

capial is made of novel effects in lighting, at the beginning and close of every act. Instead of the customary ascending and descending curtain, crude reminder that it is all merely a play, the lights die down to darkness, and gradually rise again to disclose either a scene which grows upon the vision by degrees, or the theatre with the curtain once more down.

The great London pantomime at Drury Lane in which Nellie Stewart plays principal boy, has three great spectacles, which bring the whole pantomime to a close, the Inventions of the Century; the finale to the first part, the Apotheosis of Music, and the scene of the Markets. They are mentioned in the order of their importance. The first shows the four great master developments of our age—Locomotion, Transmission—the posts and telegraphs; for instance; the Application of Electricity and Photography; at the end there is a gorgeous series of tableaux illustrating the forces and methods which have made the Empire great. The second is not an attempt fantastically to reproduce in costume the shapes of musical instruments, but presents a pageant of music of all ages, and all climes, from the pastoral pipes of early days to the Wagnerian combinations to-day; in fanciful designs the groups, processions and ballets indicate the music associated with the development of musical instruments, appropriate to the time of their invention, and to the countries where they are in vogue. The last mentioned great show scene presents the three great food markets, meat, fish and vegetables and flowers, with costumes and effects symbolising the good things on sale in them. There is also a juvenile Transvaal campaign, soldiers, Maxims, horses and all. In this wonderful pantomime there will also be a ballet of wines.

Mrs Taylor, of North Shore, Sydney, arrived in Auckland by the mail steamer on Sunday last, on a visit to her brother, Mr Jos. Armitage, of Mount Eden.

OPERA HOUSE.

BLAND HOLT'S
 Merry Fun-Provoking, Melodramatic Favourite.
 NEW BABYLON.
 NEW BABYLON.
 Written by PAUL MERRITT.
A MAGNIFICENT SERIES OF STAGE ACTS.
 Unsurpassed in Grandeur and Novelty.
 By Mr. JOHN BRUNTON.
 THE COLLISION IN MID OCEAN.
 ISLINGTON, HORSE & CATTLE SHOW.
 THE COVENT GARDEN FLORAL FETE.
 Fun, Jollity, Brillancy, Colour, and
 Brillancy.
A ROLLING IN JOLLY GOOD TIME,
 with LAUGHTER and GENERAL MERRIMENT.
THIEVES' KITCHEN, SEVEN DIALS.
 FRIDAY, JANUARY 25.
 First Production in Australasia of an entirely New Melodrama, entitled, "IN LONDON TOWN."
 Box Plan at Williams's.
 Early Door Tickets at Williamson's and Partridge's.

REMEMBER—THIS IS POSITIVELY THE LAST WEEK OF ROWLEY'S WAXWORKS AND LONDON COMPANY.
 ENTIRE CHANGE OF PROGRAMME.
 SPECIAL MATINEE FOR CHILDREN, SATURDAY, JAN 27.
 Don't forget the Address: the DURIAM-ST. WEST.
 Admission 6d; Children 3d.
 FAREWELL NIGHT—MONDAY, 28th.

Everyone in England is talking of the wonders produced by



The following beautiful women use and highly recommend: Madame Patti, Madlle. Douste, Florence St. John, Edith Cole, Eloahine Irving, Miss Fortescue, Fanny Brough, Bertha Terria Cynthia Brooke, Sophie Larkin.
 New Zealand Agents—**SHARLAND & CO., Auckland and Wellington.**

ORNAMENTAL HAIR.—Ladies requiring Artificial Hair of any kind should send for Illustrated Catalogue of Falls, Chignons, Fringes, Wigs, etc., just issued by A. M. Hendy, Ladies' Hairdresser, Prince-st., Dunedin, together with practical hints on the Dressing and Treatment of the Hair. This book will be sent post free to any address in the colony on application to A. M. HENDY, Ladies' Hairdresser, Dunedin.—Cheapest House in N.Z. for all kinds of hairwork.

A REAL BOON:
 To Ladies, Dressmakers, Mothers, etc.—PERFECT FIT AND STYLE.
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GARMENT CUTTER.
 Cuts for Ladies, Gents, or Children. Easy to Learn. Taught through Post. Terms and particulars from sole N.Z. Agent: MISS M. T. KING, 24, Willis-st., Wellington. **AGENTS WANTED.**

OBITUARY.

THE LATE J. S. GUTHRIE.

Mr John Steele Guthrie, for many years manager of the Christchurch "Press," died at Christchurch on the 16th inst. deeply regretted by a wide circle of friends. Speaking of deceased the "Press" says:—To his fellow workers on the staff of this journal and in every branch of the "Press" Company's establishment his death has caused a keen sense of personal bereavement. From the youngest boy in the office to the oldest servant of the company he gained the personal affection and unswerving loyalty of all. To his ripe judgment, wise counsel and unvarying personal friendship his co-workers owe more than they can adequately express, and there is not one among them whose heart is not full to-day. In John Steele Guthrie Christchurch has lost a citizen of high-minded, gentle disposition, whose pen and influence were ever exerted in what he honestly believed to be the cause of right. The Press of the colony has lost a leader whose example was in accordance with the highest ideals of the profession. That example will live after him, while his kindly character and gentle disposition will be long cherished in affectionate remembrance.



THE LATE LIEUT.-COL. MURRAY.

Very deep regret was expressed in town to-day when it became known that Lieut.-Colonel Thomas L. Murray, General Manager of the Bank of New Zealand in Auckland, was dead. Mr Murray (who was more generally referred to under his military title) died somewhat suddenly about a quarter to eleven o'clock this morning at his residence in Grafton Road, in his 61st year. He had been in a bad state of health for the past few weeks, having had a severe stroke of paralysis. He, however, became better, and as late as yesterday he was out driving. On December 18th last Mr Murray was seized with a sudden attack of paralysis of the brain, and never recovered. Dr. Knight attended him frequently for this complaint. This morning about ten o'clock he was seized with another attack, which proved fatal, and he passed away in an unconscious condition. Dr. Williams was called in during the morning. Prior to the seizure Mr Murray seemed bright and cheerful, so that his end seemed to come with all the more suddenness.

SKETCH OF HIS CAREER.

The late Mr Murray was a native of Perthshire, Scotland, and arrived in New Zealand upwards of 37 years ago, landing at Auckland about the end of 1862. In the following year the Waikato war broke out, and Mr Murray, like all the other able bodied Aucklanders, had to do his share of soldiering. He was a member of the first-class militia, and became a sergeant in his company. He went to the front when hostilities commenced, and was stationed at Drury and vicinity, where he experienced all the hardships of campaigning. At the close of the war Mr Murray returned to town, and was employed for a time in Mr Chapman's bookseller's shop. About the year 1866 he entered the services of the Bank of New Zealand, and was in the inspector's department for a time in Auckland. Subsequently he was sent to the Thames as the Bank's agent at Grahamstown, 1868, just after the opening up of the Thames goldfields. Grahamstown afterwards became the chief and only office of the Bank at the Thames, and Mr Murray was appointed manager of the Thames branch. He remained at the Thames in that position for about 25 years, and became closely identified with the progress of the goldfields district. About 1893 he took up the duties of assistant inspector of the Bank in Auckland, and in 1894 he was appointed manager of the Bank of New Zealand at Dunedin. After being there for about two years he returned to Auckland and became manager of the Auckland branch, with supervision over the goldfields district, and occu-

pi-d this position till the time of his death.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC VOLUNTEER.

It was probably in his capacity as a most enthusiastic and energetic officer of volunteers that Mr Murray was best known to the general public. His early military experiences in the days of the Waikato served him in good stead during his volunteer career. It was at the Thames that he became interested in the volunteer movement, about the year 1868. He was for a time an officer in the Thames Naval Volunteers, holding the rank of Ensign. About the year 1871 he was asked to take over the command of the Thames Rifle Rangers, which company had fallen into a very unsatisfactory condition. This he did, and succeeded in infusing a great deal of life into the volunteering movement at the Thames. He became captain of the company, which changed its name to the No. 1 Thames Scottish. Subsequently the No. 3 Hauraki Rifles was reorganised, at the request of Major Cooper, by Captain Murray, and became the No. 2 Thames Scottish. These two companies were made a battalion, and, under the energetic care of Capt. Murray, the Thames Scottish Rifles became one of the finest and smartest volunteer corps in the colony. In 1878 Capt. Murray was promoted to the rank of Major, and was given the local command of the Thames volunteer district, under Major Wither, who was then in command of the Auckland volunteer district.

About three years ago, when the Auckland No. 1 Rifle Battalion was formed, Major Murray, at the request of the Defence authorities, took command of the Battalion, and ever since he had worked hard to make our garrison rifles a strong and efficient body. About 18 months ago he was promoted to be Lieutenant-Colonel. The deceased officer had the interests of volunteering deeply at heart and spent a good deal of time, as well as money, in the cause.

The deceased gentleman was of a genial nature and was a very popular and highly-respected citizen and a valuable servant of the Bank of New Zealand. He was associated with various societies of a philanthropic nature, having been ever of a charitable and generous disposition.

Mr Murray leaves a widow and three children. His only son is in the New Zealand Insurance office at Wellington, and one of the daughters is the wife of Mr J. W. Stewart, solicitor, of Auckland.

The interment will be private, at deceased's own wish, given expression to by him a few days ago.

NEW ZEALAND'S GAIN.

It is to be hoped that "The Times" (London) is realising some small profit in its bold enterprise in connection with its Reprint of the "Encyclopaedia Britannica." In offering that great library at less than half price, and then delivering the entire set into the subscriber's hands when but one guinea of this small price has been paid, "The Times" shows a confidence in public honesty, as well as in its own methods, that would have been surprising even if the proposition had been brought forth by a less conservative institution than "The Times." To an outsider, who knows something of the cost of producing so magnificent a work, it hardly seems creditable that the enterprise could result otherwise than in financial loss to its propagators. But whatever may be the resultant loss or gain to "The Times," there can be no question as to the beneficial influence this distribution of high-class literature must have upon the future of New Zealand. A set of the "Encyclopaedia Britannica" placed in a home, is sure to become a nucleus for an ever-expanding library, for its possessor will intuitively begin to add volume after volume until he has collected a creditable home library.

Teacher: Johnny, name the largest known diamond?
 Johnny: The ace.

How to be Beautiful.

LADIES are delighted when they receive the BEAUTY BOX (price 10s.) which contains a bottle of Beauty Cream, a box of Beauty Powder, a bottle of Rose Bloom, a tube of Lip Liner, an Eyebrow Pencils, and a skin pocket Powder Puff, with a book of directions and a treatise on Hair Dressing. It is sold free from observation; no advertisement on outside wrapper, head P.O.U., Postal Note, or Stamp for the Address: European Import Co., Pitt St., Sydney.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

We give herewith the photos of the two young New Zealanders who fell in the gallant charge near Rensburg. According to the cable accounts the Boers tried to storm a hill held by a company of the Yorkshire Regiment and some ten New Zealanders under Captain Maddocks.

The Boers, under the protection of a heavy fire, crept towards a low wall which sheltered the defenders.

When the enemy's final rush was imminent, the British did not wait for it, but leaping the wall charged down the hill with bayonets. The Boers fled, tumbling over one another in their frantic efforts to escape the bayonets. Twenty-one were killed and 50 wounded. Six of the Yorkshires were killed and five wounded.

Private Connell was killed and Sergeant Gourley died of wounds received at Rensburg on Monday. Later details show that when the captain of the Yorkshires was wounded, Captain Maddocks ordered the charge. Major-General French subsequently complimented the New Zealanders, telling them that on all occasions their conduct merited the highest praise.

Sergeant Samuel Gourley was the son of the Hon. Hugh Gourley, of Dunedin, and was aged 29 years. On leaving school he joined the reporting staff of the "Globe," an evening paper then in existence in Dunedin. He afterwards held a position in the office of the National Mutual Life Association. About four years ago he was selected from a number of others for a clerkship with the Otago Harbour Board. He had been a member of the Otago Hussars for three years, and rose to the rank of corporal. He was always looked upon as one of the coming men of the Hussars, and was exceedingly popular, both in his office, among the Hussars and his friends. Mr Pilcher, manager of the South British Insurance Company at the Cape, is a relative by marriage of the Gourley family.



THE AUCKLAND YACHTING DISPLAY.

Many hundreds of Aucklanders patronised the steamer excursions on Saturday afternoon to view the yachting display at the entrance to the Waitemata, and the result was a handsome addition to the patriotic war funds now being raised in Auckland. The ferry steamers Eagle and Osprey and the s.s. Kapanui were crowded with excursionists, and the handsome American schooner-yacht Norma, which was the flagship for the afternoon, also had a large crowd on board. The Norma was a very pretty sight with her splendid display of bunting. A strong westerly breeze blew during the day, and made the sailing races very interesting contests. During the afternoon the yacht Flirt, when coming down from Ponsouby to the flagship, carried away her mast; and the small yacht Ofa, just after starting in the second-class race, was run into by the cutter Gannet and sank to the bottom. The crew managed to get on board the Gannet, and were afterwards brought up to town in the fishing boat Caprera.

OSMAN DIGNA'S CAPTURE.

Osman Ali—or Osman Digna—the bearded one, as he is usually called, has given no endless trouble in the Soudan. The news of his capture in the Tokah Hills will be received with gratitude by all Britons.

TEN PUDDINGS of a PINT
 can be made out of one pound of good Corn Flour. The Best Corn Flour
BROWN & POLSON'S
 PATENT BRAND—

Is a trifle dearer than ordinary Corn Flour, but the difference in price cannot be noticed when divided over ten puddings. The superiority in flavour and quality can be distinguished at once. Brown and Polson have been making a speciality of Corn Flour for nearly forty years. They guarantee what they sell. See that your grocer does not substitute some other make. Many articles are now offered as Corn Flour, usually without the maker's name, and sometimes bearing the name of the dealer instead, which can only bring discredit on the good name of Corn Flour.