

memorate our Jubilee in Christchurch. Never have we had such a gathering either in numbers or of interest. Old colonists from far and near met together some for the first time since leaving the ship they travelled out in. Other members of their families they had not seen for many years. Imagine the hearty hand grip and the "don't you remember" on all sides, and you will think of the difficulty it was to marshal these old colonists into anything like order for the procession. They met at the Exhibition Hall and were driven to the South Belt, where the procession started from, headed by a fine team of eight bullocks provided by Mr T. O. Hay, of Pigeon Bay, and driven by Luke Scott. In the dray were about twenty old Peninsula identities, who arrived between 1843 and 1850. Then came the volunteers numbering over thirteen hundred. Some of the mounted ones in their khaki uniforms with plumed hats, on some splendid horses put in a very fine appearance. There were drags, carriages, and other vehicles brimming over with old colonists. The carriages with the Hon. W. and Mrs Rolleston, the Mayor and Mrs Herce, the Hon. R. J. and Mrs Seddon and His Excellency the Governor were the signal for much clapping of hands all along the route. The Maoris were an interesting part of the procession. A canoe on wheels, with a crew of energetic paddlers and one to direct their movements was quite a feature. Another old warrior with a spear was much more efficient at clearing the road than any two mounted troopers. The returned troopers received quite an ovation, and a mounted Kaffir was the observed of all observers. The trades were well and some most tastefully represented, but to describe it fully would take far too long when I tell you the procession took fifty minutes to pass a given point. The line of route was beautifully decorated. The scheme had been carefully thought out by Mr Hurst Seager, and days before poles had been planted in the streets and twined with coloured muslin. Then soon after 12 p.m. on Sunday began the work of festooning from pole to pole and corner to corner, the most delicate shades of blue, yellow, pink, used with white, made the most charming effects, while some streets were red, white, and blue, and some red and white, these contrasts throwing up the pale shades. The bottom of lamp-posts, telegraph poles, etc., appeared to grow out of flax bushes and festoon. The weather was perfect, just sufficient breeze blowing with the graceful festooning of Liberty muslin, and flags, the latter floating in every direction. Some 20,000 yards of muslin were used, but I doubt if anyone can form any idea of the prettiness of it by hearing of it. At night several places were illuminated, the "Times" Office being the best. The procession after reaching Hagley Park broke up, and there were many greetings amongst friends after the lapse of a great number of years. The Governor reviewed a march past of the volunteers and then drove off; the park soon after gradually emptied. In

the evening at the Exhibition Hall an immense audience assembled, including hundreds of the old colonists, when the Dogology and a Te Deum, under Mr Wells, were sung, followed by speeches by the Mayor, His Excellency the Governor, the Premier, Sir John Hall, the Hon. W. Rolleston, and C. C. Bowen, when God Save the Queen was heartily sung by all, thus ending a memorable day in Canterbury, and if it could be possible that the same strides forward could be made in the next fifty years as in the past it sets one wondering what the result might be. Among the audience were Bishop and Mrs Julius, Bishop and Mrs Wallis (Wellington), the Bishop of Melanesia, Mrs Reece, Mrs Rolleston, Mr and Mrs John Anderson, Mr and Mrs H. Allan, Mr and Mrs Appleby, Mr and Mrs Louison, Mr Embling and Mr Maughan Barnett (Wellington), Mr and Mrs F. M. Wallace, Mr and Mrs Burns, Mr and Mrs A. E. G. Rhodes, Canon and Mrs Knowles, Mr and Mrs Allison, etc. On Tuesday the Exhibition Hall was again the rendezvous, where the old colonists' luncheon took place. A number of willing hands decorated the tables and stage. An excellent luncheon was provided by Mr Burke, but the numbers attending seemed greatly in excess of those expected as many had to be accommodated with seats on the stage and wait a second relay. It is thought nearly 800 partook of luncheon. His Worship the Mayor was in the chair, and on his right were His Excellency the Governor, Mrs Reece, Sir John Hall, Hon. C. C. Bowen, Mr Guise Brittan, Mr Collett, Mr W. D. Wood, Mrs Stewart, and Mr and Mrs Farr. On the Mayor's left were the Hon. C. Butler, Captain Williams, A.D.C., Mr J. Deans, the Hon. J. T. Peacock, Archdeacon Dudley, Mr A. F. N. Bakiston, Canon Knowles, Archdeacon Cholmondeley, Mr R. J. S. Baiman, Mr E. W. Seager, and Mr George Hart. The tables were arranged as far as possible as the first four ships, namely, The Charlotte Jane, The Randolph, The Sir George Seymour, and The Cressy, the various toasts being given and replied to by speakers from these vessels. It was a unique and interesting gathering, the gallery being filled with spectators, and one word expresses all the old colonists and their friends seemed to feel that day, "happiness," for their faces were wreathed in smiles. Luncheon over, conveyances took the old colonists to a garden party given by Mrs Deans, senr., and Mr and Mrs John Deans, Riccarton, whose hospitality and kindness has extended for over half a century to all and sundry in and around Christchurch. Mrs Deans, seated in a chair on the lawn, received the guests, and exchanged reminiscences with many old friends. About 700 people altogether were present. Numerous refreshments were dotted about for serving refreshments, and a band played at intervals. The Governor arrived about 5 p.m., having taken his way to distribute the prizes at Christ's College, that day being also the Jubilee of the College. In the evening the Exhibition Hall was again filled, many old colonists being present. The choir, under Mr Wells, gave the "Canterbury Pilgrim"

anthem, which was sung by the Canterbury pilgrims themselves in St. Paul's, London, just before leaving for New Zealand. Then Mr Maughan Barnett, of Wellington, stepped on to the platform to conduct the ode which he composed for the opening of the Exhibition. It went brightly and well, Mr Hugh Reeves taking the solo very effectively. At the close the applause was very enthusiastic, and Mr O. T. J. Alpera, an librettist, was compelled to acknowledge his share with Mr Barnett. Mrs Burns then sang "Rejoice Greatly" in her usual pleasing manner, the Hallelujah Chorus being a grand finale. Mr K. W. Seager then gave his lecture on "Old Canterbury," with limelight views, many of the early colonists long since passed away being shown on the canvas, with Christchurch and Lyttelton in the foreground and V hut stage.

The Jubilee celebrations being uppermost, I have put them down first, but there were one or two small festivities last week. Mrs Wigram gave a delightful "At Home." The day was beautifully fine, and everything looked its prettiest. A band was stationed on the lawn; there was also some music in the house, and everyone seemed to enjoy the afternoon. Mrs Wigram wore a dainty cream gown, hat to match; Mrs J. Gould, blue glace silk, with cream lace bolero, blue chiffon and cream toque; Mrs Stend, pale blue voile finished with heliotrope silk bands, toque to match; Mrs H. H. Cook, black lace over white silk, black hat and feathers; the Misses Cook, pretty floral muslin gowns, black hats; Mrs H. H. Loughnan soft grey dress trimmed with black velvet, large black hat; Mrs Deans, black silk grenadine over green, bonnet to match; Miss Deans, white gait silk and deep cream lace, black hat; Mrs Pyne, white corded cloth, Eton coat and skirt, Tuscan and floral toque; Mrs Ogle, pale grey gown, pink vest and belt, pretty toque; Mrs Wardrop, pale pink gown, toque to match; Mrs A. E. G. Rhodes, handsome black gown, black hat with touches of blue; Mrs and Miss Fenwick; Mr and Mrs Louison, the latter in palest grey silk with Maltese lace and narrow crimson velvet, and steel buckles on the bodice, black chiffon toque; Miss Louison, pretty pink floral muslin, hat to correspond; Miss and Miss Harper, Mr J. C. Palmer, Mrs Vernon, Mr and Mrs Wilding, Mrs and Miss Julius, Mrs A. Rolleston, Mrs J. Turnbull, and many others.

On Wednesday evening Miss Taylor gave a picnic at New Brighton. Quite a number of the party cycled down. Mrs Louison, Mrs Marks, Miss M. Allan, and a few others going by tram. Among those present were the Messrs Prosser, Louison (2), Messrs Webb, Hardy-Johnston, Ziele, and Louison.

On Saturday Mrs Louison gave a drag picnic to Summer for Miss M. Louison's birthday, over thirty guests going, amongst whom were Mrs Louison, Mrs Marks, Mrs Green, Misses Louison (3), Taylor, Wood, M. Allan, Prosser, Messrs W. Peacock, Louison, Ziele, Hardy-Johnston, and others.

Mrs Mathias, "Fendalton" gave a delightful afternoon tea at her residence last week, and some charming music was listened to. Among those

present were Mrs Arthur Rhodes, Mrs and Miss Helmore, Mrs Secretan, Mrs and Miss Deans, Mrs and Miss Palmer, Mrs and Miss Hannah, Mrs Moorhouse, Miss Howron, etc.

On Thursday evening the combined societies (musical and motett) gave the "Messiah" in the Exhibition Hall, which was filled. Mrs Burns, Miss Graham, Messrs Allan and Miller sang the solos, and I am told all did well with the exception of the tenor, but unfortunately at the last moment I was unable to go and hear it.

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