SECOND EVENING 'AT HOME' AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE, WELLINGTON.

THE Countess of Glasgow gave her second evening 'At Home' on Thursday night, it again taking the form of a small dance from 9 till 12 o'clock, and it was just as enjoyable as the last, but of course all the guests were different. It appears that they intend giving these small dances until they come to the end of the list, and in no instance is anyone invited twice, and for the afternoon receptions they are inviting people alphabetically. Wellington is growing so large that a system of some sort is necessary, especially during the session, when there are so many visitors. Only one ball-room was thrown open, but this was all that was required, for there were not more than forty couples. The ball-room was beautifully decorated with ferns and flowers, and the long corridors also looked very pretty decorated with tall pot plants, etc., and the conservatory was carpeted and softly lit with very pretty and novel looking Chinese lanterns. A delicious oyster supper was served in the dining-room. The ices were particularly acceptable, for it was rather a close, warm evening.

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HIS EXCELLENCY and the Countess received together at the entrance of the drawing-room, the latter wearing her magnificent gown of crimson satin brocaded with flowers, a profusion of diamonds, and carried a large fan. A Scotch reel appeared on the programme, and was danced with great spirit by those who knew it—His Excellency, Admiral Scott, Captain Hunter-Blair, and the Ladies Boyle taking part. There were no programmes, merely several large printed cards on the walls framed with fern, and before each dance the musicians would put the number and kind of dance out on a quaint little contrivance for the purpose on the piano. King's band supplied the music.

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ADMIRAL LORD CHARLES SCOTT, who arrived the same day in the Orlando, and is a guest at Government House, was present, and also Captains Barlow and Pike, and several officers of the Orlando, and Captain Bourke, Lieut. Stansfield, and Dr. Collins, of the Ringarooma.

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THE Ladies Boyle wore pretty white dresses, prettily trimmed with ribbons, and Miss Hallowes looked very well in a soft cream chiffon gown trimmed with frills of the same. Col. Boyle, who is recovering from his attack of rheumatism, was walking about with the aid of a stick, his foot bound up. Amongst the guests were Lady Campbell, in a handsome pompadour silk gown, and with her Miss Duncan and Miss Collins, of Blenheim; Mr and Mrs W. Moorhouse, Mrs J. Rhodes and Miss M. Rhodes, of Napier; Mr and Mrs Mantell, Mr and Mrs Parfitt, Miss Grierson (of Dunedin), Dr. and Mrs Gillon, the latter in pale blue; Mrs Adams, Miss Johnston, Miss Hawkins, in a pretty cream gown; Miss Elliott looked well in a dark sapphire velvet, trained, and trimmed with white chiffon; Miss Reynolds, Mrs Ferguson, Miss Studholme, of Christchurch, in a pretty white gown; Miss M. Allan, in a very pretty soft white gown, trained, and trimmed with white fur or ruching; Miss Krull, of Wanganui, in white; Mr and Mrs Firth, Miss Barron, in deep crimson; Miss E. Barron, Mr and Mrs Wardrop, Miss Campbell, Miss Pynsent, the Misses Halse, the Misses Burnett, the Misses Tuckey, the Misses Kennedy, Miss Reid, Dr. and Mrs Rawson, the latter in a handsome maize brocade; Messrs O'Rorke, Tolhurst, A. Deane, Cattsia, Studholme, G. Johnstone, C. Cooper, Baldwin, Butterworth, Tuckey, Hume, etc. There were few new gowns. White was very much worn, and Watteau bows and trains were very noticeable, even amongst the dresses of the young ladies.

SOCIETY GOSSIP.

AUCKLAND.

DEAR BEE, JULY 26.

In another part of the paper will be found an account of that most successful of successful dances, the ladies

LEAP YEAR BALL

I will here simply give the dresses. Miss Heale wore a very tasteful amber coloured gown with scarlet flowers; Miss Devore's graceful figure was shown to advantage in a dainty white gown with green trimmings; Miss Dixon looked pretty in cream; Miss Evans, a stylish black gown relieved with amber; Miss Masefield, becoming gown of wine coloured velvet; Miss Upton, pretty white cashmere gown; Mrs Masefield wore a rich black satin gown combined with vieux-rose brocade; Mrs Kirke, rich black silk gown; Mrs Devore, very elegant grey silk gown; Mrs Windsor, pretty dress of pink satin and pink and green figured silk; Mrs Upton, handsome gown of vieux rose silk trained, with front of cream; Mrs Buchanan looked well in cream; Mrs Cotter, black silk with trimmings of steel passementerie; Mrs J. R. Hanna, black silk costume; Mrs Armitage, looked exceedingly pretty in white and pink; Mrs Macindoe, black silk; Mrs Wingfield, handsome black silk gown; Mrs Edger, black silk and lace; Mrs P. Dufaur, pretty black and pale blue gown.

AMONGST THE YOUNG GUESTS

were Miss Wallnutt, in scarlet; Miss C. Wallnutt, becoming pale blue gown; Miss Boyd, pale pink finished with aigrettes of crea ≡ feathers; Miss Macindoe looked pretty in pale pink also; Miss M. Macindoe, in pink veiled with black net; Miss Woodyear, pale blue costume; Miss Gittos, becoming white costume; Miss Wylde-Brown, prune velvet relieved with cream; Miss A. Wylde-Brown, pretty pale pink gown; Miss Sellars, dainty white dress; Miss Macdonald, dainty black dress; Miss M. Macdonald, pretty combination of pale blue and cream; Miss Marks, stylish cream gown, and crimson opera cloak; Miss Dargaville, dainty white dress; Miss Phillips, becoming pale blue gown; Miss Williamson, effective combination of black and amber; Miss Hitchings (Napier), lovely white satin embroidered with gold; Miss Clara Berry, wine-coloured velvet, with frills of chiffon; Miss Dickey, stylish pale pink and blue gown; Miss Rookes, stylish black gown; Miss Hay, pretty black and white gown; Miss — Hay was charming in white; Miss Power, handsome black gown; Miss Bursill, black, prettily relieved with amber; Miss Nicol, black finished with pale pink and blue ribbons; Miss Kilgour looked nice in white silk; Miss Jolly, charming white gown; Miss F. Langsford, becoming black gown; Miss Forbes, pretty amber silk gown; Miss Holland, pretty pale pink gown; Miss Hardie, cream with amber trimmings; Miss Harrison, black gown; Miss Dunnett, black, finished with aigrettes of pale blue feathers; Miss Percival, becoming pale pink gown; Miss Armitage, handsome salmon pink satin gown with bronze trimmings; Miss Bach, dainty pale blue and white gown; Miss Laird looked well in amber, also Miss W. Laird in white; Miss Rathbone was in scarlet with white feather trimmings; Miss Rita Tole, becoming scarlet gown; Miss Holland, very pretty maize dress; Miss Williamson, black velvet and old gold; Miss Nicol, black and pale blue; Miss Dargaville, white silk; Miss Berry, brown velvet, chiffon trimming; Miss Macindoe, very pretty old gold; her sister, black lace over pink.

The

PONSONBY SOCIAL UNION

dance was largely attended on Friday, and the evening, as usual, proved an exceedingly pleasant one. Mrs Rees wore a rich wine coloured merveilleux gown; Miss Rees, dainty white silk gown with pale blue ribbons; Mrs Hanna, black silk relieved with pink; Mrs C. Campbell, pretty black silk gown finished with crimson poppies; Miss Court, blue cashmere trimmed with tinsel gauze; Mrs W. Bonk, white Brussels net with pale blue ribbons; Miss Wright, black satin with aigrettes of crimson feathers; Miss Partridge, pretty pink and cream gown; Mrs W. J. Geddis, cream brocade silk; Miss Knight, crimson, the neck finished with black chiffon; Miss Geddis, pale pink veiling; Miss M. Dickey, white cashmere; Mrs Hopkins, handsome gown relieved with silver; Miss Hewson, black.

GOWNS WORN AT MRS A. TAYLOR'S KETTLEDRUM.

Our hostess looked charming in a handsome brown velvet teagown with Watteau train, and lovely cream lace down the front of dress; Miss M. Von Sturmer looked exceedingly nice in navy blue costume; her sister wore cardinal; Miss Macdonald, dark green trimmed with fawn, beaver hat en suite; Miss King looked remarkably pretty in stylish navy blue dress, black hat, red wings; her sister wore fawn; Miss Tole, terra-cotta, cream vest; Miss Whitson, strawberry, hat to match; Miss Thorne-George, brown costume; Miss Anderson, as usual, looked stylish in black with yellow vest; Miss Thompson, red costume; Miss Mowbray, black; Miss Walker, brown; Miss Kerr-Taylor, red cashmere; Miss Mary White, becoming navy dress, black toque, red poppies; Miss F. White, black; Miss Kempthorne (Dunedin), brown velvet; Miss Hull looked pretty in fawn; Miss Bloss, navy blue; Miss Forbes, striking green costume; Miss Kissling, black; Miss Burell, brown cloth costume, brown velvet hat and feathers, yellow crown; Miss Kilgour, black gown relieved with white; her sister looked well in cardinal with black jacket; Miss Rookes, navy blue. There were many more present, but I cannot remember their various dresses.

The wretched weather in no way interfered with the attendance, nor marred the pleasure of Miss Scott's pupils, past and present, at the

FANCY DRESS BALL

given on Monday by their popular instructress. About thirty couples were present, the sexes being about equal, and many of the costumes worn were exceedingly pretty. Miss Scott supplied excellent music (piano herself, and the supper and floor were both good. Miss M. Short looked charming as Rose; Miss A. McPherson made a bonny Highland Lassie; Miss Larritt looked pretty as a Neapolitan Fishwife; Miss Davis wore a pretty evening dress of white embroidered cashmere, with heliotrope trimmings; Miss Morgan, dainty pink evening dress, and stylish crimson cloak; Mrs Schapp wore a beautiful gown of cream merveilleux trimmed with gold lace and Maltese lace flouncing; Miss Sands was a charming Patience; Miss S. Dickey looked pretty as Red, White, and Blue; Miss and Miss M. Dickey both wore becoming pale blue evening dresses; Miss Short and Miss L. Short also wore pretty evening dresses of cream cashmere and blue with net trimming; Miss Halsted, dainty cream dress; Miss James looked extremely well as a Flower Girl; Miss Carr, pretty cream dress; Miss Cooper, dainty white costume; Miss Crawford, very pretty grey silk trimmed with pink; Miss M. Campbell as an Egyptian Queen looked well, also her sister as Ruth; Miss Dennis made a pretty little Folly; Miss Mowbray wore a pretty grey costume with pink trimmings; Miss A. Scott looked well as Hearts; Miss Scott wore a pretty dark green dress, with old gold vest and cuffs. Amongst the gentlemen Mr A. McLean appeared as Mid-shipman; Mr Somerville, Highlander; Mr R. McPherson, University student; Mr McCabe, Turkish costume; Mr Ashton, Pirate of Penzance. Other handsome costumes were worn, but the names of characters were not given.

MURIEL.

BALL PROGRAMMES, ETC.

JUST received, a beautiful assortment of Ball Programmes, also Cords and Pencils, Wedding, Invitation, Visiting Concert and Menu Cards *executed on the shortest notice.*

NEW ZEALAND GRAPHIC PRINTING WORKS,
SHORTLAND STREET, AUCKLAND.

WELLINGTON.

DEAR BEE, JULY 21.

There has been so much gaiety that I hardly know where to begin this week. All the visitors have arrived, and the session frivolities are in full swing. Every day there has been something important going on, both afternoons and evenings, and anyone with thoughts of entertaining are sending out their cards fully a fortnight in advance, in order to keep people free for it.

THE STAR ROWING CLUB DANCE

was most successful. You will find an account in 'Topics,' I fancy. Amongst those present I noticed Mrs Brandon, who wore a beautiful white silk trained gown; Mrs E. Richardson, rich black velvet, trained, and trimmed with white lace; Mrs Maxwell, deep claret velvet; Lady Campbell, black with wreaths of pink roses; Mrs J. Rhodes (Napier), pale lemon merveilleux; Lady Buckley, a hand-one black gown; Mrs Smithson (Timaru), a lovely white silk, with corselet bodice embroidered with gold and beetle's wings, green velvet Watteau bow; Mrs D. Biddiford (Rangatikei) ruby velvet with front of coffee lace; Mrs Pratt (Palmerston), black net and velvet; Mrs Purdy (Hutt), white veiled with black; Mrs Castendyk, blue and pink pompadour silk; Mrs Seed, black; Mrs Ogle, a handsome white silk trained, pearl corselet and panels; Mrs Wardrop, turquoise blue surah with corselet of deep brown rolled velvet; Mrs Tavener (Rangatikei) black jetted gown; Mrs Gibson, Mrs Cooper, Mrs High Jones, Mrs Hume, claret velvet and pink silk; Mrs Mantell, yellow soft silk; Mrs Burnett, Mrs Samuels, Mrs Bendall, Mrs Firth, in blue brocade; Mrs Holmwood, brown net with flowers; Mrs Lee, Mrs Page, Mrs Crawford, Mrs Ross, Mrs Tripe, Mrs M. Reid, Mrs Kenny, Mrs Rose, Mrs McLean, pink soft silk, Watteau train; Mrs Wallace, Mrs Friend, Mrs Stevens, Mrs Williams, Miss M. Rhodes (Napier), white silk trimmed with ruching; Miss Russell (Hastings), white watered silk and gauze prettily trimmed with green ribbon; Miss Loughnan (Christchurch), white silk; Miss McLean (Dunedin), black with green ribbons and jewelled panel; Miss Krull (Wanganui), black with rose pink flowers; Miss A. St. Hill (Hastings), blue striped gauze; Miss Wilford (Hutt), white and green; Miss K. Wilford, a pretty white debutante's gown; Miss Holmes (Dunedin), black with pink flowers; Miss Pynsent, white veiled with black; Miss Johnston, pale grey brocade caught with large pearl ornaments and chiffon; Miss Helen Williams (Dunedin), black trimmed with crimson velvet; Miss M. Grace, white net with pink flowers; Miss A. Grace, white satin; Miss L. Izard, white gauze with green ribbons; Miss Kitie Williams, pale grey satin; Miss Cooper, cream gauze; Miss I. Cooper, pink; Miss Moorhouse, black; Miss H. Moorhouse, white striped silk; Miss M. Gore, black with wreaths of white flowers; Miss Richardson, black velvet with white crinkled chiffon sleeves; Miss Barron, pink; Miss Dransfield, pink moiré; Miss McKellar, lemon silk with ruching; Miss Griffiths, black and gold; Miss Brandon, bright red net; Miss A. Brandon, yellow; Miss Morrah, white fisherman's net; Miss Hammerton, pink brocade; Miss Dutlie, white silk; Miss Ross, pale pink and green; Miss Burnett, pink; and her sister white figured with blue crescents; Miss Laishley, bright red embroidered with gold; Miss McGregor, pale blue; Miss Hart, white chiffon; and her sister pale green and white; Miss Horlaso (Wanganui), light coffee lace trimmed with turquoise blue ribbons; Miss Elliott, electric blue velvet; Miss Tuckey, pink silk with chiffon frills; Miss B. Tuckey, dark blue and red; Miss Gibson, blue; Miss Reid, pretty yellow gauze; Miss Heywood, pink; Miss D. Heywood (a débutante), white satin edged with swansdown; Miss Fairchild, blue silk and her sister mauve silk with white Watteau bow; Miss Harding, cream and mauve and her sister cream; Miss Barclay, cream net; Miss Huxtable, yellow gauze; Miss Kennedy, yellow, and her sister pale green; Miss B. Kennedy, black and red; Miss M. Kennedy, yellow gauze; Miss Seddon, lemon silk, Watteau bow; Miss Bendall (a débutante), white silk; Miss Glover, white spotted net; Miss Johnston (Hutt), black and and her sister, cream; Miss M. Quick, fawn velvet; Miss Nevill (Dunedin), black net; Miss L. Johnston, cream and gold; Miss Kempthorne, green net with violets; Miss Tripe, white Liberty silk; Miss C. Brandon, pink and blue Empire silk; Miss Pitcairn, white with red velvet ribbons, and her sister a very pretty crimson satin, band painted; Miss Page; Miss Lee, black over white; Miss Widdop, white; Miss E. Widdop (a débutante), white silk, feather trimming; Miss Samuels, blue silk; Miss Rose, cream gauze; Miss L. Rose (a debutante), white Liberty silk with frills; Miss Fancourt, blue veiling braided with silver; Miss Willis, white; Miss Trimnell, sage green net and silk; Miss Pownall, white silk and green velvet; Miss Williams, white; Miss Ling, pale yellow; Miss Lingard, black, trimmed with blue chiffon, and Messrs Seddon, Chapman, Wardrop, Govett, Cooper, Turnbull, Vogel, Baldwin, Richardson, Tolhurst, Gardiner, Hamilton, Todd, Woolridge, Butterworth, Anson, Tripp, St. Hill, Kebbell, Gore, Pratt, Ogle, Tripe, Izard, Elliott, Biss, Jackson, C. Cooper, Burns and Lieuts. Stansfield, and Black, and Dr. Collins, of H.M.S. Ringarooma, besides many others. A couple of extras were played at supper time by Miss I. Cooper and Miss Pownall.

DR. AND MRS ADAMS' 'AT HOME.'

Mrs Adams, who is a charming hostess, received in a handsome pale blue grey brocaded gown trained and trimmed with lace; Mrs Ferguson was in pink brocade; Mrs Willie Moorhouse, in cream; Mrs Gillies, in a hand-some black gown with diamonds; Miss Alice Moorhouse, in a lovely cream merveilleux braided with gold, and made with a Watteau train; Miss H. Moorhouse, in white satin with pearl embroidery; Mrs Arthur Rhodes wore a lovely pink silk gown trimmed with delicate cream lace; Miss Hallowes, in black; Miss Studholme and Miss Tripp both in white; Miss Bennett, in pink; Miss Hilda Williams, in black velvet with corselet bodice of jet over a full pink chiffon blouse bodice; Miss M. Grace, in a pretty white and black striped gown; and Miss Rhodes (Napier), in palest blue trimmed with moss green velvet. The Misses Izard, Cooper, Russell, Aynsley, St. Hill, Johnston, Holmes, Gore, Pynsent, Loughnan and Dransfield, and Messrs Studholme, Hunter-Blair, Clayton, Boyle, Gillington, Turnbull, Kebbell, Tripp, A Deane, Watson, Barker, Tolhurst, Gardiner, and Drs. Martin and Cahill were also among the many guests.

THE HUNT CLUB RACES

took place at the Hutt Park Racecourse on Saturday afternoon, when a very large number of both ladies and gentlemen were present. The weather was fine, but the ground very heavy after the recent heavy rain. By noon the grandstand and lawn were crowded and a very enjoyable outing it was. Most people arrived by train but numbers rode whilst others drove. His Excellency the Governor, arrived about noon, being met by Dr. Cahill and Mr Crawford, and being accompanied by Capt. Clayton. Amongst those present were Mrs Cooper in a long plush mantle and black bonnet; the Misses Cooper, Mrs Loughnan wore sage green and pink silk, fur boa; Miss Loughnan, green dress, long brown jacket edged with beaver; Mr and Mrs A. Rhodes, the latter in a sacque jacket, fur boa and black hat; Miss Studholme, black three-quarter cloak with fur, black and pink hat; Mr and Mrs W. Moorhouse, Mr and Mrs Pratt, the latter in a pretty green cloth gown, fawn waistcoat, green velvet bonnet, fawn tips; Mr and Mrs Valentine (Waimea), the latter in a handsome blue and brown rough striped tweed, the tabs lined with bright blue, brown and blue bonnet; Mr and Mrs H. Beetham (Wairarapa), Mr and Mrs D Biddiford, Lady Buckley, fawn tweed, velvet bonnet; Mr and Mrs T. Wilford, the latter in Gobelin corduroy velvet, grey fur boa; the Hon. G. and Miss McLean, Dr. and Mrs Purdy, Mrs Menteath, grey velvet trimmed with velvet, and feather bonnet; Mr and Mrs Reeves, Mrs Ferguson, blue-checked gown; Mrs Abraham, Mrs and Misses Gore, Mrs J. Rhodes, Miss Rhodes, the Misses Grace, Miss Russell, brown tweed and boa; Dr. and Misses Gillon, Dr. Cahill, Mr and Mrs Tavener, Miss Izard, Miss Graham, Miss St. Hill, Misses Moorhouse, Miss Tripp, Misses Burnett, Mrs Cuffe, Misses Grierson, Aynsley, and Bennett, Mrs Friend, Miss Fowler, Misses Quick, Miss H. Williams, Miss Hales, Miss Pynsent, Miss Trimnell, Misses Brandon, Mrs Brandon, Miss Richardson, Miss Malcolm, Mrs Cruickshank, Miss Allan, Miss Fairchild, Miss Friend, Miss Pickering, Misses Skerrett, Mrs Waters, Misses Dyer, Mrs McLean in a pretty crimson cloth trimmed dress trimmed with astrachan, fur boa, black hat; Messrs Russel, Gollan, Cooper, Pearce, Duncan, Fox, Green, Williams, Birnbaume, Turnbull, Studholme, Stansfield, Collins, Parfitt, Hadfield, Tripp, and Watson. Lunch was served in the Grandstand, and afternoon tea in a tent on the lawn, where a band discoursed sweet music during the day.

Here are some frocks at

THE HUNT BALL.

Lady Buckley wore a very beautiful gown of pale yellow brocade, the petticoat striped with broad bands of black velvet, and yellow feathers on the low corsage; Mrs Menteath wore white brocade trimmed with white flowers and green leaves; Mrs Richardson, handsome black and white striped silk trimmed

A NEW SERIAL STORY.

NOTICE TO READERS.

IN the issue of the GRAPHIC for August 13th will be published the first chapters of a new serial entitled 'Mrs Gainsboro's Diamonds,' by the celebrated sensational fictionist Julian Hawthorne. The story is one of the most fascinating and exciting we have read for a very long while. Perhaps the best recommendation we can give it, is to say that it proved so exciting, that even wearied with reading the piles of MSS. stories, sent in weekly by ambitious young authors, we read it through without once skipping a page, or laying the MSS. down. Those intending to subscribe are requested to send their names at once to avoid disappointment in obtaining copies. The story will be illustrated in the GRAPHIC'S best style.

MOST of us out here thought that Miss Achurch did remarkably well in 'Forget Me Not,' but the *blasé* Londoner is less easily satisfied, and the acting of Miss Achurch at the Avenue Theatre has been criticised pretty severely by the London papers. It is complained that she overacts the part of Stephanie de Mohorivart in a manner that breeds despair, and that unqualified retrogression is necessary if she is to fulfil her promise.