

Personal Paragraphs.

Lord Raufurly, with Captain Alexander, is greatly enjoying his visit to the thermal district. The Taupo and Waiotapu trips were made in perfect weather.

Miss Doria Simpson, of Wellington, is at present visiting her friends in Auckland.

The Misses Biddle, who came out from Home on the Omrah, on a visit, are at present in Auckland. They will return to England in a few weeks with Mr and Mrs Biddle.

Mr Wells, of the H.M.S. Archer, who was a familiar figure on the Auckland hunting field when the Gold-Tuch was here, is again in the North, and has taken up polo. He left with his ship for the Chatham, etc., on Tuesday. The H.M.S. Archer will be back in Auckland for Easter.

Miss Buddle and Mrs Keekwick have returned to Auckland from Rotorua.

Miss Stanford, of New Plymouth, is spending a few weeks in Auckland on a visit to friends.

Mr Vincent Heather, who has received a commission in the Royal Field Artillery, left by the Zealandia for England via Sydney and Suez. Mr Heather was an extremely popular young fellow, and will be much missed by his many friends, who will watch his career with interest.

That prince of advance agents, Mr J. J. Lohr, who has so successfully piloted Mr Chas. Arnold through the colony, left for Sydney by the Zealandia to arrange for the return tour of the company. His multitudinous friends will hear with very mingled feelings the news that Mr Lohr will in all probability only visit New Zealand on one more occasion—at least in a professional capacity. All who have the pleasure of his acquaintance will regret that his periodical visits are to end, but they will feel that he well deserves to retire on the laurels he has earned. All wish him luck when he does settle down, and wherever it is he will be certain to have plenty of New Zealand callers. Meanwhile, all his friends here wish him all prosperity on the Australian tour.

His Excellency the Governor left Wellington on Tuesday morning by train for the Wairarapa, accompanied by Captain Alexander, A.D.C., and will be absent six weeks on a visit to Te Aroha, via Taupo, Rotorua, Tauranga and Kaitiaki, completing the journey from there to Auckland by the railway, and after spending a few days at Auckland returns to Wellington by train as far as Te Kuiti, and then drives on to Palmerston by way of Awakino, New Plymouth and Hawera.

Sir John Hall, Horatata, leaves for a trip to England very shortly, travelling home via Melbourne.

Mr and Mrs Smithson, Timaru, and their family have returned home from their tour in Europe, Mr Smithson's health being fully restored, and a very large number of their friends assembled to meet them at the delightful garden party given in their honour at Fairlie last week by Mr Melville Gray, and Messrs Newman and Rolleston.

Mrs McPherson, Wellington, is spending a few days at Featherston with Mr and Mrs W. Barton, "Pareham."

The condition of the Hon. F. H. Fraser, who lies seriously ill in Wellington, is slowly improving.

The Count and Countess De Courte, who have been absent from Wellington for some weeks on a trip to Christchurch and Dunedin, returned home by the Rotomahana on Wednesday last.

Captain Russell, Hawke's Bay, is paying a short visit to friends in Wellington on his return from Australia.

Miss Mary Seddon has made a handsome present to the Wellington Acclimatisation Society in the shape of two fallow deer, which have been liberated on Kapiti Island.

Owing to the observance of Court Mourning no balls or drawing-rooms will be held at Government House during the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall to Wellington, but an evening reception will probably

be held about the middle of June.

Serjts. Hunter and Buckley, of the Imperial army, arrived in Wellington last week by the Rimutaka, having come out under engagement to the New Zealand Government in order to act as drill instructors to the volunteers of the colony.

The Mayor of Hokitika (Mr H. L. Michel) has opened a shilling subscription list for the purpose of raising sufficient funds to erect a monument to the memory of the West Coast men who have fallen while fighting in South Africa.

Captain Sutcliffe, one of the most popular captains in the service of the New Zealand Shipping Company, has been appointed to the command of the company's new steamer, the Tongariro, which sails from London this month for New Zealand.

A "ghost" scare has been rampant in Wellington for the last few weeks, and the police are actively employed in looking for the silly perpetrator in looking for the man who is likely to warm a mauvais quart d'heure if caught by any of the male relatives of some of the women and children he has succeeded in terrifying.

Mrs. and Miss Pharaohyn (Wellington) are away visiting friends in the country.

Miss Quick (Wellington) has gone to Wanganui for a trip.

Miss Holdsworth, who has been visiting Mrs Sellers, of Mount Albert, Auckland, has returned to her home in New Plymouth.

Miss Standish has returned to New Plymouth, after her pleasant trip to Auckland.

Mrs (Dr.) McClelland, of New Plymouth, has been on a short visit to Auckland.

Hon. W. Jennings and Miss B. Jennings, who have been on a visit to Auckland, have returned to New Plymouth.

Miss Newman, from Sydney, is visiting her brother, Mr W. Newman, of New Plymouth.

Mrs Broham, who has been visiting the Old Country, is living with her father, Archdeacon Govett, for the present, on account of her husband's death.

The Hon. George McLean, M.L.C., is stopping at the Lake Takapuna Hotel.

Mrs Curtis, wife of the popular manager for Bewick, Moreing and Co., in Auckland, has arrived from England with her children, to join her husband.

Miss Horne, of Parnell, is stopping at Lake House, Takapuna, for the sea bathing.

His Worship the Mayor of Christchurch, Mrs, and Miss Reece, leave for a trip to England via America, the end of March. They take the best wishes of all classes of the community, and no one has earned a holiday more than Mr Reece, his experience as Mayor has been unique, for beside his own business and ordinary municipal affairs the year commenced with the "send off" of our volunteers, and embraced the jubilee of the province and the visit of old colonists, the laying of the foundation stone, and eventually the opening of the Canterbury Hall, together with the Exhibition, and more recently the Proclamation of the King, and the reception of the Imperial troops, but he has emerged with honour after every function he has officiated at being most ably and untiringly seconded by Mrs Reece. I am glad to think a souvenir is to be presented to Mr Reece from the citizens before his departure, which will show in a small way he was appreciated.

Mr Peter Wood (Wood Bros.), Christchurch, has gone to Auckland, where his marriage to Miss Emily Brett, the youngest daughter of Mr Henry Brett, so well known in Auckland, takes place this week. Mr W. D. Wood and Mr Walcot Wood, also left for Auckland to be present at the wedding.

Mrs Wm. Wilson, "The Grove," Sydenham, and four daughters, returned from England last week, after a long stay in the Old Country. Misses Minnie and May Wilson have remained in England, and one brother, who is, I am sorry to say, in rather delicate health. Mrs and the Misses Wilson have been besieged with visitors, their numerous friends being delighted to see them back again.

Miss Hishop (Dunedin), is staying with Mrs R. Brown, Holly Road, St. Albans.

Miss Gillian, of Auckland, is still enjoying the attractions of Takapuna Lake and beach. She is stopping with Mrs Harris, of Lake House.

Mrs Pierce has very kindly lent her house at Lake Takapuna to a party of ladies from town whose business engagements prevent them going far afield for a change.

Amongst present visitors to Lake Takapuna are Mr and Mrs Perry, who arrived from England by the Rimutaka.

Mr and Mrs Alfred Brett, who were in Auckland last week for the wedding of Miss Brett to Mr Peter Wood, have returned to their home in the Waiuku.

Mr Alfred Whitaker, of Auckland, left on Monday on a trip to the Old Country via Sydney. His many Auckland friends wish him a pleasant trip and safe return. Mr Whitaker was, prior to his departure, the recipient of a presentation from his intimate friends of the Auckland Club.

Mr and Mrs Walcot Wood, of Christchurch, are still in Auckland, and will not return South for about a fortnight.

At Mangere last Wednesday a pleasing function took place at the Wesleyan Church. Miss Mary Wallace, who has acted as organist for many years with much acceptance, was presented with a handsome dressing-case on the eve of her departure for Europe. The Rev. C. Griffin made the presentation on behalf of the subscribers, and in doing so spoke of the valuable services rendered by Miss Wallace. Mr William Westney also eulogised the good work done by Miss Wallace. Mr Gavin Wallace, uncle of the recipient, suitably replied on her behalf.

Mr W. S. Baker, B.Sc., has received many congratulations on his appointment as director of the Launceston School of Mines. During the short time Mr Baker has been director of the Karangahake School of Mines he has gained the respect and admiration of all who have been brought into contact with him.

Mr H. Brett left Auckland on Saturday for Napier to attend the meeting of the Press Association.

Mrs and Miss Thacker, from the Bays, are in Christchurch, staying with Dr. and Mrs Thacker at present. Mrs Black (Akaroa), is visiting Christchurch, and is the guest of Mrs R. Black, Fendalton.

Miss Nedwill returned to Christchurch last week, after a visit of about two years in England.

Mrs Howard (Sydney), is visiting her parents, Mr and Mrs Bullock, Marshlands, Christchurch.

Miss McLanehan (Kaikoura), is staying with Miss Connal, Canal Reserve, Linwood.

Mr John Timline is in Christchurch this week, and is staying at the Club. He looks remarkably well after his trip Home.

Great regret was expressed in Christchurch at the news of the death of Mr J. A. Randall, in London. Not many months ago Mr Randall married the only daughter of Mr and Mrs F. de C. Malet, and proceeded to London, whither he was transferred in the interests of the Christchurch Meat Company. He died suddenly of heart disease.

It was with very deep regret the many friends in Christchurch of Mr C. Ensor, Mount Grey, read of his death last week at his home, "Baleaira," and the deepest sympathy is felt for Mrs Ensor and the family.

Mr and Mrs W. D. Meares are back in Christchurch from a very pleasant visit to the Southern Lakes.

Mrs Meredith Kaye and family returned to Christchurch last week, having greatly enjoyed a visit to Timaru.

Miss Wilding is in Timaru staying at "Beverley," and we hope to see her much better on her return to Christchurch.

Mr and Mrs Smithson, of Timaru, passed through Christchurch last week on their way home from England, everyone was glad to see Mr Smithson so much better for the trip.

Dr. and Mrs Crooke (Christchurch Hospital), spent a very pleasant holiday at Hanmer Springs.

Mr G. Jameson, Miss and Master Jameson, have gone to Rotorua for a change.

Mr and Mrs Izard have returned to their house in Wellington Terrace after an absence of nearly three months at Trentham.

The Primate has been informed by the Secretary of His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, that he intends to confer the degree of Doctor of Divinity on Archdeacon Dudley, in recognition of the Archdeacon's long and faithful services to the Church of the Province, and to the Melanesian Mission. The Archdeacon will be entitled to wear the D.D. hood of the Archbishop's University, namely, of Oxford; and will take precedence of all Masters of Arts, and Doctors of other faculties of the Universities of England.

Mr Frederick J. Moss, late British Resident at Karotonga, is with his wife and daughter Lena spending a few days at Paeroa, at the residence of his son, Mr E. Moss. Mr and Mrs Moss, who recently sustained a very heavy bereavement in the loss of their daughter Minnie, after a very long illness, have the warmest sympathy in their trouble of an innumerable host of friends.

Mr T. W. Leys, of Auckland, who returned to Auckland on Saturday last, will not have a very long stay at his home in Ponsonby. The Federal Commission sits this week in Auckland, and then leaves for Australia, where the sittings will occupy at least six weeks. Miss W. Leys accompanies her father on the trip.

Mr H. Pittar, who has bought Captain Worsp's lovely place at Remuera, has already let his convenient little villa in Gladstone Road, Parnell, to the newly appointed district traffic manager for the Auckland Railways, Mr H. Buxton, late of Wanganui.

One of the prettiest properties in Parnell has been acquired by Major Lusk, formerly of Grafton Road. Of late years known as "The Chummary," the place in question was the original property of Mr Percy Smith, who planted extensive shrubberies and an orchard. For many years past the grounds have fallen into some decay, but it has extensive grounds, and can be made into a lovely place.

Professor and Mrs Swager have returned from a pleasant holiday spent at Waikae.

Mr Justice Cooper has been the recipient of many honours and congratulations since his elevation to the Bench. Last week he was entertained at a dinner by the Northern Club, and made the recipient of a presentation by the inhabitants of Ellerslie.

Mrs M. C. Cashel, of Auckland, has returned to town after four months' stay at Rotorua, where she greatly benefited by the baths.

The Hon. T. Duncun, Minister for Lands, with Mr Gerhard Mueller, left Auckland for Whangarei on Monday.

Mr L. D. Nathan has left on a six months' tour to Europe. He travels via Sydney and Suez.

It is expected that James Park, F.G.S., will leave the Thames for Otago in about fourteen days. His appointment as Professor of Mining to the Otago University is very popular, and Professor Park has received a host of congratulatory messages.

Prior to his departure for England, Mr R. T. Michaels, of Auckland, was presented by his many friends with a silver-mounted pipe as a mark of their esteem. Mr Michaels was latterly in charge of Graham's bond store, Fort-st.

The girls of Remuera clubbed together on Saturday last and had a very pleasant picnic at Taunaki.

Dr. and Mrs Thomson, of Wairoa, Hawke's Bay, are staying in Napier.

Captain, Mrs and Miss Todd, of Napier, left last week by the Miniro for a trip to England.

The Misses Watt and Coleman, of Napier, who have been staying in Auckland during the past few weeks, have returned home.

Mr and Mrs William Nelson, of "Waikoko," Tomoana, have left there for a trip to England.

Mrs Hector Smith, of "Ormitie," Korokipo, Hawke's Bay, is staying in Nelson.