

Mr Cecil Heaps leaves Nelson today to join the Eastern Extension Cable staff at Sydney.

Mr and Mrs Morrison, of New Plymouth, are spending a few days in Nelson.

Mr and Mrs Young, of Blenheim, are staying with Mrs Renwick, "Newstead," Nelson.

Mr and Mrs Richmond, of "Richmond Brook," Awatere, have been spending a few days in Blenheim, and were staying at the Criterion Hotel.

Mr Nolan (Hawera), has been making a short visit to Blenheim, but left again on Saturday afternoon.

Mr A. W. Budge, of Toko, near Stratford, has been revisiting his old home in Blenheim, but left for Picton, en route for Wellington, on Saturday night.

The Misses Fell, of Pieton, spent last Monday in Blenheim, and lunched with their uncle, Mr Budge, at the Criterion Hotel.

Miss Kate Hewitt, of Wellington, is visiting her parents in Blenheim.

Mrs C. W. Adams returned to Blenheim after a brief visit to Wellington.

Great excitement was caused among the Maoris at Opuake last week by the capture of a large seal on the beach there. Having exhibited the unusual visitor in the town hall, the natives very humanely took the seal down to the sea, and liberated it again.

Another New Zealander has distinguished himself at Edinburgh University, Mr Bernard Myers, a former pupil of the Wellington College, having just secured his M.D. degree there with honours.

Mrs. John Prouse, of Wellington, is visiting Christchurch, and is at present the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Izett at the Port Hills.

Miss Gladys Wilding, "Fownhope," is staying with Mrs. Embling in Wellington for a few weeks.

The marriage of Miss Elsa Levin, eldest daughter of the late W. Levin, of Wellington, New Zealand, to Mr Harry Vogel, the eldest son of the late Sir Julius Vogel, was celebrated in London last week. Mr and Mrs Harry Vogel have built themselves a charming new residence near London, where they intend to reside, and will have good wishes for their future happiness extended to them from many friends in all parts of New Zealand.

His Excellency the Governor and Lady Hanfury have given several dinner parties lately in honour of Rear-Admiral Pearson, who has been their guest at Government House, during the stay of the Royal Arthur in Wellington. On Tuesday evening the following guests received the honour of invitations:—The Bishop and Mrs Wallis, Hon. H. J. Miller, M.L.C., and Mrs Miller, Hon. C. Johnston, Mrs and Miss Johnston, Hon. C. C. Bowler, M.L.C., Hon. L. Cadogan, Mr and Mrs Heaton Rhodes, Mrs, Miss, and Miss E. Richmond, the Solicitor-General and Mrs Reid, Mrs Rhodes, Dr. and Mrs Anson, Mr and Mrs T. C. Williams, Miss Williams, Mr and Mrs Arthur Pearce, Rev. J. Campbell, Lieutenant V. Bernard, R.N., H.M.S. Royal Arthur, and the Hon. Henry Cavendish Butler, Hon. A.D.C.

Mr and Mrs Ritchie (Dunedin) are at present visiting Wellington, where they are the guests of Mr and Mrs John Duncaan at Fitzherbert Terrace.

The flagship Royal Arthur will most probably remain in Wellington until Saturday next, when she goes to Westport in order that Admiral Pearson may make a thorough inspection of the facilities of that place as the principal coal-producing port in New Zealand.

Mr Harris, of the locomotive branch of the New Zealand Railway Department, has gone to America in order to superintend the construction of the rolling stock which is being obtained there for the New Zealand Government.

The Wellington Kennel Club have asked Mr Freeman Lloyd, the well-known English judge of dogs, to act as judge at the annual show of the club in Wellington next month.

Mr and Mrs Dennis O'Rourke, Elmwood, Christchurch, are the guests of Mr and Mrs Heaton Rhodes in Wellington for the races this week.

Sir George Clifford (Stonyhurst) was among the Southern sportsmen who were present at the Wellington

Steeplechase Meeting at the Hutt this week, and also attended the annual sitting of delegates to the New Zealand Racing Conference, which was held in the Parliamentary Buildings in Wellington during the week.

On dit that there are to be no balls given at Government House this session in Wellington owing to the loss of relatives in the South African campaign by Lord and Lady Hanfury, and that the gaieties there will in consequence be restricted to afternoon receptions by the Countess, and the usual sessional dinner parties.

Mrs Abbott (Balgownie), Wanganui, is paying a short visit to Wellington.

Mr. M. Fraser, of Burgess, Fraser & Co., New Plymouth, has gone for a short trip to Auckland.

Mr. and Mrs. Morrison, who have been visiting Dunedin, have returned to their home in New Plymouth.

The Rev. F. and Miss Larkins, who are at present visiting England, write to say that they propose returning to Auckland the first week in December.

Mrs. McCosh Clark and family are going to reside in Mr. Archie Clark's house in Remuera, Auckland, and Mr. and Mrs. Archie Clark will occupy the house inhabited by the late Mrs. Clark, on the Remuera Road. Mr. Percy Holt is cleverly arranging all the rooms on the ground floor for the new tenants.

Mr. Herbert Fenton, recently assistant secretary of the Masonic Grand Lodge of New Zealand, has arrived in England, and hopes to commence his theological studies immediately.

LONDON ITEMS.

Mr. Arthur Wicksteed ("Old Settler") writes to the "Spectator" from Wanganui suggesting that England should invite 100 New Zealanders, with the horses they rode, to go and see her, and the same number from the contingents of Australia and Canada, in order to show what manner of men we have been sending to fight her battles.

Stanley Rowley put in an appearance at the West of Scotland Harriers' annual sports, held at Hampden Park, Glasgow, last Tuesday evening, and in the 100-yards handicap gave a taste of his quality by winning his heat from scratch very easily in 10 1/5secs., and after a magnificent race won his heat in the semi-final round in even time. In the final round Wood, of the Kelburne Football Club, who had also done "evens" on the 7-yards mark, in the semi-final just managed to beat the Australian crack by six inches in 10secs. dead after a desperate race. The handicap was judged by Mr Baird's machine, which worked very satisfactorily.

That dancing dervish of the nobility, the Earl of Yarmouth, has at length managed to file his accounts in bankruptcy, and his creditors will shortly receive 10/ in the pound. His Lordship's debts are over £5000, and his visible assets rather more than £2000. His bankrupt state was easily explained. He had £300 a year from his pater, lived at the rate of £3000 per annum, and borrowed at the rate of 60 per cent. This was prior to his going on the stage in America, where, 'tis said, he made £50 a week for a time, but later had to be content with the miserable stipend of £25. The creditors have all accepted the cash composition offered, and I understand the money necessary to pay that dividend and all legal costs has been deposited with the Trustee in Bankruptcy.

The founder of the once-famous Thirteen Club, Mr William Harnett Blanch, has just died at Grandend. This crusader against superstitions was born at sea while the ship on which his parents were making a trip to Australia was actually crossing the line. His club founded as a protest against the common superstitions of humanity is now extinct. Its members used to dine on Fridays in sets of 13, entered rooms under ladders, spilled salt when they sat down, broke looking-glasses, insisted in having cross-eyed waiters in attendance, and generally of malice aforethought did all those things which done by accident are supposed to entail bad luck, in order to prove to the poor fools who were superstitious that they had no grounds for their beliefs!

Two excellent suggestions, with a view to paving the way for Imperial Federation, are made by W.M., from the Devonshire Club, in the "Daily Chronicle" to-day:

(1) More frequent visits to the colonies by the Royal Family—e.g. the

Prince of Wales has not visited Canada since 1861.

(2) A better study of our most interesting colonial history, instead of obsolete Greek and Roman erudition. To adapt a remark of the Kaiser's: "We want young Britons, not young Greeks and Romans."

Canon Philip Walsh, of Auckland, who has been absent from his clerical duties since August last, is now in London. From Auckland he went to Vancouver, and thence by the C.P.R. to Quebec, making a short stay at the principal places of interest en route. Coming over sea to Liverpool, Canon Walsh proceeded to Ireland, arriving in the "distressful" country early in October. There he wintered and passed the spring, paying visits to Killybegs, Cork and other centres. He came to London by way of Bristol a couple of weeks ago. His metropolitan programme will probably occupy him for another fortnight, and then he makes for Paris. A few days at the Exhibition and sundry side trips will bring him to the end of his European tour, and he leaves Marseilles by the next Messagerie steamer for Melbourne. There he hopes to stay for a month with his brother, Dr. Butler Walsh, before concluding his homeward trek to Auckland.

Mr and Mrs Whitehorse Moore, who left the colony early this year in order to escape wintering in Auckland, and for the benefit of Mrs Moore's health, landed in London by the India early in May, and consequently come in for a long spell of rather bad weather. After spending three weeks in Plymouth with relatives they repaired to Bath for a short time, and reached London early in June. After a few days in the Metropolis they returned to the West Coast, and from thence will make short excursions to the provinces. Mrs Moore's health has much improved by the trip, and consequently they find life in the Old Country very pleasant. The duration of their stay is at present wholly uncertain.

Among the guests at the New Zealand dinner was Mr D'Arcy Chaytor, of Marlborough, who took part in the capture of Cronje's army, and was subsequently invalided Home with enteric fever. Although able to attend the dinner, he is looking very weak, and pulled down, and will need a thorough building up before he is quite himself again.

Mr E. Langguth, the Austro-Hungarian Consul, who came Home last December on, it is understood, a semi-official mission in connection with the trouble between the Austria and colonial gumdiggers, stayed on the Continent throughout the winter and spring, "doing" Austria, Germany, Holland and Belgium. He felt the severe weather on the Continent pretty keenly, and suffered considerably in health, but is now pretty well himself again. Mr Langguth came to London early this month, and, after visits in the North of England, will go over to Paris and thence will tour Alsace, Lorraine and Switzerland. He intends to make the return voyage to Australia by the Konigin Luise, which steamer he will join at Genoa on September 25th. Whilst in Vienna Mr Langguth had a lengthy interview with the Emperor Francis Joseph, who takes the keenest interest in the welfare of his subjects in New Zealand.

A Royal Humane Society's medal will doubtless in time be the reward of Mr Andrew Sharp, of New Zealand, who, at Gonarock, on Saturday, jumped off a passenger steamer to the assistance of a labouring man who was one of three occupants of a rowing boat which upset. Two were drowned, but Mr Sharp collared the third, and, in spite of the fear-maddened fellow's struggles, succeeded in holding him up till assistance arrived. His gallant act was witnessed by a large number of people, and I understand his prompt action has been brought to the notice of the R.H.S. Mr Sharp is a native of Dunedin. He came Home, I understand, on a pleasure trip, and returns to the colony shortly by way of America.

The "Daily Chronicle," referring to the desire of the Maoris to fight in South Africa, and their loyalty in providing horses and a contribution of £1000 to the Patriotic Fund, remarks that they "seem to have changed a good deal in their feelings towards this country since the days when they chased Sir John Gorst out of his editorial office, and, after he had got safely within the lines of General Sir Duncan Cameron, proceeded to bombard him with bullets made out of his own type."

OBITUARY.

The many friends of Mrs. Joseph Haydon, of Papanui, will regret to hear of her unexpected death one day last week, the result of an accident some three weeks previously. Mrs. Haydon, while hanging some curtains, or similar domestic duty, fell off a chair, and, though nothing so serious was thought about it at first, it ended in a most lamentable way. The funeral took place on Saturday, when a number of beautiful floral tributes were received, and the greatest sympathy is felt for the bereaved family.

MRS IZARD.

On Wednesday last one of Wellington's most respected and best known residents passed away in the person of Mrs C. B. Izard, wife of Mr Chas. B. Izard, of Hobson-street, who formerly practised as a solicitor, as a partner in the firm of Bell, Gully and Izard, but who has for many years retired from business. Mrs Izard's widespread hospitality and kindness of heart have always been proverbial in Wellington, and have endeared her memory to all classes of the community there, and more especially to the poor and needy. Mrs Izard leaves her husband and seven children to mourn her loss, amongst whom are Mr Charles Izard, who is practising as a solicitor in Wellington, and is also a member of the City Council; Mr Stratton Izard, solicitor, of Greytown; and Mrs Charles Pbarazyn, of Longwood, Featherston; and Miss Izard, who resides with her father in Wellington; two sons being at present in England. The funeral took place on Thursday afternoon, a service being held in St. Paul's Pro-Cathedral previous to the interment in the Bolton-st. cemetery, which was very largely attended by friends from all classes of the community, and Mr Izard and his family will have the sympathy of a very numerous circle of friends throughout the colony in their sad bereavement.

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