

WEEKLY MERCURY

AND

Hawke's Bay Advertiser,

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NAPIER, SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1877.

PRICE SIXPENCE

HAWKE'S BAY AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL SOCIETY.

ROUTLEDGE, KENNEDY, & Co. will sell by auction at the Annual Ram Fair, to be held at the Society's Grounds, Hastings, on **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1st, 1877.**

By order of Colonel Whitmore, The Grange—
20 Stud Rams, 4-tooth
20 ditto 2-tooth
20 ditto Lambs
The above are carefully selected from the Stud Rams at the Grange, and bred by imported Rams from the flock of Messrs Marshall and Byron, Lincolnshire.

By order of Messrs F. and W. Nelson—
60 2-tooth Lincoln Rams, by imported Rams
10 4-tooth Lincoln Rams by imported Rams
The well known quality of the Messrs Nelson's flock require no comment.

By order of Thomas Tanner, Esq., Riverslea—
120 pure Lincoln two-tooth Rams, bred from his celebrated flock.
One Pen pure Lincoln Rams, aged, bred by T. P. Russell, Esq., and formerly used in Mr. Tanner's flock.
One Pen pure Lincoln Ram Lambs, selected from Mr. Tanner's flock.

By order of James Collins, Esq., Patangata—
80 2-tooth Lincoln Rams, by Kirkham Rams, imported by M. Smith, Esq., out of carefully selected ewes by Kirkham Rams imported by M. Hill, Esq.

By order of J. N. Williams, Esq., Frimley—
Particulars in a few days.

By order of John Bennett, Esq.—
40 2-tooth Lincoln Rams, by imported Ram
1 Imported Ram, Dudding
1 " Ewe Dudding
The Ram was shown at the Lincolnshire Royal Agricultural Show at Grantham as a shearer, and was highly commended.

By order of Hugh Duff, Esq.—
40 2-tooth Rams, by one of the New Zealand Company's Prize Rams

By order of A. Shrimpton, Esq.—
80 Lincoln Rams, bred by the Australian and N.Z. Land Company.

By order of Messrs J. and W. Parsons,
40 2-tooth Lincoln Rams.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

SHAMROCK SALE YARDS.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 8, 1877.

ROUTLEDGE, KENNEDY & CO. Have received instructions from J. Heslop, Esq., to sell by public auction, on the above date,

80 HEAD CATTLE, consisting of Fat Steers, Heifers, Cows and Calves.

Particulars before date of Sale.
Napier, January 16.

TO ARRIVE

Per "Glenlora," from London,
51 EWES AND 13 RAMS

The Ewes are from the flock of the late Mr. Kemp, and are of the pure Biscathorpe blood.

The Rams are a very superior lot, and comprise Dudding's Kirkham's, and Marshall's, and are really very fine sheep.

The above have been carefully selected in England by Melville B. Smith, Esq., which ought to be a sufficient guarantee for the good quality.

Applications for purchase of the above will be received by the undersigned.

ROUTLEDGE, KENNEDY & CO.

Auctioneers,
Napier and Spit.

December 7, 1876.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

HAWKE'S BAY AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL RAM FAIR.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1877.

MR. M. R. MILLER

Has instructions to sell by auction, at the Ram Fair to be held at Hastings on Thursday, February 1, the undermentioned Stock—

L O N G W O O L S

100 Pure Lincoln Rams, Two-tooth bred by H. Sladen, Esq., by imported Rams.
50 Pure Lincoln Ewes, Two-tooth, bred by H. Sladen, Esq.
2 Imported by Melville Smith, Esq., pure Lincoln 8-tooth, bred by J. W. Dudding.

60 Pure Lincoln Rams, Four-tooth, bred by Thomas Tanner, Esq. These Rams are the pick from a 100 selected by Mr. M'Hardy

40 Pure Lincoln Rams, Two-tooth, bred by Messrs Coleman and M'Hardy; got by rams imported direct from England by Mr. Coleman from selected Ewes.

50 Pure Lincoln Two-tooth Rams
50 do. Four-tooth do.
50 do. Two-tooth Ewes (Bred by Joseph May, Esq., Auckland).

50 Pure Lincoln Two-tooth Rams (bred by Major Jackson and Thomas Russell, Auckland)

68 Pure Lincoln Two and Four-tooth Rams (bred by P. C. Thekeld, Esq., Canterbury)

30 Pure Lincoln Two-tooth (bred by Messrs Sutton, Southland.)

10 Pure Lincoln Six and Eight-tooth (bred by Messrs F. and W. Nelson)

2 Pure Lincoln Six-tooth (bred by Mr. John Turner, Lincolnshire)

And several other lots, detailed particulars not to hand.

MERINO

5 Pure Merino Rams, as sample Pen from the Maraekakaho stud flock by J. L. Currie's Victorian Rams.

6 Pure Merino Rams (imported by Messrs Kinross & Co.), imported from England from the well-known "George IV." flock.

5 Pure Merino Two-tooth Rams, as sample bred by Hon. R. Stokes, Milbourne.

3 Rams, bred by Philip Smith, Esq., Ross, two of their dams prizetakers at Richmond, 1875; by brother of Sir Thomas (mother's side); bred by James Gibson, Esq.

4 Rams by ditto, out of picked ewes, bred by R. J. Kermode, Esq.

3 Rams, out of ewes bred by G. Pulley, Esq., dams by Kermode's rams, out of Austrian ewes, imported by R. T. Allwright, Esq.

The whole of the above are 18 months old.

NOTE—Breeders intending to consign their stock to be sold by the undersigned at the Fair, will kindly forward particulars early for catalogue.

M. R. MILLER,
Stock and Station Agent,
Auctioneer.

SMALL LEASEHOLD RUNS.

FOR SALE,

5000 ACRES excellent Pastoral Land, 18 miles from Napier on the Sea Board. The Country is well grassed and watered, capable of carrying now 5000 sheep; good yards and paddocks, &c. Low Rental.
2000 Sheep will be delivered with the run.
Price Moderate—Terms easy.
For further particulars apply to
M. R. MILLER.

IMPROVED FREEHOLD ESTATES.

PAKOWHAI, NEAR NAPIER.

440 ACRES, 416 ACRES, 613 ACRES.
TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION AT NAPIER ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, At Noon.

M. R. MILLER

HAS received positive instructions from the owner of the above properties, Alex. M'Hardy, Esq., to dispose of all his freehold lands at Pakowhai, in three separate, compact blocks, each complete and workable in itself—and present improvements, except buildings, rendering each block capable of re-division if afterwards found desirable by the purchaser. The whole of the lands are under English grasses, watered by seven artesian wells, and are divided into numerous paddocks, each having all requisite surface drainage provided for. The fences are most substantial, a number of them double with live quick hedges. These, with small plantations dotted over the property, afford ample shelter. This Estate, now well known as the best fattening country in New Zealand, is carrying fat, an average of AT LEAST SEVEN SHEEP PER ACRE. It is handy to market and Port, the nearest point being only about six miles from Napier. On the 440 acre Block there are a substantial Dwelling House and Offices, Stables, Looseboxes, Cowsheds, numerous yards, and a dip. The Woolshed and Yards are within 2½ miles of the Farndon Railway Station.

As the owner requires not only all his available capital, but also to bestow the whole of his attention on a larger and more distant property, he finds it ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO EFFECT A SALE OF THIS. To ensure this result the reserve is really nominal, having NOW BEEN REDUCED TO A sum far below value. The terms will be easy, as about TWO-THIRDS remain on mortgage at SEVEN PER CENT FOR EIGHT YEARS.

As the property must be quit, intending buyers will do well to pay an early visit. Plans may be seen and further particulars obtained at the offices of the auctioneer,

M. R. MILLER,
Napier.

Napier, 8th January, 1877.

COUNTRY RESIDENCE

AND LEASEHOLD LAND, FARNDON.

FOR SALE, the Goodwill of Lease (about 10 years to run) of 12 acres of Land immediately adjoining the Railway Station, Farndon, divided into three Paddocks richly grassed, and a well-stocked garden and orchard, artesian well, &c.; together with a neat and comfortable Dwelling-house, detached Kitchen, Stable, Coach-shed, &c., the property of Duncan M'Dougall, Esq., who is about to leave this district. Possession can be given end of January.

Mr. M'Dougall has spared no expense in internal arrangements of the house to make it comfortable. The whole of the furniture may be taken at a valuation, and two quiet milk cows now in use, a thoroughly staunch, well-broken harness mare and double buggy, can also be sold along with the property. Also, a small standing crop of Oats.

This very desirable residence presents an opportunity for a family wishing to reside near town, and yet to have the convenience of the country, rarely offered. The price very moderate.

For further particulars, apply to
M. R. MILLER.

FOR SALE,

A THRASHER AND ELEVATOR.

Also,
A Three Horse-power Thrashing Machine.

Apply to
J. J. TYE
Repository, Waipawa.

TO RUNHOLDERS, GRAZIER, AND OTHERS.

MR. J. J. TYE

HAS the pleasure of announcing that at the request of a number of the leading settlers in the Southern part of the Province, he has made arrangements for holding a

LARGE

SHEEP, CATTLE, AND HORSE SALE At Waipukurau, ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7,

Suitable Paddocking and other necessary conveniences will be provided, and it is intended to establish the Sale as a half-yearly one.

The central position of Waipukurau, connected as it is with Napier, the West Coast, and Wairarapa, by railway and good roads, will, it is expected, attract purchasers from these important districts, as they will be enabled readily to supply themselves with a choice of such Stock as they require. On the other hand, runholders or others sending Stock to the Sale, will have the great advantage of the competition which the attendance of a large number of buyers always insures.

Stock owners desirous of making a trial of the proposed Sale, are respectfully invited to communicate with the undersigned as early as possible.

JOSEPH J. TYE,

Auctioneer,
Stock and Station Agent, Waipawa, or to
H. MONTEITH,
Commission Agent, Waipukurau.

FOR SALE

YOUNG SHORTHORN BULLS.

THE undersigned is instructed by the Hon. H. R. Russell, to take Orders for Young Bulls of this Season, the produce of his celebrated bull, the Crown Prince, out of seven-eight's bred Abbot cows.

Crown Prince and his two sons took each the First Prize in their class at the late Hawke's Bay Agricultural Show, and the Abbot, the sire of the cows, (which was purchased by Mr. Russell from the Hon. Col. Whitmore), is universally known, and has left stock in the district, second to no other bull.

Also,

MERINO RAMS—Got by Fowling's celebrated Rams, out of Ewes bred from a small flock of Sheep, imported in 1862, and which have always been carefully attended to and improved.

LINCOLN RAMS—Got by two of Kirkham's best imported Rams, out of pure Lincoln Ewes.

For further particulars apply to
JOSEPH J. TYE,
Stock and Station Agent,
Waipawa and Waipukurau.

SHEEP FOR SALE.

4000 MERINO WETHERS, 8-tooth; delivery immediately

2000 Merino Ewes, 8-tooth; delivery February

600 Merino Wethers, 8-tooth; delivery immediately

600 Merino Ewes, 6 and 8-tooth; delivery January

900 Lincoln Ewes, 2, 4, 6, and 8-tooth; delivery February

500 Cross-bred Ewes, 6 and 8-tooth; delivery January

170 Merino Hoggets and Lambs; delivery February

700 Fat Cross-bred Wethers
J. J. TYE,
Waipawa.

FREEHOLD LAND, WOODVILLE.

ON DEFERRED PAYMENTS.

THE undersigned has instructions to sell on Liberal Terms the undermentioned well-selected sections at Woodville:—

No. 153—80 acres.
" 154—105 " "
" 184—80 " "
" 185—143 " "
" 199—73 " "

M. R. MILLER.

CABLEGRAM.

[REUTER'S SPECIAL TO PRESS AGENCY.]

LONDON

January 19.
The Grand Council of Turkey has resolved not to discuss the proposals of the Conference further.

The determination, when made known in Constantinople, caused shouts of "death before dishonor."

The Council is unanimous in rejecting the proposals as contrary to the integrity and dignity of the Empire.

The Vicar of Pelhamdale continues to defy the Court of Arches.

The Bishop of London has closed the Church to prevent riots. The matter is referred to the Privy Council.

The American Congress has referred the question of the Presidential election to a tribunal composed of the Supreme Court and members of both Houses.

SYDNEY.

January 19.
The yellow flag is hoisted aboard the men-of-war Wolverine, Sappho, and Conflict. The usual small-pox precautions have been taken, but the nature of the disease has not been sufficiently defined yet to cause any alarm.

Commercial: Bank dividend twenty-five per cent. per annum.

Quotations.—Adelaide flour, £14 to £14 15s; wheat, 6s to 6s 2d, firm; candles, 10d to 10½d; little alteration in other articles.

LATE.

The sickness on board the Wolverine, Conflict, and Sappho turns out to be small-pox.

ADELAIDE.

January 18.
The following are the nominations for the Adelaide Cup:—Spark, Painter, Barmaid, Impudence, Devastation, King, Winter, Briseis, Fairy Scene, Elsie, Fillibuster, Jack's the Lad, Aldinga, Repetition, Electricity, Aconite, Deacon, Star, Glengarry, Lord Lytton, Mary Gladstone, and Fisherman.

Wheat is quoted at 6s 4d.

INTERPROVINCIAL.

WELLINGTON.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

January 19.
Emmett has arranged to remain here and play six nights.

The Chinese Giant and the Hegarty Troupe are also showing.

A company is being floated for a new Theatre in Manners-street, to be called the people's Theatre and Music Hall.

There is much jubilation among the boating men at Wellington's success at the Nelson regatta.

Numerous ecclesiastical dignitaries are in town on their way to the Anglican Synod at Nelson.

Bishop Redwood has also arrived from Sydney.

Toxward v. Hastwell's case, for damages by a coach accident, is not nearly concluded. All the evidence for the defence goes to show that the accident was caused by a violent wind on an exposed point of the Rimutaka Hill.

Thomas Hawkins, alias Stevens has been cleverly arrested by Sergeant Ready and Farrell for burglary and theft of seven watches to a large amount of money at Palmerston.

A man named Temayne, has been killed by an earth fall at the reclamation excavations.

AUCKLAND.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

January 19.
An accident occurred to-day at Secombe's well, from which the water supply for the City is at present obtained. It collapsed, burying machinery, gear, and building. No persons were hurt. The hands were absent at the time. The damage is estimated at over £1,000.

January 22.
William Rose, a young man of fast habits, and sensitive disposition, was brought before Mr. Barstow on Saturday morning, charged with fraud. The young man shortly after his arrival here, called on L. D. Nathan and Co., representing himself as an accredited agent of John Gibson, merchant, at Patea, and obtained £10. He next succeeded in obtaining goods from McArthur and Co., to the amount of £367. In the meantime, young Rose, in his travels about the city, had been introduced to Miss J.———, who introduced him in turn to her mamma and sisters. He professed to be sweetly enamored of one of them,

and whispered the fact in her ear that he was fairly caught. He proposed a pleasant drive on Friday as far as Otahuhu, and the proposal was at once accepted by the fair one, and the Patea traveller hired a carriage and drove to the residence of the sisters. In the interim, a telegram had been received from John Gibson, informing the police that "Sweet William" was not a Rose out of the Patea garden, but of wilder growth. In fact William Rose was a counterfeit, and the whole thing a fabrication. Detective Jeffrey was immediately on the alert, and went to the home of the ladies, where a carriage was waiting at the door. Out stepped William Rose, and at the same time several ornamented heads were seen at the door way. The appearance of the detective sent a chilling influence throughout the young ladies, who knew their man, and immediately shrieked as though stricken by a sudden sunstroke of conscience. William Rose did not know Jeffrey, and wondered as he saw the retreating sisters, but his wonder lasted but for a little time. The voice of Jeffrey sounded in his ears, and accompanied by two brilliant silk dresses, partly finished, he was driven to the Police Station, while the girls, disappointed of a "rosy holiday," retired "to weep, or perchance to dream."

DUNEDIN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

January 20.
The Guardian states that the pay of the police is to be reduced to six shillings.

Grinley's party returned from Chasland's Mistake yesterday evening in the Huon Belle. She has on board cargo valued at about £400, including 227 fathoms of chain cable, two bower anchors, steam winch, two boats, all the spars excepting the lower masts, binnacles, and other lamps, and a large quantity of what constituted part of the Otago's cargo. Grinley states that the forward half of the steamer remains hard and fast on the rocks, but it has a very heavy list to port. He thinks she is likely to remain intact for years, being out of reach of all but exceptionally heavy seas. The cargo brought by the Huon Belle is the second sent from the wreck. The estimated value of the total quantity recovered is about £700.

Jean Signa, ten years of age, died yesterday from eating green gooseberries.

January 23.

The Blue Spur shooting mystery has been cleared up in a strange way. Campbell, the father of the children said to have been shot, was travelling in the coach the other day, when the conversation turned on this case, and a gentleman he was speaking to happened to remark that he once knew some children who were badly injured by the bursting of a detonating cap. This reminded Campbell that he had a cap of similar character at home. On arriving at his house, he asked Mrs Campbell where the cap was, and she referred him to a drawer in the bedroom. As it could not be found, the children were questioned, when the whole secret of the accident was discovered. The eldest girl informed her father that she was holding the cap in her hand, and pushing a pencil into it, when it exploded, and blew off the ends of her two fingers. So the mystery was explained, and the theory about the man having fired through the window is a myth.

The case Robertson v. Ross and wife, now being tried before Judge Williams and a special jury, is an extraordinary one, and about which more will likely be heard. There is a strong bar, including Mr. Garrick, of Christchurch, and Mr. England. The plaintiff, who is close upon eighty years old, is suing his son-in-law to set aside a deed of conveyance on the ground that it was obtained by fraud. The case may yet involve charges of perjury and forgery. The property in question is valued at £8000. By the deed called in question, the plaintiff conveys to the defendant and his wife (Robertson's youngest daughter) all his property, real and personal, except a life interest in the land passing over to his other two children. Ross appears here to have wormed himself into the old man's confidence, and been entrusted with the preparation and alteration of the will; the old man purposed by which that the property should have been divided amongst his children. Robertson alleges that he was taken by Ross to an hotel in Dunedin, and there signed the blank paper, which he believed to be a will, and which turns out to be the deed now sought to be impeached.

[PRESS AGENCY.]

DUNEDIN.

January 19.
Arrangements have been made with

Mr. Proudfoot to extend the Dunedin tramways through South Dunedin to Ocean Beach and Caversham.

Mr. Bradshaw reports:—Colonial Bank £1 15s; National Insurance, £1 6s; Standard, 13s 6d; Bank of New Zealand, £19; South British, 67s 6d; Otago and Southland investment, 25s; Mosgiels, 42s.

Mr. Fleming reports produce prices as follows:—Oats, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; barley, 4s to 4s 6d; wheat, 6s to 6s 3d, pollard, £6 10s; flour, £15 to £15 10; oatmeal, £12; hay, £4.

January 20.

The case of Wilson v. Stamper, an action for malicious prosecution on a charge of perjury, occupied the Supreme Court the whole of yesterday. Both parties are solicitors. Plaintiff resided at Gisborne in Auckland. The verdict was for defendant on all the issues.

January 22.

Three through trains are arranged for from Christchurch to Oamaru, the average rate of speed being 18 miles. The Union Company run their steamers in conjunction, so that the through journey to Dunedin can be made in 14½ hours, including stoppages.

CHRISTCHURCH.

January 19.

After luncheon on Tuesday, Otago took the field, Ollivier and J. Fowler represented Canterbury, Millington and Morrison bowling. The ground being very dead, it just suited these bowlers. At 5.45 Meares and Cargill appeared at the wickets for Otago, Ashby and Sweet bowling. After a maiden to each, Meares scored 1 off Ashby. Sweet next bowled a maiden, and Ashby did the same. Time was then called.

OTAGO FIRST INNINGS.

Rose, run out	15
Cargill, run out	0
Meares, c Secretau, b Ashby ...	3
Bouche, b Ashby	0
Paramour, b Ashby	0
Reade, b Sweet	3
Nicholls, b Ashby	3
Morrison, b Sweet	1
Millington, b Sweet	0
Rhodes, c and b Sweet	5
Clark, not out	20
Extras	11
	61

CANTERBURY SECOND INNINGS.

Oliver, b Millington	3
Fowler, J. b Morrison	4
Corfe, b Millington	0
Moore, b Millington	16
Leach, c Clark, b Paramour ...	25
Alfe, c Reade, b Millington ...	4
Ashby, b Morrison	0
Secretau, c Meares, b Morrison ...	4
Neilson, not out	57
Sweet, c Meares, b Millington ...	15
Fowler, E., c and b Millington ...	1
Extras	10
	139

OTAGO SECOND INNINGS.

Meares, not out	1
Cargill, not out	1

WELLINGTON.

January 20.

Mr. O Shea reports produce prices as follows:—Flour, £15 10s to £16, low stock; Adelaide, £17 to £18; oats, 3s to 3s 3d; bran, 1s 3d; wheat, (milling) none, chick, 4s to 4s 3d; pollards, £7 10s to £8; hams and bacon, equal proportions, 6d to 9d; cheese, 8d to 8½d; maize, scarce, 5s 6d to 6s; potatoes, £5 10s to £6.

The Armed Constabulary has been now reduced by nearly 200 men and 13 officers. The police in the Middle Island and elsewhere are being enrolled under the Armed Constabulary Act to enable the above reduction to be made. The position of the police force will not thereby be affected as to pay, and they would only be called on to serve as armed constables in case of emergency.

Arrived—Leicester, ship, from London, 87 days out. She brings 400 immigrants and 11 saloon passengers; all well. Captain M'Donnell, with his wife and child, are passengers by her.

January 22.

To-day is the anniversary and a general holiday. The weather is fine and beautiful for sailing purposes, but promises to be too rough for the rowing boats.

The Government are considering the question of removing the powder magazine to a more isolated position than that at present. Both the Corporation and the Chamber of Commerce have been making representations to the Government to remove the magazine beyond the suburbs of the town. In the meantime, all gun-

powder will be removed only under charge of the Armed Constabulary.

NELSON.

January 20.

The protest against Eclipse, the winner of the Junior Four-oared race, was disallowed.

After hearing the protest entered by the owners of the yacht Secret, the Committee decided that the race should be run again, but Mr. Richardson, the owner of the Gauntlet, declined on the ground that he fairly won, and has served a notice on the treasurer holding him responsible for the money and cup.

All the money won by visitors was paid to them on Thursday night, excepting the protested races.

The Wellington Rowing Club took away £246 and a silver cup.

AUCKLAND.

January 18.

The cause of the Kingite stoppage of the survey at Pirangia is that the land in dispute was formerly granted by the Kingites as a residence to Morgan, a European married to a Maori woman. Morgan offered to sell the land to M'Lean, but sold it to a Dunedin purchaser, who took the surveyor to the land. The Kingites do not recognise Morgan's right to sell. It is stated on good authority that M'Lean never promised the Kingites all the land at the west bank of the Waikato, but offered to give pieces to any who wished to come in.

To-day a petition, signed by 600 persons, in favor of the commutation of the sentence of death on Curtin, was presented to Mr. Whitaker, who promised to lay the matter before the Governor. Curtin's sister says he expresses deep contrition for the deed, and weeps frequently when referring to it.

January 19.

Mr. Buckland reports: Fat cattle advanced 2s per 100lbs., 30s to 45s; fat wethers advanced 2s per head.

The National Bank declared a dividend of 6 per cent. for the half-year ending September.

The Star states, on the authority of the Attorney-General, that where the Counties Act is not brought fully into operation, or no rate levied, a subsidy on the basis of the total amount of the rates collected by the highway districts in the county will still be payable. Where permissive clauses of Counties Act are suspended, County subsidies will be paid direct to Highway Boards.

January 20.

There appears to be ground for hoping that the Pirangia difficulty will be quietly arranged. Falkner has withdrawn the surveyors from the disputed land, which is partly within and partly beyond the confiscated boundary. It was granted some years ago by the Compensation Court to Mrs. Morgan in consideration of losses sustained during the war. Mrs. Morgan sold it to Mr. Smith, of Dunedin, a few weeks ago for £600.

Arrived—Loch Awe, 95 days from London.

PORT CHALMERS.

January 22.

Arrived—Ship Marlborough, from Glasgow, with immigrants, all well.

The Albion Company's ship Timaru sailed on Saturday afternoon for London with a cargo of wool, tallow, and gold to the value of £154,000. Twenty passengers also departed in her, including Detective Dalton and Wood, the defaulting secretary of the Colney Hatch Gas Company.

January 23.

Shaw, Saville and Co's Pleiades arrived last night after a passage of 87 days from London. She brings 34 passengers, 1600 tons of cargo, and 30 tons of powder. A passenger named Wright was lost overboard from the top-gallant forecastle during the voyage.

HOKITIKA.

January 23.

The Tararua arrived from Sydney yesterday, bringing the English cricketers but no fresh Australian news.

Something about a Misplaced Nose.—"The times are hard, my dear," said a man to his better half, "and I find it difficult to keep my nose above water." "You could easily keep your nose above water," returned the lady, "if you didn't keep it so often above brandy."

A young gentleman home for the holidays was talking with an old labourer at work in his father's grounds, when the old man said, "Ay, ay, sir, 'tis a fine thing is Iarnin'." There was no such when I was a boy; I was a big fellow, helpin' the family when all at once school broke out."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MR. TIFFEN AS A CANDIDATE.

SIR,—I am not one who often cares to rush into print, but perceiving that Mr. Tiffen is now a candidate seeking our suffrages, and further attempting to obtain votes by personal canvassing instead of boldly meeting the electors of the district, I would wish to remind my fellow-electors at Taradale in a few words as possible why they should refuse to assist in electing him. Mr. Tiffen, it is true, has been before the public of Hawke's Bay in various capacities—as an officer of the Government—as a member of the Provincial Council, and also as Chairman of our Road Board. As an officer of the Government, we can only too well remember how he was appointed as Chief Surveyor of this province, and afterwards as Land Commissioner by the late Dr. Featherston, and how he sold that gentleman to whom he owed so many favors. As a member of the Provincial Council of Hawke's Bay, it is well-known that his vote could never be depended on. He was always like Balaam, halting between two opinions; and when the time for voting came, he looked to the right and the left, and eventually supported those, whom he thought had place, patronage, and power, at their disposal. As a member and Chairman of the Road Board, what course did he follow? Many of his dupes will remember the time he informed them that unless they paid 10s in as rates, they could not vote, and how afterwards when ratepayers in order to be enabled to vote paid the ten shillings, he refused to allow them to use the franchise they thought they had thus obtained. Or, can we forget the day, when he stood up with a number of proxies in his hand, and taunted us—by informing the meeting that it mattered little how we voted, as he held a sufficient number of votes so that he could elect whom he liked, or whom he pleased. And yet now he would feign come forward as the friend of the small farmer—of the working man pleading that we should be unanimous in this election—prove true to ourselves and elect himself. I hope, sir, that the electors of the Taradale district, will be true to themselves, and give their votes to one whom they can trust, whose past political career has not been of a two-faced character, but on the other hand, to be depended on by Ministers or Opposition. Should we elect Mr. Tiffen, we know we shall elect one whose promises are like pie-crust. If we are unanimous in refusing to give him support, we will show that like wise men we put faith only in those who by their conduct in the past, have proved worthy of our confidence.—I am, &c.

TARADALE SETTLER.

Taradale, January 17, 1877.

COLONIAL PRIZE FIRING.

SIR,—At the competition for choice of representatives at the Colonial Prize Firing, Gunner Mogridge, who made the highest score, was declared the representative for this district for 1877. There were other competitors, the next highest scorers being Gunners Ross, Gilberd, and Sellars respectively. Now, the Prize Firing Regulations stipulates that extra representatives will be allowed to compete provided that they obtain the minimum score allowed. I believe, Sir, that Gunner Sellars is to be the extra representative from Napier, in preference to Gunners Ross and Gilberd, the Artillery Company paying his expenses. The fact is, according to the regulations, Gunner Ross is the extra representative, and I believe he was willing to proceed to Hokitika on the same conditions as Sellars, if he was allowed time to obtain information as to whether the Company would provide him with the "necessary," but that time was not granted him, for what reason I know not, although I believe it was given to Sellars. Now, I ask, how is it that Sellars, who made the lowest score, is placed before Ross and Gilberd, who, I believe will contest at Hokitika on the condition of the Company paying their expenses? Is it one of those cases of favoritism of the Government, which is becoming so common lately? Or is it a piece of officialdom, which places the wrong man before the right, and which is winked at by their superiors? At any rate, in my opinion, it is a very unfair and unjust proceeding, and one which will—and I have not the slightest hesitation in saying so—make Volunteering a thing of the past in Napier in a very short time.

Trusting that I have not trespassed too much on your valuable space.—I am, &c.

AN OLD VOLUNTEER.

Napier, January 19, 1877.

THE ELECTION.

SIR,—I see the Herald, in a subleader this morning, says that—"Mr. Rhodes made a grave mistake in giving the distinct pledge he did at Petane to the Denominationalists." I never gave any such distinct pledge, in the first place; or anything, but an affirmation that, so far as I knew, our Hawke's Bay Education Act (which I assisted to pass) was the fairest sample of its kind; inasmuch as it allowed a denominational school (i.e. the Roman Catholic) to receive capitation money in common with other schools, where all had to contribute alike in the way of taxes under the Act.

All small attacks and prophecies I can afford to overlook and wink at, seeing how little effect in the past they have produced; but this more serious allegation—that I have pledged myself to support Denominationalism generally, without reservation—requires immediate contradiction on my part.—I am, &c.

J. RHODES.

January 20, 1877.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT.

SIR,—Should Mr. Sutton be elected, it cannot be said that he sailed in under false colors. He has distinctly announced himself as a thick, thin, and unscrupulous supporter of Ministers. Nor can we wonder at it, considering the obligations he is under to one of the Ministers—Mr. Ormond.—But I desire to ask my fellow electors whether it is to their interests to return another obsequious tool to the Minister of Public Works. I had thought Mr. Sutton would have made some show of independence, but as he dare not, I would greatly prefer that we should have a thorough independent man like Mr. Rhodes, who has always been consistent, and given his vote and support for what he has considered would advance the whole district. We want no more tools, we had enough of them in the Provincial Council. Let us therefore show on the day of election by voting for Rhodes, we are not going to place in the House a person who is bound to go with the Ministry whether he wills it or no.—I am &c.,

MEANER

January 20, 1877.

TARADALE VOTES.

SIR,—Relative to "Taradale Settler's" letter of the 17th inst., it behoves us to wait patiently before we make up our mind to whom we shall give our votes. Let us hear each candidate's views. Surely they each will pledge themselves to support some measure. It is well known the sheep farmers are well represented. What is wanted, is a man who will faithfully carry out measures that will benefit the middle and poorer classes—not the squatters; they have everything they can possibly desire, and, as long as it is possible, they will take care we (the middle and poorer classes) pay the piper. There is no doubt but that Mr. Sutton will, if he plays his cards right, secure a number of votes here, especially from those amongst us who have taken up land on deferred payments, lately granted by the Waste Lands Boards elsewhere, if he will take them by the hand and support measures conducive to their welfare, *vide* extension of railway, forming roads, &c. Under the Counties Act, viz. local immediate taxation, it is our own fault if we are heavily taxed for district purposes; let us one and all share alike. Electors, beware! It is a critical time. Wait, and think well before you pledge your votes. You yet have time to well consider the matter. It is generally thought here that the contest will be between Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Sutton; but, if Mr. Colenso appears in the field to split the votes, that he (Mr. Sutton) will be the winning man. If so, I trust he will stick to his colors.—I am, &c.,

ANGLER,

Taradale, January 20, 1877.

MR. BUCHANAN'S ADDRESS.

SIR,—In reading Mr. Buchanan's address there comes irresistibly to the mind the story of the old blind patriarch doubting the identity of his son—the hand is the hand of Esau but the voice is that of Jacob.—And so it is with Mr. Buchanan's address. The voice is that of somebody else; I fail to recognise a single expression of opinion, one idea on men or politics that of old distinguished him from his fellows. There is plenty of smoke, but no fire; the light of other days has faded, and Mr. Buchanan has sunk to the level of the common place provincial politicians of a bye-gone era, whose milk and watery utterances were

alone acceptable to the authorities. In this novel character what claim to the support of the electors can Mr. Buchanan possibly put forward? As newly made converts are usually petted and encouraged, so, perhaps, Mr. Buchanan may expect every assistance in the new path into which, he says, he has directed his steps. For myself, I do not believe in sudden conversions, either religious or political. Mr. Buchanan has not only turned his coat, but the whole of his attire, and, wrong side outwards, the apparel gives him such a harlequin appearance that I cannot but expect he will change into something else before the electors have done with him. As an out and out opposition man, a staunch friend and a bitter enemy, he always maintained the respect of his opponents. As a nothing-at-all—a possible wolf in sheep's clothing—he can hardly anticipate the support of his old adherents, or obtain that of those he formerly opposed.—I am, &c.

HALF CIRCLE.

Napier, January 22nd, 1877.

PROPOSED RATE AND WORKS AT TARADALE.

SIR,—It is currently reported here, at Taradale, that active steps are being taken by means of a petition in order to get a rate levied for the purpose of protecting Taradale and surroundings from the overflow of the Tutakuri. If so, it is to be hoped that this time the scheme will not be fruitless, as the previous ones. It is possible that it is on this account that our local Road Board slumbers, not wishing to waste the public funds until they see their intended works protected. It certainly seems folly to improve either private or public property until this work is completed, viz.—the embankment of the river, is most certainly the starting point. But, while the Boards are right here not to expend large sums of money, still there are lesser works which require attending to, viz.—repairing of small culverts or miniature bridges over creeks, such as that in the vicinity of Mr. O'Dwyer, the neglect in repairing the same being most dangerous.—I am, &c.,

ANIMUS.

Taradale, January 22, 1877.

THE LATE SIR DONALD M'LEAN.

The Auckland Herald has the following further particulars respecting the parentage and early days of the late deceased gentleman, Sir Donald M'Lean:—"Sir Donald was the youngest son of Mr. John M'Lean of Kilmahag, on the Island of Tyree, Argyleshire, Scotland. The Kilmahag family—who were offshoots of the M'Leans of Coll—resided in Tyree for several generations as tackersmen, paying a nominal rent to the Duke of Argyll, of whose large estates in the Western Highlands that island forms a portion. Sir Donald M'Lean's father married a daughter of the Rev. Donald M'Coll, minister of Tyree, by whom he had a large family, several of these dying in infancy. Mr. M'Coll educated one of his sons (Donald) for the ministry, and after being licensed to preach, he was appointed missionary at Kingairloch, on the west of Loch Linne, and within sixteen miles of Fort William. When only twelve or thirteen years of age, Donald M'Lean was taken to Kingairloch by his rev. uncle, with the view of giving him a liberal education, and thus preparing him for one of the learned professions. Young Donald did not, however, like the idea of being made a parson, a doctor, or a lawyer, and he stoutly set his mind against learning, and hated attending school. His uncle, who was a bachelor, did all he could to impress on his nephew the impropriety of neglecting his education in his boyish days, and frequently told him that if he lived till he arrived at manhood he would deeply regret his folly; and this prediction was fully verified in the assiduity with which young M'Lean applied himself to the acquirement of knowledge after receiving his first appointment under the New Zealand Government. No doubt he often called his uncle's advice to recollection, and as often upbraided himself for not complying with it. When about nineteen years old he left home and took ship from Glasgow to Sydney, where he remained for some months, and then sailed for New Zealand. After the disruption in the Church of Scotland in 1843, the Rev. Donald M'Coll left Kingairloch, he having received a presentation to the parish of Glenorchy, in the upper part of Lorn, where he spent the remainder of his days, and where he kept up regular communication with his nephew, whom he greatly esteemed for the energy he had shewn in improving his position after leaving home. Mr. M'Coll died about eight years ago, at the age of 79. The only near relative of the

late Sir Donald's now living at home is an aunt, the widow of the late Rev. Lachlan M'Kenzie, minister of Jura, Argyleshire—who is bordering upon fourscore years.—Sir Donald M'Lean was entirely a self-taught man, he being scarcely able to read or write when he arrived in this colony.

INDIA AND THE EAST.

CEYLON.

December 15.

The famine in certain Bombay and Madras districts continues, and subscriptions are being collected.

There have been deaths from starvation in the city of Madras. The Duke of Buckingham is blamed for his inactivity. The late cyclone in Bengal was the most terrific on record. The storm wave rose 20ft., rushed over a vast extent of thickly populated country from Backer Gange to Chittagong, and 200,000 persons have perished. The misery and destitution caused have been unprecedented.

Admiral MacDermot, in the flagship *Undaunted*, has arrived in Bombay from the African coast.

Bishop Mylne, of Bombay, has been called to account for his political and Turkish sermons, and interference with missionaries.

Lady Anna Gore Langton has left India for England.

The Acheen war drags its slow length along, with great suffering and calamity in its train. Interference by other powers is called for now in the interests of humanity.

The factious native Malay chiefs have met Sir William Jervois in conference, and agree to abide by British policy, recognising the Maharajah of Lahore as arbitrator in event of future disputes.

The Regent of Siam with a large retinue, is going to attend the Delhi Assembly.

The Burmese embassy returned from Peking loaded with presents.

Sir Thomas Wade, British Minister to China, is en route home.

The British gunboat *Lapwing* has been lost in the Gulf of Pecheli. No lives were lost.

A Japanese gunboat has been wrecked and 23 lives lost.

The Chinese Government has agreed to take over the Woorring Railway and work it for one year at least; after which it is expected to remove it, being jealous of innovation.

CEYLON, Dec 16.

The Pioneer announces Mr. Whitby Stokes to be next legal member of Council.

Colonel Pulley, of the third Ghowkhas is to be special artist at Delhi.

The Viceroy continues his tour in the Punjab and Scinde.

The cholera is raging very badly in Cabul, and the small-pox in Scinde.

MARRIAGE IN THE SEA.

The Providence Journal has a most romantic story of a marriage in the surf. Among the recent summer guests at Narragansett Pier have been a wealthy resident of Baltimore, his blooming daughter, and a companion, whose office was to stand guard over her young mistress, and intercept any letters that she might send to a young gentleman at the South. Before a fortnight had elapsed a dainty little missive was in the Baltimore mail-bag. The young gentleman packed his valise and set out for Rhode Island. The father was bidden by his physician to bathe in the surf, and his daughter's companion hated salt water, and usually sat on the rocks when her charge donned a bathing-suit. While the happy girl was in the water, her lover suddenly appeared before her, swimming like a duck, and proposed that they should be married the next day in the breakers. She said "Yes." The next noon the lovers, a clergyman, and two witnesses, formed a little group in the surf further out than the other bathers dared to go. The marriage ceremony had to be suspended every few seconds on account of the breakers, and a laugh broke from the lips of the girl when the clergyman gave full opportunity for the forbidding of bans. Everybody noticed how gay she was at dinner that day, and her father thought, "she's forgotten that Baltimore upstart already." A few hours later he was undeceived. Then the tempest raged again, but a lawyer's cool counsel prevailed. The bridegroom lingered a few days, and then went back to Baltimore, where next October the particulars of the comedy in the surf will reappear in the same characters in the drama of Grand Wedding before the eyes of the world.

LOCAL AND GENERAL NEWS

Under the Municipal Corporation Act of last session it is provided that in every undivided Borough the Council shall consist of nine Councillors, exclusive of the Mayor. As the Council is not composed of this number, it will be necessary for all the Councillors to retire from office upon the second Thursday in September next.

It is reported that the Corporation reservoir in course of construction on the hill above St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, is exhibiting signs of weakness. If this is the case, it is fortunate for those that live under the hill that the discovery has been made. We understand that the Public Works Committee's attention will be officially drawn to this matter at its next sitting.

An accident occurred at the Spit last week. The stewardess of the Rangitira, in going on board that vessel, slipped between the wharf and the steamer, but, fortunately without any serious results. The accident was caused by the plank, which served as a passage from the wharf to the steamer, not being properly fixed on the ship's deck, and when the stewardess was proceeding on board, it tipped up, and the lady was precipitated into a watery position, from which she was speedily extricated.

We should like to know whether it is a fact that the Corporation Nightman, by the terms of his contract, has to provide a covered cart for the removal of refuse. The effluvia from the cart when passing at night is beyond description, and creates a nuisance that demands the interference of the Inspector.

Mr. Rhodes, in addressing the electors at Petane last week, expressed the opinion that working for nothing was a game that was played out. Probably it is one in which he himself has never taken part. Mr. Rhodes said the Mayor of Napier worked without pay for the first year, but this year he had got £200, and next, the salary would be £300. Mr. Stuart, we may state, worked zealously for two years for nothing, and on the third year took office with the intention of fulfilling his duties without remuneration. The £200 voted him by the Council were offered and accepted as an honorarium. Mr. Rhodes is now a candidate for the vacant seat in the Municipal Council. Are we to believe from his remarks that, if elected in course of time to the Mayoral chair, he will demand £300 a year for his services?

Mr. J. N. Wilson returned to Napier on Saturday, overland from Wellington.

The condition of Hastings-street, with its pools of water, mudholes, and foot-path obstructions, certainly demands some little attention from the Municipal authorities. The method adopted of watering the streets, and we are under the impression, has something to do with the rapid decay of the roadway. The water from the hose is splashed in torrents in places, while other spots are left deep in dust. Is there no one to direct or control the actions of the employees of the Corporation?

One or two Poundkeepers are required to be appointed within the County of Hawke's Bay, but owing to the ridiculous action taken by the Council, the posts cannot be filled by other than the Governor. This is local government with a vengeance! The Council under the leadership of Colonel Whitmore has handed over the wealthiest portion of the provincial district of Hawke's Bay hand and foot to the Wellington central authorities. The Clive electors should be proud of having elected Colonel Whitmore.

The Lingards had another successful performance on Thursday before a good house. The first piece was "My Wife's Lover," in which Mrs. Lingard took the part of Pauline, and played naturally, and as usual was charming. Mr. Lingard as Citizen Sang froud acted carefully, and made the most of the character. Mr. St. Lawrence as Alphonse was very funny, although the part evidently did not suit him. "Not such a Fool as he Looks," one of Byron's latest comedies, was the *pièce de résistance*, in which Miss Lawrence and Mr. Kede had the most arduous work, and by their admirable acting of the characters of Mr. and Mrs. Mould, fairly earned the well-merited applause they received. Simon Pure required those peculiar abilities for which Mr. Lingard has already given evidence of possession. It is needless to state that he performed his part with a just appreciation of the author's conception.

The dust contractor is bound by his contract to remove all refuse from houses by eight o'clock in the morning. Generally speaking, boxes of rubbish are to be seen standing on the foot-path along Tennyson Street at nine o'clock. On Saturday, the dust cart, half-full of refuse, smelling fearfully, was standing at the corner of Brewer Street at twelve o'clock. Moreover, there did not appear on the cart the name of its owner, or the number of its license. The attention of the Inspector of Nuisances was called to the matter, and we wait the result.

The swamp reclamation contractors are pushing ahead with their work. Thackray-street—a continuation of Dickens-street—has been filled in from the Town Hall reserve to the corner of Millar-street near the Railway Station, and a short cross road into Carlyle-street has also been reclaimed.

A bazaar in aid of the West Clive Church building fund will be held in the Oddfellows' Hall, in about a week.

The Interprovincial Cricket Match between Otago and Canterbury, resulted on Friday in a victory for the latter team, who won by 150 runs.

A sum amounting to over £700 has been subscribed towards the erection of a new church in Napier, to be built for the Rev. S. Robinson. The subscription list was only opened on Friday. As soon as £1,000 are collected the work of erection will be begun.

The Wanganui Chronicle in an article on the several journals in New Zealand, thus refers to Hawke's Bay:—"The TELEGRAPH has enlarged and is now equal in size to the Post, and the Herald is also about to do so immediately. Napier can now boast of as credible representative organs as any town of similar resources in the colony."

In another column will be found an advertisement of the anniversary services of Trinity Church, Clive-square. Special sermons will be preached by Mr. Smalley, on Sunday, the 28th inst., and a soiree will take place on the following Tuesday. Tea will be served in the Protestant Hall at 6.30 p.m., and a sacred concert will be held in the church at 7.30 p.m. The entertainment promises to be a very attractive affair. A gallery will be erected over the pulpit, which will be occupied by the children of the school and choir, who will render a short service of song illustrative of the "Prodigal Son," with Mr. Walker as conductor and Miss Martin at the harmonium. The second part of the entertainment will consist of solos, duets, and anthems from the choir, assisted by several of our popular local amateurs, with Mr. Bear at the organ. Already a large number of tickets are sold.

The proposal to build a theatre at Napier has again been revived. The insufficient accommodation afforded at the Oddfellows' Hall whenever any good dramatic company visits this town, creates the impression that a building constructed specially for theatrical representations would be a profitable undertaking for a joint stock company.

We learn that Mr. Firth of Te Aute has made arrangements for the establishment of a saw-mill at Norsewood.

Mlle. de Murska and her husband, Mr. John Hill, left Melbourne for London on the 11th inst.

The Rev. S. Edger has been elected Worthy Grand Templar, the late chief, Mr. Speight, declining to be nominated.

The prizes that fell to the Napier subscribers to the Royal Scotch Art Union arrived here by the Rangitira. A handsome oil painting, of the value of £52 10s, fell to the lot of Mr. Stoddart, engineer on board the Southern Cross.

The farewell performance of the Lingards was given on Friday to a crowded house. The favorite comedy "Our Boys" was repeated; Mrs. Lingard, as usual, making a most fascinating "Mary Melrose," and quite brought down the house in the proposal scene. Miss St. Lawrence made the most of her part of "Violet," but as the ladies in the comedy have exceedingly light parts, Miss St. Lawrence had comparatively easy work. Mr. Lingard, in his part, was even more amusing than ever. Mr. St. Lawrence, as the young generously-minded swell, acted in a masterly manner. Mr. Kede took the part of the baronet in a quiet gentlemanly manner; and Mr. Bell, one of "Our Boys," showed considerable signs of improvement in his part. The part of "Aunt Clarissa" was very fairly taken by Mrs. Thornton; and Miss A. Thornton received rounds of applause in the short, but exceedingly amusing part of "B-B-B-I-linda." The last act was played very spiritedly, but the first seemed to hang fire a little. This, in a great measure, was due to the presence of three or four "sweet little cherubs" who favored the audience with solos, duets, trios, &c., much to the annoyance of their respective mothers, and the discomfort and indignation of the rest of the audience.

From a private telegram received this morning from Wellington, we learn that the action for damages taken by Mr. Toxward, architect, against Mr. Hastwell, coach-proprietor, for injuries sustained through the upsetting of Mr. Hastwell's coach, when on its way to Wellington from Wairarapa, has resulted in favor of Mr. Hastwell, Mr. Toxward failing to prove his case.

The Court of St. Charles, Napier, A.O.F., will celebrate its fifth anniversary on the 1st February next. The Court Sir Charles Napier, was the first branch of the Order established in this town; commencing with twenty-seven members, it now numbers over one hundred. It has been the parent of the Lord Clyde, Wairoa, Captain Cook, Napier, Sir Henry Havelock, Havelock, Courts in Hawke's Bay. The Secretary has now received a dispensation, &c., to open a Court at Gisborne, to be called Court Gladstone, which will be opened during the present month by P.C.R. Walker. The total strength of the Order in this province is about two hundred and fifty.

There was only one nomination of a candidate for the vacant seat in the Municipal Council received by the Returning Officer on Monday. That candidate is Mr. H. R. Holder, upon whose unopposed re-election we offer our congratulations.

The following draft of a warrant, having for its object the protection of salmon and trout, has been sent to the chairmen of the various Acclimatisation Societies for their consideration, before advising its issue by his Excellency the Governor:—1. No person, excepting as hereafter provided, shall fish for salmon or salmon trout in any part of the colony, or use any net or other engine instrument, or device, for taking fish in any river or stream in which young salmon or salmon trout, or salmon fry or spawn, or salmon trout fry or spawn are placed or deposited. 2. No person, excepting as hereafter provided, shall have in his possession any salmon or salmon trout. 3. All nets or other engines, instruments or devices whatever, used contrary to the provisions of these regulations, shall be seized, forfeited, destroyed, or removed, as the case may require. 4. The penalty for every offence against the above regulations shall be a sum not exceeding £100. Nothing in these regulations shall be held to be applicable to any Acclimatisation Society or their officers, or agents, or to any other body, or persons in charge of fish-breeding experiments.

The Wellington correspondent of the Otago Daily Times has the following:—"Ever since the Hinemoa arrived, the Luna has been anchored lying in the Bay. It is understood that she is for sale at £4500, but although one or two parties from Melbourne have been looking at her, the price is considered too high. An offer has, I believe, been made but declined, and it has not transpired what the figure was. She originally cost the Government £9000, I think. Certainly she will not increase in value being left long as she now is."

A curious incident is reported in the Star to have occurred at the sitting of the Grand Lodge in Auckland the other day. A brother was warm and glowing in the middle of a philosophic speech, when a lad was admitted with a telegraphic message from the Thames. As the chairman glanced at the telegram, his eyes seemed to glow with new delight, and turning to the Council he said: "Brothers and sisters,—I have just received the pleasing message by telegram that my dear wife has been safely delivered of a son and heir." A general shout of exultation followed, and a score of voices uttered: "We wish you many happy returns of the day."

The N.Z. Herald says:—In anticipation of sentence of death being passed upon him, Martin Curtin, on the 23rd December last duly conveyed his property and worldly effects to his sister—Mrs Elizabeth Kenny. Had such a course not been pursued, the belongings of the prisoner would have been forfeited to the Crown, as in the eye of the law a person upon whom the sentence of death has been pronounced is to all intents and purposes a dead man. The property comprises 126 acres, but some time ago was mortgaged to Messrs. William Hunter and Joseph Newman for £40. Messrs. Dignan and Armstrong prepared the conveyance, and are at present acting as the legal advisers of Mrs. Kenny.

The Thames Advertiser of the 16th says:—"A young girl, about 17 or 18 years of age, received a sunstroke on Monday, from the effects of which she has not yet recovered. She is the daughter of Mr. Carroll Smith, baker. She was bathing in the Kauwaeranga river when she first felt the dizziness which indicated the sunstroke, and she returned home. She complained, but no notice was taken of her state for some time, and she became insensible. Dr. O'Flaherty was sent for, and was most assiduous in his attentions. At first little hopes were entertained of the girl's recovery but she was gradually brought round to consciousness and up to last evening the symptoms were favourable. There was then a slight relapse; but, although the girl has now recovered to a very considerable extent, it cannot be said that she is yet quite out of danger."

A good story is told of one of the candidates for the representation of Napier. Some months ago a subscription was set on foot for the purchase of a fire engine, and this candidate was asked to put his name on the list. This he refused, saying "I have no interest in the town; my house is perfectly safe." He has since discovered that he has a lively interest in Napier, and the other day, meeting the canvasser for the Fire-brigade, asked him for his vote. "Well," said the canvasser, "I asked you for a subscription some time ago for a fire engine, and you said, in effect, it did not matter to you if the whole town was burnt down. Let us first settle that, and then we will talk politics." "Put my name down for £5, and let us talk politics," said the candidate in reply. The name against a five pound subscription was soon written down, and then the canvasser said, "and now for politics; I have already promised my vote." Tableau—exit, candidate indignant, canvasser laughing.

We understand that the eminent actor, Mr. Emmett, is likely to visit Napier shortly, in conjunction with a theatrical troupe. He has latterly been playing to crowded houses in the Southern provinces.

Mr. James Watt's three horses, Ariel, Ngairo, and a Lady-bird, arrived by the Southern Cross, on Sunday, and were landed in excellent condition. Ariel and Ngairo will be entered for the forthcoming Hawke's Bay Autumn meeting, which will be held in Mr. S. Johnston's paddocks, West Clive.

On Friday afternoon, as Constable Gruner was making his rounds at Port Ahuriri Harbor, he heard a splash in the water, and on proceeding to the spot he perceived one of Mr. John North's children struggling for life. The child came to the surface for the third time, when Constable Gruner caught it by the hand, and succeeded in rescuing it.

The letter portion of the Suez mail arrived in Napier overland on Saturday, and the newspapers were received by the steamer Kiwi on Monday.

From private letters received from Auckland on Monday, we regret to learn that Sir George Grey continues in a very weak state of health, and that he is unable to take his usual out-door walks. He is still residing at Kawau.

A country gentleman in Taranaki boiled down a large dog for the sake of the fat. He was absent for some time, and when he returned he found that the cook had been frying the steaks and onions with that fat.

Our ex-Governor, Sir James Fergusson, has been defeated in his contest for a seat for Frome in the House of Commons.

We shall soon have three Maori newspapers in New Zealand, the Waka Maori, Wananga, and a journal which is to be issued in the King country, and which is to be under the immediate supervision of His Maori Majesty and his Executive.

The Rev. S. Robinson preached at Havelock on Sunday morning. The rev. gentleman will shortly visit Melbourne for the benefit of his health, and will probably be absent from Napier until the church is erected that is about to be built for him.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Sinclair, who received such severe injuries some weeks ago by falling from his horse, and whose life was almost despaired of, is now so far recovered that he will be able to leave the hospital in about ten days. A cork leg has been ordered from England to replace the one amputated, and on its arrival, we trust to see Mr. Sinclair walking about as well as ever.

Mr. Buchanan has at length publicly announced his intention to seek the suffrages of the electors. His address will be found in another column. Its chief interest lies in the fact that, apparently, Mr. Buchanan has at length discovered the inutility of kicking against the pricks, and expresses an intention of working in harmony with Mr. Ormond. Is this an electioneering dodge, or sincere?

The Artillery Volunteers will be glad to hear that their new uniforms have arrived at Auckland. As soon as they reach Napier, they will be unpacked at Messrs. Routledge, Kennedy and Co.'s store Tennyson-street, and be at once distributed to the members of the company.

Mr. W. H. Flood was the fortunate winner of the piano that was raffled by the Gymnasium Club on Saturday. Mr. Flood had been presented with a ticket for executing certain repairs on the piano, and was not present at the raffle. A friend, however, "threw" for him, and topped the highest score, for which £10 had just been paid on the chance of it not being beaten.

The organ for St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, we hear, is on board the ship Fernglen, which sailed from London early in December last.

There has been an extraordinary failure of justice at Launceston. The Tasmanian Parliament, during its last session, passed a new Juries Act, which does not come into force until July, and the former one had been repealed. Consequently Chief Justice Smith ruled that no juries could be empanelled; the Attorney-General had to enter a *nolle prosequi*; and six prisoners to be discharged.

Through the courtesy of Major Richardson, who takes the trouble of registering the rain fall at Te Kapu, our Wairoa correspondent has been enabled to give us the following information re the rain fall at that station, during the past year. Total (in inches) 59.97, being a decimal under 5 inches per month on the average. The highest month was January with 15.99 inches, and the lowest September with .80. January, 15.99; February, 4.56; March, 3.97; April, 6.07; May, 4.45; June, 3.64; July, 6.72; August, 3.00; September, .80; October, 2.68; November, 3.61; December 4.57. Total, 59.95 inches.

A proof of the extreme care exercised by the Immigration Department in forwarding "desirable" immigrants, is furnished by the "Southland News":—"Among the passengers by the ship Garrick Castle were a man his wife and one child. From the day of their arrival almost they have been constantly in the hands, or under the care of the authorities for drunkenness. Latterly the husband went up-country, while the wife supported herself, somehow, in town. A correspondent writes us that a few days ago the man died, as declared at the inquest, from persistent hard drinking, and the authorities have been served with a bill amounting to over £5 for his funeral expenses. Putting aside the nice question who should pay this, it may be given as an arithmetical problem to some smart boy—How much have this pair cost the Colony, and what returns have they made?"

The Harbor Board met on Tuesday, when a letter was read from the Secretary of Customs calling upon the Board to carry out the Regulations relative to gangways. Several accounts were passed, and ordered to be paid. The Committee brought up the report on the reserves, which was adopted, together with the schedule attached. It was resolved that the lease for 21 years of the sections mentioned in the schedule should be submitted to public auction on February 23.

A special meeting of the Volunteer Fire Brigade was held in the Forester's Arms Hotel on Monday, at which most of the members were present. It was decided that the color of the tunic should be navy blue, and the material procured from the Mosgel factory. A plate, with the word "Fireman," was approved of, which it was resolved should be placed on the residences of the members of the Brigades. A resolution was unanimously passed to the Fire Brigades of Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin, thanking them for kindness shown, and the information afforded to Mr. R. Yuill, while representing the Napier Brigade. The secretary was instructed to forward the above resolution to the members of those Brigades.

Because clouds of dust have been blowing about for the last week, no steps have been taken to keep the streets watered. The erratic efforts of the Corporation to keep the dust down are really contemptible, and certainly not worth the money expended on the work. Perhaps the dust was possibly too disagreeable on Monday for the authorities to have the heart to set a man to work on the street.

A stone-mason wants to know what the Corporation is paying for cutting the stones now being used for curbing the town foot-paths. We have not the slightest idea, but we imagine the Municipal Engineer must be getting the work done as cheaply as possible or the Council, ere this, would have been asking questions.

The New Zealand Herald of the 18th inst says:—The Glenora brings a valuable stock of choice-bred Lincoln and Cotswold sheep, consisting of 16 rams and 58 ewes. The care bestowed on these during the voyage is evident, from the fact that only one death is recorded, the rest being in prime condition, and look as if only just off the pasture. Two rams of the Cotswold class—a breed not very popular in this district—are assigned to Mr. Canning of Hawke's Bay, and are well worthy of inspection by those interested in sheep-farming. Several Lincoln rams are to the order of Mr. G. S. Graham, but the bulk are the property of Mr. Melville Smith, who has so long been favourably known as an importer of pure-bred stock. Among the animals is a fine Durham boar, the first of its breed introduced into this district. It is, however, a fine animal.

We regret to hear that Mr. Carrington, who for some time has occupied the post of Assistant District Engineer in this province, continues in a state of health that utterly precludes him from performing the duties of his office.

Mr. E. Withers, who has for a long time filled the onerous position of accountant in the Colonial Bank, Napier, left on Tuesday for Auckland in the Southern Cross to occupy a similar position in that city. Mr. Withers will be greatly missed by our cricketers, he being one of the best in Napier. His departure will also be felt among the musical portion of the community. We wish Mr. Withers every success.

A late issue of a Wellington journal remarks:—We have not yet heard the last of the celebrated Pitt v. Carver case. We notice that this is among the matters set down for hearing at the next Banco sittings. It will be remembered that when the case was before the Resident Magistrate, Dr. Buller, after a determined fight with Mr. Moorhouse, which lasted a whole day, succeeded in obtaining an affiliation order of so much per week in favor of the complainant. On defendant refusing to pay, a distress warrant was issued, but the personal effects were protected by a bill of sale and the warrant was returned *nulla bona*. Then came the rub. For, on application being made to the Resident Magistrate for a warrant of committal, he took time to consider, and then refused to grant it, on the ground that he had no jurisdiction, the Destitute Persons Ordinance, under which the proceedings were taken, being silent as to imprisonment. Dr. Buller argued that the Ordinance was controlled by the provisions of "The Justices of the Peace Act, 1866," and gave notice of appeal. He has since applied to the Supreme Court, and has obtained a *rule nisi* calling upon Mr. Crawford to show cause why the warrant should not issue.

If the Corporation is too poor to light the streets at night, it has no right to leave pitfalls for the unwary. When obstructions on footpaths have necessarily to be left overnight in the construction of public works, it is usual to erect a lamp to warn people of the danger. This was not done on Monday when the footpath from Mr. Knowles' shop to the Clarendon Hotel was heaped up with the earth taken from an open trench by the side of the road.

The railway line from Waipukurau to Takapau is, we hear, not likely to be opened for public traffic till the end of this month.

A meeting of the Regatta Committee was held on Tuesday, at which it was resolved to postpone the regatta till Easter Monday. It was also decided that the regatta should be held in the inner harbor, and not on the Ngaruroro, as originally intended. A sailing match and two additional four-oar races were placed on the programme.

There is a prospect of the streets being watered properly. Mr. Barry is having a watering cart fitted up, and, we hear, is now ready for use.

In the R. M. Court on Tuesday, three several charges of obtaining moneys under false pretences, were heard against William Wilson. The evidence in each case was conclusive against the prisoner, and His Worship sentenced him to six months' imprisonment with hard labor for each offence, the sentence to be cumulative.

The members of the Napier Cricket Club met on Tuesday at the Criterion Hotel, Mr. W. Mayo in the chair. The formal business of the Club being concluded, it was resolved to raise a loan of £50 on the lease of the cricket paddock at Taradale. The financial statement showed a deficit of nearly £40. A reply to a communication forwarded to Dr. Frood was read, which stated that the Waipukurau Club would subscribe £50 towards getting a visit from the All England Eleven, provided the match was played at Waipukurau. No reply had been received from Mr. Bennett, the agent of the All England, who was then at Greyouth.

A meeting of the Committee of the Napier Rowing Club was held on Tuesday night, at which were reported the names of several young members of the Club for having violated the rules and bye-laws. It was resolved in accordance with rule XXIV., to bring the matter before a general meeting of the members, to be held on Tuesday evening next at the Criterion Hotel.

A case of sudden death occurred on Tuesday at Mr. Cox's station, Titikura. A man of the name of Robert Dunn, employed by Mr. Cox, left the wool shed, and, while in the act of walking to the men's house for the purpose of going to dinner, fell down dead. The deceased had been complaining previously of a pain in the region of his heart and it is supposed his death was the result of heart disease.

At the Civil Service examination held at Wellington last week, amongst other candidates who passed the junior examination was Alfred Earnest Harding who was educated at the Grammar School, Napier, for two years, and the Wellington English High School for a similar period.

At the Anniversary Regatta held in Wellington on Monday last, a boat belonging to the telegraph steamer *Agnes* capsized just off Soames' Island. A pleasure boat with ladies on board picked up three men. The *Hinemoa* saw the accident, turned round immediately, and got the boat in tow. One of the three died on board the steamer. Five minutes after there was a cry on board the steamer that another boat was down. Full steam was put on at once, and a boat lowered amid casks, oars, &c. Three men were saved, but two were drowned. The boat belonged to the ship *Alavanche*. Both boats went down like a stone. At the inquest on Tuesday, upon the body of one of the men drowned on Tuesday, the jury added a rider to the effect, that in all sailing boat races every one in the boat should be compelled to wear a life belt.

A man named Peter Bonnell, who was committed by the Resident Magistrate at Masterton in September last, on a charge of forgery, and who effected his escape from confinement the same night, was arrested on Saturday last by the Hawke's Bay police and conveyed to Palmerston, where he was instantly recognised as the individual for whom enquiry has been so long made in the police Gazettes of this and the neighbouring Colonies.

How twelve Secretaries at £3,600 a year, and twelve Chairmen at £4,800 a year, can under the county system, be more economical than one Secretary at £400, and one Superintendent at £1,000, is not very clear to the Tabot.

The next time local traders are allowed to obstruct the footpath by laying down concrete pavement, we trust the Corporation will insist on the work being done under the supervision of the Municipal Engineer. The work will then be properly performed, and will not have to be gone over again to the continued annoyance of foot passengers.

Mr. J. M. Meek (says the N. Z. Herald) has at length completed his arduous task of compiling a chronological tree of New Zealand. It is similar in all essential respects though on a somewhat smaller scale, to the chronological tree of Australia, prepared by the same gentleman. The amount of labour and trouble involved in its compilation have been very great, and now that the work has been brought to a successful issue it only remains for the public to mark their sense of Mr. Meek's industry in collecting and arranging in a concise form the salient events of New Zealand history by subscribing liberally for lithographed copies of the original, which it is understood, the artist will issue if a fair promise of support can be secured. The "tree" has been placed in the Museum Building where it may be seen by those so inclined.

We understand Mr. H. R. Russell intends again to stand for the Waipukurau Riding, and that his address will appear in our issue next week.

From a private telegram received on Thursday we learn that Mr. Emmett will not come to Napier for some time yet, he having made up his mind to proceed first to Auckland.

In Mr. Johnson's shop in Hastings street is to be seen a rare novelty in the shape of an imitation songster, which whistles and warbles similarly to a thrush or blackbird. It has been brought from Dunedin by a gentleman, who has been lately visiting there. This particular novelty was in the last Paris Exhibition, and attracted considerable attention. Anyone looking at it casually could not tell it from a real bird. It is enclosed in a cage, and by some very ingenious machinery has all the movements and gestures of a live bird imparted to it. One peculiarity about it is that it does not keep constantly whistling, but stops at varied intervals, apparently looks about, and then breaks forth again and warbles as naturally as if it were really alive.

On Wednesday evening, at Taradale, a man was found brutally ill-using his wife, by beating her in a most unmerciful manner. It is to be hoped that the police will take the matter up, so that he may receive his deserts at the hands of Mr. Bretham.

In the Resident Magistrate's Court on Wednesday, a case was heard against Mr. Jessop under the Debt Abolition Act, he not having settled the claim of his late partner (Hassel) for £20, for which judgment was lately recorded. Defendant pleaded that he had not the wherewithal. He was ordered to pay the debt by instalments of £2 per week, commencing on the 31st instant, and in default of payment to be imprisoned for two months.

Mr. Tiffen, instead of calling a meeting of electors, answers, through the TELEGRAPH a number of queries on matters political. Should Mr. Tiffen be returned, instead of addressing the House of Representatives, we shall doubtless find him handing to the Hansard reporters speeches he ought to deliver. This course will save reporters a great deal of trouble, and his return would be counted by them a blessing.

A blacksmith, named Hills, in the employ of Mr. Wells, of Hastings street, had a miraculous escape of his life on Thursday. He was engaged shoeing a horse, alongside of which was tethered a young animal, which was of a most restive disposition. Something appears to have startled the young horse, who commenced kicking out. With his forefeet he drew Hill under him, and then struck out at him with his hind legs, hitting him twice in the small of the back, knocking him almost into the middle of the shop, where Hill lay for some time senseless. After Hill came round, he was removed to his home, where Dr. Spencer examined his body. Strange to say, no bones were broken, although it is expected it will take him some time to recover from the shock of the blows. Fortunately for Hill, he is a member of the Society of Foresters, and will, during his illness, be in receipt of sick-pay, and also obtain medical attendance and medicine gratis.

Some ruffian or another stole the rowlocks from the pilot boat on Wednesday. The theft was not discovered till the evening, when the boat had to be despatched to the Western Spit. The crew, as usual, pushed the boat into the stream, and then found that the rowlocks had been taken away. Now if the despatch of the boat had been a matter of life or death—some unfortunate man drowning, or a boat capsized on the bar—the theft of the rowlocks might have been attended by the most serious results. We certainly trust if the thief is discovered that he will be most severely dealt with.

Mr. McDougal, who is leaving our district for Wairarapa, has had the good fortune to secure Kingfisher, Mr. Allan McLean's well known thoroughbred horse, for 400 guineas, through Mr. Miller. The settlers of Wairarapa may be congratulated on securing this noble horse.

In the R. M. Court on Thursday, John McKenzie, of Pukahu, was charged, on the information of Robert Moffit, Sergeant of Police, with being a lunatic, and not under proper care and control. He was remanded for medical examination. The presiding Justices were Colonel Lambert and J. A. Smith, Esq.

In a letter to the Morning Post, Mr. Guildford Onslow denies the statement that the Claimant has, by misconduct, forfeited his right to a reduction in his period of penal servitude. Mr. Onslow writes:—"I have received a letter from the governor of Dartmoor Convict Prison informing me that the convict Thomas Castro, is eligible to receive a visit from his friends, and that he can be communicated with in the usual way by letter. Had the Claimant been guilty of any breach of prison discipline he would have forfeited his right to a visit from his friends, and all correspondence would be suspended. On the other hand the governor assures me he is eligible for both visit and a letter—favours never before granted until the usual six months had expired. This shows pretty clearly that he is a uniform good conduct in prison has met its reward. The report of his having misconducted himself is another of those base attempts to disparage him in the eyes of the public."

The Kumara Times of the 5th instant says of the workmen employed in digging the cellar for Mr. Bulstrode's new hotel, Main-road, had at their leisure the curiosity to wash a dish of the dirt which was being dug out, and the result was a splendid prospect of scaly gold.

The Emigration Commissioners in England have thought it necessary to issue another notice warning intending emigrants from going to Brazil. Accounts received quite recently show that some persons are still deluded to go there, and that they are in a lamentable condition. A statement made by one of these unfortunates to the British Minister at Rio, which the latter authenticates, gives unmistakable proof of the manner in which the emigrants have been deceived.

A speaking monkey from Brazil is to be one of the distinguished visitors to the Paris Exhibition in 1878. This animal was found in the arms of its mother, who had been mortally wounded in a fight with a polecat, by a M. Coulembart, while shooting on the banks of the Amazon. Little Jean Lerousse—for so he is named—was given over to the charge of a negress who was addicted to the use of the word "caramba." The monkey was noticed to have caught the first syllable of the word, and by dint of proper teaching has been taught to say, "Papa," "Mamma," "Maranon," "Brazil." Has the "missing link" at last been discovered?

A meeting of persons interested in the erection of an Episcopalian Church at Hastings, was held on Wednesday at that township. Mr. J. N. Williams in the chair. The Rev. W. Marshall opened the proceedings, by informing the meeting of the success that had attended the efforts of the canvassing committee. The sum already promised amounted to £420. The rev. gentleman then referred to the opposition he had met with from the chairman; that gentleman had objected to the plans of the church, to the fact of an architect not having been employed, and had raised objections to the manner in which the undertaking had been initiated. Mr. Williams had insisted that the first thing to be done was to have the site for the church approved of by the Bishop's Commissary, and all proceedings carried out under the strict letter of the Synodical rules. Mr. Marshall then moved that Mr. Vicker's offer of a section for a church site should be accepted, and the church erected thereon immediately. Mr. Williams, who had left the chair, moved as an amendment that no immediate steps be taken to build the church, but that a committee be appointed to discover a better site. The amendment not being seconded, fell through. A building committee was then appointed, and the meeting terminated with a special vote of thanks to Mr. Vickers.

A complete change has been made in the mail service from England to America, the contract with the Cunard Company having expired at the end of 1876, mails are now forwarded on certain fixed dates by the most efficient vessels sailing on those dates, and the owners are to be remunerated by a payment per voyage, based upon the amount of correspondence carried each voyage. The scale is 2d per lb. for newspapers, and 2s 4d for letters.

The West Coast Times of the 6th instant says:—"The County Council is now in a deadlock. The first day's proceedings were singular enough, but yesterday's performance was unique. First, Mr. Seddon addressed three or four members who were sitting on one of the benches devoted to the public, from the floor, while the Chairman, if he is Chairman, occupied the chair in solemn solitude. Then three or four members rushed out to find the Executive Officer, whose position just now is not to be envied. All this time Mr. McWhirter sat serenely in his high-backed chair, and remained so sitting until in the course of time a quorum came. Indeed, all the members took their seats, and then after fighting their battle of the day previous over again, Mr. Robinson succeeded in establishing another 'no quorum,' by moving that the minutes be read. This drove out Messrs Seddon, McGiffin, Hirter, Beale Collyer, the other four stuck to their seats. But the Chairman was equal to the occasion, and being most likely hungry, formally adjourned the meeting until noon on Monday."

Pointing out that the present Ministry is "a Stafford Ministry created without its originator being at pains of leading it," the *Otago Herald* says:—"Mr. Donald Reid, we know for certain, is the only member of the Otago League whom Mr. Stafford tolerates. He is the only one of them whom that statesman exempts from his sweeping condemnation of Otago politicians as 'narrow-minded, grasping, selfish, log-rollers.' Mr. Reid was Mr. Stafford's Minister of Public Works in his brief administration of 1872; and he certainly would have been a member of any Ministry that Mr. Stafford might have subsequently formed. He may therefore fairly be accounted a congenial addition to the Cabinet which the member for Timaru has contrived to put together without himself accepting the least responsibility. People talk about the power and influence of the Recluse of Kawau. The Recluse of Landsdowne actually governs New Zealand."

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

CABLEGRAM.

[REUTER'S SPECIAL TO PRESS AGENCY.]

LONDON

January 22.

The prevailing opinion is that immediate war is unlikely.

The Grand Vizier has stated that England and France have declared neither for nor against Turkey.

The Christian Patriarch and Jewish Rabbi were present at the Grand Council.

Austria is now neutral, but probably will be unable to resist the demands of her Slavonic subjects.

At the Conference, the Turkish delegates attempted to discuss the details of the proposals of the European Powers, but ignored the essential demands.

The Marquis of Salisbury thereupon announced that the Conference had ended.

General Ignatieff said that he held Turkey responsible, but expressed a hope that Turkey would respect her Christian subjects, and Montenegro.

The mail steamer Assam arrived at Galle on the 17th.

The Official Press in Germany is greatly irritated at the suspicion expressed in French papers, arising out of the reported attitude of the German delegates at the Conference. The absolute neutrality and pacific intentions of Germany are affirmed.

INTERPROVINCIAL.

DUNEDIN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

January 24.

Mr Ross, in concluding his examination on Monday, said he had good reason to believe that Bugler was implicated in the matter for which he suffered (viz.—short-coming in his accounts at Sark and Carle's.) In his letter to his father-in-law, Bugler was referred to as "The Thirsty Informer." While in Auckland, he wrote the following letter to his father-in-law, dated October 11, 1871:—

Thomas Robertson.—Dear Sir,—As promised, and in duty bound, I pen you this note to let you know that we are all well, although pent up in grief and much sorrow. A weeping mother, wife, and sister, have to behold the gloomy prospects before us are hard to endure. I suffer bitter pangs of remorse as a stranger in a strange land, and feel that it could be but the duty of a husband, father, and son lies on me, and with the help of God may I get work for bread,—for my all was plucked from me for a fault which I was not altogether guilty; nevertheless, better die with the hope of salvation and freedom from the thirsty informer's grasp than the gall of making such sufferings on one not guilty. All the money left me was a few pounds we got for the furniture, and half of that went as passage money. I would have gone direct for America or Melbourne had I not promised you and Jennie not to leave New Zealand, and for her dear sake I tarry, as never one clung closer to man than she does to me. I cannot get work, but we have a chance as man and wife on a farm 100 miles from here, so we have to leave to see it on Monday. You need not tell our whereabouts to any one as our names are better blotted out of Otago. If you wish to write to Jennie, address Mrs. D. Ross, post office, Auckland, and I will find some way to send for it. Indeed, how can we feel but sad. God knows that I was snared, and with this name upon my lips, I protest that I suffer wrongs, as most truly that I am not guilty of the grave charge against me; but alas in an evil hour one fatal stain laid on my shoulders, burdens and griefs, charges and scandals not belonging to me, altho' I have had to bear them for the sake of those belonging to me. I have survived, no doubt, but paid an hundred fold; yes, paid a hard one many tears and sorrows, but the God of Justice knows the true state of my wretched case. I only can and always will say that the truth may come to light. There are a few things I would like to say, but in the meantime remain silent." Plaintiff's eldest son had threatened to make his father suffer for not giving him the Tomahawk property, on the promise of getting which he had come from America. Plaintiff's examination lasted some hours on Monday and all yesterday, during the greater part of which he has been subjected to a searching cross-examination by Mr. Garrick. In the main, his evidence corroborates the facts stated by his Counsel. He denies firmly that he ever authorised Ross to make the deed in his own favor, or

that he signed such in 1871. He thought he was signing the will. He was rather foggy about the signatures to certain documents shown him. The principal evidence yesterday given was Harold's, who witnessed the confirmatory deed. He swears positively, when Robertson signed it, and he witnessed it, it was in blank. The case, which excites considerable attention, is not likely to conclude before to-morrow.

January 25.

The case of Robertson v. Ross gets more complicated and interesting as it proceeds.

Yesterday, William Christie, a clerk in the Registrar of Deeds office, deposed that happening to be a customer of Macfarlane's, where Ross was working, the latter got him to see if the deed he handed in was registrable, and finding it was he registered it. The latter finding all Robertson's family searching for it he became suspicious, and got Ross to give him an acknowledgment, he had nothing to do with its execution.

Alexander Inglis, a draper, another of Robertson's sons-in-law, said, under promise of secrecy until Robertson was dead, Ross told him he had cut out Old Mag, meaning Mrs Robertson, leaving her without a penny, that he had persuaded Robertson that his boundaries were wrong, and so got all his papers, that afterwards he went to Stamper, the lawyer, and told him he wanted him to convey property to his brother, and got him to draw up a deed, which he (Ross) copied for himself. Seeing so great an injustice done to the rest of the family, and Ross refusing to make a deed to carry out his expressed willingness to share alike, the witness considered himself absolved from silence. He admitted the family were prepared to spend £1000 to defend Ross.

WELLINGTON.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

January 25.

Another attempt was made yesterday evening to have the sculler's and outrigger races, but the wind again interfered. The Wellington Club's intruder boat Transit was so much damaged on the first day as to be unfit for competition.

On the ship Himalaya reaching the harbor, some row happened on board, resulting in a seaman being brought to the hospital suffering from a wound in the head with a belying pin, used by the first mate, and in another two, both negroes, of whom the crew largely consists, being brought on shore as prisoners, one having threatened the mate with an axe.

The jury at the inquest on the body of the boatswain of the steamer Agnes recommended the Regatta Committee to adopt regulations that crews in sailing boats should wear life-belts. As a matter of fact, the crew of the Agnes boat were all supplied with belts, though not wearing them.

At the Taratahi races, four horses and their riders were thrown by a man named Heggarty driving across the course with a spring-cart. One rider is not expected to live.

Another fatal accident—the second within a fortnight—happened at the Reclamation Works, and is the subject of much comment.

William Maidment, the son of an old Hutt settler, has been thrown from his horse and killed.

A nightman, named Marshall, has been sent to prison for a month for systematically throwing quick-lime in the eyes of dogs annoying him in his nocturnal duty.

Emmett has been drawing overflowing houses. He leaves at midnight for Napier.

AUCKLAND.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

January 25.

The case of William Rose, who stands charged with obtaining large sums of money from Auckland merchants under false pretences, contains some features of interest. He paid visits among others to William M'Arthur and Co., L. D. Nathan and Co., A. Clark and Sons, Barnett and Levy, and Ballin Brothers, and one and all were taken in by his quiet assurance and gentlemanly manner. Prisoner's arrest took place before the greater part of the goods ordered were sent out to Onehunga, but M'Arthur and Co. were an exception, as they had delivered nearly £400 worth of goods, to be shipped on board the ketch Wild Duck. L. D. Nathan and Co. booked a large order, and on his representing himself short of money immediately pressed upon him the loan of £10 cheque. Ballin Brothers were so pleased with the new customer that they shouted two bottles of champagne, upon his giving them a valueless

cheque for £30. The ease with which the goods were obtained was the result of the credit which attaches to the name of Mr. Gibson, of Patea, whose agent he professed to be. One merchant was rather startled by an order for as many cases of sardines as would have supplied the town of New Plymouth for six months. What Rose's game was with the ketch Wild Duck it is difficult to ascertain. It is suggested that it was intended to alter her destination at the last moment, and run down to the Islands to land the things there.

[PRESS AGENCY.]

BLENHEIM.

January 24.

Every arrangement was made yesterday for the execution of Woodgate this morning. Sam Chandler was engaged as the hangman, but was driven out of Picton. The condemned man received the sacrament yesterday, Archdeacon Butt and the Rev. Mr. Ronaldson being present. Woodgate maintained his innocence until the last. The Sheriff and Gaoler refused to execute the sentence. Failing to find any one else the man remains unhung. It is not known when or how the sentence will be carried out. The telegraph was employed until midnight in attempting to obtain a hangman from Wellington, but without success.

GREYMOUTH.

January 24.

A deputation from the Cricket Club waited on the All England eleven, asking them to land and fulfil their engagement, but they declined on account of not being able to get a boat so as to fulfil their engagements elsewhere, throwing all the blame on their agent, Mr. Bennett. Great indignation is experienced at the manner in which Greymouth has been treated.

GRAHAMSTOWN.

January 24.

The Ohinemuri natives are building a pa near Mackaytown to carry out the blockade of the country to Aroha. Quite a warlike display took place at Paroa yesterday.

WELLINGTON.

January 24.

Mr. West, of Dunedin, has just erected the organ ordered from England for St. Paul's Church. It is said to be the second largest in New Zealand, and it cost £900. Mr. West speaks very highly of it. Professor Towsey, also of Dunedin, opens it on Thursday next, and plays at the three services following on Sunday. Both he and Mr. West have, it is understood, given their services gratis, the Vestry only paying their actual outlay.

January 25.

The sentence of the law is to be carried out on Martin Curtain, the Papukura murderer.

Woodgate was executed at six o'clock this morning at Picton. He made no confession.

The Rangitira leaves for Napier at 5 p.m. to-day.

LYTELTON.

January 25.

The New Zealand Shipping Company's ship Waipa has arrived, with 282 immigrants, and ten saloon passengers, all well. She had fine weather during the passage, and crossed the Lire in 32 days.

COUNTY ELECTIONS PETITIONS.

LEGAL DECISION.

At eleven o'clock, on Wednesday, Mr Beetham gave the following decision with respect to the Clive and Waipukurau County elections:—

CLIVE ELECTION.

This is a petition filed under section 48 of "The Regulation of Local Elections Act, 1876," praying that the election for the Riding of Clive may be declared void. The petition does not follow exactly the wording of the sixth schedule of the Act, but, as it contains all the material allegations necessary to give me jurisdiction, I am not disposed to throw it out on that ground.

The main points relied upon by the petitioners are:—

1. That owing to the rejection by the Returning Officer of the votes of a large number of duly qualified electors, who were not allowed to record their votes, an irregularity occurred which tended to defeat the fairness of the election.

2. That the Returning Officer allowed and received cumulative votes, whereas cumulative votes were not authorised under the Counties Act; and that the reception of such votes was another irregu-

larity tending to defeat the fairness of the election.

With the utmost fairness on both sides it is admitted—(1st) That the Returning Officer adopted in respect of claims to vote accepted by him the system of plural or cumulative voting.

2. That he accepted no votes, except from persons whose names appeared on the assessment list of the Clive Highway District.

Then we have admitted a detailed statement of the names of those persons whose votes were rejected, or were accepted plurally. Those persons whose votes were rejected were, it is admitted, occupiers of land in the Te Mata and Pakowhai Highway Districts.

With reference to the first alleged irregularity, it is urged by the learned counsel for the petitioners that the occupiers in the two road districts of Te Mata and Pakowhai were legally qualified voters; that is, that they were qualified to vote at Road Board elections; and that, being entitled to vote, under subsection 1 of the 51st clause of the Counties Act, their votes were wrongly refused by the Returning Officer.

It seems to me that this is the most important point submitted for my decision. The Returning Officer is appointed by, and exercises his power under, "The Regulation of Local Elections Act, 1876." He is strictly bound by its provisions, and he can receive no votes that he is not authorised to receive by one or other of the clauses of that Act.

In clause 5 of the Regulation of Local Elections Act, I find that every election to any elective office, in respect of which this Act is in force, shall be conducted in the manner provided by this Act and not otherwise.

The Act seems to me to contemplate only two classes of voters, and machinery is provided whereby only those two classes of voters can be received, voters are classed as "enrolled electors" and "persons voting on a miner's right,"—only certain questions are permitted to be asked in the booth—and the directions given to the Returning Officers are explicit in every respect.

By clause 26 the Returning Officer can only ask certain questions of any voters, the clause is as follows:—"No person shall speak to any voter in a polling booth before such voter has given his vote, except the Returning Officer may ask the questions he is herein authorised to put or give such general directions as may enable a voter to give his vote.

Then Section 27 states:—"Every person proposing to vote shall inform the Returning Officer of his name, and the Returning Officer shall satisfy himself by reference to the Roll or by inspection of the miner's right that such person is entitled to vote, &c., &c."

Here is the first reference to the Roll, except in the interpretation clause which says that "Roll means any Roll made in the manner provided by law, containing the names of the persons entitled to vote at an election.

Then Section 28:—"If the names in the Roll are not numbered, the Returning Officer shall cause consecutive numbers to be affixed thereto before the opening of the Poll.

The Act clearly contemplates the existence of a Roll which is to be in the hands of the Returning Officer before the opening of the Poll.

In the case of the Clive Election the only Roll in the possession of the Returning Officer before the opening of the Poll was the list of the ratepayers of the Clive Road Board, this list contains the names of the ratepayers, the value of the assessment, and the number of votes that the ratepayer would be entitled to give at a Road Board election, it is signed by the Chairman, and is numbered consecutively; at half past 3 o'clock, on the day of the election a rough list of all persons liable to pay rates in the Te Mata road district was handed into the Returning Officer, it appears to have been made out in the booth and contains no information except the names of the persons qualified to vote, in some cases only the surnames are given. In my opinion the Returning Officer was perfectly justified in rejecting this list, and in refusing to accept the votes of the persons named in it, on the grounds that he would be unable to comply with the directions contained in section 28 of the regulation of Local Elections Act; he could not have numbered his roll consecutively before the opening of the poll. I do not hear of any roll for the Pakowhai District—nor did the Returning Officer I believe receive one.

Again there appears to be no provision for the supply of the Road Board Assessment Rolls to the Returning Officer—probably he pursued the right course in

writing to the Chairman of the respective Boards for them.

It is clear that the Act contemplates the existence of a roll prepared under the provisions of the Counties Act. No such roll is in existence; but the Returning Officer appointed under the Act is not the less bound by its clauses in receiving or rejecting any votes that may be tendered to him. It is not so much a question as to who are qualified voters. It is rather, what votes is the Returning Officer authorised to receive by the Act. He cannot go outside his roll or miners rights. If he makes any inquiry, or asks any questions, except those he is authorised to make by the Act, he exceeds his duty, which he is not justified in doing. If he is to receive votes which are not on a roll, which is numbered consecutively before the opening of the poll, he must necessarily make inquiries, which he is not authorised to do by the Act; and so land himself in inextricable difficulties, besides probably vitiating the election. If in the performance of his duty he disenfranchises half the riding, it is unfortunate, but it cannot be helped.

As regards the question of cumulative or plural voting, the ambiguity of the 51 section of the Counties Act permits a very good argument on either side. It seems to me that as it was the intention of the legislation to allow "every person who is entitled for the time being, to vote at a Road Board Election in any road district in the riding—to vote"—it was also intended that they should be permitted to vote in the same manner that they would be entitled to vote at a Road Board election—that is cumulatively.

There is only one other point upon which I need express an opinion, namely, the question of outlying districts. There appears to be no outlying district in the Clive Riding, the whole riding being divided into Road Districts. The petition will be dismissed, the only costs allowed being the cost of the advertisement, 20s. which is a portion of the expenses of this inquiry.

WAIPUKURAU ELECTION.

This election will be declared wholly void, upon the ground that the poll was closed within the meaning of subsection 2, clause 50, of "The Regulation of Local Elections Act, 1876."

The Returning Officer is, as I have already said, not allowed any discretionary powers outside the plain directions contained in the Act. It was in an attempt to exercise a discretion not confided to him by any of its clauses that the Returning officer at Waipukurau occasioned the temporary closing of the poll. He went home to see if a voter was entitled to vote, that is he went outside his roll.

The result of this very pardonable misapprehension of his duty shows very plainly how dangerous it would be to place an undefined discretionary power in the hands of a Returning Officer.

The costs allowed will simply be the costs of the advertisement notifying the inquiry. The excitement and pleasure attending the appeal is a luxury which like all other luxuries must be paid for in these cases by both parties.

RESIDENT MAGISTRATE'S COURT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19.

(Before Richmond Beetham, Esq., R.M.)

CIVIL CASES.

Margoliouth v. Wilson (Gisborne).—Claim, £55 6s 3d. Adjourned until 27th February, defendant's evidence having to be taken at the R.M.'s Court, Gisborne, on February 19.

Bowes v. Arihi to Nahu.—Claim £13 3s, saddlery account. Defendant had filed a plea of coverture, but it appeared that her husband died yesterday. By consent, a judgment was given for the amount claimed, and £1 4s costs. Execution stayed for three months.

Blythe and Co. v. Ferguson.—Claim £51 3s, amount of a drapery account. Judgment for plaintiffs, with costs £2.

Some half-dozen other Civil cases were settled out of Court.

INTERPLEADER.

Berry and Anderson, interpleading; John Anderson, execution creditor; and George Atkinson, execution debtor.—Berry and Anderson claimed a horse which had been taken in execution at the suit of John Anderson, and which had been returned to them by the bailiff of the Court, on their paying the value of the horse into Court, viz., £28. This case occupied the Court about two hours. Mr. Lee conducted Berry and Anderson's case, Mr. Lascelles for John Anderson. A number of witnesses on either side were examined. The interpleading claim was sustained and the Court made order for the return of the £28. Each party to pay his own costs.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20.

DRUNKENNESS

John Leary and James Clark were each charged with the above offence, and acknowledged having taken "a drop too much." They contributed ten shillings between them to the Colonial Revenue.

John Hemenstal, for drunkenness at Port Ahuriri, was allowed the option of paying a fine of 5s, or suffering imprisonment for 24 hours; and for

INDECENCY

of a breach of the Vagrant Act, was further fined 20s, or an additional 24 hours in gaol. He went to spend his Sunday at the Lighthouse Hotel.

BREACH MUNICIPAL BYE-LAWS.

An information had been laid against George Hobbs, for that he, being the driver of a hackney carriage, on the 17th January, did refuse to give way to other carriages in Hastings-street. The hearing was adjourned until Friday, 26th instant.

MONDAY JANUARY 22.

SATURATED.

John Somers, who had imbibed too freely on Saturday evening, and had been taken charge of by the police, and afterwards let out on bail, failed to make his appearance. His bail-money was ordered to be forfeited.

Another old toper (Paton) made his appearance. He pleaded guilty to a charge of drunkenness, and was fined £1 or 48 hours' imprisonment. The money was paid.

SHEEP KILLING.

L. Higgins, W. Higgins, and D. Sinclair were charged that they did unlawfully kill two sheep, contrary to the statute as in the case made and provided.

Messrs. Lascelles and Cornford appeared for the informants, and Messrs. Lee and Sheehan for the defendant.

Mr Donnelly, manager for Mr Maney, deposed that, on Saturday, the 30th inst., he started with a mob of 450 sheep to put them on Paul's Hill, where Mr Maney had his sheep continually grazing. There were other shepherds with him. He met the three defendants and another man about three-quarters of a mile on the other side of the Moteo Pa. He sent M'Leod (a shepherd) to keep the sheep on the road. When he saw the defendant obstructing the sheep, he rode up and told them he would hold them responsible for any damage done. Both the Higgins said they would not allow the sheep to go on; they continued hunting about the sheep. W. Higgins was riding on horseback over the sheep, and struck the sheep with a manuka stick. He left two shepherds in charge of the sheep, with the intention of bringing up another lot of sheep. L. Higgins followed him down, and for a couple of hours stopped the driving by riding in front and galloping through the sheep. He put the sheep on the land, and they are there now. The next day one of the sheep was found dead. It was in the paddock from where the defendant moved the sheep away. The shepherds have since reported to him that they have found other sheep dead.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lee: Higgins told him he was in occupation of the land. He saw them jumping over and using every means to hurt the sheep. Higgins sets up a claim to the land which Mr Maney disputed, and he knew that was the reason Higgins tried to stop the sheep. The dead sheep was found three-quarters of a mile from where the disturbance took place. We used force ourselves to put the sheep along. There were five Europeans and a good many natives, possibly 20 natives assisting him to force the sheep on the Sunday morning. When he got to the first gate, there were several natives there, and L. Higgins came up afterwards and told him he should not pass through that land. The Maoris were mostly women. Some of the natives who were acting for him put some of the sheep over the fence and some through, he did not give notice to the occupiers of the property in accordance with the Sheep Act that he was going to drive sheep through.

Angus McLeod deposed that he is a shepherd in Mr. Maney's employ. On Saturday the 13th, he accompanied Mr. Donnelly with some sheep to Paul's Hill. [Most of this witness' evidence was in many particulars similar to that given by Mr. Donnelly.] Peebles spoke to Higgins about striking the sheep, and heard W. Higgins reply, "I would kill the sheep, that I would, they have no business here." He was carrying a big manuka stick. The contention went on for three hours. During the last 2½ years Mr. Maney's sheep had, to his knowledge, been grazing on that ground.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lee: Two years ago he lived at the place. On the

6th of December he assisted in mustering the sheep.

George Peebles, corroborated the evidence of the previous witness, and further stated that W. Higgins said to him, "The sheep are not to come on here; this is our ground; I'll kill them." John Glossop, a shepherd in Mr. Maney's employment gave similar evidence.

Mr. Maney then gave evidence as to his title to the land, on which the sheep were put.

Mr. Lee addressed the Court for the defence, and Mr. Lascelles for the plaintiff.

His Worship dismissed the case, and, in doing so, stated that no evidence had been adduced to show that the sheep had been killed by the defendants.

MR. SUTTON AT TARADALE.

PURSUANT to notice, a meeting of the electors of Taradale was held in the Greenmeadow's Hotel, on Wednesday evening, to hear Mr. Sutton's political views. There were between eighty and one hundred people present, and great interest was taken in the proceedings.

Mr. J. Bennett was elected to the chair.

The Chairman in introducing the candidate (Mr. Sutton), in a few well-chosen sentences expressed his regret at the great loss the electors, the district, and the whole colony had sustained through the death of the distinguished statesman Sir Donald M'Lean, for whose seat Mr. Sutton was before them as a candidate.

Mr Sutton on rising, was received with applause. He occupied the attention of the meeting for fully an hour, but he was compelled to go over the same ground as he had trodden in his previous speeches at Petane and Napier; a detailed report is unnecessary. After alluding to the various candidates in the field, Mr Sutton referred to the Rating Act, and in doing so pointed out that the Act would not affect the House of Representatives Electoral Roll. He would do his best to have the Act so altered that the rates would fall on the occupier, instead of the landlord, that the occupier should have his name placed on the Burgess or Road Board list as the case might be. He had heard it remarked that Mr Ormond had in hand £25,000 belonging to the old Province of Hawke's Bay. The accounts between the province and the colony had not been fully made up. From enquiries he had made, he thought he would be correct in stating that instead of there being a balance of £25,000, £2,000 or £2,500 would be nearer the mark. Mr Sutton then read a clause from the Financial arrangements Act of last session, which provides that should there be any balance in favor of the province, the General Government would divide it equally among the several County Councils in the Provincial district. He wished therefore the amount to be so divided was £25,000 as reported, instead of £2,000 or £2,500. After referring to the questions of separation and economy, Mr. Sutton concluded an able and energetic speech amidst loud applause.

Mr. Tuke: Are you in favor of denominational or undenominational education?

Mr Sutton here gave the same reply as at Napier, pledging himself that he would not vote for any measure which would have the effect of injuring any of those establishments in Napier, which he considered were not only a credit to themselves, but the whole community.

Mr Barry: Will you support the government if it attempts to introduce into this Colony the Victorian system of education?

Mr. Sutton: Not if it will injure, as I stated before, present establishments. He would take this opportunity of stating that although on many occasions he had been opposed politically to the present Inspector of Schools, yet he felt bound to state that Mr. Colenso was filling his present office in a most praiseworthy and able manner.—(Cheers.)

Mr. Barry: Do you think that persons owning large unimproved properties should pay only as much taxes as the small holder who improved his properties?

Mr. Sutton: He did not think that, under the present system, some of the large holders paid in proportion to their means. Under the Rating Act, people in making objections had now the right of not only objecting to their own assessment, but could also object to those whom they believed were assessed at two low a rate. This was a privilege they had not had previously.

After several other questions had been put and answered by the candidate, Mr M'Hardy proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Sutton for his address, which was

seconded by Mr. Tuke (who stated that he was not a supporter of Mr. Sutton).

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Sutton returned thanks.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

MR HENFLICKE'S GHOST.

Mr. Henflicke is one of the best of politicians, but not always an obliging husband. Mrs. Henflicke has a tall and stately rose bush sitting in a tub, which she wanted Mr. Henflicke to remove to the house for safety against the frost. Mr. H. had promised on several occasions to attend to it. Friday night he was out to help fire off the cannon in honour of a political victory. It was nearly one o'clock when he approached the house. Mrs. Henflicke despairing of his help, had covered the rosebush with a sheet. The singular spectacle confronted Mr. Henflicke just as he was about to open the gate.

"Hi, there!" he impulsively observed. Then he paused and stared at the apparition with protruding eyes. The sight was so strange, so weird, and so unexpected that the unfortunate man felt all the principals he had imbibed in the evening slowly dissolve and ooze from his being.

"Hi, there!" he gasped a second time, as if to gain some explanation of the creature's presence, and yet prepared to retreat on the first demonstration. His eyes protruded still farther, his face grew white, and his hair, relieved from the pressure of the hat which fell off at the first shock, stood straight on end. The gate trembled under his grasp.

For a full moment he stood there with his eyes riveted upon the apparition. But it did not move. Then he slowly backed away, still keeping his eyes upon the spectre, until it was out of sight, then he turned about and ran with all his might around the corner to a back street, and thus gained the rear of his garden. He clambered hastily but softly over the fence, and flew noiselessly across the grass to the back door. He took hold of the knob with a nervous grasp, but the door was locked. If there was any colour in his face until now it went entirely on this discovery. His limbs trembled with such violence as to threaten to precipitate him from the step. He felt his reason forsake him. At this juncture he thought of the window. With trembling haste he tried the sash—it lifted. Concentrating all his remaining strength he lifted his body up to the sill, balanced thereon for an instant with his mind agonized and his marrow chilled by the awful, sickening reflection that his extremities were exposed to the grip of the spectre, and then toppled over into the room, and across a tub of clothes in soak, with an agonizing shriek of expiring consciousness. The grateful coolness of the tub's contents brought him back to life almost as soon as his scream had brought his wife to the scene. He jumped up from the tub, fell upon his knees before the startled woman and with an eloquence which brought to her throbbing heart memories of the old time, and fell like sweet music upon her ears, he implored her forgiveness for all his neglect and temper and meanness, and made promises which would have caused a lottery advertisement to feel uneasy. The astonished but happy woman helped him to bed and forgave him everything, but took the precaution to arise in the morning before him, and to remove the sheet from the bush.

Two card-playing friends were passing through a forest, when one asked the other this conundrum—"Why cannot the proprietor of this forest fell his own timber?" "Because no one is allowed to cut when it is his own deal."

A gentleman, on walking out one Sunday evening, met a young peasant girl whose parents lived near his house. "Where are you going, Jenny?" said he. "Looking for a son-in-law for my mother, sir," was the smart reply. Jenny in fact, was going courting.

An exchange says a fat man can sit on the thumb nail of the statue of the Goddess of Liberty to be erected in New York Harbor by the Frenchman. But a pure-minded Goddess of Liberty want a man sitting on her thumb nail. "I wouldn't look well."

An Irishman, recommending a cow, said she would give good milk year after year without having calves, because it ran in the breed, as she came from a cow that never had a calf.

Milton, when blind, married a shrew. The Duke of Buckingham called her a rose—"I am no judge of colours," replied Milton; "but I daresay you are right, for I feel the thorns daily."

Shipping Intelligence.

PORT AHURIRI.

ARRIVALS

January.

- 19—Go-Ahead, s.s., from Auckland, via Gisborne. Passengers—Mr and Mrs Robinson, Mrs Ventner, Messrs Archard, Phillipa, Butterworth, Green, M'Lean, Jones, Gallagher, and 7 others.
- 20—Mary Ann Hudson, ketch, from Mohaka. Passengers—Mr and Mrs Sutherland, Miss Boe, and Mr Gemmill.
- 20—Maggie Paterson, schooner, from Shag Point and Dunedin.
- 20—Jane Douglas, s.s., from Auckland via Poverty Bay. Passengers—Messrs. May, Robertshaw, and three natives.
- 21—Rangitira, s.s. from Poverty Bay. Passengers—Mrs Martin and three children, Messrs Bank, Nesbitt, Cattell, Shirley, Crown, Wylie, and the Rev. Mr. Williams.
- 21—Sir Donald, s.s., from Blackhead.
- 21—Southern Cross, s.s., from Auckland via Poverty Bay. Passengers—Saloon: Mrs and Miss Williams, Miss Ludbrook, Messrs May, Parfett, Owen, G. Cutts, and two boys. Steerage: Mrs. Shaw and three children, Mr and Mrs Hansen, Messrs O'Regan, Baker, M'Carly, Freeman, Thomson, and Bourzutzky.
- 22—Fairy, s.s., from Blackhead.
- 22—Kiwi, s.s., from Wellington via the Coast.
- 23—Waiwora, schooner, from Dunedin via Oamaru.
- 23—Mania, p.s., from Wairoa. Passengers—Mr and Mrs Cowper and son, Messrs Thompson, Maloney, Cato, Balharry, Ruddock, and Herd.
- 24—Sir Donald, s.s., from the Coast

DEPARTURES.

January.

- 19—Rangitira, s.s., for Gisborne. Passengers—Mrs B'hour, Mr and Mrs Hollis and child, Mr and Mrs Wall, Messrs Caulton, Margolouth, and Simpson.
- 19—Fairy, s.s., for Blackhead.
- 20—Lady Don, brigantine, for Wellington.
- 20—Mania, p.s., for Wairoa. Passengers—Messrs Balharry, Dransfield, M'Guire, Gray, Taylor, Fraser, and 25 natives.
- 20—Go-Ahead, s.s., for Poverty Bay and Auckland. Passengers—Messrs Giblin, Gee, and Johnson.
- 21—Rangitira, s.s., for Wellington. Passengers—Mr and Mrs Hart, Captain and Mrs Baxter, Mr and Mrs Partridge, Mrs Faulkner and two children, Mrs Jones, Misses Merritt, and Ada Newman, Messrs Bee, Stone, Stuart, Campbell, Lottovski, Buchanan, and three in the steerage.
- 23—Southern Cross, s.s., for Auckland. Passengers—Messrs Thorntons and Bowden, Misses Thornton, Close, and Bowden, Colonel Whitmore, Messrs Thornton, Withers, Parfitt, and Rymer.
- 23—Kiwi, s.s., for Wellington. Passengers—Mrs Thomas, Messrs Conway, Rees, and Martin.
- 23—Jane Douglas, s.s., for Auckland via Gisborne. Passengers—Reverend Mr. Shepherd, Mrs Shepherd, Mr and Mrs Bennett, Mr and Mrs Satham, and Miss Arrow.

The s.s. Go-Ahead arrived in the Bay on Friday, at 11 o'clock, from Auckland via Gisborne. She had a full cargo for the latter port, but not much for Napier.

The s.s. Rangitira, having completed the repairs to her stop valve, proceeded to Poverty Bay at 7 o'clock on Friday, and arrived there at 10 o'clock on Saturday.

The ketch Mary Ann Hudson arrived early on Saturday from Mohaka, with a load of dumped wool, which is put on board the Lochnagar.

The s.s. Fairy left on Friday for Blackhead.

The s.s. Southern Cross, Captain Holmes, arrived in the Bay on Sunday evening, and was brought direct to the wharf. She called and remained at Poverty Bay two hours. Captain Holmes reports having had a fine weather passage down from Auckland. In addition to a fair compliment of passengers, she had on board three race horses for Mr. Watt, and some rams for the forthcoming fair.

The schooner Maggie Paterson arrived from Dunedin and Shag Point last Saturday, after a run of eight days. She brought a little cargo from the former port, and 1027 bags oats from Shag Point, to the consignment of Messrs. Routledge, Kennedy and Co.

The s.s. Jane Douglas shipped in Auckland two horses, which she landed at Portland Island for the Lighthouse contractor.

The steamers Fairy and Sir Donald, both brought cargoes of wool from their respective ports.

The s.s. Kiwi landed a quantity of cargo on the coast on Sunday, and arrived here early on Monday.

The s.s. Southern Cross left on Tuesday for Auckland direct, unfortunately without her usual cargo of live stock, the Auckland market not being yet sufficiently good to send stock to. She had, however, a fair complement of passengers.

The s.s. Kiwi took away from Napier a load of dumped wool for transhipment to the Jessie Readman in Wellington.

When the s.s. Fairy was in the Porangahau River the other day, the propeller came in contact with a snag, and knocked one of the blades off.

The schooner Waiwora has a cargo of colonial produce from Dunedin, principally flour, oats, and soap.

The p.s. Mania returned from Wairoa on Tuesday, with a few passengers, and a little cargo, principally fruit.

The s.s. Jane Douglas left at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, with general cargo, principally transhipped ex the Kiwi. The Jane will call on the coast about the East Cape to land passengers.

The schooner Maggie Paterson will load wool for Wellington, shipped by Murray, Common and Co. On discharge of which, the schooner will proceed to Pelorus Sound, to load timber for Dunedin.

The barque Lochnagar cleared at the Customs on Thursday. She has on board the following cargo:—Kinross and Co.: 1219 bales wool, valued at £26,234; 5 bales skins, value £76; 11 casks tallow, value £160. Watt Brothers: 562 bales wool, value £10,744 14s 4d. Newton and Co.: 28 bales wool, value £553 11s 8d. Stuart and Co.: 16 bales wool, value £192 5s 3d. Graham and Co., Poverty Bay: 255 bales wool, value £5,114. Total value, £43,074 11s 3d.

The s.s. Sir Donald arrived from the Coast on Wednesday, with a full cargo of wool.

The barque Schuchallion left Lyttelton on Wednesday for Napier. She has some original cargo from London for this port. As there is a large quantity of wool ready for shipment, she will have quick despatch.

Great credit is due to the agents of the various woolships that have loaded here this season. The usual time for the first ship to leave was about the 1st February, but already there have been two ships loaded and away, and another loaded, and ready to go. We hear that there is enough wool on the Spit to load two more vessels.

The schooner Hinemoa is on her way with a cargo of pipes for the harbor works.

H.M. ships Virago and Barossa, both of which were in the Australian seas, are being broken up at Plymouth, their days of service being at an end. The Virago was 30 years old.

From Dunedin we learn that a telegram has been received from London that the Albion Shipping Company and Messrs Shaw, Saville, and Co. have amalgamated, forming a company with a capital of £1,000,000.

The Opawa, 1510 tons, a new iron ship for the New Zealand Shipping Co., was launched on 14th November, and is named after a river in New Zealand, on whose banks are the residence of the chairman, the vice-chairman, and other prominent members of the company, including Mr. Richardson, M.P., Minister of Public Works, whose wife is represented by the figurehead of the ship.—European Mail.

The Nemesis, a magnificent ocean steamer, and a sister boat to the celebrated boats, St. Olyth and Whampoa, arrived in Port Phillip on the 5th instant on her first voyage having completed the trip in fifty days. The Nemesis is one of the largest vessels ever brought into Port Phillip, and is a splendid model, her lines being fine and graceful. She was built by Tod and Macgregor, of Glasgow, nearly twenty years ago, and was one of the fastest boats of the P. and O. Company. After a time she changed hands, and was then lengthened, and had new engines placed in her, embracing all the latest improvements. These are of 500-horse power nominal, or 3,000 indicated. The Nemesis measures 352ft. 6in. in length, and has a beam of 41ft. 9in. Nothing remarkable occurred during the voyage in the shape of weather. Some good average running was made after leaving the Cape, as much as 3.2 knots a day being made.

A Board of Trade inquiry into the collision between the emigrant ship Hurunui and the Greek barque Pater, was opened on November 23 and adjourned. The questions of the Board for the Board of Trade were mainly directed to the alleged inhumanity in not attempting to help the barque. The master said he did not hear anything from the barque. Two of the witnesses from the Hurunui heard shouts which, they admitted might have been cries for help; but one of these thought they were the shouts of men hauling on a rope; (the man at the wheel) heard them "singing out fearfully." It was uncontested that no flare-up light or other recognised signals of distress were burnt on board the barque. They had no gun, or any rockets. The evidence being concluded the following charges were made by counsel for the Board of Trade:—1. That the loss of the Pater and that of the lives of seven of her crew were caused by the fault of the master of the Hurunui in allowing his vessel to proceed at too rapid a rate considering the lookout kept on board his vessel, or in not having a good and sufficient lookout kept on board his vessel having regard to the speed at which she was proceeding. 2. That the master did not duly render assistance to the Pater and those on board of her, and improperly left her without attempting to ascertain the damage done to her, or offering her any assistance, or signalling to other vessels.—European Mail.

A Chinese giant is on view at Wellington. His height is 7 feet 9 inches without his boots; he measures 59 inches round the chest, and weighs 29 stone 6 pounds.

Government Notifications.



WAIROA COUNTY VALUATION LIST.

TAKE NOTICE, the Valuation List for the Wairoa County for the year 1877, is now open for inspection at the temporary Council Chambers (next to the Clyde Hotel) Clyde, Wairoa. All objections thereto must be left at the Resident Magistrate's Court, Clyde, Wairoa, on or before the 15th day of February, and addressed to the Assessment Court, and a copy of every such objection must be left at the Wairoa County Council Chambers not less than seven days before the next sitting of the said Court.

HERBERT J. WILLIAMS,
Clerk Wairoa County Council,
County Council Chambers,
Clyde, Wairoa, 10th January, 1877.

NOTIFICATION.

BY virtue of powers vested in me by Clause 5 of the Highways Act, I hereby call a meeting of the Ratepayers of the Danevirik Highways District, to be held at Coltman's Tamika Hotel, on THURSDAY, the 1st February, at 12 o'clock, noon.

Dated this 19th day of January, 1877.
J. D. ORMOND.

NOTICE.

Office of Waste Lands Board.

Napier, 8th December, 1876.

TO HUGH McCORMICK, formerly of the 65th Regiment or his representatives.

You are hereby required, within six months from this date, to prove to the satisfaction of the Waste Lands Board that you have complied with the conditions required to entitle you to 60 acres of land in the Wakarusa District, selected under a Military Settlers Land Order, and if you fail to prove your claim within the specified time, your title to the land will be forfeited and the land be dealt with as the Board may direct.

J. T. TYLLE,
Chief Commissioner.

SMALL FREEHOLD PROPERTIES AT WAIROA. 40 TO 200 ACRES EACH.

BY AUCTION.

MONDAY, 26th FEBRUARY, 1877,
At Napier.

M. R. MILLER

Has received instructions from R. D. Maney, Esq., to sell by public auction, on the above date, at Napier,

THE following SECTIONS in the Wairoa District:—

No. 39—50 acres No. 65—60 acres

 " 37—60 " 66—60 "

Also, from Wm. Couper, Esq., to sell, on same date and in same district,

No. 43—40 acres No. 63—40 acres

 " 59—50 " Block 6—160 "

 " 62—40 " " 7—200 "

Liberal terms.

Plans may be had at the office of the auctioneer

M. R. MILLER.

RAM FAIR.

THURSDAY, 1st FEBRUARY, 1877,

M. R. MILLER

Has received instructions from R. Wellwood, Esq., to offer at Hastings on the above date the undernoted

PURE DURHAM BULLS

KING OF HEARTS—Dark Roan, calved April 1st, 1876, by "Royal Gwynne" (32390) dam, "Queen of Hearts," by "Count of Oxford" (25845) g. d. "Queen Mab" by "Omah Pacha," etc.

LORD BARNARD—Dark Red, calved April 29th, 1877, by "Royal Gwynne," (32390) dam, "Lady Barnard," by "Comet" (25570) g. d. "Lady Don," etc.

LORD CAVERHILL—White, calved May 20th, 1876, by "Royal Gwynne," dam "Lady," by "Lord John," g. d. "Countess"

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For Fiji, Sandwich Islands, America, West Indies, United Kingdom, and Continent of Europe, via San Francisco, on Wednesday, the 7th February, at 2.30 p.m.

Money Orders for the United Kingdom will close at 11 a.m. on the 7th February.

Registered Letters and Newspapers will close at 1.30 p.m. on the 7th February.

J. GRUBB,

Chief Postmaster.

The Weekly Mercury

AND

HAWKE'S BAY ADVERTISER.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1877.

MR. SUTTON must have every reason to feel satisfied with his reception by the large body of electors who had met at his invitation on Monday. From the applause which greeted his appearance, and the sympathy of the audience, which he carried with him throughout his address, it was not difficult to perceive that the majority of those present were at one with him. Nor was this very much to be wondered at: Mr. Sutton is not an unknown nor an untied man, but having raised himself, as Mr. Sheehan observed step by step before the eyes of the people, he has prospered with the growth and prosperity of the town. Intimately associated as he has been with those who have worked together to further the progress of this town and district, it would

be strange indeed if Mr. Sutton could not touch the feelings of his audience. In addressing the electors Mr. Sutton referred to the Counties Act, and to its operation as affording powers of local government. For this Mr. Sheehan subsequently took him to task, and thought he should have confined himself to matters more directly of interest to the borough. Here, however, we differ from Mr. Sheehan. The constituency which Mr. Sutton aspires to represent consists of more than the town of Napier, and the legislation bearing on the new institutions is of peculiar interest at this moment to a very wide circle of electors. Had Mr. Sutton eliminated from his address all references to subjects not immediately affecting this town, he would have afforded the very best proof of his unfitness to represent this constituency. Mr. Sutton then gave his reasons for coming forward as a Ministerial supporter, and the reasons he advanced were precisely those that have had weight throughout the Colony. The only opposition offered the Government since the Fox-Vogel Ministry took office was on the ground of reckless extravagance. There was no opposition to the public works policy, but to its administration there was just cause for complaint. The administrators having been changed, and men like Messrs. Ormond and Reid—men whose love of economy amounts almost to meanness—having their hands on the purse strings, the ground is cut away from beneath the feet of the Opposition. Moreover, there is at present no great colonial question agitating the country, and it would be simply folly for any one to announce himself as an opponent of the Ministry, when that Ministry has advanced no special policy but that of retrenchment. The only weak points in Mr. Sutton's address were in his uncalculated attacks on the other candidates. With the exception of Mr. Tiffin, who has expressed no views whatever, there can be little difference between the several candidates so far as their political sentiments are concerned. With regard to their individual actions in the past the electors are very good judges, and to them may safely be left a verdict which, in time, will be duly recorded in the polling booth. On the whole, however, Mr. Sutton's address was an outspoken and manly expression of opinion, and one for which he fully earned the hearty vote of thanks he received at the close of the meeting.

The existing Burgess Roll for the Borough of Napier contains the names of 708 ratepayers. Under the old Act any one paying rates was a Burgess and entitled to vote at a Municipal election. The Act of last year makes a material difference in this respect, and the roll to be compiled by March 31st next will show a considerable falling off in the number of the Burgesses. By the 41st clause it is provided that the Town Clerk shall, on or before the 31st March in each year, make out from the valuation roll a list to be called the "Burgess List," containing the names of all persons entered in the "valuation roll" as occupiers of their several tenements. To ascertain the meaning of the term "valuation roll" we have to turn to the Rating Act, where we find that every local body is compelled to appoint every year Valuers who have to make out a valuation list of all rateable property within the district. The list so made out has to be transmitted to the local body, and it is to be the valuation roll for the time being. But it is enacted for the guidance of the valuers, that where the owner of any property is also the occupier, his name shall be entered in the valuation list in the column of occupiers as well as that of owners. And then follows the clause that will practically disfranchise two-thirds of the present Burgesses of Napier. It is this:—"Where any property is let for any term less than six months the owner shall be deemed to be the occupier, and shall be primarily liable for the rates, and his name shall be entered in the column of occupiers in the valuation list." It will therefore be seen that under the Municipal Corporations Act, the Burgess List shall contain the names of "occupiers" only, and that by the Rating Act an occupier when not an owner, is defined as one who holds his premises under a lease for a term of not less than six months. Now, as fully two-thirds of the leasehold property within this borough are let on weekly, monthly, or quarterly terms, it follows that the occupiers of all such tenements will be struck off the Burgess List to be made out in March next. As the law stands at present, we cannot but think a very great injustice is done to occupiers of town properties. We also think that the Rating Act was intended more particularly to apply to

country districts, and that it must have been an oversight on the part of the Legislature in not making special provision for borough valuation lists. We trust this matter will be enquired into by our representatives, and the necessary steps taken to secure an amendment of the Act in this respect.

The land question is now engaging the attention of the leading men of the colony, and, as our contemporary the Wanganui Herald puts it, will be the "burning question" which will succeed abolition. Our contemporary further remarks:—Major Atkinson told the House in 1875 that the land should not be used for purposes of revenue, but for settlement. But the capitalist is waiting with his money, and the Treasury is empty. In the half-year ending June, the deficiency in the land revenue to meet all the charges imposed upon it will be £140,000, or at the rate of nearly £300,000 a year. Here is a prospective deficiency entirely distinct from another deficiency of equal magnitude occurring in the consolidated revenue. Thus we see how pressing is the danger affecting the available lands. If the system of deferred payments be pushed to its legitimate limit, the immediate revenue will be seriously diminished, and a startling deficit disclosed. The Waste Lands Boards, which will have large powers in their hands, will afford no protection, as they, being chiefly composed of nominated members, will be at the dictation of the Treasury. Now the question is, can the Government pursue the work of settling the country without a primary regard for land revenue? On one condition—that a large additional taxation be imposed. It seems to us that this is inevitable. Retrenchment will not alone do much to avert the necessity. The largest item of our expenditure is interest on loans, which has reached a million, and there can be no reduction here. Nor even if land were thrown open wholesale in large blocks would the revenue be likely to rise again to what would be sufficient to meet the charges imposed upon it. It has been said that the endowment given to Counties and Road Boards will be withdrawn next year. We do not see how this can possibly be. The whole theory of the County system is that it shall carry on certain public works which in the past have been assisted by colonial loans. The trunk roads of the colony will have to be maintained, and new roads constructed by the County. To diminish their endowments next year would only tend to produce an indifference to every local obligation. The Ministry have a task before them of great magnitude, even if they had not declining Customs revenue. They are brought face to face with the imperious necessity of increased taxation with the colony not inclined to bear any more burdens. An income tax would be severely felt by the trading classes, and would be most unpopular. The Customs can bear no more, and it will be for a patriotic Ministry to search out for that undertaxed wealth which should contribute its fair proportion to meet the imperious demands which are falling upon the colonial exchequer.

The subject of taxation largely interested the electors at the last general election. It was indeed almost made the test question put by voters to the several candidates. It was believed that the evil day could not be put off much longer, and it was thought of considerable importance whether our representatives would support the imposition of a land tax, or a property and income tax. The Ministry, however, individually and collectively, assured the people there would be no necessity for increasing the existing taxation, and a reply to the question as put to candidates was for the most part evaded. As it happened, the Government tided over the difficulty which presented itself in the form of an insufficiency of revenue, by obtaining power to borrow two millions of money. Without that authorisation had been secured, we imagine additional taxation would have had to have been imposed. But, in spite of the liberty to raise a fresh loan, and in spite of the Ministerial assurance to the contrary, the legislation of last session—the Counties and Rating Acts, and the seizure of the Crown lands by the abolition of provinces—was tantamount to the placing of additional burdens on the people. The prospects of the revenue for the current year coming up to the estimates are very far from bright, and should the gloomy anticipations that are entertained be realised, it is obvious some measures will have to be adopted to make both ends meet. The revenue cannot always be supplemented by loan, nor can the interest due on loans be paid out of the borrowed

money. The House will no longer consent to such an unprincipled system of finance. Reductions in the Civil Service expenditure, and cheereparing in every direction, though manifesting honesty of intention, will not nearly make up the deficiency caused by a considerable falling off in every source of revenue. The seizure of the land fund and the stoppage of subsidies to County Councils and Road Boards would probably offer the readiest means of supplying an exhausted treasury. This course, would have a certain amount of recommendation because it would involve the immediate necessity of those bodies availing themselves of their full taxing powers, thereby relieving the Government of the odium of imposing additional colonial taxation. That the subsidies to the local bodies cannot be continued for any length of time is pretty generally admitted, and it is not improbable that such amendments will be made in the legislation of last year during the next session as will finally put a stop to them. In one form or another taxation, over and above that which the colony has now to bear appears inevitable. It may not come this year or the next, but, possibly, it will have to be imposed before the member for Napier now to be elected resigns his seat by effluxion of time. It would be as well then for the electors to ascertain the views of candidates on this subject.

When Turkey regards the proposals of the Great European Powers as dishonorable to herself to accept, and that rather than accede to them she is willing to stake her national existence, the chances of peace must be extremely remote. Both England and Russia have been so long accustomed to treat Turkey as a "sick man," and to prescribe for all her ills, that now when the patient revolts against the medicine, there seems nothing left to do but to force the pills down the old party's throat. Unless the Great Powers were prepared to enforce the recommendations or proposals of the Conference, the means employed to stave off a European war could be but a solemn farce. By the refusal of Turkey to listen to the proposals of the Conference the business of that body is concluded. To begin *de novo*, and finally offer less humiliating recommendations that could be accepted, would not only leave things pretty much as they are now, but would disclose what is probably the fact, that the first Conference was intended to force Turkey to the commission of suicide. In the dethronement and death of two Sultans, Turkey may have reason to think no inconsiderable concession has already been made to European opinion, and feeling that she possesses more vitality than for which she is given credit, she is ready to risk death rather than dishonor. The resolution, however, places England in an awkward position, and leaves Russia free to cross the Danube. That this course will be pursued by the latter power little doubt can be entertained. Early in November last, the Czar, in an interview with Lord Loftus, the English Ambassador, said it was inconsistent with the honor, dignity, or the interests of Russia to receive repeated rebuffs from Turkey, however willing Europe was ready to accept them. There is no mistaking this language, and it was followed up by an ultimatum to the Porte, which resulted in the armistice that has not yet expired. It was then that England proposed the European Congress or Conference, the labours of which have been brought to an abrupt conclusion by the refusal of Turkey to accept the proposals it made.

According to the return moved for by Mr. Sheehan, last session, it appears that up July 26, 1876, there were twenty-three Road Board districts in the province of Hawke's Bay. Of these, the estimated population of only fourteen had been arrived at, and six had not taken the trouble to acquire any information concerning the number of dwellings each contained. Seven out of the twenty-three Road Boards could furnish no returns of the number of ratepayers, and only nine had struck a rate. The highest rate that had been levied was by the West Waipawa Board, viz., one shilling on the annual value of town property, and sixpence on property situated in the suburbs. Papakura struck a shilling rate, but collected only sixpence on the annual value. Havelock levied a 1d rate on the total value of property, but no other Board followed the example. The return bears out what we have frequently stated that for the most part our Road Board administration has been a sham, and merely maintained, apparently, to secure the Colonial Government subsidy. By the Counties Act, these Boards are compelled to become realities, and taxing machines of considerable power. Mr.

Sutton was perfectly right in saying that the operation of the Counties Act involved the imposition of a land and property tax. Hence the opposition to it being put in force in the county of Hawke's Bay. But whether the Act is brought into force or not, the highways and by-lanes must be maintained which, falling on the Road Boards to do, necessitates a land and property tax—a rate levied on the annual or total value of the property within the district.

In giving his decision upon the Clive and Waipukurau Riding petitions, the Resident Magistrate upheld the action of the Returning Officer at Clive, and dismissed the appeal. The grounds on which he based his decision were briefly, in the main, that the law made no provision for supplying the Returning Officer with Road Board Assessment Rolls; that no county roll was in existence; that the Act contemplated the existence of a roll before the opening of the poll, but the Clive Road Board assessment list being the only roll in the hands of the Returning Officer it was impossible to go outside it; that the whole riding being subdivided into Road Board districts, there could be no outlying districts, so that the Electoral Roll for the House of Representatives could not be made use of; finally, that plural votes were intended to be given by the Act in the same manner as electors would be entitled to vote at Road Board elections. In the first place, with respect to the law making no provision for supplying Returning Officers with Road Board assessment lists, it may be said that the law did not contemplate the existence of Road Boards without chairmen and assessment lists. Further, an assessment list is as necessary an evidence of the existence of a Road Board as is the nomination or election of Wardens; that, in its absence, the Board is virtually defunct, and in the meaning of the Counties Act the district must be treated as an outlying district. Secondly, at the first elections there could be no county roll, nor do we see that one would have been at all required if the Returning Officer had treated all Road Board districts from which he could obtain no assessment lists as outlying districts. The Act, as we take it, never contemplated a Returning Officer disfranchising four-fifths of a riding, and that "in the performance of his duty." We agree with His Worship, that, in this case, such a result is unfortunate, but, were it not for his decision, we should have thought it could have been helped. As to the plural voting, the Legislature may or may not have intended it. The fact is, that the statute contains no words authorising the giving of plural votes except upon the footing of a specially prepared roll which as yet has no existence. That roll will, when prepared, place voters in road districts and voters in outlying districts on an equality. Is it to be imagined that the Legislature intended to give three or four votes to a Road Board district ratepayer and one vote to a landowner the other side of the road whose property was a hundredfold more valuable?

While it cannot be denied that the rate of wages ruling for farm and station hands was never higher in Hawke's Bay, it is generally deplored that so very many men are seeking in vain for employment. In addressing the electors the other night, Mr. Sutton said it was painful to him to see, day after day, strings of able bodied men passing along the road looking as though it was long since they had known what a good square meal was like. Mr. Sutton's homestead is close to the road, and he has good opportunities for observing the supply of labor by the number of men travelling in search of work. But what Mr. Sutton has seen in the neighbourhood of Clive, has also been observed through out the province, and yet the cry of employers continues to be "good men cannot be got and wages never were higher." Notwithstanding that thousands of immigrants have been poured into the country, this is the general complaint in this part of the colony. In the neighboring province of Wellington wages are low, but nevertheless numbers of men are reported out of employment. Whether Hawke's Bay employers are more fastidious than those of Wellington in the choice of labourers, and will only give work to men who can command high wages, we do not know. This much, however, is certain, that a very large proportion of men now seeking employment is not of a class adapted to meet the demand of this labor market. It will be some time before these men can take their places alongside colonial hands in

all descriptions of work belonging to the station, the farm, or the bush, and until this equality is attained, we fear numbers will find great difficulty in obtaining employment. Under these circumstances it is to be hoped that immigration will be conducted with the greatest circumspection. Indeed, it would be much better to expend money in the even distribution of available labor within the colony, than in adding to the numbers out of work by further importation.

We presume it must have been on the best authority that Mr. Rhodes, at the Petane meeting, stated it was the intention of Mr. Colooso to offer himself as a candidate at the forthcoming election. We confess that we should have felt a certain amount of disappointment if, at this election, Mr. Colooso had been absent from the hustings. He has for so many years pertinaciously endeavored to regain his former seat in the House of Representatives, that it would create anxiety on his account did he now abandon the ambition of earlier days. Mr. Colooso, however, has no chance of ever representing Napier in the General Assembly. At the last election which he contested, he received forty-nine votes, and we have no reason to think he will poll more on the next occasion. Mr. Colooso, however, possesses the art of addressing himself to the people, and it is not at all unlikely that he will succeed in taking from another just as many votes as would have placed the despoiled at the head of the poll.

If the speeches of the chiefs last week at the *tangi* for Sir Donald M'Lean can be accepted as conveying the true wishes of the natives, then it is clear the Maoris are anxious to see swept away all exceptional legislation on their behalf. One law for the European and another for the Maori can no longer be tolerated. The experimental legislation of the past, that served to confuse the natives and to create distrust, might have led to serious trouble but for the personal influence Sir Donald exercised over the chief men of the tribes. Now that M'Lean is no more, can we be surprised at the Maori anxiety lest the Government should misunderstand the natives. Each chief, in bemoaning the loss of Sir Donald, asked plaintively enough, "who can take his place?" Fortunately for the Colony, and fortunately for the Maoris, the relations subsisting between the two races are not of such a character as to be easily disturbed. The removal by death of Sir Donald will in no way alter the native policy of the colony. His loss which would have been irreparable a few years ago, taking place now, can have no other possible effect than probably to hasten the time when there shall be but one law for both European and Maori.

SOME light is thrown on the estimation in which the port of Napier is held by merchants in London from a freight list, shown us on Monday. The goods are coming by the ship Fernglen, which vessel is bound for Napier and the Bluff. The ship it must be remembered calls at Napier first, and the freight charged is £2 10 payable in the colony, while to the Bluff the freight is £1 15. This is a difference of 45 per cent in favour of the Bluff, although the whole of the risk, if any is run, occurs at Napier. We may mention that freight to Dunedin from London is only 17s 6d, a difference of 185 per cent. This shows the value of having a natural harbor, or the importance of making an artificial one.

Commercial.

Mr. W. K. McLean reports a good attendance at his cattle sale at the Shamrock yards on Tuesday. Competition good, but prices were about 10s per head lower on 2, 3, and 4 year-old cattle than last sale. Sold, on account of Mr. Walker, 40 head bullocks, from £4 16s to £9 per head; average, £7 5s. On account of Mr. Thos. Bowes, 3 cows, £6 15s, £7, and £5; 6 calves at 38s each; and 2 yearling steers at £3 10s each. On account of Mr. A. Jands, 2 fat cows, £7 and £7 15s. On account of Mr. Anderson, 1 aged dairy cow, £6 5s. On account of Mr. J. A. Turner, 1 cow and calf, £6 5s; 3 18 months old steers in very low condition, at £2 10s per head. On account of Mr. Smith, 3 fat steers, £5 15s per head; 3 fat steers, £7 5s per head.

Messrs. Routledge, Kennedy, and Co.'s sale of horses, drays, &c., on Tuesday, at the Shamrock yards attracted a good many buyers, and some of the lots were keenly contested. Light draught horses averaged £35 each; pack horses, about £5 each; good trap horses, from £24 to £32; useful hacks, from £10 to £15. The drays and harness did not realise satisfactory prices.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHO IS THE BEST MAN?

First Lord:—"What time of day is it, Apemantus?"
Apemantus:—"Time to be honest."—*Timon of Athens.*

Sir.—After the meeting of Monday night, the electors of Napier cannot fail to see the true position of affairs. True it is that only one candidate's views have been fully expressed. The others have yet to be heard in person. As to Messrs. Rhodes and Tiffen they occupy the position of ministerialists—as far as one can see both in name and in fact. About Mr. Buchanan's creed more anon. As between them and Mr. Sutton the electors have to decide which is most likely to pursue a useful, manly, and independent course of action. Mr. Tiffen is a dilettante politician who would probably regard the honor of the post far more than the duties attaching to it. So long as he may be permitted to affix the magic initials M.G.A. to his name and to while away the hours of the session in Bellamy's or at the Club he will be content. Indifferent from his position and years to the praise or blame of his constituents, and quite prepared to retire gracefully as soon as another general election impends he will, so long as he holds his seat, dignify its cushions with his presence and enliven the lobbies with that genial small talk of which he is a master. Mr. Rhodes may be fairly expected to aim a little higher. Tired of the pleasure of indolence—fond of oratory of the tea-meeting order, and holding expansive views with regard to the rights of capital—it may reasonably be anticipated that he would not be satisfied to be a "silent member." Still, if his efforts in debate are unmarked by any other characteristics than those pertaining to his published address, his constituents would probably be better pleased with his silence than with his rhetoric. That Mr. Rhodes will ever be willing to study the incidence of taxation, and to relieve the tariff by encumbering his own estate, may well be doubted. Mr. Buchanan is, perhaps, more thoroughly understood by the bulk of the electors than either of the gentlemen first mentioned. His mental characteristics are patent to every observer. Delighting in the din of wordy warfare, and never better pleased than when an opportunity is afforded him of slinging sarcasms at an adversary, he forgets the maxim of the sage of Malmesbury: "Words are wise men's counters; they do but reckon by them; but they are the money of fools." What real political capacity has Mr. Buchanan ever exhibited? The time is long past since political reputations were made flippant, frothy, or furious philippics. The ability to impale an enemy on an epithet is as valueless now as it is rare, and speeches that evoke in their utterance continuous laughter and cheers upon calm reflection sound only as "the cracking of thorns under a pot." But, if Mr. Buchanan's powers of speech are no recommendation, has he any other? Is his address sincere? Read by the light of his previous career. Consider it side by side with his strictures on the Ministry a few short months ago. Surely he should have headed his address with a sentence from the *School for Scandal*—"I leave my character behind me." Whatever reputation for political consistency, honesty, and straightforwardness Mr. Buchanan may have had in the past, it is damaged for the present. Why did he not boldly announce himself as an Oppositionist? Cannot he find a single rent in Mr. Ormond's attire? Is there no spot on Mr. Donald Reid's coat? Then "Othello's occupation's gone." Had he the interests of Hawke's Bay at heart? What concern has he ever exhibited for Municipalities, County Councils, Hospitals, or Harbors? Has his opinion ever had weight with the community? Let him point to a single instance in which any reform or improvement was effected by his instrumentality and I will hold my peace. Upon Mr. Sutton's qualifications as a member it is unnecessary to enlarge. Those who have known him longest trust him most. Energetic, independent, and able, he fits emphatically the fittest representative for the constituency. As to his native transactions let the jurors in *Paoro v. Sutton* answer the calumnies of the Reputation Office. Why is Mr. Sheehan so anxious to defeat Mr. Sutton? Because, if Mr. Sutton is successful, Mr. Sheehan's statements in the House will have their appropriate answers. He will not then be able to make same matters public business when he is the assailant and his own private business when any statements are made by way of defence. That, Sir, may be strictly legal, but it is hardly in accordance with an Englishman's idea of

FAIR PLAY.

THE ELECTION.

Sir.—After hearing Mr. Sutton's speech at the Oddfellows' Hall on Monday night, I was reminded of the lines of Tennyson, "No man ever whitened his own character by blackening that of another," but such has been the tenor of Mr. Sutton's speeches. He has tried to glorify himself and vilify the other candidates, men at least equal to himself, both in education and intellect. Mr. Sutton intends to address the electors of Meance and Taradale to-night, can you inform me what interest he has in those districts? Mr. Tiffen is the man who ought, and I have no doubt, will receive the support of the majority of the electors, for he has done much good there. His last act of generosity was the gift of 4 acres of land for the cemetery, which was much required. As regards the Counties Act, I have no doubt that Mr. Tiffen, and other members of the Council will see that it will be necessary to bring the whole Act into force, and will do so at the next meeting. The letter signed "Old Settler," which appeared in the Herald was perfectly true, Mr. Tiffen was the first of the sheep farmers, who cut up his run. Although Mr. Sutton says he made profits by it. If Mr. S. had been converted with the same amount of profit on his native transaction, it might have been better for him and Hawke's Bay.—I am, &c.,

ELECTOR.

January 24, 1877.

THE ELECTION.

Sir.—Will you allow me space to make good an omission on the part of Mr. Sutton, when addressing the electors on Monday? It is perfectly true, as "Elector" stated in your issue last night, that Mr. Sutton attempted in his attacks on the other candidates to raise himself on their ruins, but, I would ask, did Mr. Sutton give himself credit for his actions in the past? Mr. Sutton did not say that, through all the years he sat in the Provincial Council, he never secured a single benefit for himself; that he ever gained an advantage, or made a penny-piece by the legislation of the Council, or by the votes on its estimates. It may be said on the other hand, that both Messrs. Rhodes and Buchanan served their personal ends by not moving either hand or voice in order to prevent the mopping up of the public estate by a few run-holders. It may be said that Mr. Tiffen was a very great gainer by his move in the Provincial Council to get the new Taradale road constructed. The road probably quadrupled the value of his Green Meadows estate, and he can surely well afford to give a sufficient number of acres of it for a cemetery to grant a grave for each of the Taradale settlers.—I am, &c.,

A VOTER.

Napier, January 24, 1877.

MR. SUTTON'S STATEMENTS.

Sir.—I was present at Mr. Sutton's meeting at the Oddfellows' Hall, and though not a very old settler here, I think he wants putting right in some of the remarks he made on his opponents, especially Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Rhodes. In reference to his remarks regarding those gentlemen buying land from Government, Mr. Rhodes' estate at Edenham, near Patangata, has been mostly purchased twenty years past, a part of it of no value to any but the purchaser, consisting of scrub hills and gully which was bought at auction at 5s per acre. Mr. Sutton also accuses Mr. Rhodes of not encouraging small settlers; old settlers know very well that both Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Fitzgerald (at that time Superintendent) tried all in their power to leave the Karamu plain for the express purpose of encouraging farmers to settle there, and so make those grand plains the home of hundreds, in the place of at present a few large runholders, and yet who eventually helped to buy those plains but Mr. Sutton himself. At this present time he himself lives on and owns part of them, though I believe his title is disputed. I should like to see Mr. Tiffen retire from the contest, and so help to put in our staunch old settler Mr. Rhodes.—I am, &c.,

ONE OF THE ELECTORS.

January 25, 1877.

At a recent exhibition of paintings, a lady and her son were regarding with much interest a picture which the catalogue designated as "Luther at the Diet of Worms." Having descanted at some length on its merits, the boy remarked, "Mother, I see Luther and the table, but where are the worms?"

SELECT POETRY.

THE MILL STREAM.

The mill stream flowed with light on its breast,
Through meads when the grass was high,
And the sunset glowed in the golden west,
When Lillian's lips to mine were pressed,
Under an English sky.
That mill stream far from my home flows still,
As it flowed in life's young day;
From the noisy sluice of the village mill,
By cottage and church, and under the hill,
With light and sparkling play.
And thus doth the stream of life run past,
On, on to a boundless sea;
And the love has vanished, too bright to last
And the heaven of hope has been overcast,
While memory lives with me.

J. B.

Auckland, January 13, 1877.

MR. SUTTON'S MEETING.

One evening this week a candidate bold
The Electors of Napier addressed,
He didn't speak long, but he spoke very strong,
In the manner his views he expressed.
He mentioned a party is very well known,
And which he compared to pickpockets;
On hearing which the audience so stared
That their eyes near jumped out of their sockets.

And after he'd done, they badgered him much;
They asked him all manner of questions,
And one of the "old uns" proceeded so far
As to make some most nasty suggestions:
Proposed that friend Sutton his land should give up
To a lot of cantankerous Maoris.
To which Sutton replied, no I'll hold what I can
To provide all my daughters with dowries.

Then up got a youth, with a voice most uncommon,
Its accents were squeaky and shrill,
And asked the candidate if he would vote
For the Templars contemplated bill.
As he stood on the platform making his quest,
With his figure so bony and thin,
With his very pinched face, and his dolorous look,
He seemed much in want of some gin.

To him Sutton answered in words very bold,
That he didn't believe in his bill,
And never would vote for any such thing,
If the seat were elected to fill.
After answering questions many and long
'Bout the Harbor, Bridge, Taxes, and Land,
A Lawyer got up—vote of thanks he proposed
In a voice that was child like and bland.

Then up stood a man, who seem'd very like
As he'd been in a deuce of a scot,
Who said that the motion he'd second himself,
'Place of speaking a whole lot of rot.
He still was bowing and becking away,
With a view to be very polite,
When a keen looking man with a very red beard
Immediately sprang into sight.

He jumped on the rostrum, and there took his stand,
While the Chairman was leaving the Chair,
Whom he seized upon smart by the sleeve of his coat,
And said, "Just sit down again there,"
And then he commenced an oration most fervid,
All glowing with wit and with fun:
Now indignant he grew, then declaimed not a few;
And just shortly before he had done

At Sutton he railed 'bout the words he had used
In implying that he was a thief;
Then declared that a thief to catch thieves was required,
And said, I'm detective in Chief.
Thus fitting the cap right down on his head,
Which Sutton to him had presented,
Although you'd opine from the words he had used
The character he'd have resented.

MORAL.

Don't always be witty, in making a joke
You may make a most awkward admission
And all you can say, or all you can do,
Won't alter the public's decision.

C. J. P.

A writer in Notes and Queries tells the following good story:—Mr. Falls, a well-known Irish sportsman, happened one day to ride down a bound. The irascible but witty master attacked him in no very measured language. "Sir," was the reply, "I'd have you recollect that I am Mr. Falls of Dunganon." The answer was ready: "I don't care if you are Mr. Falls of Niagara; you shan't ride over my hounds."

THE NOVELIST.

THE WHITE BEGUM;
OR
Lord Tregaron's Daughter.

BY MRS. HARRIET LEWIS.

(Commenced in No. 42.)

CHAPTER XLIII.

THE FUGITIVES.

The cab containing the two black-robed women, apparently Sisters of Charity, in the severe costume of their order, swept on through the dark, wet London streets, and after it, in a second cab, pressed Bathurst in close pursuit.

The occupants of the first cab were not long in detecting their follower. After making several turns, which the pursuer made also, they took the alarm. Bathurst peering from his window with burning eyes, beheld a white-gear head protruding first from one window of the vehicle in advance of him and then from the other, and looking back at him. Then one of the women gave an order to her cabman, who plied his whip, and pushed his horse to an increased speed.

Bathurst's face lit up with a glow of savage exultation. In a ray of the cab-lamp he looked like a demon about to spring upon some lost and shivering soul to bear it to the Hades.

He lowered the little window in front of his cab, and pulled lustily at the coat of his driver.

"Faster!" he exclaimed. "After them! Keep up with that cab and I'll double the reward I promised you!"

The driver plied his whip, even while he turned toward his employer and responded;

"Ay, sir. I'll keep up with 'em, never fear!"

The man's hot breath saluted Bathurst's nostrils. That breath was redolent with whisky. The man was more than half-intoxicated, and in a reckless mood that delighted Bathurst. The merchant was suddenly inspired with a new idea.

"I'll give you fifty pounds to run into that cab!" he exclaimed. "The night is dark. The street is slippery. The affair will seem an accident!"

He drew out his purse, and the glimmer of gold pieces in the light of the carriage-lamp won the half-intoxicated, unscrupulous driver to his will.

"Half-down," said the man, with a glance forward, urging on his horses. "Who's in the cab?"

"My wife!" replied Bathurst. "She's insane, and running away from me. There's your money!"

He dropped a pile of gold pieces into the driver's brawny palm.

The cabman dropped the coins in his pocket and straightened himself in his seat and again plied his whip.

Bathurst put his head out of one of the side windows. The cab he was pursuing was just in advance, not many yards distant, and his driver was pushing his horse to its best speed. No white-gear head looked forth now, but the Calcutta merchant was sure that the two women were watching him through the rear window of their cab.

Bathurst's vehicle gained upon the other. The gas-lamps slipped past with remarkable frequency. The tall buildings, the pedestrians, the various objects seen but dimly through the wet gloom, blended in one vague panorama. The Calcutta merchant was all excitement. His eyes flamed. He breathed hard. He continued to watch, and prepared himself for the shock of a collision.

He had not long to wait.

The driver of the first cab wheeled about in his perch and took a quick survey of his follower, and then settled anew with an increased doggedness to his task. The pursuer continued to gain. The cabs were almost in a line now. A quick bound forward on the part of Bathurst's horse, a swerve aside as if to pass, and the two cabs were in collision, the pursuer's wheel having locked with the wheel of the pursued.

The horses plunged, both drivers swore volubly, the wheel of the women's cab came off, and a woman's cry came from the interior of the vehicle, and one of the white-coiffed heads was thrust forth.

"You'll have to get out, ma'am," said the driver of the injured cab. "This 'ere driver's drunk, that's what he is. And he'll have to answer for this 'ere outrage in the police-court to-morrow—"

"I ain't drunk," interrupted the accused cabman. "This 'ere gent he's in a hurry to get home, and gives me a arf-crown hextra, and the streets being dark and slippery—"

"It's was all an accident, my good fellow," said Bathurst, politely. "Here's a

sovereign for you. Accidents will happen, you know."

The sound of Bathurst's voice provoked a fresh alarm in the women's cab. The driver, mollified by the gift of a gold piece, approached the door and opened it.

But the two women within refused to descend. The cabman expostulated, but his remonstrances would have been all in vain, had not his horse turned restive again, and made a plunge or two that decided the occupants to desert the vehicle.

"You must summon another cab for us," said one of the seeming Sisters of Charity, in a low, agitated voice.

"Accept this one, madam," said Bathurst, skilfully disguising his voice, and drawing his hat down over his eyes.

The lady looked towards him as she alighted. Her white bonnet was pushed back in her agitation, and Bathurst caught a glimpse of the face in its shadow.

A ray of light from his cab-lamp fell upon it, showing its pallor, its sweetness, its rare nobility of feature and expression, and its beauty.

His heart bounded in his wicked exultation.

The face was that of Mrs. Elliot!

He had lost her in India to find her thus in England. His long journey, his frenzied search, his patient waiting, were at last rewarded. They were together in London streets not ten feet distant from each other.

Her companion could be no other than Rannelee, her Hindoo servant. His discovery of the pair in their present disguise had been more the result of instinct than recognition.

That she must suspect his identity after his pursuit was apparent. Whether her suspicion had become knowledge—whether she had seen his face and recognised it in the glimmer of the cab-lamps—he could not tell.

"Find me another cab!" said Mrs. Elliot to her cabman, not replying to Bathurst.

The cabman looked up and down the dim and dusky street. A few cabs were plying in that vicinity, but all carried passengers.

"I don't see none, ma'am," he answered respectfully. "Better take this gentleman's offer. He'll see you to your hotel—"

"I must have a cab for myself," declared the lady. "I will give you a crown if you will call one for me."

The cabman muttered his inability to assist her as required. They were in a bye-street: his horse was restive: he dared not leave his cab. The lady had better accept the gentleman's offer.

Mrs. Elliot interrupted him with an imperious gesture. She looked up and down the street with keen and troubled eyes in quest of a policeman or pedestrian, but the pavement was for the moment deserted; the street seemed empty of all save the little group of which they formed so prominent a portion.

The two women exchanged whispers. Then Rannelee—for the second seeming Sister of Charity was indeed the Hindoo woman—seized upon the portmanteau that formed the chief luggage of her mistress. Mrs. Elliot, startled by the loneliness and darkness of the street, made a final appeal to the cabman, but he was deaf to her entreaties.

"I will relinquish this cab entirely to you," said Bathurst, courteously, "since you decline to share it with me, madam."

He opened the door and alighted.

Mrs. Elliot appeared to hesitate. He advanced towards her. She retreated. His eyes flamed anew under his slouched hat. He breathed hard. A terrible menace seemed to be expressed in his manner and attitude. The idea had come to him to effect his purpose by violence, since she declined to enter the net he had spread for her.

Suddenly he gave a quick bound forward and seized upon her. She shrieked in her sudden terror, and struggled in vain to free herself. His hat was pushed back. A glimmer of light glowed upon his features. Mrs. Elliot recognised her enemy, and fell upon her knees, faint and agonized with horror!

Bathurst's cabman explained to his confere that "the lady was the gent's insane wife, as he was pursuing," and the two drivers watched the scene as if fascinated, not offering a motion in the poor lady's behalf.

Bathurst proceeded to half drag, half carry Mrs. Elliot to his vehicle.

He had not proceeded ten paces when old Rannelee leaped upon him like a tigress, pulling at his black beard, tearing his white, puffy face with her long, sharp nails, like talons, and fighting him with a strength and ferocity that commanded all his attention.

He clung to his prey and called the cabman to assist him, promising them a

heavy reward for their aid. They hurried forward to the scene. The sound of their advancing tread imparted new life to Mrs. Elliot. She made a frenzied struggle. The Hindoo woman, lithe and gaunt and sinewy, flew at Bathurst with a renewed and increased fury. Her brown fist flew into his eyes. With a yell, he started backwards, loosening his grasp upon Mrs. Elliot, who slipped from him on the instant.

Then the two women turned and darted, hand in hand, with the speed of lapwings, down the dark, wet street.

Bathurst, with a wild oath, sped in mad pursuit. One of the cabmen, leaving his equipage in charge of his confrere, also followed at full speed.

Mrs. Elliot and her servant turned at the first corner that presented itself and continued their course, up one street and down another, often turning, and once or twice doubling on their steps. They could hear their pursuers and dared not pause for an instant. After a little they came in a broader, better-lighted thoroughfare, where cabs rattled up and down the pavement, and more pedestrians were seen plodding alone under umbrellas.

Rannelee's keen eyes caught sight of an empty cab. She hailed it. It drew up, and the fugitives entered it.

"London Bridge station!" gasped Mrs. Elliot.

"Double fare for double quick time!" said Rannelee, promptly.

The man ascended to his box and drove on, mingling with the tide. The movement had scarcely been effected when Bathurst appeared from a side-street and looked up and down the thoroughfare.

"We have escaped him, Rannelee!" cried Mrs. Elliot, with a great gush of joy and thanksgiving.

"It was a narrow escape!" said the Hindoo. "Who could think he would have been lurking for us like a Thug?"

"I feared it—I suspected it!" said Mrs. Elliot, shuddering. "He is not a man to give up what he has set his heart upon. He kept me in bondage and prison for thirteen years; he treated me with atrocious cruelty, while he pretended to love me with a mad passion; he tortured you and me that I might be induced to yield to his demands. He has sinned too deeply to give over his project now. He has gone too far to be able to turn back. The desire to make me his wife is a monomania with him. He has followed us to England and lain in wait for us, and watched for our coming, while we have loitered through France to turn him off the scent—and delayed our return to England, only, after all our precautions, to be caught at last?"

"But we have escaped, Missy!"

"For how long?" asked Mrs. Elliot, despairingly. "I begin to fear that there is some horrible fatality in all this—that we are but struggling in a net from which there is no escape. He will find us again, Rannelee. I know that he will as well as I know that I live."

The Hindoo could not shake this conviction in the mind of her young mistress, and gave over the attempt.

They arrived at London Bridge station, dismissed the cab, and entered the waiting-room.

It was deserted, a train being upon the point of arrival.

"What are we to do now, Missy?" asked the Hindoo, in a whisper.

Mrs. Elliot swept a swift, keen glance around her.

"We are alone," she said. "We will remove these bonnets, which will attract Bathurst's attention to us again, if he chance to cross our path. Our disguise seems to me very conspicuous now."

She removed her white head-gear as she spoke. Underneath her cloak, attached to her waist by its strings, was a fashionable bonnet which she had intended to don in the cab before her arrival at the hotel to which she had intended going. She tied it on now, and secured over it a thick, black veil.

Rannelee had a hand-bag and a bonnet also secured to her waist under her cloak. She put on the bonnet, a plain, large structure of straw plainly trimmed, and also tied on a veil. She doubled up both the white bonnets and thrust them into the hand-bag which she carried on her arm.

Mrs. Elliot removed her cloak and appeared in a full travelling-costume of brown silk and wool, made fashionably. Rannelee turned her cloak wrong side out, and a dark Scotch plaid circular cloak appeared in place of her straight and gloomy garment. The Hindoo took her mistress's cloak upon her arm, and both went out upon the platform in time to mingle with the throng of people disembarking from the train.

"What hotel, Missy?" whispered the

servant. "Not the same we were going to?"

"No. I shall not dare go there. I saw another address in my Bradshaw, a very quiet family hotel just out of Piccadilly. We will go there."

They hurried to one of the cabs and entered it. Mrs. Elliot gave her new address in a very low tone of voice, and they went hurrying toward their changed destination.

No cab followed them upon this occasion, though both looked often from the rear window in fear and trembling.

They were put down at Clarges' private hotel, in a quiet street, just out of Piccadilly, and a waiter showed them up to a parlor, where a clerk presently appeared. Mrs. Elliot asked for a private parlor with two bedrooms adjoining. The presence of her servant, added to her own steady dignity and majesty of bearing, secured the respect and prompt attendance of the hotel clerk notwithstanding her lack of luggage.

An excellent suite of rooms was prepared, and Mrs. Elliot and her servant were shown to them. When they were alone together in their private apartment, the lady sank down in a chair, pale and exhausted, and Rannelee removed her bonnet and chafed her hands, and ministered to her with a devotion that could not fail to cheer and comfort its recipient.

"Just lie back, Missy," said the Hindoo, laying aside her wrappings, "and I'll order you a nice hot supper. You need it after the excitement and exertion of to-night."

Rannelee rang the bell. A smart maid, in white cap and pink ribbons, and wearing a white apron over her print gown, made her appearance. The Hindoo ordered supper, and then devoted herself anew to the comfort of her mistress.

A maid appeared and prepared a small table for the meal, and in good time the supper was brought in on trays. Hot mutton-chops, toasted muffins, fragrant tea, with fruits, appeared the ideal of supper at the Clarges' private hotel. It was well served, and the remains were promptly removed, after Rannelee had also eaten.

When the mistress and servant were again alone, the former said, sighing:

"This hotel must be expensive, Rannelee. How does your money hold out?"

"I have plenty still, Missy, said the woman, cheerfully. "Don't be anxious about that."

"Your brother was very kind to lend you so much money," remarked Mrs. Elliot. "Our passage to England was paid out of the sum he gave you; and you have insisted upon our occupying the best rooms at the hotels in France. Surely, the money must be almost gone."

"No, Missy. The money was a free gift from my brother," replied the woman. "We have plenty left. It was all meant for Missy—every penny."

"But how shall I ever repay it?"

"He won't be repaid, Missy. He has been prosperous. He thinks what he gave me rightfully mine. And what is mine is yours, Missy, so say no more about the money."

"I cannot help feeling a great weight of obligation, Rannelee. I see no way of ever repaying you. I am poorer than the beggars in the street. We must leave this hotel in the morning, but where shall we go? What shall we do?"

The Hindoo was tempted to tell her mistress that she possessed still a large sum of money, safely secured about her person, and that this money was the fruit of a robbery of Bathurst, executed by her brother, but she wisely refrained from imparting this knowledge. She knew that Mrs. Elliot, in spite of all she had suffered at Bathurst's hand, would never consent to use Bathurst's money, however obtained, to secure herself even from starvation, while the Hindoo considered that in despoiling her mistress's persecutor to benefit her mistress she was only performing an act of justice and doing something to restore the proper balance of affairs.

"I think, Missy, we should stay in London, said the woman, thoughtfully. "We can hide better in big town. In the country everybody watches everybody. We should stay in London—we should leave hotel where people come and go, and find nice, quiet lodgings."

"You are right, Rannelee. And I must find something to do. I cannot teach music. I have not touched a piano, you know, for thirteen years. I have read much, but I am not fitted to teach in a school. I know nothing of the newest methods of imparting instruction. I might try to obtain a situation as governess, but the same fault in me

would still exist, and I will not be separated from you, my only friend!"

"We have much money still, Missy. No use to worry or to work," said Rannelee. "What is mine is yours. This money would never have been given to me only for you Missy. I think we ought to rest for some months in a quiet spot before we try to do anything. You are worn out and nervous. But when the money gets low you shall do some of your beautiful embroideries, Missy, and I will sell them for you in the shops!"

"How strange it seems that I should be back again in dear old England—my native land!" said Mrs. Elliot. "I have no friends or relatives here, in all this kingdom, in all the world, yet it seems to me to-night that I have come home. My dear husband and child are dead, but somehow I feel nearer to them to-night than I have ever felt before!"

"You gave your own name to-night, Missy," said the servant, changing the subject. "That was bad. Mr. Bathurst will see the register—I am sure he will. We will take lodgings under some other name, will we not?"

Mrs. Elliot yielded assent. She would neglect no precaution to insure her safety against her enemy, whom she so feared and dreaded.

The precaution was well taken.

Mrs. Elliot's sleep was strangely disturbed that night, and full of tormenting dreams. When morning came she ordered the daily newspapers, and studied the advertising columns in quest of desirable lodgings.

Bathurst and his new valet were equally busy upon this day. The former had spent hours upon the preceding night in his search for his escaped prey, and had finally returned to the scene of the collision to find that both cabs had disappeared, with Mrs. Elliot's portmanteau in charge. He had then returned to his lodgings and waited for daylight with a mad impatience, deliberating upon the course best to pursue, and speculating as to the course Mrs. Elliot had probably taken.

"She is as timid as a hare after her frightful experiences in India," he thought. "She does not dream that her husband still lives, and that he bears a great title. She has no relatives living—no friends. She will be likely to remain in London, and to hide herself in lodgings. But she could not have taken lodgings to-night. She must have gone to some hotel. But she would have known no hotel, and must have resorted to one advertised in her guide. Being an unprotected lady, she must of course have a guide. Which would it be—a Bradshaw, or Murray? She would not have been likely to procure any other on the Continent. Of course, she might have hailed a cab, and the driver might have taken her to private lodgings, or some obscure hotel, but the chances were that she had gone to some hotel recommended in some railway guide. I'll act upon the idea, anyhow!"

At an early hour of the morning he sent out to a stationer's for several railway guides. He selected a Bradshaw for his own purposes, and placed his servant upon the track of a list advertised in Murray's. Then he went forth upon his errand.

He was busy all day, examining hotel registers, and enquiring of hotel clerks, but he found no trace of the lady he sought.

Late in the afternoon he sauntered into the Clarges' Hotel. His yellow, puffy face was as calm and imperturbable as if his heart were not seething in unrest and bitter and keen anxiety. He informed the clerk that he expected to meet a lady from India at the Clarges' private hotel—the statement he had made at every hotel, only varying the name of the hostelry—a Mrs. Elliot, with her Hindoo servant. Might he be permitted to look over the register?

The volume lay open. He was permitted to examine it. And under date of the preceding day, the very last in the column of entries, was the name he sought?

He bent low over the book to hide his sinister delight at the discovery.

Presently he said calmly:

"There it is—the name of my friend. Will you send some one to show me to her room?"

The clerk drew the volume towards him.

"Mrs. Elliot!" he repeated. "Number Twenty-eight!"

He turned about and glanced at the key-board.

"You're tootlate, sir," he said. "There's the key. Lady left just twenty minutes ago."

"Left? Where did she go?" exclaimed Bathurst, in blank bewilderment and chagrin.

"That we can't know, sir," was the smiling response. "But she took a cab from this hotel, and if you'll wait a little the cab will be back again and you can inquire."

Bathurst settled himself to wait.

CHAPTER XLIV.

HUSBAND AND WIFE.

It was a rainy day at Belle Isle. The fair Cornish landscape lay blurred and dim in the thick-falling mist. The leaves were dropping from the ancient trees in the park and on the lawns, and were being beaten down into the sodden turf. The gardens looked stripped and bare of bloom; the cheerlessness and chill of November were in the air, although the month was September. The hour was late in the afternoon; the long twilight was deepening, and over all the beauty and verdure lay a thick gloom and desolation that was indescribably dreary.

Lord Tregaron was occupied with his land bailiff in the library. Maya, in full dinner dress of pale-blue silk, embroidered with "white jet" bugles, was pacing the grand, yellow drawing-room. The candles had not yet been lighted, but a fire had been kindled in one of the grates and its long red lances of light lay upon the thick and mossy carpet and made the outlying shadows more apparent. The glazed doors opening upon the conservatory were open, and the mingled breaths of mingled blooms made the warm air delicious with their fragrance.

Maya's soft and pretty face was softer and prettier than ever. Her pink and white bloom was unvarying; her thick lids dropped heavily over her light blue eyes as they had been wont to do, yet there was, in spite of all the sameness, a change in her. She had grown overbearing with her prosperity; her self-conceit and self-love were the master passions of her life. She was gentle, almost servile, when with Lord Tregaron, but the lady housekeeper, Maya's French maid, the maids, the housemaids, and the servants had all learned to their cost that their young mistress was selfish, cruel, spiteful, and full of little malicious ways that were very hard to bear. Among themselves the servants called her "that little cat," and the name was too appropriate to her to be abandoned.

She had been a month at Belle Isle, and had mastered a knowledge of the Tregaron revenues, and knew to a penny the value of farms and fields, houses in the village, and the great home-moor. And often and often in her inmost soul she wished that Lord Tregaron were dead, and she were actually owner of all this great estate.

Armand Elliot had gone up to London by the same train with Sinda and Mrs. Biggs. Wolsey Bathurst had remained at Belle Isle, notwithstanding his presence there was unwelcome to Lord Tregaron at this time and also to Maya, and notwithstanding that young Bathurst perfectly well comprehended the fact. He knew that the earl desired to be alone with Maya that he might study her character and disposition, and he knew that his presence was a restraint upon this girl whom he had made his wife—still he stayed on.

During this month Maya had avoided him scrupulously, never remaining alone with him, but showing a scorn and detestation of him that greatly amused him. She clung to the earl, making his lordship her constant companion, driving with him, walking with him, and chattering to him by the hour.

The girl was very artful and cautious, but she could not avoid making revelations of her real character during these hours of intercourse with Lord Tregaron. He asked her questions about her life in India, about her friends there, about Sinda and Mr. Hudspeth and Topee and the old queen, and Maya unconsciously revealed to his keen probing her false and treacherous nature, her mean and little soul, her capacity for lying, that a native East-Indian of the lowest class might have envied. She told him in a moment of abandon how she had despoiled the ladies of the palace at Putpur of their jewels, and laughed gaily as she extolled her own cleverness, which by some fatuity of the moment she supposed might win his commendation. His disgust and his disappointment in her were both excessive. He attributed her faults to the training she had received in the East, to the lax principles inculcated by her Hindoo guides, but he could not forget that Sinda was noble and truthful, that scorned a lie or a base or dishonorable action, that Sinda's nature was grand and honest as Maya's was false, and mean, and treacherous.

"Why was this difference?" he often asked himself. "Why should the daughter of coarse and brutal Mrs. Biggs be noble and beautiful in mind and body,

while the child of his sainted Agnes was full of low cunning, a sort of human cat, false and treacherous as the wind?"

Lord Tregaron's brow was very gloomy of late; his soul very sorrowful. He had said and he had thought that if he might find his daughter again he would gladly welcome her, however perverted her natural goodness might have become. But he knew now that, having seen Sinda, and found her what she was, he could never be content with Maya. To change her, to mould her anew, would be impossible. Her cunning and selfishness, her hardness and lack of principle, were engrained, and could not be uprooted. He often wished in his new bitterness and trouble, that his child had perished in her early youth, that she had been slain before his eyes by Topee, so that, after life's anguish, he might find her safe in heaven, pure and lovely, innocent and good, as he had known her.

"I pray Heaven," he thought, "that my poor Agnes may not be able to revisit her loved ones on this earth in the spirit. If she could see Maya, how she would grieve for her little child who seemed to her so noble, and who promised a rare and glorious womanhood."

Maya had fathomed the earl's discontent, and grown more cautious in her chatter, more guarded in her manner. She hated him because he had dared to be disappointed in her, and as she walked the drawing-room in the early twilight, amid the glimmer of firelight, the yellow glow of satin upholstery, and the outlying shadows in the corners, her heart was the theatre of strangely opposite emotions, of exultation and chagrin, of hopes and fears, of triumph and disappointment.

"He seemed to expect me to be an angel," she said to herself discontentedly. "He admires Sinda. He would like me to copy her. I would have been the hypocrite, and pretend to Sinda's virtues, but it would have been useless trouble. If he doesn't admire me, I don't admire him. He is too straight-laced in his ideas to suit me. I wonder how long he'll live!"

She paused at one of the windows, pushing back the lace and satin draperies, and stared out into the wet gloom.

"A horrid night!" she said to herself. "I wonder where Sinda is. And that odious Mrs. Biggs! It's rather a downfall for Sinda from the throne of Khalsar to Mrs. Biggs's rude home!" and she smiled evilly. "I have benefited by our journey to England, at any rate. But I wish I wish—I knew just how long papa would live!"

She was meditating upon the subject, possibly making the calculations as to when she would probably come into full possession of the Tregaron estates, when the door opened and shut, and a step advanced towards her.

She turned abruptly and faced Wolsey Bathurst—the man who was secretly her husband.

"Ah, it's you, is it?" she asked. "I thought it was papa. I will go to him."

"No, you will not, Maya," said Bathurst, firmly. "I have been at Belle Isle with you a month and you have eluded me continually. You have not granted me a private interview, although as you know, I have longed and schemed for one. I demand that you stay here and hear what I have to say."

"You? And what are you?" cried Maya, forgetting her prudence in her rage.

"Shall I remind you that I am your husband?" Maya grew white with rage.

"Don't speak that way to me!" she cried. "I am not your wife. I won't acknowledge you. You deceived me. You told me that you will be papa's heir. And you are not. You are a base wretch, a liar, an impostor! Armand Elliot is papa's heir, and you are the only son of his cousin, and you can't claim one penny of papa's money, and you'll never have any title, never!"

"Hush! You scream too loud. You have found out my little ruse. I am not Lord Tregaron's heir, true, but as your husband I shall come into a splendid estate quite sufficient to satisfy my ambition."

"I shall repudiate you!"

"You won't dare to. You married me to make your position secure in case your lordly papa should take a dislike to you. Repudiate me, and I will tell the earl why you married me—"

"You dare not. I should deny what you would say—"

"Then you'd have to declare that you married me for love, and prove yourself the most fickle of women," said Bathurst. "Imagine what the earl would think of you then."

"Imagine what he would think of you if he knew that you had taken advantage of his trust in you to secretly marry his daughter," flashed Maya.

Wolsey Bathurst winced. He was able to comprehend the baseness of his conduct, and how it would appear in the eyes of a gentleman like Lord Tregaron, who was the soul of honor.

"We may as well cry quits," he observed, grimly. "If I am bad, you are no better! I should not like the earl to know my proceedings—but make me your enemy, Maya, and, by heaven, I'll ruin myself in order to ruin you! I dare say I can find something in your history you would not wish him to know!"

"There is nothing!" exclaimed Maya, vehemently, yet she winced as she spoke, and Wolsey Bathurst knew that his words had struck home.

He had spoken at random, rather upon impulse and in anger than from reason. But her tenderness to his chance thrust gave him something to think about. He resolved to give the matter his close attention.

"I see that you are more inclined to bear reason," he said. "The earl will not be in at present. We have yet half an hour before dinner. Don't ring for lights just yet. You and I must be friends, Maya. Are you willing?"

"Yes, certainly," answered Maya, stiffly. "I am willing."

"Very good. Then there's is to be no more of this hide and seek between you and me, you understand. We will be friends, and work for mutual advantage. I have made one or two discoveries, of which I will give you the benefit. Lord Tregaron is not pleased with you. He is disappointed in you, and wonders that the washerwoman's daughter is so greatly your superior."

"You speak plainly!" said Maya, angrily.

"Yes, do I not? But truthfully also, as you must acknowledge. Now, Lord Tregaron does not like me to remain here. I have overstayed my welcome. You must entreat him to urge me to remain—call me your preserver, and all that sort of thing."

"And in return you'll give me your insolence, I suppose?"

"In return, I'll extol you to the earl, and invent a thousand noble qualities for you, and swear that you possess them."

"Bah! You cannot deceive him. And I will not take the trouble to pretend to virtues for which I must work to keep up appearance. No, no. If you want me to be friends with me—if you want me to be your wife in reality—if you want to share my fortune with you—I'll tell you what to do."

"What?"

"The girl peered about her cautiously. Then she crested her head forward like a snake, and hissed out these words.

"I do not like the restraint I am in here. Find out for me how long he—papa—will live, and all I have I'll share with you!"

(To be continued.)

When an original poem comes in written on both sides of a sheet of paper the editor is happy. It goes to the waste basket under rules that take the place of reading.

An American doctor has discovered that rheumatism may be cured by injecting drops of cold water under the skin.

Henry Kingsley, the novelist, left his widow destitute, and a fund for her relief is being raised in London.

The Mohammedans of Calcutta have appointed a committee to collect and send money to the Turkish Government.

The son of Prince Milan of Serbia has been named Alexander, at the request, it is reported, of the Russian Emperor.

Count Arnim, on the eve of his recent condemnation, sold to his son his last remaining great estate in Prussia for 600,000 dollars. A grandson of Sir Robert Peel, of England, lives in Springfield, Ill., where he is an assistant in the office of the Secretary of State.

The second European visit of the Shah of Persia will be made in 1878, at which time he will attend the Paris Exposition, accompanied by his son, who is now about twenty-two.

Signor D. de Vivo, De Murska's former manager, has become the lessee and director of the New Orleans French Grand Opera House, which he was to have opened on the 15th December with a grand Italian opera company.

Mr. John Wilson, of circus popularity, contemplates purchasing a farm near Melbourne, where he can breed and train horses, slaying a season now and then.

Dr. Keneally, in a speech exclaimed: "Talk about Bulgarian atrocities! Bulgarian humbug! While the injustice to myself and the Tichborne claimant remains unredressed!"

Major Noake has been appointed one of the squad officers at the Interprovincial prize firing to be held at Hokitika on the 19th of next month.

SUEZ MAIL NEWS.

LONDON.

November 24.

Commander Cheque, R.N., an old Arctic sailor, has stated in a lecture, at Tunbridge Wells, that he is prepared to proceed to the furthest extremity north possible by vessel, and then by ballooning, he would surmount the ice difficulty.

There have been several deaths from hydrophobia in Glasgow, within three weeks. A raid has been made upon the dogs in the city, and 1,500 destroyed.

The Nelson, ironclad, was launched from Messrs. Ider and Co.'s yard, in the presence of 50,000 spectators.

Foot-and-mouth disease, which had nearly been stamped out from the herds of cattle in Surrey, has again broken out within the last few days amongst dairy stock.

The East and West India Dock Company have announced a reduction of 15 per cent. on the consolidated rate for Australian and other vessels warehoused with the company after the 1st January.

Several gales have taken place on the coast, and a number of vessels lost in the Frith of Forth. Three hundred vessels were weather-bound for several days. There have been floods in Scotland. Railway communication was completely disorganised for a day or two; bridges in Perthshire and Forfarshire being, in some instances, swept away, or seriously undermined. In the former county some hundreds of sheep, and much produce, were carried down the Tay and the Islay. In Fifeshire great damage was done by the floods.

Twelve quack doctors have been fined in various penalties, ranging from £5 to £15, at Manchester, for falsely styling themselves medical men.

A charge of murder, causing much excitement, is being heard at Bow-street, before Mr. Vaughan. The accused, M. Henri De Tourville, a Frenchman, naturalised in England, and a barrister, is charged with murdering his wife, an English lady, in the Tyrol, by throwing her over a precipice near the Stelvio Pass. The Austrian authorities have demanded his extradition. By his wife's death the accused became entitled to property worth about £30,000. He had been previously married to another English lady, who died a few years ago, leaving one boy, and property worth £40,000, of which M. De Tourville receives the interest. His first wife's mother was shot under circumstances to cause suspicion to attach to him but a coroner's inquest decided that death was accidental, though De Tourville was blamed for dangerous use of firearms. In the defence it has been argued that, apart from the question of guilt, he, being an English subject, cannot be surrendered to a foreign Power.

In consequence of the riotous proceedings of Cornish clayworkers, now on strike at St. Austell, 200 men of the 36th Regiment were dispatched thither from Devonport.

Lord Falmouth proposes that foreign horses shall not be allowed to run on English courses, unless English horses are permitted to contest all races in the country to which the horses belong.

Her Majesty arrived at Windsor to-day from Scotland, in good health. The Queen's return was delayed for a couple of days owing to floods in Scotland.

A notable instance of the despotism of Trades Union has just been made public. Some labourers employed on a building at Plymouth were anxious, on account of the darkness in the morning, to begin work a little later, leaving off later. The Masons' Society interfered, and the result has been a strike.

In consequence of the successful trial of the 100 ton gun, made by Sir William Armstrong for the Italian Government, the Admiralty purpose having a 200 ton gun constructed. It will be 50 feet in length, with a bore of 44 feet, and diameter of 21 inches. The charge of powder will be 950lbs., the weight of shot 6000lbs., and its length 5 feet. It will be capable of throwing the shot 12 miles.

The 2nd and 3rd Infantry Brigades at Aldershot, consisting of the 2nd, 8th 11th, 13th, 19th, 61st, and 100th regiments, have been medically inspected, with a view to ascertain the number of men fit for foreign service. The 8th Hussars and 17th Lancers have also been directed to furnish the number of horses in their regiment ready to take the field in the event of a British force being sent to occupy Constantinople and the lines across the Peninsula, between Yemkoi and Bojuk, Tivihokouche, about sixteen miles from the capital, and extending from the Sea of Marmora to the Black Sea. It is understood that Lord Napier of Magdala

Governor of Gibraltar, will have the chief command, and Sir Garnet Wolseley and General Lyons have divisions.

In Hungary, manifestations hostile to Russia and in favour of Turkey have taken place, and the Press strongly advocates a close alliance between Austria and England.

A gigantic turf swindle has been discovered. It was concocted by persons who represented that people betting under their auspices were sure to win. A Parisian countess was defrauded out of £10,000. The principal agent is supposed to be a man named Walters with numerous aliases, who was before the Lord Mayor last year charged at the instance of the Russian Government with carrying out frauds in that country. He was then admitted to bail and held.

Mr. Alderson, lately returned from Australia, where he was for twelve years, has put in a claim to a large property at Warrington, which had been disposed of under the supposition that he was dead.

Operations are about to be taken against Dahomey. A white regiment will be employed. The Acting-Commissioner at Langos has penetrated in a steamer to Arthur Climates, of Abomey, by way of the River Plagos. The new commodore of the station, Captain Sullivan, sailed yesterday, in the Lougaine, for his destination.

Some excitement has been caused by a statement that a young English lady, under age, entitled to a considerable property, is detained against her will in a Parisian convent, by direction of her step-mother. Lord Lyons has taken the matter up.

A horrible murder of a young woman has occurred in Paris, the body being found floating in the Seine. It has created great sensation. A thousand people visited the Morgue, and the police had to form the people in line. The body has not been identified.

ELECTION MEETING AT PETANE

On Thursday afternoon, a meeting was held at Mr. Villers' Hotel to hear the political opinions of the candidates for the General Assembly.

Messrs Sutton and Rhodes were present.

Mr. J. Torr, sen., was elected Chairman, and after a few preliminary remarks called on Mr. Rhodes to address the meeting.

Mr. Rhodes said he had expected to meet there to-day another candidate. That gentleman was not, however present. He thought the district was highly honored in having five men so good and true seeking their suffrages for the forthcoming election. Without egotism he could say that, if elected, his whole time would be at the disposal of the electors. He was out of employment, having made over to his sons the active management of his country property, and was himself living on his town properties. He was, therefore, an idle man in want of employment, and he would be glad to serve this constituency. He did not require place or pay, and would pledge himself to support measures not men. Those measures which he considered for the benefit of the colony would have his support, emanate from whom they may. He believed in the present Ministry, but it was impossible to state who would be in office fifteen days after the next meeting of Parliament. There was nothing to show that the present men would continue to hold office.

Mr. Rhodes then referred to the great power wielded in the Assembly by the late member, Sir Donald McLean, and the influence he possessed over the natives.

The country would not have to go on without his assistance and guidance, but he would if elected, advocate that the policy of Sir Donald McLean of peace and expediency should continue to be carried out. There were signs which showed that the natives were in a state of irritation owing to a variety of circumstances, and he thought the influence and judgment of Sir Donald McLean would be greatly missed within the next few years. He did not believe the natives were decreasing in numbers to the extent it was stated, but still the number of Europeans had so increased, and through the policy of Sir Donald McLean, roads having been made through the country, we are not so much at their mercy as in former years.

EDUCATION

He believed in the denominational system of education. He did not believe in abolishing the Bible from our schools. The Government cannot postpone this great question much longer, and he would support an Act based on the one now in force in Hawke's Bay—a measure which had

worked smoothly and had he believed given satisfaction to all classes of the community.

PORT AHURIRI BRIDGE.

This was a knotty question, but one in which the electors before him took a deep interest. He was of opinion that the revenue in the North would, at a future time be larger than that of the South of the Hawke's Bay district. Most of the land was yet unsold, while that of the south had been parted with. He believed it would be desirable for Petane to join itself to the Wairoa County Council, and together open up the country, so that it would be settled; roads, and the bridge would follow. They might expect to see this accomplished in ten or fifteen years. At the first meeting of the Harbor Board he suggested that the contractors for the Harbor works should give £3,500, the Petane settlers £2,000, and the Province the rest. If his suggestion had been carried out, the bridge would have now been erected. He did not intend to promise the bridge. To do so, and carry out such a promise, would mean to put his hands in his own pockets and pay for it. When the revenue of the north pours in; when population increases, the bridge would be erected, and not till then. The colony cannot afford it. The Government has work enough to do, to make both ends meet, through having to pay away so much of the revenue for interest. It was indeed very possible that for want of money the railway scheme would not be carried out in its entirety. He strongly supported the erection of an artificial harbor, and he was of opinion that the harbor, bridge and road would all come together in ten or fifteen years time. He would, however state this, that if elected, and he saw that representatives from other parts of the colony were getting works of a similar nature carried, he would try and induce the Assembly to vote monies for the works he had indicated. If he became their representative, he would not appear in the House as a stranger. He was not an unknown man. He had also relations and connections who possessed a large amount of influence which would be used for the benefit of the electors.

IS IT A CRIME TO POSSESS RICHES?

A portion of the Press in making reference to myself has attempted to make it appear that to possess riches is a crime. If to possess land is a crime he was certainly guilty. But did not every person in the room possess land. Let him who was guiltless of possessing land cast the first stone. The only investment for money in this country was land, and he had yet to learn this rendered him unfit to represent the constituency. When he first came to New Zealand he worked for £20 and his grub, and then saved his first £100. For himself were he called on to vote for the man who had leisure and time at his disposal to look after the interests of those who elected him.

COUNTY FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

He looked upon the Act as a very ingenious machine constructed to squeeze taxes out of the people. He believed, with Municipal, Road Board, and County taxation, put together, we were being taxed at the rate of 12 to 15 per cent. If the County Act was brought into full operation, he could not see where the economy would be, as compared with the old provincial form of government. Clerks, engineers, and overseers would still be required, and have to be paid for. The farce of working without pay was played out. The Mayor of Napier who had hitherto given his services gratis, had this year taken £200 and possibly next year he would not object to £300, and so with the County Chairmen, they would all require to be paid. The truth was the Government required all the revenue to meet interest and other charges. They had not the courage to impose direct taxation themselves and therefore brought into operation this new scheme.

SEPARATION.

He was opposed to the Separation of the two islands. Instead of Separation being popular now, everything tended towards Confederation. Sir Hercules Robinson in a recent speech, in speaking of New South Wales and Victoria, pointed this clearly out. We did not know the hour, or the day, when England would be at war with Russia or some other nation. It was therefore necessary that the whole of the colonies should form themselves into a powerful Confederation, in order to be in a position to protect themselves.

CONCLUSION.

Should he succeed in becoming their representative, he would, as he previously stated, give the whole of his time to their service. The session, last year, occupied four months, and now that the Assembly had to perform all

the work of legislation, the sessions would occupy six months of the year. He would wish that, when the House sat, meetings such as the present one might be held, and inform him as to their wants and wishes. He would ever be ready to give an account of his stewardship. He hoped that whatever might be result of the election, the best man out of the five would be elected.

Mr. F. Sutton said he was unaware that he would be able to address them, having just arrived from Wairoa, so that he had come unprepared. He would however refer to a few of the remarks made by the previous speaker. In the first place, they had been told that the sessions were likely to last longer in the future. He thought it was generally admitted that, the Assembly last year, having had to pass new institutions, the session was an exceptional long one, and that future sessions would not occupy over three months—the time they did formerly.

PORT AHURIRI BRIDGE.

With respect to Mr Rhodes' remarks about the revenue from the North, he thought that the bridge should be erected before the lands spoken of were sold. The erection of the bridge would double the value of those lands, and indeed all the property on the Petane side of the harbour. The increased value given to the yet unthought land would well repay the Government the money laid out in erecting a bridge. He would advocate its immediate erection. A Committee of the Provincial Council had reported in favor of building a breakwater, and proposed that £250,000 be raised on the lands of the province. He believed that report was adopted by the Council and would have been carried out had not Mr Carruthers, the Government Engineer-in-Chief, reported that the work was not feasible. Notwithstanding, he was still of opinion that the work could be carried out, and that at the time, the £250,000 could have been obtained quite as easy as the Harbor Board obtained its loan of £75,000.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

In reference to another portion of Mr. Rhodes' remarks with regard to County government, he had read and studied the Act most carefully, and he was under the impression that the highest rate that could be fixed was one shilling in the £. The Council could also put on another 1s for rates, but this permission could only be brought into operation at the request of the ratepayers themselves. The difference between the Provincial and the County form of government was this. Under the Provincial form, the monies could be spent without the public having control, the County form of government places the whole power in the hands of the people, and the monies raised are spent by persons directly interested. He believed that the work could be done at half the cost it was formerly. He did not believe the subsidy could be paid for more than the five years fixed by the Act.

YEOMANRY CLASS.

Mr. Rhodes in his published address, had alluded to the settlement of the yeomanry class on the lands. The cry used to be at elections, about the "Poor Man's Friend;" now we hear about the "Yeomanry Class." Mr. Rhodes had been a member of the Provincial Council and the Executive, and had also been Deputy-Superintendent, yet what had he done for that class? What had he done during his career of 34 years for the Yeomanry Class? Was it when he and Mr. Buchanan made an arrangement to buy up the last of five-shilling land at Patangata?

Mr. Rhodes: The land was unagricultural, mountainous, and not fit for yeomanry.

Mr. Sutton understood it was good land as any in the Province.

Mr. Rhodes: You know both Mr. Fitzgerald and myself tried to get the yeomanry class on the Karamu.

Mr. Sutton: I have looked at the Blue Books, but can find no record. This was the first time he heard of it.

Mr. Sutton continued—As for the bridge, he had in the Council and Harbor Board advocated its erection. He had worked for it hard in the past and would do so in the future.

MEN NOT MEASURES.

If elected, he would support the Public Works policy of the Government. While the Government of the country was in the hands of such prudent men as Messrs Atkinson, Read, and Ormond we had nothing to fear. Better men he believed could not be found, and he had the utmost confidence in their administrative abilities. He should therefore be a supporter of the present government. We had heard something about

"Measures not men." This was not applicable in all circumstances. He had no faith in the present Opposition. He did not care what measures the Opposition brought in, however liberal or good they were, he should oppose them. He thought it preferable to give a thorough support to the Ministry. The conduct of the Opposition last session in obstructing the public business was simply disgraceful. If Mr. Buchanan was returned he would be an able assistant to the obstructive party. Mr. Buchanan had an individual antipathy to Mr. Ormond, and to send him to the House would be to divide the representation. He believed it would be better not to fill up the vacant seat than send one who would oppose the Government for the sake of opposition alone. If it should please the electors to return him, although he (Mr. S.) had no very great ability, he would do his best to serve their interests.

In reply to Mr. Stephen, Mr. Sutton said he was in favor of an Education Act, similar to the one now being worked out in Hawke's Bay.

In reply to other questions, Mr. Sutton said he was in favor of an elective Upper House, formed on a different basis to the Lower House rule. Owing to the pruning knife having been so unsparingly used by the present Ministers, he believed it would not be now necessary to borrow any money this year.

Mr. W. Villers said neither Sir Donald M'Lean or Mr. Ormond had treated this part of the province with fairness. Both had made promises, and broken them over and over again, and he had little faith in the party they represented doing any good for them. He was surprised to hear Mr. Rhodes say that it would take ten or fifteen years before the bridge was erected.

Mr. Rhodes: I was not born near the Blarney Stone, William.

Mr. Villers: To take a trap from Napier across the harbor it costs £1; and to take a ton of goods costs 11s. How then are the people here able to compete with their southern neighbors? Mr. Rhodes had spoken about the bridge and recommended that the Petane settlers give £2,000 towards its erection. Why should the Petane settlers pay towards a bridge any more than the people on the other side of the Ngaruroro? Mr. Rhodes got a bridge erected there.

Mr. Rhodes: I looked after the interests of my constituents.

Mr. Villers: Well; they were very selfish interests. I hope that our next member will do more for us than we have had done for us in the past.

Mr. Villers then proposed a vote of thanks to the two candidates for their attendance and for their addresses. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Haultain and carried.

Both candidates returned thanks.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

Mr. Sutton's Meeting of Electors.

PURSUANT to invitation, a large gathering of electors took place at the Oddfellows' Hall on Monday, and before 8 p.m. the room was crowded in every part. Mr. A. Kennedy was voted to the chair, and briefly introduced Mr. F. Sutton, the candidate.

Mr. Sutton then rose, and said he considered it was the duty of every candidate to call the electors together and express his opinion on important matters, and answer any questions submitted. He proposed therefore to give his reasons for supporting the present Ministry, then to discuss the utterances of the other candidates, and finally to touch on some personal matters. He might say that he was asked to come forward at the last election and although he did not do so, he went so far as to write an address, a paragraph of which he would read them:—"Abolition of the Provinces may, I think, be accepted as an accomplished fact, but I think the new order of things will be unacceptable to the electors unless considerable power in the new institutions is vested in the people. Police, harbors, surveys, gaols, should be under the Central Government, which should raise only such revenues as were actually required for its own purposes; the local bodies possessing no legislative powers, but quite independent of the Central Government so far as their revenues were concerned." Those were his views then and he held the same views still. Looking upon the Abolition of the province as an accomplished fact he thought the Counties Act a valuable measure but there were a few amendments necessary to make it work thoroughly well. In his opinion the question of county revenue was not yet on a satisfactory basis. He thought that Counties should be inde-

pendent of the General Government and of any pressure that might be brought to bear upon them. The Counties Act gives the fullest powers for proper management of local affairs, and he for one was not afraid of the whole Act being brought into operation. There was no risk in so doing, for people were quite able to manage their own affairs. He thought the whole Act should be brought into force, and that unless this was done we should have Centralism of the very worst class. A large expenditure was not necessary. Road Boards were quite competent to do the greater portion of the work of the County, and should raise all rates for general purposes. For larger works loans would be required or special local rates would have to be raised. As to Road Boards themselves they have worked well, but he thought a uniform system of rating was necessary. That would do away with much of the present difficulty in the way of full local self-government. He was happy to say that the opinions he had expressed about the Counties Act were being favorably received by the community. He might say that he had given the subject the most mature consideration, and he had no doubt that the views he had arrived at would be found correct. As an instance of the advantage of local self-government, he might mention the Corporation of Napier, which had done more for Napier since it had existed than had been achieved in 8 or 9 years previously. In the Provincial Council he had started the idea of a corporation; had worked hard for it, and thought he might almost be considered the father of it. He had expected that it would do good, and had not been mistaken. There was one more point about the Counties Act, and that was that districts where there were no road boards would not be able to claim £1 for £1 under the existing financial arrangements, and would, therefore, be without a revenue. This needed alteration. He had said in his address that he intended to

SUPPORT THE PRESENT MINISTRY.

but he was sure that none who knew him would imagine that, if returned, he intended a blind support. So long as the Ministry endeavored to carry out measures that were, in his judgment, for the good of the country, he would continue to support them. He thought that now they had a Government numbering among its members four or five men as good as any in the colony—men such as Major Atkinson and Mr. Donald Reid; men well fitted to carry on the work of the country without unnecessary expense. The Public Works policy had done a great deal of good for the country, and now that policy needed to be carried on quietly and gradually, and it would do a great deal more good. Another reason why he supported the present Ministry was because they had acted well in reducing the Civil Service, which had hitherto been far too numerous. The Government deserved credit for the manner in which they were carrying out a policy of retrenchment with an unsparring hand. The present Ministry was the first to adopt such a course. Last session there had been a great deal of talk about it but nothing more. Now, large reductions had been made in the expenditure of the Armed Constabulary, in the matter of native land purchases, and in other directions; and he believed that since Parliament rose a saving to the country of something like seventy or eighty thousand pounds had been effected. It was also a credit to the present Government that they had used every endeavor to open up the country by special settlements; and, in a few years, some of those settlements would be the most important districts in the island. He (Mr. Sutton) would now briefly

REFER TO THE OTHER CANDIDATES.

And first to Mr. Tiffen.—Mr. Tiffen was an old colonist, an old member of the Provincial Council and officer in the Provincial Government. Possibly Mr. Tiffen thought that those facts were recommendations; but he (Mr. Sutton) believed, and he thought his hearers would bear him out, that Mr. Tiffen had never in all those years showed any mind of his own; he would vote as he was ordered, and follow the opinion of others obediently, but that was all. He (Mr. Sutton) had seen a letter in one of the papers praising Mr. Tiffen for the opportunities he had given by cutting up his estate at Homewood for the purchase of land on deferred payments. Well, no doubt Mr. Tiffen had cut up his land and so provided plenty of work for a number of people. But that course had also yielded a very handsome return to Mr. Tiffen's own pocket. For there was a considerable difference between the Government system of land purchase on deferred payments and Mr. Tiffen's sys-

tem—according to which the unpaid balance bore interest at eight per cent (Laughter.) Mr. Tiffen had lately been elected Chairman of the County Council. But he (Mr. Sutton) was very much afraid that Mr. Tiffen had not attempted to master the provisions of the Act as he should have done. He thought that the Chairman of a County Council ought to have done so. But it appeared that the Council had, instead of considering the subject for themselves, delegated a most important matter to a committee of three, who had again referred it to a committee of one, and the consequence was that, at the present time, there was no one competent or authorised to supervise the affairs of a very important district, and the whole business of the county was out of gear. No one was authorised to supervise main roads, or in fact to do any thing that needed doing between the Ngaruroro Bridge and Havelock. Why, when a pound-keeper lately resigned his post, it was discovered that nobody was authorised to appoint a pound-keeper (laughter), and that was what some people considered local self-government. (Cheers.)

REFERRING TO MR. RHODES.

Mr. Sutton said that his (Mr. Rhodes') address was of a totally different description to Mr. Tiffen's. It had evidently taken a long time to prepare. (Laughter.) And there was nothing in it but "economy" and "yeomanry." Mr. Rhodes appeared a very paragon of economy. Economy in borrowing, economy in spending—in fact in everything. Mr. Rhodes had referred to his thirty-four years in the colony, to his recent tour round the world, and to other matters. But he (Mr. Sutton) could tell the audience, that, although Mr. Rhodes had held office in the Provincial Government for a number of years, and although he had been Deputy-Superintendent during nearly the whole time of Sir D. M'Lean's Superintendency, he had never done anything in those days for the yeomanry class. In those days there was ample opportunity for so doing. There was plenty of land at 5s and 10s an acre. But he (Mr. Sutton) would remind his hearers of one thing that Messrs. Rhodes and Buchanan did do. In March, 1874, they divided between themselves the last of the large tracts of 5s land. The block of 6600 acres then taken up by those gentlemen was the last of that description of land. And now, having first "mopped-up" the balance of available country, Mr. Rhodes talked about the settlement of a Yeomanry class.—(Laughter.)—Further: In the month of June, 1874—exactly three months after the purchase—Messrs. Rhodes and Buchanan sat on a Committee of the Provincial Council about the lands of the Province, and that Committee's report recommended that there should be no more five shilling land. Just three months after Messrs. Rhodes and Buchanan had bought 6600 acres!—(Laughter, and a voice, "In accordance with the law.")—Just so. Quite in accordance with the law. But it was hardly the thing for one of the gentlemen who did it to come down and talk about a Yeomanry class. He (Mr. Sutton) would come next to

MR. BUCHANAN.

who, for some reason best known to himself, had only issued his address that evening. He (Mr. Sutton) had read that address, and if it really was Mr. Buchanan's composition, of which there were grave doubts, it was the worst piece of his penmanship that he (Mr. Sutton) had ever seen. He had heard Mr. Buchanan speak a good deal, and he had seen Mr. Buchanan's writing, and he really did not think that the address was Mr. Buchanan's at all. But whoever might have written the address, it appeared that Mr. Buchanan had "eaten the leek." As every one knew, Mr. Buchanan had, for years past, been a thorough and consistent opponent of Mr. Ormond. Now, if there is anything in the address, it is that Mr. Buchanan is a Ministerial supporter. He (Mr. S.) had it on very good authority that, very shortly after Sir Donald's death, Mr. Buchanan waited on Mr. Ormond and asked him for his support in this election. What had made Mr. Buchanan change his views? When he (Mr. B.) opposed Mr. Ormond at the last election he stated publicly that in his opinion Grey and Fitzherbert were the only two honest statesmen in New Zealand, and that the administration of Mr. Ormond and Sir D. M'Lean had resulted in nothing but disaster. Why the change of opinions? The gentleman under whose wing Mr. Buchanan had come forward was no supporter of the ministry. No one could call Mr. Sheehan a supporter of Mr. Ormond. (Laughter and Applause.) Last year Mr. Buchanan could speak in favor of trying, in Courts

of Law, all disputes between Natives and Europeans. Now he can say nothing clearly about native matters. With reference to the conduct of the Opposition (of which Mr. Sheehan was one of the leaders), last session he (Mr. S.) would say that it was uncalled for, it wasted the time of the House, and reflected discredit on the country. To such an opposition Mr. Buchanan could be very useful. If he cannot speak for sixteen hours (as one of the Opposition did), it might be remembered that he once spoke in the Provincial Chamber from three o'clock in the afternoon till four o'clock the next morning. (Much laughter. A Voice: Did not you go with him then?) That was so. But in about nineteen or twenty divisions that took place that night Mr. Buchanan stood alone. He (Mr. S.) and the late Mr. Wood fought as long as they thought they were justified in fighting and then let the thing take its course. He (Mr. S.) was surprised at the tone of Mr. Buchanan's address. All that ever he had seen or heard of Mr. Buchanan before was plain and direct. It could be understood. But let anybody read the address and say what it means. There is nothing in it by which he (Mr. Buchanan) could be brought to book. It means anything or nothing. As to himself (Mr. Sutton) the only real objection which he had urged against himself was his concern in

NATIVE LAND TRANSACTIONS IN HAWKE'S BAY.

It would not be proper for him on such a subject to go to any great length, but he would refer to it in plain and unmistakable terms. For three years past he had been defending himself against an association as vile as any of pickpockets. (Applause.) It had no honor about it. For some reason or other he had been picked out for attack although others were concerned, and he had had to bear the brunt. As to the letters of "Old Identity," "New Blood," and "Watchman," he challenged the writers to give their names and to meet him in print or on the platform. Gross charges had been brought against him, and he had had to bear, at his own expense, heavy costs; but he was proud to say he had sustained no loss except in pocket. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) He was prepared to defend himself and all his affairs. As every one there knew, a Commission had already investigated a great number of the charges made by the natives, and their report was known to every one. In one of his (Mr. Sutton's) most important matters Judge Richmond, after a very long and careful examination, said he saw nothing wrong in the transaction. It had been said—not to put too fine a point on it—that he (Mr. Sutton) was not quite respectable enough for the House of Representatives. (Laughter and applause.) The same thing was once said of one who afterwards became Sir Julius Vogel, (applause) and it has been said of many others. Those who had known him for years (and many there had) would know he had always spoken out his mind, and had never been led by the nose by anybody, and he would be the same in the House if they did him the honor to return him. There were some things that had happened there that demanded attention and amendment. Mr. Sheehan had spoken of him (Mr. Sutton) in the House in a most unwarrantable manner, and he (Mr. Sutton) thought it was most improper for any member of the House to have spoken in such a manner, and by name, of private individuals. People who tried to teach him (Mr. Sutton) manners should first try and learn some themselves. If returned he would endeavour to initiate in Hawke's Bay the practise of members calling their constituencies together after every session. He would do it himself; for he considered it a member's duty to submit his actions to his supporters for their approval. He did not intend to address them any further, but would be happy to answer any questions.

Mr. Pulford asked if Mr. Sutton would support the project of a breakwater for Napier?

Mr. Sutton said he had always supported the scheme of an artificial harbor, including a breakwater. Personally he thought that that scheme might have been carried out; but the Government engineers thought otherwise. As a member of the Harbor Board, he had voted for the present works, as being likely to improve the harbor, and he should always be glad, in every way to further the interests of the harbor, which he considered of vital importance to Napier.

A Voice: Will you support a land tax?

Mr. Sutton said that he hoped the Government would not find it necessary to impose any further land tax. The Counties Act had got the Government out of a difficulty in that respect, for that

Act contemplated the taxation of land to meet local necessities, which the General Government was no longer required to provide for. Still, he was of opinion that, in this country, hitherto, wealth had not paid as much taxes proportionately as industry, and wealthy land owners ought to contribute a great deal more to the revenue. He knew of some large estates that paid only one-third of the amount paid by several business establishments in Napier.

Mr Swan asked if Mr Sutton would support a land tax, in preference to an income tax, or *vice versa*? And would he resign if called upon to do so by a majority of the electors? Mr Sutton replied that he would—if the county system did not work more freely—support a land tax direct. He believed a land tax was far easier to collect than an income tax. To the second question Mr Sutton replied in the affirmative.—(Cheers.)

Mr Routledge: Will you find out why the Spit bridge has not been erected, and endeavor to procure its erection?

Mr Sutton said he had always held that the bridge should have been the first thing done in the harbor works, and he hoped to see it done in far less time than Mr Rhodes allowed for it—viz., 10 or 15 years. He (Mr S.) would use his endeavors to obtain the bridge.

Mr R. C. Harding said, "I wish to ask a question. (Tremendous uproar.) If elected, will you support a Bill to remove the granting of licenses from the hands of the magistrates to those of the people?"

A voice: If you do, you won't get in! (Great cheering.)

Mr. Sutton said he did not believe in a Permissive Bill. He thought the interests of the public were better protected under the present system than they would be by a Permissive Bill. As things are now, the Governor appoints in every district several gentlemen, specially chosen for their fitness, to control the traffic, and grant licenses. The system is a good one, and things are better administered than they used to be.

Mr Swan: Will Mr. Sutton give us his views on the Education Act?

Mr. Sutton replied that the question of education was a vexed one, and required mature consideration, and large experience to settle. His experience was limited to Hawke's Bay. He thought the system of this province was a good one, and that Hawke's Bay ought to be proud of its establishments. There were denominational establishments here which had done a large amount of good; and whatever might be said about secular education, he would, if returned, do his best to prevent such establishments from being interfered with.

Mr. John Begg wanted to know if Mr. Sutton would be in favour of giving back to the natives any lands which they had lost by mistakes in deeds, and so prevent any disturbance with natives? (Hisses and uproar.)

Mr. Sutton said he hardly understood the question.

Mr. Begg said he would put it again. (Renewed disturbance.) His idea was to hand back land acquired from the natives in that way at prime cost. Would Mr. Sutton do that? or did he want people to go out and fight again as they had done at Omarunui?

Mr. Sutton said he had been very pleased with Wi Tako's speech, which he had read in "Hansard" some time ago. That chief desired nothing but equal rights in every respect with Europeans, and that was what he (Mr. Sutton) wanted. He presumed that his rights in the Omarunui Block were the same as anybody else's would be. He claimed no other, and had no doubt but that he would obtain what he expected, viz., even-handed justice. (Cheers.)

Mr. Bear asked what was Mr. Sutton's opinion about the honorarium to members?

Mr. Sutton said that members having gone so far as to double their honorarium and give themselves free railway passes he only wondered that they had not gone further, and voted for the payment of their hotel bills, £150 a year was quite enough, and if any reduction were proposed he would vote for it.

Mr. W. Smith: Would you bring the question up again?

Mr Sutton did not see the use of his doing that. In the first place his motion would be sure to be negatived by the men who raised the honorarium last session. And in the next place it would be rather an assumption on the part of a young member to re-introduce the subject.

A Voice: Will you support the present system of flooding the country with immigration when there is now a great redundancy of labor?

Mr. Sutton said he was sorry to see

the number of men that were continually passing his house in search of work. Still he must say that employers often experienced great difficulty in obtaining suitable men. People had been brought into the country who were quite unsuited to its requirements, and he should certainly be in favor of restricting immigration so as to introduce men fitted for the country.

No further questions being proposed Mr. Cornford moved that a vote of thanks be given to Mr. Sutton for his address.

Mr. Buchanan said if there were nobody else to second that proposal he would. As the meeting had got to the stage of a vote of thanks it would be grossly indecent on his part if he were to attempt to reply there and then to Mr. Sutton's attack upon himself. But he (Mr. B.) would have a meeting of his own before long.

MR SHEEHAN REPLIES TO MR SUTTON.

Mr Sheehan said it was his intention to have remained merely a listener to the speech of the candidate, but as Mr Sutton had so directly and violently assailed him, he would avail himself of his privilege as an elector, and, with the permission of the meeting, would reply to what Mr Sutton had said. He quite admitted Mr Sutton's right to criticise his (Mr Sheehan's) conduct as a public man, but he had no right whatever to refer to his professional practice and private affairs. Although a young man he had been at many public meetings and had taken part in them, but the present was the first occasion in his experience of a candidate trying to build up his claims to represent a constituency by a series of unfair culmies of his opponents. Mr Sutton, instead of making his own claims good, had gone out on his way to dispute the claims of others. It was a case of "Codlin's the man not Short." He would first say, however, that the matter upon which many people relied most against Mr Sutton, viz.—that he had sprung from the working-classes, was in his (Mr Sheehan's) mind the thing which Mr Sutton had most reason to be proud of. Sprung from the working-classes himself he could never recognise that as a disqualification for public life, and, if Mr Sutton had only that charge to answer, he need not fear. But then came other things to be talked about, and he would like to show to the meeting the real value of some of the most important things which Mr. Sutton had said. Mr. Sutton had spoken about Mr. Tiffen having cut up his land for settlement, and in his address also he spoke of the necessity of opening up land for settlement. Where was Mr. Sutton when the lands of Hawke's Bay—the finest in the colony were being mopped up at five shillings an acre? (Cheers.) Where was he only a year or two ago when Mr. Charles Nairn was allowed to buy at that price 48,000 acres of magnificent quality—20,000 of which he sold a few days after at £2 an acre? Where was Mr. Sutton then? (Tremendous Cheering.) What did he do in his place in the Council? Nothing. He dare not do anything. He and many others in the Council only carried their opposition half-way—for sitting in one corner of the Council Chamber there was a thin, pale figure, before whose form Mr Sutton and his friends trembled. What did Mr Sutton do about acquiring the "plains" for settlement by the people? Did he endeavor to prevent the acquisition of the Heretaunga Block by that inner circle of his thirty or forty friends, who were designated the "apostles"?—(Immense applause.)—That land was bought by four or five people at a pound an acre. Mr Sutton helped to purchase it. At the same time adjoining land was selling at £10 an acre, and leasing at 10s an acre. That land which, exclusive of the township of Hastings, supported about eighty people, would, if subdivided, carry 3000. The whole of this magnificent country about Napier had been bagged by Mr Sutton and his thirty or forty injured and suffering friends.—(Enthusiastic cheers.)—Yes, so it was. A few people like Mr Sutton had mopped up the country, and would in time acquire enormous fortunes, while for the great mass of the population of the Province there was no better future prospect than that of becoming hewers of wood and drawers of water. What now constituted the landed estate of the Province? A few miserable hill-tops. (Applause.) Mr. Sutton speaking of retrenching, said that last year the Parliament talked a great deal about it, but did nothing. Who was the cause of that? The Opposition did their best to reduce expenditure, but it was owing to men like Mr. Sutton—blind supporters of the Government—that the Opposition failed. Men of Mr. Sutton's stamp would talk glibly about retrenchment, but, unless permitted by the Government, would

always vote against it. Their fear is lest the Ministry to whom they look for favors should go out of office, and so, though convinced in their own hearts that reduction was necessary, at the bidding of Government, they voted for increased expenditure. (Cheers.) He (Mr Sheehan) had been a political opponent of Sir Donald McLean, but not a personal foe. He questioned very much whether Mr Sutton felt a tinge of the regret which he (Mr Sheehan) did for Sir Donald's death. While quite willing to recognise Sir Donald McLean's great abilities, he felt confident that a man fit to succeed him would be found. One time people thought Sir Julius Vogel only could save the country. Sir Julius Vogel was gone—and if Mr Sutton was gone—men could be found to take their places. (Laughter.) A voice: Even if you were gone to. Yes even if he (the speaker) were gone there would be another to take his place. (Great laughter.) And no doubt his going would be a source of great joy and comfort to Mr Sutton and his thirty and forty friends. Mr. Sheehan then criticised the manner in which Mr. Sutton had answered the questions put. What value could be placed upon the promise of a man whose creed was the blind support of the Ministry? He might make an appearance of trying to carry out his promises, but at the bidding of Mr Ormoud at any time his tongue would be still. (Hear, hear.) The people should remember that they had to thank Mr Sutton and his thirty or forty friends that they could not get land now within seventy miles of Napier, unless by paying enormous prices for it. (Cheers.) (Mr Sutton: That land was sold ten years ago.) No. It was the people who owned the land that were sold. (Great laughter.) A great deal had been said from time to time about the "Repudiation Party," and about their organising and subscribing funds to persecute Mr Sutton and his saintly brethren. There was another who combined for the same purpose—to protect the titles which it was alleged had been unfairly acquired. (Mr Sutton: No.) It was so, and could easily be seen. Just as in touching a chord on a piano the vibration runs over the whole instrument—so if the law chanced to put its finger on Mr Sutton, his thirty or forty friends at once flew to his assistance. (Cheers.) Mr Sutton had referred to the movement with which he (Mr Sheehan) was connected, and characterised them all as pickpockets (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Sutton: Well, I repeat that they are men more in the nature of pick-pockets than anything else. (Uproar and confusion.)

Mr. Sheehan: Well, if they are so, it is because it is necessary to "set a thief to catch a thief." (Cheers and Laughter.) But why men so designated by Mr. Sutton and his friends? As to Omarunui, he did not think there were five people in Napier who did not admit that the Maoris were right and Mr. Sutton wrong. The Government admitted it, and the matter was practically now in their hands. (Cheers.)

The Chairman hoped that the discussion would not assume too personal a character.

Mr. Sheehan said the Chairman appeared to think that he was occupying the meeting too long, and becoming too personal—so he would bring his remarks to a close. (Cries—go on; go on.) He had only spoken because he was attacked, and perhaps Mr. Sutton would hear him alone on other occasions. (Laughter.) What he did as a public man was open to fair criticism, but his private business in Hawke's Bay should not be criticised, especially by such a man as Mr. Sutton. His private conduct was subject to review by the Supreme Court, and he could, if guilty of improper conduct, be struck off the rolls.—(Hear, hear.)—He thanked the meeting for their patient hearing. He could assure them that though the fight he had undertaken on behalf of the natives was very obnoxious to Mr Sutton and his thirty or forty friends, yet it was not hostile to the true interests of the people of Napier.—(Cheers.)—For that reason, in the House, he had always assisted and voted for Napier interests, and one thing he would specially claim to have done—namely, securing the second seat for Napier, for which Mr Sutton was now standing.—(Cheers.)—Let them watch the course of events, and see whether Mr Sutton would do as much for them when he became a member of the House. (Mr Sheehan resumed his seat amidst loud applause.)

The Chairman then put the resolution of thanks, which was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

THE KUMARA.

Referring to the position of Kumara, the Kumara Times says:—"During the month of August and September a regular stampede set in, and in spite of warnings from the local press, men came from every part of New Zealand and the neighboring colonies, impressed with fabulous ideas of the wealth of the district. To say that Kumara grew would be to give a faint idea. It sprang up like a city in the Arabian Nights, as if touched by an enchanter's wand. Every available site was applied for, and sections which a few months before were valueless commanded fancy prices, and on the 28th of September the Kumara Times was started. The promise we made then we have since endeavoured to fulfil. We said we would be independent, and not in a single instance have we departed from it. We have not vaunted up the field. In our first article we asked the question whether business was not overdone, and stated that 'this was not the place for new and inexperienced diggers. These diggings mean work—hard, heavy laborious work, and the means to "stand by" while the claims were being proved.' Since then we would point to the progress Kumara has made. Its hotels and stores are second to none on the Coast, and while the 'inexperienced diggers'—men who have no right on a new goldfield—have disappeared miners of the right stamp have taken their place. The diggings now extend for miles, and a new township—Dillman's—has sprung up; a horse-track has been formed to it, from which views of the greatest beauty can be obtained, and which cannot be excelled in New Zealand and another track is to be made along the Shamrock Lead. A telegraph office has been established, and also a Court-house, police camp and barracks. It is to be made the central station for the Resident Magistrate, and tenders are called for the erection of his residence; while a commodious post office is also to be built, and five branch banks are in active operation. Two theatres—the Royal and the Adelphi—have been erected, besides two steam saw-mills, breweries, &c. There is still much to be done—the town has to be drained, or there is no doubt it will be very unhealthy a fire brigade established, and a hospital to be built; but the inhabitants have faith in Kumara, they know its resources, and there will be a slight depression consequent on the reaction after the holidays still we say that in three months' time Kumara will be more prosperous than ever."

ESCAPE OF A PRISONER FROM THE GAOL.

VERY early on Saturday morning it was reported in town that Hori Popera (the native lately sentenced to imprisonment for striking a Maori woman on the head with an axe) had escaped from gaol. It appears that Mr. Bosworth let him out into the yard as usual to wash and clean before going to work, when he rushed past him and made off. On getting some little distance away, he turned round and said, "Good morning, Mr. Bosworth, I see you again some day." He had but little clothing on. Mr. Bosworth immediately went to the Constabulary Barracks and reported the circumstance to Sergeant Boyce, who, at once, went in pursuit. The prisoner, however, was nowhere to be seen, but his tracks were plainly visible to the edge of Mr. Outfield's bush. Sergeant Duffin was also quickly informed, and started a constable in the direction Hori had taken. Members of the A.C. Force were also sent out in search for the escaped prisoner, Hori Popera, but without avail. Constable Hughes was despatched on horseback to waylay him in case of his making for the native settlement from whence he was taken prisoner. Hori was met on one of the main roads out that way by a man who had been working in the bush, and in response to the constable's enquiry, said where Hori had passed him. The constable went off in the direction indicated, and after riding hard four or five miles saw Popera ahead. A couple of shots are said to have been fired, but the horse being done up could not be urged further, and Hori crossed the Waitara river, and was seen to enter the bush on the other side. Maoris having reported to Sergeant Duffin about midday that Hori Popera was at his old haunts, and that it was desired he should be retaken, Constable Tapp and T. Bland, of the A.C. Force, were started out on horseback immediately with a view to bringing Hori to town, but up to last evening he had not been caught.—Taranaki Herald, 13th instant.



HAWKE'S BAY JOCKEY CLUB RACES.

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
22nd and 23rd February, 1877.

PRESIDENT
James Watt.
STEWARDS:
J. H. Coleman Sydney Johnston
Robert Farmer J. N. Williams
G. E. G. Richardson.
JUDGE:
Robert Stuart.
STARTER:
Gavin Peacock.
CLERK OF THE SCALES:
Robert Brathwaite.
HON. TREASURER:
Ulrik Burke.

FIRST DAY.
MAIDEN PLATE of 75 sovs.; for all horses that have never won an advertised race exceeding 25 sovs. in value; 1 1/2 miles; weight for age; entrance, £4.

RAILWAY STAKES of 25 sovs.; 2 mile; weight for age; entrance, £2.

NAPIER HURDLE of 150 sovs., with a sweepstake of 5 sovs each added; second horse to receive 20 sovs from the stakes; distance, 1 1/2 miles; entrance, 2 sovs, acceptance 3 sovs to the funds. Nominations with 2 sovs to be made to the Secretary, by 8 p.m. on Saturday, 23rd February. Weights to be declared by Wednesday, 10th January. Acceptances with 3 sovs., to lodged with the Secretary by 8 p.m. on Saturday, 3rd February. Sweepstakes to be paid on day of General Entry, the 14th of February. The winner of any handicap of the value of 200 sovs after the declaration of the weights to carry 7lbs extra; of the value of 100 sovs, 5lbs extra; penalties not accumulative.

SELLING RACE of 40 sovs.; entrance, £2; 1 1/2 miles; weight for age; winner to be sold for £50; if entered to be sold for £40, allowed 7lb; if for £30, allowed 14lb; if for £20, allowed 21lb; if for £10, allowed 28lb; any surplus to go to the fund.

HACK RACE of 10 sovs; distance 1 mile; catch weights; entrance, £1.

SECOND DAY.
HANDICAP HURDLE RACE of 40 sovs. with a sweep of 3 sovs. for starters, distance 2 miles; over seven flight of hurdles; entrance 2 sovs. The handicap will appear shortly after general entrance.

HAWKE'S BAY STAKES—75 sovs.; distance 2 miles; weight for age. Winners of weight for age races since August, 1876, in one event of 100 sovs., to carry 7 lbs extra; of 200 sovs., 10 lbs; 300 sovs. 14 lbs extra. Penalties not accumulative; Maidens at starting allowed for three-year-olds, 5 lbs; 4 years, 10 lbs; 5 years and upwards, 14 lbs. Entrance, 4 sovs.

HAWKE'S BAY PRODUCE STAKES—75 sovs., for all horses bred in the Province that have never won an advertised race at time of entry; winner of the Maiden Plate to carry 7 lb penalty, distance, 1 mile; entrance £4; weight for age.

TRADESMAN'S HANDICAP—75 sovs., with a sweep of 5 sovs. each; distance, 1 1/2 miles; entrance 2 sovs., and acceptance 2 sovs., to the funds. Weights to appear by 8 p.m. on the first day of the races. Acceptances with sweep to be paid before the start for the Hurdle Race.

CONSOLATION HANDICAP—30 sovs., for all bidden horses at the meeting; 1 mile; entrance £2.

No entry will be received for any of the above races, except upon the conditions that all claims, disputes, and objections arising shall be decided by the Stewards, or whom they appoint, and their decision upon all points shall be final.

General entries and nominations will be received by the Secretary at the Criterion Hotel, Napier, up to 8 p.m. on **WEDNESDAY** 14th February, 1877.

The Rules and Weights of the New Zealand Jockey Club will be adhered to if in force at the time of the meeting, otherwise the races will be run under the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club rules.

Five per cent. will be deducted from the gross amount of all stakes.

Horses walking over will receive 50 per cent. of the stakes.

M. R. MILLER,
Hon. Sec.

S H E E P .

WANTED TO PURCHASE,

6000 2, 4, and 6 tooth Merino Ewes, in lots of not less than 1500

3000 Fresh 8 tooth Merino Ewes

M. B. MILLER.

TO THE ELECTORS OF NAPIER.

GENTLEMEN,—The issue of the Writ for the vacant seat for Napier demands a public announcement of what is already privately well known—that I am a candidate for your suffrages.

The main articles of my political belief are briefly as follows:—

1. Upon no conditions would my assistance be given to the severance of New Zealand into two colonies. The geographical division at Cook's Strait serves rather as a bond of union, and as a markedly cheap highway, binding commercially the Northern Districts of the Middle Island to the North Island, than as a plea for dismemberment.

2. The present Government may with truth be viewed as a many-sided one. In its number are comprised members of several distinct sections of the Assembly. A majority of them in the era prior to Abolition, were identified with the views and the party (when party really existed) that had my sympathy and humble support. Moreover their policy and intended action are undeveloped. Support of them, therefore, at this stage of their existence involves no risk, entails no responsibility, and entitles to no praise. Abolition has been secured beyond recall, and both supporters and opponents of that measure are honorably free to form fresh combinations as the horizon clears. Meantime the Ministry, as it stands, is master of the situation, and can reckon on my aid if returned.

3. Immigration will need restriction, and possibly even entire suspension for a season. After the excitement of the past few years, the Colony needs rest and quiet until time and industry open fresh sources of employment, or add to the volume of the old; till those who have recently come amongst us have acquired settled homes; and till the fresh centres of population have been firmly established. It probably then will happen, that demand will be made for a further influx of population, even by many who are now silently suffering from apparent redundancy.

4. It may reasonably be predicted that next session there will be legislation in regard to Native lands. The question possesses an intense interest in the Northern Island, and is of much importance to the Colony generally. In many districts the natives are far enough advanced in intelligence no longer to require leading strings or governmental guidance. They themselves desire release from such bonds. With the advance of settlement, the white population presses at numerous points upon what was not very remotely purely native districts. They concur in the call for relief. Ministers may therefore be expected to take up the subject. While the natives may be fairly expected to share the burdens imposed by the law of the Colony, none will be found seeking to debar them from the benefits and privileges it confers. Fulfilment of the first condition involves admission of the second.

5. The efforts already made to foster settlement, present a fairer retrospect than any other part of the Works and Immigration policy. No contention can arise as to the necessity for unabated vigor in that path. There are abundant lands yet vacant, if willing hands and arms can be had to undertake the toil and early discomfort of founding new homes.

6. Retrenchment and the kindred question of taxation, can only be effectually dealt with by the Government. It will need for either purpose a strong willed, strongly supported Government. Good administration in my eyes is preferable to petty saving. We have it on record how frequently the experience has been that the loudest professors of economy in public, are the most importunate and insatiable in demanding increased expenditure for individual ends up the back stairs.

7. In conclusion, gentlemen, permission is asked to remind you that the vacancy now existing, is no ordinary one. The successor in the General Assembly of the distinguished man, who so long and ably filled the seat for Napier, and gave it a lustre of his own, will be looked at with curiosity, and subjected to keen criticism—not the usual criticism merely of the forum, but the sharper criticism of the ante-rooms. General intelligence and the skill to use it; independence of thought and spirit; freedom from suspicion even of desire to intrude local squabbles, or further private personal ends, are qualifications all needed, else your representative's usefulness would be marred; his status would be assigned among the waiters on providence; and the high repute of the electorate lowered.

8. As regards all matters touching the local welfare of Hawke's Bay, I need only point out to you that my individual interests offer the surest guarantee of harmonious co-operation with the other members, in watching and furthering them.

Your faithful Servant,
JNO. BUCHANAN.

RURAL SECTIONS, WOODVILLE.
ON DEFERRED PAYMENTS.

THE undersigned suitable sections FOR SALE on Liberal Terms:—

No. 129.—40 3	No. 132.—111
" 130.—40 0	" 133.—104
" 131.—46 2	" 134.—104
135.—133 acres.	

M. R. MILLER.

Watches! Watches! Watches!

JOHN ROBERTSON,
WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER,
Napier.

DRAWS special attention to his Magnificent Stock of WATCHES, just received direct from English and American Manufacturers, and made Specially to Order, which, for Excellence and Cheapness, are unequalled in the colony.


All Watches sold at this establishment are thoroughly regulated and put in working condition before leaving the premises, and Guaranteed.

GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.
EPPS'S COCOA.
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"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal ailment by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—See in the *Civil Service Gazette*.

Made simply with boiling water or milk.
Sold only in packets (tins for abroad), labelled:—
JAMES EPPS & Co.,
HOMOEOPATHIC CHEMISTS,
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WORKS, RUSTON ROAD and CAMDEN TOWN,
LONDON.

BEWARE OF VILE AMERICAN COUNTERFEITS.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT. I most respectfully take leave to call the attention of the inhabitants of Australasia to the fact that Messrs Henry, Curran and Co., Wholesale Druggists, of New York, have Agencies in various parts, and that their Travellers are going all over the country vending spurious Imitations of my Pills and Ointment, which they make in New York, and which bear in some instances their trade mark thus:—

Whilst on other labels of this trash it is omitted, the better to deceive you, but the words "New York" are retained. Many of these spurious articles are sold in the Auction Rooms of Sydney and elsewhere, and readily finds its way into the back settlements. These are vile frauds, as I do not allow my Medicines even to be sold in any part of the United States; they are only made by me at 533, Oxford-street, London.

The same people are circulating a report that my business is about to be formed into a Company which is utterly false. I most earnestly appeal to that sense of British justice which I feel sure I may venture upon asking my kind countrymen and countrywomen in their distant homes, to assist me, as far as may lay in their power, in denouncing this shameful American Fraud, by cautioning their friends lest they be duped into buying villainous compounds styled "Holloway's Pills and Ointment" with any New York label thereon.

Each Pot and Box of the Genuine Medicines bears the British Government Stamp, with the words "HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT, LONDON," engraved thereon. On the labels is the address, 533 Oxford street, London, where alone they are manufactured.

Signed,
THOMAS HOLLOWAY.
London, Feb. 15, 1796.

SAMSON FENCING WIRE.—This is an entirely new and superior description, and shows an immense saving, as compared with old wire. No 8 ordinary wire, furnished by Messrs. Curran and Co., is hardly made that the SAMSON WIRE is slightly oval in shape, to distinguish it. Each coil has brass padlock tally and a tin of wire. It is made in the Whitechapel Wire Co. Works, Whitechapel, and may be procured through any Merchant, Ironmonger, or Stockkeeper.

OXYGEN IS LIFE.

DR. BRIGHT'S PHOSPHODYNE
Multitudes of people are hopelessly suffering from Debility, Nervous and Liver Complaints, Depression of Spirits, Hypochondria, Timidity, Indigestion, Failure of Hearing, Sight, and Memory, Lassitude, Want of Power, &c., whose cases admit of a permanent cure by the new remedy PHOSPHODYNE (Oxonic Oxygen), which at once allays all irritation and excitement, imparts new energy and life to the enfeebled constitution, and rapidly cures every stage of these hitherto incurable and distressing maladies. Sold by all Chemists and Druggists throughout the Globe.

CAUTION.—The large and increasing demand for Dr. Bright's Phosphodyne has led to several imitations under somewhat similar names; purchasers of this medicine should therefore be careful to observe that each case bears the Government Stamp, with the words Dr. Bright's Phosphodyne engraved thereon, and that the same words are also blown in the bottle.



THE GREATEST
WONDER OF MODERN TIMES!

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,
in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the druggoman Mashomet to inform me 'Fakky that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis.' In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,
in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

On the Label is the address, 533, Oxford-street, London, where alone they are manufactured.

BEWARE OF ALL COMPOUNDS STYLED HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT

With a "New York" Label.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1877.