

**WELLINGTON PROVINCE**

Mr and Mrs George Currie, of Wanganui, spent Easter in New Plymouth.  
 Miss I. Dalrymple, of Bulls, spent a few days with Mrs Innes in Wanganui.  
 Mr and Mrs G. Saunders, of Wanganui, spent Easter in New Plymouth.  
 Mr Lambert, of Pahiatua, is staying in Wanganui.  
 Mrs Dodgshun, of Wanganui, was returned from her trip to Wellington.  
 Mr and Mrs Breeds, of Pahiatua, spent the Easter holidays in Wanganui.  
 Mr Bootham, of the Wairarapa, has returned from his holiday in Wanganui.  
 Dr. and Mrs Skeriman, of Marton, were in Wanganui for the Easter holidays.  
 Mr and Mrs D. Willis, Hawera, are visiting Captain and Mrs Hewett, Palmerston North.

Miss Mamie Reed, who has been in Wellington for two months, has returned to Palmerston.

Mrs Marshall, of Wanganui, has returned to Christchurch with her sister, Miss B. Russell.

Mr and Mrs J. O. Batchelor, Palmerston, left last week on a trip to England.

Mr and Mrs H. Gillilan, of Auckland, have been staying in Wanganui with Mr and Mrs Percy Lewis.

Miss Burke, of Napier, who has been staying in Wanganui, has returned to her home.

Miss Govett, of New Plymouth, has been staying in Wanganui with her friends.

Mrs Lane's Steadman, of Christchurch, is the guest of her mother, Mrs H. F. Christie, St. John's Hill, Wanganui.

Mrs Peake, of Wanganui, returned last week from her visit to Auckland and the Waikato district.

Mrs McKnight and Miss Eileen McKnight have returned to Palmerston. They have been staying at Paikakariki and Wellington.

Mr and Mrs Cohen, Palmerston, go to Wellington this week to meet their eldest son, Mr Louis Cohen, who is arriving from "Home."

The Hon. J. A. Millar, Minister for Labour, was a visitor to Palmerston last week. He was the guest of Mr R. K. Reed.

**SOUTH ISLAND.**

Miss Gillilan (Auckland) is the guest of Mrs. Wanklyn (Christchurch).

Mrs. Barton, Wanganui, is in Christchurch.

Mrs. and Miss Coughtrey (Dunedin) are in Christchurch, for the Exhibition.

Mr. Leicester Matson has left Christchurch for London, via San Francisco.

Mrs. Litchfield and her children have left Christchurch to join Mr. Litchfield in Wellington.

Mrs. Gordon (Napier) is staying with Mrs. George Gould, "Avon Bank," Fendalton.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Montgomery (Little River) are the guests of Mrs. Ranald Macdonald, "Hambledon," Christchurch.  
 Mr. J. Bickerton Fisher and his two daughters have left Christchurch for a trip to England.

Mrs. Randall and her brother, Captain Malet, have returned from England, and are staying with Mr. and Mrs. F. de C. Malet, Armagh street, Christchurch.

**A Sportsman in Excelsis.**

Lord Desborough, who is working like a Trojan to secure the success of the Olympic Games, which are next to be held in England, is undoubtedly the "crack" athlete of the House of Lords. In his fifty-two years he has done everything it is possible for any athlete to do, and much that is impossible to most of those who lay claim to the title. For this reason he always looks in the "pink of condition," and is able to looq Time between the eyes and laugh at him. At Harrow he was the crack bowler in the Eleven, and at Oxford he showed that his mind was equal to his muscle by taking Honours in his first examinations. Then, as an example of his wonderful powers of endurance, he surprised his college and the world of sport by running a three-mile race against Cambridge one day, and rowing No. 4 in the Boat Race on the day following. That year the result was a dead-heat, but in the year following he helped to a well-won victory.

Lord Desborough is one of the most expert swimmers of our time who have successfully negotiated Niagara. Few people know that his lordship has performed this daring feat on two separate occasions. He was about to return to England after successfully accomplishing his first swim, and before the boat sailed was discussing the feat with a number of acquaintances. An American stood by sceptically, and then, unable to contain himself, broke in with—"Did I hear you say you had swum Niagara?" Lord Desborough nodded. "Yes," he replied, "I have." "It's not quite good enough," laughed the American, "no man could attempt it and come out alive." Lord Desborough shrugged his shoulders. "Then I had better go back and swim it again," he retorted. So with that indomitable pluck of his, he went back and swam it again to the utter discomfiture of the sceptical American.

It goes without saying that the man who swam Niagara a second time, in order to convince an unbeliever, has been in some tight corners. He has stroked an eight across the Channel and covered the same distance alone in a light racing skiff; has fallen over a precipice and dangled at the end of a rope in mid-air with a sheer drop of a thousand feet between him and Mother Earth; has had to fly before the wild charge of a mad elephant, which ultimately went down before his well-aimed bullet; has had his life despaired of in the Rockies while on a big game expedition, and has almost become the prey of a horde of howling Dervishes. It was while he was in the Soudan as war correspondent for the "Daily Telegraph." On the famous Sunday morning when the Dervishes surprised the British camp, and the camels "stagnated" on our lines, Lord Desborough had taken his camp-stool and paint-box and painted off about half-a-mile from the camp to do a little sketching. While thus absorbed the Dervishes burst upon him from behind a bluff. "It was neck or nothing. Dressed in holland suit and tennis shoes, Lord Desborough put his activity to the severest strain of his life. With the bullets pattering round him he ran on like the wind, leaving his palette, brushes and stool as loot for the avarthy multitude. The officers who saw the race declared that he had not too much time to spare when he passed the judge's box and when the pursuers found their advance stayed by a hail of lead.

Lord Desborough's work as a Thames Conservator has won for him the title

of the "Foster-Father of the Thames." He lives at Taplow and spends most of his time on its banks or waters. He has been energetic in his support of river reform, and the present excellent state of the Thames is largely due to his influence. He has been amateur-champion punter of the Thames, so what he doesn't know about the river, from the boatman's point of view, is scarcely worth knowing. He stands six feet two inches in height, and is a remarkably fine figure of a man. He

has typically English features—light, curly hair falling somewhat carelessly over a broad and intellectual brow, and clear, far-seeing eyes, just steered by a shadow of determination.

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