## MARRIAGES

HARGREAVES—MEACHEN.—On January 26, 1910, at the Catholic Cathedral, Christchurch, by the Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Albert Edwin Hargreaves, youngest son of William Hargreaves, Esq., Sydney, to Winifred Annie, second daughter of Thomas Meachen, Esq., of Christchurch.

McEVEDY—GUINEY.—On January 12, at Darfield, by the Rev. Father Tyler, assisted by the Rev. Father Hyland, Rangiora, John Peter McEvedy, second son of Mr. Peter McEvedy, Southbridge, to Mary Theresa (Minnie), second daughter of Mr. Edward Guiney, Halkett.

WALLACE—MEENAN.—On January 25, at Christchurch, by the Very Rev. Father Price, Adm., William, second son of the late Edward Wallace, to Mary Teresa, only daughter of Mrs. and the late Bernard Meenan, Ngapara, Otago.



### *MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.*

***Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiæ causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.***

***Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.*** ***LEO XIII., P.M.***

**TRANSLATION.**—***Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the Directors and Writers of the New Zealand Tablet continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.***

***April 4, 1900.*** ***LEO XIII., Pope.***


THE NEW ZEALAND TABLET

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1909.


# THE COMING OF KITCHENER

AWEEK to-day Lord Kitchener is due to arrive at the Bluff, and the man and his mission will be the main subject of public interest for the brief fortnight over which his New Zealand tour extends. With the life and career of the man, the great mass of the people are already thoroughly familiar. Born and brought up in County Kerry, Ireland, and educated at the Royal Military College, Woolwich, his severest critics must admit that from the time when he offered his services to the French authorities in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870 up to the day of appointment to his present position of British Military High Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean, Kitchener's career has been a strenuous one, and such greatness and reputation as he has now attained have been entirely of his own achievement. Thanks to the illustrated papers, even his personal appearance is now quite familiar to the public, and we have the additional good fortune of having available a thumb-nail sketch of him by no less skilful a hand than that of Mr. T. P. O'Connor. Just after being raised to the peerage, during the debate on the proposed Parliamentary grant of £30,000 Lord Kitchener was seen in the Peers' Gallery by the well-known Irish journalist, who describes him in these terms: 'The large, strong mouth, heavily covered with the typical military and brush-like moustache; the strong, square jaw; the tremendously heavy brows; the strange, glittering eyes; and even the brick-red complexion—the complexion that told so many tales of hard rides for many hundreds of miles under blazing Egyptian suns, through wild and trackless Egyptian sands—all the features of a strong, fierce, dominant nature were really brought out into greater relief by that occasional smile. . . Through it all the face seemed strangely familiar to me. . . In the end it all at once struck me why—it was the typical face of the Irish resident magistrate.'

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Regarding the personality of the man, the public have also got—rightly or wrongly—a very clear and definite impression. The Kitchener that is known to the public—the Kitchener of the press and of the war correspondent—is cold, calculating, grim, inflexible, almost dour. It is true that there has been an occasional protest against this delineation as not being strictly just, and some of his admirers have made strenuous efforts to present the hero of Omdurman in a somewhat more human light. Thus a distinguished Anglo-Indian officer, who had met Kitchener at a shooting party in India not so long ago, attempts to depict the difference between Kitchener as he is imagined and Kitchener as he is in these words: 'I remember vividly,' he says, 'how completely my preconceived idea of him from the social point of view was upset. All I had heard or read of him had led me to expect an extremely austere man, given to silence rather than to speech, and a determined misogynist. My experience of him during the time we were in the same house and in the same shooting party presented him in quite a different light. He had plenty of bonhomie and pleasant chat. He laid himself out to be agreeable to any member of the party of either sex with whom he happened to be thrown; talked as freely to the last-joined subaltern as to officers of the highest rank; and, unless appearances belied him, so far from being averse from ladies' society, he seemed rather pleased than otherwise to find himself in their company, especially if they had their share of good looks, and kept the conversational ball rolling in animated fashion. As a shot, he seemed to me to be rather below than above the average, but he was a genial and pleasant fellow-sportsman.' The popular and traditional impression, however, is not so easily displaced. Eleven years ago George Steevens, the brilliant war correspondent, in a sort of flash-light photograph of the then Sirdar of the Egyptian Army, described him as 'the man who has cut out his human heart and made himself a machine to retake Khartoum.' Kitchener as a machine is the impression that lives in the hearts and minds of the people to-day.

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Of Kitchener's special characteristics as a general, it is hardly necessary to speak. It has been said that 'opportunity has been denied him to give evidence of that bull-headed valor in action which will ever, in the minds of Britons, be associated with their conception of a great soldier.' His peculiar qualities have been, not dashing, dare-devil fighting, but rather 'slow and cautious preparation'—making every step good before the next was taken—never engaging the enemy till victory was a moral certainty. He is *par excellence* an organiser and an administrator. His present mission to Australasia is twofold—general and special—and both arise out of his position as High Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean. By virtue of that position he is to have authority not only over the British regular troops in garrison at Malta and Gibraltar and in Egypt, the Mauritius, and South Africa, but also over the native forces employed in East, Central, and West Africa. This will not be his last visit to the Dominion, for it is part of the duties of his new position from time to time to inspect and advise upon the militia of the self-governing States of South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand. In addition, it will be part of his work to standardise all the available troops in Great Britain and in Greater Britain, and to advise upon the training, equipment, and organisation of the local troops of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, and the new State of United South Africa on lines which will make them available for service in line with the other troops of the Empire. In a word, Kitchener's special mission to New Zealand is to inspect and