

WELLINGTON PROVINCE.

Mrs. Wallace, Hawera, is visiting her sister, Mrs. Renell, Palmerston North.

Mrs. Grace is back in Wellington after a short stay in Christchurch.

Mrs. S. Fitzherbert (Feilding) is in Wellington visiting Mrs. Amelius Smith.

Mrs. Prouse (Wellington) is away for a week or two in Christchurch.

Captain and Mrs. Elliott (Wairarapa) have gone to Sydney.

Miss V. Fulton (Wellington) is paying visits about Palmerston and Otaki.

Miss F. Park, Palmerston, has returned from the Christchurch Exhibition.

Mr. Norman Dalton (Wellington) has taken a house in Hill-street for a period.

Miss Burton, of Australia, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Babbage, in Wanganui.

Miss Harcon (Wellington) is making a stay in Sydney.

Mrs. Gill-Carey, of Hawera, is staying in Wanganui with her mother, Mrs. Earle.

Mrs. Sheriff, of Wanganui, is the guest of Mrs. Fullerton Smith in Marton.

Miss Evans (Auckland) is the guest of Mrs. Renell, Palmerston.

Miss Dennistoun (Christchurch) is staying with her sister, Mrs. H. Abraham, Palmerston North.

Mrs. A. Grey and family and Mrs. H. Wyld and family, Palmerston, have returned from a month at Pihlmerston.

Miss Munro (Sydney) is the guest of her aunt, Mrs. A. D. Thompson, Palmerston.

Mrs. Barton (Gisborne) is staying with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sigs, Palmerston.

The Rev. W. Bond and Mrs. Bond, of Greytown, are at present the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Stewart in Wanganui.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Greenwood, of Wanganui, are the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Pawick in Christchurch.

Mrs. Hawken and Miss Hawken, of Wanganui, have returned from their visit to relations in Christchurch.

Miss Waldgrave (Palmerston) is the guest of Mrs. Fulton (Wellington) for a few weeks.

Mr. and Miss Dalrymple (Rangitikei) are away on a visit to Christchurch, in order to see the Exhibition.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoghen (Wellington) have gone away on a round-the-world trip, lasting about nine months.

Mrs. Boden (Wellington) has been away in the South Island visiting Christchurch and the Cold Lakes.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Moore, of Wanganui, have gone to the Wairarapa to be present at the Masterton Show.

Miss Haronart has returned to Wellington, after a week or two in Christchurch.

Mrs. David Nathan, who has been spending the last two months in Christchurch, is back in Wellington again.

Dr. and Mrs. Earle (Wanganui) were in Wellington for a day or two before leaving for England by the Gothic.

Mrs. W. E. A. Slack and R. P. Abraham, Palmerston, have booked passages to England in the Gothic, leaving Wellington this week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Barnicourt, Palmerston, accompanied their son, Mr. Humphrey Barnicourt, to Wellington to see him off to England.

Mrs. J. P. Innes and children and Mrs. Milton have returned to Palmerston North after spending some weeks at Pihlmerston.

Colonel and Mrs. Gorton (Rangitikei) are making a short stay in Wellington.

Mrs. Finch (Wellington) is visiting Nelson for a week or two.

Mr. J. Milton (Christchurch) stayed in Palmerston North with his brother, Mr. R. Milton, on his return journey from Rotorua.

Mrs. West and the Misses West (Wellington) are passengers by the Gothic to England where they intend to spend a year or two.

Mrs. Montgomery (Wanganui), left for England by the Gothic. Miss Anderson (Wanganui) is travelling with her.

Mr. and Mrs. Duncan are back in Wellington, after their trip to the South Island, which included a visit to Christchurch, and a stay at Mount Cook.

Mr. and Mrs. Gaccia Birch (Hawkes Bay) are shortly going to England for a trip. They leave from Wellington in a few days' time.

Mr. P. C. Freeth, until recently editor of the Palmerston morning paper, leaves on a business trip immediately. His travels include visits to Canada, the United States, the British Isles, Russia, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Holland, Egypt, India, China, and Japan.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Russell, who have been away from New Zealand for two years or so, are back again; bringing with them their daughter, who has been continuing her education in England. Before going on to their home in Palmerston, they are making a brief stay in Wellington with Mrs. Russell's mother, Mrs. T. C. Williams.

Commander Sinclair, R.N., and Mrs. Sinclair have arrived from England. They have been for many years in India, where Commander Sinclair has been engaged in survey work. His appointment with the New Zealand Government is to continue the survey of the New Zealand coast, part of which was done two or three years ago by Captain Dawson with H.M.S. Penguin.

SOUTH ISLAND.

Mr. and Mrs. Wardrop have returned to Christchurch from a trip to Hawke's Bay.

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Harper and Miss Orbell (Timaru) are in Christchurch, staying at the Deanery.

Mrs. Arthur Harper (Greymouth) is the guest of Mrs. M. Campbell at Avon-side, Christchurch.

Mrs. A. Maendrew (Auckland) is the guest of Mrs. J. C. Wilkin, at Merivale, Christchurch.

Mrs. Malcolm Macpherson (Wellington) is staying with Miss Helmore, "Millbank," Christchurch.

Mrs. and the Misses Kettle (Christchurch) are spending a few days at Lake Wanaka, the guests of Mrs. Turnbull.

Miss McPhillamy (Bathurst), who has been staying at "Strowan," the guest of Mrs. G. Stead, has left Christchurch for Australia.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Brown have left Christchurch for Sydney on their return trip to Fiji. They will be greatly missed, as they were very popular, and made numberless friends during their visit, writes our Christchurch correspondent.

A Kid's Composition.

FATHERS.

Fathers is most always pretty good fellows except when they is licking you when they hadent ought to and they aint any sense in it which happens most of the time.

A fellers own father is always the best whetere enny other fellers father is beter or not, it dont make enny difference how much a fellers father slams him round or dont give him enny think the feller will stand up for his father every time.

most fellers fathers was tuf when they was fellers and that is the reason why they know when a feller is lying and when he braks winders and gets into scrapes, i shoold think that woold be the reason why a fellers father shoold be kind of easy on a feller because they know jost how a feller feels and how tuf it is on a feller when he has to be good all the time but perhaps they fathers wasent easy on them when they insed time.

i like to have a feller stand up for their fathers but it makes me sick to hear them talk as if their fathers was better than enny body elces father, i never brag about my father, i dont have to for every boy knows he is the smartest man in this town, when he was a boy he was the best fter in town and could lick Bill Tartnet easy, and Benny thinks his father can lick enny body because he is a poleman and Pewt thinks his father can lick every body because he can up on the townhall caperle and painted it white, i guess i know whose father could lick if they shoold fte only they dont fte, i wonder why men dont fte more, i am glad they dont because i dont like to see men

fte, i like to see dogs fte and roosters; and fellers and hens and he pigons and cuts but not fellers fathers.

father always says it is rong to fte and he will lick me if i get fting but when i do he asks all about it and if i get licked whitch sumtimes happens to the best fters, a feller cant lick all the time, father asks me why i didnt give him one in the eye with my left and in the ribs we call them slats with my rite, he says that is the way he used to do.

step fathers is men whitch marry a fellers mother after he is ded the fellers father i mean, step fathers is pretty hard to get along with so i hear, i have not got one and i am glad of it, a step father makes a feller split kindins and run errands and build fires and milk the cow and drive her to pasture and stay in the yard and wirk while the other fellers is playing 2 old eat in the school yard and they lick you for nothing and they is terrible, i always pity a feller whitch hasent enny father but has to put up with a step father, i gnaw a feller onct whitch got so mad with his step father that he put pison in his py, and the fellers step father didnt eat enny py that nite and they had company to super and had blueberrys insted and after super the feller got scart and wached his chance and threw the py into the swil barril and 4 pigs diele the next day, it was tuf on the pigs, so the feller he ran away to sea and never come back enny more.

granfathers is most as good as fathers, they give us more chink and tells us more stories and is the ones that fellers goes to when they want to get out of scrapes, they is kinder like his aunts, they dont never believe ennything that enny body says agest them, Now fathers most always believes it because they has done the ame thing when they was boys, i suppos grandfathers did the same things too but it was so long ago they has forgotten all about it, and so they dont believe ennything they hear, about fellers, aunts is jst like them too, mothers is smthing like them but not as much as aunts because fathers has probly told their wife wat they used to do when they was boys and so they know more about fellers rasing cane than aunts.

fathers sumtimes when they is feeling pretty good take fellers to niger minstrel shows or to washburns grand sensation or to cattle show and then they has grate fun, i have went to lots of shows with my father an we have played base balls at niggers heads sticking out of a hole and rode on fying horses and fired clubs at old womens heads whitch were made of wood and clay pipes out of their mouth and when we woold hit one we woold get a segar whitch made father spit it out after he had lited it and a cane with a ribbon on it, if fellers fathers woold trust them a little more we wooldnt lie half as often not one quarter as bad, i always feel wise when i lie to father and foul him than i do when he finds me out and licks me after it aint sore or smarty enny more.

if a feller knows his father wont lick him if he tells the truth he is going to tell it every time, but if he knows his father is going to lick him for what he has done and dont know what he has done then what is a feller going to do? it is pretty tuf for a feller stand up before his father and think if i tell the truth i shall be smached baldheaded and stay in the yard a week and the Unifairl picknick comes tomorrow, and if i lie i can go out and play prisoners bass with Pewt and Benny and not get enny licking, whitch woold you do?

The picturesque ceremony of the baptism of six Welsh Baptist converts was publicly performed in the swollen river Ceirrog recently at Pontfalg, three miles from Chirk. The first lady convert, clad in white, was assisted into the icy waters, which registered two degrees above freezing point. Shivering perceptibly, she was led to the centre of the Ceirrog and the pastor swiftly plunged her below the water's surface. Breathless and gasping, she regained the river bank. With remarkable fervour other maidens underwent the same severe physical ordeal with equal fortitude, but one lady caused a somewhat unexpected incident. Of sturdy proportions, she was plunged below, but the new gentleman experienced great difficulty in restoring her above the surface. Her cold douche undoubtedly disconcerted her, and in a state of collapse she was, with the other converts, hurried to the chapel to change their dripping garments.

NEW ZEALAND EXHIBITION.

THIS WEEK'S ATTRACTIONS.

FIREWORKS AND FIRE BRIGADE COMPETITIONS.

(Special Service.)

CHRISTCHURCH, Sunday.

The attendance at the Exhibition was again a big one on Saturday. There was a large audience at the organ recital given by Mr. W. H. Monk, the Sydney organist. Mr. Monk was assisted by his brother, a member of the Exhibition orchestra; who played several violin solos. In the evening a vocal and instrumental concert was given, at which Mrs. Arthur Mead acquitted herself well as a vocalist. The arrival of 122 Hawke's Bay Maoris had added to the population of the pa. They will give performances of poi, haka, and war dances daily during their stay.

The Amateur Athletic Association's championship meeting was concluded on the sports ground on Saturday, in the presence of about 1000 spectators. The second season of the Besses o' th' Barn Band will commence on Thursday next, and performances will be given every afternoon and evening in the sports ground during their fortnight's visit.

Extensive preparations are being made for the display of daylight fireworks, which is to take place next Saturday. These fireworks, which are an entire novelty to New Zealand, are a Japanese invention. Shells will be thrown into the air, where they will burst, emitting fighting cocks, horses and riders, birds and fish, swarms of butterflies, and many other curious contents. Special arrangements are being made to enable the school children to witness this exhibition, and a record attendance of young people is expected. Arrangements are now almost complete for a motor-car gymkana, to be held by the Canterbury Automobile Association on the Exhibition sports ground on March 9. A large number of cars will take part in a procession through the city to the Exhibition, and the programme of competitions will include some highly novel events. The Besses o' th' Barn Band will play on the rotunda as an additional attraction.

Entries for the pet show, to be held in Wonderland on Friday, March 8, close on March 4. Already a large variety of pets have been entered. Shilling tickets for the pet show will admit to Wonderland and the Exhibition.

A week of five brigades' competitions, which will take place on the sports ground, commencing March 19, should be one of the most important the exhibition has yet seen. Teams from 80 brigades will take part in the contests. One hundred brigades altogether will be represented, and over 800 firemen will be engaged in the competitions. On the evening of Tuesday, March 19, a water display will be given on Victoria Lake on highly novel lines. The lake will be surrounded by fire brigade steamers, and 12 or 14 branches of hose will be led to the centre of the lake, whence they will throw up powerful jets of water to a height of 150ft., making the lake resemble one gigantic fountain, whose columns will be lighted from beneath by changing coloured pieces, Roman candles, and other pyrotechnic devices. On the following evening 100 boats containing firemen discharging fireworks will form a procession on the river, led by two motor launches carrying the teams' bands. On Thursday evening an elaborate water display will be given with the entire Christchurch plant, and on Friday night, when the prizes will be presented by judges, 1000 firemen and guests will dine together publicly in the main corridor. In the course of the water display it is intended to send up 2500 gallons a minute, and another novel feature will be a test of all the chemical engines in the Exhibition. Buildings will be erected of different sizes on the sports ground, which will be set fire to, and flames extinguished by different engines in the presence of competent judges, who will time the respective performances and decide which chemicals are most efficient for their work.

"What made your husband's hair turn so gray? He's still a young man. Was it the result of some terrible fright?"
"No. He once tried to have a house built."