

Personal Paragraphs.

Judge Edger and Mrs Edger, of Auckland, are at present in Rotorua.

Mrs Chaytor, of Ekenhead, is visiting Rotorua at present.

Miss Riddiford (Wellington) is visiting Mrs. Lindsay, Timaru.

Mr B. Acton-Adams (Tipapa) has gone to Australia for a holiday.

Miss Mabel Mee (Wellington) is staying with relatives in Timaru.

Mrs Mackie, of Nelson, has gone to Wellington for a trip.

The Misses Pollen have returned to Wellington after a long round of visits among friends and relatives.

Miss Grace Harcourt has returned to Wellington after a long stay in the South Island.

Mr and Mrs Stead and family returned to "Strowan" from Summer at the end of last week.

Mrs Julius is staying at the Convalescent Home for a little rest and change to the hills.

Mr and Mrs H. J. Matthews, of Wellington, are visiting Rotorua at present.

Mrs and Miss Luman have had a delightful holiday in Timaru, and returned to Christchurch last week.

Mrs E. Mahony, who has been on a visit to Okoroire and Rotorua, has returned to Auckland.

Mr and Mrs John Deans, Riccarton, are talking of a trip to England very shortly.

Mr W. P. Cowlishaw and Miss Cowlishaw left for Auckland last week, to join the excursion steamer for Fiji.

Mr F. Fraser has returned to New Plymouth, after his very pleasant trip to South Africa.

Mr and Mrs Louis Hayman (Sydney) were in Christchurch last week, and have gone on to Dunedin.

Mr and Mrs Alex. Roberts (Westerfield) are staying at Summer for a change.

Dr. Leatham has been on a short visit to Auckland, but has now returned to New Plymouth.

Miss Woolcombe, of Timaru, who has been staying in Nelson with Mrs Hudson, left for her home last week.

Mrs. and Miss Martin passed through Wellington lately on their way to Napier, where they mean to take up their residence.

Mrs. W. Barton (Wairarapa) is on a round of visits in Canterbury, and was recently staying with Mr. and Mrs. A. K. G. Rhodes at Te Koraha.

Miss Rutherford, of Kaitiaki, who has been on a long visit to Mrs Benwick, and other Nelson friends, left Nelson last Friday.

The ranks of the legal profession in Wellington have been increased by admittance of Mr. A. J. Wiren, to practice as a solicitor.

Mrs Pearson has been on a short visit to her sister, Miss Browning, of Nelson, but left again for Sydney on Friday last.

Among the debutantes at the Coronation ball at Government House will be Miss Grace Harcourt, Miss H. Osborne-Gibbes and Miss Ewen.

Mr and Mrs W. Broom (nee Miss Maud Freeth), of New Plymouth, are spending their honeymoon in Wanganui.

Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton (Christchurch) passed through Wellington lately on their way home from Auckland.

Mrs Westmacott returns to Waimate this week, having thoroughly enjoyed revisiting Christchurch, and will be up again for the Coronation ball.

Mrs Devore and Miss Devore, who have been visiting Mrs Collins, of New Plymouth, have returned to their home in Pongoby.

Mrs Worsley has returned to Auckland after a long visit to her daughter, Mrs Hughings Jackson, Christchurch. She intends to visit her sons, Waikato, later on.

Mr. Ferguson, secretary to the Wellington Harbour Board, was a passenger from Sydney by the Mokola after a business visit to Australia.

The Wellington Highland Rifles are to appear for the first time in their full-dress uniform—McKenzie tartan—at their first annual ball on July 4.

The Misses Harding are back in Wellington after a visit of some weeks to Dunedin, where they have been paying a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Graham.

The Misses O'Connor (Wellington) have gone to Auckland to join the Waikare for the South Sea Island trip, which includes the Coronation festivities at Fiji.

Mrs Smalley spent last Monday in Nelson, on her way to Auckland from the South. In the afternoon she was entertained by a number of her friends in the Wesleyan Sunday school room.

News has been received in Wellington that Mrs Percival Johnston, who has been for many years residing in London, intends to return to New Zealand, and will take up her residence permanently in Wellington.

Miss K. Miller, who has been on a visit to Auckland, returned to Napier by the Te Anau on Saturday. She intends calling at Gisborne for a few days, and will catch the Moura from that port for home.

Captain and Miss McClatchie, of Christchurch, are visiting Mrs McIntosh, the former's daughter, of New Plymouth; then they are going to Nelson, where they will reside for the winter.

The numerous friends of Dr. J. H. Townsend, Christchurch, will regret to hear of his very serious illness. There has been a slight improvement the last few days. His daughters are expected out from England by the Gothic, now on her way.

Colonel Holdsworth and Captain Taylor, of the Imperial army, who have been engaged in the colony in purchasing remounts, have received instructions from the War Office to abandon negotiations, and to return to England, the surrender of the Boers having made further supplies unnecessary.

Among recent visitors to the colony are Dr. and Mrs. Douglas, of Cape-town, who have been some weeks in New Zealand. Now peace has been declared Dr. and Mrs Douglas are hastening back to South Africa, having thoroughly done the sights of this colony and benefited by the change.

Albert Hotel:—V. H. Hope, Ohampoo; A. McIntosh, Manurewa; Mr and Mrs Wilton and two children, Melbourne; Mr Robertson, New Plymouth; Mr Bancroft, New Plymouth; Mr Woodrond, Sydney; Mr and Mrs Cable and the Misses Cable, Wellington. Going by Waikare, Wednesday: S. J. Gentle, Sydney; W. Howard, Sydney.

Mrs. Rhind (Wellington) has been visiting Christchurch—in order to be present at the Palmer-Tahart wedding, her little daughter Gladys being one of the bridesmaids. Mrs. Rhind was the guest of Judge and Mrs. Denniston during her stay in the Cathedral City.

A most interesting and instructive lecture-concert was given in Wellington last week by Mr. R. Parker, the subject being the life and works of Beethoven. The soloists of the evening were Miss Janet Ross (piano) and Miss Kennedy (violin). Some of Beethoven's instrumental work was rendered by a miniature orchestra, including the famous septet, which is very rarely heard in the colony.

Miss Fookes left New Plymouth last week for Suva, where she is to be married to Mr Nicholl, of the Bank of New Zealand there, and she is accompanied by Miss Margaret Fookes, who, with others, is to act as bridesmaid. Miss Fookes, who is a great favourite with both sexes, received numerous handsome presents and cheques, and she takes with her the good wishes of her many friends for health and happiness in her new sphere of life.

The arrival of the Japanese officers of the battleships Hiei and Kongo in Rotorua, and the consequent cooping of the greyer, caused some little excitement last week. The

native welcomed them cordially, and the officers were very much taken with the poi dances, haka, and waltz performed by the Maoris on the Saturday evening. Numbers of people were at Whakarewarewa on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons to see "Walroa" scooped, and it performed magnificently each time. The officers were shown over the Sunatorium and grounds, and went over the wonders of Tikitere.

By the "Carriage Monthly" this mail we learn that another Auckland boy has gained for himself distinction. We refer to Mr J. Lawrence Hill, who has graduated at the Technical College of New York, thus gaining his diploma as a carriage draughtsman and mechanic, coming out top against representatives of the world. Mr Hill served his apprenticeship at Mr J. Grice's, in the northern town of Whangarei, and was for over two years employed at Gee and Potter's, in this city, and during that time was a regular attendant of the Auckland Technical School. Some years ago he went to the United States to study his trade, with the result above mentioned. We feel proud that Auckland is again placed at the head of the world, and must congratulate Mr Hill upon his splendid achievement. Mr Hill's parents reside at North Shore.

On Friday week the officers and staff of the Kauri Timber Company assembled to convey their expression of esteem to Mr T. B. Brown on the occasion of his severance with the company. The general manager (Mr John Robb) occupied the chair, and in a few well-chosen remarks touched upon the purpose of the gathering, and invited the secretary (Mr Stanley Milroy) to present to Mr Brown a small souvenir from those present. Mr Milroy thereupon, on behalf of the officers and staff of the company, called upon Mr Brown to accept a gold Albert. The recipient in appropriate terms expressed his gratitude, after which other members of the staff spoke in most complimentary terms on the genial manner and ability of Mr Brown, and one and all joined in wishing him a successful and prosperous career.

The Union Company's steamer Waikare leaves on an excursion to Fiji on Wednesday afternoon. Already the whole of the passenger accommodation has been taken up. At Suva a number of native celebrations will be held. The installation of King Edward VII. as supreme native chief of Fiji, with old native customs, rites, and ceremonies, will be the great event of the celebrations, which commence on June 23 and continue daily until the 28th, the celebrations concluding on that date with a great native regatta, in which exhibitions of war canoes and other native craft will be given. The ceremonies will be preceded by "Burus," the ending of the period of mourning for the late Queen Victoria, which will be observed at Suva on June 23. On the 30th, the day after the native regatta, the Waikare will leave for the fruit ports, and is timed to sail from Suva for Auckland on July 1, arriving here on the 5th. The following is a list of the Auckland passengers: Mr and Mrs James Hume, Mr and Mrs Hirst, Messames Bloomfield, Eccles, Keith, Valdare, Wilson, Smith, Misses Burke, Court (2), Casey (2), Hawkes, Ledingham, Leys, McKellar, Neil, Rae, Shannon, Valdare, Dr. Smith, Captain Stanhope, Messrs Allen, R. Burke, J. Buchanan, Bourne, A. H. Curtis, M. Casey, Court, Thomas Cotter, C. Harris, C. Leys, Lees, A. Toomas, Valdare, Zamoni, J. M. Smith, From Gisborne: Mr and Mrs J. Caesar, Mr and Mrs Evans, Mr and Mrs McMillan, Mr and Mrs H. Warren, Messrs R. Atkins, H. Eade, Iveson.

Sergt. Kenneth G. Malcolm, of the Seventh Contingent, son of the late Mr Neil Malcolm, of Waiwera, was amongst the convalescent soldiers who returned from South Africa via Sydney by the Zealandia last week. Sergt. Malcolm enjoys the proud distinction of being one of the veterans of the memorable Bothasberg fight on February 27th last, when the Seventh sustained 68 casualties (26 killed). He describes the scene in and around the Seventh's trenches on the morning after the battle as

the most terrible sight he has ever seen—a long line of dead, dying and wounded men. He himself was wounded, being shot through the right shoulder during the desperate midnight attack by the Boers. After he was wounded he fired three shots and then had to give up owing to what he modestly phrases the "awkwardness" of firing with a bullet through the shoulder. The New Zealanders had dug wide, shallow trenches the previous night for shelter and thrown up the sods in front, and in these trenches the next morning the dead and wounded were found. The firing was terrific, as continuous as a heavy hail shower. Sergt. Malcolm mentions that one Mauser bullet went clean through a heavy iron spade which had been left sticking in the ground close to one of the trenches, and blankets, oil sheets and overcoats were perforated "like the top of a pepper-box." Some of the bullets cut clean furrows along the ground, as if by a miniature plough. The sergeant eulogises South Africa as an agricultural and pastoral country from what he saw of it. He says he travelled over large areas of what looked the finest country in the world.

Among the numerous visitors to the Star Hotel during the past week were Mr and Miss Cowlishaw, C. F. Todhunter, C. Ziella, Mrs Ballantyne, Miss Hayes (Christchurch), Major Phillips, F. Ferris, A. Duig, A. H. James, G. Whiteaway, Miss Alleyne, Mr and Mrs Malwood and child, Hon. W. Johnston and valet (England), D. McPherson, R. Bulure, Mr and Mrs R. Wheeler, D. Scouler, G. Young (Dunedin), W. Honey, A. Lyons, C. H. Seville, A. H. Webster, C. Ziella, G. Smith (Wellington), F. B. Guthrie, J. Woolston and valet (Colombo), Count Kunth (Copenhagen), Mr and Mrs Grant (Dunedin), G. White (Ireland), Louis Ogilvie, H. Benjohn, Miss Evans (Melbourne), John Lathrop (Philadelphia), Mr and Mrs Macmillan, J. MacFarlane, W. Sinclair (Gisborne), John Stevens, M.H.R., Lieutenant Priour (Durban), G. McWilliam, J. H. Keat (Glasgow), H. James (Derby), J. Orr (Ashburton), W. Farquhar, P. Chambers, W. Little (Sydney), T. Hunt, Mr and Mrs Evans (Timaru), G. Chadwick (Sydney), A. A. Bethune (Wellington), Humphrey Berkeley, Mrs Boddard (Suva, Fiji), Major Westmacott, Mr Hitchman (London), H. Trapp (Melbourne).

Visitors at the Central Hotel:—Mrs and Mr McLean, Otago; Mrs Syme, Karangahake; Mr Donaldson, Sydney; Mrs Brown, Christchurch; Mr and Mrs Wyatt, Whangarei; Mr and Mrs Moran, Christchurch; Miss Smith; Mr and Mrs Brown, Waipawa; Major Loveday, Wellington; Mr Grant, Napier; Mr Walker, Mr Close, Mr Lewin; Mr Carpenter, Sydney; Mr Wotton, Sydney; Mr Natasch, Gisborne; Mrs Gooch, Gisborne; Mr Sheriff, Gisborne; Mr Allen, Gisborne; Mr Adair, Gisborne; Mr and Mrs Evans, Gisborne; Capt. Holmes, Gisborne; Mr Murray, Christchurch; Mr Hooley, Gisborne; Mr Dickeson, Kaitiaki; Mrs and Miss Dickeson, Bay of Islands; Mr Smith, Sydney; Mr and Mrs Caesar, Gisborne; Mr and Mrs Wilkinson; Mr and Mrs Dansey, Rotorua; Morkane, Dunedin; Dr. and Mrs Aubin, Waipi; Archibald Smith, Scotland; Mr Gray; Mr Burton, Kame; Mr McKay, Whangarei; Miss McMath, Sydney; Mr Murray, Christchurch; Dr. Pomare, Auckland; Mr Albert Levy, Wellington; Mr and Mrs Rasmerson, Northern Wairoa; Mrs Clifford (and Miss); Mrs Swann.

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