SOCIETY GOSSIP.

AUCKLAND.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 27.

First on my list come the

DRESSES AT THE REMUERA SOCIAL.

Mrs Frank Walker looked remarkably well in a stylish canary-coloured silk with overall of black lace; Mr S. W. F. Buckland, grey brocaded satin; Mrs Ireland, green shot silk; Mrs Basset, black silk; Mrs Pritt, black; Mrs Sharland, claret cashmere with velvet trimmings *en suite*; Mrs Skeates, black, and her daughter, a *debutante*, looked lovely in white; Mrs Hanna, black; Mrs Cotter, very handsome costume of coquelicot, covered with black lace and beads; Mrs Bews, pretty amber silk with rows of amber ribbon, brown velvet opera coat edged with amber; Miss Hepburn looked pretty in white with green velvet ribbons; Miss Stevenson (Glenholm), effective costume of cream crépon with pink Empire sash; and her sister was admired in cream with rich heliotrope Empire sash; Miss Davison, pretty cream crepon with azur nil cape and trimmings; Mrs A. Taylor, cream with pink sleeves and trimmings; Miss — Von Sturmer, her *débutante* gown with yellow, Empire sash; Mrs Hope Lewis, mignonette green silk, with pink velvet sleeves and tulle; Miss Fenton, becoming black gown with green velvet trimmings; Miss Lewis, black lace with large royal blue sleeves; Mrs Isidor Alexander, handsome black; Miss Cora Alexander, green electric cashmere, made in Empire style; Miss Jackson, *bonton d'or* silk, and her sister was fascinating in white silk; Misses Kerr Taylor, cream silks; Miss Hursill, cream silk with overall of some gauzy material; Miss Buckland, black with blue Empire sash; Miss Johnstone, black lace with *bouton d'or* Empire sash; Miss Phillips, cream silk; Miss Dixon, maize-coloured crepon with large sleeves; Miss Kempthorne, black lace; Miss Heywood, pale pink lace; Misses Hay-Smith, white crepon; Miss Bull, pale pink with brown velvet sleeves; Miss MacBeth, pale pink Liberty silk; Miss Ireland looked perfection in lizard green velvet with cream lace; Miss Ettie Ireland, white silk; Mrs Hunter, puice brocaded silk; Miss Nasbelski, black lace; Mrs Cheeseman, black lace; Miss Keesing, black silk; Miss Hardie, pink silk; Miss Gorrie, pink satean underskirt, with overall of grey gauzy material with silver stripe; and her sister, simple white gown; Mrs Gorrie, black; Miss Churton, pale pink trimmed with bright pink rose satin. Amongst the gentlemen present were Lieut. Baird (H.M.S. Orlando), Drs. Lewis and Bull, Messrs Wagstaff, Kilgour, Kempthorne, Philson, Gilmore, Brooksmith, Crombie, Goodhue, Wynyard (two), Chalice, Dixon, Hume, Keesing, Horton, Johnstone, Reeve, Dr. Jackson (H.M.S. Katoomba), etc.

There were some

PRETTY DRESSES AT THE PARNELL SOCIAL.

Mrs Thorne-George, black lace; Mrs Tewsley, rich pink silk with pink tulle, and pink ribbon in her hair; Mrs W. Bloomfield looked lovely in cream China silk, with pink velvet sleeves; Mrs Goodhue, black China silk with a band of orange silk on edge of skirt and bodice; Mrs Ireland, shot silk; Mrs Laishley, black beaded silk with lace; Mrs Hope-Lewis, dark grey velvet; Miss Fenton, slate grey velvet; Miss Lewis, pale pink; Miss Churton, black cashmere; Miss Laishley, white *debutante* dress; Mrs C. Haines, black silk with large tartan sleeves, and pink vest; Miss K. Isaacs, black silk with beads; Miss Edith Isaacs looked pretty in black with forget-me-nots on bodice, and blue ribbon in her hair; Mrs Dennison, rich black silk; Mrs Blair, cream with white lace; Mrs Thorpe, black satin; Miss Thorpe, stylish white silk; and her sister, cream brocaded silk with old gold silk dress; Mrs Rich, black silk with old gold passementerie trimmings; Miss Eva Rich, black silk with silver brocaded Zouave jacket; Mrs Rathbone wore a pretty trained black velvet with green velvet trimmings; Mrs A. Taylor, cream silk with pink silk trimmings; Mrs Kilgour, very handsome black silk with gold flowered, rich grey plush opera cloak; Miss Mowbray, black; Miss Von Sturmer, brown velvet with blue sash; and her sister (*debutante*) looked pretty in white crepon; Miss Ireland, cream silk with large sleeves; and her sister, a handsome white trained dress; Miss Bull, rose pink and brown velvet sleeves; Miss Banks, white crepon with gauzy sleeves; Miss Stevenson, black and yellow spotted net; Miss Lawford, cream with yellow lace on bodice; Miss Emily Firth, black relieved with white; Miss Rookes looked *distinguée* in terra-cotta dress trimmed with brown velvet and Honiton lace; Miss Gorrie, white; Miss O'Brien, black velvet with Honiton lace; Miss Forbes, pale blue silk; Mrs Sharland, rich ruby silk trimmed with velvet; Miss Wilkins, nil green Liberty silk; Miss Shirley-Baker, nil green silk; Miss Ella Baker, navy satin; Miss Power looked remarkably well in a white lace gown; Mrs Kerr-Taylor, pale sea green satin; Miss Violet Taylor was pretty and fascinating in white crépon relieved with pink; Miss Thorne-George, blue silk; Miss Wylde-Brown, white crépon relieved with pink; Miss Kilgour, nil green; Miss Atkinson, pink silk with overall of green lace; Miss Buckland, black, with blue Empire sash; Miss Johnstone, black, with *bouton d'or* Empire sash; Miss Heywood looked nice in black tulle; Miss MacBeth wore a simple white gown.

DRESSES AT THE PONSONBY 'AT HOME.'

Miss Atkinson, sea green and pink; Miss Bach, cream dress with lace; Mrs Boardman, black satin and lace; Mrs E. Buchanan, pale yellow cashmere; Mrs Burton, black lace; Mrs Cattanach, cream and yellow; Miss Darby, cream dress; Mrs Devore, handsome black satin relieved with cream Maltese lace; Miss Devore, effective combination of black and scarlet; Miss Bertha Devore, all white; Mrs J. Hanna, black silk; Miss Headland (Oamaru), striking costume of white with sleeves and trimmings of royal blue velvet; Mrs Hughes, black satin and lace; Miss Kennedy, rose pink; Miss Laird, stylish black evening dress; Miss Emily Laird, black and scarlet; Miss Freda Langsford, black lace with pale pink corselet bodice, pink sleeves; Mrs Littler, rich crimson velvet; Miss Lockee, lovely dress of cream cashmere trimmed with old gold plush; Mrs Mahoney, cream trimmed with yellow chiffon; Miss Morrin, maize and green, with toby frill of pale sea-green; Miss Partridge, pink nun's veiling, black sash; Miss Lena Partridge, white trimmed with bars of deep peacock blue velvet; Mrs Peacock, handsome black satin and lace; Miss Peacock, pretty rose pink dress; Mrs Ralph, bright pink cashmere with trimmings of black lace; Miss Spiers, pink costume; Miss Walmutt, black and yellow; Miss C. Walmutt, blue nun's veiling; Miss G. Whitelaw, white with deep sash of coffee-coloured silk; Miss Woodyear, cream; Miss Gittos, pretty white dress trimmed with white silk.

Heavy showers fell early in the afternoon, but as soon as the weather cleared a number of ladies appeared to watch football on Saturday. Miss Rosa Bull looked pretty in green plaid dress made plainly, and a becoming toque with poppy-red bebe ribbons; Miss Ethel Bull looked nice in plaid coat with deep cape, flat hat with green plaid ribbons; Miss Beatrice Bull, neat-fitting brown and black check coat, navy flat hat with navy ribbons; Miss MacBeth, black cashmere, waterproof with cape and silk hood, small black hat; Miss Otway was very much admired in navy with flop hat trimmed profusely with navy silk; Miss Laird, brown skirt, red blouse, and small hat with brown ribbons; Miss Clara Firth, navy serge, hat to harmonise, and her sister, navy skirt, crimson blouse, gem hat; Mrs Jervis, navy serge, small hat with band of blue ribbon; Miss George was similarly attired in navy, etc.

Mrs Stevenson, 'Glenholm,' Remuera, had a delightful little dance and musical evening last week.

PONSONBY SOCIAL UNION DRESSES.

Mrs Hanna, black lace and jet; Mrs W. Geddis, pretty white and blue dress with sleeves of pale blue velvet; Mrs Blomfield, cream satin trimmed with gold; Mrs Henrickson, black satin; Mrs Laxon, cream crepon; Mrs Bartlett looked well in blue lace and silk; Mrs Petry, black net and gold; Miss Morgan, pretty Empire gown of cream veiling relieved with gold silk puffed sleeves; Miss Bastard, very pretty pink; Miss E. Bastard, pale blue; Miss Shortt, white; Miss M. Shortt, pale blue; Miss Geddis, orange net; Miss Montgomery, pink; Miss M. Edwards, white crepon; Miss Ria Edwards, mauve veiling; Miss Farrell, blue; Miss M. Dickey, pretty white dress; Mrs Boak, black and gold. Others were present whose names I do not remember.

PHYLLIS BROUNE.

WELLINGTON.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 22.

We have been so gay lately. I will begin with the

DRESSES AT MRS CHARLIE JOHNSTON'S 'AT HOME.'

This ball which was given to the Admiral and officers of the Orlando, was a great success, and the dresses were much admired. The hostess wore a rich black velvet gown with long train, a deep fringe of jet trimming the basque, and pink roses in the corsage, and a pink aigrette in her hair; Miss E. Johnston wore a handsome dark velvet trimmed with steel; Mrs W. Johnston, a handsome black satin gown, trained, trimmed with lovely lace; Miss Ida Johnston, cream silk with sleeves of bright crimson velvet, the skirt half veiled with green net and caught with bunches of green grass; Miss H. and Miss S. Johnston, wore pretty cream gowns; Mrs Newman, a handsome copper-coloured silk trimmed with coffee lace; Mrs Grace, white silk striped with black velvet and diamonds; Mrs W. P. Reeves, a pale green Liberty silk, with rose pink silk sleeves and sash; Mrs E. J. Reid, cream striped with gold; Mrs Adams, black; Mrs Symons, her lovely wedding dress; Mrs A. Brandon, white and mauve silk; Miss Hallowes, black, trimmed with jet and magenta ribbons; Miss Wauchope, pale blue gauze spotted with black, black moiré sleeves and sash; Mrs Moorhouse, black; Mrs Parfitt, lemon-coloured silk trimmed with black velvet; Mrs Gale, pink and blue silk; Mrs H. Crawford, old rose silk with green velvet sleeves; Mrs Travers, black trimmed with pink; Miss Chaytor, cream brocade; Mrs Williams, black velvet; Miss Williams, cream brocade; Miss E. Williams wore one of the prettiest frocks—of pale blue satin trimmed with flounces of delicate white lace, blue gloves, shoes, and fan to match; Mrs Barron, black and white silk; Miss Barron, cream with mauve corselet; Miss E. Barron, white; Miss Douglas, grey silk trimmed with steel; Mrs Biss, white with yellow velvet sleeves; Mrs Levin, a lovely crushed strawberry brocade trimmed with coffee lace; Miss Bristow, pretty pale yellow brocade trimmed with lace; Mrs Gillon, pink trimmed with silver; Miss Graham, pale green with navy sleeves, and her sister bright pink brocade; Miss E. Barton (Wairarapa), cream with yellow sleeves; Miss Hadfield, crepon; Miss Griffiths (England), white Liberty silk with yellow velvet sleeves; Miss Hart, a pretty pink frock; and her sister, crushed strawberry net; Mrs Field, red velvet with Watteau train; Miss M. Grace, a royal blue moiré, trained; Miss A. Grace, a lovely cream brocade gown; Miss Izard, pink broché; Miss M. Gore, pale pink moire trimmed with lace and baby ribbon; and her sister a pretty cream silk; Miss Richardson, black velvet with white chiffon frills; Miss Holmes, a handsome grey silk trimmed with écru velvet lapels; Miss Brown, a handsome cream satin gown trained, the sleeves striped with black; Mrs Brandon, black; Miss Cobb, a very pretty pale blue silk, braided with black; Miss Morrah, lemon silk with moss green velvet sleeves; Miss Harding, cream silk; Miss Dynsort, cream with brown velvet sleeves; Miss Duncan, black satin with bunches of violets; Mrs G. Beetham, a lovely yellow brocade. Among the gentlemen were Messrs Guy Johnston, W. Johnston, Barry Goring, Hadfield, Izard, Travers, Field, Biss, Gale, Pearce, Bristow, Barron, Duncan, Moorhouse, Gardiner, W. Barton, Robison, Woolridge, Turnbull, Gore, Butterworth, Cooper, and Col. Boyle, Col. Fox, Dr. Grace, Hon. W. P. Reeves, Dr. Harding, Capt. Hunter-Blair, Capt. Clayton, Dr. Gillon, besides Admiral Bowden-Smith, Capt. Pike, Major Leafe, and a number of officers from the Orlando.

DRESSES OF THE VICE-REGAL PARTY AT THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

Lady Glasgow's dress will be found fully described in 'Topics.' The Ladies Alice and Dorothy Boyle wore pretty claret cloth frocks, the fronts and half sleeves of much brighter silk, and pretty white fur hats, each trimmed with a dark bird, and white feather muffs to match. The two little boys—the Hons. John and Allan Boyle—were dressed in violet velvet suits with point lace collars and cuffs. Miss Wauchope wore a pretty grey gown with epaulettes of black lace, and a black ribbon sash, and large black straw hat covered with feathers; Miss E. Rhodes, who was also of the party, wore a dull electric blue cloth, the capes and sleeves of darker velvet edged with beaver, and a brown felt hat with sable tails and velvet bows.

OTHER DRESSES WERE:

Mrs W. P. Reeves wore a pale brown tweed edged with black braiding, black hat; and her tiny daughter was dressed completely in white; Mrs R. Oliver wore Gobelin blue trimmed with darker velvet; Mrs W. Johnston, a handsome black costume with jetted Watteau cloak and gold bonnet; Miss S. Johnston, a long fawn coat and black hat; Mrs Rhodes, of the Grange, a handsome black costume and jet bonnet; Mrs R. Pharazyn, brown tweed, and handsome furs, trimmed with feather; Miss Stewart, a brown costume and bonnet to match; Miss Duncan, a handsome combination of prune silk and fawn cloth; Mrs Izard, Mrs and Miss Richardson, Miss Duthie, Mrs Tuckey, Mrs Rhodes, of Elmwood, Christchurch, Mrs O'Rorke, Miss Holroyd, Mrs and Miss Stowe, Mrs and Miss Friend, Mrs and Miss Williams, the Misses Hadfield, Miss Griffiths, Miss Richmond, Mrs Izard, Mrs R. Hart, Mrs Lowe, the Misses Wilford, Miss Cooper, Mrs Wardrop, and many others.

OPHELIA.

CHRISTCHURCH.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 22.

A

VERY ENJOYABLE DANCE

was given in the Opawa schoolroom on Wednesday evening by the Misses Cholmondeley, Hassall, Nalder, and Beadel, Mr J. Jones acting as secretary. The room was most tastefully decorated, and a delicious supper temptingly laid on the raised platform at the end. The floor was excellent, and the cold night and good music kept the dancing going briskly. Drags were arranged for to convey town visitors to and fro, and were numerously patronised. Miss Cholmondeley was gowned in a pretty pink silk trimmed with cretonne; Miss Hassall wore red; Miss Beadel, coral pink veiling; Miss Nalder, pale grey with claret velvet sleeves and trimming; Mrs Embling, black silk; Mrs Ewen, terra-cotta silk of two shades; Mrs Bruce, a pink and white silk; Mrs Haultain, white silk; Miss Murray-Aynsley, pale blue silk with Watteau train; Miss Hargreaves, pretty cream satin with bronze velvet sleeves and bands on the skirt; Miss L. Lean, black, with sleeves and Empire belt and sash; Miss Lean, pink brocade, and pink wreath in her hair; Miss Tabart, cream silk, and blue velvet sleeves and trimming; Miss Neave, red silk with black velvet bands; Miss Thomson, pretty pink brocade with touches of olive green; Miss Pillici, a very becoming yellow veiling with amber ornaments; Miss Cotterill, cream dress with corselet bodice of black velvet; Miss Cuff, pink silk with puff sleeves of cardinal velvet; Miss Stack, black lace with cerise sash; Miss Motion (Olivier wore black; Miss Meeson, vieux rose silk; Miss R. Tabart, black with velvet bodice; Mrs W. Ollivier, pretty black dress relieved with heliotrope; Misses Spensley, Foster, Winter, Mather, Russell, Nixon (Timaru), Messrs Alpers, Corbett, Edwards, Hargreaves, Le Cren, Ridings, Turnbull, Harman, Mackay, Stack, Neave, Humphreys, Cane and Turrell were some of those present.

Mrs Deans' Jubilee dance, owing to falling on a Saturday, was over before twelve, much to everyone's regret. The floor on springs was delightful to dance on, and Fleming's music some of his best. The children left about 7 p.m., having had games and much fun led by Miss May Deans, looking very smart in a white China silk, and Master J. Deans. The ballroom was very tastefully decorated with tol-tol, flax, and plants, and at one end in gold letters on a crimson ground was the date of their taking up their abode on the Plains, 1843, and a corresponding one at the opposite end with the present year and 50. Mrs Deans', with Mr and Mrs J. Deans, received the guests at the entrance of the ballroom. Mrs Deans was handsomely gowned in a rich black silk with Honiton lace, and pink and white cap; Mrs J. Deans, black brocade trimmed with orange velvet and jet; Mrs Lynes, lovely dress of white watered silk, Empire belt of gold embroidery; Mrs Guthrie, black silk and lace, yellow puff sleeves veiled with lace; Mrs H. Murray-Aynsley, cardinal satin relieved with cream; Mrs Wilkin, black with balloon sleeves of purple velvet; Mrs J. Martin, white silk and chiffon; Mrs R. Macdonald looked extremely well in buttercup silk and gauze; Miss McIlwraith, a very pretty dress of pink corded silk with Watteau train; Miss Cowlishaw, handsome white Duchesse satin trimmed with lace and ribbons; Mrs G. Cowlishaw, primrose Liberty silk; Miss Stoddart, becoming black and white gown; Miss Helmore, black trimmed with pale blue, and forget-me-not wreath; Miss Davie, heliotrope covered with gauze; Miss Bowen, white silk, Empire sash of blue; Misses Cotterill wore black; Miss L. Lean, pink silk; Miss Hennah, black, with apple green puff sleeves and ribbons; Miss Gray, cream silk with Maltese lace; her sister, pretty dress of white veiling striped with pale green; Miss Turnbull, black silk and net; Mr, Mrs, and the Misses Neave, Miss Banks, Mr and Mrs Bowen, Misses Stack, Maling, Beswick, Thomson, Dr. Palmer, Dr. Guthrie, Messrs Hall, Harman, Day, Holleston, Ridings, Donald, Poulton, and many more were present.

DOLLY VALE.

DUNEDIN.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 20.

In spite of intensely cold weather we have had several pleasant social festivities during the week.

A EUCHRE PARTY

given by Mrs Jowitt was one of the largest and most enjoyable of the season. Mrs Jowitt looked charming in a beautiful Empire gown of buttercup satin. Among the guests Mrs Todd wore a becoming gown of orange silk with velvet trimmings; Miss Roberts, terra-cotta silk; her sister, Miss Maggie, black and red; Miss Tui Stephenson, white brocade and scarlet velvet; Miss Macassey, blue and silver; Miss N. Maclean, scarlet satin and black lace; Miss Davies (Auckland), white with blue silk, balloon sleeves and Empire belt; Miss Hart (Timaru), pink, with apple green plush sleeves and Empire belt; Miss Gilkison, black; Miss King, white with pink velvet sleeves; Miss M. Mackerras, black; Miss L. Mackerras, pink and pale green; Miss Ramsay, black; Miss Ruby Neill, blue; Miss Scott, white, with blue velvet sleeves and Empire belt; Miss B. Macdonald, blue and cream; Miss Ziele, yellow, with heliotrope silk sleeves. Also present were Messrs Black, Williams, Park, Hales, Galloway, Burns, Maclean, Brent, McLeod, Todd, Richardson, J. Black, Kettle, Glendenning, Hogg, and McKellar. The supper-table was beautifully decorated with large white chrysanthemums. After supper music was indulged in until a late hour.

An

EVENING AT MRS RITCHIE'S

was most enjoyable. There were some very pretty dresses worn. Mrs S. Thomson, a stylish petunia-coloured gown, the front of shot silk, and the revers of velvet; Miss Gould, a pretty pale tinted gown trimmed with myrtle green; Miss Roberts, terra-cotta corduroy, with velvet yoke and sleeves; Miss A. Roberts, black skirt, red silk blouse trimmed with black lace.

At

MRS OGLETON'S MUSICAL AFTERNOON

Miss Davis, who recited, wore a very stylish green costume with large silk sleeves; Mrs Oliver, grey costume trimmed with feather trimming and velvet; Mrs J. Mills, stylish tweed made with zouave jacket, the vest of black silk; Miss K. Mills, dark blue with sleeves and vest of shot corduroy with black and scarlet hat; Mrs Sargood, very handsome dark green costume trimmed with bear fur, black hat and feathers; Mrs Finker, fawn coloured costume with dark brown velvet trimmings; Miss Reynolds, dark green dress, long fur-lined jacket and black hat; Miss Stewart (Scotland), smart dark green costume trimmed with bands of tartan, tartan cape; Miss Neill, dark brown costume edged with beaver; Mrs T. Rhodes (Timaru), tweed costume long sealskin jacket, brown and blue hat; Mrs Davidson, handsome black silk trimmed with white silk veiled in black lace. There were a number of others, among whom were many gentlemen. Among the ladies were Mesdames Morris, Turton, Fym, Roberts, McNeil, G. McLean, Ulrich, Sale, Salmond, Sievwright, F. Ferguson, Misses Roberts, Reynolds (two), Macassey, Gilkison (two), Cullen, Rattray (two), Maitland, and Ulrich.

Mrs Sise also gave a small but

PLEASANT MUSICALE.

Miss Sise wore a pretty black and white costume; Miss F. Sise, white and yellow; Miss B. McLean, pale green with trimmings of pale pink hyacinths; Miss Gould, pretty black Empire dress; Miss Ziele, yellow crepon with trimmings of purple; Miss Tui Stephenson, white and red; Miss G. Roberts, blue muslin with velvet trimmings; Miss K. Neil, white silk with tartan trimmings; Miss Reynolds, and others were present.

MAUDE.

NELSON.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 21.

We are all looking forward to the football match next Saturday, when the Nelson Representatives try conclusions with the Marlborough footballers. Our 'Reps.' are very strong this year, and ought to give a good account of themselves.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

Miss Morison, of Blair Logie, Masterton, is at present staying with Mrs Hudson, and looks well in a dark gown, long black jacket, large felt hat with square bows in front.

Mrs Pearson sailed from Nelson yesterday for Wellington *en route* to Sydney, her sister, Miss Browning, accompanying her as far as Wellington. Mrs Pearson looked exceedingly well before her departure gowned in black serge, black cloak with cocks' feathers trimming, large black hat; Miss Browning was wearing a very elegant cloak of dark tweed with similar trimming to her sister's.

Judge and Mrs Robinson have arrived in Nelson, and are busy house-hunting.

STREET COSTUMES.

Mrs Percy Adams looks stylish in dark blue serge, elegantly braided, fawn feather boa, small hat with feathers; Miss Curtis, in dark brown tweed, plainly made, large brown hat; Miss Gribben, well-fitting blue serge, blue cloak to match, large black hat; Miss L. Adams, brown striped tweed, brown hat with feathers; Mrs Pitt, black gown, lovely broche mantle, small black bonnet with jet; Miss J. Pitt, maroon gown with velvet trimming, large black velvet hat.

PHYLLIS.

PICTON.

DEAR BEE, JUNE 20.

Matters here are still in *statu quo*, and only the tiny mites are having a good time under Cupid's excellent management of Miss M. Speed, who has a weekly class to teach the rising generation the terpsichorean art. Miss Speed has a large class of clever and attentive pupils, who look forward to Saturday afternoon's tuition all the week.

OUR MEMBER, MR C. H. MILLS,

called a meeting of his constituents on Monday evening in the Public Hall, ladies being specially invited. The hall was well filled with men—mostly working men—and only a few ladies, who have manifested no respect Mr Mills for his conscientious fulfilment of the duties which have devolved upon him since his election as member for Picton-Waimea, were present. There ought to have been more, since it is acknowledged on all sides that Mr Mills is the best member Picton ever possessed. Next election, Mr Mills tells us, we are to be swallowed up bodily by the Wairau and our Sounds taken from us and given to Waimea, with whom they can have nothing in common. Such are the inconsistencies of life, and through such inconsistencies we lose the services of our 'persistent, and indefatigable member.' Mr Mills made a most feeling allusion to the death of the late lamented Premier, Mr Ballance, which was received in solemn silence, though the rest of his utterances were received with applause, and a hearty vote of confidence and thanks to our present member and confidence in the Government was passed. The Mayor (Mr Foll) was conspicuous by his absence, and Mr T. Philpotts, J.P., occupied the chair. Of course woman's franchise came on the *tapis*, Mr Mills being an advanced spirit, who has accepted the inevitable and recognised our rights to judge of what is good for us, and not tamely to pick up the crumbs thrown at us from the table of Dives.

JEAN.