

**CURIOSITIES AT THE CHATHAM ISLANDS.**



This gruesome relic is a group of skulls at Waitangi, Chatham Islands, and is one of the ancient feasting grounds of the now nearly extinct Moriuri race.



E. Greenwood, photo, Chatham Islands. There are quite a number of these quaint carvings on trees on the Chatham Islands, and they are pre-historic, as even the most ancient of the few Moriuri survivors remaining know nothing of their origin or significance.



Miss M. E. Greenwood, photo, Wellington. **MAJOR JOHNSTON, R.A.,** Who recently retired from the post of artillery staff officer, which he filled with distinction.

Imported soldiers have so often failed to give satisfaction in the special conditions of colonial life that it is an unwonted pleasure to acknowledge the great value of the services which have been rendered by Major Johnston during his

all too brief term as Artillery Staff Officer (says the "Wellington Post"). The excellence of his record is a striking example of the benefits which our Defence Force may derive from the help of an Imperial officer, if only the right sort of man is selected. With his high technical qualifications, his great enthusiasm, his wide knowledge of volunteers, and that entire absence of "frill" which enables him to understand and to be understood by the colonial spirit, he has shown himself to be an ideal man for the position to which he was appointed in 1904. Absolutely untiring in his devotion to his profession, he has brought both the Permanent and the Volunteer Artillery to a quite remarkable state of efficiency, and we do not think that anybody who has any knowledge of the facts will dispute the justice of the very high encomiums that were passed upon him when the Petone Navals made him a well-deserved presentation on the occasion of his departure.



**THE LATE MR. E. M. SMITH,**

Who represented Taranaki in Parliament for many years and was known all over the colony by his efforts, lasting over forty years, to make marketable steel out of the vast deposits of iron-sand on the West Coast. Mr Smith was just recovering from a serious illness when he met with a railway accident at New Plymouth and died on April 19th, from the injuries he received. He was a native of Staffordshire, came to New Zealand in 1861, and in the Maori war days acted as armourer to the forces. He was 68 years of age at the time of his death.



**A SUPREME MOMENT IN THE PLAY.**



**THE HERO (HARCOURT BEATTY) AND THE HEROINE (MISS CONGDON) IN A TOUCHING SITUATION.**

**STRIKING SITUATIONS IN "THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."**

Two stage pictures from dozens which "show up" in this popular melodrama, which after its enormously successful New Zealand tour will be seen in Auckland next week.