

of the hyacinth. The banks of the river are a picture, thanks to the Beautifying Association, with the nodding golden heads of the daffodil, and the effect is so charming one cannot help being like Oliver Twist, and crying for "more."

(DELATED.)

Dear Bee, September 11.

Whether "great minds think alike" or not there can be no two opinions about Musgrove's Opera Company, and we have had greater pleasure during their season than for many years in Christchurch. It is difficult to pick out the best, but I think so far Lohengrin stands first, we are to hear Tannhauser to-night, the staging, dressing, and artists are so good it is a real feat. The Theatre has been crowded every night since the opening. Amongst the number I have seen the Mayor and Mrs A. E. G. Rhodes, Lady Clifford, Mr and Mrs Wigram, Mr, Mrs and Miss Stead, Colonel and Mrs Gordon, Mr and Mrs Pyne, Mr and Mrs Woodroffe, Mr and Mrs Wardrop, Mr and Mrs P. Cowlishaw and Mrs Ogle, Dr. Otendin, Mrs J. C. Palmer, Mr and Mrs F. M. Wallace, Captain and Mrs Hawke, Mr and Mrs W. Wood, Mr and Mrs Walcot Wood, Mr and Mrs Peter Wood, Mr and Mrs H. Wood, Mr and Misses Denniston, Mr and Mrs W. B. Cowlishaw, Mr and Mrs Bickerton, Mr Fisher, Mr and Mrs Melville Jameson, Mr and Mrs Bond, Mr and Mrs Meredith-Kaye, Mrs and Misses Gibsons, Mr A., Mrs, and Miss Wildings, Mr, Mrs, and Miss Staveley, Mr, Mrs, and Miss Merton, Mrs G. F. and Miss Martin, Mr, Mrs, and Miss Bloxam, Mr, Mrs, and Miss Graham, Mr and Mrs Kinsey, Mrs W. A. Moore (Dunedin), Mr and Mrs Appleby, Mr and Mrs T. Garrard, Dr. and Mrs Jennings, Dr. and Mrs Morton Anderson, Dr. and Mrs R. Anderson, Dr. and Mrs Thacker, Mr and Mrs Cobham, Mr and Mrs B. M. Litchfield, Mr and Mrs E. Turrell, Mr and Mrs A. Macfarlane, Mr and Mrs Randal Macdonald, Professor, Mrs and Misses Cook, Mr and Mrs C. Dalgety, the Hon. E. C. J. and Mrs Stevens, Mr A., Mrs, and Misses Anderson, Mr J., Mrs and Miss Anderson, Mr and Mrs A. Bennett, Mr and Miss Burns, Mr and Mrs C. Price, Mrs J. Fairhurst, Mrs and Misses Allen, Mrs G. Kettlewell, Mrs L. Matson, Mr and Mrs D. Matson, Mr and Mrs G. Harris, Mrs V. and Miss Harris, Mrs Marks, Mr and Mrs J. R. Scott, Mr and Mrs Pat. Campbell, Mr, Mrs, and Misses Waymouth, Mr and Mrs N. Macbeth, Mr and Mrs P. Laurie, Mr and Mrs F. Barkas, Dr. and Mrs Talbot, Mr, Mrs, and Misses Bigg-Wither, Mr and Mrs Satchell, Mr and Mrs F. W. Thompson, Mr, Mrs, and Miss Secretan, Mr and Mrs Hill-Fisher, Mr and Mrs Burns, Mr, Mrs, and Miss Cracroft-Wilson, Mr and Mrs F. de C. Malet, Mr Chas., Mrs and Misses Lewis, Mr and Mrs G. Gould, Dr. and Misses Nedwill, Bishop, Mrs and Miss Julius, Mr, Mrs, and Miss Croxton, Mr H. D., Mrs, and Miss Carter, Mr and Miss Reeves, Mr, Mrs, and Miss Denham, Misses Fairhurst, Harper, Way, Hargreaves, Cox, Neave, Anger, Fodor, Freeman, Bullock, Earle, Campbell, Williams, Messrs W. and G. Stead, Cox, Grigg, Day, Perry, Mathias, Denniston, Collins, Williams, H. Laue, Harman, Bunz, Wallich, Rutherford, etc.

On Thursday the Mayor and Mrs A. E. G. Rhodes were "At Home" at the City Council Chambers, and a very large number of people attended. The stairs and rooms were prettily decorated, and tea, ices, etc., were served in the pretty Council Chamber. His Worship, and Mrs Rhodes received at the top of the stairs, the latter looked well in a mourning costume, large picture hat. Among the many present were:—Mrs J. C. Palmer; Mrs Morton Anderson, in royal blue coat and skirt, black hat and plumes with brilliant buckle; Mrs Deunlester, terra cotta gown trimmed with panne and cream lace, toque to correspond; Mrs H. Wood, dark coat and skirt, toque with blue trimming; Mrs Burns, black skirt, long fawn coat, black hat turned up in front, black plumes; Mrs Fynee, black gown, black and white toque; Mrs H. H. and Misses Cook, Mrs Croxton, black and white check Eton costume, straw hat; Mrs V.

Hargreaves, red cloth dress with black braid, cream lace collar, straw hat and pink sunshade; Mr and Mrs F. Graham; Mrs Graham, red dress, pink trimmed hat; Mrs Julius, red cloth gown trimmed with black velvet, black and steel bonnet; Mrs I. Gibbs, very pale grey with lovely cream lace and black velvet trimming, handsome black velvet long coat embroidered in jet, pretty toque; Mrs (Dr.) Jennings, dark coat and skirt, violet toque; Mrs (Col.) Gordon, black Eton costume, red silk vest under-sleeves and waist belt, black plumed hat; Mrs Stead, dark coat and skirt, turquoise blue trimmed hat, white feather boa; Mrs Ogle, black gown, bright rose pink trimmed hat; Mrs Wigram; Mrs Pat. Campbell; Mrs Randal Macdonald; Mrs Pyne; Mrs W. J. Bruce, black Eton costume, cream lace revers, rose pink vest, pretty toque; Mrs Appleby; Mrs Andrew and Miss Anderson; Mrs R. Snow; Mrs Hare; Mrs W. Wood, pale grey Eton costume, navy blue trimmed hat; Mr and Mrs W. D. Wood; Mr and Mrs A. Kaye; Mrs and Misses Bowen; Mrs E. C. J. Stevens; Lady Clifford; Mr and Miss Waymouth; Mrs McDougall; Mrs and Miss Young; Mr and Miss Connal; Mrs and Miss Wynn-Williams; Mr and Mrs Kinsey; Mrs G. and Miss Martin; Miss I. Martin; Mrs and Miss McIntyre; Mrs D. Matson; Mrs and Miss (Dr.) Thomas; Mrs and Miss R. D. Thomas; Mrs L. Matson; Mrs Kettlewell; Mrs Secretan; Mrs Weetman; Mrs T. Garrard; Mrs Thacker; Mrs and Miss S. D. Barker; Misses Way; Hargreaves, Alieu, Heywood, Lean, Slater, Julius, Anbler, Wilkin, Reeves, Anger, Cracroft-Wilson, Denniston, Bullock, Harman, Wilson, and many others.

On Friday, at "Warrimoo," Papanui Road, Mrs. J. J. Kinsey entertained a number of friends at afternoon tea, to meet Mrs. W. A. Moore, nee Kinsey, now of Dunedin, who has been visiting her mother with her little daughter for a month. A delicious tea, fruit salad, etc., was served in the dining-room, and the wee Maiden Moore was brought in several times to be introduced to the visitors. Mrs. Kinsey wore a handsome black dress, with jet trimmings, and a little cream lace; Mrs. Moore, a dainty gown of grey embroidered canvas over shell pink silk, soft full vest of pink chiffon, black velvet rosette, fastened with diamond crescent on one side. Among the many guests were: Mrs. Denniston, in terra cotta gown; Mrs. G. G. Stead, dark coat and skirt, blue trimmed hat; Mrs. Jennings, dark gown, purple toque; Mrs. Morton Anderson, blue coat and skirt, black plumed hat; Mrs. R. Anderson, brown coat and skirt, buttercup full vest, relieved with cream lace and black velvet, hat to match; Mrs. A. Anderson, pale grey jacket, black skirt and hat; Mrs. G. Bennett, all black Eton costume; Mrs. Staveley, black cloth skirt, silk blouse, relieved with white lace, black hat; Mrs. I. Gibbs, handsome black satin, the skirt tucked to the waist, Eton coat to match, white yoke and under-sleeves of chiffon edged with blue velvet, pretty plumed hat, large chiffon ruffle; Mrs. Malet, all black; Mrs. Webb (Adelaide), mourning costume; Mrs. Weetman, cream serge coat and skirt, with cream lace revers, straw hat; Mrs. Meredith-Kaye, blue and white foulard, pale blue tucked yoke, pretty toque; Mrs. T. Garrard, black cloth skirt, brocade blouse, white silk under sleeves, transparent collar, black velvet hat; Mrs. F. Waymouth, black net frilled skirt over black silk, the frills edged with bebe ribbon, chine silk blouse under Eton coat, cut rather low, and short sleeves, allowing blouse to show, Tuscan hat with lovely shaded roses; Mrs. H. E. McDougall, mourning costume; Mrs. Peter Wood, navy blue skirt, pale grey jacket, blue trimmed hat and quills, chiffon ruffle edged with poppy petals; Mrs. Julius, red cloth gown, relieved with black velvet, black bonnet with white aigrette; Mrs. (Dr.) Thomas, black gown, white revers, veiled with black lace, black and white bonnet; Mrs. Secretan, all black; Mrs. H. Wood; Mrs. W. Wood, black cloth skirt, blouse of navy silk and cream insertion, navy trimmed hat; Miss Wilson (England), blue cloth coat and skirt; Misses Way (2), G. Anderson, Julius, McKerran (Dunedin), L. Martin and A. Martin. Several

songs were sung during the afternoon, and Mrs. Moore gave a selection on the pianola. By the way, have you heard this wonderful invention? It has found its way into several houses in Christchurch, and the next thing will be our young people will be refusing to spend the time practising, when you can buy it already done for you.

The news of the death of Mrs. W. Devenish-Mearns, which took place at her residence, Cambridge Terrace, on Monday, was received with genuine regret by a very large circle of friends. Her long lingering illness has been unutterably sad for the family; everything possible was done, but they were quite helpless, and only had to wait. The deepest sympathy is felt for Mr. Mearns and family—six daughters and one son. Three daughters have not yet returned from Germany, where Mrs. Mearns left them to continue their studies, though, I believe, they are on their way out.

DOLLY VALE.

The Marshal's Thinking.

"I thought, Sir," said one of Napoleon's Marshals to him during a private interview at which the Emperor was giving the military man certain important instructions, "I thought, Sir—"

Quick as a wink the small Corsican went into one of his fits of cold rage and flew at the Marshal like a jungle tiger at an elephant.

"You thought! you! you!" he shrieked in a voice raucous as the cry of a peacock and full of malignant devilry. "What have you to do with thinking? Obey your orders, Sir, and leave the thinking to me. Go, now, before I strike you with my riding whip; go, go!"

Yet in the Tenth Hussars there was a better thinker than Napoleon, for on the latter's return from Eiba the Hussar (once a Parisian cobbler) predicted Waterloo.

Shoemakers and tailors are commonly intellectual men, and most of them dyspeptics. Too much cogitation and too little exercise does it.

Mr F. P. Le Breton, of 128, King-street, Sydenham, Christchurch, New Zealand, is a tailor, and, judging from a clear-headed letter of his,

dated December 15th, 1893, he is a good deal of a thinker. Away back in his younger days he lived at Beasfield, Ashburton, where his father had a large farm and employed a number of men. When any of these men became ill, as often happened, Le Breton's mother and he used to cure them with Mother Seigel's Syrup. They had heard of it through a pamphlet received from London.

"When I was a mere youth," says Mr Le Breton, "I underwent great pain and anxiety from kidney trouble. No treatment mitigated it, and I suffered thus until I reached my young manhood. It was then we read of Mother Seigel's Syrup, and I first used it.

"The effect of the medicine surprised us all. Within 3 months I was quite well, my kidneys acting perfectly and the pain completely gone.

"It will show how deep the cure went down, and how real and genuine it was, when I mention that I felt not even a suspicion of my former complaint for eleven years.

"We then removed here to Christchurch, where I began business as a tailor and cutter. After a time I had a slight renewal of the kidney disorder, caused, no doubt, by my sedentary mode of life. It troubled me but little, yet why should I endure it at all when the remedy which delivered me once before was within easy reach?

"I found immediately that its natural efficacy had not departed from Mother Seigel's Syrup. A few small doses—only ten drops each—went straight to the affected parts and made them sound and whole once more.

"My mother is 82 years old, enjoys excellent health, and has the skin and complexion of a young woman. This she attributes to her having used Mother Seigel's Syrup off and on for many years.

"I have lived in this locality for eleven years, and most of the people here can vouch for the truth of what I tell you."

We all do some trifle of thinking for ourselves; and among the things we agree upon—as proved by abundant evidence—is this: That if there is a remedy which, above all others, can be trusted to cure most of our complaints, the name of it is Mother Seigel's Syrup.



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