



DONALD MACDONALD.

enough to be first in the field (of those who can speak of what they have seen) on a lecturing tour throughout these colonies. One glance at the keen, erect figure and alert bearing of this Australian-born journalist, as he comes on to the platform, prepares one for the man who not only knows what to tell his audience, but how to tell it. He does not weary by detailed accounts of the war in eloquently-rounded periods, nor does he, as is the manner of many, strive to show how infinitely better it would have been conducted had he been Commander-in-Chief. He gives vivid word pictures of first sensations under fire, battle charges and stirring incidents of the struggle, thickly interspersed with flashes

of humour, for Mr. Macdonald is the man who sees at a glance the humorous side of the most pathetic situation, and does not forget to give his hearers the benefit of his keen sense of the ludicrous. His Australian tour was a great success, and the places he has already visited in this colony have already proved that New Zealand is not a whit behind Australia in the interest she takes in the incidents of war, as treated by a capital *raconteur*, who has himself been in the thick of the fight. Enthusiastic audiences greeted this man, who had been through the siege of Ladysmith, every time he appeared. His connection with the *Argus* has not been severed, for an express stipulation has been made that he shall take up his journalistic duties as soon as his New Zealand trip is over. He is a keen lover of nature, as an article on "The Veldt in War Time," by his versatile pen, which will be found in another column, conclusively proves.

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MR. F. BAXTER, Vice-President of the New Zealand Institute of Journalists, and President of the Auckland branch of that body, is a Yorkshireman by birth, but left his native country in the year 1863, at the early age of four. Some years later he developed decided journalistic tendencies. His earliest experiences in his chosen career were but brief. They were on the short-lived *Evening Bell*. He afterwards joined the staff of the *Auckland Star* in 1885, at the time that paper was sub-edited by a

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