

two months, passed through Wellington last week on their way home again.

Mr. J. B. Clarkson (Palmerston North) has just left on a flying trip to England, via America, returning in four months' time.

Captain Hurst, late of the ship Castleholme, who has been in hospital for some time, left Wellington for Sydney, en route to England, last Saturday.

Mrs. Simons, who is the wife of the British Consul at Papeete, arrived in Auckland by the Taviuni on Wednesday on a visit to Auckland.

Mr and Mrs Beck, Mr and Mrs Batchelar, and Mr L. Simmonds, of Palmerston North, are making a trip to Fiji and the principal South Sea Islands.

Mr. Grainger (Crown Lands Administrator in Bulawayo, Rhodesia), is visiting New Zealand, and is now on his way to Wanganui, Woodville and Auckland.

Mr Bridge, Christchurch, has arrived in Picton to take up a position in the service of the Christchurch Meat Company, at Kaipapa.

Miss Babington, sister of General Babington, Wellington, has left New Zealand and returned to her home in England.

Mr W. Webster, with his two daughters, Misses B. and L. Webster, left New Plymouth last week for a six weeks' trip to Sydney.

Mr W. Devenish Meares (Christchurch) is taking a holiday trip to England by the Athenic, and expects to be away about six months.

Mr W. M. Douglas and Mr Bullock Webster are much missed in the hunting field in the Waikato, where they have followed the hounds for so many years.

Mr F. M. Scully, of the G.P.O., Auckland, leaves for the South next week to attend the sitting of the New Zealand Post and Telegraph Board of Appeal. The sitting commences on May 26.

Miss Eileen Lewis is said to have a very good chance of being some time the lady golf champion of New Zealand, if she continues playing in her present style.

Mr V. G. Day, who formerly belonged to Auckland, has lately been appointed Stipendiary Magistrate and Warden of Westland. He is a nephew of the famous cricketer, Dr. Grace.

Mr Richard May, Auckland, was just 49 years ago on H.M.S. Tiger, which ran ashore during the Crimean War at Odessa, all the crew being taken prisoners.

Mrs Westmacott (South Canterbury), accompanied by her daughter, is visiting in Christchurch at present. They are the guests of Mrs Denniston, Armagh-street.

The Rev. D. Martin, of the Martinborough Presbyterian Church, is resigning his position owing to ill-health. It is not improbable that during the present year he will visit England.

Mr. and Mrs. George Musgrave (Cumberland) started on their return journey by the last San Francisco mail steamer, and will spend some time in the States before going on to England.

The Rev. A. Beavin, who has been curate to the Rev. F. P. Fendall in the Rangiora parish for about eighteen months, will shortly leave to become vicar of the Little River parish.

Mr John Park, manager of the Onehunga Woollen Company, has resigned in order to make an extended tour of the United States of America. He leaves by the next "Frisco" steamer.

Among candidates for the vacant seat on the Wellington Education Board, caused by the retirement of Mr. J. R. Blair, are Mr. W. Field, M.H.R., and Mr. J. W. McDonald.

Mr T. Crosse was tendered a farewell dinner by the members of the Hawke's Bay Club last Monday week. Mr and Mrs Crosse and family left Hastings for Wellington on route for England last week.

The appointment of Brigade-surgeon Lieut.-Colonel S. Sherman, V.D., as Brigadier-Surgeon-General, in succession to the late Hon. Dr. Grace, is gazetted. Dr. Sherman practices at Marton.

There is a movement on foot to present Mr. Hogg, M.H.R. for Wairarapa, with a substantial recognition of the valuable services he has rendered to the district as a member of the Land Board.

The Hon. G. F. Richardson, who was commissioned by the Government to inspect all the Crown settlements on the East Coast and in the north of Auckland, has returned to Wellington.

Mr and Mrs A. Thomson (Wanganui) are spending a few days in Wellington with their relations, Mr and Mrs A. D. Thomson, prior to going to England, by the San Francisco route.

Dr. and Mrs T. Guthrie have returned after a lengthy absence from Christchurch. Part of their time they spent in India, where they were fortunate enough to witness the Durbar.

Mr J. T. Stemberge, secretary for the Opakeke Road Board, has been elected for the fourteenth time secretary of that body, having been in the colony only 13 years.

Mr John King, registrar of electors at Auckland, has been suffering from illness for some time past, and proposes to visit the Hot Lakes district during this month for a change.

Mr Busch, the well-known horse-owner of Rangiora, is visiting Auckland, and goes to Hotorua this week. He was present at the Takapuna meeting on Saturday.

The Hon. Mr. McCowan, Minister for Mines, will visit the West Coast in a few weeks' time. Newspapers in that part of the colony state that there is a possibility of a visit from the Premier shortly.

Mr Harry Henderson, of Merton, recently killed by a kick from a horse, was the oldest volunteer of the oldest company in New Zealand, and at the time of his death was on the volunteer reserve list. He was sixty-four years of age.

Mr T. Coles, manager for Messrs R. Furness and Co. in their jam department, has been presented by the staff with a case of pipes on the occasion of his visit to England on a six months' holiday.

Captain Colbeck, of the Kaipara, is getting a motor car, which is now on its way out from England. Bishop Leman is also thinking of getting one, as he has so much travelling to do that a motor car would be most useful.

Mr Stone, of Ashburton, Canterbury, has recently bought the homestead of the Woodlands Estate, Waikato. Farmers from the South are rapidly buying a great many of the best farms in the Waikato district.

The Napier Cathedral choir made a presentation last week to one of their members, Miss Smythe, who is leaving Napier for England very shortly. The presentation consisted of a silver-mounted dressing case set.

Mr H. D. Storer, who is regarded by the public as the "brain" of the Victorian engine-drivers and firemen, is described as a man of marked ability, who has passed with credit through all branches of the service.

Miss Anna Pauline Boek, of Auckland, has received from the South Kensington Society of Arts the full "Art Class Teachers' Certificate," which qualifies her to teach in any art school in Great Britain or the colonies.

The Rev. R. J. Allsworth, formerly pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, in Picton, has been relieving the Rev. Mr Robb, for a couple of Sundays in Blenheim, but has now returned to the North.

The Rev. William Gillies, who resigned his pastorate at Timaru in order to devote himself to the Presbyterian Jubilee Fund, has decided to accept the "call" recently given to him from the Tauranga Church.

Mr A. Cable, of Port Chalmers, who is going to Western Australia, to inquire into the possibilities of the foundry industry there, was given a smoke concert on the eve of his departure by his Port Chalmers friends.

Miss A. C. Tendall, principal of the Girls' College, Nelson, and her mother, have gone to London, via the United States. Miss Tendall and her mother will make a tour of Europe, and return via the Suez Canal to New Zealand.

Mrs. McConnell and Mrs. Colbeck received their trophies won at croquet down at the Auckland lawns last Tuesday. Mrs. McConnell was presented with a very handsome silver cake basket, and Mrs. Wilfrid Colbeck with a gold and greenstone pendant.

Mr R. H. Fisher, who for the past fifteen years has been representing

Messrs Joseph Nathan and Co., on the East and West Coasts of the North Island, has been appointed to represent the tea merchants, Messrs Nelson, Moate and Co., in Wellington and the suburbs.

Mr H. Kempthorne, a Nelson boy, who is in the service of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, has been transferred from Labuan, North Borneo, to Cocos Islands. He is a son of the Rev. J. P. Kempthorne, vicar of Christchurch Cathedral, Nelson.

Lieut.-Colonel F. W. Abbott (Auckland) and Captain R. Stevenson (Wanganui) will be presented with their D.S.O.'s by His Excellency the Governor at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the Veterans' Home on May 25.

Charles Hirawani is the first Maori to receive the Royal Humane Society's Medal for bravery. The Governor presented the medal to him at Te Aroha last Friday, and congratulated him upon winning it so nobly. Hirawani saved several people from burning and certain death.

The opening meet of the Waikato Hounds took place last Saturday week. The hounds ran towards Bruntwood, where they stayed most of the day, putting up several hares, which are rather too numerous for the scent in that part of the country, as many as eight or nine sometimes appearing within an hour.

Captain Jackson Barry, a very well-known old colonist, has been far from well for some time. He is in Auckland at present, and intends going to Rotorua shortly, hoping to benefit by his visit there. His interesting book about the early days of the colonies must be well-known to all.

Archdeacon Frere, who was formerly well known in New Zealand, and a few years ago was curate at Kurow, and at Gore, Otago, is now engaged in missionary work in Asia Minor, and had some exciting adventures in the recent riots at Beirut.

Mr Wenley, a well-known resident of Hawke's Bay, is on a visit to England, where he will represent the Hawke's Bay Agricultural and Pastoral Association at the International Sheep Breeders' Association, which is to be held in England in June.

The Rev. James Dunstan, of Foxton, who is now ninety years of age, and who is the oldest Presbyterian minister in New Zealand, continues physically active, and his mental faculties are unimpaired. He has been a resident in the colony for upwards of sixty years, and is a thorough Maori scholar.

Mr W. S. Turner, general manager for Messrs J. G. White and Co., Limited, who carried out the Auckland electric tram contract, intends to leave for the States by the outward mail steamer en route for London. He thereafter goes to Manila to carry out another big tramway contract. Mr Eddy takes charge of the firm's business here.

Mr C. J. Moran, M.L.A., West Australia, who is touring New Zealand, was in Wellington lately after an exhaustive inspection of the West Coast, of which he has a high opinion. Mr Moran goes North by way of Taranaki, where he will inspect some of the dairy-fing districts.

The employees of the Wellington and Manawatu Railway Company have made a presentation of a silver-mounted biscuit barrel and other useful articles to Mr A. Cassie, late coaching foreman at the Wellington station, who has been promoted to the post of stationmaster at Paikakariki.

Mr McKenna, the well-known stationmaster at Wanganui, is contemplating retirement from the public service, and will probably live in Palmerston North. Mr McKenna, who is one of the most distinguished veterans in New Zealand, is the proud possessor of the coveted V.C., among other war decorations.

Adjutant Hall, of Woodville, who is leaving that district for Wellington, was the recipient of numerous testimonials before taking his departure. From the residents of Woodville he received a handsome piece of plate, and the officers and men of the Ruahine Mounted Rifles and the Woodville Rifles presented him with a valuable service of plate.

Mrs H. D. Bell and her family (Wellington) have left for England by the Athenic. They will be absent for some years, I believe, as the younger children are to finish their education there. During their absence Mr and Mrs Harold Johnston are to stay with Mr Bell, in Hill-street, writes our Wellington correspondent.

Mr and Mrs A. Thomson, Wellington, contemplate visiting America and the Old Country at an early date. Mr and Mrs Thomson have been in the colony for forty-one years, and are well-known in the Rangitikei and Wanganui districts, where Mr Thomson was for many years a schoolmaster. It is their intention to sail from Auckland by the mail steamer Sierra on the 29th inst.

Mr G. T. Bayly, Master of the Egmont-Wanganui Hunt Club, a well-known cricketer, and at one time a footballer and sprinter, was presented by the citizens of Hawera with a piece of silver plate and an address, and by the cricketers of the old and new generation with an address on the eve of his departure for Auckland, where he intends to reside.

Mr J. B. Heywood, of the Treasury Department, who has been in bad health for some time, has been granted six months' leave of absence, and has taken passage by the Athenic to England. Miss Heywood is accompanying her father. Mr R. J. Collins takes his place in the office pro tem., and Mr Vincent will temporarily fill the post of assistant secretary.

A Wellington Press Association telegram states that among the members of the Civil Service who are being re-

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