



G. E. Jones, photo.

Auckland.

Madame Marie Hooton, of the Westminster Abbey Concert Company.

gramme. His training was acquired at the Royal College of Music, and amongst his contemporaries were Mr. Lempriere Pringle, of Tasmania, and now of the Musgrove Opera Company, and Miss Hack, of Adelaide. Six years ago he obtained six months' leave from the Abbey authorities, and toured Australia as tenor of the English Concert Company, with Mrs. Branscombe. The idea of the present tour occurred to Mr. Branscombe during an Abbey vacation, and as an experiment he took a small party to Can-

ada in 1901. The visit only occupied three weeks, but its success was so pronounced that it was repeated during the period when the Abbey was closed for the Coronation preparations. The party was larger this time, and the results even more gratifying. After the Coronation a still larger party, practically identical with the present one, was selected from the Coronation Choir, and once more the Atlantic was crossed. During the tour, which extended from Newfoundland to British Columbia, no less than one