

ANGLO-COLONIAL NOTES.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

LONDON, August 24.

Sir Walter Lawry Buller, D.Sc., F.R.S., who died on July 19, aged 68, left estate in the United Kingdom of the gross value of £15,462, of which the net personality has been sworn at £14,014. By his will he left his collection of Maori curiosities, birds, etc., and pictures of New Zealand life to his sons in equal shares, requesting them to retain this collection in the family, but, if they should not wish to do so, first offer the collection as a whole at a fair valuation to the New Zealand Government for the proposed National Maori Museum, and, subject thereto, that the first offer of the collection of birds should be made to the Hon. Walter Rothschild, "who has in his museum at Tring the finest collection of New Zealand birds." He also left £1000 upon trust to found a Maori scholarship, to be called the Buller Scholarship, tenable by Maoris, but not by Europeans or half-castes; £100 each to the Bishop of Wellington, of St. Paul's Cathedral, and the work of the Church of which he was a member, the Wellington Benevolent Society, and the Wesleyan Church in the Wellington district, of which his father, the Rev. James Buller, was "so distinguished an ornament"; and £50 each to the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Wellington, Dr. Barnardo's Homes, the aged and needy at Wellington, and the Wellington Convalescent Home, and £5 on each Christmas Day to his old servant, Margaret Ross. To his sons Arthur Percival Buller and Walter Leopold Buller he left £5000 each; £5000 to his daughter Laura, and £21,000 is to accumulate for 21 years for the benefit of his said three children. The residue of his property he left to his children.

Mr R. Munro, of Auckland, and his wife arrived in England recently on pleasure bent. They came from Sydney by the White Star liner Runic, and experienced pleasant weather all through, their only disappointment en voyage being their inability to land at either the Cape or Durban. Since landing in this country they have a most enjoyable spell of sight-seeing in the metropolis, varied by trips to Southend and Brighton. Now they are touring in Scotland, Mr Munro's native land, and later they will pay visits to relatives in Leicestershire, and spend a few weeks seeing the country thereabouts. London will then again claim their attention for a spell, and thereafter they will either spend a short time with Canon and Mrs Jordan in Ireland or take a trip on the continent. Mr and Mrs Munro propose to return to New Zealand by the Suez route, and will stay some weeks with Mrs Munro's brother at Perth on the way out.

The Rev. G. W. Dent, of New Zealand, conducted the brief religious service held in connection with the cutting of the first sod for the foundation of Messrs J. M. Dent and Co.'s (publishers) new binding works at the Leithworth garden city last Saturday.

The intelligence appeared in the "Sportsman" last Tuesday that A. E. Repl, the elder of the two brothers of that name who play for Sussex County, is leaving for New Zealand at the end of the current cricket season under engagement to act as coach to the Auckland Club. "A.E." is bound to be popular among his pupils in New Zealand, and, personally, I do not think a better man could have been picked for the purpose he is to be used for than this fine all-round player. To Sussex he is invaluable in his dual capacity of batsman and bowler, and there are few finer fields among his professional contemporaries. Up to and including Saturday last he had scored 1962 runs in first-class cricket this season, with an average of 23.46, his top score being 189 not out. In bowling he had then captured 67 wickets at a cost of 21.53. Since then he has materially improved his batting average by knocking up 112 against Nottingham, and in the first innings of the

Midlanders he bowled with such effect that he captured five of their best wickets for 38 runs.

"A.E." is a somewhat impetuous batsman and inclined to take risks as a rule, but in his last "century" innings he displayed admirable restraint till he had got his eye well in. Then he set about the bowling with great effect, and hit no less than 15 fours and a five. Altogether, he was at the wicket rather more than two hours, and never gave even "half a chance."

I understand that Madame Cicely, for many years a member of the Montagu Turner Opera Company, who has been doing good work in England for the past ten years, returns to New Zealand next month with the intention of giving a series of concerts.

Recent callers at the High Commissioner's office: Mr. Norman Campbell (Geraldine), Mr. Joseph Metzger (Bluff), Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Heapey (Wellington), Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hales (Wellington), Mr. Robert Hunter (Southland), Mr. R. D. Tate, Mr. T. T. Brown (Palmerston North), Mr. Mervyn J. Stewart (Auckland), Captain Hugh Stewart (Auckland), Mr. Wm. Shadrack (Motunau), Mr. Roland Garrett (Wanganui), Mr. Frank Templer, Mrs. Templer, and Master H. E. Templer (Auckland), Mr. Archie Bartlemann (Dunedin), Mr. Alfred E. Smith (Damaru), Mr. J. R. Dennison (Damaru), Mr. Arnold Weston (Pahiatua), Mr. G. Watson (Papanui), Mr. G. V. G. Burlinson (Weraioa).

Admiral William Everard Gordon, C.B., who died on Sunday last at Eastbourne, aged 88, entered the Royal Navy in April 1830, and retired as captain in 1868. During his 38 years in the navy he saw a considerable amount of service in various parts of the world. In 1832 he was employed on shore in Jamaica during the insurrection there, and in 1841 he was present at the blockade of Alexandria. In 1847 he commanded the boats of the Indefatigable during the suppression of the rebellion at Wanganui, and he took part in the destruction of piratical junks at Hongkong in the following year. He also served in the Kafir war of 1852-53, and in the Crimea he commanded the Sanspareil at the bombardment of Sevastopol, and was variously employed throughout the siege, receiving the Crimean and Turkish medals, with the Sevastopol clasp, and the Fifth Class Medjidieh, together with the knighthood of the Legion of Honour.

Among the arrivals by the New Zealand Shipping Company's s.s. "Turakina" was Mr. Mervyn J. Stewart, of Auckland, who has been to the Old Country to visit relatives in the West of England and Ireland, after 28 years' absence, and to study labour and municipal questions in the Old Country. He has not yet had an opportunity of presenting his letters of introduction from the New Zealand labour organisations to the Independent Labour Party leaders, but he has been able to arrange an interview with Mr. John Burns, the President of the Local Government Board. The duration of Mr. Stewart's stay in these latitudes is at present uncertain.

Mr. J. R. Watt, who left Auckland some months ago on a pleasure trip to Europe, and travelled from Sydney to London by the "Marmora," has spent most of his time in travelling in Scotland and on the Continent, and seeing the sights of "London town." He has also paid several visits to Liverpool, his native city, and the home of his nearest relatives. At present he is doing London in company with his sister, but returns to Liverpool to say good-bye to his people next week, prior to sailing for New Zealand by the P. & O. s.s. "Mooltan" on September 14th. Mr. Watt has enjoyed his holiday immensely, and during his travels has discovered that the world is, after all, quite a small place. In almost every town he has visited he has found either someone he has known personally or friends of people with whom he is or has been intimately acquainted.

Captain Hugh Stewart, of Auckland, who left New Zealand by the "Turakina" early in July, and arrived in England last week, has apparently come home intending to spend the rest of his life in the Old Country. He thoroughly enjoyed the trip from the colony, the "Turakina" being favoured with splendid weather all the way.

Thus the London "Globe's" legal correspondent: "The resolutions upholding the right of appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, which the New Zealand Law Society have forwarded to the Lord Chancellor, are all the more welcome because of the strong attack which was lately made by the Chief Justice of the colony on the 'Imperial Court of Appeal.' Sir Robert Stout accused the Judicial Committee of being dilatory. As a matter of fact, there is no tribunal in the country more free from arrears. Sometimes the Committee allows a long interval to elapse between the hearing of an appeal and the delivery of its decision, but rarely does it conclude its sittings without having heard all the cases entered in its list. The resolutions of the New Zealand Law Society, which are supported, it is stated, by practically all the barristers and commercial men in the colony, are intended to show that New Zealand does not share its Chief Justice's views. There are, no doubt, several ways in which the Judicial Committee might be improved. For one thing, the number of its colonial members might be increased; for another, it might be provided with a building more fitted to the important part it plays in the unity of the Empire." With the last suggestion, everyone who has visited the stuffy little room in which the Privy Council sits will cordially agree.

Mr. R. J. Jeffray, who has been making a tour of Australia and New Zealand as Special Commissioner of the Board of Trade, returned to England by the P. & O. steamer Britannia. He came round in the boat to Plymouth, and reached London on Saturday. He has been a very busy man since his arrival, and has only been in the city for a short time. His report to the Board of Trade will be made without delay.

According to the "British Australasian," a gentleman, now residing in London, very intimately connected with the late Mr. Seddon's family, has just received a letter from one of the relatives of the deceased statesman in which, inter alia, he says: "I am sorry to inform you that the Premier died really a poor man, and unless the country makes Mrs. Seddon a substantial allowance (which I think there is very little doubt it will do) she will not be too much blessed with this world's goods. Just imagine! Mr. Seddon only had his life insured for £200, with the A.M.P. Society. It appears he had a policy of £3000 two or three years ago, but the premiums were so heavy that he had to let it lapse. Of course, the usual remarks are going about that Mr. Seddon died a rich man, and I suppose that whatever is said or done, or whatever is published, some people will still say this, whether they believe it or not. Nevertheless, the fact remains that he died a poor man, which appears to be the fate of all politicians who keep their hands clean and are honest."

Madame Clara Butt, who recently had to undergo a serious operation for appendicitis, is making splendid progress towards complete recovery. She will make her reappearance in public at the Albert Hall on October 13, when she will give her annual London concert in conjunction with her husband, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, to be immediately followed by an extended "farewell" tour in Great Britain and Ireland previous to their departure for Australia next August.

Mr. Frank H. Templer, of Auckland, who arrived in England with his son by the Tongariro last month after a voyage which fine weather and the unflinching kindness and attention of the Captain and officers rendered exceedingly pleasant, proposes to remain here some 18 months, weather and other conditions permitting. Oxford will probably be his headquarters for the best part of the time, as he intends to place his son in a school there. Mr. Templer is commissioned by the

Auckland "Star" to inquire into and report upon the conditions of labour in England during his stay here, and in the course of his explorations will naturally see a good deal of the Old Country.

The Shaw Savill, Ionic sailing to-day from London takes the following saloon passengers for New Zealand:—Miss C. Allen, Miss F. Chaytor, Dr. J. and Mrs. Cooke and family, Mrs. Cowie, Miss F. E. Cox, Mr. H. Holmes, Mr. G. Humble, Crofts, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Hunter-Weston and family, Miss A. F. Martin, Dr. M. Miller, Mr. R. Nettleton, Mrs. Nettleton and family, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Pitkethly, Mr. G. H. Stonehouse, Mrs. I. Walker, Mr. H. H. R. Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. W. Kinross White and son, Mr. J. Allen, Mr. C. Appling, Miss N. Appling, Mr. C. Apperley, Mr. T. Beard and Mrs. Beard, Mr. W. Bell, Mr. E. Buckingham, Mrs. F. A. and Master Clayton, Mr. H. N. Coleman, Mrs. E. Complin and sons, Mrs. F. Courtney and Miss F. O. Courtney, Mr. P. Croucher, Mr. J. S. Daniel, Mr. M. Davie, Mr. and Mrs. J. De Silva and family, Mr. and Mrs. W. Eustace and family, Miss Faulds, Mr. E. Findley, Mrs. M. E. Freeth, Mr. G. W. Gilbert, Mrs. M. Hamer and Miss L. Hamer, Mr. J. A. Howard, Mr. F. H. Ireland, Mrs. R. W. Kelson, Mr. G. W. Lawrence, Miss A. Lock, Mr. D. J. McDonald, Miss E. Mayers, Mr. R. H. Milner, Mr. E. Milne, Mr. R. Paige, Mr. H. Paige, Mr. J. R. Penning, Mr. F. R. Poole, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Robinson and family, Sister M. Scott, Mr. R. Shield, Mr. A. Shield, Mr. V. A. Stapleton, Miss K. Stent, Mr. C. A. Stevens, Mr. W. Tate, Mrs. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. W. Walker and daughter, Mrs. and Miss D. Wilkinson, Mr. R. S. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Wilson and Mr. J. Young. There are also 294 third-class passengers.

Mr W. H. Hales, of Wellington, and his wife, who left the colony in April last, only arrived in the Old Country last week. In the interim they have seen a good deal of life in Canada and the United States. Taking the N.Z. Co.'s new turbine steamer Maleno from Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Hales travelled to Vancouver, where they spent several days in spying out the country and looking up old New Zealand friends who have settled there. Thence by rail they proceeded to Toronto, and after excursions to Niagara and Buffalo reached Philadelphia, where more old friends welcomed them and held them in pleasant captivity for a time. Washington, Harrisburg, and New York were then visited, after which Mr. and Mrs. Hales went up the Hudson river to Albany, visiting Saratoga, Ticonderoga, and other interesting places, ere making for Boston. After awhile in the American "centre of culture" they went on to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and spent some time in those regions. Montreal, Quebec and Ottawa were next visited, and then the travellers took passage for England, arriving safe and sound in Liverpool after having been absent from the Old Country over half a century. At present Mr. and Mrs. Hales are staying in London, and their future movements are uncertain.

The first annual report of the Poultry Institute of Ontario discusses matters of great interest to all poultry-breeders, and describes a poultry-farm which pays—that of Lakewood, in Bunville, New Jersey—run on thorough business lines by Mr. A. G. Brown, the profit last year being one thousand four hundred pounds. The farm of about sixty acres of level, sandy soil, is covered with small oak and pine woods, and there are about five miles of wire fence around it. White Leghorns, Barred Rocks, and white Wyandottes are in evidence, and the yield of eggs and chickens is satisfactory. The pens and laying-houses are of the most approved kind, and care is taken to keep these dry, clean, and warm. The eggs are placed in pasteboard boxes holding a dozen, and sold in winter to a dealer at forty-seven cents a dozen, and in summer at thirty-two cents. We learn from the same source that there are three hundred and sixty incubators on the premises, and that altogether there are one thousand three hundred makers of incubators in the United States, turning out two hundred and forty thousand a year, so that hens may by-and-by retire from this part of the business if the use of these continues to increase.