

church and Dunedin not being immediately available this eminent artist will give one recital in each centre as follows: Wangatani on Monday, 18th; Palmerston North, Tuesday, 19th; and Napier, Friday, 22nd.

Following the suggestion of Mr. Beerholm Tree's incipient academy, Miss Ellen Terry's gifted son, Mr. Gordon Craig, is forming a school for the study of the art of the theatre, from which he intends to develop a qualified company of actors, singers, dancers, costumiers, illuminators and other skilled craftsmen. The curriculum will be on the lines of that of a musical institution—that is to say, each pupil will have to go through a regular course of training in all branches of his art, and only special aptitude will dictate a special "study."

Mr Walter Baker, the hero of so many melodramas, was announced to appear in an undignified role at the District Court on Thursday, March 31. At the last moment an apology was made for his absence—he had left for Sydney with the Bland Holt Company. The charge was that he had committed "an unprovoked assault" on a "super," Mr Patrick Symon. A statutory declaration was put in by Mr Baker, but Mr Dwyer decided that it was false and inconsistent, and "intended to mislead the Court." Mr Baker was accordingly fined 4/ with 2/3 5/6 costs for bestowing a black eye upon a "super."

The new turn in Rickards' varied assortment at the Opera House, Melbourne, is the whimsical one of Mr Nat Clifford, a comic singer and eccentric dancer, who is both comic and eccentric, a fact worthy of special note, as it sometimes happens that variety entertainers billed as comic and eccentric are neither eccentric nor comic. Nat Clifford was a success before he had been on the stage one minute, and his name goes on to the long list of smart, bright and undoubtedly clever entertainers whom Rickards has introduced to Australia. He is one of the most original comic dancers we have seen, and can dance as well sitting as standing, and is as amusing on his knees or on his ear as in any other position. He sings his absurd songs with broad humour, and his patter is always laugh-provoking. Clifford is a funny dog, and I am grateful to him for a very lively 15 minutes. Jemmy Grey is still a vision of loveliness, and Fred Russell's popularity holds. Freda Maher is a bright feature of the first part, and Whitburn provides another resurrection.

One of the most amusing incidents in the late chimpanzee Consul's career was associated with an ultra-dignified Consul who crossed with the monkey from New York. This functionary took exception to the chimpanzee being addressed as "Consul," and asked the captain to "put a stop to it." The latter replied that he had no authority in the matter, and Consul remained the pet of the saloon for the remainder of the voyage. Mr Bostock writes: "Consul was a native of Africa, being born on the Gold Coast, where I got him five years ago when quite a baby. He was dearer to me than any animal I have, and I confess tears came to my eyes when I got news

of his death. I did what I could to keep him alive, and he never travelled without being attended by a doctor. I shall have him brought to Paris to be embalmed, though I don't think I shall have the courage to see him; it would affect me too much. I shall make a present of him to some museum or place where his memory will be honoured."

Metzler and Co. have published "Women," the song composed by Herman Finck, and sung by that very popular artist, Miss Ada Reeve. Mr Eustace Baynes has written smartly, and Miss Ada Reeve's charming personality enhances the attractions of the song. Just one verse will serve to show what the song is like, and what Miss Reeve makes of it:—

You women are creatures of dubious worth,  
Your merits are painfully few;  
From the earliest ages the woes of the earth  
Have been traced pretty clearly to you.  
It's the first law of nature wherever you live  
That trouble shall go in your wake.  
Men don't so much mind all the trouble you give,  
They complain of the trouble you make.  
(Oh woman! 'Twill always be so  
You'll make trouble wherever you go.  
Though it sounds very sad  
You are thoroughly bad—  
I'm one of you—I ought to know!

With Miss Ada Reeve's arch and captivating delivery it is easy to imagine the effect she produces in this song.

LATE ORANGE BLOSSOMS.

BUCKLAND—DYBALL.

A very quiet but pretty wedding was celebrated early on Tuesday morning at St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Parnell, when Miss Dyball, who has recently come out from England, was united to the Rev. A. S. Buckland, vicar of Waithi. The Bishop of the Diocese, Dr. Neligan, assisted by the Rev. Canon MacMurray, and the Rev. Mr Sutton officiated at the ceremony. The bride was given away by the Rev. Mr Reeve, vicar of Inglewood, and the bridegroom was attended by Mr Jasper Calder as groomsmen. After the ceremony the bridal party adjourned to Bishopscount, where a delightful little wedding breakfast was served. The bride wore an exceedingly becoming gown of cream voile, trimmed with strappings of glace silk, and handsome lace, and a brown chiffon toque with pink roses. Her going-away dress was of a lovely shade of blue lustre, and blue hat en suite; Mrs Neligan, elegant slate-coloured voile, black bonnet; Mrs Calder, black brocaded silk, pink and brown bonnet; Mrs Snell, handsome blue voile costume, blue hat to match; Mrs Marriner, black accordion-pleated gown, pale blue hat; Miss Ward, pretty blue silk blouse, dark blue skirt; little Misses Neligan and Marriner looked very dainty frocked in white.

INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION OF THE CHALLENGE PIANOS

Is built upon the foundation of 100 YEARS

Of Artistic and Conscientious Endeavour.

Constructed throughout from the standpoint of the MUSICIAN, these Pianos meet the requirements of the most refined and discriminating Piano purchasers, and have the endorsement of leading members of the musical world.

Ask your Piano Warehouse for them.

If unable to procure write for Catalogue to

THE WELLINGTON PIANO CO., LIMITED, 63 Moleworth Street, WELLINGTON.

CHALLENGE & SON desire to appoint Agents throughout New Zealand. For full information apply to

CHALLENGE & SON 46 Oxford Street, LONDON, or c/o Wellington Piano Co., Limited.

The "Sydney Bulletin"

And Capilla Hair Tonic

"The Sydney Bulletin" is noted for its outspoken policy, and when it speaks, it speaks with considerable force and fairness.

Here is a Paragraph about Capilla Hair Tonic

which must go a long way towards proving its merits.

"Taking the second quarter of 1902 and the second quarter of 1903 the business of the CAPILLA Hair Tonic Proprietary of Sydney has increased by 45% which, in these days of competition, goes a long way to prove that this preparation is far ahead of the common or garden variety of Hair Restorer, which is generally foisted upon the public."—27-6-03.

CAPILLA is a Medicinal Scalp Treatment of great value in all hair troubles.

Sold by all Chemists and Storekeepers—3/6 PER BOTTLE.

Head Office for N.Z.: 6 Featherstone-st., Wellington.

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS. SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF CASTOR OIL.

Railway Department, Head Office, Wellington, 11th April, 1904. Written Tenders will be received at this Office up to Noon of MONDAY, 9th May, 1904, for the Supply and Delivery of Castor Oil.

Specifications and Forms of Tender to be obtained at the Railway Store Offices, Newmarket, Addington and Hillside, and the Stores Manager's Office, Wellington. Tenders to be addressed to the General Manager, New Zealand Railways, Wellington, and to be marked outside "Tender for Castor Oil."

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted, and telegraphic tenders will not be entertained.

T. RONAYNE, General Manager, N.Z. Railways.

SITTING OF ASSESSMENT COURT UNDER THE GOVERNMENT VALUATION OF LAND ACT AMENDMENT ACT, 1900.

It is hereby notified that an Assessment Court, consisting of Edward Clare Blomfield, Esquire, Magistrate, Edward Barclay, Esquire, and Gerald Loftus Peacock, Esquire, will, in accordance with "The Government Valuation of Land Act Amendment Act, 1900," sit at the Court-house, Havelockville, on MONDAY, the 25th day of April, 1904, at ten o'clock a.m., for the purpose of hearing objections to the revised District Valuation Roll for the Mairatangi Riding of the Waiomatapu County.

E. C. BLOMFIELD, President, Magistrate's Court, 16th April, 1904.

THE SOUTH BRITISH FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND.

AN INTERIM DIVIDEND OF 2/6 per share for the Half Year ended 28th February, 1904, is now payable. Shareholders can obtain warrants on application at the Company's Office.

By order of the Board. JAMES KIRKER, General Manager, Auckland, 12th April, 1904.

TRUMAN'S NURSERY LOTION. By one application only effectively destroys all Parasites of Head or Body. Sold in Two Sizes. N.B.—Insist upon having TRUMAN'S LOTION and no disappointment can occur. PREPARED BY Poingdesire & Truman, 71 Old Kent Road, LONDON. And sold by all Chemists in the Colonies.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF U.S.

C. CARLISLE TAYLOR - - - General Manager for Australasia

FINANCIAL POSITION (JANUARY 1st, 1903)— Assets—£73,855,783. Surplus—£15,418,151.

SURPLUS over Liabilities on every standard of valuation LARGER than that of any other Life Office in the World. A LARGE SURPLUS is the Best TEST OF STRENGTH and GUARANTEE OF FUTURE BONUSES.

The Business of the EQUITABLE is conducted on the MUTUAL plan—ALL SURPLUS BELONGS TO THE POLICY HOLDERS. (Authority vested in Local Directors to Issue Policies and Pay Claims)

Head Office for N.Z. - - WELLINGTON

DIRECTORS (H. DULLON BELL, Esq. (Bell, Gully, Bell & Myers) ALBERT MARTIN, Esq., M.D.)

PERCY M. THOMSON Inspector for N.Z. E. TREVOR GOULD Resident Secretary

J. R. M. STEWART, District Manager, 119, QUEEN ST., AUCKLAND.

THE STRONGEST LIFE OFFICE IN THE WORLD.