

The Winona is one of the oldest yachts in New Zealand, having been built by Mr G. Waymouth, of Auckland, about twenty years ago for Mr Street. She is about 15 tons rating. After the latter gentleman sold her she passed through the hands of several yachtsmen, among others Mr R. S. Reynolds, the well-known yachting enthusiast, until she came into possession of Mr H. Whitaker, who did a great deal of cruising in her. On his departure for Australia he disposed of her to Mr Harris, and she was sailed to the Islands. She did a good spell of work there till last year, when she journeyed to Wellington, where she now is.

The weather was all that could be desired for the polo sports, which were held on the Riccarton Racecourse, Christchurch on Saturday. The grandstand and lawn presented quite a gay appearance all the afternoon with the vari-coloured gowns of the ladies, who mustered in great force, thereby testifying to the popularity of these sports with the fair sex. Certainly it was a delightful afternoon's outing for everyone, and everything passed off most successfully. The ponies seemed to be in the pink of condition, and they appeared to enter into the fun quite as much as any of their riders, who one and all were thoroughly 'at home' on the sturdy little beasts. The Polo Cup race was won by Mr K. H. Rhodes on Jack-o'-Lantern, and the same gentleman also won the bending competition. The most amusing item on the programme was the 'costume' race, which kept the spectators in fits of laughter all the time it lasted. Some of the costumes were too funny for anything, particularly Mr W. Buckley's, who was wheeled on to the course in a perambulator, dressed as a baby in long clothes of white, and knitted booties and rattle all complete. Mr Clarke's get-up was 'Sweet Seventeen,' in blue silk and chiffon, and he looked truly ridiculous on horseback, although doubtless that was the effect he intended to produce. Hon. E. Parker rode as a French Cook; Mr A. G. Rhodes as Jack Tar; Mr Heaton as Little Red Riding Hood. All the costumes jumbled up together during the race presented one of the funniest sights ever seen on the Riccarton racecourse. The Ladies Bracelet was won by Mr Bennett, who was nominated by Miss Loughnan. The cigar and umbrella race was also very funny, the poor umbrellas coming off very badly in the contest, nothing much being left of them except the sticks. There will only be one more game of polo in Christchurch before the team go up North to try their luck at the forthcoming tournament. We all hope (writes our correspondent) they will come away with a good many laurels and keep up the reputation of the Canterbury Polo Club.

The aquatic sports at New Plymouth on March 2nd were very successful, the day being perfect and the Recreation

Grounds looking their best. There was a very good attendance, including a fair sprinkling of ladies. The Band was present, and gave added attraction. The Waitara Regatta was held on Thursday, March 9th, and was a brilliant success as regarded attendance, but the regatta itself was voted somewhat slow. Over three thousand people were present. Of course it is the 'red letter' day for Waitara, and the town on this occasion presented quite a festive appearance with all the flags flying. Very little cheering was heard excepting in the Champion Whaleboat Race, then the crowd roused up and great excitement prevailed. The crews were certainly a fine-looking lot and pulled well. The ladies also shaped well, and sent their boats through the water in quick time. The Maori Canoe Race was very good, the natives keeping remarkable time. Even though they get so madly excited, it is remarkable that they never lose the time for an instant. The Waitara Band played during the day. Of course it is small, but it performs very well indeed. Mr Hughes is a very good bandmaster.

TENNIS.

The Ponsoby Tennis Lawn was again a scene of lively interest on Saturday afternoon. The tug-of-war this week was West End versus Auckland, and West End had fully determined to overthrow the Champion Club of the town, but alas, at the critical moment, the self-possession and skill of the fair portion of the W.E. representatives seemed to desert them; their usual cool daring fled before the prospect of such formidable opponents, and Ponsoby suffered defeat both on her own and the Auckland lawn. Mr J. Patterson played with a force and energy born of despair, but his single efforts could not save the team. The following are the scores:—At West End Lawn: Messrs Stevenson and Marriner (A) beat Messrs Cooke and Ballantyne (W.E.), 7-5 6-1 7-5. Miss Scherff and Mr Goldie (A) beat Miss F. Billington and Mr Paterson (W.E.), 6-1 7-5. Misses Ring and Picken (A) beat Misses Eva Russell and Billington (W.E.), 6-1 6-0. At Auckland Lawn: Messrs Scherff and Biss (A) beat Messrs Foster and Gentles (W.E.), 6-1 6-2 6-3. Miss King and Mr Bagnall (A) beat Miss Bastard and Mr Haven (W.E.), 6-1 4-6 6-3. Miss Nicholson and Mrs Chapman (A) beat Miss Russell and Mrs Gentles (W.E.), 6-0 6-0. Tea and refreshments were provided by the Misses Edwards.

The Onehunga Club played Parnell, exchanging teams for the day, on Saturday, and though Onehunga was beaten, it was agreed on all sides that Parnell had to fight for the

victory. Of course it must be remembered that the Onehunga Club is a young one, and they look to have a better record next year. The combats on Onehunga ground were as follows: Messrs Tempest and Blair (P) beat Messrs L. Noakes and F. Battley (O). Scores: 6-0, 6-0, 6-1. Mrs Blair and Mr L. Rick beat Miss M. Frost and Mr L. Zioran after a hard fight. Miss Mowbray and Miss Rookes beat Miss B. Banks and Miss A. Singleton. On the Parnell lawn, Messrs Tonks and Royston beat Messrs Suttie and Frost. Scores: 6-0, 6-0, 6-1. Miss E. Bassett and Mr C. Suttie were beaten by Mr and Mrs Harrison. Scores: 6-1, 6-2. Miss C. Frost and Miss E. Gibbons were beaten by Miss Atkinson and Miss I. George. Scores: 6-1, 6-4.

TENNIS tournaments are still in full swing. It is wonderful what a fascination they exercise over players and spectators. Another attraction to the game is the almost inevitable afternoon tea. On the Onehunga lawn last Saturday quite a large number of people appeared. The refreshments were provided by Miss M. Frost and Miss N. Singleton, and as it was rather cold on the lawn, the hot tea was most grateful to the on-lookers, and refreshing to the players. This club is, as yet, hardly out of its infancy, and the ground and play are very creditable.

MEMBERS OF THE NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITY SENATE.

THE New Zealand University Senate, which has recently concluded its sitting in Auckland, contains among its members many names that are familiar to every New Zealander. Through the courtesy of Mr J. R. Hanna, the well-known artist-photographer, we are enabled this week to present our readers with a portrait group including the majority of the gentlemen who exercise control over our infant university. They are all men of standing in the different parts of the colony they represent in the Senate, and some of them have a still wider representation which is not confined to New Zealand. The contributions of the Chancellor, Sir James Hector, to geological research are not inconsiderable, the professors are men who have, generally speaking, been distinguished students in their different spheres of study, and among the members, are several gentlemen who have played leading parts in the Government of the colony.

AUTHORS' AFTERTHOUGHTS.

It is singular to reflect how much the world owes to the second thoughts of great men. It is doubtful if Byron's 'Child Harold' would have been called so attractive if it had been called 'Childs Buran,' as the poet first intended. It cannot be questioned that the afterthought was a great improvement.

Goldsmith first called his 'She Stoops to Conquer,' 'The Mistakes of a Wight,' and then 'The Belle's Stratagem,' but he didn't like either of these, and neither did any of his friends, and they cast about for a week till at length Goldsmith himself hit upon the present title.

It took Dickens a long time, and he rejected about thirty different titles, before he decided to call his great novel 'A Tale of Two Cities.'

It was an afterthought that led Walter Savage Lauder to write his poem 'Gebir' in English instead of Latin, in which language it was originally begun.

Sheridan's 'School for Scandal' was the result of many changes, both in design and scope of the play. A first sketch of the play indicated little more than a satire on the gossip of the Pump Room at Bath. A second sketch developed Sir Peter and Lady Teazle, at first called Mr Solomon Teazle and Mrs Teazle, the other characters being Sir Ronald Herper Plausible, Captain Henry Plausible, Freeman, and Maria. Chas. Surface was at different stages named Clarimont Foribal, Henry Pliant Plisable, Young Hurries, and Frank. Joseph Surface was called Plausible Pliant, and Tom Sheridan elaborated the play, welded two separately contrived plots into one, and resumed his characters; and this child of many changes was Sheridan's masterpiece.

Thackeray explains in his 'Pendennis' that he thought of concluding the story tragically.

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Hanna, photo.

Auckland.

FIRST ROW.—HON. W. KOLLESTON, ARCHBISHOP REDWOOD, REV. BISHOP COWIE, SIR J. HECTOR (Chancellor), REV. J. C. ANDREW (Vice-Chancellor), SIR ROBERT STOUT, REV. J. PATTERSON. SECOND ROW.—MR J. HAY, PROFESSOR C. H. H. COOK, PROFESSOR J. SHAND, DR. J. GILES, MR W. D. MILNE, MR W. M. MARKELL (Registrar). THIRD ROW.—REV. DR. W. SALMOND, DR. FITCHETT, PROFESSOR J. M. BROWN, REV. W. J. HARRIS.