

Mr. Carleton, asking him to correct any errors in the passages. Mr. Carleton found fault here and there with the harmony and one or two progressions, whereupon Mr. Fenton, with a sly wink and chuckle, retorted, "Well, Carleton! I copied those bars from Weber's *Der Freischütz*!" On another occasion, when serving in the volunteers, Mr. Fenton narrowly escaped a court martial for declaring that if their band led them into action, the enemy would flee in one direction, and the volunteers in the other! Colonel Balneavis, a skilful violin player, was in great request as leader of orchestra for many years. Herr Carl Schmitt, now so well known throughout the colonies as a brilliant and thorough musician, first appeared in Auckland, in or about 1854, as a solo-violinist, *de premiere force*, and after leaving and returning several times, is now the

period) may be mentioned Messrs. Partridge, Huntley and Braithwaite (violins) Middleton (cello), Mackenzie (double bass), H. M. Jervis and W. Young (flutes), and among



MR. F. D. FENTON.



MR. HUGH CARLETON.

esteemed and capable conductor of the Auckland Choral Society, as well as Musical Lecturer to the University. Among instrumentalists of years past (not all of the same

vocalists Miss Debus, whose splendid soprano was occasionally discounted by uncertainty of intonation; Miss Lowry (afterwards Madame Hautrive), a magnificent contralto; Miss Healey (contralto); Miss Shanaghan, a delicious light soprano, whose singing of the Creation music has never been surpassed by an amateur; Master Sampson, endowed with a sweet, pure and flexible treble voice; Messrs. Westmoreland, Reid and Huntley (tenors), O'Brien and Newberry (baritones), Henderson, Ryan and Smith (bassos).

Among many amusing anecdotes of Auckland's first musical society, a couple may prove interesting. Mr. William Young, (Collector of Customs), a brilliant flautist, was to play a solo one evening. Passing a jeweller's shop, he noticed a gorgeous diamond ring in the window, and thought how effective a dash it would cut on his finger during the solo. Entering the shop, he asked for the loan of the ring, which (Oh happy, innocent days!) was immediately