

a great skating carnival here last week—poster, fancy, and plain dress. It was a great success. People are awfully keen on skating here this year, but everywhere they seem to have the craze. Did you see a photo, in the "Graphic" last week, "Skating in the King Country"? It amused me very much. The willow trees are all coming out in green now, and they look so fresh and pretty. I love this time of year, or just a little later; the fruit trees, etc., coming out in blossom are just lovely. I think, one can hardly imagine we are just into September. It is marvellous the way the months fly past. So far this year seems to me to have gone quicker than any. There are such a crowd of launches on the river now, and I think there will be a good many

more when the warm weather comes on. They look so pretty on this river. They had a very successful bachelor ball here a couple of weeks ago. The bachelors had everything beautifully managed. Of course I did not go, but I hope to come out next winter. It is marvellous the way houses are going up here. People find it impossible to get a house anywhere. They are taken as fast as they go up. I know of two or three people who are paying rent for houses before they are ready to live in them just to secure them. They are building a picture theatre here. It is well on the way now, and when it is up we will have pictures every night. Besides that now we have two more picture shows, one every night, and the other three nights a

week. With much love to yourself and all the cousins.—From Cousin LINDA.
 [Dear Cousin Linda,—Many thanks for your interesting letter. You do seem to have a gay time. It is nice to read of your successful season at hockey. Your team will be going on tour soon, I should think. I quite agree with you that this year has flown; to think we are well in the ninth month seems wonderful.—With love, Cousin Kate.]

letters. Just now the violets and primroses are lovely. You asked me to tell you about Mataura, didn't you? Mataura is situated on the banks of the Mataura River, and is eight miles south of Gisborne. The population is over 1000. On one side of the river there are hills with plantations on them, but on the other side it is quite flat until you get to the Big Mountains.—With love to all the cousins, from Cousin KATE.
 [Dear Cousin Kate,—We do seem to have a huge lot of cousins, but so busy stop writing after about three letters. I should think Mataura must be pretty by your description, and much larger than I supposed. Do you have very cold waters?—With love, Cousin Kate.]

UNCLE MUN

