

The Rev. Father Moloney, of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Boulcott-street, Wellington, has been transferred to Christchurch as successor to the late Rev. Father Murnane. His place at St. Mary's will be taken by the Rev. Father Schaefer, formerly of Timaru.

Mr. Alexander Burt, senior, managing director of the firm of Messrs. A. and T. Burt, Ltd., accompanied by his two daughters, arrived from Dunedin by the *Rarawa* last week. While in Auckland they will be the guests of Mr. A. Burt, jun., of Shelly Beach-road.

The "old boys" of the Auckland Grammar School rolled up in force last week in honour of Mr. J. F. Sloman, B.A., who recently retired from the school staff under the Superannuation Act, occasion being taken by the Old Boys' Association to present him with a purse of sovereigns and a handsome illuminated address.

Mr. S. J. Nathan, of the firm of A. H. Nathan, Ltd., was a passenger by the *Hauraro* last week for Fiji, where he joins the *Manuka* for Vancouver. Mr. Nathan crosses Canada and proceeds to England, after which he expects to travel for a time on the Continent. He will be away from Auckland for about eight or nine months.

LONDON, July 3.

Among the arrivals by the *Tongariro* last week was Mr. S. N. Ziman, of Auckland, the New Zealand Rhodes Scholar for 1908. Mr. Ziman has been accepted at Balliol College, Oxford, and will enter into residence there in October. He spent some days at Oxford last week, and saw the authorities of the College, and he is now staying with relatives in London.

Mr. J. P. Butler, of Auckland, who arrived here last week, came home via the All Red Route, making several detours into the U.S.A. His visit to Canada was a business one, and together with his brother (and partner), he arranged for the purchase of a quantity of saw-milling machinery. He has come to England to complete other purchases all in connection with their recently acquired forest property on the West Coast of the South Island. After completing this business, Mr. Butler intends visiting friends in Gloucestershire, and then a Continental trip, ending at Naples about the end of September. Thence he will travel via Suez to New Zealand.

Mr. Thomas Ernest, of Auckland, and his wife and daughters are visiting London on a pleasure trip. They arrived a week ago by the *Tongariro*, and they have been sight-seeing in the metropolis in the interval. Next week Mr. Ernest goes to Newcastle to see the Royal Agricultural Show, and his family to South Wales, where he will join them later. If they decide to go back to New Zealand they will leave about October.

Recent callers at the High Commissioner's office:—Mr. J. P. Laker (Wellington), Mr. Robert Bartley (Auckland), Mr. Percy Asser (Auckland), Mr. J. F. King (Christchurch), Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Ernest and daughters (Auckland), Mr. Leonard Caro (Christchurch), Mr. Wm. Hoff (Dunedin), Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Blake (Christchurch), Mr. E. F. Melvern and Mr. O. J. Melvern (Auckland), Mr. H. R. Kemp (Taranaki), Mr. L. A. Waters (Christchurch), Mr. Alfred L. Ruff (Palmertown North), Mr. Chas. A. Kessall (Devonport), Mr. Jas. Aiken and Mr. A. Allen (Marton), Mr. M. Hale (Huntonville), Mr. J. Lillio (Timaru), Mr. E. W. Walden (Dunedin), Mr. J. J. Bourke (Wellington), Mr. J. Sinclair (Wellington), Mr. Allan G. Duncan (Christchurch), Mr. E. Wilson and Mr. E. H. Wilson, jun. (Auckland), Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Russell (Wellington), Mr. A. J. Hooton (Auckland), Mr. C. B. Light (Dunedin), Mr. E. F. Godfrey (Dunedin), Mr. H. Olive (Auckland), Mr. R. Urovor (Christchurch), Mr. E. J. Ennon (Nelson), Miss A. Keedwell (Greytown), Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Harris (Dunedin), Mr. L. D. Nathan and Dr. R. Nathan (Auckland), Mr. R. F. Fraser (Mosgiel), Mr. T. E. Ellis (Invercargill), Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Orchard and Miss V. L. Orchard (Christchurch), Mr. S. N. Ziman (Auckland), Mr. W. A. Gummer (Auckland).

It is probable that Lord Dudley, Australia's new Governor-General, has never in all his life had such an ovation as he received at the farewell banquet tendered to him on Monday evening by the Australian "colony" in London. The mere mention of Lord Dudley's name was the signal for an outburst of applause, and when the new Governor-General rose to respond to the toast of his health, the company made the banquet-hall ring with their cheers and "coo-ees." The

applause as he got on his feet can only be described as "tumultuous," and minutes passed before his lordship stood any chance of making his voice heard. Lord Dudley was genuinely moved by this magnificent reception. For some seconds he scarcely seemed able to frame his words. Throughout his speech he spoke with evident emotion, and the principal feature of his speech was its obvious sincerity. His is an emotional nature, and it was interesting to contrast him with another eminent guest, Lord Curzon, who sat as though hewn out of marble, the embodiment of coldness and restraint. Lord Dudley made an excellent impression on the Australians present, and the general opinion was that both he and Lady Dudley would prove extremely popular in the Commonwealth. A reception was held after the banquet, and Lord and Lady Dudley spent the rest of the evening in making the acquaintance of the Colonials present. A feature of the reception not common to all "crushes" of the kind was the absence of the bored look, and the prevailing spirit of high good humour. Lady Dudley stood at the top of the room for a long hour shaking hands with all and sundry. Dressed in a gown of soft clinging ivory-coloured silk, plainly made, yet striking in its simplicity, and wearing a handsome diamond coronet, she looked a queen. Her manner was charming and she quite won the hearts of those who were presented to her.

Orgy of Asparagus.

A curious old-fashioned London dining club that meets only once a year is called the Grass Club, and its object is the cult of asparagus. The members are mostly prosperous, middle-aged City men who for once in a way abjure kickshaws and revert to plain English food. The dinner is invariably the same. It begins with turtle soup, after which come mutton cutlets, and in front of every member is placed a dish containing ten pounds weight of asparagus. This means about 500 stalks and the idea is that at any rate once a year no man present shall be able to say that he cannot get enough asparagus. He is not bound to eat it all, but it is surprising how much has been disposed of before the company breaks up. The asparagus is always English-grown and the very best procurable. The membership of the club is strictly limited.

Burgling Humorist.

France has had a fairly representative selection of burglars and other criminals of late, but the typewriting burglar is a novelty.

He broke into a flat in a house in Toulouse recently, helped himself to a few valuables, and left the following letter neatly typewritten on a machine in the room:—

"Sir and dear Colleague,—I think by your untidiness that you are no lady, but untidiness means a busy man. So I congratulate you.

"I can see that you are a professional typist like myself, and guessing that you were one, I looked into your box of papers for your keys, and naturally found them there.

"I have emptied the drawers in your table, out of which I have taken 1/8j. This is a low price for an evening's work, but I have also carried off some of your work, which I will study at my leisure. Some of your translation is quite good. I do a little of it myself in my spare moments.

"I am not taking your machine or your shorthand machine, for you and I know how very nearly impossible it is to sell a second-hand typewriter.

"You will forgive me, my dear colleague, for not signing this letter, and you need not fear a return visit from me. There is nothing worth taking in your rooms."

No old-world success has been grander

Than that of Miss Laila Miranda.

She sang "Hilgoleto"

Without a falsetto.

A champion singer they brand her!

No voice could be truer,

More clear or more pure.

(Her stand-by, we hear, is Woods' Peppermint Cure!)

A Naval Who's Who.

DISTINGUISHING MARKS OF RANKS AND CLASSES.

When the fleet spills its hundreds of officers and thousands of jackies ashore into the welcoming arms of the city, the average citizen is going to be somewhat nonplussed at the difficulties of telling precisely just "Who's who" in the blue book of the navy.

In the navy the different grades of officers and crew are far more numerous than in the army. Four classes constitute the naval personnel—commissioned officers, warrant officers, petty officers, and the enlisted men. Added to these are the midshipmen, commissioned officers in embryo, possessing rank and exercising authority over petty officers and crew, but who have not yet received their commissions.

As regards the officers, there are two principal divisions, line officers and staff officers. Line officers are essentially the naval officers who alone may command ships or squadrons, and who are privileged to reach the rank of admiral, the highest in the navy. Staff officers are those whose duties are more circumscribed, while possessing full authority in their respective departments. For example, the staff officers comprise those of the medical, pay, and construction corps, and the chaplains. As compared with the army, the navy ranks correspond as follows:—

NAVY.	ARMY.
Admiral	General
Vice-admiral	Lieutenant-general
Rear-admiral	Major-general
Captain	Major
Commander	Colonel
Lieutenant	Lieutenant-colonel
Junior commander	Major
Lieutenant (junior grade)	Captain
Ensign	First lieutenant
Midshipman	Second lieutenant
	Cadet.

The rank of commodore, now non-existent, was equal to that of brigadier general in the army.

The warrant officers are the boatswain, the gunner, the pharmacist, the sail maker, the carpenter, and the warrant machinist.

The number of petty officers is legion. Principal among them is the chief master of arms, who is virtually the ship's chief of police. Next in importance come the chief yeoman, the mates of the different departments, and the hospital steward. Other petty officers are the oilers, electricians, boiler makers, cooper-smiths, blacksmiths, turret captains, gun captains, and others.

Then comes the great body of enlisted men. It is separated into two divisions, the first containing only trained, experienced seamen who are competent to "hand, reef, and steer" ordinary seamen, seamen apprentices, and the apprentice boys.

In the engineer's division the duties lie in the engine and fire rooms, about the auxiliary machinery and in the various kinds of machine and tool work about the ship. Next to the engineer himself rank the engineer's petty officers, then come the firemen and the coal passers, who are of the lowest grade.

The man in supreme charge of the ship is the captain, and next to him comes the executive officer, who is the captain's prime minister.

Now, how shall one tell the rank of these navy men at a glance? It is simple, for every officer in the navy from commander to petty officer has his insignia and rank, consisting of two parts—the corps badge and the rank badge. The commissioned officers have insignia on both sleeve and collar (or shoulder strap or epaulette) for dress and full dress, respectively. For the collar, shoulder strap or epaulette, the corps badge of the line is an anchor; of the medical corps, a gold oak leaf with a single silver acorn upon it; for the pay corps, a silver oak twig with leaf attached; for the construction corps, a large oak leaf with acorns; for a chaplain, a cross. The rank badges for all commissioned officers are as follows:—

Admiral, four silver stars; vice-admiral, three silver stars; rear-admiral, two silver stars; captain, a silver eagle; commander, a silver leaf; lieutenant commander, a gold leaf; lieutenant, two silver bars; lieutenant, junior grade, one

silver bar; ensign, the corps badge alone in silver; midshipman, a gold anchor.

On the gold lace around the sleeve the corps badge of the line is a star. The staff corps have no star, their corps mark being in the shape of coloured cloth, as follows: Medical corps, a dark claret colour; pay corps, white; construction corps, blue.

An admiral has three broad gold stripes around the sleeve; a vice-admiral, two broad and a narrow between; a rear-admiral, one broad and one narrow. A captain has four half-inch stripes; a commander, three half-inch stripes; a lieutenant-commander, two half-inch stripes and a quarter-inch stripe between; a lieutenant, two half-inch stripes; a lieutenant, junior grade, a half-inch and a quarter-inch; an ensign, a single half-inch, and a midshipman, a single quarter-inch.

Of the warrant officers the boatswain has two crossed anchors on his collar, the carpenter a carpenter's square, the sailmaker a diamond, the gunner a flaming spherical shell, the warrant machinist a three-bladed propeller. None of these wear either a shoulder strap or an epaulette at any time or any sleeve lace except the chief warrant officers, who have a quarter-inch stripe of blue and gold.

"Rating badges" are the distinguishing marks of the petty officers. These are worn on the sleeves of the shirt or blouse. Every petty officer has his insignia, surmounted by a spread eagle. The grade he belongs to is shown by chevrons, a chief petty officer having three chevrons surmounted by an arch, a petty officer of the first class three chevrons without the arch, petty officer second class two chevrons, petty officer third class one chevron. After the wearer has served 25 years his chevrons are in gold, but otherwise they are invariably in red. Between the chevrons and the surmounting eagle is placed in white the special mark showing what kind of petty officer the wearer is. Boatswains' mates wear two crossed anchors, yeomen two crossed keys or two crossed pens, machinists' mates a three-bladed propeller, boiler-makers and blacksmiths two crossed hammers, quartermasters a ship's wheel, sailmakers' mates a pointed spike, gunners' mates two crossed guns, masters at arms a star. Whatever his rating may be, a distinguished marksman always wears a white gun on his sleeve.

Taken altogether, everything on board ship—every badge, mark, or insignia—has a relative importance and serves to place the rank and duties of the wearer before the one who knows how to read them. Life on board a man-of-war is at once practical and spectacular—practical because of the peculiar fitness of each object to its appointed place, spectacular because of the ceremonial which invest the life with such significance. It is most interesting, well worth study, for that the large body of shore living citizens are ignorant of the meaning of the insignia flashing from every navy man's sleeve and of the duties which Jack performs as his daily round there is small doubt. It is a new world. Doubtless there will be many Columbuses going exploring while the big feet is here.

BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES

(Established 1817.)

Head Office:

GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY.

Paid-up Capital	£2,468,720	0	0
Reserve Fund	£1,530,000	0	0
Reserve Liability of Proprietors	£2,000,000	0	0
	£6,000,000	0	0

Directors:

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Auditors:

Alfred S. Milson, Esq.; Frederick W. Uther, Esq.

London Office: Old Broad-st., with Branches in all the Australian States, New Zealand and Fiji, and Agencies and Correspondents throughout Tasmania, the United Kingdom, Europe, India, China, Japan and the East, Africa, Canada, the United States, South America, Honolulu, and the West Indies.

The Bank allows Interest on Fixed Deposits, collects for its Customers Dividends on Shares in Public Companies, and Interest on Debentures; undertakes the Agency of other Banks, and conducts all customary Banking Business; also issues Letters of Credit and Treasury Notes, negotiable throughout the world.

J. RUSSELL FRENCH, General Manager.