

MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE.

DR LAMB, whose portrait is herewith given with that of his wife, and whose article on the New Hebrides is in another part of this paper, is in many respects a remarkable man. His career is an example of what Christian enthusiasm will accomplish even in these prosaic and money-grabbing days. Eighteen years ago he was one of the pupils at St. Matthew's School, Auckland. Removing with his parents to Christchurch, he happened while there to attend a service conducted by a missionary from the New Hebrides, who called for volunteers for the good cause. Although then only a



DR. AND MRS LAMB
(Medical Missionary to New Hebrides).

lad of sixteen, he determined to dedicate his life to this work. Possessing talents of a high order, he applied himself to study, and succeeded in carrying off a Junior University Scholarship. By the aid of this, supplemented later on with fees derived from teaching, he continued his course, and took his degree. He now resolved to study medicine in order to thoroughly equip himself for his duties, and proceeded to Scotland, where he again engaged in teaching while pursuing his studies. During this period he met the young lady who afterwards became his wife, and who shared his enthusiasm for mission work. After their engagement she determined to qualify herself as a skilled nurse, and while her intended husband was studying medicine she entered a hospital and served for two years as a nurse.

In due time, Dr. Lamb took his degree, and returned with his wife to the colony. By a happy chance, it happened that the Presbyterian General Assembly, upon which the duty of ordaining him devolved, met at Auckland this year, and so it came about that his ordination took place in the city where his early years were spent.

THE REV. G. W. YORK, who has been for some time past curate of St. Paul's, has, on the eve of his departure from Dunedin, met with some very pleasing manifestations of the regard in which he has been held. The Ven. Archdeacon Edwards, incumbent of St. Paul, at a meeting held for the purpose of bidding Mr York good-bye, spoke in very complimentary terms of the assistance of his curate, saying that never before had he worked with one who had taken such an energetic part in all that concerned the parish. An address signed by thirty ladies and gentlemen was then handed to Mr York, with a present of a very handsome travelling case, and a beautiful silver pocket communion service from the teachers and children of the school, and handsomely bound volumes from the Sunday-school Parents' Guild. At the rooms of the Dunedin Young Men's Mission a similar meeting was held, when Mr Webb, on behalf of the Mission, presented Mr York with handsomely bound copies of the Englishman's Bible, the parallel Bible, a pocket Bible, and a surplice bag.

I AM sorry to tell you (writes our Dunedin correspondent) of the death of a dear little girl Alice Clara Gregg, daughter of William and Eleanor R. Gregg. She was a great favourite with all her companions, and 'Dale House' has been besieged with little girls carrying the most lovely

of white bouquets and wreaths. She seems to have been a universal favourite.

ANOTHER death has occurred in society circles—the wife of a few months of Mr Lindsay Dymock. As Annie Beal, she was much beloved in Dunedin for many years. After her marriage she went with her husband to Hobart, where she died. This will necessitate a very quiet wedding for Miss Dymock.

Fancy Dress Ball At The Premier's.

ONE of the most successful events of an unusually gay season at Wellington was undoubtedly the fancy dress ball given by the wife of the Premier at her residence, Tinakori Road, on Friday evening last. The affair was originally fixed for Friday in the preceding week, and was intended to take the form of a Butterfly Ball, all the little friends of Miss Kathleen Ballance being invited to appear in the character of those fragile-winged insects. Owing, however, to the Premier's illness the function was postponed, and ultimately others were invited to come in fancy dress, to the great satisfaction of large numbers of would-be participants who felt themselves past butterfly age.

The beautiful ballroom was elegantly decorated with flowers, ferns and pot plants, and when dancing was in full swing, the great mirrors reflected a scene of indescribable gaiety.

About 230 guests were present, two thirds of whom were in fancy dress, nearly a fourth being butterflies. These, led by Miss Kathleen Ballance, had a very pretty Spanish dance, 'The Cachuco,' all to themselves about the middle of the evening. The sight was a singularly pretty one, as with gauzy wings outspread, slender arms waving, they



tripped daintily through the graceful steps. At the close a burst of applause broke simultaneously from the onlookers.

An early supper enabled the younger guests to depart at a reasonably early hour, and then the young people of both sexes who helped to amuse the juniors had a good time, keeping dancing up till 1 a.m. The ball was in every sense thoroughly delightful, the cordial hospitality of the genial host and hostess disposing everybody to enjoyment from the outset. The folding doors between the ballroom and drawing-room were thrown open, the latter accommodating a large number of interested spectators. Among the young ladies in ordinary evening costume might have been noticed:

Miss Johnson, in black beautifully embroidered with gold and colour; Miss Speed, in a becoming dress of cream silk; Misses Henry, in black and white, respectively; Miss Blair, in black and white; Miss Seed, in blue with powder and patches; Miss Seddon, in yellow silk; Miss Fenall, in Gobelins blue, powder and patches; Miss McKenzie, in salmon pink; Miss McKellar, in cream silk; Miss Perry, in pink; Misses Drury, Anderson, and McEgor, in cream silk. Among the grown up spectators of the children's pleasure were Mrs. Beck and Lady Buckley, Mrs. W. P. Reeves, Hon. Mr and Mrs McKenzie, Miss Seddon, Mr and Mrs Tolhurst, Mr and Mrs Stuart, Capt. and Mrs. Mair, Mr and Mrs A. M. Smith, Mrs Baker, Mrs Zimminore, Mrs Blair, Mrs Waldegrave, Mrs Anderson, Mrs Griffiths, Mrs Friend, and others, all of whom were in ordinary evening dress.

Of the fancy dresses, that of Pharaoh's Daughter, worn by Miss Stafford, was undoubtedly the handsomest; Miss Kees, of Auckland, wore a graceful Greek costume, rendered more effective by her magnificent hair, which, held back from her face by a golden fillet, floated in a wavy mass far below her waist. An exquisite toilet was that of Beautiful Snow, worn by that graceful little lady, Miss Pollen. Another beautiful costume was 'Normandy Bride,' worn by Miss V. Rawson, whose elder sister appeared as 'Night; Misses Una and little Williams made captivating Kate Greenaway girls; Miss White, a capital Britannie; little Miss Rivers wore a pretty Irish Rose; Misses Tolhurst looked well as Mrs. Dairymple and Mrs. Balchristie; Miss Olive Hickson represented a Swedish Peasant; her sister, Eva, was a fetching Tambourine Girl; Miss Ina Stewart appeared as a lady of the last Century; Miss K. Johnson, Tambourine Girl; Miss Dickey made a

very attractive Gipsy; Miss Tripe, an engaging Red Riding Hood; Miss de Lostalot made an arch Irish Peasant; Miss Edith Somerville, a bewitching Queen of the Fairies; Miss White was got up very effectively as a Roman Lady; and Miss Wilson as Stars and Stripes. Japanese girls, Tambourine girls, Kate Greenaway's, Peasants of all nationalities abounded, as well as many pretty distinctive costumes, the names of whose wearers have escaped our correspondent.

The young gentlemen's costumes were in some cases worthy of especial mention. Among these may first be placed that of Master Churton, a small boy, whose get-up



as a Nigger was simply perfect, and who seemed vastly to enjoy the sensation he made amongst the fair, graceful little butterflies. The most striking get-up, however, was that of Mr A. Izard, who made a distinguished-looking Louis Quatorze. The Masters Gavan, as the Tower Princes, were dressed to very good effect in black velvet costumes, heightened by abundant flaxen curls clustering round their faces. Master Algar Williams and Master A. Tolhurst, as French Courtiers, were much admired. Mr T. Holmes appeared as Julius Caesar; Mr Charles Hickson, Rip Van Winkle; and Master Molineaux, King of Spades. Master Blair made a capital Chinkie; and Master Richardson, first-rate Clown. Master Frank Smith made an elegant French Courtier, as also did Master De Lostalot, in terracotta plush and point lace.

These, of course, were only a few out of a large total, but it is somewhat difficult to recollect individual characteristic actors in such a brilliant and constantly moving scene. Enough, however, that everyone present was effectively costumed, and all appeared perfectly happy.

The whole proceedings were characterised by liveliness and energy of enjoyment, not always in evidence at such gatherings. Last, but not least, mention must be made of Miss



Griffiths, Mrs Ballance's niece, who very ably supplemented the kind offices of her aunt, being indefatigable in her attention to the youthful guests. She was attired in a very becoming costume of black and gold. Mrs Ballance wore black lace trimmed with mervellieux, as did also many other married ladies present.

THE Gisborne Orchestral Society, under Mr T. Wildman, is improving rapidly, and some of their selections won great praise at the Museum concert. Mr A. Beale played the obligato to Mr Dairymple's song; Mr and Mrs E. D. Smith sang that lovely duet 'Life's Dream is Over, Farewell; Miss Adair, 'Twicknam Ferry; Mr Ward, 'The Auctioneer; Mr Crawford's recitation, a parody on 'Iolanthe,' was most amusing; so, too, was Mr Witty's, and the interesting addresses, learned and reminiscent by Archdeacon Williams and Mr De Latour, were very entertaining.