

mal studies in the gallery are by lady members of the Society. We have Misses Amy Dawson, Kit Turner and R. C. Dobbie, who exhibit meritorious studies. Miss Dobbie's picture, "Inseparables," a black terrier and a white one, is very lifelike, and one could readily imagine these two very likeable little fellows getting into all sorts of mischief together. Miss Dawson has an attractive picture, small but full of interest, called "To Ride Like our Forefathers," depicting a charge of Lancers. It is a nice bit of colouring, strongly suggestive of "the dust of conflict." Miss Turner has several small subjects which are pleasing, and show temperament, among the best being "Puzzled," a fox terrier watching a rat in a cage, and "Garry," another canine of the same very "paintable" breed.

Mr. Edward Fristrom has a number of pictures bearing his signature, but most of them are too impressionistic to appeal to a colonial public. The charm of his "Grey Day, Silverstream," is, however, patent to all, and is easily the best thing he has done. There is real atmosphere, and the colouring is excellent, the middle distance being particularly charming.

One of the daintiest canvases in the room is H. J. Edgar's profile study of a girl seated in a chair, with her hands in her lap. This artist has the inestimable gift of knowing when to stop, and his treatment of the white dress is worth close study by those who are prone to elaborate too much. There is a delicacy of touch and a purity of tone which make this little work very desirable. The same artist's "Cornfield," though decidedly what painters call "slick," shows the same nice appreciation of tone.

An uncommon subject for a colonial artist is "The Phantom Ship," chosen by Mr. C. E. Bickerton, of Christchurch, whose "Wandering Albatross" is hung a little further on. The first-mentioned is a thoughtful treatment of a world-old legend, and is full of suggestion to the imaginative. The moonlit water in the middle distance is particularly good, the least pleasing feature of an otherwise acceptable picture being the somewhat "cardboardy" waves dashing up against the bulwarks of the vessel in the foreground.

In the depiction of Maori life as we know it to-day, no one is happier than Mr. Walter Wright, who has a number of those small pictures which are always so popular with the public. The secret of the odd charm of the small dusky children and their quaint mamas is well known to this artist, who has a facility in the composition of those little bits of native life which attract both by reason of their naturalness and their warm, bright and cheerful colouring. While regretting that he has not seen fit to put in anything of a more ambitious character, one is thankful for the bright spots his charming little studies make on the walls.

Just as his brother has the true faculty of portraying the everyday life of the Maori, Mr. Frank Wright has the gift of being able to paint real New Zealand bush, one of the most difficult of subjects. "The Last Gleam" is a typical bit of coast-line with a scow in the bay, and the last blush of the sunset illumining the bold headland across the water. Subject and method are quite in accordance with modern striving after a particular effect, and Mr. Wright must be complimented on a successful piece of work. But it is in "Morning After Rain," evidently one of the wild valleys of the Orewera country, that he is at his best. He is one of the few of our artists who can suggest the peculiar charm of the scene with a front light softly bathing the undulating slopes of the glorious forest which is one of the unique characteristics of the Dominion. This is the sort of thing which his Excellency has appealed to artists to perpetuate before it is ruthlessly swept away. The stream in the foreground, with the three figures and the dark tree in the middle distance before the valley sweeps up into the magnificent verdure-clad hills, are clever touches in one of the best pictures in the gallery.

Mr. E. W. Payton's most important exhibit is a sunset effect on Mount Tararua from the Wairoa slopes, and contains his best workmanship, particularly in the treatment of the distant sun-bathed mountain top. It looks particularly well under artificial light. Rather hard for such a large canvas, the picture would probably appeal more to fellow painters by reason of its technical excellence than to the general public. In the Hamurana piece, No. 103, Mr. Payton has caught one of those effects of sunlight streaming through trees which

are always popular. The composition, the corner of the lake, the yellow sandy shore, and the chequered shade under the willows, is pleasing, and would find more admirers than his larger and better painted picture. There are several other canvases by the same artist, one, of a Maori woman making flax mats, a bit of native life treated with much naturalness.

Trained work is the chief feature of "Dawn" and "Betrotthed," by Elizabeth Kelly, whose colour scale is caviare to the general, but her pictures are undoubtedly among the most finished on the walls. The pallor of her flesh tints is not so unsuitable to a semi-symbolic subject like "Dawn," but it is rather trying in actual portraits like "Betrotthed." "Dawn" is singularly attractive in conception and execution. Mr. C. F. Kelly, whose style is similar, exhibits "Happy Hours," a female figure in a field of flowers, marked by much artistic work.

About Miss Eva R. Mouldy's "Beggar Maid," No. 71, there is something that draws one to pause, something in the easy pose, the half mocking smile, and the warm colouring, but the too-bare shoulder is out of keeping with the neatness of the rest of the picture, and mars what is undeniably the work of an artist.

A clever rendering of an attractive subject is No. 322, "A Portrait in Profile," by Mr. E. K. Webber, of Christchurch. The colouring is pleasing, the work is brushed in with plenty of confidence, and the lighting is striking and singularly effective. It is one of the most pleasing portraits in the gallery, and shows that this young artist has made considerable strides since he left Auckland. He has another painting, "To Henga," and is also represented among the water-colours.

Mr. T. L. Drummond, one of the veteran members of the society, who paints with good contrasting light and shade, sends several pictures, which are redolent of the scenery among which he works at Whangarei. Those who know the locality cannot fail to appreciate the faithful manner in which he has caught the effects to be found along the Northern shores of this fine harbour, with its velvety headlands, slopes where the sun sleeps, and the long shadows under the banks. "A Summer's Afternoon" is one of the best, and "In Whangarei Harbour" is another good example of his style.

Miss Vera Jacobson, who possesses much talent and feeling, does not appear to have fixed her style yet, her works showing much difference of treatment. Her best is "Kathleen," a bonny colonial girl with fine auburn hair. The pose of the full-length portrait, No. 138, is natural, though the train might have been brought down a step with advantage, and there are several other pictures with her name, notably "Daddy" and a landscape, No. 304.

Water Colours.

Mention should be made of the works, mention should be made of the large number of fine flower studies which have been hung, among the exhibitors being Miss Ethel M. Baker, Miss N. Bennett, Mrs. W. A. Kendon, Miss Trevor Gordon, Miss Alice R. Snelling, Miss Isabella Spragg, Miss Marian M. Cochran, Mr. L. J. Steele, the veteran artist, has only one portrait, which is marked by his characteristically excellent work, and it is a pity there is not more from his brush on the walls. The best of Mr. E. M. de Viltz, canvases in an attractive portrait called "Evening," a troubadour singing to the strains of his guitar, Mr. C. Blomfield's reputation is best sustained by his "Evening, Mahinapua Creek, Hokitika," which while not altogether attractive in colouring, faithfully represents a phase of bush scenery peculiar to that part of the Dominion. Mr. J. D. Perrell's smaller pictures strike one as being better than his larger works, and "Clouds Lifting, Milford Sound," is the most pleasing, while No. 338, "A Quiet Nook, Auckland Harbour," is a pleasant departure from his usual colour scheme.

Among the water-colours Mr. C. N. Worsley's work is so particularly good that the rest of this department suffers somewhat by comparison, but nevertheless there are a lot of pictures that will well repay a close study. Mr. Worsley's two big subjects, "Sheep Washing, Cumberland," and "An Autumn Morning, Lake Maggiore," contain much that is the despair of the struggling amateur. His "Under the Plane Trees," and "The Piazza, Piazza Nuova, Brascia," are typical of the land of blue skies, and suggest sunshine in a singularly happy

manner. Mr Frank Wright has several subjects, of which "The Stocking Glacier, Southern Alps," is a masterly treatment of an inspiring scene. Mr. J. Balfour shows several small things which are good in colouring and quite as attractive of his work in oils in the warmer medium. Mr. E. Bartley, who it will be remembered had some good work in last year, is not so well represented in his large picture, but there are a couple of small things, "The Old Moat," and "Evening," which quite bear out the promise he gave. Mr. R. Pheny has two nice bits from the West Coast, north of Manukau, which are clean in colour and well reproduce the effect that one gets on the wet sands of this beautiful coast. Mr. G. K. Webber has several interesting exhibits which are impressionistic to a degree one would not have anticipated from his work in oils. Other pictures which attract are sent in by Miss A. Denison ("The Brooding Earth"), M. J. Rogers ("On the Sea Shore"), Overton Jones ("On the Gloucestershire Border"), A. F. Nicoll ("Twilight Naples"), H. M. Meyrick ("In the Desert"), Stanley G. Brister ("The Puritan"), but the section is generally good and space forbids mention of all the names deserving appreciative reference.

The exhibits of the Auckland Camera Club make the finest collection of the art of the camera which has ever been got together in Auckland, and we trust the Society will have the co-operation of the club in future years. Those who doubt whether the artist and the photographer have anything in common will have their ideas dispelled by a look round the walls. Both in conception and technique the work is admirable, and much in advance of anything anyone not acquainted with the club would have suspected. Amateurs are most fortunate in having in their midst such an institution. As the booklet issued by the club so aptly remarks, "Every amateur photographer has frequently found himself in a difficulty where a word or two of practical advice would have saved him disappointment and much wasted material." With such enthusiasts as these exhibitors to appeal to, any amateur will have the difficulties of his hobby smoothed for him in a most agreeable way. Mr. T. D. Leedham, a veteran member of the club, has a number of the genre subjects which he manages so successfully and his scenery also shows the artistic temperament. Mr. R. B. Walfrond, another prominent member, "exhibits some very beautiful enlargements which in composition, lighting and technique mark him as the most successful landscape photographer we have. Mr. A. N. Breckon, one of our foremost marine workers, sends in some excellent things from the West Coast, singularly characteristic of this rugged scenery, upon which so many amateurs have tried their skill in vain. Other members who have excellent pictures are Messrs. T. Doree, H. B. Morton, F. J. Cullen, G. O'Halloran, M. Trenwith, Thos. Woodhead, W. J. Jacobs, Thos. Allen, Rev. T. Fisher, G. H. Sutcliffe.

The exhibition is open daily from 12.30 to 5, and 7.30 to 10 p.m.)

TO BRIDGE PLAYERS.

THE "PREMIER" BRIDGE SCORES is the best and largest on the Market. Can be obtained from: Champalou and Edminston, Stationers, Queen-st.; Sprackley and Co., Stationers, Queen-st.; G. Totman, Stationer, Queen-st.; R. Mackay, Stationer, Queen-st.; H. C. Hawkins, Stationer, Queen-st.; W. G. Allen and Co., Stationers, Queen-st.; G. Tomlinson, Stationer, Symonds-st.; and Alex. Smith, Stationer, Karangahape-road. Price, One Shilling. See that you get the "PREMIER," the Favourite Bridge Score.

MR. P. FAWCETT-WADE,
ACTOR, ENTERTAINER, AND MAGICIAN.

IS OPEN TO ENGAGEMENTS at any distance, Town or Country with HIS ORIGINAL AND REFINED ENTERTAINMENTS, from 15 min. to two hours. Introducing Novel Illusions and Destructive Feats of Sleight of Hand, Monologues (Grove and Gay), Humorous Stories, and Character Studies from Charles Dickens. For terms and vacant dates apply "Minerva Villa," King Terrace, Shelly Beach Road, Auckland.

CUT THIS OUT

PLEASE send free Catalogue of Pianolar organs showing costs wholesale prices and easy terms of purchase from 30/- monthly.
Name.....Address.....

Wherever you live in N.Z. it will pay you to buy Pianos or Organ direct from Factories through us. Reputable Pianos, Doherty Organs and all Best Makes stocked. Goods nothing to compare with before buying.

F. MOORE & CO.
PIANO AND ORGAN WAREHOUSE,
Call or Write To-day, CUSTOMS STREET E., AUCKLAND

Our Illustrations

CHINESE DEN RAIDED.

HOW THE GAMERS ARE PLAYED.

A MONGST the illustrations in the current issue are a series of views showing the Chinese premises in Wakefield-street being raided by the Auckland police last week, together with photographs of the gambling equipment seized. By reference to the photographs numbered 2 and 11 respectively, an idea will be gained of how fan tan and pakapoo, the favourite gambling games, are played.

Presumably fan tan is the most popular pastime. It is played with a number of coins and dice. These are covered with a bowl and the players then bet upon what the remainder will be when a pile selected has been divided by four. The advantages of the game from the gamblers' standpoint are that it is almost impossible to cheat, that it is alike suitable for small or large stakes, and that it can be played with extraordinary rapidity, so rapidly, in fact, that very large sums may change hands in a few seconds. In the game as played by the average Chinaman a square lead counting board is placed on the table (our illustration shows the table laid out), having on it at each corner spaces marked one, two, three, four. The banker, who sits at the head of the table with the "dividend" box on his right, has on the floor beside him a big containing Chinese cash. He reaches down and grasps a big handful of the money, and, placing it on the table, covers it at once with the saucer-shaped metal article known as the bowl. The players then place their money, or its equivalent, on markers in either space on the lead, thus indicating on which remainder they desire to bet. The "cash" is afterwards exposed and counted out in fours by the banker with the aid of the coupe, and those who prove to have guessed the remainder scoop the pool.

A game almost equally popular to pakapoo, a form of lottery in which tickets covered with Chinese numbers are issued. Several of these numbers are selected by the banker, and the players may bet upon as many as five numbers, paying a shilling a number. They indicate the numbers that they choose on the ticket and return it to the banker, whereupon the result of the lottery is announced. It is stated that it is a regular thing for a number of the Chinese to attend church, and it is customary for them to invest in lottery tickets before going to church, and to return afterwards to ascertain what their luck has been.

HINTS TO SHOPPERS.

Natural appearance, strength and lightness are the essentials combined in the artificial limbs manufactured by A. A. Marks. Agents: Surgical Supply Co., Ltd., Fort-street, Auckland. Also Agents for J. and E. Ferris, London.

A choice assortment of hand-worked drawn thread silk cosies and d'oyles from China, and Palon's Alton wheeling, in beautiful shades, for ladies' winter coats have just been received by Shakspear and Co., His Majesty's Arcade.

Mothers are informed that the prettiest, daintest, and sweetest photographs of babies are taken at the Royal Studio, at 184, Karangahape-road, by E. H. Skeates.

Poker-worked leather goods, wood carving of every description are for sale at Miss Aylings, 13 Victoria Arcade, Auckland. Tuition at 12/6 per quarter is given in the work. Really good goods and bulbs at moderate prices can be procured from Robert Sydenham, Ltd., Tenby-street, Birmingham, England.

At Miller's fancy repository, 100, Victoria-street, Auckland, there are specialties to suit all sights, and the price is right.

The New Zealand Insurance Co., Ltd., fire, marine, accident, and live stock, has its head office in Auckland and is represented and supported throughout the world.

Speight's Dunedin ales are to be had everywhere and the sole agents and bottlers for the Auckland district are Hinkins and Coult, Customs-street East.

F. Moore and Co., piano and organ warehouse, Customs-street East, Auckland, advertise instruments at 20/- or 10/- a month, or for cash, from £17.