

white files, feet over white silk, black and white sash; Mrs. Hall, dainty black silk; Mrs. McNamara, pretty brown voile, cream lace; Mrs. Pringle, blue silk; Miss Kemp, cream silk with black velvet trimmings; Mrs. Schmidt, cream silk; Miss Miller, heliotrope silk gown; Mrs. Ludbrook, black satin, with pink trimmings; Mrs. Bindon, white silk frock; Mrs. King, black silk, trimmed cream lace; Mrs. Hingston, black chiffon taffeta.

## RAKAI.

## GISBORNE.

March 12.

## Polo Tournament.

The town has been full of polo players and their wives and friends this last week, and the polo grounds at Makauri presented quite a gay and festive appearance, the weather being almost perfect during the whole week. On Monday the attendance was exceptionally large to witness the final match for the much-coveted cup, which, after a close game, was won by the Waipapu team, Poverty Bay No. 2 team, losing by three points. Delicious afternoon tea was provided by Mesdames R. Sherratt and Gillingham, and the Misses Monckton and Wachsmann. On the same day the race for the Polo Cup was run on the Poverty Bay Turf Club's grounds, and there was a fair gathering of people. It was won by Mr. R. K. Murphy's Tina, Mr. K. F. Williams coming second on Star. On Tuesday the season was brought to a close with the polo sports, which are always so much enjoyed by everyone. Amongst those there I noticed Mrs. and Miss Nolan, Miss Wallis, Mr. and Mrs. Wachsmann and Miss Wachsmann, Mr. and Mrs. R. Barton, Mrs. Wilcock and Miss Willis, Mr. and Mrs. Gillingham, Mrs. and the Misses Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. R. U. Burke, Mr. and Mrs. Black, the Misses Black, Miss Evans, Miss Brodick, Mr. and Mrs. S. Williamson, Mrs. Mann, Mrs. and Miss Williamson, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. A. Williams, Miss Williams, Miss Busby.

I hear that the Polo Ball, which took place in His Majesty's Theatre on Friday evening, was a great success, and was very largely attended; but, unfortunately, through indisposition I was unable to be present, consequently cannot give you a description of it.

On Thursday afternoon Mrs. Frank Barker gave another

## Most Enjoyable Garden Party.

at her charming home "Te Harpara," which lends itself so well to a function of this description, with its cool trees and lawns. The amusements, which were many and varied, included tennis, croquet, rope quoits, a guessing competition, and a set of Lancers danced on the lawn for those who had energy enough! The rest of us were only too content to be entertained by the pretty music which the Vita Orchestra played. We had a most delicious afternoon tea under the oaks. The prize for the guessing competition, a large box of chocolates, was won by Mrs. Alice Williams. Mrs. F. Barker, who received her guests on the lawn, was gowned in a most becoming Princess robe of pink and black hand-painted chiffon with panels of shell pink silk and trimmings of fringe and tassels, etc. large hat trimmed with pink roses. Her guests numbered about 150, so it would be an impossibility for me to attempt to describe all the beautiful toilettes. Mrs. Geoffrey McLean was wearing green Shantung silk with blue Oriental trimmings, burnt straw hat with clusters of flowers; Mrs. Barker, silver grey satin with trimmings of passementerie, floral bonnet; Mrs. W. Barker, olive and white check silk, large blue hat with wings, white and gold scarf; Miss Barker, lovely dress of pompadour silk, large Merry Widow hat of navy blue with crown of flowers; Mrs. Vincent Barker, pretty tailor-made costume of pale grey cloth with facings, and vest of white, grey hat with white wings; Mrs. R. Barker, ivory silk muslin trimmed with insertion, feather stole, and large black and white hat; Mrs. Wallis, grey and white striped silk, cream hat; Mrs. De Lantour, handsome black corded silk with lace and jet trimmings, small black hat; Mrs. F. Parkes, rose pink costume, small black hat with tips; Mrs. Sydney Williamson, cinnamon brown cloth tailor-made costume with short coat, pretty hat of brown and green wings; Mrs. H. Williams, grey and white striped silk,

black crinoline hat with feathers; Mrs. Kissing, white muslin, brown hat with rosettes of shaded ribbon and hyacinths; Mrs. Morrison, rose pink cloth coat and skirt braided in black, small hat of some shade wreathed in roses; Mrs. Wilcock wore a handsome gown of black taffeta with cream lace trimmings, hat of black crinoline with pale pink and blue flowers; Mrs. Kennedy, black and white silk, large black hat; Mrs. Carmichael wore black silk relieved with white, black hat with large black and white plumes; Mrs. Symes, very pretty dress of rose pink taffeta, chip hat of same shade wreathed in flowers; Mrs. A. Seymour, blue silk with floral hat; Mrs. Hodge, pale pink nunon, large black and pink hat; Mrs. Donner wore a most becoming Empire gown of heliotrope Shantung silk with sleeves and trimming of white and heliotrope embroidery, large white felt hat with crown composed of white tips; Mrs. Winter, black and white Sicilian, burnt straw hat; Mrs. A. Rees, blue muslin, white hat trimmed with blue daisies; Mrs. Stook, electric blue taffeta, brown hat; Mrs. Mann, pale green brocade, large brown hat; Mrs. J. Williams, cream silk voile flowered in heliotrope, large purple Merry-Widow hat; Mrs. Jex Blake, very becoming Empire gown of saxe blue Shantung silk, white and blue hat; Mrs. Williamson, rich black silk with long coat to correspond, black hat with feathers; Mrs. Collins, black and white silk, black hat with feathers; Mrs. Gillingham, pretty, white net dress, black hat; Mrs. Broderick, grey tweed and small black hat; Miss F. Barker, lovely blue silk dress, large blue and brown hat; Miss L. Barker, white and pink floral taffeta, black and white hat; Mrs. Hughes, pink floral muslin, black toque with pink roses; Mrs. Anderson, grey and white muslin; Mrs. Jeffreys also wore grey muslin with black hat; Mrs. E. Mathews; Mrs. Coops; Mrs. R. N. Burke; Miss Reynolds, grey muslin, red hat and parasol; Mrs. J. Burke; Miss White, pale pink Sicilian, pink crinoline hat; Miss Broderick; Mrs. Max Jackson; Mrs. Watson; Miss Wallis; Miss Seymour; Miss Black; Miss Worthington; Miss Williams, navy and white dress, hat of navy straw; Mrs. A. Williams; Miss MacLean, pink and white muslin, large pink hat with pink bow; Miss Donner, striking costume of saxe blue Shantung silk, made in Directoire style, hat of blue and black; Miss Bennett, apple green silk, floral hat; Miss Sherratt, apricot silk taffeta, large brown hat; Miss Evans; Miss Elworthy (Timaru); Miss Lyttelton (Canterbury), pale blue canvas, large white hat with green ribbon and pink roses; Miss Marsden, pretty black and white bordered muslin, hat of cream crinoline trimmed with shaded heliotrope flowers; Miss Willis; Miss Wachsmann, white muslin, blue and white hat; Miss Black, navy silk, hat to match; Miss R. Reynolds; Miss Brady, white muslin, cream straw hat with shaded roses; Mrs. Bennett,

visiting here in June or July, in which case we shall again have the pleasure of seeing Miss Rees behind the footlights.  
ELSA.

NEW PLYMOUTH.  
March 13.  
Farewell Afternoon Tea.

## HASTINGS.

March 11.

We have been having very hot and dusty weather. Social functions have been at a standstill and most of us have been spending our leisure moments playing croquet and exchanging calls.

Quite a number of pretty frocks are being worn, white being particularly in evidence. I have noticed Mrs. James wearing a smart brown tailor-made costume and pretty white dome hat; Mrs. Nairn looks well in black with dome hat and cabbage roses; Mrs. Perry in lovely lavender hat and grey motor cloak is quite master of her beautiful motor; Lady Russell, a fine spotted silk with yoke and sleeves of white tucked tulle and black lace, handsome black silk coat; Mrs. Barcroft has been wearing several exceedingly handsome toilettes. One in particular I noticed, was a saxe blue embroidered gown with white Valenciennes yoke and sleeves, hat trimmed with crushed roses, long white hand-painted silk stole.

On Friday and Saturday last we were visited by West's Pictures. Mr. Hector Spensley (late of Timaru) has joined Mr. West's orchestra as first violin.

Yesterday a garden party was held at Mrs. Collins' residence, Havelock-road, in aid of the Presbyterian church building fund. It was a great success financially.

To-day the pupils of Woodford House school gave an exhibition of swimming in the new swimming baths.

Captain Russell is staying with his parents at "Flaxmere."

Miss M. Russell is visiting Christchurch.

Mrs. Laudels has her sister from Otago staying with her.

Mr. Williams, "Grassmere," is leaving for England on the 25th.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Cameron have taken Mr. Williams' residence for a time.

Mr. King (Tomona) is going to England for a trip.

SHEBA.

## McCullagh &amp; Gower

BEG to announce they  
have opened

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McCullagh & Gower, Auckland.

## Personal Items.

We have no less than two health officers at present on a visit to our town—Mrs. Mason and De Lisle—and strenuous efforts are being made to get a drainage system of some sort. Typhoid fever has been very prevalent this summer, and people are beginning to awaken to the fact that Gisborne has reached the stage—and size—when something must be done to drain the town, and so keep its inhabitants in a more healthy atmosphere.

Mrs. Symes, of Hawera, is on a visit to Mrs. L. T. Symes, Whataupoko.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Barker, the Misses Barker, and Messrs. H. and P. Barker, arrived home last week from their motor tour of the North and South Islands. They had splendid weather, and spent a most enjoyable holiday.

Mr. and Mrs. H. White left by the Wimmera on Wednesday evening on a short visit to Christchurch.

Mrs. and Miss Pyke have gone to Rotorua for a time, and left for Auckland by the Monowai on Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Hilton has also gone to Auckland to visit friends.

Dr. and Mrs. Pomare have been visiting Gisborne to be present at the wedding of Miss Woodline-Johnstone—Mrs. Pomare's sister.

Mrs. Margoliouth returned on Wednesday from her visit to Napier and Hastings.

Miss Rosemary Rees left Gisborne on Wednesday for Sydney, where she joins the Allan Hamilton theatrical company, in which she takes a principal part. On dit, that this same company purpose