



MISS MYRA KEMBLE was one of the most stylish and attractive ladies in Queen-street (Auckland) the other day. She wore a tasteful and well fitting fawn tweed gown with brown spots and trimmed with brown velvet, and pretty fawn and brown hat, and crossbar veil.

MRS J. M. BRIGHAM wears an elegant costume of seal brown trimmed with embossed plush, sealskin jacket, and dainty little brown and gold bonnet. Miss Brigham looks very pretty in a light fawn dress and jacket to match, the latter trimmed with sable, large and jaunty fawn hat.

A PALMERSTON correspondent writes:—"Mrs H. S. Fitzherbert, who has not long returned from Wellington, is gowned in a handsome tweed dress, a lovely pelerine, and a large black hat trimmed with black feathers and knots of cream velvet."

MR WADDY, of the Bank of New Zealand, and Mrs Waddy, have returned to Picton, after a lengthy tour to the Lakes, and other places of interest in the North Island.

MRS IRELAND wears a beautifully fitting grey tweed gown bonnet to match, and handsome sable pelerine. Miss Ireland is both neat and dainty in a dove grey gown, cloth jacket, and becoming little hat.

MISS MULLER, who resides with Mrs Joseph Rhodes at Springhill, is creating quite a *furore* in Napier. She is an exceedingly pretty girl, and at ball, opera, or in the street, carries off the palm for beauty. She looks very well walking in a dark gown, scarlet Tudor cloak, and stylish hat. This young lady is at present staying with Mrs Balfour (Bank of New Zealand.)

MRS A. RUSSELL (Palmerston), is wearing a close-fitting coat with deep cape, and a small bonnet composed of black and white.

MRS HILL'S residence, Upper Queen-street, was the scene of a pleasant little impromptu dance on Friday evening. Fun, waltzing, and supper made the sands of time sink very quickly, so that the evening was over ere the happy party realised it had fairly begun.

WRITING from Napier, an excellent correspondent remarks:—"We have an heiress on our midst. Miss Hitchings quite by chance discovered her name amongst a list of missing heiresses. She set her lawyers to work to write Home for particulars. Meanwhile she is anxiously waiting for the result. We are all hoping this young lady will come in to a good fortune, for she is such a clever girl, such a devoted daughter, and such a favourite with us all that I am convinced everyone would be delighted to hear that the wealth she would so well spend has come to her."

THE ladies at Palmerston North are all out in their winter costumes now, so perhaps you would like to hear of some of them. Mrs Halliday is wearing a brown plaid dress with a double-breasted three-quarter jacket, and a black hat with feathers; Mrs Abraham, in navy blue with white collar and vest, blue hat with red wing; Mrs Munro, brown dress, and hat with feathers; Miss Slack plaid cape, Bond-street hat; Miss Waldegrave, tweed dress, red cape, hat with feathers; Miss Armstrong, dark dress, jacket with fur, Bond-street hat; Miss Randolph, grey dress, three-quarter jacket with beaver, stylish hat; Mrs Cohen, red corduroy dress, brown hat with red trimmings; Mrs Trips, brown dress, long plaid cape, Bond-street hat; Mrs Arthur Skerman, stylish red cloak edged with fur.

MRS JOHN CONOLLY, writes a Picton correspondent, of Blenheim, is spending a few days with her parents, Mr and Mrs Gard, of Rongomont. Picton people are always glad to see old familiar faces in their midst. Our little town is full of visitors, come down to go a-fishing, play football, see the shipping, and otherwise enjoy themselves in the fresh sea air.

MISS LANCELES has returned to Napier from Mrs Peacock's, and is looking remarkably well. She was in town the other day in a navy blue gown, stylish sealette jacket, and exquisite brown velvet hat with feathers and the dearest little birds imaginable.

MRS PRATT was in Palmerston the other day stylishly dressed in black, with small black hat trimmed with white.

MRS A. E. HYDE, of the Grove (Picton) was a passenger to New Zealand by the Rimutaka. Mr Hyde, who preceded his wife to New Zealand by a few months, met Mrs Hyde in Wellington. They arrived in Picton on Friday the 20th, and were warmly congratulated by many of Mr Hyde's old friends. They proceeded to their residence at the Grove on Saturday morning.

A BECOMING costume consisting of a fawn tweed gown, hat to match, and a scarlet three-quarter cape, is stylishly worn by a Palmerston lady—Miss Waldegrave.

MR W. H. HOLMES, one of the new Government Audit Inspectors for the Auckland district, has taken Mr Percy Smith's late residence in Parnell, and goes to reside there immediately. Miss Holmes is staying with her brother.

MISS ELLA BAKER was in town the other day wearing a very stylish navy blue gown, and becoming navy blue Scarborough hat.

MISS HARVEY (North Shore) looks well in a pretty navy blue dress, and stylish navy blue hat trimmed with old gold.

MISS FAULDER looks handsome in a light brown tweed gown and Bond-street hat.

MRS ISIDORE ALEXANDER wears a beautiful gown of black merveilleux with bands of ribbon velvet, and little bonnet.

MRS J. M. BUTT looks well in a neat black cashmere gown braided with fine black braid, and small black bonnet trimmed with flowers.

MRS V. E. RICE looks nice in a tweed dress, black Tudor cape with yoke of astrachan, and small black bonnet.

MRS G. SCOTT'S dress of red tweed trimmed with astrachan is very stylish, brightening the streets of Palmerston North.

MRS CALWEY, Hastings, is wearing a stylish navy blue gown made with three-quarter jacket, stylish black hat with white birds.

THE many Picton friends of Mrs H. C. Seymour will be glad to see her out again after a severe attack of influenza, which has kept her indoors for the past few weeks.

MRS CAVE BROWN is again visiting Hastings, and is staying at Flaxmere. She looks very stylish in a fawn gown, Tudor cloak to match, large hat with feathers.

MISS E. WILSON, of Palmerston North, looks well in a navy dress, navy sailor hat with red wing, and a very stylish Dorothy cape of pale grey invisible plaid.

MRS ERNEST TANNER has gone for the hunting season to Rangitiki. Mr Ernest Tanner accompanied her.

MR AND MRS FITZROY have gone to Christchurch for a short time as a change from Hastings.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

OUR correspondent, "Theo," writing under date May 27, contributes the following:—

At present the ladies of Palmerston are very busy, and are really working very hard at the Dorcas and Children's Ministering League Meetings for the benefit of the poor; but quite the most important object of their labours just now is the Hospital. That long-hoped-for building ought certainly to be in the course of erection before the end of the year. It will be a great boon to the district, and will save the dreadful amount of suffering that patients have hitherto endured on their miserable journeys to the nearest hospitals in Wanganui and Wellington. There are several entertainments in prospect for the purpose of augmenting the Hospital Fund.

BALL IN THE THEATRE.

Already there has been a ball given, which proved a great success in every way financially and otherwise. It took place in the Theatre Royal, and was very well attended. The supper and all the appointments were excellent, so that it is no wonder the numerous visitors enjoyed themselves greatly. Among the ladies I noticed Madame Pascal, in a handsome cream satin with a very long train; Mrs Slack, black silk with long train; Mrs Snelson, black velvet; Mrs Cook, brown silk (very becomingly made); Mrs Bell, black lace over lemon silk; Mrs Cohen, black satin effectively trimmed with cream feathers; Miss Burnett, pretty black lace dress with yellow ribbons and tan shoes; Miss Wilson, striped grey silk with white chiffon frills; Miss Randolph, pretty pale green dress with silver; Miss Clara Randolph, bright pink draped with pink lace (looked stylish); Miss Lloyd, white lace; Miss Waldegrave, pink cashmere (prettily made); Miss Slack, black lace and gold trimming; Miss Evans, in red; Miss Giesse, in red; Miss Linton, in black; the Misses Jackson (Wairarapa), in pink; Miss Keeling, in black; the Misses Haete, Rankin, and Clapperton.

THE COWBOY SHOW.

Last Wednesday a great crowd collected in the Agricultural Show Grounds to see the clever horsemanship of two Mexican cowboys. Unfortunately, the animals to be experimented upon were not wild enough to allow these daring riders to fully display their powers. On the grandstand I saw Mrs Arthur Russell, in a tan cloak with cape and hood, black hat with white bird; Mrs Lionel Abraham, check cape, Bond-street hat; Mrs Fitzherbert, brown dress, plaid cape, and bonnet with touch of red; Mrs Warburton looked stylish in a brown dress with three-quarter jacket; Mrs Dempsey, grey tweed costume with white vest, feather hat; Mrs Barraud, navy dress with red vest, hat *en suite*; Miss Willis, red cloak, small hat; Miss Lloyd, grey costume; Miss Clara Randolph, navy blue dress, with navy blue and tan cape; Misses Bunnell, Clapperton, Waldegrave, Blaremburg, and others.

MR GOSCHEN.

MR GOSCHEN'S Budget has a certain interest even for colonials. Steeped to his lips in figures from his youth, Mr Goschen should make an ideal Chancellor of the Exchequer; and there can be no denying that this Liberal Unionist buttress of the Ministry from within has ever since his succeeding Lord Randolph Churchill at the Treasury been favoured by fortune. Once again, at the commencement of his Budget speech, delivered recently, Mr Goschen was happily enabled to announce a surplus. He candidly



THE RIGHT HON. G. J. GOSCHEN, M.P., CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.

admitted that he owed this £1,067,000 to the 'expansion of the revenue.' Last year's Budget contributed £336,000 of the surplus, it must be said in fairness to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. I have been wearied to many years while listening to the prolonged periods of prolix financial statements to bore my readers with unnecessary details of this year's Budget. Suffice it to say that Mr Goschen computed the expenditure for the coming year at £90,253,000, and the revenue at £90,477,000, leaving a margin of £224,000, sufficient to render it unnecessary for him to impose fresh taxation, but insufficient to enable him to make any remission of taxation.

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BY W. L. AND LILY REES.

THE publisher of the above highly-interesting work has very great pleasure in announcing that the book will be ready for issue on May 15th. Sir George Grey's life has been unique in the annals of living statesmen. His story reads like a romance, rather than a biography. Commencing his public career as an explorer in Western Australia he subsequently administered the affairs of South Australia, New Zealand and Cape Colony at the most critical periods in the history of these colonies. There were then neither cables nor steam mail-services to keep the Governor in touch with the Imperial authorities, and he had to rely entirely upon his own judgment and resources. It was under these circumstances that Sir George Grey had successfully to cope with financial disaster in South Australia, native insurrection in New Zealand and Kafir disturbances at Cape Colony.

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