with jet and trained; Mrs Pratt, a beautiful cream silk, trained, and trimmed with a broad flounce of lace round the pointed bodice; Miss Cooper, cream, and large bouquet of flowers; Miss I. Cooper, yellow silk trimmed with black velvet; Mrs Ferguson, in cream striped moire and satin and pink flowers; Mrs W. Moorhouse, in cream; Miss A. Moorhouse, black Russian net and wreaths of cream roses; Miss H. Moorhouse, blue silk trimmed with dark velvet and feathers; Mrs Abraham, a handsome white and mauve silk with front of beautiful lace fastened with diamond brooches; Mrs J. Rhodes, black; Miss M. Rhodes, white silk; Mrs W. P. Reeves, white striped with black velvet and trimmed with black lace; Mrs Robison, black; Mrs Parfitt, turquoise blue brocade, Watteau bow; Miss Grierson, white; Miss Chi ferell, pale grey brocade; Mrs Reid, sage green with fawn velvet; Mrs Adam, pale blue trimmed with sage green velvet ribbons; Miss Hilda Williams, black velvet and pink chiffon; Miss Aynsley, cream; Mrs Izard, grey satin with coloured embroidery; Miss Russell, cream and green; the Misses Grace, white with flowers; Mrs Brandon, black and yellow; Miss Brandon, red; and her sister, yellow net; Miss Pynsent, pink surah and beaded bisque; the Misses Gore, pale blue; Miss Studholme, a pretty white dress; Miss Tripe, pale blue silk; Miss Richardson, white; Miss St. Hill, white; Mrs Quick, a pretty green velvet and white lace gown; Mrs Travers, blue brocade trimmed with feathers, moire Watteau bow; Miss Harding, pale blue with pink flowers; and her sister cream, Miss Seddon, yellow; Miss Loughnan, blue silk trimmed with pale coffee lace; Mrs McGregor, black; Miss McGregor, white trimmed with silver, Watteau back; Miss Izard, cream gauze; Mrs Tavener, cream satin, long train. Miss McLean (Dunedin), black net with scarlet roses; Miss McKellar, white silk with flowers; Miss Reynolds (Dunedin), a lovely blue brocade trimmed with pearl and gold fringe; Miss Helen Williams (Dunedin), black; Mrs McKinnon, lemon silk; Miss Lingard, black trimmed with blue chiffon; Miss Bransfield, black; Mrs Riddiford, black; Miss Elliott, pink silk with green velvet ribbon; Miss Graham, black velvet with large Watteau bow of salmon moire; Miss Kennedy, black and red; Mrs Gillon, pink with corselet of silver; Miss C. Brandon, black and yellow; Miss Huxtable, black; Mrs Valentine, blue and pink; Miss Trimnell, green net and silk; Miss Reid, bright red gauze and black velvet; Miss Fowler, pale yellow and black velvet; Mrs Ewart, black lace; Mrs Firth, blue brocade, high collar and train; Mrs Holmwood, cream net and violets; Mrs McClean, a pretty white gown; Mrs Crawford, yellow Liberty silk; Miss Samuels, turquoise silk; Miss Lee, black and white; Miss Gordon, white; the Misses Allan, cream; Miss Skerrett, a handsome mauve velvet gown, with petticoat of malze trimmed with pale grey feathers all round the hem, and her sisters wore pretty white gowns; Miss B. Hammerton, white and silver striped gauze; Miss Griffiths, cream; Miss Tripe, white silk; Miss Borlase, coffee lace and blue satin; Miss Pownall, white and yellow ribbons; Miss Hayes; Miss Myers. The members of the hunt all appeared in their red waistcoats, etc., and there were two ushers stationed at the entrance dressed in breeches and boots, and dark brown coats. Mhiffie's band supplied the music from a band in one corner of the room, and Miss Ida Cooper played an extra at supper time. Tea, coffee, ices, etc., were served all the evening in the room adjoining the ball room, and supper was laid in the large room. Amongst the gentlemen were the Hon. R. Seddon, Drs. Ewart, Adams, Collins, Cahill and Gillon, and Messrs O'Rorke, Wilford, Carroll, Gordon, Tripe, G. Richardson, C. Cooper, Fleming, Woolridge, Brandon, Reid, Holmes, Hadfield, Pearson, Guy, Cooper and Baldwin.

RUBY.

CHRISTCHURCH.

DEAR BEE, JULY 21.

This has been a gala week in College annals, about thirty students of the Otago University and a number of their friends spending a week in Christchurch, and giving us, as the saying goes, 'a taste of their quality;' which, all who were fortunate enough to witness the two performances they gave us at the Theatre Royal, pronounced remarkably good. They came at a very unfortunate time immediately following the opera company and the Musin concerts, still they were rewarded with very good houses. A full description has appeared of their Dunedin performances and I can only say we were not disappointed but agreeably surprised, the acting and dressing being a long way above the average. Among the audience were Professor and Mrs Cook, Mr and Mrs Batham, Mrs J. Gibbs, Mrs Stead, and Miss Palmer, Mrs Meeson, Mrs W. Wilson, Mr and Miss Connal, Mrs Bickerton, the Misses Clarke, Meeson, Fairhurst, Burns, Stoddart, Worthy, Robison, Common and many others.

DANCE AT CANTERBURY COLLEGE.

On Wednesday the students of the Canterbury College gave a dance in honour of the visitors, which took place in Hobb's Buildings, and was a great success, about two hundred people being present. The committee, the Misses Tindal, Baldwin and Richmond, and Messrs Bull, Robison, Jack and Gibson worked most energetically, and the thanks of all are due to them, the music, supper, and the floor being all that could be desired. Some of the dresses worn were very pretty. Miss Marshall had a lovely shade of pale blue in rich silk silk made with Watt-au train; Miss Clarke, heliotrope spotted gauze with velvet corselet bodice, and sleeves to match; Mrs Tendall, prune satin gown, and cardinal plush cloak; Miss E. Cox, eau-de-nil gauze with crimson poppies; her sister in pale blue net and chiffon; Mrs Bickerton, green silk; Miss Bickerton, a Grecian dress of gold spotted terra-cotta net over silk, gold bands in her hair; Miss M. Bell, cream silk and chiffon with gold girdle; Miss Tendall, cream Liberty silk; Miss Hardcastle, a becoming dress of pink nun's veiling and silk, with folds of the stuff round the short bodice and tied in a large bow between the shoulders; Miss Tindal, rich white silk with white lace ruching on skirt and bodice; Miss Alexander (Dunedin), pale blue spotted gauze; Miss Stone (Dunedin), were black; Miss Gibson, black net with cardinal ribbons and sash; Miss Montgomery (Dunedin), looked very pretty in trained black net with pale green shoulder knots and streamers; Miss Seager, trained black lace; Miss Davy, cream silk with train, Medici collar edged with beads; Mrs Merton, black lace; Mrs May, rich black broché, gold vest and trimming; Miss Richmond, pink nun's veiling and chiffon; Miss Meeson, white silk; Miss Thorpe, pale blue silk and chiffon; Miss A. Stoddart, black lace; her sister, cream nun's veiling with pretty folds of pink on the bodice; Miss Barni coat, a lovely white silk trimmed with lace; Miss Foster, Miss Cawot, Miss Rainey, Misses Taylor, Henderson Crosbie, Fisher, Dodds, Simpson, Hookham, Keppel and many others were present.

MRS STEAD'S LUNCHEON PARTY.

On Thursday a charming luncheon party was given by Mrs Stead, Strowan, the table being a perfect picture. Among the guests were Mrs Denniston, Mrs Reeves, Mrs Pitman, Mrs Tabart, Mrs Buller, Mrs and Miss Stewart, Mrs Carrick and others, about sixteen in all, more joining in the afternoon when a pleasant time with music etc. was spent.

Mrs Denniston had a

LUNCHEON PARTY AND AFTERNOON TEA

on Wednesday, for her niece Miss Turton, who is paying her a visit. Some of those present were Mrs Wilding, Misses Helmore, the Misses Cowlishaw, the Misses Gerrard and several more.

THE WAIHENE CLUB

met at Mrs Reeves, Latimer Square, last week. Miss Moorhouse created great amusement with 'fortune telling,' which, of course, always comes true. Miss Worthy gave a recitation, Miss N. Reeves a reading, a charade was acted, and with music a full afternoon's programme was worked out.

TENNIS.

Tennis matches were played on the Cranmer Square Courts on Thursday morning and Friday afternoon between the students. Those playing for Canterbury were Messrs Bull, Robison, Morris, and Watson—for Otago Messrs Adams, Platts, Asch and Marshall. Some splendid tennis was witnessed, but Canterbury College was utterly vanquished. A large number of friends and students assembled on Friday afternoon, and tea was kindly provided by the Misses Thorpe, Von Haast, Tendall and Marshall.

KETTLEDRUM AT MRS CARRICK'S.

On Monday Mrs Carrick, Park Terrace, gave an afternoon tea mostly for her girl friends. Among the number were the Misses Cunningham, Greenwood, Graham, Thomas, Way, Lingard and several more. The most delicious cakes and dainties were provided and duly appreciated.

A small luncheon party was given by Mrs Murray-Aynsley, Riverlaw, on Thursday. Mrs Tancred was there, Mrs Wilding, Mrs Campbell, Mrs J. H. Murray-Aynsley and one or two more.

Mr and Mrs E. T. Rhodes and family (of Timaru) are staying a few weeks at Sumner.

DOLLY VALE.

DUNEDIN.

DEAR BEE, JULY 19.

I have got only the very smallest budget of news for you this week, for everbody is opera mad. There are simply no parties going on at all. All ones friends and acquaintances may be seen night after night in the circle and stalls, enjoying to the full all the feast of music that the Montague Opera Company are giving us. The 'Musin' Company have also opened their season in the Garrison Hall, and there is every prospect of them doing well also. We have had a partial starvation in the musical line for a few months past, and are now enjoying heartily the good things provided. I have noticed in the circle Mesdames Hales, wearing red silk veiled in black lace, and with it a red plush opera cloak, and Sievwright wearing black; Miss Sievwright, a pretty white muslin finished with ribbons; Miss Niell, pretty pink evening dress; Mrs Bothembly, a pale blue silk gown, with lovely claret plush opera cloak; Mrs F. Fitchett, cream Pongee silk figured with heliotrope; Miss L. Mackerras, pale sea-foam green nun's veiling trimmed with silver, white opera cloak; Miss Fitchett, white; Miss G. Roberts, low-cut black dress with short sleeves; Miss L. Roberts, pale pink; Mrs Ogston, figured silk; Miss Carey, white; Mrs Whitson, peacock green velvet and old gold; Mrs Michie, heliotrope cashmere relieved with pink silk and black lace; Mrs L. Reynolds, black, with very pretty cream opera cloak with yoke of gold brocade; Miss R. Reynolds, cream, with red cloak; Miss M. Reynolds, scarlet Liberty silk; Mrs Shand, black, with claret opera cloak; Miss Shand, pretty pale pink evening dress, with cream opera cloak; Mrs Stephenson, black handsomely trimmed with jet; Miss Stephenson, cream gown and opera cloak; Miss L. Stephenson, black gown, with pink brocaded opera cloak; Mrs Sise, black relieved with cream, claret opera cloak; Miss F. Sise, figured Pongee silk, cream opera cloak; Miss M. Sise, striped cream nun's veiling trimmed with lace.

The members of the Otago Chess Club had a recent meeting, at which they decided to give the younger members of the Club more frequent opportunities of improving their play, by contests with the stronger players.

Next week I hope will be brighter. We have not much to complain of on the whole, Dunedin generally having some galeties on hand all the year round.

MAUDE.

BLENHEIM.

DEAR BEE, JULY 14.

I must give you a description of the

DRESSES WORN AT THE DANCE GIVEN TO MRS KELLAS.

Mrs Kellas looked extremely stylish in a handsome gown of biscuit and dark green brocade, very well cut a la princesse, with Watteau pleat (trained), in plain biscuit silk, a most uncommon and elegant toilette, especially made for this occasion; Miss Seymour wore a lovely new gown in a beautiful shade of bright red soft silk, most handsomely braided and embroidered in gold, a deep band of the embroidery round the pleated skirt, and embroidered epaulettes, golden girdle, and hair becomingly dressed with gold bands to carry out the idea of the tour ensemble which was Grecian; Miss Nita Johnson, Wellington, seemed a good deal admired in a graceful, and well made lemon-coloured gown, made long and full with gathered Watteau pleat; Miss Flora Williams was very handsome in a most becoming gown in rich canary bengaline made with panies, and noticeable for its splendid fit; with it she wore quantities of scarlet poppies, which harmonized well with her colouring; Mrs McIntosh, pale blue; Mrs A. J. Farmar, black; Mrs Worthington, white; Mrs Cleghorn looked charming in her becoming pink satin striped gauze; Miss Rees, stylish white broche dress; Miss B. Horton was also admired in black merveilleux with jet and coral necklace; Miss Maud Carey, white; Miss Smith, red; Miss F. Smith, fawn lace with pink; Miss L. Horne, white with pretty lace and old rose ribbons; Miss Smallbone, a sweet shade of pink; Miss L. Farmar, white Russian net; Miss M. Farmar, pink. The dance was most enjoyable, and the men turned up in full force, as I noticed Messrs Richardson, Conolly, Sandgrass, Thompson, McIntosh, Lucas, C. Earp, Wilson, Lloyd, Young, J. Mowat, K. Mowat, A. Mowat, Howard, G. Robinson, Rowe, Kennedy, Budge, Munro, Carey, S. Hodson, L. Griffiths and R. Douslin, whom we were glad to see in a ball room again, and looking quite recovered from his recent illness.

Mrs Cleghorn's two last Thursdays have been as enjoyable as usual. Thursday week the ladies (by special request) repeated their amusing charade, and last Thursday games, recitations, songs, etc., were entered into with great spirit, and the numerous guests one and all agreed how much they had enjoyed themselves. All are now looking forward to Miss Seymour's fourth assembly which takes place on the 24th inst., and details of which I hope to give in my next.

SINCERITY.

NELSON.

DEAR BEE, JULY 18.

In order that you may have early news I am hastening to catch the mail with something anent the

CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS BALL

given by Mrs Ledger. It was an immense success. A topic giving some account of it I have sent to the editor. There were over forty children present, and the dresses were all new and pretty, and some very comical. Here are the names of the children and the costumes worn:—Julia Tomlinson, Little Bo-Peepin decidedly pretty costume, and the fair wearer was pronounced by all to be the belle; Joy Ledger, Summer (I overheard one little girl describing the wearer of this costume as 'looking a perfect little darling,' and I thought the description so applicable, I could not improve upon it); Ethel Ledger, Chinese Lady; E. Bunny, Grecian Girl (this was one of the prettiest dresses worn, and admirably suited the little girl); M. Bunny, Gipsy; Madge Mackay, French Fishwife; Amy Kennedy, Indian Woman; Mable Harris, Little Bo-peep; Maud Harris, One Hundred Years Ago; M. Sinclair, Blue-Bell; Zita Broad, Gipsy; Ellie Perrin, Normandy Peasant; Gwen Perrin, Dolly Vanden; Amy Dodson, Cherry Ripe; Flossie Edwards, Grecian Girl; Connie Edwards, Red Riding-Hood; M. Wix, Peasant. There were a few children not in fancy dress, among them Lina Campbell, dark red gown; Mabel Glasgow, in a pretty frock of white and yellow; Rose Glasgow, pale pink; M. Preshaw in blue, and her sister in pink; E. Niven, white and black; L. Humphreys, blue; the little Misses Houlker in cream frocks; Dolly Catley, white. Now for the boys—H. Forbes, Clown; Lindo Levich, Turk (this was one of the best boys' costumes); Noel Adams, Lord Fauntleroy; Walter Tomlinson, Bohman; John Tomlinson, Village Bridegroom; V. Wix, Page; Reggie Dodson, Sailor; Dudley Edwards, Page; Jack Broad, Gipsy Boy; George Broad, an Irishman (a most comical costume). There were a few boys not in fancy dress, Masters Houlker (2), Wix (2), and Tomlinson. Mrs Ledger received her guests gowned in black, draped with pretty black lace, which had a gold tinsel thread running through it; Miss Ledger, black gown with white silk front; Miss Edwards, black evening dress; Mr and Mrs Thornton were also present, and Mr Fox.

PHYLLIS.

NAPIER.

DEAR BEE, JULY 20.

Mrs Arthur Fulton is returning home shortly to Dunedin. I believe it is the intention of the girls to give her a ball before she leaves. It will take place in the Athenæum Hall, and I am sure will be a great success.

An Art Exhibition has been held in the Athenæum, the pictures exhibited having been painted by Mrs Nicholl's pupils. A number of people visited the Athenæum during the evening and inspected the pictures, which were well worth seeing. I liked some of the pictures immensely. One by Mr Brickneck, an 'impressionist' production, was exceptionally good, and a quaint little picture, 'Off Shore,' by Mrs Nicholls, was so pretty. Miss Davis, of Pukeiamu, seems to be a very promising pupil. She shows a charming sketch, a copy of an English picture, 'The Right-of-Way.' Other exhibits are by Mrs Spackman, Mrs Finch, the Misses Bryson, Edwards, France, Welsman, Nevine, Rhodes, and Macfarlane.

RINKING

is still all the rage, the Theatre is always filled with a merry crowd of girls, women and men. Indeed, the building is fully small for the number who regularly don their skates. Amongst the regular attendants are Mesdames Balfour, Hoadley, Fenwicke, Gore, Kettle, Logan, Arthur Fulton, Tabuteau, Hamlin, McLean, Rees, Cornford, Blythe, and the Misses Rees, Hitchings, Blythe, Simcox, Balfour, Taylor, Cotterill, Shaw, Lascelles, Heath, Hamlin, Puky, Lyndon, Rhodes, Locke, and a whole host more. Miss Millie Rhodes looks very pretty skating in a fawn checked tweed gown, jacket, sailor hat. Miss Shaw looks very elegant in a navy blue gown, very chic striped flannel shirt, stylish navy jacket, braided, and very becoming black turban hat; Miss Una Hitchings wears a most becoming dark brown costume, very stylish hat with cock's feathers; Miss Hilda Hitchings wears a very striking gown of dark tweed, with Zouave of red cloth braided with black, tiny bonnet with red poppies; Mrs Balfour looks nice in grey costume, Bond-street hat; Mrs Fenwicke had a nasty fall recently, while skating in a set of Lancers, she however quickly and cleverly recovered herself.

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