

wearing a black voile gown and jet bonnet with ospreys; Mrs A. Pearce, a pale grey gown trimmed with cream lace, and a black toque with chiffon and tips; Mrs Frank Perry (Napier), a pale biscuit-coloured gown with insertions of wide ecru guipure, and the tattered bolero worn over a lace blouse, straw hat trimmed with pink roses; Mrs Purdy had a grey Eton gown, and black and cream toque; Mrs D. Nathan, pale blue linen gown, and black and white toque with feathers; Mrs I. Johnston, a cream gown, and long voile coat trimmed with black velvet, cream hat with pink ribbon and lace; Mrs T. Young, a cream serge gown and toque with flowers; Mrs Palmer (Christchurch), a neat navy blue gown, and Panama hat; Mrs Marchbanks, fawn coat and skirt, and hat trimmed with pale blue; Mrs C. Izard, in a holland gown, and black toque; Mrs Cecil Kebbell had a biscuit-coloured voile and lace gown, and toque to match; Mrs H. A. Crawford, a white spotted silk gown trimmed with lace, and a black and white toque; Mrs H. Gore, smoke grey gown, and black toque with pink roses; Miss Gore wore white muslin, and a straw hat with green satin and flowers; Miss Tolhurst, a blue silk gown, and white hat; Miss Fitzherbert, pink voile with white vest, and a black hat with tips; Miss I. Fitzherbert had a white serge Eton gown, and floral toque; Miss Abbott, a fawn cloth gown trimmed with ecru guipure, and a red hat; Miss F. Brandon, a red skirt and hat, white silk blouse; Miss Higginson, grass lawn and lace over green, and a black toque; Miss Rawson, a black gown with lace collar, and large hat with flowers; Miss O. Rawson, in a dark blue coat and skirt, and cream hat; the Misses Fell, blue voile gowns trimmed with lace, black hats; Miss M. Fell wore a green dress with lace collar, and a white hat; Miss O. Fitzgerald, pretty cream muslin and lace gown, and burnt straw hat with pink roses; Miss Bell, a pink linen gown and straw hat with pink roses; Miss Johnston, a dark skirt, white silk blouse and white hat; Miss D. Johnston, in a pink linen gown, and large white hat; Miss Cooper, green linen trimmed with lace, and a black hat; Miss Harcourt,

pale blue muslin gown, and black hat; Miss O'Conner, grey voile and lace gown, and pink hat trimmed with satin and roses to match; Miss Stowe, in a green gown, and black hat; Miss Hishop, a grey voile gown trimmed with lace, and a black hat; Miss J. Hishop, a blue frieze gown with lace collar, black hat; Miss Foote, heliotrope linen gown, white hat with ribbon; Miss Simpson, white gown, and white hat with flowers and black velvet; Miss Somerville, in a light muslin gown and hat; the Misses Russell (Hawke's Bay) wore white skirts and silk blouses, black hats with plumes; Miss Frick, in a cream gown, and large cream hat with red flowers; Mrs Ian Duncan, dark skirt and white blouse, black and white toque; Miss Grace, white muslin, and hat with flowers and lace; Miss M. Johnston (Hawke's Bay), white muslin and lace gown, and a black hat. There were many others, but it was impossible to see them among such a crowd. The visiting cricketers are being entertained to-night at a small dance given by Mrs C. Johnston. To-morrow, Mr Coates entertains them at a farewell dinner at the Wellington Club, and they leave the same night for Australia.

lance. Miss Seymour (Picton) came second with a decoration of heliotrope sweet peas. Another pretty table had yellow rubecias. Mrs Riddell (Picton) took several prizes, being first in shower bouquet, and also in the bridal suite competition. The children's exhibits were very good. The show was kept open for two days, and though the heat destroyed the flowers the interest in various competitions kept up a lively interest in the show till the end. There was also a concert on Thursday evening in connection with the show, the Rev. Father Servajan being much applauded for his singing of "Marguerite." Mrs Hale sang "Merry Zingara," Miss F. Morrison "Out on the Rocks." Selections by St. Mary's Orchestra, and an instrumental trio by Mesdames Mitchell and Edwards and Mr F. Hale were among the contributions. Guessing competitions were also an attraction.

ton of Captain McArthur, of the Penguin, regretted exceedingly to hear of the mishap to the steamer, which went aground at Waahi Point, near Jackson's Head, last week. All the passengers, among whom were General Babington and suite, also the member for Nelson (Mr Graham), speak in the highest terms of Captain McArthur's calmness and efficiency, and the manner in which the boats were swung out and provisioned, ready for any emergency, was quite beautiful to see. Every man was at his post, and everything done, before the passengers realised there was anything amiss. A testimonial was got up, and on the passengers leaving the boat in Nelson three hearty cheers were given to the captain.

Major-General Babington, Major Wolfe and Captain Campbell arrived in Picton on Tuesday, and after inspecting the Picton Rifles and putting them through their drill, the General and staff went on to Blenheim by train, and inspected the Mounted Rifles, Blenheim Rifles, etc.

A picnic party, consisting of Mrs Lecocq, Mrs Riddell, Mrs Dawson, Misses Western (2), Philpotts (2), and Seymour, took advantage of mail day to go to Endeavour Inlet and cruise round the Sound, calling at the various places where His Majesty's mails are delivered.

Another large excursion is on to-day from Blenheim and the country down the Sound to Torea and Double Bay. The weather is perfect, and no doubt everybody will enjoy these marine excursions, which are always so popular.

BLACKBERRY PICNICS

are very popular just now, and almost as plentiful as blackberries. The Blenheim High School girls went off by drag to gather fruit at Waikakaho on Saturday, and the Borough School girls went by train to Para for the same purpose. Both parties were equally successful, and enjoyed their outing immensely.

The new Anglican church at Kaikoura was opened on Thursday last. The dedication sermon was preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Grace, of Blenheim. The Rev. C. E. Livesay, of Kaikoura, the Rev. T. Smith, of Renwick, and the Rev. H. Howel, of Havelock, took part in the ceremony. The building is a handsome one, and two memorial windows, given by the congregation as a tribute to the memory of Queen Victoria, are a feature of the structure.

OPHELLA.

MARLBOROUGH.

Dear Bee, March 13.
The Marlborough's Horticultural Society's

SUMMER SHOW,

held in Blenheim on Wednesday last, was really a great success, and though the pot plants were not so good as usual, cut blooms were very good, and vegetables and fruit exceeded all expectations. Mrs Allen (Picton) and Mrs Vickers were judges for table decorations, floral designs, and bouquets, etc., Mrs Orr and Mrs Litchfield judges for domestic produce, while Messrs Hale and Chinn judged in pot plants, cut blooms, and fruits and vegetables. Miss Clare took first prize for her artistic table decoration, which was done with English clematis, Japanese anemones, and large yellow coreopsis, with a centre of point

A smart little LUNCHEON PARTY

was given by the captain of the Corinthian on board the ship in Picton. The affair was a very smart and enjoyable one, the guests being Dr. and Mrs Redman, Mr and Miss Seymour, Mr and Mrs Lecocq, Mr and Mrs Maitland, Mrs Dawson, Mr Mitchell, etc., etc.

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