS were made whereby the officers of the household of the late Duke of Clarence have each received new billets. Sir Francis de Winton becomes the Comptroller and Treasurer of the Household of Prince George of Wales; Captain Holford has been chosen by the Prince of Wales to be his Equerry, and Dr. Broadbent as his Physician-in-Ordinary; while the Queen has been pleased to appoint Albert Edward, Count Gleichen, lieutenant of the Grenadier Guards, and formerly Equerry to the Prince of Wales, to be an Extra Equerry to Her Majesty.



MR WALTER BENTLEY.

MR WALTER BENTLEY, whose portrait we give this week, is concluding his most successful tour of the colony in Auckland. In every town in the colony the talented actor has left quite a host of admirers, who dispute keenly which of his impersonations was the finest. Hamlet, Mildmay, Garrick, and Mathias are all conscientious creations. Mr Bentley's next visit will be eagerly looked forward to.

MISS MARIE FRASER, a young lady of aristocratic parentage in one of the smartest sets at Home, followed the fashion some time ago and went on the stage. About three months ago she left England for Australia, and is now the star in Brough's great 'hit,' 'The Solicitor,' over which all Sydney is shaking its sides. Miss Fraser, unlike most fashionable ladies who adopt the stage, can act, and is already receiving £14 exclusive of dresses. She has several friends and some relations in New Zealand.

HASTINGS is rejoicing over the advent of their new musical conductor. It was felt that with so many pretty voices amongst them it was a pity there was nobody to lead them. It is now expected that under the baton of Mr Spackman great things will be accomplished.

MISS IRIS FULTON, of Napier, is making a name as an amateur singer. Since her return from Europe her voice and execution have greatly improved. She had, I am told, lessons from a celebrated *maestro* on the Continent. This would account for her finish and style.

MISS JULIA KNIGHT has been playing with the Montague-Turner Opera Company in Sydney under an Italian name. She starts for Bathurst next week to take the part of Mabel in the 'Pirates of Penzance.' She will return to Sydney, and finally go to Adelaide. Miss Knight's friends will be surprised to hear she intends to give up the stage and take to teaching for a time. It is probable, however, that before doing this she will pay a visit to New Zealand, touring the colony with a concert company. She will open in Auckland.

THE Auckland Orchestral Society gave a very successful concert before such an audience as has rarely been seen in the Opera House. The seats were all booked weeks in advance. Professor Towse scored an enormous 'hit.'

THE Australian novel, 'Hobbery Under Arms,' has been staged under the title of 'Bail up.' Mrs Keatley, whose husband nearly lost his life in the actual tragedy from which the novel was taken, produced the piece in Bathurst, but she, I understand, did not succeed there, as people were disgusted at her trying to make money out of what had cost her husband so much. It is hard to judge without knowing her motives. Mrs Keatley may have acted as she did with her husband's previous concurrence, and with a laudable desire to support herself and him.

THE Montague-Turner Opera Company will open their tour of the colony in Auckland after the conclusion of the Bentley season. Reports from N.S.W. speaks highly of the singers.