

M.L.C. From Wellington Mr and Mrs Hay went on to visit Hawke's Bay before going home to Otago.

Among the many generous donations to Wellington charities and local institutions left by the late Mr. G. H. Bethune are a sum of £150 for beautifying St. Peter's Church (Mr. Bethune was for many years churchwarden), and legacies to St. John Ambulance Association, the Mission to Seamen, the Star Boating Club, the Anglican Cathedral Fund, and others.

Captain Beck, who was previously in these waters as the commander of the Star of Victoria, is now in command of the Star of New Zealand. He has his wife and child with him on this trip. The chief officer, Mr J. Auld, was also on the Star of Victoria as chief officer, and Mr A. W. Self, fourth officer, was previously on the Star of Ireland.

Mr. Joseph Mackay (Stratford), who has been elected to the vacant seat on Victoria College Council, has always been a prominent figure in educational matters, and for many years was headmaster of Wellington College. Resigning that position in 1891, he took up land in the Taranaki district, and has since been farming.

Mr J. H. Kirker, who was operated upon at his residence, Ponsonby, Auckland, last week for appendicitis, is progressing favourably. The operation was completely successful. The surgeons engaged were—Mrs. Lewis and Gordon. Dr. J. Hardie Neil was the anaesthetist. Dr. McDowall was also present.

Mr J. W. H. Wood, of the Government Life Insurance Department, has been appointed manager of the Christchurch branch of the Australian Widows' Fund. Mr Wood has been twenty-two years in the Government service. He succeeds Mr Owen, now appointed to Auckland, in the Christchurch office.

By the death of Mr Robert S. Carter Auckland loses one of its once familiar old identities. The deceased was born in Devonshire, and came to New Zealand 28 years ago. He had been for 18 years clerk of Mr. Wellington Road Board, and was formerly in the famous pilot service of Calcutta. Mr Carter, who was pre-deceased by Mrs Carter some 11 years ago, leaves a family of four daughters and two sons.

Dr. Charles North, who graduated at Otago University as a medical student, and after securing his diplomas in London went to India as the first medical missionary of the New Zealand Baptist Missionary Society, is due back on furlough this year. He will probably leave Calcutta early this month, and arrive in time to attend the annual conference of the Baptist Union, which is to be held in October.

A pleasant gathering of the factory employees of Messrs. J. Wiseman and Sons, Ltd., was held in the Auckland Cycle Club-rooms on Monday week for the purpose of making a presentation of a valuable gold watch to Mr. A. V. Phillips, who is severing his connection with Messrs. J. Wiseman and Co., and entering into partnership with Mr. J. Hill, saddler. The presentation was made by Mr. W. Hawkins in a suitable address.

Mr. H. Seed, who for many years has been a faithful and indefatigable secretary to the Wellington branch of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, has just returned from a trip to England. Mr. Seed suffered a severe family bereavement while away, and deep sympathy has been felt for him. At the last meeting of the Society a short description of his tour was listened to with much interest. Mr. Seed stated that, after England, New Zealand was the most humane country he had seen.

Mr J. S. Nicholson, one of the engineers of the Waiti (G.M. Company), and a resident of Waiti for many years, was tendered a farewell social last week at the Central Hotel, Waiti, Mr Catley occupying the chair. Mr Nicholson is leaving to take up farming in the northern part of the Bay of Islands. In the course of the evening he was the recipient of a Gladstone bag, attached to which was a silver plate with his name inscribed thereon. The presentation was made by Mr. A. Roach.

A pleasing incident took place last week at the Newton Post School. Shortly after the assembly of the pupils, Mr. G. J. Garland, the chairman of the committee, visited the school, and congratulated the headmaster, Mr. D. D. Metzger, and his staff upon the suc-

cess achieved by the children at the recent examination. He then proclaimed a whole holiday in order to mark the occasion, and the boys testified their delight by lusty cheers.

Miss Dora Enson, daughter of Mr E. Enson, of Christchurch, left Auckland last week for America by the San Francisco boat, in order to continue her Kindergarten training at the Chicago Kindergarten Institute. She has been most successful, gaining her diploma in Christchurch and being appointed to the charge of one of the kindergartens in connection with the Training College. The principal of the College, recognising Miss Enson's fitness and success, strongly advised her to continue her training in Chicago, where she intends remaining for a year.

Mr R. Owen, who has for some time been studying dentistry in the surgery of his brother, Dr. Owen, left Auckland last week by the mailboat for America, where (at Harvard) he will continue his dental studies for several years in order to obtain the diploma of Doctor of Dental Surgery. Mr Owen, who is a leading "old boy" of King's College has been very popular amongst Auckland people, and he will be missed very much. Another dental student, Mr Molineux, of Christchurch, has also gone by the mailboat to America to study his profession.

Mr Harold F. Light, F.G.O. (London), has been appointed organist of Pitt-street Methodist Church, Auckland. There were thirteen applicants from all parts of the colony. Mr Light is a young man of 23, who received a great portion of his musical education in Wellington and Nelson, and a year or two ago went Home specially to study the organ. While there he was admitted as a Fellow of the London Guild of Organists. Since his return he has been organist at All Saints' Church, Nelson.

The Rev. C. E. Dent, Mrs Dent, and family, arrived from Capetown at Wellington by the Ruapehu, and came thence to Auckland last week. The Rev. Mr. Dent is well-known in Auckland, where he lived for some time as an employee of Messrs Sargood, Son and Ewen. He was interested in city mission work, and after he went to South Africa in 1895 he joined the South African Methodist Mission to the Kaffirs in Natal, where he worked during the war. He married while in Auckland Miss Fanny Parker, a daughter of Mr S. Parker, a lady who took a great interest in the Helping Hand Mission. Mr Dent is now spending three months' furlough in Auckland.

The career of the late John Curmin, for many years Crown law draughtsman for New Zealand, was interesting, and he had during his long period of public service in the Crown Law Department proved himself one of the ablest men in his profession. He was well known as the author of "Curmin's Index," a publication of immense value to those practising the law. The late Mr Curmin was created a Knight of the Holy Roman Empire some years ago. He was born in India, where his father was employed in the Indian Civil Service. He completed his education at London University, and was afterwards called to the English Bar. At the time of his death he was about seventy-three years of age.

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PERSONAL NOTES FROM LONDON.

Our London correspondent writes on July 16th:—

Mr W. J. Shannon, of Feilding, and his sister, Miss Shannon, arrived at Tilbury Docks last Sunday after a splendid passage in the India. They are staying at present with their uncle, Mr John Hewitt, at Anerley Park, N.E., and intend remaining in London till the end of the month, afterwards going to Ireland. After the Dublin Horse Show in August they will visit Scotland, and before returning to New Zealand will spend about three weeks on the Continent. They are travelling for pleasure, and intend being absent from the colony about eight months.

Mr Alfred E. Smith, of Christchurch, who arrived by the Africa in the middle of June, intends remaining in this country for twelve months. He has been visiting several large motor factories with a view to introducing to Christchurch some of the latest cars, and later on he hopes to take a motoring tour through France and Germany, and to visit America. Next week Mr Smith leaves London for Manchester, Leeds and Wolverhampton.

Mr James Hardy and Miss Hardy, of Napier, are on a trip to this side of the world, partly for pleasure and partly in search of health. They reached London about three weeks ago, having left the P. and O. liner Marnora at Marseilles and spent some days in Paris. Next week they leave for Scotland, doing the chief inland towns en route, and returning to London about the first week in September. They will join the Macedonia at Marseilles about September 23rd, on their return voyage to New Zealand. Throughout the tour they have been favoured with delightful weather.

Mr and Mrs F. H. Barker, of Canterbury, have just arrived from New Zealand, and are staying with friends in Devonshire. They travelled Home via the United States and Canada.

Mr A. Lesneur, of Wellington, accompanied by Mrs Lesneur and two daughters, Constance and Eunice, arrived in London by the s.s. Athenic on June 12th. Leaving their daughters in the metropolis, Mr and Mrs Lesneur left for Jersey in the following week, and spent three weeks there very pleasantly, returning to London on July 5th. Their intention is to remain here for another six weeks, after which the whole party will visit Guernsey, Sark, and Jersey.

Mr A. E. Smith and Mr Robert Tinsley, both of Christchurch, travelled Home by the White Star liner Africa, reaching Tilbury on June 14th. Since landing Mr Tinsley has been to Watford, Margate and Guildford, and expects to go shortly to Chatham. Beyond that his plans are as yet uncertain. Mr Smith is staying at present with relatives at Swindon, in Wiltshire.

Mr C. Holdsworth, of the Union Steamship Company, is visiting London just now, accompanied by Mrs Holdsworth. They travelled by the s.s. Manuka to Vancouver, thence through Canada by rail to New York, and across the Atlantic by the s.s. Arabia, arriving at Liverpool on the 2nd inst. Mr Holdsworth's visit to England is a holiday one, though he will naturally interest himself in the business of his company, which has two steamers now building on the Clyde. He expects to return to New Zealand via Suez about the end of the year.

Mr R. Jamieson, of Dunedin, who left the colony early in March last and came Home by way of America, visiting the chief centres of interest in the States on his way to New York, has been combining business with pleasure with great satisfaction to himself since he

arrived in the Old Country at the end of April. His first resting place on this side of the Atlantic was Glasgow, where he spent some ten days amongst old friends. Coming south he toured through the woollen manufacturing district of Yorkshire on business, picking up sundry useful wrinkles by the way. He is now holiday making with Mr and Mrs Hoole at their country residence at Kibbache Glen, Biggar, N.B., but in a few days commences another business round, after which he proposes to tour awhile in the Highlands and in Ireland. He will probably leave for New Zealand about the end of August, and will most likely return by way of Canada.

Miss M. Douds, of Christchurch, who is at present staying with friends in Ireland, had a most enjoyable trip to the Old Country. She travelled by way of Sydney and the Canal, and leaving the ship at Naples visited Pompeii, Rome, Florence, Venice, Milan, Lucerne and Paris on her way to London. After spending a few days in the Metropolis Miss Douds went to Boston and Lincolnshire on a visit to friends, and then made her way to Ireland, stopping en route at Sunderland, Durlham, Newcastle and Glasgow to see relatives and friends. Her intention is to see all the principal places of interest in Ireland and Scotland before returning to London.

Mr and Mrs. Julius von Haast, late of Christchurch, are visiting the Old Country, and have taken rooms in Keppel-street, London. Mr. von Haast has been in Burma for the last two years in connection with a gold-dredging enterprise there. He has come to London partly on pleasure and also on business connected with gold-dredging, and his stay in the metropolis is of uncertain duration.

Mr Basil B. Hooper, formerly assistant to Mr. J. L. Salmon, architect, of Dunedin, intends returning to that city, leaving London towards the end of September. Since coming to London three years ago, Mr. Hooper has been studying in his leisure hours for the examinations of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and last month he passed the final exam., qualifying as Associate. Meanwhile he has been gaining experience in various architects' offices, also on the architectural staff of the London County Council, and in H.M. office of works, where he is at present employed. On his return journey to New Zealand Mr. Hooper hopes to spend a few weeks in India with his father, the Rev. Dr. Hooper. He expects to reach the colony about the middle of December, and intends commencing practice on his own account.

Mr. John Witbell, of Ashburton, and Mr. T. Little, of Oamaru, are on a visit to the Old Country. They travelled to Vancouver by the s.s. Manuka had a

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