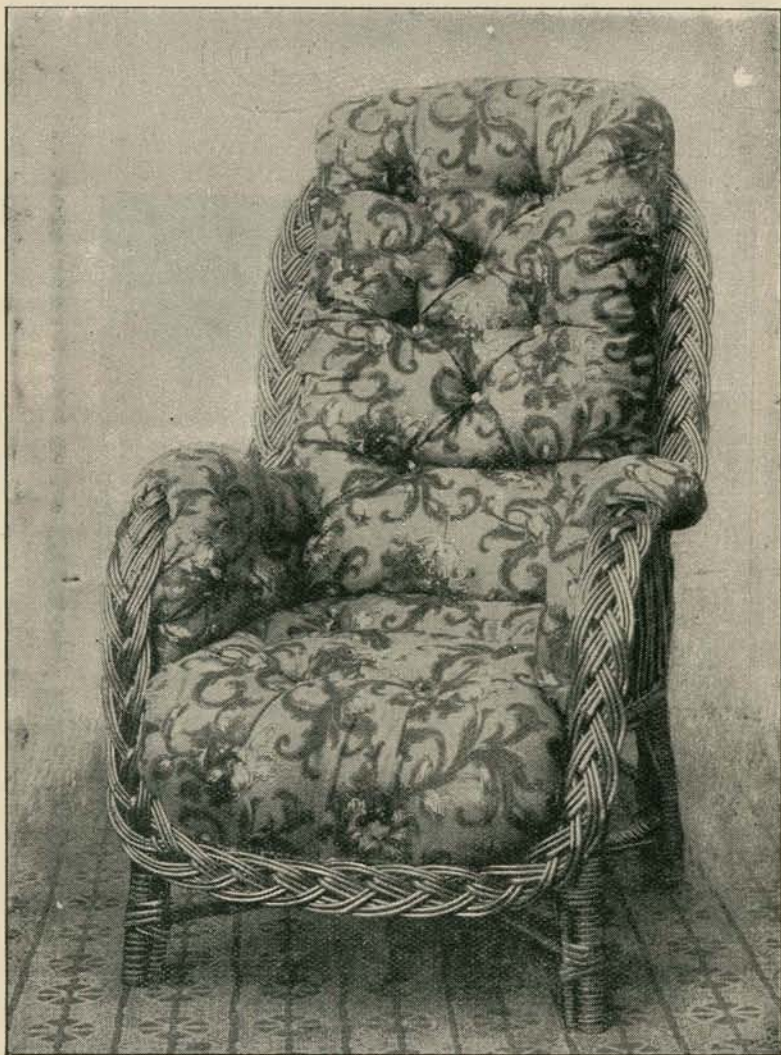


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Chamber the sessions of the province used to be held, and it is safe to say that at the present day the whole of New Zealand could not show such men as were wont to sit there, or reproduce the polished wit of a FitzGerald or a Crosbie Ward, the bluff thorough earnestness of a Moorhouse, or the men of ability and integrity who so nobly and firmly laid the foundations of the province, who administered its affairs, who conducted its public works and dictated its endowments, and who in so doing set an example in the shape of consideration for others, and of abnegation of self which has unfortunately been lost sight of by most of the would-be leading men of the present day, with whom not to advertise self is to be indeed lost. But though these are gone, much of their work remains, and they may justly be credited with the exquisite taste which characterises the interior of the Chamber. The floor is laid down in tessellated pavement; the roof is supported by a series of flying arches, which combine lightness and strength with grace of design, and the mottoes and subjects chosen for the finely-stained windows are such as would be likely to divert the thoughtless or designing legislator from dreams of evil, would he but read them, and reading understand. The Chamber is well worth a visit, not only as an old relic, but on account of its intrinsic beauty.

The Cathedral Tower.

On a fine day the tourist may spend an hour profitably in walking across the road from Warner's Hotel and climbing up to balconies of the Cathedral Tower, from which many fine views can be obtained. The climb is not a difficult one for any but an invalid, a good pair of field-glasses is an indispensable adjunct, and the pleasure of the visit is considerably heightened if the services of a local man can be impressed for the purpose of pointing out the various landmarks and objects of interest. However, as the Government Tourist Department is now almost next door to Warner's Hotel, there should be no difficulty in this respect. To prevent disappointment it may be as well to point out that little can be seen on a misty day, and that fine clear weather is necessary in order to obtain good views.

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