

letter & getting about, but one of her daughters
laid up. Reading & writing in the evening
May 23. Tuesday, fine S.W. Trade dull, reading
Shakespeare in the evening.

May 24. Wednesday, stormy, ship fast, by shower
a m. st. S.W. taking up trees & making potatoe
pit, a.m. Cleared up, & rode up to Papanui to
Mr. Southam's wedding, about two miles on the
Forewood Rd. About thirty or all assembled in
a large room some twenty four by 12 ft. Every
thing nicely arranged, after breakfast, the usual
toasts were given & responded to, every thing
passed off evenly & well, we went for a walk
down the paddocks whilst the room was being
~~cleared~~ cleared, when we returned, invigorated
by the cool breeze, to dancing; time passed
merrily on, the ladies were for the merriest
part of those assembled; but gradually
the reserve on the ^{part of the} gentlemen fell off & all
joined in heartily, after tea, some dancing
& singing, when I to get off singing
resited a dialogue out of Shakespeare between
Brutus & Cassius & also took up Lament

which were well received, as was also a song
by Miss Southam; we all heartily enjoyed
ourselves; the Bride & Bridegroom left about
past one, but that made no difference
we kept it up till the small hours; supper
at past 1 o'clock, & then at it again till near
three, never, since I landed on Tealands shore
have I before enjoyed myself so much, the
Bride the bridesmaids & all the single ladies
occupied me not. ah! its a brief hour, but
how it reminded me of times gone by
in Old England, reached home about past
three. but sleep favoured me not, nothing could
tempt the Jovial God to sway mine eyelids
down, fairy forms were continually dancing
before my vision.

May 25. Thursday, heavy rain a.m. showery P.M.
S.W. Trade fair. for a walk up down in the evening
English Mail arrived.

May 26. Friday, fine, S.W. Trade fair, to the
Mechanics in the evening to look at the some papers
received a letter from Mother, all well, no news of
importance