



OCEAN VIEW HOTEL, GOVERNOR'S BAY, E. J. BROWNIE, Proprietor.

The Acclimatisation Gardens.

The Acclimatisation Gardens, in which the Museum is situated, are well worth a visit if only for the purpose of noting how well tree growths from all parts of the world flourish in this climate. They, and Hagley Park which surrounds them, are more relics of the old provincial days, and it is to be regretted that there are no public funds with which to keep them in better order, all the money available for that purpose being derived from the sales of young trout, of which there is a large hatchery in the Gardens, and the money received by the Acclimatisation Society for rod and gun licenses. But be that as it may, a stroll round the Gardens, surrounded in three directions by the pretty Avon, which here looks at its best, is well worth taking. Another good stroll is round the various portions of Hagley Park, the veritable lungs of the city, with its fine plantations of pines, oaks, elms, and ash.

The Public Library.

The Christchurch Public Library, situated at the junction of Hereford Street and Cambridge Terrace, is well worth a visit. Originally started as a humble Mechanics' Institute, it was subsequently lucky enough to fall under the management of Canterbury College, from the fat endowments of which it has derived no meagre sustenance. The building is of brick, the rooms are well lighted and suitably arranged, and the site is as central as could reasonably be desired. The public have free access to the reading-room, in which are filed eighty-two New Zealand, nine Australian, and three American newspapers, in addition to twenty-one English papers and magazines; and to the Reference Library, which contains 13,451 volumes. The subscriptions to the Circulating Library of 20,517 books is at the rate of 2s. 6d. per quarter, and visitors to the city can enjoy the same privileges for the sum of 2s. per month. They have, however, to leave a deposit of 5s. as guarantee for due return of the books, the said deposit being paid back when the last book taken out is handed in. The total number of regular subscribers is 1,929, who provide an income of £964 10s. per annum. The public