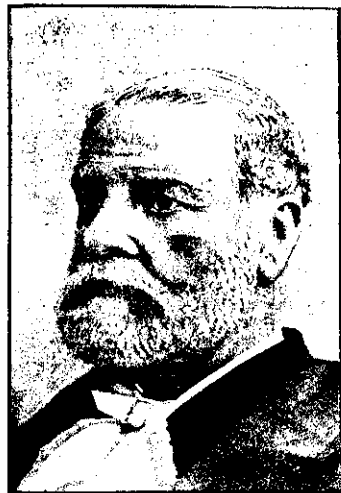


PARLIAMENTARY SILHOUETTES.

(BY BIRD'S-EYE.)

It is afternoon of July 12th. To-day, for the first time, the chosen of the Legislative Council dons his official robes and takes his seat in the Speaker's chair. For a few minutes, therefore, I leave the representative chamber to see how he departs himself.

Of a manly Saxon type is the Hon. Mr Miller, blue-eyed, and fresh coloured; square shouldered and erect, his robes become him well, and he performs the duties of his new position with easy dignity, as one accustomed to official routine. Mr Miller's features are good, and his expression



Wrigglesworth & Binns, photo. Wellington.
HON. MR. MILLER,
Speaker of Legislative Council.

thoughtful, kindly, and honest; an upright man, one feels at once, one who could never stoop to 'ways that are dark' nor tricks that are vain.' His voice, bearing, and general appearance give the impression of middle life, his fast-whitening hair alone showing the touch of time's ruthless finger. Actually he is sixty-two years of age, for he was born in the year 1830, at Froyle Park, the family seat, his father being the Rev. Sir Thomas Miller, Bart., of Alton, Hants.



F. L. Jones, photo. Duardin.
MRS. MILLER.

Like many young men reared amidst rural scenes and sports, Mr Miller early developed a love of adventure and enterprise, and his eyes turned longingly to far-off lands, to the view of which, in the days of his boyhood and youth, distance truly 'lent enchantment.' Finally, when he was about thirty years of age, he decided to come out to New Zealand, and set sail in the P. and O. s.s. *Salsette* in the year 1860. Taking up his residence in the Oamaru district, he has resided in that locality pretty well ever since, chiefly engaged in agricultural and pastoral pursuits, but taking, at the same time, a lively interest in educational

matters, and also in local and general politics. He had been but a very short time in the colony when he became a member of the Otago Provincial Council, and in the years '64 and '65 held a seat in its Executive. He was called to the Legislative Council in the year 1865, and is therefore one of its oldest members.

In the year 1879 Mr Miller held for a short time a seat in the Fox-Vogel Ministry. His warm interest in things educational led to his election in 1878, to the Chairmanship of the Waitaki High School Board, a position which he retained for thirteen years. He was also Chairman of the Oamaru Harbour Board during a period of eight years, and is at the present time Chairman of the Westport Coal Co. Mr Miller married in the colony, and has five sons and three daughters.

Mrs Miller was born in England, and came out to New Zealand when quite a child. She is the daughter of the late Mr John Orbell, of Waikouaiti. She is fair of face, with clear hazel eyes, and her manners are sweet and winning; she delights in the society of congenial friends to whom it is her constant endeavour to afford pleasure. Always ready to take her fair share in undertakings having for their aim the intellectual or social well-being of others, she yet avoids thrusting herself into prominence, content to illustrate the poetical aphorism, 'They also serve who only stand and wait.' Matters political Mrs Miller is satisfied to leave to the managers of the opposite sex; and, with regard to the question which agitates the minds of so many women of to-day, the wide world over, she takes rather a deprecating attitude; rightly conceiving that a woman's first duty is to her family, she fears, like so many of her contemporaries, that the proper guidance of the household may be interfered with by woman's political enfranchisement.



DR. THOMAS SPENCER LAWRY TO MISS FLORENCE MABEL BATTLETT.

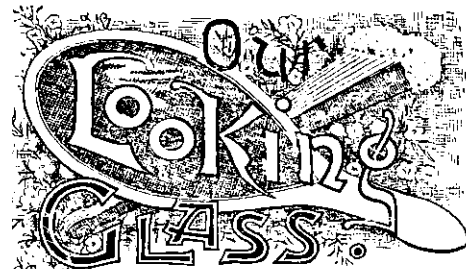
A DELIGHTFUL break in the monotony of the wet weather occurred on Thursday morning, the sunshine lasting just long enough to enable the bridal party to reach the Mount Albert Wesleyan Church, where the ceremony of uniting Miss Florence Mabel Battley, second daughter of Mr Frederick Battley, general manager of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, to Dr. Thomas Spencer Lawry, Symond street, took place. With one exception, all the guests were from Auckland, but a good many spectators from the neighbourhood helped to fill the little church. The Rev. H. H. Lawry, father of the bridegroom, assisted by Dr. Lawry's brother, performed the marriage service.

MISS BATTLETT, who was given away by her father, looked very well in a costume of white surah silk, the bodice being made in corsette style, a full blouse reaching to the neck, where it was gathered into a ruche. The skirt was, of course, umbrella shaped, trained and edged with a ruche of silk. The bride wore a veil, with a tiny spray of orange blossoms on her head, bouquet of white flowers tied with ribbon. The four bridesmaids were in white, each dress being made somewhat differently, three being also of different shades of white. The elder ones, Misses Upton, L. Corrie, and E. Carr, wore nothing at all on their heads, but carried pretty bouquets. The youngest, little Miss Elsie Battley, wore a very chic furry hat, with swansdown on her white dress. She was attended by Master Noel Houghton, her nephew, who looked very nice in a dark velvet suit, Rubens hat, and lace collar. The other groomsmen were Messrs P. F. Battley, A. W. Houghton, W. T. Dohls, and Dr. Robertson. Mr Carr presided at the harmonium.

It was rather difficult to obtain a description of the dresses from an outsider's hurried view, but the following list is as correct as possible under the circumstances. Mrs Battley, black silk and lace dress, black bonnet with gold lace and shaded mauve poppies; Mrs C. V. Houghton (sister of the bride), ruby silk entirely veiled with black lace, black bonnet with red roses and leaves; Mrs Lawry, black silk, bonnet *en suite* with coloured flowers; Miss Lawry, navy blue dress, hat of navy and apricot colour; Mr and Mrs Jos. Lawry, the lady wearing black satin, black and white bonnet; Mrs Lyons, black silk, black and gold bonnet; Mr and Mrs Watts, the latter in black and mauve; Mr and Mrs White; Mrs Carr, cornflower blue gown, with white design, black mantle, black and pascamenterie bonnet, pretty bouquet; Mr and Mrs Upton, the lady in black silk, velvet collar, white lilac and lace bonnet, white tips, white and yellow bouquet; Mrs Corrie, black silk, jetted black bonnet relieved with a band of orange; Miss Corrie, red merino, white satin and openwork hat, trimmed with yellow flowers and green foliage; Miss Reeve, grey costume, mauve grey trimmed hat; Dr. and Mrs Challinor Purchas, the latter in sage green, bonnet

to match, dainty pink chiffon bow, an effective contrast, at the throat; Mrs Hamlin, handsome velvet mantle almost concealing the dress, smart jetted bonnet with pink velvet and white lace; Miss Hamlin looked pretty in lilac veiled with white lace, tiny bonnet to match, bouquet; Mrs W. Wilson, black silk, dark green shaded bonnet; Mr and Mrs J. Wilson, the latter wearing an electric blue silk dress, blue and grey velvet and feather bonnet; Mr and Mrs Whitney, the lady looking well in mignonette green with dark green velvet trimmings, bonnet *en suite*; Mrs Robertson, black and gold hat, black jacket; Miss White, fawn dress, brown hat; Mrs Dixon, mourning costume; Miss Ada Dixon, lavender pongee silk spotted with white, grey hat. Most of the dresses were trained, and many ladies carried bouquets.

MR AND MRS BATTLETT entertained about fifty guests at their residence, Laurel Bank, after the ceremony, which took place at 2.30. Heavy rain came on about half-past four, and the guests returned to town in closed carriages. The bride's travelling costume was of navy, cloak and hat to match. The many friends of the newly married pair wish them all happiness.



At Hastings: Mrs Gillman (Christchurch), is on a visit to her sister, Mrs J. R. Lamauze; Miss Vallance (Masterton), is staying with Mrs Morrison at 'The Nest', Hastings; she is wearing a dark gown, jacket and stylish hat; Miss Russell has gone to Wellington for the session. — At Auckland: The Misses Morley are in town, wearing navy blue skirts, red blouses, and black hats; Mrs Chas. Stone looks nice in a striped brown rough cloth dress, trimmed with brown velvet, navy blue Tyrolaise hat; Mrs Gillmore is wearing a fawn cloth costume, hat *en suite*. — Mrs Hussell (Timaru), has been visiting Mrs Rutherford at Pictou. — Mrs Grimstone (Blenheim) has also been visiting Pictou for some weeks, and is staying with her daughter, Mrs Vaddy, at Bank House. — At Christchurch: Mr and Mrs Albert Kaye returned last week after a two months' visit to Australia, taking in Melbourne, Adelaide, Western Australia, Sydney, Brisbane and Hobart. Bishop Julius has gone over to Melbourne for a few weeks to recruit his health, and Mrs H. R. Webband Miss M. Webb are up at the Hammer Plains.

HUNTING.

THE weather has been most unfavourable for hunting here lately (says a Blenheim correspondent), but last Saturday Mrs T. H. Hanna on Robin, and Mr Hanna (Auckland) on Mangana, succeeded in crossing the river, which was in high flood, and were rewarded by a good day's hare hunting, the hounds meeting at Mr Crowden Sopers. Mrs Jackson and Miss Weber were also out.

THE Pakuranga Hounds met this week at Avondale, over a hundred people were present. One hare was caught and then a drag was laid by Mr A. Kelly, on Ima, from the racecourse in a circle over the steeply-ascending. The crowd rushed the ladies so that their jumps were spoilt. Amongst those present were Mesdames Billborough, Bloomfield, Kerr-Taylor, Misses Gardler, Hesketh (two), Kerr-Taylor, Firth, Ball, Percival, Forbes, Messrs Colgrove, Martin (two), Percival, Garrett, Bloomfield, Ware, Col. Dawson, and Dr. Forbes, etc. There were a great many falls; Mrs Billborough hurt her horse and had to give up hunting for that day; Mr Bloomfield took a neat header over a four-railed fence, and another person on a grey, was seen to disappear horse and all, over a wall, but they got up unhurt; Mr McCaw had a nasty fall over an awkward slip-panel, the horse jumped and caught its hind legs in the fence and both rider and steed came to grief on the other side, but, unfortunately for him, a careless man jumped over while Mr McCaw was on the ground, and struck him on the collarbone. Dr. Forbes, who was happily present, went to his assistance, and found his collar-bone was broken. The next drag was laid from Mount Albert to Morning-side by Mr Martin and brother, and Mr Kerr-Taylor and sister. Some of the jumps were very awkward, so that the hounds got away completely, but the whole crowd of hunters, not knowing where to go, took a wrong direction, and went across country to Three Kings, while the draggers were waiting patiently with the hounds at Morning-side. The only lady who followed was Miss Percival. There were a great many people present who were driving. Mr Cottle was driving Misses Rookes and Bursill; the Misses Firth, Misses Percival, Mr Stubbings, Mrs Mahoney, etc.

THE Christchurch meet on Saturday was well attended, being such a delightful day, and within reasonable distance. It was fixed for Cowlishaw's Corner, Avonside. Among the riders were the Hon. and Mrs E. W. Parker, the Misses Helmore, Stratton, Gerrard, Mrs and Miss Nedwill, Mrs Osteron, Mrs Alan Scott, Miss Robinson and Miss Delamain, with a large number of vehicles on the road.