

Side
boards

you have probably seen a "billy goat" so I presume that would be the origin of the name, the cheeks were ^{long} several had side whiskers only, that is half way down the cheek. Others what was called the "mutton chop" Each according to his own fancy. I never grew a beard at all worth the name, & was the only one of our family, who took to shaving, but always retained the snoustache. Yes, there was a period when to be without the beard, was ~~not~~ to some extent a bit of a drawback in the opinion of certain young ladies at a certain stage of their early career.

When for deception he chose to blame
She cries "Remember from what kind of
times"

There was a certain ^{long} point, I used to sing occasionally with a vocal ^{long} la at the end, which emphasized this aspect. "A youth with cheeks devoid of hair the question popped to his lady fair, she sighed, I love, but never can consent to marry a whiskerless man." After ~~he~~ trying by several means to get a beard but without success, he bought a pair for half a crown, ^{which she only discovered after marriage} & so on it all came out right, until after marriage, he found ^{also} that she wore false teeth, ^{of also false hair} I think now a days, that it would be brought up as ground for divorce. But there were no divorces in those early days.

It was a question "for better, for worse, for richer for poorer in sickness & in health, till death do part": There ought have been difference in the home life, and quarrels at times, known only to those

concerned. But what ever the faults on either side there was very little of such a thing as breaking off the marriage tie. Further was there such a thing, at least I never heard of it of a couple being married before a registrar. In some respects the standard has lowered very much.

Now to get back again for a little while to the farm life. I think I mentioned in a previous issue of reminiscences, about the general farm work and the coming of the ^{first} reaper and binder. It was in the year 1844 that the first binder appeared in New Zealand, but it was not that year that it came into general use. The make of this machine was, Walter A Wood, of somewhere in America. It has only come to my knowledge lately that this machine, was only on trial, and I don't know of any general work being done by it. In the harvest of 1878-79 however there were three machines that came into general use, these three the Woods, McCormick and the Boorne. There was a big trial of these machines at the property of Mr. H. Boag of Fendalltown. A very large number of farmers were present and much interest was manifested. It was not by any means ^{favourable} a decision as to the best machine & the work done, a single judge was appointed