

Personal Paragraphs.

Mr. Matthew Runciman, of Buenos Ayres, who has been on a visit to his relatives in Auckland, left on Monday by the Rototiti for Wellington to catch the Whakatane on his return home.

Mrs. Osmond gave an afternoon tea to the parents of her pupils in the Poisonly Hall, Auckland, last Saturday. The Rev. Mr. Eykyn presented the prizes, which were won by Miss Hazel Rainey and Master Buck, Mrs. Calder and Mrs. Devore being the judges.

Mrs. Collins, of Wellington, paid New Plymouth a short visit last week, but has now returned, accompanied by her son, who had been paying his aunt, Mrs. R. Cook, a visit.

Mrs. Rollo, of New Plymouth, has gone for a short trip to Wellington to visit her sister, Mrs. Maccolmun.

Mr. W. J. Freeth, of New Plymouth, is at present visiting Christchurch.

Mr. W. Yates, of the Union Company, New Plymouth, has been removed to Auckland, and Mrs. Stewart Innes takes his place.

Miss Murgatroyd, who has been visiting her aunt, Miss Cottier, of New Plymouth, has returned to her home in Sydney.

Mr. W. Skinner, with his son, Master H. Skinner, of New Plymouth, have gone for a trip to Auckland. The former, being churchwarden of St. Mary's, went principally to attend the Synod.

Mr. Fraser, who has been on a short visit to Auckland, has returned to New Plymouth.

Mr. H. W. Harrington, head of the electric telegraphic office in Napier, who has been promoted to Christchurch, was presented with a handsome service of silver plate from the staff. Mr. Harrington, who has been at the Napier office for twenty years, has been greatly liked there, and will be much missed by all with whom he came into contact.

Lady Whitmore, of Napier, has returned home after a fortnight spent in Wellington.

Captain and Mrs. Davidson, of the Bluff Hill, Napier, have gone for a month's visit to Christchurch.

Canon and Mrs. Webb are in Napier for the meeting of the Synod, and are staying at the Deanery.

Mr and Mrs A. A. Ellisdon and family are on a visit to Rotorua.

Miss Sutton, of Dunedin, who has been paying a visit to her relatives in New Plymouth, has gone on to Auckland, where she will remain with her aunt, Mrs. Major George, for some little time.

Rev. F. G. Evans, of New Plymouth, has gone to Auckland to attend the Synod.

Miss B. Rennell, of New Plymouth, has gone for a trip to Wellington on account of her health, and Mr B. Rennell has gone to Auckland to attend some pharmacy examinations.

Mrs W. Syme has been paying her mother, Mrs. Fraser, of New Plymouth, a visit, but has now returned to her home in Hawera.

Mrs H. J. Beswick, Fendalton, is staying with Mrs. Duncan Cameron, Methven.

The Hon. Dr. Grace, M.L.C. (Wellington) was presented by his co-partners in the Wellington City Tramways with a most beautiful service of solid silver plate as a memento of the close of their business connection, by the sale and transfer of the tramways to the Wellington municipality, on October 1st, the presentation being made at a dinner given in his honour on Wednesday last, at the Empire Hotel. When making the presentation the chairman (Mr. Kennedy Macdonald) said he was quite unable to give adequate expression of their appreciation of Dr. Grace's character and ability, and alluded to his unvarying loyalty and kindness to his dead partners and their representatives and children, and concluded by asking him to accept the service as a memento of the close of their business connections, and as a mark of their great esteem. Dr. Grace's health having been most enthusiastically drunk

by all present, he, in a very feeling and most interesting speech, thanked the donors for their beautiful gift, which he considered reflected the greatest credit on its designer, Mr. Frank Gray, the well-known Wellington jeweler. The service is the most beautiful ever manufactured in the colony, being of solid silver, and consists of a very large and massive dinner epergne, with two candelabra, to about 18 inches high. The epergne, which is nearly 2 feet in height, stands on a plateau of clear mirror glass set in solid silver, and under a canopy, and resting on the foundation of the epergne runs a beautiful little miniature silver tramway on silver rails, the canopy being surmounted by demi-lions rampant, and shields bearing the crest and motto of the Graces, "En Grace Affie"—"Put your trust in Grace." At the base of the epergne are engraved the family crest and monogram and shields, which also bear the following inscription: "To the Hon. Dr. Grace, C.M.G., M.L.C., M.D., from his co-partners in the Wellington City Tramways on the close of their business relations by the sale and transfer of the tramways to the municipality, in remembrance of his many services to them, and of their deep regard and esteem for his high personal character.—October 1st, 1900."

Mr. Petre, of Blenheim, is enjoying a few weeks' holiday in Dunedin.

Miss Beatson, of Blenheim, has gone to stay with her grandmother, Mrs. Beatson, in Nelson.

Mrs. Redwood Goulter, of "Timara," Blenheim, who has been staying in Wellington, has returned home.

Mrs. Vavasour, of "Egbrooke," Blenheim, accompanied by her sister, Miss Zoe Redwood, has been for a short visit to Wellington.

Mrs. Clouston, "St. Andrews," Blenheim, and Mrs. Melatosh, who have been for a change, staying in Picton at the Federal Hotel, returned home on Wednesday.

Mrs. Speed, "The Mount," Picton, made a short stay with her daughter, Mrs. Howard, in Blenheim, on her way to "Kokoraungu," to visit Mrs. E. Rutherford.

Mrs. Berry, who has been the guest of the Misses Greenfield, at "Vernon," Blenheim, has returned to Wellington.

Mr. G. Seymour, "Meadowbank," Blenheim, accompanied his sister, Miss Seymour, to Wellington to see her off on the Westralia for a visit to Sydney.

Miss Laing-Meason (Timaru) is visiting her aunt, Mrs. Michael Studholme, at Waimate.

Mrs. and the Misses Fell (Picton) have gone to Sydney for a trip.

The Hon. Edward Richardson and Mrs. Richardson (Wellington) returned from their trip to Australia by the Waikare this week.

The Count and Countess de Courte (French Consul for Wellington) have returned to Wellington this week, after an absence of some months.

The members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade have presented Dr. Henry with a silver card-case, at the meeting of the corps, as a slight recognition of his services to and great popularity with the corps since his connection with it.

The many friends of Mr. Vernon Willetton, private secretary to the Hon. J. Carroll (Native Minister) will regret to hear that he has been confined to his bed for some weeks in Wellington, through illness.

Mr. and Mrs. John Martin (Martinborough) are staying with Dr. and Mrs. Martin in Wellington, and have nearly recovered from the injuries they sustained through the late fatal fire on their station.

Mrs. Lionel Abraham (Palmerston North) and her little daughter are the guests of Mrs. Coates in Wellington.

Mrs. Wood (Napier) has been paying a flying visit to friends in Wellington.

Mr. and Mrs. James Milks (Dunedin) and Miss Helen Williams (Dunedin) are staying in Wellington for a short visit, at Mrs. Malcolm's, on the Terrace.

Mrs. T. C. Moorhouse (Christchurch) is spending a few weeks with Mrs. Rhodes, at the Grange, in Wellington, on her way home from Featherston, where she has been staying for some time with her niece, Mrs. W. Barton, at Fareham.

The members of the Nelson Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society are hard at work with the opera "Iolanthe," which is to be produced this month, and promises to be a great

success. Mr. A. P. Burns is the stage manager.

Miss Mabel Tendall, L. C. A., of Nelson, has arrived in Christchurch, where she has been appointed to the temporary management of the Domestic School of Cookery.

Miss Webb-Howes, who has been spending the winter in Wellington, has returned to Nelson.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Glasgow and Miss M. Glasgow, of Nelson, have arrived in Christchurch, where they remain some weeks, until their new house in the Maitai Valley is built.

Mr. W. Johnstone, who has been clerk in the Nelson Lands and Deeds Transfer Office for several years, is transferred to Invercargill on promotion. He was the recipient last week of a handsome watch, chain and pendant. The presentation was made by Mr. H. W. Robinson, District Land Registrar, on behalf of the staffs of the Lands Transfer, Stamps and Deeds Registry Office, and the Lands and Survey Office, as well as the legal firms of this city.

Mr. C. Redgrave, of the Nelson branch of the Union Bank, leaves Nelson for Wellington this week, having secured an appointment with Messrs. Aycocks and Williams, auctioneers.

Mr. S. B. Smith, of the Lands Office, Nelson, has been transferred to Christchurch. His place in Nelson will be taken by Mr. Styche.

Mrs. Arthur Russell, of Palmerston North, paid a few days' visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Williams, in Wellington, last week.

Sir Jas. Hector represented the Government at the funeral of the late Mr. W. Skeg, Government Analyst, which took place at Carterton on Saturday last.

Mr. Justice Martin arrived in Wellington on Sunday last in order to attend the sitting of the Appeal Court this week.

The Premier is to address a monster gathering of Sunday-school children and choirs in Cathedral Square, Christchurch, during the jubilee celebrations there next month.

Mr. C. G. Sanderson formerly of the Agricultural Department in New Zealand, who accompanied one of the New Zealand contingents as veterinary surgeon, has been appointed Chief Veterinary Surgeon in the Transvaal.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Reid, Wellington, intend paying a visit to England and Europe after his retirement from the Solicitor-Generalship. On their return to New Zealand they will probably reside at their country house near Parapara, in the Manawatu district.

At the invitation of the Mayor of Sydenham (Mr. B. P. Manhire) a farewell social to Captain Andrew, of the Second Hyderabad Lancers, who is leaving Christchurch to join his regiment, was held at the Engineers' band room, Haseldean Road, on Tuesday evening. Many old school mates and friends were present, numbering about sixty. Song and toasts passed a very pleasant evening, and Captain Andrew received hearty good wishes for his further promotion and safe return.

Miss Wilson, of Dunedin, is visiting her sister, Mrs. R. Brown, Holly Road, St. Albans.

The Misses Buchanan, "Aorangi," Christchurch, were tendered another social in the Art Gallery by their pupils, which passed off very successfully.

Dr. and Mrs. Batchelor, of Dunedin, are stopping at the Hanmer Springs.

Mr. Peter Cunningham, Timaru, is in Christchurch on a brief visit, and is staying with Colonel Babington.

Miss E. Tabart, now of Wellington, visited Christchurch last week, but only for a short time, as she returned to stay with Mrs. D. Riddiford, of Rangitikei, for a lengthened period.

Mr. and Mrs. Menlove, of Windsor Park, Oamaru, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wilson (nee Menlove) at St. Albans.

Mr. Bishop, S.M., Christchurch, has been somewhat seriously indisposed, but is now able to take carriage exercise.

Mrs. (Lieut.-Colonel) Collins, who has been on a visit to New Plymouth with her son, Cyril, returned to Wellington on Friday. Master Collins was recruited after a severe attack of typhoid fever contracted at the Wanganui Easter camp. He is now quite recovered and resumed work at his office on Monday last.

The many friends of Miss Hicks, Christchurch, will be pleased to hear

she is rapidly reaching convalescence, though still at Strathmore Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes Johnson (nee Constance Hatherley), of Wanganui, are in Christchurch this week staying at Mrs. Everett's, Montreal-street.

Mr. D. T. J. Alfors, Christchurch, is once more about again after his recent illness, and leaves for the North Island for a week or two's change before taking up his duties at the Royal Hill School.

Miss Cunningham, Christchurch, has decided to take a trip to England, as her health has not been very good lately. She leaves by the Paparoa.

LATE LETTERS.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Dear Rev., October 3.

This week seems to have been such a desperately busy time with everybody arranging their summer outfit and battling with that plague of all households, "spring cleaning," that there has been no time for social gatherings, and functions of any kind have been unthought of. The biograph at the Theatre Royal has been the one amusement, and a delightful evening one can spend there travelling through charming scenes, such as the Peaks of Derbyshire on an express train; going to Conway Castle, on the road to Windsor and the Castle; being a close spectator of the Queen and her visit to Ireland; being present at the launch of the Oceanic; witnessing the departure of the brave Highlanders for South Africa; the home-coming of General White; and many other realistic pictures are put before one in such a way that if they could only be coloured we should be amazed not to hear the figures speak. The theatre has been crowded nightly, and for several matinees. Amongst others who have been were: The Mayor and Mrs. W. Reece, the Misses Reece, Mr. Mrs., and Misses Louissou. Mr. and Mrs. Stead, Mr. W. and Miss Stead, Mrs. and Miss Cunningham, Miss Fairhurst and Miss Grant, Mr. H. and Misses Reeves, Mr. and Mrs. Wigram, Mr. and Mrs. J. Gould, Dr. and Mrs. Palmer, Dr. and Mrs. Jennings, Bishop, Mrs. and Misses Julius, Mrs. Cecil Wilson, Mr. and Miss Cowlishaw and Miss Palmer, Mrs. and Misses Waymouth, Mr. and the Misses Anderson, Mrs. Meredith-Kaye, Mr. and Mrs. Kinsey, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Ronalds, Mr. and Mrs. G. Humphreys, Mr. and Mrs. Boyle, Mr. and Mrs. Woodroffe, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Graham, Mr. Mrs., and Miss Molyneux, Mrs. J. and Miss Dennis, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, Mr. and the Misses Way, Mrs. Bowen and party, Mr. G. Mrs. and Miss Merton, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Williams, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Harley, Mr. and Mrs. P. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Litchfield, Mrs. de Vries, Miss Garrick, Mrs. and the Misses Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. Appleby and many more.

There is great disappointment in Christchurch society at the alteration of the plans of the vice-regal party. Things would have been so much more brilliant had Lady Ranfurly been present to open the exhibition. From a view of the approaching visit of royalty itself, it is more desirable to have Lady Ranfurly in the colony then, and we must e'en submit. Everything is getting well forward, and it promises to be a very interesting exhibition, and plenty of amusement for the whole time, and though it is to be regretted there is no organ at present, through the enthusiasm of a few of our citizens there is great hope for a very fine one in the near future.

Mrs. Howie left for Gisborne last week on a short visit to her relations, and make final arrangements for her visit to England. She will return to Christchurch shortly and give a farewell concert on the 18th. Mrs. Howie, in conjunction with Mr. Prouse, of Wellington, and Mr. Collier, of Christchurch, take the solos in "Elijah" for the Dunedin Choral Society early in November.

Invitations are out for an "at home" by the Mayor and Mrs. Reece in the Art Gallery on October 19th. It is for young and unmarried friends, and is the great subject of conversation just now.

Miss Tendall has returned from Nelson, where she has been so successful with her cooking classes, and has been appointed to the Domestic School of Instruction, vice Mrs. H. Gardiner, resigned, and who in her turn has been appointed manager of the Ladies' Club, Worcester-street.