

WEEKLY MERCURY

AND

Hawke's Bay Advertiser,

A Journal of Commerce, Agriculture, Sports, Politics, and Literature.

VOL. II.—No. 85.

NAPIER, SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1877.

PRICE SIXPENCE

PROPERTIES FOR SALE.

3,920 ACRES Freehold, rich pastoral land, Wairoa, with 800 Sheep, and 100 head Cattle
 900 acres Freehold Agricultural and Pastoral Land, Wairoa
 4,677 acres Freehold Agricultural and Pastoral Land, Wairoa, with 3,000 Sheep, and other necessary working improvements
 3,000 acres Freehold, Southern Seaboard, improved
 1,220 acres Freehold, Southern Seaboard, improved
 400 acres Freehold, Southern Seaboard, improved
 2,500 acres Freehold, Southern Seaboard, improved, with
 2,000 Sheep and 250 head Cattle
 4,200 acres Freehold Agricultural and Pastoral Land, Poverty Bay
 11,000 acres Leasehold, Pastoral, Poverty Bay, with
 3000 Sheep and few Cattle
 1,600 acres Leasehold, half interest, Poverty Bay
 8,800 acres Leasehold, excellent country, Tologa Bay, with
 3,000 Sheep and good improvements
 1,100 acres Freehold, rich land, Opoiki, with
 1,000 Sheep, and all necessary improvements
 33,000 acres Leasehold, Pastoral, 26 miles from Napier
 55,000 acres Leasehold, Pastoral, 70 miles from Napier, with
 9,000 Sheep and 50 head Cattle
 5,000 acres Freehold, Agricultural and Pastoral, Seaboard, with
 14,000 acres Leasehold, valuable improvements, and
 15,000 Sheep, few Cattle, Horses, &c.
 1,639 acres Freehold, near Greytown, with
 1,040 acres Leasehold, all fenced and subdivided, and
 5,000 longwool Sheep, 120 Cattle, few horses, and every improvement necessary. The coach road passes through the property.

M. R. MILLER,
Stock and Station Agent.

FOR SALE,

MR. EVAN'S Draught Stallion "LORD NELSON," by "Sir Colin Campbell," dam "Blossom," etc.
 Liberal terms.
 For further particulars apply to
 M. R. MILLER.

RURAL SECTIONS, WOODVILLE.

On Deferred Payments.
 For particulars, apply to
 M. R. MILLER.

M. R. MILLER,
STOCK AND STATION AGENT

SHEEP STATIONS of various extent, and **FREEHOLD PROPERTIES**, Stocked and Unstocked, in the Provinces of Auckland, Hawke's Bay, Wellington, Canterbury, and Otago.
 For particulars, apply at the office, Browning-street, Napier.

RAMS FOR SALE.



LINCOLN
 Lincoln-Leicester
 Leicester
 Cotswold
 Merinoes,
 All First-class Flocks.

STORE SHEEP.—Various Lots of Store Merinos Ewes and Wethers for Sale.

WANTED KNOWN—That in all Orders for **GENERAL PRINTING** executed at the **DAILY TELEGRAPH** Office, **FULL NUMBERS** are guaranteed.

Government Notifications.



"HAWKE'S BAY SPECIAL SETTLEMENTS ACT, 1872."

Crown Lands Office,
 Napier, 19th May, 1877.
NOTICE is hereby given that the following selections of land in the **MAKARETU RESERVE** having been forfeited, will under Section 13 of the above Act, be sold for Cash, by Public Auction at the Crown Lands Office, at Noon on **MONDAY**, the 30th July, 1877.

SCHEDULE

Applica- tion	Contents	Upset price
A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
13...	100 0 0	50 0 0
15...	100 0 0	50 0 0
17...	200 0 0	100 0 0
49...	100 0 0	50 0 0
50...	60 0 0	30 0 0
54...	100 0 0	50 0 0
56...	40 0 0	20 0 0
110...	50 0 0	25 0 0
111...	50 0 0	25 0 0

*The above areas are exclusive of 5 per cent allowance for Roads.

J. T. TYLEE,
 Commissioner of Crown Lands.

NOTIFICATION.

Crown Lands Office,
 Napier, 19th May, 1877.
I HEREBY give Notice that the right to depasture Stock for a period of 5 years over 1500 acres more or less land in the Arapawanui and Moeangi District, now at the disposal of the Government, and which was lately comprised in License No. 123, will be offered for competition by Public Auction at this office, at Noon, on **SATURDAY**, the 30th June next, subject to the terms of "The Hawke's Bay Renewal of Licenses Act, 1870."

Conditions may be obtained at this office.
 J. T. TYLEE,
 Commissioner of Crown Lands.

NOTICE.

THE Annual Meeting of the Ratepayers of the Waipukurau Road Board District, for the purpose of electing Wardens, &c., will be held in the Waipukurau Town Hall, on **TUESDAY**, July 3rd, at 1 p.m.
 H. R. RUSSELL,
 Chairman of the Board.

CLIVE ROAD BOARD.

THE Annual Meeting of Ratepayers will be held at Mr. Caulton's West Clive Hotel, on **MONDAY**, 9th July, at 2 p.m.
 Business—Election of Wardens.
 F. SUTTON,
 Chairman.
 Royston, 21 June, 1877.

RELIABLE INDEMNITY

Against Fire and Marine Losses secured to Policyholders in the **NEW ZEALAND INSURANCE COMPANY**,
 Representing One Million Sterling of Capital, with unlimited liability of Shareholders.
 Liberal Terms and Prompt Settlement of Losses characteristic features of the Company.
 Forms of Proposal and all information may be obtained from
SMITH & CO., Waipukurau;
W. RATHBONE, Waipawa;
W. G. CRAWFORD, Kaikora;
GEORGE BEE, Havelock;
KNIGHT BROTHERS, Hastings;
ELDRED BECK, West Clive;
JOHN BARRY, Tarciale;
ROBERTSONS, IRVINE & CO., Spit;
W. F. SHAW, Wairoa;
 or from
A. LESLIE CAMPBELL,
 Agent for Hawke's Bay.

Office—Beach end of Emerson street

NOTICE.

LEASE OF THE LIGHTHOUSE RESERVE, NAPIER.

Harbor Board Office,
 Napier, 16th June, 1877.
THE above Reserve, containing 11 acres more or less, all well grassed and now being fenced in, will be Leased by Public Auction, on **SATURDAY**, the 30th June, at noon, in the old Provincial Chamber, for a term of Twelve Months, at the upset price of £30. Subject to conditions which can be ascertained at my office.
 C. B. HOADLEY,
 Secretary.



NOTICE.

LEASE OF WHARE-O-MARAENUI BLOCK.

Harbor Board Office,
 Napier, 16th June, 1877.
THE Unsold portion of the above block, better known as Torr's late paddock, will be leased by Public Auction, on **SATURDAY**, the 30th June, at noon, in the old Provincial Chamber, for a term of twelve months at the upset price of £100. Subject to conditions which can be ascertained at my office.
 C. B. HOADLEY,
 Secretary.



Education Board Office,
 Napier, June 4, 1877.

NOTICE is hereby given that the following Education Reserve will be offered for Lease (21 years) by Public Auction at the late Provincial Council Chamber, on **TUESDAY**, September 4, 1877:—
 Section 289 B, Town of Napier, 1 rood. Upset price £20 per annum.
JOSEPH RHODES,
 Chairman Education Board.



PATANGATA HIGHWAY DISTRICT.

TENDERS will be received up till **FRI**-**DAY**, June 29th for Road Works in the vicinity of Waipawa Bush.
 Specifications can be seen at Mr. Rathbone's Store, Waipawa.
WM WHITE,
 Chairman Patangata Road Board.
 Kaikora, June 18, 1877.

UNION STEAM SHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND (LIMITED)

EAST COAST SERVICE.

JULY, 1877

NORTHWARDS.

For Gisborne, Tauranga, and Auckland:
 Wanaka, s.s. ... Thursday, July 5.
 Wellington, s.s. ... Thursday, July 19.
 Taupo, s.s. ... Thursday, August 2

For Auckland and Sydney:
 (Carrying outward 'Frisco Mail')
 Rotorua, s.s. ... Sunday, July 1
 Rotorua, s.s. ... Sunday, July 29

SOUTHWARDS.

For Wellington and Southern Ports:
 Wanaka, s.s. ... Saturday, June 30
 Wanaka, s.s. ... Saturday, July 14
 Rotorua, s.s. ... Thursday, July 19
 Wellington, s.s. ... Saturday, July 28

Passengers receive Free Pass for Steam Launch, at the Agents' office.
KINKROSS & CO.,
 Agents.

BENNETT & JOHNSON'S LIST OF PROPERTIES FOR SALE.

FREEHOLD.
6 ROOMED Cottage and Section, upwards of half-an-acre, Coote-road, house well finished.
6 Roomed Cottage and Section, $\frac{1}{4}$ acre, Milton-road. Grounds planted with fruit and other trees
5 Roomed Cottage and Section, $\frac{1}{4}$ acre, overlooking Milton road. Grounds laid out. House nearly new.
4 Roomed Cottage and Section, adjoining Maori Club, facing the sea.
4 Roomed Cottage and Section, 24 x 80, Chaucer-road. Price £95.
4 Roomed Cottage and Section, White-road, near the Maori Club. Price £160.
4 Roomed Cottage and Section, one-eighth of an acre, Milton-road.
2 Four-Roomed Cottages and Sections, Milton-road, near the Oddfellows' Hall.
2 Four-Roomed Cottages and Sections, Dickens-street, corner of Dalton and Dickens-streets.
4 Roomed Cottage and Section on the Beach, near the Napier Hotel.
3 Roomed Cottage and Section, 115 x 27, Port Aburiri.
3 Roomed Cottage and Section, one-eighth of an acre, Shakespeare Road. Garden planted with fruit trees in full bearing. Within two minutes walk of the Post Office.
2 Two-roomed Cottages and Section, 170 x 200, Onepoto Gully. Well on Section.
2 Two-Roomed Cottages and Sections, White-road, near the Maori Club. Price £90 each.
2 Roomed Cottage and Section, 21 x 66, Port Aburiri.
2 Roomed Cottage with 1 acre land laid out as an orchard, at Puketapu.
2 Roomed Cottage and Section in Awatoto township.

SUBURBAN SECTION 75 in part, two sub-divisions, near Catholic Chapel.
Suburban Section 89 in part, sub-division 5, Marine Parade.
Suburban Section 82 in part, one or two sub-divisions.
Suburban Section 87 in part, one sub-division, Shakespeare-road.
Suburban Section 45 in part, one sub-division, near the residence of G. Scarfe, Esq.
Suburban section 23 in part, four sub-divisions, near the residence of G. T. Fannin, Esq.
Suburban Section 78 in part, $\frac{1}{4}$ acre, fenced and planted.
Suburban Section 79 in part, $\frac{1}{4}$ acre.

Town	296	White-road
"	308	"
"	312	"
"	311	"
"	362	"
"	41	Hyderabad-rd.
"	353	Dickens-street
"	377	Munroe-street
"	382	Munroe-street
"	223	Thackeray-st.

 Sections in Hastings, Woodville, Hampden, and Waipawa.

BENNETT & JOHNSON.

JUST RECEIVED VIEWS

OF THE **BEAUTIFUL SCENERY**

OF **ROTOMAHANA**

WITH ITS **HOT SPRINGS, TERRACES, AND GEYSERS.**

Price 2s 6d each.

COLLEDGE & CRAIG,
 HASTINGS-STREET.

WANTED KNOWN—That Printing is executed at the **DAILY TELEGRAPH** Office below Wellington Prices.

CABLEGRAM.

[REUTER'S SPECIAL TO PRESS AGENCY.]

BOMBAY.

June 20.—1.45 p.m.

The House of Lords voted an amendment to the Burial Bill, entitling dissenters to choose their own service for their deceased.

Gambetta says a change of Ministry is expected in France.

Late Roman despatches show that excellent relations exist between Italy and Germany.

June 23.

Obituary—Admiral Rous. The Government have withdrawn the Burials Bill.

The Russian internal loan of 200 million roubles has been issued.

The Turkish right wing has taken up a position to the right of Delibati.

SINGAPORE.

June 20.—12.7.

Servia disclaims any intention to declare its independence.

The French Chamber has adopted a vote of want of confidence, and will probably be dissolved to-morrow.

June 22. 11.10.

Russian batteries have commenced bombarding forts at Kars.

The left wing of the Russians are marching towards Kupriki.

The Turks are retreating on Delibati, where they will be reinforced.

LATER.

Consols are falling, consequent on a report that the Government will ask for additional credit for armament.

The Turks at Delibati were defeated, and compelled to fall back on Erzroum.

June 25.

The Cabinet in Council resolved to ask credit for cautionary preparations.

6000 Russians have crossed the Danube at Galatz.

The Turks, under Malchin, are retreating.

A despatch from Gortchakoff states that Russia intends acquiring Stamboul.

LONDON.

June 25.

A despatch from Gortschakoff promises to respect British interests, and states further, so long as England remains neutral, Russia will not interfere with Egypt or the Suez Canal, nor extend the war elsewhere, necessity not requiring her to go beyond Stamboul. With a view to the future, and for the protection of the common interests which may belong to the European Powers, those Powers should act in concert and settle the question as to the passage of the Dardanelles and Bosphorus on an equitable basis. The despatch adds that the Czar is resolved to obtain a guarantee for the security of the Christians in the Turkish provinces.

The 'Frisco mail has been delivered.

Arrived—Durham.

St. John's, New Brunswick, has been almost destroyed by fire. The damage is estimated at about fifteen million dollars.

Bayazid has been recaptured by the Turks.

The French Senate have adopted the proposal for dissolution.

SYDNEY.

June 25.

Arrived—Zealandia, and Sierra Nevada, from New York, with immigrants.

AUSTRALIAN.

(PER ARAWATA.)

MELBOURNE, June 18.

Professor Pearson, who was defeated at the recent elections, has been given an appointment in the education department, equal to £1000 a year. His duty is to reform and re-organise the department.

Lee, proprietor of the Police News, has been committed for trial for libel on a woman.

James Grainger, who was candidate for Stawell at the last election, has been killed by falling down a shaft three hundred feet.

Sir W. Jervois and Colonel Scratchley are examining the harbor works. The latter will remain here to carry out the works.

Business is very dull. Oats are in good demand at 3s to 3s 3d; wheat, 7s 7d.

INTERPROVINCIAL.

WAIROA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

June 22.

Both steamers got in safely to-day.

Matthew, a chief of the Ngatikuripakau, died this morning, and the natives are holding a tangi over him.

DUNEDIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

June 22.

The amount paid for the Otago Daily Times is said to be £27,000, equal to about £74 per share. Messrs. Reynolds and Driver are said to be the purchasers, report says on behalf of the squatting party.

June 23.

Mr Clayton, the Colonial Architect, is engaged making a valuation of all the Government buildings in this district. He is being assisted by Capt. Wales.

At Clinton, on Tuesday, as Judge Ward descended from the coach on his way to Invercargill, he ordered into custody a drunkard named Hall, who was using abusive language, and there and then sentenced him to a term of 14 days hard labor, while the transaction only occupied the time the horses were being changed.

Messrs Macandrew, Stout, Reynolds, and Brown, M.H.R.'s, attended the Chamber of Commerce Conference re railways. The chairman read a correspondence which showed that Messrs Proudfoot and McKay were offering to construct the gaps on the main lines for 15 per cent. above Brogden's price for the million contract, taking 6 per cent. debentures at par, or cash in payment, and pledging to finish the southern section in ten, and the northern section in nine months from the acceptance of their tender. The Government reply that they see no reason for letting works otherwise than by public tender. On the subject of branch railways Mr Macandrew did not think that any would be made for a long day. If Otago had been left to develop her own resources, every main road would have been turned into a railroad. Mr Reynolds said he would not vote for any branch line unless it was clearly shewn that it would pay something above working expenses, and only some lines in Canterbury and Otago do that. He urged the Chamber to study the inequalities of representation and make a move in that direction. The Government, when it decided on taking over the line, promised to give the constructors something above prime cost; also the counties being endowed with the land for the purposes of making lines within their own boundaries.

Mr J. C. Brown caused much laughter by saying he mainly succeeded in getting the Tuapeka line through making a bargain with the Taranaki members to vote for the Waitara line, and so getting their support. There was a warm passage-at-arms between Messrs Driver and Macandrew. The former persistently charged the city members with remissness last session, saying it would have been better for his constituents' interest if they dealt less with sentiment and more with practical business. Mr Macandrew replied that the charges were without foundation. Otago would never get her railways until she got her own again, and hoped this session would produce such a revolution in the political wheel as would result in that. He would not sell his vote for a railway at the request of any member of the Chamber.

At Oamaru, circumstances have come to light showing that Mrs Quarrie's sudden death on Thursday was the result of violence. Shortly after her death her eldest son, aged 20, disappeared during the progress of the inquiry. Yesterday afternoon the Coroner received a telegram stating that he had given himself up to the police at Waimate on a charge of killing his mother. It is said the deceased was given to drink, and her son thrashed her.

AUCKLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

June 25.

An accident of a very serious character occurred on Saturday morning at the biscuit factory of Bycroft and Company, Onehunga. Flour and other goods are lifted from the lower part of the mill to the upper storey by means of a chain and pulley worked by steam. A man named George Hassard was employed on Saturday morning in the upper storey receiving bags, which another man below attached to the pulleys. Several bags had been lifted in this way, and the pulley returned to the bottom again, when by some accident, as it was being lowered it caught on the engine shaft, and got a round turn round it. In an instant the stout flooring of the mill was torn up, and big blocks were torn from their fastenings and fell to the ground, striking George Hassard on the head, and inflicting a frightful wound on the back part

of the scalp. Steam at once was shut off, and several of the workmen ran to the unfortunate man, who presented a ghastly sight. It was at first thought that he was killed.

GISBORNE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

June 26.

At the Gisborne Mayoral election yesterday, Crawford polled 95 and Wilson 38, thus giving Crawford a majority of 57. The burgesses are delighted at the result, Wilson being so unpopular.

WELLINGTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

June 26.

It was reported yesterday, on apparently good authority, that Mr J. F. Passmore, Superintendent Engineer of Constructed Railways, had received notice from the Government, through Mr Ormond, that his services will be dispensed with at an early date. In reference to this, the Post says:—"Without any desire to say hard things of Mr Passmore, we cannot help expressing our approval of this step, and our opinion that the news of the intended change will be received with general satisfaction, not from any prejudice against Mr Passmore personally, but simply from the conviction that his railway management has been unwise and ill-judged throughout, and that his continuance in charge would have been disastrous to the future financial prospects of our railways."

David Lyster, a constable at the Hutt, was charged with having, on the 13th instant, whilst giving evidence in the Licensing Court at the Lower Hutt, on the occasion of an application for a publican's license for the Criterion Hotel by Mrs Dugard, falsely, wickedly, and corruptly sworn to the following effect:—"That the landlady, if she is Mrs Dugard, kisses men for drinks. I was in the Criterion Hotel with Constable Carroll and Constable Smart and others on the day they came to the Upper Hutt and she kissed Constable Carroll. He put his arms round her neck, and she kissed him." The evidence was exceedingly comical, and ultimately the charge was dismissed.

The following letter from a Maori bankrupt was published in last night's Post:—"Friend, print my words in your newspaper. Listen all my pakeha friends. I have become a bankrupt, and my notice has appeared in the newspapers. My liabilities amount to £250, and my assets are represented by one tame pig, besides a small interest in two native leases; but I don't want my pakeha friends to think that I am a debtor to a thievish heart. No, the reason is this, that in spite of my bareness, the pakeha's are out in all directions with their summonses and warrants. For a whole year I have been concealed by my people, and kept at home lest a pakeha constable should seize me and take me to prison. I am weary of being shut up in my own kainga, so I betake myself to the Supreme Court for protection. But the real cause of my misfortunes was this: a pakeha, who is an officer of the Government, asked me to place my money in his hands to be invested on mortgage. He took my money, and I never saw it again. My loss through the deception of that pakeha is £200. I ask my friends not to be too hard upon me for becoming a bankrupt. How else am I to find my way into daylight again? How else am I to escape the clutches of the constables who are hunting for me in all directions? From your distressed friend, HOANI MAKI."

Mrs. Seager, the matron of Mount View Lunatic Asylum, has received a week's notice of dismissal, the reason assigned being that the apartments occupied by herself and family are required for the use of the new keeper and his wife. This summary dismissal is accompanied by a promise of compensation to the full extent that the law will permit. This is regarded as a very harsh and arbitrary proceeding, as although there have been great complaints lately as to the treatment of patients at the Asylum, Mrs. Seager was not in any degree implicated.

(PRESS AGENCY.)

DUNEDIN.

June 22.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the Otago Daily Times and Witness Company, held yesterday, it was resolved to accept the offer made to purchase the property of the Company. The purchaser is said to be the Hon. W. H. Reynolds, and the price about £22,000, being nearly 100 per cent. premium on the paid-up capital.

June 26.

Steps are being taken by the directors of the Peninsular and Ocean Beach Rail-

GREYMOUTH.

June 22.

The wreckage at Seventeen Mile Beach is supposed to be from the schooner Elizabeth Conway. A quantity of oats have been washed ashore. There are no signs of any of the crew, and it is supposed that all are lost. The weather is again threatening, and all steamers in port are detained.

WELLINGTON.

June 22.

Last night, the Mayor moved in the Council that steps be taken for the reclamation of the Te Aro foreshore, and that a special loan of £100,000 be raised for that purpose. The motion was carried, but the amount of the loan was left for future consideration. A report by Charles O'Neill was read. It recommends the enclosing of an area of 381½ acres between Taranaki and Harbor-streets, which will give a wharf frontage of 1645 feet, and a building frontage of 12,000 feet. The depth of water along the outer portion being 20 feet, and is estimated to cost £98,500. The scheme is intended as a continuation of the Chamber of Commerce's scheme for extending the existing reclamation to the outer T of the Queen's Wharf.

Mr. George Thomas reports produce prices:—Flour, colonial, £20 per ton; Adelaide, £25; oats, 3s 6d to 4s; bran, 1s 2d; wheat, fowls, 4s 3d to 4s 6d; milling, 7s; hams, 10½d; bacon, 9½d; cheese 7d to 8d; maize, 5s; pollard, 7s 6d; potatoes, £3 10s to £4 per ton.

June 25.

The New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency report, under date London, June 22nd, that wool competition is increasing, and the quotations average to 1½d better than at the opening sales. The principal advances have been in superior greasy, superior combing, washed cross bred, and combing. In washed the market firm, and in scoured the market is unchanged. The sales close on the 26th. The competition by home and foreign buyers is active. The tallow market is quiet; mutton, 42s; beef, 41s. The wheat market is flat the weather being favorable for the crops here. Adelaide wheat, 63; New Zealand, 56s. The leather market is flat; best sides, 10½d.

CHRISTCHURCH.

June 23.

The Times yesterday morning says:—"Arrangements for prosecuting the work of recovering the gold from the General Grant have been completed. Capt. Giles goes to the Bluff by the next steamer, having secured the services of an experienced diver and other hands for the Gazelle."

The Board of Governors of the College have decided to purchase 320 acres for a model farm connected with the School of Agriculture; also to select several blocks of land as an endowment for a Girls' High School.

There is considerable dissatisfaction at the new goods tariff on railways. The Chamber of Commerce intends protesting.

At a meeting of the Lyttelton Harbor Board a committee was appointed to collect materials for a comprehensive plan for the improvement of the harbor.

At the Conference of County Councilors last night, resolutions were passed that there should be only two Counties in Canterbury; that members of County Councils be elected by Road Boards; that charitable aid and hospital aid be administered by the Boards representing Municipalities and County Councils, and that a fund for such (not coming out of the consolidated fund) be contributed proportionately to population by Municipalities and Counties.

June 25.

A draper in town has been selling vest buttons, which are a good imitation of a sovereign. A young lad named Catchon got some, carefully filed off the shanks, and passed one of the buttons as a sovereign, but was caught in making a second attempt. Another boy has since been arrested on a similar offence. The Bench censured the draper for offering such temptation to persons to commit fraud.

At the Resident Magistrate's Court the boy arrested for endeavoring to pass buttons in imitation of sovereigns as sovereigns, was committed to the Industrial School for 13 months. A youth named Reese, charged with a similar offence, was committed for trial.

H. Fielding, formerly editor of the Licensed Victuallers Gazette, was brought up here to-day, charged under the name of Hiram Walter Patterson, with having

embezzled monies belonging to the Darebin Town Council, Victoria, in the year 1873. Inspector Buckley said that the total amount embezzled was about £600. The prisoner was remanded till July 24.

June 26.

The calendar for the Supreme Court Criminal Sessions, commencing on Monday is unusually light.

A private letter from the West Coast says that over one thousand feet of tunnelling is completed in the Rangitoto silver mine.

Specimens of Canterbury marble sent to England are being favorably reported on.

AUCKLAND.

June 26.

Arrived—Dilpulsund, 104 days from London, with 17 passengers, all well

A special telegram from Wellington reports that Mr Passmore the Superintending Engineer of Constructed Railways, is about to sever his connection with the railways of the Colony.

HOKITIKA.

June 26.

The Union Bank shipped by the Tararua fourteen thousand pounds worth of gold from Hokitika.

SUPREME COURT.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21.

(Before His Honor Mr Justice Richmond.)
J. D. CANNING v. H. MATUA.

On the Court resuming, Mr Rees applied, on four different grounds, for a non-suit.

The matter was argued at considerable length, and Mr Rees' points were overruled, a note being taken by His Honor, who thought them so purely technical as only to afford ground for an application for a new trial.

Mr Rees then opened the case for the defence.

Henare Matua, sworn: (Mr J. P. Hamlin interpreting) I am the defendant in this action. I know Mr Russell and Mr Canning. I remember seeing them about borrowing money to pay the debts of my tribe to Mr Drower; we did not ask them to pay our debts; they offered to do so. The agreement signed by Paul and myself was given as security for the money. (Produced and identified.) I see my name signed to it. Was anything said about promissory notes? I know of no other document except this one, being explained to us. I see my name signed to the papers (the promissory notes) produced. I recognise my signature; but I did not know the meaning of these documents. Did you understand that you by signing these papers undertook to pay Messrs Canning and Russell £1200 in three months? That was never explained to me; if it had I should not have signed. Did not a good many natives owe this money to Drower? Yes; a good many had been getting things on credit. Was there any other agreement besides the one signed by you and Paora? I only know of two documents—this and the one I was asked to sign on Saturday. (Mr Rees explained that this latter was an affidavit.)

This witness was cross-examined by Mr. Cornford at considerable length.

Paora Ropiha being sworn, admitted that the signature to the documents was his own, but denied that they had been interpreted to him by Mr. Grindell.

Mr. Rees then addressed the jury at considerable length.

Mr. Cornford then having made a few very brief remarks,

His Honor summed up at considerable length. He considered Mr. Rees remarks were mostly not in issue. Both Henare Matua and Ropiha readily recognised their signature; and it was intended to urge that they did not know what they were signing, such a plea should have been placed on the record. As regarded the point of consideration, there was evidence that the notes and agreement were really parts of the same transaction. Certain events might arise to prevent the agreement being carried out, and if it appeared that the bills were taken as a second string to Mr Canning's bow, they must find for the plaintiff on that point. He had strongly condemned the practice of taking notes of this kind as collateral security, as replete with danger and difficulty; but to this particular case those remarks did not apply.

The jury retired at 5.20 p.m., and returned after an absence of a quarter of an hour, when they returned a verdict for the plaintiff on all the issues, the amount recoverable from the defendant being fixed at £1200, with interest from 25th October, 1876.

On the application of Mr Cornford, His Honor made an order certifying the costs of special jury.

This concluded the business of the Circuit Court, and His Honor having discharged the jury, the Court adjourned.

REV. J. BERRY ON FUTURE PUNISHMENTS.

On Sunday the Rev. J. Berry delivered a sermon on Future Punishments, in Trinity Church, Napier, to a very large congregation. The reverend gentleman took for his text the 25th chapter of St. Matthew and part of the last verse:—"These shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal." The following is an abstract of Mr Berry's remarks.—It would be easily believed that he had not chosen this topic from pure love of it. In common with a majority of Christian teachers he had for a long time been silent on the question, and now only broke silence from a strong sense of duty. Lately a great change had come over those churches who preached on this solemn question. It was not treated with that former ferocity which distinguished it. Thank God! Except here and there it was not spoken of in its old-fashioned tone and spirit. There has recently sprung up two theories on this question. There was that of the Rev. Baldwin Brown, called Universal Restoration, which recognised the belief that every soul would be saved and blessed. But could they find such a theory in the Bible? There were other teachers who preached the theory of Annihilation—Edward White and R. W. Dale—and who believed that only those would be saved who had faith in Christ. The great body of Christian ministers were silent on the subject, but the reason of that silence was generally understood. At the Dunedin Theatre a few Sunday evenings ago, a Free Thought lecturer in speaking of the subject, gave an illustration of a young, beautiful, modest, and virtuous woman, and asked was it reasonable to believe that for one single sin that pure and beautiful woman should burn for ever? No Christian teacher from Invercargill to the Bay of Islands ever preached such a doctrine as this. The subject was not a pleasant one to refer to, and if preachers were to teach such doctrines, the pulpit would lose its hold of the public mind. Those before him held different dogmas, and beliefs, but they all recognised the authority of Christ. Let them all therefore approach the question in a teachable spirit, and see what the words of the text meant without distorting or placing any tint on their interpretation. Poetry and painting had done much in forming opinions on the subject, and such works as Dante's Inferno, Milton's Paradise Lost, and Pollock's Course of Thought, have told on public feeling. The people had been driven to church in fear of hell and purgatory. For ages there had been a bitter and angry controversy, forgetting that the Gospel was love and not logic. The greater part of teachers, but a short time ago, used to frighten their hearers by picturing the torments of hell, and working on their fears. No doubt, they intended well, and would ask: Has not the end justified the means? Have not people by these preachings been brought to a knowledge of Christ? But he would ask, how many have been disgusted and soured for ever from the church, and said, "If that be God, I hate him." Many could remember in their childhood days how the Gospel was presented to them by popular teachers in this form—"And they shall go into everlasting punishment." Now, for whom are these punishments reserved? For one class only comparatively. It is never meant to send those million spirits to perdition who have not accepted Christ, when they have not heard him preached. The Gospel does not teach us this. Let us look at the heathen world. Who can realise the millions of earth's population, the 1000 millions who have inhabited the world during the last six thousand years, who never heard of salvation. Can it be supposed they would be sent to perdition? Go back to the time of the prophets. They only preached in Palestine—a strip of the Mediterranean Sea and for a short time on the shores of the Red Sea.—China, which is one-third of the world, never heard the Gospel. The American Continent with its millions of red men had not then been discovered by Columbus. India and Japan with their millions of people were not taught. There are also parts of Africa now being discovered, where the people have had no opportunity of hearing of Christ. Even now in London, the home of Missionary and Bible Societies, not five per cent of the lower classes are ever

found in a house of worship. There are tens of thousands of people in that City who never hear God's name except in blasphemy. Yet "God so loved"—not the better classes of the Anglo Saxon race—"but the world, that all who believe in him should not perish but have everlasting life." Christ endured the Cross and despised the shame for all, and are we to believe then that only those who believe are to be saved, and the majority go down into deep and utter darkness? Could this be possible? But what is our hope? When we say in the Creed, "he descended into Hell." Do we believe Christ went to Hell? He never slept. When he shook off his natural body, he took unto himself a spiritual body. What did Christ go there for? For the millions of souls unseen. The first time he spoke with his lips came ringing the words, "That God was made manifest in the flesh." This was a beautiful theory, but how are we to prove it. The rev. gentleman then read a number of texts in support of his views, from 1 Peter iii., 18-20, and iv., 6; from Ephesians iv., 8-9, and 10, and Roman ii., 12. Only those who rejected Christ willfully would be sent to perdition, and was it not a fair inference that there was a hope for some others. This was our hope for the heathen world. The mission work as a whole could not be said to be a great success, but in every part where Christianity had been preached, souls had been converted. It might then be asked why they continued missionary work, because they were ordered to do so, and must obey the command. [The rev. gentleman then related a scene which occurred at a death-bed of a converted Hindoo in India.] He would not insult their understandings in attempting to refute the idea but that children dying in infancy were saved. A man's belief may be tested by his character—one man is vicious, another is wholly different, he believes in money-making, and his belief is that to make money is the only thing he came on earth for. They must remember the solemn words, "Be ye not deceived, God is not mocked." "Every man will be judged according to his works." A true belief can only be obtained by coming to Christ, and only in that way can we be good. Next Sunday evening he would preach, "What Hell Is." Only for those who had opportunities and rejected the Saviour, was there not left a ray of hope in the Bible. The only class on earth who stand on the brink of perdition are those who have made light of the privileges and teachings of the Gospel that have been offered, and been refused by them.

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS OF HAWKE'S BAY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A NUMEROUS and influential meeting was held in the Town Hall, Waipukurau, on Wednesday the 20th instant, at 2 o'clock, for the purpose of considering the project of forming a Horticultural Society. The following gentlemen were present, namely—Messrs Rechab Harding, Arthur Harding, G. M. Butt, Dr. Frood, Rev. R. Fraser, Rev. Joseph Sherman, H. Monteith, Richard Trestrail, John Palmer, H. H. Bridge, P. Fournau, W. L. Newman, Philip Russell, Benjamin Kemp, J. Poole, W. Frood, H. R. Russell, &c.

The Hon. H. R. Russell having been called to the chair, briefly explained that being strongly impressed with the many benefits which, from his own observation, Horticultural Societies conferred on the communities where they existed, he had taken the initiative of addressing a circular to persons in the southern parts of the provincial district who, he thought were likely to take an interest in the subject, asking them to attend the meeting that day. It was extremely gratifying he said to see the numerous and influential attendance which had been the result. He also mentioned that Mr. Mackersy, Lieut., Colonel Herrick, and Mr. David Hunter had all expressed their warm approval of the project, and their desire to become members of the Society. It was not proposed to make the Society one purely local to Waipukurau and immediate neighborhood, but the circular had been sent to all the surrounding districts, including Waipawa, and it appeared most desirable to unite the whole of these districts in one strong Society on a wide foundation.

Several gentlemen then addressed the meeting, and it was suggested among other things that the Society should be an Agricultural and Horticultural Society. The meeting however decided that it was not advisable to do so, but that it should include competitive exhibitions of poultry, in order to encourage its improvement.

The following resolutions were then carried unanimously:—
Moved by Mr. R. Harding, seconded

by Rev. R. Fraser, "That the meeting considers it desirable to institute a Horticultural Society, to be called the Southern Districts of Hawke's Bay Horticultural Society."

Moved by Mr. R. Harding, seconded by Mr. Bridge, "That the rules of the Hawke's Bay Horticultural Society be adopted by this Society, with the exception of No. 1 and 11."

Moved by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Smith, "That the public exhibitions shall be held at such times and places as the Committee to be appointed shall deem advisable, and shall, in addition to the usual exhibits, include poultry."

Moved by Rev. R. Fraser, seconded by Rev. Mr. Shearman, "That the Hon. H. R. Russell be the President of the Society, and Mr. Rechab Harding the Vice-President."

Moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Jones, "That Mr. H. Monteith be Secretary and Treasurer to the Society."

Moved by Dr. Frood, seconded by Mr. Smith, "That the following gentlemen be the Committee of Management, with power to add to their number, and to elect a Working Committee, seven to be a quorum, namely, Messrs. H. S. Tiffen, G. Saxby, J. Wood, W. Rathbone, H. H. Bridge, Lieut.-Colonel Herrick, Hamilton Ferguson, William White, John Nicholson, Rev. Mr. Simcox, J. D. Canning, Saunders (gardener to Mr. Harding), Fournau (gardener to H. R. Russell), Arthur Harding, John Harding, Richard Trestrail, Benjamin Kemp, Scott, Scott (gardener to Mr. Rathbone), J. Mackersy, Charles Mackie, W. L. Newman, (Hutchin (gardener to Mr. Hunter, Orangahau), Alexander Jones, Sydney Johnston, G. M. Butt, Dr. Frood, Rev. R. Fraser, Rev. Joseph Shearman, W. C. Smith, F. Sturm."

Moved by Rev. Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Trestrail, "That subscription lists be sent round the southern districts."

The meeting then broke up, after passing a vote of thanks to the chairman.

WAIPUKURAU RIDING ELECTION DECISION.

DECLARED VOID FOR THE THIRD TIME.

DURING the Court sitting, on Tuesday R. Stuart, Esq., R.M., gave his decision in the matter of the petition of S. Johnston and others against the return of the Hon. H. R. Russell for the Waipukurau Riding, in the Waipawa County Council. His Worship said that as the allegations had been gone into before the Court, there was no necessity for him to make many remarks. It was very clearly laid down in the Act that persons qualified to vote at Road Board elections were entitled to vote at the first elections for County members, and he saw no reason for him to differ from his predecessor, Mr Beetham, as to granting cumulative voting. That gentleman had decided in favor of such voting. Evidence had been adduced proving that electors had tendered cumulative votes, but that such voting had not been received by the Returning Officer, and consequently the election was upset. One of the other allegations in the petition, as to certain persons claiming to vote, and not being permitted, broke down. On the grounds that cumulative voting had not been permitted, he declared the election null and void—each party to pay their own costs.

AGENT-GENERAL'S DESPATCH.

WELLINGTON, June 23.

The following message is just received by the Government, from the Agent-General, dated London, June 31st:—"The Russian left wing has gained a victory at Delibeta, in Armenia. The Turkish killed is reported at 1000, and 450 prisoners taken. The Russians are about to cross the Danube. An important battle is hourly expected."

Mr. Spyer has a boy who "nails" things. One day he remarked in presence of both parents, "Ma, I saw pa kiss you in the woodshed last evening." "Hush, Johnny! your pa never committed such a foolish act!" "Yes, he did, ma, 'cause I thought it was Jane, but Jane says it wasn't her, but you." Jane doesn't work there now.

A fatherless Danbury boy was paring down a corn with a razor, Sunday morning, when his mother caught him by the hair, yanked him from the chair, and electrified him by the startling remark—"What do you 'spose your tather in heaven'll think to look down an see his own son a hackin' corns with his razor?"

The whole colony will rejoice to hear that the connection between the Government and Mr. Passmore, the Superintendent of Constructed Railways, has been severed. A more unpopular public officer than Mr. Passmore could not be found anywhere, and for a long time, ever since indeed there has been a constructed railway in the North Island, that gentleman has been regarded by many as far more ornamental than useful. With local traffic managers, district engineers, and a Colonial Engineer-in-Chief, it is difficult to discover the duties that could devolve on a Superintendent of Constructed Railways, other than to mess and muddle with local arrangements, on the desirability or otherwise of which he must necessarily have been profoundly by ignorant. We trust such a ridiculous and costly appointment will not again be revived either in the person of a Government supporter's friend, or of a relative to a member of the Cabinet.

A man named John Matthews was brought before His Worship on Tuesday on a charge of lunacy. The unfortunate man has been for some time in the employ of Paora of Moteo as a ploughman, and during the last fortnight has shown signs of aberration of intellect. On Monday, in one of his wild paroxysms, he killed a cow belonging to Paora, and severely injured a foal belonging to the same chief. Having made attempts to injure himself, the services of Constable Shaw had to be called into requisition who had him conveyed to town. Matthews is a married man, and his wife has resided with him at the native settlement. He was remanded for medical examination.

The Parliament of New Zealand will meet in about three weeks time. With a view of giving our readers reliable and early intelligence of the proceedings, we have been fortunate enough to engage the services of a special correspondent at Wellington, who has a thorough acquaintance with not only colonial matters, but also of subjects especially affecting the interests of the people of the Hawke's Bay district.

About twelve months ago we reprinted in the MERCURY a story from a West Coast paper regarding Judge Weston, and his interview with the Court Crier. The paragraph has since appeared in the home papers, and is now being reproduced in this Colony with a slight alteration, it now being made to refer to His Honor Mr Justice Johnston. This news travels. The Herald on Tuesday reprints it as from the N. Z. Herald.

Much dissatisfaction is from time to time expressed by common jurymen at the rate of the remuneration awarded to them for attendance at assizes and sessions, and there can be no doubt that they have a substantial grievance of which to complain. During a discussion raised at the Worcester-shire Quarter Sessions, Lord Justice Amphlett, who was present as a magistrate for that county, expressed (reports the Law Times) a decided opinion in favour of paying common jurors for loss of time in discharging their duties at assizes. He thought it a great hardship that while special jurors, who could better afford the expense and loss resulting from attendance at assizes, were paid, those who could less bear the loss were not paid. The matter is really one of importance to a large body of persons whose services are indispensable to the country. The class from which they are taken is, as the Lord Justice remarked, less able to bear the expense of attendance than that from which special jurors are selected. Not only do we agree with the suggestion that common jurors should be paid for their loss of time and expenses incurred, in attending at assizes, but we go further, and say that no distinction should be made in this respect between jurymen at assizes and jurymen at sessions. It might, too, be fairly asked whether any individual who is called upon to serve as a jurymen is not entitled to a fair remuneration, or any rate, to a payment of the expenses necessarily incurred by him in performing the duties to which he is summoned.

The Spectator remarks:—Whether the war can be localised will depend mainly upon the action of Great Britain. If we stay out of it, or act on the right side—that is, on the side of the claim of Greece to Constantinople—there is no reason why it should spread. If Russia is defeated, all will go on as before, till the misery of mankind in Turkey has again become unendurable. If Russia wins, the result must be what it might have been at first—the partition of European Turkey into smaller States, bound by some tie, however loose, to a federal head at Constantinople, be he a Slav, or a Greek, or an English Prince. Russia neither desires nor will be allowed to make annexations in Europe for herself; and apart from annexations, there is not, and has not been from the first, as Mr. Gladstone clearly showed, any other solution possible. If Europe likes to fight about those States, of course it can, but there will for half a century be no conceivable reason for so doing. At all events, there is no reason whatever, till Turkey is cleared to the Balkans, why any Power should even prepare for war.

The N.Z. Herald, which at first hailed the Native Lands Bill as a good measure, now says it has provided for the speculator, but has omitted to make any provision for the settler. Coming from the source it does, this is the strongest condemnation yet passed on the Bill.

The dangerous pastime of children using bows and arrows (says the Waikato Times) has found another victim in Miss Minnie Floyd, the daughter of Mr Floyd, a settler near Te Awamutu. Her little brother was playing with a bow and arrow when the latter accidentally struck one of the eyes of his sister a fine little girl of thirteen. The nail on the point of the arrow had fortunately been broken, or the consequences might have been fatal. As it was, the blunt point of the arrow entered the right angle of the eye, piercing through the white of the eyeball, and giving exit to the aqueous matter with which the eye is filled. Miss Floyd is perfectly blind of the injured eye, and Dr Waddington, who attended her, expresses very great doubt, we believe, whether the sight will ever be restored, although the pupil of the eye itself was not injured.

Some excitement has been occasioned in Sheffield by the discovery that the directors of several building societies had borrowed from the funds money for a company formed by themselves to establish some ironworks. They have borrowed £40,000 in this way, and the iron company is now in liquidation. The directors blame a deceased colleague named Booth, who, as one of the overseers, is found to have embezzled public money to the extent of £7,000. The defalcations in connection with the Sheffield Patriotic Building Societies prove to be more serious than was first supposed, and the amount is now set down at £95,000. Five societies are involved, one of them to the extent of £69,000. Several smaller clubs which had money on deposit at the larger ones will lose all. Another director has filed his petition with liabilities estimated at £70,000.

Snyder writes as follows on the shortest day:—"Yesterday, as stated in an Almanac was the shortest day in Gisborne. What it may be out of Gisborne I do not know, nor do I feel that it is necessary I should concern myself. Why should I and what for? On looking again at the first cover of the Almanac I find it was one for 1874. So that after all it may not have been the shortest day. There are so many changes in this world we should not be, as too many of us often are, so bumpingly presumptuous. After all the shortest day is only so from an astronomical reckoning. We have only a lot of astronomers words for it, and how do we know they are not interested in keeping us in the dark. They keep themselves in the dark enough and are probably envious. I should like to know whether yesterday was looked upon as the shortest day to the man who woke up with a red hot roaring toothache, and went to bed with his jaws rolled in hot flannels. Perhaps he thought it was the very longest day he had lived to get through. It was no doubt the shortest day with the man who had got to go out and hunt up money to meet a bill, while it would be felt as the longest day by the man who was waiting for the said bill to be paid. Can astronomers regulate these things? If they can why don't they do it? If they can't what's the use of 'em?"

When Dr. Heeter was at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia he exhibited a map which had some novel features, besides showing the boundaries of the Australian Continent, including West and South Australia, Queensland, New South Wales, and the adjacent islands; numbers are placed in the centre of plan of each indicating the area, the railroad and telegraph lines imports, exports, revenue, expenditure, export of gold, and number of population. This expedient gives at a glance the most interesting information that a visitor would demand. Brother Jonathan was not long before he made a discovery which he thought impossible and astonished him very much. He could not believe it, and after he discovered it was possible he would not. He had been in the habit, during the period of his natural life, and little beyond, of boasting that he possessed the largest territory in the world, and that nothing could beat the States in respect to climate, products, or extent of possession. This map proves beyond doubt, that, while the area of the States is 3,292,000 square miles, the area of the Australian Continent alone is 1,994,241,044 acres, or 3,299,000 square miles, not reckoning Tasmania and New Zealand. New Zealand is about 100,000 square miles, and Tasmania 27,000. Including the whole of the islands, the Australasian territory is shown to be in excess of the figures set down for the United States. So Brother Jonathan in this manner has been "whipped."

A book entitled "History of the Barmaid Industry," which is talked of as likely to be published by an enterprising firm next November, will be looked forward to with much interest. It seems there are upwards of 300,000 barmaids in Great Britain, and that their average earnings are upwards of 3s a week each more than are obtained by the members of any other profession, except that of "companion," to which women can belong. As it is now known, the barmaid industry has extended into Scotland, and very recently two of the employees of Messrs Spiers and Pond in Edinburgh have been married—the one to a Dumfriesshire landed proprietor, the other to the son of one of the most popular clergymen in the Scottish metropolis.

A return of traffic for the four weeks ending June 2, Napier-Waipukurau Railway, shows total receipts of £1677 2s 8d.

Says the Anglo-American Times, "The New York Herald has just outdone the man who beat his own shadow in a foot-race. On Saturday morning, the 24th of March, at 8 51:14 a.m., the Oxford and Cambridge Boat race ended in a tie. At 4:30 that same morning the stereotyped plates containing the result was placed on the New York Herald presses, just forty minutes' actual time after the gun which announced the finish had been fired. Thus the New Yorkers had the account that Saturday morning at their breakfast-table, while in London the evening papers were publishing the false account of the race, rowed under their noses, that Oxford had won. The Herald does brag; but it has earned the right."

Claude W. H. Hitchings, the son of Dr. Hitchings, who met with an accident on the reclamation works about three weeks ago, died on Tuesday from the effects of the injuries he received.

In the case of Lindsay v Newman, which was submitted to arbitration, we understand that the arbitrators awarded Mr. Lindsay £56. The cost of arbitration amounts to some £32. The question now arises, and to be decided is, who pays the costs, plaintiff or defendant, or are they to be equally borne by each party?

The Christian World informs us that Borwick's baking powder, of which 500,000 packets are sold weekly, requiring the constant employment of 250 men and women, is now adopted in the army, navy, and mercantile marine as an excellent substitute for yeast. The preparation has won three gold medals, besides the commendation of Dr. Hassall and the Queen's baker.

The Counties Act is driving all the small up-country, townships under the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Act. The flourishing settlement of Masterton is about to have a Mayor and Corporation. We hear that it is not improbable that Mr. G. M. Girdlestone, formerly of Napier, but now of the firm of Wyllie and Girdlestone, auctioneers and commission agents, will be the first Mayor of the newly constituted Borough.

The protracted trial of five men charged with obtaining nearly £13,000 from a French lady upon pretence of profitably employing it for her advantage in betting transactions, was concluded on April 23, by a verdict of guilty. The principal, Benson, was sentenced to 15 years' penal servitude, three others to 10 years of the like punishment, and the fifth to 18 months' imprisonment.

A much-esteemed Paris practitioner, Dr. Cintrat, has fallen a victim to duty. Attending a child for croup, he found an incision in the throat insufficient to save its life without sucking out the infected matter. In the evening he felt symptoms of quincy, devised an excuse for sending his wife and three children in the country to prevent infection, and procured the best medical aid, but died after five days' suffering.

It is hard for a man (says the New Zealand Times), to be called upon to pay another man's doctor's bill. Such a demand (or something nearly approaching it) was, however, made in the Resident Magistrate's Court yesterday, when a Mr. Frost sued Mr. F. Valentine for £10, the doctor's fee for attendance upon plaintiff's child. It appeared that Mr. Valentine possesses a mangle, with which a small member of the Frost family got playing whilst on a visit to Mr. Valentine's house. The little girl thought she would like to see how mangles worked. To this end she put her fingers between the rollers while the machine was in motion. Result—jam; but not the jam that little girls most prize. An infantine squeal of extra power brought Mr. Valentine, in a condition of shirt sleeves and excitement, to the spot, and he at once humanely carried off the diminutive investigator of his mangle to Dr. Munro. To that gentleman he said, "Attend to the wounded child, and I will see you paid." This, it seems, he conscientiously did. But Mr. Frost took the child away, first placing her in the hospital, and then taking her to another private practitioner, the cost (as alleged) of the treatment received by the child amounting to £10. The plaintiff stated that Mr. Valentine had promised that he would pay all expenses, even if they amounted to £50; but this, on the other side, was emphatically denied. The Court held that there was no reason in the demand made, and gave judgment for defendant, with costs.

The Auckland Star, in its sporting intelligence, thus records the doings of the Clerk of the House of Representatives:—"Half a dozen sporting dogs have arrived, and travellers are bristling with double-barrelled guns. Some very good sport is reported. Major Campbell, who arrived from Wellington per General Government steam yacht Hinemoa, with a splendid setter, has earned the reputation of a crack shot and a successful sportsman. He is said to have shot six brace of pheasants, several wild pigs, quail and ducks, and he is currently reported to have blown the tail off a kingfisher, which was sitting on a Mangrove stump at the distance of 90 yards. The kingfisher, on seeing the flash, with its notable quickness of sight had ducked down his head, its tail with corresponding quickness necessarily cocked up, and was in the identical spot occupied a moment before by its body, when the brilliant shot of the gallant Major left the kingfisher tail-less before the world."

We notice the Wairoa local journal complains of Napier newspapers not being sent by the overland mail. No doubt the Postal authorities will render an explanation. A Te Kapu subscriber writes to us complaining that he never receives this journal until three weeks old, and that "he receives it about as regularly, as his subscription remittances are forwarded to ourselves."

The Maori Chief, Henare Matua, warns European packmen against carrying goods to the native settlements for sale. His notification, in the Wananga, affords a curious commentary on the vaunted civilisation of the Maoris. Henare Matua says:—"If you persist to take goods to the Maori settlements after the publication of this my notice to you, and if you are outwitted by the Maori children, or if your goods are stolen, and if you make a charge against such children, they will not be in the wrong, but you will be wrong, because you have seen this notice, and afterwards you took your goods to the native settlements. Friend, European, cease to take your goods to the native settlements. Build a shop or store for yourself in some town to which the Maori and Europeans may go to purchase goods from you. My Maori friends, do not let such Europeans come to your settlements. Send them away, and let them go on the road with their goods. If you wish for goods go to the town and buy them, where you can buy goods at lower prices than you can obtain them from packmen, and where you can get the exact goods you are in want of."

A Kaikora correspondent writing under date, June 23rd, forwards us the following:—"Some doubt as to the safety of two gentlemen residents of Kaikora who went out duck shooting on Friday night existed here. It seems they had to cross a lake in a canoe, and before crossing they tied their horses to a post, and crossed to the other side. In the meantime the wind rose, and they, having only a small piece of board to answer for a paddle, were unable to row the canoe, and had to remain on the island all night—a rather unpleasant situation on such a night. They not returning on Saturday morning, their friends became uneasy about them, and went in search. Their horses were found tied as they had left them, but no signs of the missing persons. This caused their friends to think they were drowned, and such a report was circulating this evening when the train arrived at the Kaikora station at 7 p.m. A number of settlers later in the evening were thinking of forming a search party, when the news arrived that the missing persons, three in all, had arrived at home in safety, they explaining the cause of their delay, which was, that they were unable to get the canoe across the lake on account of the high wind."

In the House of Lords, on April 26, the Buri Bill came on for second reading. Earl Granville moved a resolution affirming the right of relatives of deceased persons to have any decent form of religious service they might prefer at funerals. Lord Salisbury opposed the amendment, which he said would only be regarded by the political dissenters as another step towards disestablishment. The Primate supported the bill, but thought the substance of the resolution might be embodied in a clause. The Bishop of Lincoln and Winchester spoke against the amendment, and the Bishop of Oxford against the bill. Ultimately, after a general reply from the Duke of Richmond, the second reading was carried by 141 to 102. [This Bill, it will be seen from our cablegrams, has been withdrawn by the Government.]

We regret to hear that an accident has happened to the s.s. Rangatira. We have not received full particulars, but we are informed that she is at present anchored at Castle Point, with her propeller unshipped. If she could clear the bight of Castle Point Bay, she could sail to Napier, but that would not be of much service, as the repairs to her propeller could not be effected here. In all probability the N.Z.S.S. Company will send the Manawatu to tow her down to Wellington, unless the Company charter the Kivi to take her down. The Rangatira was to have been laid up after the next trip for alterations and repairs to her engines.

By the Abolition Act, the Governor was empowered to appoint officers to perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Superintendents of the several provinces, in order to carry on the local government of the country until the new institutions came into force. These appointments were duly made, the holders of them being termed Chief Executive Officer for the provincial district to which they were appointed. By a recent proclamation all these appointments have been revoked, with the exception of that for the Auckland province.

The festival of St. John's was celebrated, on Tuesday, by the Freemasons of Napier by a ball that was held in the Odd Fellows' Hall. The Hall was tastefully decorated for the occasion, the stage being occupied by refreshment tables. About eighty couples were present. The orchestral arrangements were presided over by Bro. W. H. Flood in a masterly manner, and dancing was kept up with spirit till 4 a.m. The ball was, in every respect, a thorough success.

Wesleysan Service will be held at Hastings on Sunday evening, at 7 o'clock.

The St. John's Church "troubles" are not yet over. It appears that, through the non-observance of some Church ordinance, the Primate refuses to license the Rev. Mr. Johnston as Curate in charge of St. John's parish. The consequence is, we imagine, that Mr. Johnston can act in no other way here than as a lay-reader. The Revd. D'Arcy Irvine, we hear, has undertaken the Waipukurau duties of the Revd. Mr. Fraser, during his absence at Auckland, so that there is a chance of there being no regular Church of England services in Napier next Sunday. The parishioners, not without reason, think it is high time the Primate took steps to declare this Incumbency vacant.

The statement made in the Herald on Wednesday as to the unfortunate accident to Dr. Hitching's son is incorrect. The accident occurred on the swamp reclamation works, near the Town Hall Reserve. The unfortunate lad, as we stated before, fell between two tip-waggons belonging to the contractors, Messrs Anderson and Berry. The accident had no connection whatever with the railway line.

The clock presented by the late Sir Donald McLean to the town of Napier arrived by the Andrew Reid, and was landed the other day at the Spit. The clock is a handsome piece of mechanism, by one of the best makers of the day; it has a semi-transparent dial, so as to be illuminated, and when erected on a turret for which it has been manufactured, it will be one of the finest town clocks in the colony, besides being a great acquisition to the place.

E. H. Bold Esq., District Engineer for the Provincial District of Hawke's Bay, has been empowered to take and lay down roads over certain native lands that, in their specification, occupy nearly a column and a half of the New Zealand Gazette.

A special meeting of the Waipawa County Council was held yesterday to consider the Road Overseer's report on the County highways. The report showed that the cost of the maintenance of the principal roads would be £4250. On the motion of the Hon. H. E. Russell it was agreed to postpone the further consideration of the report until the opinion of a competent engineer could be obtained; and that in the meantime the Council should only undertake such repairs that might be found of pressing necessity. The Hon. H. E. Russell then moved that Mr. E. H. Bold be asked to make the report as indicated in the foregoing resolution, in order that a County rate might be struck as soon as possible; also that a communication be opened with the Hawke's Bay Council to ascertain whether the two Counties could not jointly secure the permanent services of Mr. Bold. This motion was also carried. After some observations from the Chairman, Mr. Mackersey, and from Mr. Russell, with respect to the advisability of passing by-laws prohibiting the planting of furze, or briars on lines of road, the importation of rabbits, &c., the Council adjourned till Tuesday next, July 3.

His Excellency the Governor has appointed Constables Shaw, Mitchell, and Graham, to be Registrars under the Dog Nuisance Act within the County of Hawke's Bay.

Mr. R. J. Duncan, (says the Masterton News) it appears, has decided upon withdrawing from the contest. In a telegraphic despatch received from him he says:—"Not having received the amount of support generally I was led to anticipate, I am reluctantly compelled to announce to you it is not my intention to contest the present election for Wairarapa." It is announced by telegram that Mr. Buckley has been requested by an influential body of electors residing chiefly in Wellington, to offer himself for election.

Mr. Vesey Stewart informs the Wellington Post that he proceeds home by the July mail steamer, to bring out another batch of immigrants for the Katikati special settlement. Satisfactory arrangements at length have been made with the Government, the only point still remaining at issue being the date at which the immigrants are to be settled on the land. Mr. Stewart stipulating for the 31st December, 1878, and the Government standing out for two months shorter time. Mr. Stewart reports the settlement as prosperous and progressing.

The Wairarapa News Letter, of the 16th instant, contains a paragraph which states that two men had been encamped in a miserable hut, in a small bush near Pauru, for the proceedings three weeks, and that as they could not get work, and had no money they were obliged to live on potatoes. The police made enquiries into the matter, and found that the men had been working for Mr. Oakes, on the forty-mile contract, and had gone to Masterton for a "snee" and spent all their money. They were stuck up near Pauru by the floods, but could have obtained employment if they liked.

At the adjourned meeting of the Licensing Bench on Thursday, the whole of the licenses held over at the last sitting were granted, with the exception of the Shakespeare Hotel owned by Mr. Edwards, the Bench not seeing fit to renew his license. The Inspector of Police having reported there was no necessity for stables at the Victoria Hotel, the Bench granted the license, without imposing on the owner the duty of building stables.

The case of abduction which was recently remanded from Christchurch to Dunedin was finally and, it is believed, satisfactorily disposed of by the Bench at the City Court on Saturday. The prisoner, says the Guardian, appeared in the dock under the name of Frederick Degrouchy, and was charged with having, on the 13th of April last, taken away a young unmarried girl, 15 years of age, named Mary Ann Bodier, against the consent of her mother, Mary Ann Billette. Inspector Mallard stated that since the prisoner had been brought from Christchurch he had consented to marry the girl, and he understood the other now desired to withdraw the charge. The Inspector also said that, from what he had ascertained from the girl, it appeared doubtful whether she had been taken away against her consent. The mother was placed in the witness-box, and, as she stated in reply to the Bench that she wished to withdraw the charge, the prisoner was acquitted. Both mother and daughter, who were dressed in black and tolerably well veiled, as if better prepared for a funeral than a wedding ceremony, disappeared from the Court apparently well pleased at the proclamation of the auspicious termination of love's trials; whilst Degrouchy, smiling complacently, disappeared through the prisoner's entrance.

Some little excitement was caused in Turakina last week by the eccentricities of an Italian named Gregory Grois. It seems that he was in a low desponding state of mind, and on Tuesday he went away with a gun, belonging to Mr. Gleeson, with whom he had been lately staying. He left behind him a note, worded in terms that gave rise to the suspicion that he intended to make away with himself. On Thursday, however he returned to his old quarters, and having had something to eat, said "the gun was no good," and then made off. Several parties started in pursuit, but he out-paced them. On Friday, a strong party went out to search for him, but without results, and it is generally supposed that he has made away with himself.

We (Post) learn by the San Francisco mail just arrived that the great book on New Zealand scenery on which Mr. C. D. Barraud of this City has been engaged for two or three years past, was just published when the mail left, and from the flattering encomiums passed on the specimen pages by the Press generally appeared to give every prospect of proving a brilliant success—financial as well as artistic. The book is dedicated, by special permission, to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and the New Zealand Government is a subscriber to the extent of fifty copies. The title of the work is "New Zealand, Graphic and Descriptive," and it consists mainly of illustrations of New Zealand scenery from the accomplished pencil of Mr. Barraud, with letterpress descriptions by Mr. W. T. L. Travers, F.L.S. The copies for New Zealand subscribers are expected to reach this colony in about two months time. Mr. Barraud who went home about two years ago to superintend personally the production of his book, returns to Wellington with his family by the ship Zealandia which sails from London during the present month.

The Otago Guardian is fearfully and wonderfully exercised over the manner in which the telegraph officials at Dunedin render the Press cable messages. The Guardian says:—"At 4.45 yesterday morning we received the following cable message:—"Bombay 18 1 30 Machiagon asking Senate to assent dissolve because got unable to exist with present Chamber without submitting radical paying letters way power referred committee message Singapore 18th 10 38 Turks cross Kodor and defeated Oosacks Mukhta strongly entrenched Zewinright Wing confronts Russian left wing flashgerdunks entrenched Zewin right Wings confronts Russian left wing Alaschgerdunks Olti advancing penuk. 1223 Turkish right wing in Asia taken offensive position repeated Russian attacks on Kars repulsed." This, by the New Zealand Telegraph Department, is termed a cable message, for which cable rates are charged, and to transmit which through the Colony some 30 operators are roused from their beds. Possibly with practice the operators will be able to make out what they mean themselves. When they do, newspaper sub-editors will be able to hush something that may possibly seem to mean something, even if it really does not. We confess to being quite "knocked over" by the left wing of "Alaschgerdunks," and that the fact that "Olti is advancing penuk 1223 Turks" has convinced us that where ignorance is bliss it were folly to be wise, or otherwise. We await with some degree of excitement to discover, in another message, how the 10-38ths of the Turks that cross Kodor are getting on among the wings of the Russians in "flashgerdunks."

It is stated by the Masterton News that the Waiohine, in the neighbourhood of Greytown, has, despite the efforts made for its diversion and concentration, spread itself over a considerable extent of contiguous country, transforming the neighborhood into a perfect network of torrents and rivulets.

Mr. D. O'Brien has purchased the property in Canterbury formerly occupied by Mr. Richardson as a training establishment. It is in a very convenient position, being situated immediately at the gate to the C.J.C. raccourse.

Referring to the late Waimate libel case the Oamaru Mail says:—"Though the editor of the Waitangi Tribune has happily escaped from the grasp of the law, it appears he had a slight taste of the unpleasant consequences of the libellous writing against Mr. Reed. At the conclusion of the trial at Timaru on Wednesday last, the amount of his fine was not forthcoming, Mr. Cumming was taken in company with Mr. Sherrin to the goal by the police, where, having been in Court all day without food, he requested something to eat. A piece of meat and a junk of bread were given him on a tin plate, and, on asking for a knife to sever a piece for mastication, he was informed that knives were not allowed the prisoners in Timaru goal. The difficulty, however, was got over by Sherrin lending him his pocket-knife. For the first time the journalist appeared to realise his position, and was settling down to his dry bread and meat, steadily, but with an aspect of deep dejection and sorrow on his face, when he was informed that a messenger had arrived from Mr. Moss Jones, agent and auctioneer, with an advance of a hundred pounds to pay the fine. Although Mr. Cumming's experience has been much short of his brother offender (Sherrin), whose total incarceration from his committal amounts to almost six months, his taste of prison fare and its accompaniments will remain among the unpleasant memories of his life."

The great sea serpent comes to the front periodically, but his latest appearance will be his last if we may believe the wonderful story of capture and death recorded by the correspondent of the Glasgow news. On the question of the truth of the narrative, the Post says:—"The story is one of the most astounding, graphic, and exciting things which has ever been our lot to peruse. What on earth was the Press Agency about that they did not receive a cablegram about an event so interesting and momentous as the capture of the great sea serpent? but some of our readers will exclaim, is the story true? All we can reply is, that we cut it out of the New York Herald of the 13th May, which paper alleges that it has been taken from the Glasgow Evening News of the 28th April. Nevertheless, our readers need not believe the story unless they like. For our own part, we should like to make the acquaintance of that Oban correspondent of the Glasgow paper. Baron Munchausen and Count Ferdinand Mendez Von Pinto couldn't hold a candle to him for daring and originality of invention. In fact, that Oban man has succeeded in concocting a circumstantial story, which, for length, breadth, depth, and general massiveness, is the most stupendous lie on record."

The Bendigo Advertiser of June 6th, mentions a curious story:—"On Saturday last, at the new rush at Fletcher's Creek, Marong, two elderly miners had a high dispute respecting a claim, one of them having jumped it on the other. In the course of the wordy warfare which ensued, one of the old pioneers was struck by something in the tone of the voice of his opponent, and suddenly asked him his name. When the reply was given, the two miners discovered that they were brothers, having left home some twenty-five years ago, and had never seen each other. Both had come to Australia by different vessels, young, in the flush of health and hope, and for many long weary years had striven hard for wealth, which they never gained. Disgusted, melancholy, and disappointed, they had ceased to correspond with their families and one another, and each had learned to enjoy his own companionship better than that of any one else. The two brothers are working the disputed claim together."

A correspondent of the Otago Guardian describes a shocking accident which happened on the night shift at Messrs. Hales and Hinde's claim, Blue Spur. Two men named Taylor and Merton, who were working one of the underground tunnels, had put in two shots in the ordinary manner, and left the drive for the purpose of allowing them to explode. After the lapse of a few seconds they heard, as they thought, both explode, and when the smoke had partially cleared away they returned to their work. One of the charges had however only partly exploded, and they then proceeded to drill it out. They had not long been employed at this when an explosion took place, Taylor receiving a large portion of the debris full in the face, while Merton was blown against the side of the tunnel. Taylor it is supposed has lost the sight of one eye completely, and will probably lose that of the other, besides being terribly disfigured. Merton's injuries are not so severe, consisting of bruises and abrasions.

An attempt is being made to induce that famous preacher, Mr. Spurgeon, to visit the colonies. At a social gathering in Albermarle street Baptist Chapel, Melbourne, held recently, Dr. Cairns said that Mr. Spurgeon frequently found it necessary to seek relaxation from his arduous duties by passing a few weeks in France or Italy, and he suggested that he should be asked to come to the colonies instead of going to those places. Mr. Spurgeon might leave England by the May steamer, and stay in the colonies till October, and his expenses would be guaranteed, an understanding being given him that the trip would be one of relaxation, and not a series of constant work. The proposal was warmly supported, and it was decided to lay it before Mr. Spurgeon.

The Government, remarks the News Letter, seems to be in earnest about surveying the Forty-Mile Bush. We learn that Messrs Dundas, F. Knowles, and one or two others have received orders to proceed to the district. This looks like business, and it is to be hoped that settlement will follow their labors.

In these days of dear bread the bakers might, (says the Dunedin Star) with advantage to the public, solve the problem by following the example of the Castlemaine tradesmen, who decided not to raise the price but to reduce "the baker's dozen" to the storekeepers from fourteen to thirteen loaves.

A man named John Poland, residing in Manchester's Row, Waimate, gave a big yawn and dislocated his jaw. The man immediately went to Dr. Webb, was put under chloroform, and his jaw was set right. The Chronicle hopes that he will not be troubled with such a painful yawn again.

The Bishop of Ballarat has by no means an exalted opinion of the morals of Victoria. Of a clergyman's arrival in Melbourne his Lordship says:—"Judging from the extracts you have been good enough to enclose, Mr. Jones must be a man of no common power. I trust he may be enabled of God to do good service amongst us, in helping to lift Victorian life out of the falseness and frivolity into which it seems by some means to have sunk. Such men—and many more of them—seem sorely needed in our colony."

It is impossible (says the North Otago Times) to take up the Dunedin papers from day to day without being struck with the extent to which what is called "Free Thought" is carried on, but it is in reality anti-Christian teaching, and is followed after in the metropolis of the South. We believe it to be true that nowhere else in New Zealand can so good a living be earned by attacks on Christianity as in Dunedin. There must be a compact little body of men there who encourage this sort of thing, and set as fuglemen to the apostles of spiritualism, or any atheist that seems sufficiently inimical to the current beliefs of the Christian churches.

The Licensed Victuallers of Wanganui and surrounding districts are forming a company to purchase the Wanganui brewery, the present owners having agreed to accept a valuation.

A young surveyor was recently "stuck up" in Wanganui, the object being to rob him. The would-be robber "caught tartar." The surveyor showed fight, thrashed his assailant, and forced him into ignominious flight.

The business of the Resident Magistrate's Court in Wellington city (remarks a contemporary) is enormously on the increase. Up to the present time about 1200 civil summonses, have been issued. The summonses issued in criminal cases have been nearly equal to those of the civil. In both cases the numbers for the five months of this year have been excess of the whole of last year. The judgment summonses for this year far exceed the number issued for the previous 12 months. Truly the Wellington people are fond of litigation.

The London correspondent of a contemporary writes:—"It has been more than hinted that Mr. Creswick, the popular tragedian, has definitively arranged for a professional tour through New Zealand and the Australian Colonies. A complimentary benefit is to be given to this esteemed actor at the Gaiety Theatre, and a dinner at Willis' Rooms will, in another form, show respectful regard to an earnest representative of the dramatic art. This will be the first visit, I believe, of Mr. Creswick to the Antipodes, and he and his son, Mr. Charles Creswick, who accompanies him, will doubtless receive a hospitable greeting at the hands of the Colonists, and his admirers will certainly give him a hearty welcome on his return."

The Otago Guardian's Christchurch correspondent observes:—"Two of our M.H.R.'s have come to grief. Mr. Murray-Aynley seems to have lost the confidence of all at events a great part of his constituents, and Mr. Richardson was equally unable to obtain a vote of confidence. The railway ruction had a good deal to do with the downfall of the latter."

We are requested to state that the Church of England services will be conducted as usual at St. John's Church, next Sunday. The Rev. Mr. Johnstone will be asked by the vestry to officiate, which, as a clergyman, and as one licensed under the Marriages Act, he is entitled to do.

In the Resident Magistrate's Court on Thursday, Thomas Miller, charged with drunkenness not making his appearance, and being out on bail, his bail money was ordered to be forfeited. An assault case, in which a female figures as plaintiff, was adjourned until to-morrow morning.

A correspondent, who was present at the recent Masonic Ball, and who signs his letter "Quadrille," calls attention to the "wretched accommodation" provided by the Oddfellows' Hall for a public ball. "Quadrille" says, "the Hall is quite inadequate to meet the wants of the public either as a theatre or as a ball room. The Hall is little better than a common barn, and the sooner a respectable theatre, with a convertible floor, is erected the better."

Madame Arabella Goddard was playing in Paris, when the last mail left. The London correspondent of the Times says, she has with her earnings in the colonies purchased a large property in France.

In Goldborough's Monthly Circular for this month, it is stated that in the large wool-producing districts of Murrumbidgee, and Murray, the clips will be materially reduced next season, owing to the heavy losses of sheep, sustained during the drought. The results of the lambing this season are also said to be deplorable.

The half-yearly meeting of St. John's Branch, No. 93, H.A.C.B.S., was held at the usual time and place on Wednesday. The balance-sheet, which was read and adopted, showed that the Branch was making steady progress, there being a large amount to its credit at the Bank, and also that the Branch had been free from illness for the last twelve months. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, J. N. Bowerman; Vice-President, J. Mahoney; Secretary, J. M. St. Clair; Treasurer, F. Malcom; Warden, T. Reidy; Guardian, G. J. Sellars; Medical Attendant, Dr. De Lisle; Sick Visitors, G. Timblin and T. M. Murphy. A cordial vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Dr. Spencer, the retiring surgeon, for the efficient and obliging manner in which he had performed his duties during the last three years. Sundry accounts were ordered to be paid, and the Branch then adjourned.

The lecture given by Mr. Rees on Wednesday in the Athenaeum was well attended. Mr. M. R. Miller, who occupied the chair, introduced Mr. Rees to the audience. Mr. Rees then lectured on Macaulay and Gladstone, and his remarks were listened to with interest.

The Christchurch Press of the 16th inst. records the following miraculous escape:—A seaman aboard the brigantine Circe, while assisting to step a new mainmast yesterday, had occasion to go on the sheer-legs, when one gave way above the lashing, and he fell a distance of over fifty feet. Wonderful to relate, instead of being killed, he came on a line which was stretched through stanchions above the bulwark, and though he carried away a bolt and split the rail the rebound saved him, and he escaped with a severe shaking.

At the usual summoned half-yearly meeting of the Loyal Napier Lodge, M. U., held on Wednesday, the following officers were elected for the next half-year:—E. Cooper, Noble Grand; N. Jacobs, Vice-Grand; J. B. Fielder, Elective Secretary; J. Ingleton, Lecture Master, and F. Bee, Permanent Secretary.

Judge Johnston, in the course of his recent charge at Timaru, said:—"It was a notorious thing that prosperity brought crime with it as well as comfort. The sorts of crime more particularly rife here were often encouraged by sudden affluence. Industrious men, who have been working in the country and earned a considerable amount of money, would come into town and spend it recklessly; or else fall into the hands of unscrupulous persons, who would clear them out of it all. This not only demoralised the man himself, but tended to create crime in others. Therefore it was especially desirable that statesmen and philanthropists should use their utmost endeavors to discover some means of checking this kind of evil. He was not in a position to know anything about the banks in the district; but he thought, perhaps, that if instead of paying men all their wages in cash, part of it could be paid by giving them interest in savings banks or some such institutions, it would go a long way towards preventing them being spent recklessly. If there was any value in such a suggestion he hoped public opinion would take it up."

An interesting discovery (says the Nelson Mail of Wednesday last) was made yesterday morning in the following manner:—A few days ago Mr. Henry Clouston carted up a little gravel from the Maitai for the purpose of improving his premises, and, yesterday, some of the children amused themselves breaking the quartz stones that were plentifully scattered through it. The result of their geological investigations was the discovery of gold plainly perceptible throughout one piece of stone without the aid of microscope. The fragments were forwarded to this office where they can be seen by any person who may desire to inspect them. If the specimen the children found really came out of the Maitai—and there is not the slightest reason to doubt that it did so—the fact points conclusively to the existence of gold-bearing reefs or leaders somewhere in the watershed of the river. It has long been known that alluvial gold can be found on the banks of this stream, and considering the impetus that the discovery of a gold-field gives to every branch of trade, it would surely be advisable for the people of Nelson to furnish forth a small party of experienced miners to prospect the head of the river and the surrounding country.

Lately it was mentioned that machinery had been fitted up to enable the Harley-street fire-bell, in Nelson city, to be rung by water-power. The machinery has now been tested and found to work most satisfactorily. It will no longer be necessary to ascend the steep and lofty ladder to ring the bell. All that is now required is to ascend some 6ft on to a platform, when the turning of a tap will set the machinery in motion.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

WAR NEWS.

SPECIAL FROM THE AGENT-GENERAL.

[PRESS AGENCY.]

WELLINGTON, June 27.

The Government has received the following telegram:—

LONDON, June 25, 4.45.

The Russians have crossed the Danube at Galatz, and hold Matchin, with a slight loss. They were well received by the Christian inhabitants.

Kars holds out. The Russians were repulsed in the last attack with great loss.

The Emperor Alexander is with the troops at Ploesti.

The Montenegrins are still resisting, although defeated, after killing 7000 Turks.

Prince Gortschakoff assures Earl Derby the Suez Canal is to be respected as international.

Constantinople is not to be occupied by Russia or any other European Power. If conquered, it is to be a free city. The future occupation by any European Power to be subsequently arranged.

CABLEGRAM.

[REUTER'S SPECIAL TO PRESS AGENCY.]

SINGAPORE.

June 25.

The Russians have occupied Matchin. The passage over the Danube still continues.

Tultcha has been evacuated. The Turks have retreated in good order to Persora.

The British Ministry, relying on the assurance of Russia, do not contemplate protecting the Suez Canal.

There has been severe fighting at Delibati. The Russians fell back on Zeadakim.

An amendment moved in the French Senate asked for a dissolution in three months.

June 27, 1.57 p.m.

It is reported that Sir William Jervois replaces Mr. Cairns as Governor of South Australia.

LONDON.

June 25.

The bombardment of the northern forts at Kars continues. A sortie was repulsed.

The Kurds have invested Bayazid. It is believed that it is the intention of the Turks to abandon the Dobruzscha, and to make a firm stand at Trojan's Wall.

The Porte dissents from England's view regarding the propriety of not neutralising the Canal, while refusing the belligerent powers permission to erect necessary works for protection against an enemy.

INTERPROVINCIAL.

WAIROA.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

June 27.

There is a heavy southerly gale blowing, and a heavy sea on. The entrance is, however, still good.

June 28.

There is a heavy sea on the bar. It will probably subside to-morrow. The wind is N.N.W.

AUCKLAND.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

June 28.

The criminal calendar is unusually light. The only serious case is one of rape by three men on a woman over seventy years old; two cases of horse stealing; one of breaking and entering; and one inflicting grievous bodily harm, make up the list.

DUNEDIN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

June 28.

Mrs. Burns has resigned the lady principality of the Girls' High School.

At Tapanuia, a Chinaman, after making three attempts, which were frustrated by his mates, eluded their vigilance and hanged himself to a rafter in his hut.

Mr. Macandrew invited the Education Board to express an opinion re the introduction of the Penny Savings' Bank into schools. Mr. Gillies opposed compelling masters to undertake it. Professor Shand considered teachers had enough to do already. The subject then dropped. The state of the Municipal Roll for

the city creates consternation. Instead of over 3500 voters, as before, there are only 1800.

WELLINGTON.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

June 28.

An accident occurred on the Hutt railway yesterday afternoon, causing serious and it is feared fatal injury to a fireman named Robert McLachlan. The mid-day train from the Hutt due at Wellington left the Lower Hutt station at the proper time, drawn by a large double Fairlie engine, which was driven and fired on each side. The engine was running at the usual speed of about 15 miles an hour. About or before leaving Ngahauranga, McLachlan was seen to stoop to put coal in the furnace, and immediately afterwards something was heard to fall off the engine. It was supposed to be a lump of coal, and no notice was at first taken, but almost immediately afterwards the driver, having occasion to call over to McLachlan, found that he was missed. The train was brought to a stand-still within 300 yards from the place where the fall was heard. Nothing was seen of McLachlan, and the train was backed until at length he was caught sight of lying on his back among some weeds and thistles by the side of the line. He was brought on to town and conveyed to the hospital. On examination he was found suffering from a severe concussion of the brain. Blood oozes from the ears, and the case is altogether a bad one. McLachlan is about 40 years of age, unmarried, and a very steady man. He has been in the railway service about eighteen months. The only way the accident can be accounted for is on the supposition that when stooping for coals he was seized with giddiness, and fell backwards from the engine. No blame is attached to anyone.

The police received information yesterday from Porirua that a man named Joseph Bartlett had been found dead in bed that morning, with his throat cut from ear to ear. The deceased is stated to have been a very steady man, unmarried, and from the fact of having £8 in his pocket when found, the act was not committed through want. There is also a sum of money to his credit in the bank. His father is said to reside in Foxton.

A telegram was received in town from Castle Point, from Capt. Evans, of the Rangitira, yesterday, to the effect that the propeller got unshipped on the passage down from Napier. She is now sailing down. The Stormbird was sent out last evening to meet her and tow her into harbor.

The Right Rev. Bishop Redwood returned to Wellington yesterday from Christchurch by the Arawata.

The following characteristic letter was received at a meeting of the Education Board yesterday from Mr. Andrew announcing his resignation as Chairman of the Education Board:—"Dear Sir,—I write to resign the seat which I have so long held on the Wellington Education Board. I have delayed doing so so long as there was any prospect of my being able shortly to resume an active share in its duties. I take this step with regret, for though the Ordinance that constitutes the Board was, I hold, born in iniquity, yet like other beings with a similar taint, it has done, and will, I trust, continue to do a great deal of practical good.—I am, yours faithfully, J. C. ANDREW."

A conference of clergy of various denominations in the city was held yesterday afternoon to discuss the present licensing laws, and consider what action should be taken therein. Bishop Hadfield presided. The proceedings were strictly private.

[PRESS AGENCY.]

DUNEDIN.

June 27.

The Harbor Board yesterday morning resolved not to adopt the recommendations of the Government to place the docks on the site originally fixed upon, and agreed to the plan submitted by Mr. Walter.

WELLINGTON.

June 26.

It is proposed to relieve Mr. Passmore from his duties as Superintending Engineer of Constructed Railways in the North Island, Mr. Higginson combining this with the appointment now held by Mr. Knorrp, who takes Mr. Higginson's present duties in the Middle Island. Mr. Conyers retains his appointment, but his head-quarters will be Christchurch, until, probably, the railway is completed to Dunedin.

The Government steamer Stella returned from the Chathams to-day. She left on Saturday, at 4 p.m. She brings the Resident Magistrate, Mr. Deighton, and others, as witnesses in a case of perjury against the mates and apprentice of the Ocean Mail. The Stella did not visit the scene of the wreck. There is no chance of saving any more cargo, the wreck having almost entirely disappeared. About £600 worth of tallow, dry wool, and sails were recovered. The schooner Island Lilly, with a cargo of wool and tallow, sails from the Chathams for Lyttelton in about a week. The schooner Cleopatra took timber to the Chathams for sheds, for drying and storing wool on the beach, but for some unknown reason she left for Lyttelton without discharging the timber.

June 27.

In the Supreme Court to-day, in the case of the Clive Highway District Board, *ex parte* Lascelles, in which certain persons were called upon to show cause why they should retain their seats as members of the district board referred to, Mr. Edwards, who appeared for the members of the board, raised a preliminary objection that an error had been made in one of the affidavits, and the Court held that the objection was good. Mr. Lascelles was ordered to pay costs, and the proceedings will have to be commenced *de novo*.

TIMARU.

June 27.

The Hon. E. W. Stafford has written to say that he will meet his constituents next week. He has been invited to attend festivities on the 10th of July, connected with the opening of the new Town Hall. There is to be a public ball and banquet. The new Railway Tariff creates dissatisfaction.

CHRISTCHURCH.

June 28.

The rumor of the stabbing case at the Lunatic Asylum is confirmed, and has caused a great sensation here. The particulars was as follows:—After having dinner yesterday, Frederick White, one of the principal warders, proceeded to the kitchen. Mark Price, an inmate, soon after came in, and asked White for his keys. White said he had given them to another warder. Price immediately picked up a carving knife lying on the table, and stabbed White just below the heart. The force of the blow was so great that the knife blade entered White's body its full length. White died in about twenty minutes afterwards. Price, who has been inmate of the Asylum 14 years, was considered perfectly harmless, and allowed complete liberty both in and about the Asylum. White has been warder several years, and highly respected by all who knew him. It is not known what Price's object was in asking for White's keys. There had been a quarrel between the two men previously. Another warder was in the kitchen when the sad event occurred, but he had no opportunity of preventing it.

The reported accident on the railway arose as follows:—Yesterday morning Mr. and Mrs. Berry, elderly people, were driving near the railway crossing at Templeton. The train came up, frightened the horse, which bolted, upset the trap, and its occupants were thrown violently out. Mr. Berry fell on his head and broke his neck, and Mrs. Berry sustained a severe fracture on the right arm. A somewhat singular fact is that Berry's daughter is married to a son of White, who was stabbed in the Lunatic Asylum yesterday, so that each loses a parent on the same day, and very nearly about the same time.

The Board of Education has resolved to recommend the various School Committees to establish a system of Penny Savings' Banks in their schools.

A man named John Fraser was found dead on the floor of his bedroom yesterday morning. He is supposed to have died in a fit.

A correspondent of the Boston Museum once spoke thus of Mr. Wright, the editor of the Chronotype:—"He has been known to write with a pen in each hand on two different subjects, rock the cradle with his feet, and whistle 'Hail Columbia' for the twin babies, while intently perusing one of Parker's sermons all at the same time."

"I had to stand up all the way home in the street cars," said a Chicago wife to her husband, as she came into the house the other day. "You did?" said he, "well, that's a shame." "Oh, I didn't care—I enjoyed it," declared she, as she pulled out a glove? "ever since you gave these handsome bracelets I like to stand up and hang to a strap, the gold filagree work shows off so beautifully."

Shipping Intelligence.

PORT AHURIRI.

ARRIVALS.

June.

- 21—Orpheus, schooner, from Mercury Bay. Passengers—Mr Dunn and family.
- 21—Stella, C.G.S.S., from Wellington via Portland Island. Passenger—Mr Wilson.
- 22—Rotorua, s.s., from Sydney via Auckland. Passengers—Misses Hindmarsh (3), Messrs Johnson, H. A. Duff, Gribble, Crawford, Walker, Beaver, Master Hindmarsh, and 24 for southern ports.
- 22—Columbia, schooner, from Kennedy's Bay.
- 23—Jessie, schooner, from Whangaroa.
- 23—Result, s.s., from Wairoa.
- 23—Mania, p.s., from Wairoa. Passengers—Mesdames Gosnell, Finlayson, Henderson and child, Messrs Price and Denoir.
- 24—Silver Cloud, three-masted schooner, from Newcastle, N.S.W.
- 24—Maud Graham, schooner, from Lyttelton.
- 24—Rangatira, s.s., from Gisborne. Passengers—Miss Bourke, Messrs Skelly, Cameron, Blackadder, Hill, and Common.
- 27—Kiwi, from Wellington via Castle Point.

DEPARTURE.

June.

- 21—Wanaka, s.s., for Gisborne, Tauranga, and Auckland. Passengers—Mesdames Hill, Taylor, Watkins, and Johnston, Messrs Severn (2), Davey, Hall, Price, Randall, Johnston, Skelly, Zelman, Sisson, Silver, McKay, Common, Davis, Hughes, Williams, J. N. Wilson, Col. Whitmore, Col. Herrick, and Professor Taylor.
- 22—Mania, p.s., for Wairoa. Passengers—Mrs Richards, Messrs Goring, Fraser, McMurray, Kent, Beauchamp, and 6 natives.
- 22—Result, s.s., for Wairoa. Passengers—One European, and four natives.
- 22—Rotorua, s.s., for Wellington. Passengers—Rev. Mr and Mrs Townsend, Judge Richmond, Messrs Cable, Smith, Burton, Gully, Franklin, Fraser, Thomas, Thompson, Webb, Lorrigan, Capt. Kennedy, and 24 original.
- 22—Rangatira, s.s., for Poverty Bay. Passengers—Mrs Luke, and Mr Henley.
- 22—Stella, C.G.S.S., for Chatham Islands. Passengers—Messrs Wilson and Shepherd.
- 23—Mary Ann Hudson, ketch, for Mohaka.
- 25—Rangatira, s.s., for Wellington. Passengers—Mrs Smith, and family (3), Mrs Keith, Miss Jackson, Messrs Pollock, Beaver, Beck, and Donnelly.
- 26—Orpheus, schooner, for Mercury Bay.
- 27—Albatross, schooner, for Whangapoua.

The s.s. Rotorua arrived in the Bay at daylight on Friday. We are indebted to Mr Pringle, the purser, for the following report:—Cleared Sydney Heads at 3 p.m. on the 14th instant; arrived at Auckland at 10.30 a.m. on the 19th, making the passage in the unprecedented time of 4 days 17 hours; left Auckland again on the 20th, at 5 p.m., and anchored in Hawke's Bay at 6.30 a.m. to-day. Had strong westerly gale and high sea throughout the passage from Sydney; light winds and fine weather down the coast. The Rotorua discharged about 50 tons cargo, and left about noon, taking away a good number of passengers.

The Result and Mania both left for Wairoa about three o'clock on Friday, a favorable report having been received of the state of the bar.

The s.s. Wanaka left about midnight on Thursday, having discharged about 150 tons of general cargo.

The C.G.S.S. Stella, Capt. Bendall, arrived in the Bay about 7.30 p.m. on Thursday. She is from Portland Island, where she discharged about 40 tons of Lighthouse material. Capt. Bendall reports seeing two schooners outside Portland Island, supposed to be the Columbia and Albatross. Mr Wilson, Inspector of Lighthouses, is a passenger.

The schooner Orpheus is from Mercury Bay with a cargo of sawn timber.

The steamer Wellington had a narrow escape from being wrecked last Sunday on the Manukau bar. The pilot had signalled for the vessel to take the bar at ebb tide. When the vessel was over the bar, a sea struck her and did considerable damage—carrying away a boat and smashing two others, stoving in the stern-ports, and filling the saloon. Capt. Lloyd, who at the time was alongside one of the boats, had a narrow escape from being carried overboard, and was only saved through the exertions of a seaman named Andrews, who drew him away from his perilous position. Capt. Lloyd displayed great coolness, and managed to get the Wellington out to sea again, where she rode out a gale for three days. The vessel is said to have behaved admirably.

The C.G.S.S. Stella, Captain Bendall, was ordered to the Chatham Islands on Friday. Mr. Wilson, the Inspector of Lighthouses, was a passenger by her. She will return to Wellington.

The schooner Columbia arrived on Friday

from Kennedy's Bay, with a cargo of timber, on discharge of which she will proceed to Lyttelton, for a cargo of grain and other produce.

The two Wairoa steamers, the Result and Mania, returned from Wairoa on Saturday last. Both encountered a strong southerly wind, which gradually decreased as they approached the Spit. They were both laden with produce, chiefly maize.

The three-masted schooner Silver Cloud, Capt. Ba'le, has just made an excellent run from Newcastle of eight days and a-half. She brings 446 tons of coal consigned to Mr Vautier, who is to be congratulated on having such a smart vessel. Unfortunately for the owner, she will have to be considerably lightened before she can come to the breastwork.

The schooner Maud Graham has had a good run of three days from Lyttelton. She is laden with produce chiefly. Messrs Watt Brothers are her agents.

The s.s. Rangatira returned from Poverty Bay on Sunday late in the day, having encountered a strong southerly gale outside Portland Island, which compelled Capt. Evans to take shelter. The passengers were landed in the Bella.

The s.s. Rangatira remained at the Western anchorage till 8 p.m. on Monday, and then left for Wellington.

The s.s. Jane Douglas, Capt. Fraser, has been chartered to run a quantity of fat cattle and sheep between Poverty Bay and Auckland. She will not return to Napier for some weeks.

The Andrew Reid has about 150 more tons of cargo to discharge, on completion of which she will go to Batavia to load for London.

The s.s. Kiwi has on this trip been in charge of Mr Decker, her chief officer, Capt. Campbell having been obliged to remain in Napier to attend as a witness in a late civil case tried at the last sessions. Mr Decker informs us he has had a very rough passage from Wellington. Remained at Castle Point about five hours, and arrived at the anchorage here at half-past one on Wednesday.

The Post of Saturday, says:—"The s.s. Rangatira will make only one more regular trip to Napier, on her return from which she will be laid up for about two months, to receive the new compound engines which for some time past have been in course of construction for her at Mr E. W. Mill's Lion Foundry. The new engines will be of 65-horse power nominal, and are expected to drive her very fast, her present engines being only of 50 horse power. She also will be fitted with a much larger screw than her present one. While she is laid up, the Stormbird will take her place in the East Coast trade."

We (Wellington Post) are glad to find that the N.Z.S.S. Co. lately has been only resting on its oars, and that it intends once more to come boldly to the fore in the steam coasting trade of Wellington. As a first step the directors have purchased the favorite steamer Stormbird from Messrs W. and G. Turnbull and Co., who take part payment in the company's shares, and become otherwise largely interested in the concern. The N.Z.S.S. Co. intend at once to increase their capital, and to take vigorous steps to develop the Wellington coastal trade by extending and improving their fleet. We understand that the Stormbird will undergo considerable alterations shortly, to render her still more suitable for the rapidly increasing trade between Wellington and Wanganui, while, for the present, the p.s. Manawatu will run alternately to the latter port and Foxton. We rejoice to see the old company, which has always been such a credit and benefit to this city and port, once more going ahead with the times.

The s.s. Wanska left Auckland for Gisborne and Napier on Wednesday, at four o'clock with the following passengers:—Messrs Kennedy, Bradley, Rogan, Wilson, Brebner, Hosenberg, Smith, Hennessy, Nicholson, Mesdames George, Butterworth, Ambrose, Welsman and family, O'Beirne, Mr and Mrs Mann.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

MAILS CLOSE

For Fiji, Sandwich Islands, West Indies, America, United Kingdom, Continent of Europe, &c., via San Francisco, on Saturday, the 30th instant, at 9 p.m., per Rotorua.

Money orders and registered letters will close at 5 p.m. Newspapers and book packets at 8 p.m. on Saturday the 30th instant.

For the undermentioned places every Monday, and Thursday, at 5.30 a.m.—Clive, Hastings, Havelock, Te Aute, Kaikora, Waipawa, Waipukurau, Danevirke, Norsewood, Tahorarie, Woodville, Foxton, Palmerston, Wanganui, Taranaki, Wellington and Southern Provinces, &c., Wellingford, Porangahau, Wanui, and Castle Point.

On the other days of the week, mails close as usual, at 6.30 a.m.

J. GRUBB,
Chief Postmaster.

Referring to the Native Lands Bill the Wairarapa News Letter says:—"The Bill should be thrown out without any attempt at amending it, for its principles are bad from beginning to end."

RE-OPENING

OF

HAWKE'S BAY HOUSE,

OPPOSITE POST OFFICE,

LATE CAMPBELL & CO.

E. PRICE & CO.

Beg to announce that they have

BOUGHT THE OLD ESTABLISHMENT

AND

VALUABLE BUSINESS

OF

CAMPBELL & CO.

AT A

GREAT DISCOUNT

FROM THE ORIGINAL COST PRICE.

They are now engaged

REMARKING THE WHOLE OF THE STOCK,

WHICH WILL BE OFFERED ON

SATURDAY, THE 30TH JUNE,

And for the following six weeks only,

AT COST PRICE.

In many cases HALF COST, to effect a Speedy Clearance, and make room for the Spring Shipment of New and Fashionable Goods ordered by the late Firm, to arrive at the end of August, also bought at a Discount by

E. PRICE & CO.

Hours of Business during the Sale:—
From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday excepted.

One Price only will be the rule of this Establishment.

Country orders specially attended to at Sale Prices.

Terms for the Sale will be Cash, or Cash on completion of Sale, and a Discount will be allowed on all purchases of £10 and upwards.

Government Notifications.



REGISTRARS UNDER "DOG NUISANCE ACT, 1871," APPOINTED.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Wellington, 16th June, 1877.

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint
Constable DAVID SHAW,
Constable ALFRED JAMES MITCHELL,

And
Constable WILLIAM JOHN GRAHAM
to be Registrars under "The Dog Nuisance Act, 1871," within the County of Hawke's Bay; and has also been pleased to appoint
Constable MICHAEL JOHN MAHON
to be Registrar under "The Dog Nuisance Act, 1871," within the Borough of Napier.
DANIEL POLLEN.

REGISTRAR UNDER "DOG NUISANCE ACT, 1871," APPOINTED.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Wellington, 16th June 1877.

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint
Mr. JAMES McMILLAN
to be Registrar under "The Dog Nuisance Act, 1871," within the County of Waipawa.
DANIEL POLLEN.

JOHN M'VAY,

SADDLER & HARNESSMAKER

Hastings-street.

The Cheapest House in the Trade.

H. MONTEITH,

Stock, Land Estate, and General Commission Agent, Waipukurau.
Goods Stored and Forwarded.
Offices and Stores: Near the railway Station.

Commercial.

Mr M. R. Miller reports the sale of Mr G. Joshua's Kereru freehold estate, about 1500 acres, and Whana leasehold estate (rental £190), 19,000 acres, together with 27,000 sheep, and all station plant, for £37,000 sterling, to Mr Henry Ford, of Canterbury.

BIRTHS.

- STUART—At Napier, on the 9th June, the wife of Mr John Stuart of a son.
- REDWARD—At Port Ahuriri, on the 11th June, the wife of Mr Leicester Redward of a daughter.
- M'DONELL—At Meaneo, on June 14th, the wife of D. R. M'Donell, of a daughter.
- MASSEY—At Tennyson-street, Napier, on the 17th June, the wife of Mr John Massey, of a daughter.
- BEAR—At her residence, Tennyson-street, Napier, on June 19th, the wife of Mr Percival Bear, of a son.
- BUCHANAN.—At Hampden, on June 21st, the wife of J. J. Buchanan, of a daughter.
- CAULTON.—At Napier, on the 25th June, the wife of Mr H. O. Caulton, of a daughter.
- GARNHAM—At Wainawa, on the 26th June, the wife of W. R. Garnham, of a daughter.
- WILKIE—At Port Ahuriri, on the 26th June, the wife of Mr W. Wilkie, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

- MAY—HILLS—At the residence of William M'Beath, Esq., Eglinton-road, Mornington, Dunedin, on the 31st May, by the Rev. Dr. Stuart, Mr William May, of Dunedin, to Jessie Emma Gertrude second daughter of Mr Edwin Hills, of Napier—Auckland papers please copy.
- NORMAN—QUEREE.—At her uncle's residence, Springfield, Puketapu, on June 6, by the Rev. P. C. Anderson, Lizzie Queree to John Norman, both of St. Heliers, Jersey.
- FRASER—BROOK.—At St. Andrew's Church Auckland, on the 6th June, by the Rev. D. Bruce, assisted by the Rev. R. F. Macnicol, the Rev. J. M. Fraser, of Waipawa, Hawke's Bay, to Ada Elizabeth, only daughter of J. Brook, Parnell.
- PARSONS—LE COUTEUR.—At St. Mark's Church, Clive, on June 2, by the Rev. W. Marshall, Thomas Parsons, of Puketapu, Hawke's Bay, New Zealand, to Eliza LeCouteur, of St. Heliers, Jersey.
- MCLEAN—COLLINS.—In the Presbyterian Church, Havelock, on the 20th June, 1877, by the Rev. Alex. Shepherd, Mr Peter McLean, farmer, Pukahu, to Eliza, sixth daughter of Mr S. Collins, Pukahu.

DEATHS.

HENDERSON.—On 30th May, at his father's residence, Woolecombe-street, Wellington, Harcourt Herbert Henderson, youngest son of John Henderson, Esq., C.E., aged 1 year and 9 months.
PATON.—At Napier, on June 6th, Joseph, fifth son of Mr T. Paton, aged 17 years and 6 months.
NILSSON.—At the Napier Hospital, on the 6th June, Gustaf Nilsson, aged 27 years.
HITCHINGS.—At Napier, on the 26th June, from tetanus, Claude Walter Hampton, son of Thomas Hitchings, aged 13 years.
MCINTYRE.—At West Clive, on June 26, Mary Ann McIntyre, the eldest daughter of David and Agnes McIntyre, aged 4 years and 8 months.

Garden & Farming Calendar.

JULY.

FLOWER GARDEN.—Sow a few annuals in light soil for early flowering. Prepare flower beds and borders for planting during intervals of fine weather. Prune and tie up climbers of all kinds. Take care to stake all newly planted shrubs and trees to avoid the evils arising from wind-waving. Strong-growing roses may be pruned this month, but most of the tea-scented and Chinese kinds may be left until next month with advantage. Some of the native dwarf-growing veronicas and pimelias would prove valuable additions to the flower border. *Pimelia ion folia* is one of the handsomest species of the genus. *Pimelia glandia* and *Pimelia arenaria* are of more striking habit, although the flowers are less showy. *Veronica diosmeifolia* is a northern species, of dwarf compact habit and profuse bloom. *Veronica veridiosa*, *Veronica Colensoi*, *Veronica laevis*, *Veronica Menziesii*, *Veronica buxifolia*, are equally suitable. *Veronica parviflora* has remarkably neat foliage, but is ten to fifteen feet in height, and produces its snowy flowers so profusely as to conceal the foliage. Re-pot pelargoniums where required, also Chinese primulas, cinerarias, and other free-growing plants now coming into flower. *Lachenalis* and their allies should be kept dry. Cacti and other succulent plants should have no more water than will keep their leaves from shrivelling. Constantly remove all decaying leaves and plants that are past flowering. Give air at all convenient opportunities.

KITCHEN AND FRUIT GARDEN.—Usually a stormy month, so that all intervals of dry weather should be taken advantage of at once, whether for sowing or planting. Sow cabbage, beans, early peas, lettuce, &c., to succeed those sown last month. Weed out onions where necessary; plant out cabbage. If dry weather, get in the main crop of onions if not done last month; wood-ashes and bonedust make the best manure. Earth up celery. Plant potatoes for early use. Currants and gooseberries may still be pruned, and cuttings planted. Finish pruning vines, stripping off the loose bark. Planting will depend greatly upon the state of weather. Apples and pears should be pruned towards the end of the month.

FARM.—Potatoes are planted for an early crop this month, but the land must be dry and cool. Oats are also sown on some of the best land. The young grasses, if sown at the proper time, will now be fit for stock with sheep; cattle are too heavy for this season, except on the driest land. Where lambing ewes are kept, a piece of young grass should be reserved and the ewes turned on it as soon after lambing as they and their lambs can be conveniently removed. If the cattle on the farm are at all short of food, hay should be given to them at once. The dairy cows will now repay any extra grass or hay that may be afforded to them. Land where barley is to be sown can be ploughed at the end of this month; lands for oats also. —*Town and Country Almanac.*

CHRONOLOGICAL MEMORANDA.

FROM JULY 1 TO JULY 7, 1877.

PHASES OF THE MOON.

Week Day and month.	Anniversaries, &c.	Sun High Water			
		R.	S.	A.M.	P.M.
1 S	6th Sunday n. Trinity	7 35	4 31	9 37	10 1
2 M	Visitation of Mary	7 36	4 32	10 17	10 41
3 T	Battle of Sedawa, 1866	7 36	4 33	10 57	11 21
4 W	Amur, Indip. Dec., 1776	7 36	4 33	11 39	—
5 T	Mrs Siddons b. 1765	7 36	4 34	—	50
6 F	Sir T. Moore bl. 1535	7 35	4 34	1 4	1 25
7 S		7 34	4 34	2 1	2 28

The Weekly Mercury

HAWKE'S BAY ADVERTISER.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1877.

SINCE the struggles between the centralists and the provincialists terminated, and local government became a name, and ceased to be a reality, there has been no great question before the country on which Parliament could be divided. It is true Sir George Grey and Mr Macandrew endeavored last year, in their Separation resolutions, to create two great political parties in the House, but the attempt so completely broke down as to show unmistakably that the country had no sympathy with a proposal for a further radical change of the constitution. Provincialism, as it was in the past, is absolutely dead, and, probably, there is no strong desire entertained by any one to see it resuscitated. The financial separation of the colony has not increased in favor with the public, and although it is certain another effort will be made to re-open the question when the House meets, it is not likely to secure more support than it did last session. The Bills the Government will introduce, and the amendments to the Acts that were passed last year providing for the extinction of provincialism, can hardly be of a character to create party feeling. Even upon the Education Bill, Ministerialists may fairly hold opposite views, and the

Government may be defeated in any attempt they may make to pass such a measure; but, in the event of this occurring, should the Ministry resign, there is no party in the House with any defined policy strong enough to hold power. With regard to the Counties Act, the Government will, probably, be quite prepared to take the sense of the House on the matter, and to agree to such amendments as from the short working of the new institutions may be deemed advisable. Upon these amendments some of the old provincial and abolition party feeling might be shown, but it is extremely doubtful whether any will be exhibited. Their discussion will, however, offer an excellent opportunity for such a revival, and it is to be hoped that it will not be thrown away. There is nothing either in the Counties Act, or in the Financial Arrangements Act, that could not be made applicable to a modified provincial system of local government, and it is tolerably clear that the amendments most urgently needed on the score of economical administration are those which would take the direction of provincialism.

We have received a circular from the Hon. Secretary to the "Society for promoting the Theory and Practice of Economics in the Schools of New Zealand," and from it we learn that the efforts of the Society have not been, so far, of an encouraging nature. We cannot say that we regret this result. The Society has adopted a very high sounding title, but the real object it has in view would be better described if it had called itself an association for converting New Zealand boys and girls into money grubbing prigs. The establishment of penny savings banks in all the schools is really the meaning of promoting the theory and practice of economics. To instil into the minds of children the belief that "a penny saved is a penny gained" is the mission of this Society; to teach the young idea that it is better to scrape money together than to spend their pocket allowance on infantile pleasures; in fact, to add to the worshippers of the almighty dollar, and to instruct them in the art of bending the knee to the God of Mammon. Published with the circular are some letters from different school teachers, addressed to the Secretary. One teacher writes:—"The children are delighted, and in anticipation of the penny bank many have already placed their pennies in my care." No doubt they are, as they would with any novelty, but they cannot possibly realise the effect such an institution will have in their midst. The child with fourpence to his credit will look down on his playmate who has had a severe struggle to open an account at the Bank, and another, to increase his savings, may pursue a questionable course to add to his gains. In every school will be found the money grubber, the boy who will advance money, for a consideration, to his profligate fellows who have squandered their weekly pence on a supper, or a cricket bat. The Society for the promotion of Economics would multiply this character in our schools, a character that usually combines the sneak with the prig.

The Wanganui Herald is laboring under the delusion that the new Native Land-Bill is a concession to the Auckland and Hawke's Bay land rings; that it is the result of a deep rooted conspiracy on the part of the large landed proprietary, whose members have succeeded in governing the country through their friends, the Ministry. "It would form," says our Wanganui contemporary "an interesting art study to see this measure, this alleged charter of the rights of colonisation, at the font, with its godfathers and friends standing round. There would be seen one or two great land rings, and a number of smaller ones circling round about them. Prominent in the foreground there would stand three or four monstrous and huge land-sharks, and behind them and in the back-ground ones also of very respectable dimensions in the full vigor of growth; while the inevitable pilot-fish would be scudding hither and thither. In the picture there would not be found a friend of bonâ fide settlement except probably some demented person who had been charmed by the glowing representations of the very public-spirited land-shark. We believe this sketch to represent the real state of the case. The land rings of Hawke's Bay and Auckland have asked for the Bill, and it has been granted at their request." The Wanganui Herald does not spare the knife; it cuts down the tares with the wheat, and amusingly thinks it is doing good service. It proceeds as follows:—"Now is it not pitiable to see the miserable plight the Pre-

mier is in? Forgetting his dignity, and what he owed to his position, as if he had been raised to a pinnacle which he thought too high for his merits, he waived the precedence which we maintain belonged to the office and not the individual, and now carries out the part to the letter by complete submission to the will of the Attorney-General. The Premier was great on settlement in 1875, and only recently at New Plymouth he indulged in the cruel mockery of telling that community that the first object of the Government was to settle a yeomanry class on the land. The first object of the Government would seem to be to increase the fortunes of a class. Nor is Mr Whitaker the only designer. We have it on authority which admits of hardly any doubt, that Mr Ormond has said that nothing would have induced him to accept of office but to assist in passing a new Native Lands Bill. It would appear that Mr Ormond has had really more to do with the Bill than even Mr Whitaker. The latter, it will be remembered, got credit for the hanging-up clauses of the Counties Bill until Mr Ormond confessed the origin in a banquet speech at Napier. Last session it was freely said that Mr Hall accepted office only with the object of securing the Canterbury run-holders a renewal of their leases. Has it then come to that deplorable result that the party of abolition is governed and largely composed of the members and friends of land rings?" After this rhodomontade it is refreshing to turn to the common sense utterance of a clear headed politician. Mr Fox does not share the Wanganui Herald's fears that the Native Lands Bill has been specially framed to Burke settlement. That statesman writes that the only reversal to the policy of 1873, which he can discern in "the intended bill (a copy of which is before me), is that the power of proclaiming excepted districts given to the Government by the Act of 1873 is repealed. But the Government is not deprived of the same power as it has had ever since 1862, of going into the market and competing, as it does now, for our "children's heritage," with the private purchaser. The only reversal, or change, of policy indicated by the bill is in this one particular of the excepted districts. The rest of the bill is little else than a consolidation and amendment of the provisions relating to the machinery of the Court, the survey of the lands brought before it, and so forth. Provision is made, as in previous Acts, to prevent private speculators from attempting to purchase lands for which the Government is already in negotiation. There is no reference whatever to the confiscated blocks which the Government has hitherto held, as against private purchasers, to be already its own, under the form of "The New Zealand Settlements Act, 1863;" and there is no indication of any intention to throw these blocks open to private speculation."

At the last sitting of the Supreme Court at Napier, Mr J. N. Wilson, who was defending the proprietors of the Herald in an action for libel, was pleased to say that "it was an extraordinary thing that these so called gentlemen of the Press never could observe the ordinary courtesies attended to in other professions." We have been patiently waiting for an opportunity to reply to this deliberate insult gratuitously cast upon members of a profession who for the most part, at all events, are quite as respectable, and are held quite as highly in public estimation as the so-called barristers practising in this colony. For the benefit of Mr. Wilson, who, apparently, has no idea of the depth of vulgarity to which members of his own profession can naturally descend, we shall extract every now and then reports of proceedings in Courts of Justice which may tend to enlighten him. In the Magistrate's Court, Dunedin, the other day, a case was heard in which Messrs A. Bathgate and Denniston were engaged, the former gentleman remarked on his learned friend's jumping up every minute like a "Jack-in-Box."

Mr. Denniston: I ask the Court to protect men from this impertinence. It is the Court's place to interfere if I interrupt unfairly. If one solicitor is allowed to call another names in Court it will lead to recrimination.

His Worship: What do you complain of?

Mr. Denniston: The phrase which I complained of is "a Jack-in-the-Box." If this conduct is to be allowed I flatter myself that I could retaliate quite as well as my learned friend, but I prefer to appeal to your Worship.

His Worship: I quite disapprove of such language—

Mr. A. Bathgate: I did not use the

expression in a personal sense, but merely as an apt simile—that was all.

Mr. Denniston: I protest against Mr Bathgate to conduct—he accentuates what your Worship characterises as an improper phrase instead of withdrawing it.

Mr. A. Bathgate: I will bow to the decision of the Court, though I did not use the phrase in an offensive sense. This is another illustration of the excitable manner in which my friend is prone to jump up.

His Worship: I should like to see a higher tone prevail in the conduct of debates in this Court.

ARRIVAL OF SUEZ MAIL.

The s.s. Ringarooma arrived early Thursday at the Bluff, having on board the New Zealand portion of the Suez mail. She left Melbourne on Saturday last.

RESIDENT MAGISTRATE'S COURT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27.

(Before R. Stuart, Esq., R.M.)

EXPECTED IT WAS RIGHT.

Thomas Boyle was charged by Constable Motley with having imbibed too much alcohol last evening. In reply to the charge, Boyle said, "he expected it was right." He was fined 5s or in default 24 hours imprisonment. Having no funds, he went for board and lodgings at the country's expense.

ALLEGED LARCENY.

A charge against Patrick Loughran for stealing a cheque for £3 from Mr Golden, of Port Aburiri, was next on the list.

Mr Lee, who appeared for Loughran, stated that owing to injuries his client had received, he would be unable to appear for six weeks.

Dr De Lisle stated that he had examined Loughran in the lock-up, and found the small bone of his right leg broken. He had bruises on other parts of his body and a contusion on his right side. In his opinion Loughran would be unable to make his appearance for six weeks.

Mr Lee desired to hear the evidence of the prosecutor, as he believed there was no case.

Joseph Golden deposed that on Monday evening Loughran was in his hotel and gave him a cheque for £3, which he gave him three notes for. On the following morning Loughran asked to see the cheque, and while the witness was holding it over the counter, Loughran snatched it away, and tore it up. He asked him the same evening for the money but Loughran refused to give it.

Mr Lee contended it was only a civil action.

Cross-examined by Mr Lee:—When Loughran gave him the cheque it was ten o'clock on Monday night. Loughran was not drunk. Witness filled up the cheque and Loughran signed it. At three o'clock in the morning owing to words which passed between witness and Loughran he would not permit him to stay in his house. The cheque was one belonging to the Union Bank, and he (witness) altered it to Colonial Bank.

Mr Lee said that Loughran was a contractor and employed a good deal of labor. He kept a cheque book at home, and as he knew that the cheque in its then shape would not be cashed, he tore it up, offering to give one to the prosecutor from his own book which was at Malcon's.

His Worship dismissed the case.

AMUSING PARLIAMENTARY INCIDENT.

So poor Charles Cawley is no more. Salford has lost a very worthy and conscientious member, and Chaley, M.P., will miss at the next general election the generous bridge which has twice carried him into Parliament. Mr Cawley was present in his place but a short week before his death, despite the remonstrances of his friends, who saw the stamp of death on his face. He will live in the memories of the House as the victim of the religious fervor of Newdegate. Mr Cawley had fallen asleep in his seat, lulled by the pompous monotone of the member for North Warwickshire, as he declaimed with gloomy emphasis against the horrors of conventual and monastic institutions. Carried away by his theme, Mr Newdegate raised his fist and smote the unconscious Cawley so terrific a blow on the head that his hat (which he providentially was wearing) was jammed below his chin. A hurricane of laughter and cheers swept the House, whilst Mr Cawley struggled vainly with his hat, believing the end of the world to be imminent.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ST. JOHN'S PARISH.

Sir,—I was glad to see that, in your yesterday's issue, you expressed the wishes of the parishioners of St. John's with respect to the incumbency. That it should be declared vacant is the sincere wish of every one who has the interests of the Church of England at Napier at heart. It is clear that until the parishioners, through the proper authorities, are given the right to nominate a new Incumbent, our church affairs must continue to proceed from bad to worse. The high-handed course taken, and the cool indifference to the feelings of the people shown, by our local church authorities, have tended to estrange the parishioners, not from the Church to which they belong, but from the Incumbent and his advisers. It is these latter who have done as much mischief as the extraordinary proceedings that have characterised the behaviour of the Incumbent towards his vestry, and the congregation.

It has been said that the parishioners are to blame for not having exhibited deep humility for their general conduct in supporting the Rev. Mr Robinson when that gentleman was discovered to be not that which he professed. If humility was deemed desirable under the circumstances, I contend that it should have been shown by the clergymen of the parish for having expended parish funds in the importation and induction as curate of one of whom they knew nothing. It was creditable to the parishioners that they supported a gentleman who had come to labor for their spiritual good under such auspices. It was the duty of the Church, not of the people, to discover whether Mr Robinson was or was not a fit and proper person to be Curate of St. John's. Mr Robinson having been appointed to that office, it was due to him that he should be supported in his position until found to be unworthy of it. This discovery was not made until after he had left Napier, though his treatment by his brother clergymen was such as he could only have deserved had he been found to have been an impostor during his stay amongst us.

The people of the Church of England are now, and have been for some months, treated as though they were unworthy to have a Church of their own. Indeed, it is reported of one rather prominent minister of the Church of England here, that he said if he had his own way, he would burn down the Church and the Parsonage too! This language is but the expression of a sentiment, apparently entertained by all clergymen of the Church of England who have meddled with our parish affairs. If the Church, whatever that Popish phrase may mean, cannot have everything its own way, and make the people bend to the yoke priestly ambition, pride, and jealousy, may impose, the people may go to perdition.

Things have come to a pretty pass when we are asked to believe that the people were made for the Church and the Church for the parsons. It is high time the lesson was taught, in as sharp and in as practicable a manner as possible, that the parsons were made for the people, and that the people formed the Church.—I am, &c.

PARISHIONER.

Napier, June 27, 1877.

A MATRIMONIAL PROPOSAL.

THE following letter picked up in Napier addressed to a female from an ardent lover, residing not 100 miles from a well-known farm at Waipukurau, has been handed to us. We have, from a feeling of delicacy suppressed the full names:—

April 2nd, 1877.

DEAR Topsy,—I have much pleasure in writing to you this letter to bring before your Notice a most important subject respecting which I mean to express myself in plain language. From what I have seen, I think that Married Couples do better in the country than single people, and I think that the best thing we can do is to get Married, and you may take my word, that I shall stand to you most Faithfully, more especially as you are like myself without friends in this country. But you may say, that I have got Mary R.—I must say that I liked her much, but now I believe that she has little or no regard for me, as a proof of which, she did not even leave me her Address, and even spoke lightly of me to other people, therefore I do Believe that she had but little respect for me. Now I hope you will consider well what I have said, for I know you are a very Sensible Young Woman, and one I am

very fond of. Of course we can wait until we get some Money so that we can go about this affair respectfully. Now my advice to you is be Civil to your employers, do your work well and don't mind the False insinuations of young men, who take no real or lasting interest in you. Mrs B. with her family is living down here. Mind, if you will but be True to me, I shall never Forsake you. So accept my kind Love and Best Wishes, and may this find you quite well as it leaves me at present thank God.—Believe me to remain your True and Faithful Friend, JOSEPH B.—* * *

ASTOUNDING INTELLIGENCE.

THE GREAT SEA SERPENT CAPTURED AND KILLED AT OBAN, SCOTLAND.—EXCITING DETAILS OF THE CAPTURE.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to the Glasgow News, on April 28th:—

A most extraordinary event has occurred at Oban, which I give in detail, having been eye witness to the whole affair. I allude to the stranding and capture of the veritable sea serpent in front of the Caledonian Hotel, George-street, Oban. About four o'clock yesterday an animal or fish, evidently of gigantic size, was seen sporting in the bay near Heather Island. Its appearance evidently perplexed a large number of spectators assembled on the pier, and several telescopes were directed towards it. A careful look satisfied us that it was of the serpent species, it carrying its head about 25 feet above the water. A number of boats were soon launched and proceeded to the bay, the crews armed with such weapons as could be got handy. Under the direction of Mr. Nicholson, our boatman, they headed the monster, and some of the boats were within thirty yards of it when it suddenly sprang half length out of the water and made for the open. A random fire from several volunteers with rifles seemed to have no effect upon it. Under Mr Nicholson's orders the boats now ranged across the entrance of the bay, and by screams and shouts turned the monster's course, and it headed directly for the breast wall of the Great Western Hotel. One boat, containing Mr Donald Cameron, the Fiscal, had a most narrow escape, the animal actually rubbing against it. Mr Campbell and his brother jumped overboard, and were picked up unhurt by Mr John D. Hardie, saddler, in his small yacht, the Flying Scud. The animal seemed thoroughly frightened, and as the boats closed in the volunteers were unable to fire more, owing to the crowds assembled on the shore. At a little past six the monster took the ground on the beach in front of the Caledonian Hotel in George-street, and his proportions were now fully visible. In his frantic exertions, with his tail sweeping the beach, no one dared approach. The stones were flying in all directions: one seriously injuring a man called Baldie Barrow, and another breaking a window of the Commercial Bank. A party of volunteers under Lieutenant David Menzies now assembled and fired volleys into the neck, according to the directions of Dr. Campbell, who did not wish, for scientific reasons, that the configuration of the head should be damaged. As there was a bright moon, this continued till nearly 10 o'clock, when Mr. Stevens, of the Commercial Bank, waded in and fixed a strong rope to the animal's head, and by the exertions of some seventy folk, it was securely dragged above high water mark. Its exact appearance as it lies on the beach is as follows:—The extreme length is 101 feet, and the thickest part is about 25 feet from the head, which is 11 feet in circumference. At this part is fixed a pair of fins, which are 4 feet long by nearly 7 feet across at the sides. Further back is a long dorsal fin, extending for at least 12 feet or 13 feet, and 5 feet high in front, tapering to 1 foot. The tail is more of a flattened termination to the body proper than anything else. The eyes are very small in proportion and elongated, and the gills of the length of 2½ft behind. There are no external ears, and as Dr. Campbell did not wish the animal handled till he communicated with some eminent scientific gentlemen, we could not ascertain if there were teeth or not. Great excitement is created, and the country people are flocking in to view it. Mr Duncan Clerk, writer, took possession of the monster, in the rights of Mr M'Fee, of Appin, and Mr James Nicol, writer, in the name of the Crown.

A daughter wept bitterly in witnessing the opera of Paul and Virginia. "Don't cry," said her father; "they earn 3000 francs every night.—Paris Letter.

PROFITS OF BOILING DOWN.

Some few days back we gave the figures relating to the boiling down of 440 sheep in the Wairarapa, by which 14s per head was obtained. In the Standard of the 16th inst. a letter appears from Mr C. Pharazyn, in which he says—

Sir,—A statement of the result of boiling down a mob of some 440 sheep, which was obviously, incorrectly given, having been by many supposed to be mine, I think it may be useful to many of your readers if I give the exact result of boiling 224 old ewes. I may state that I had been prepared to take 7s per head from the butchers, and at that price should have expected at least 10 per cent. to be rejected.

PROCEEDS:

	£	s.	d.
6300 lbs tallow valued at 3½d per lb at Tauherenikau, buyer finding casks ...	85	0	0
560 lbs scoured wool from skins worth 1s 5d in London, or 1s 3d here ...	35	0	0
Legs, tongues &c., sold ...	9	0	0
	£129	14	0

EXPENSES:

	£	s.	d.
Boiling 224 sheep at 10d ...	9	6	8
Scouringskins and packing, &c. ...	3	14	3
	£13	0	0
Net proceeds £116 14s, or 10s 6d per head.			

THE DAIRY.

SCALDING MILK.

To scald milk fresh from the cow, and put while hot into shallow vessels for the cream to rise, makes it rise more rapidly than to set the same way without scalding. There are several reasons for this. 1. Cream rises faster when milk is hot than when it is cold, all other considerations being the same. 2. Notwithstanding the loss of water by evaporation, heated milk is thinner or more fluid than that which is not scalded. 3. Cream rises faster when the temperature of milk is falling than when it is stationary, and milk, set away hot, has a wider range of temperature to fall through than that which is not scalded. 4. The cream from scalded milk churns easier than from milk not scalded, and hence churns more completely, having less cream in the butter-milk. Hence a little more butter is the result of scalding and setting in shallow vessels.

COWS DRYING UP.

It is sometimes a great mystery to farmers why their cows dry up prematurely. The following experience of a fellow-sufferer may be suggestive to them. A market gardener near Boston had a very fine cow that was milked week after week by two hired men. He observed that the amount of butter he carried to market weighed about a pound more on each alternate week. He watched the men, and tried the cow after they had finished milking, but always found that there was no milk left in the teats. He finally asked the Scotch girl who took care of the milk if she could account for the difference. "Why, yes," said she; "when Jim milks, he says to the old cow, 'so, my pretty little mully, so; but when Sam milks, he hits her on the hip with the edge of the pail, and says, 'hist, you old brute.'"

Good Deacon B—having, as some of his friends thought, shown too little interest in the public affairs of the day, was charged by a brother with being "on the fence." "Yes, I am on the fence," was the reply, "and there I propose to remain as long as it's so confounded muddy on both sides."

At an excellent hotel, not a hundred miles from Liverpool, they were one day short of a waiter, when a newly-arrived Hibernian was hastily made to supply the place of a more expert hand. "Now Barney," said mine host; "mind you serve every man with soup, anyhow."—"Bedad I'll do that same," said the alert Barney. Soup came on the start, and Barney, after helping all but one guest, came upon the last one. "Soup, sir?" said Barney.—"No soup for me said the gent.—"But you must have it," said Barney, "it is the rule of the house."—"What d'ye say?" exclaimed the guest, highly exasperated; "when I don't want soup I won't eat it—get along with you."—"Well," said Barney, with solemnity, "all I can say is jest this: it's the regulations of the house, and the divil a taste else ye'll get till ye finish the soup!" The traveller then gave in, and the soup was gobbled.

THE NOVELIST.

LADY TREVOR'S SECRET;

OR, THE
Mystery of Cecil Rosse.

BY MRS. HARRIET LEWIS.

CHAPTER XXV.

AN UNEXPECTED ORDEAL.

Lady Trevor and received the repeated summonses of the old marquis, but had not dared to obey them until after the return to town of her confederate in crime. But when she had seen Mr. Pulford, and heard from his own lips that she had nothing more to fear in regard to Cecil Rosse, all her terrors and anxieties gave place to a delicious sense of security, and she set out upon her visit to St. Leonards in high spirits.

Throughout the journey she was occupied with delightful visions. She had conceived the idea that the stern old lord was about to make a will, devising to her all his transferable property, and that, more than this, he had invited her to his house to meet Lord Glenham, with a view to bringing about a marriage between his grand-daughter and the heir to his title and estates.

"I will do my share towards carrying out his plans," she thought. "I shall soon free myself from Pulford's claims, and then I can marry the earl. I wonder if old Barker is at St. Leonards ready to draw up the new will?"

Upon alighting from the carriage, and entering the grand hall of the mansion, she was met by the lady-housekeeper, with whom she was engaged for a moment, while the Marquis's valet, who was in waiting for the arrival, hastened to inform his master. He returned immediately, requesting Lady Trevor to join the Marquis in the library.

"Very well," said the visitor composedly. "Say to Lord St. Leonards that I will come to him as soon as I shall become a little refreshed and rested. Mrs. Melville, be kind enough to conduct me to my room."

The housekeeper led the way up the state staircase to the wide upper hall and to a luxurious suite of rooms opening therefrom.

"My old rooms!" said Lady Trevor. "How long it is since I last occupied them! I shall not be at St. Leonards a great deal hereafter, Mrs. Melville. By the way, is grandpapa's lawyer, Mr Barker, at St. Leonards?"

"Yes, he is in the library with the marquis at this moment, your ladyship," replied Mrs Melville. Lady Trevor's eyes brightened. "I supposed so," she commented, "Cerise, dress me at once. Mrs. Melville, be good enough to send me up a cup of tea, and have my boxes brought up."

Lady Trevor's orders were promptly obeyed.

The visitor drank her tea, and made an elegant toilette. The bloom and beauty of her brunette complexion were renewed. Her black hair was arranged in fresh puffs and curls. Then confident of her personal charms, and unsuspecting of the ordeal in store for her, her handsome face wreathed with smiles, she descended to the library.

The marquis and his lawyer were still in consultation when she swept in. Mr Barker arose respectfully, greeting her with a low bow. The marquis, who was irritated at her long delay, regarded her with a pair of stormy eyes, and his stern old mouth wore a grim and sarcastic smile.

"You must excuse my rising, Edith," he said, with a glance at his swathed and bandaged leg. "So you've come—at last?"

Lady Trevor rushed towards the old marquis with a little cry of ecstasy. "At last! dear grandpapa," she exclaimed, embracing him, much to his distaste. "I received your letters and telegrams, but I couldn't

come before. I have been very ill, in bad, you know, but I have hastened to you as soon as my physician would allow me."

"Humph!" muttered Lord St. Leonards, who did not believe a word she said—he knew her too well for that. "So you've been ill?"

"Very ill," responded Lady Trevor plaintively; "but I am better now, and I have flown to you, dear grandpapa, on the wings of love. To think of your being ill, and I, your only loving descendant, not with you. I am so glad to see you again."

"Humph!" muttered the old marquis again.

"How naturally everything looks," said Lady Trevor, looking around her critically. "Nothing is changed since I lived here, grandpapa. I have my dear old rooms again, with the same furniture, and everything just as I left it fifteen or sixteen years ago. Nothing is changed except you and me, grandpapa. I am more thoughtful than I was in those old days. I have suffered so much. And you do not seem a day older than you did then."

"I suppose I look as if I intended to live for ever," said the old lord, dryly.

"I only wish you could, grandpapa. Ah! Mr Barker how do you do? Your lawyer here, my lord? I hope you are not troubled about your illness—that you are not making your will, or anything like that?"

"Well, no, I am not," said Lord St. Leonards, comprehending that she had expected to assist at the ceremony of making his will. "I expect to live many years yet. I come of a long-lived family, as you may remember. Sit down, Edith. Barker, please push Lady Trevor's chair near to mine."

The widow's face was all aglow with satisfaction as she sank into the proffered chair.

"Dear grandpapa," she exclaimed, "how good you are to forgive my waywardness and disobedience at last. I have so longed for your pardon. And now, to crown your late kindness in visiting me at Castle Cliff with this invitation to your home, this complete reconciliation, is a goodness that goes to my very soul. I am penitent enough for the past, I assure you. I repented my marriage with Sir Albert Trevor before I had been his wife a year. Shall everything be now between us as if there had never been a quarrel?" she asked, in her most honeyed tones. "May I not be the comfort of your declining years, dear grandpa?"

Lord St. Leonards could not repress a look of disgust.

"We will dispense with sentiment, if you please, Edith," he remarked. "I have not sent for you with a view to any romantic reconciliation. If affairs turn out in the future to my satisfaction, I shall be pleased to be on friendly terms with you, but for the present I am content to leave our relations as they are."

"As they are? They are certainly very pleasant. I could see nothing better," said Lady Trevor, determined to see in her summons to St. Leonards a mark of the old lord's renewed favor. "To be again an inmate of your home, dear grandpapa, forgiven by you for my past waywardness, more than contents me. When you know me better, I am sure that you will give me the love I crave from you, and which I deserve."

"Humph!" again said the old lord, grimly. "I don't care to discuss our personal relations, Edith. I sent for you to come to me, because I was unable to come to you. I want to ask you a few questions."

Lady Trevor glanced significantly at the lawyer.

"Oh, we can speak out before Mr Barker," said the marquis, quickly. "In fact, his presence is necessary."

"Necessary?"

"Edith," said Lord St. Leonards, abruptly, "where is Miss Rosse?"

Lady Trevor started. In spite of her efforts at self control, she trembled and was frightened. Her face blanched, and a seared look came into her hard black eyes.

"Miss Rosse?" she ejaculated.

"Why do you ask me that question? Am I Miss Rosse's keeper?"

"Did not Cain return to his Maker an answer similar to that after he had killed his brother?" asked the marquis, sternly.

Lady Trevor put one shaking hand to her face, which had suddenly, in spite of the cosmetics that overlaid its surface, grown white and horrified, with a look upon it which, if he could have seen it, Mr Barker could not have interpreted otherwise than as one of conscious guilt.

In truth, the question and the marquis's accusing tone struck terror to the woman's soul. She was unable to answer, and sat as if paralyzed.

There was a brief silence, which was broken by the impatient marquis.

"I informed you, Edith," he exclaimed, "of my desire to adopt this young girl who has taken so strong a hold upon my heart. I told you of my loneliness, of my desire for pleasing companionship, and of my intention of asking this girl to become my child and heiress. You told me that she was of low birth, that her father was a shoe-cobbler in Southwark, and that her relatives were ignorant. This was false, and you knew it."

Lady Trevor made a movement to speak, but no sound issued from her parched throat, which she clutched with one desperate hand while she shaded her face with the other.

"I set Barker upon the track of Miss Rosse," continued Lord St. Leonards. "And he discovered that she was of foreign birth, without a known relative, and that she lived in respectable lodgings in a very respectable house in Bayswater. He discovered too that she had sewed embroidery for one Madame Lange, a French fancy-work dealer of Regent-street. He learned also that Madame Lange had recommended the young lady to you. This is the true story, and yours was utterly false!"

Still Lady Trevor sat immovable.

"Barker set his men to work," pursued the old lord, "and made further discoveries. Miss Rosse quitted her lodgings in Bayswater over two weeks ago, giving up her rooms and informing her landlady that she had entered your service for the winter, and that she was to proceed to your country seat in Yorkshire, to spend some months in repairing your tapestry work. Miss Rosse went away in a cab, attended by her old servant, and has not since been seen or heard of by her old landlady. Miss Rosse went to your house in South Audley street—"

"And went away again," interrupted Lady Trevor, huskily. "I can prove that!"

"Barker has proved it. She went away again, as you say. But where did she go?"

"How do I know?" retorted Lady Trevor, with half-suppressed fierceness. "She had her servant with her, and the pair set out for Greycourt, as I supposed, and as was agreed upon between us. The girl and her attendant were alike ignorant of London. Both were credulous, simple, and unsuspecting. They may have got into some trouble. They may have become lost. They may have found some situation that suited them better than the one I offered. Or, as seems more probable, they may have suddenly changed their purpose and gone back to their former home. All I know is, that they have not appeared at Greycourt."

"Where is their former home?" asked the marquis.

"Really I don't know," said Lady Trevor, beginning to resume command of herself, seeing that all was not lost, and that her secret remained

unsuspected. "I am not in the habit of inquiring into the antecedents of the servants I employ. Madame Lange recommended her. I did not go behind that recommendation."

"I can learn through the Bayswater landlady Miss Rosse's exact former address," said Mr Barker. "I presume she can give it. Mrs Thomas told me that Miss Rosse came from Germany."

"Then perhaps Miss Rosse has gone back to Germany," said the marquis, totally unsuspecting still of Miss Rosse's identity with the lady whom Lord Glenham desired to marry. "But I cannot think that she would have gone without informing her friends, or you, Edith, to whom she had engaged herself for a term of months. She cannot have gone back secretly, like a fugitive. Then where is she? Have you received no message from her, Edith, since she left your house with her servant in a cab over two weeks ago?"

"I have not!" answered Lady Trevor, firmly.

"It is a strange mystery!" said Mr Barker. "I have traced her to and from Lady Trevor's house, but with her departure from South Audley street all clue to Miss Rosse and her old servant is lost. Two persons have disappeared in London streets in broad daylight, and there is left no trace of them. It seems incredible!"

"You have traced Miss Rosse from my house," cried Lady Trevor, "and yet you dare come to my grandfather, Mr Barker, and accuse me of some crime, and try to poison his mind against me!"

"Edith," exclaimed Lord St. Leonards, "you have proven yourself false and deceitful. I told you after meeting Miss Rosse at your house, of my determination to seek her out and persuade her to become my child by adoption. Why then did you engage her to go to Greycourt to work for you? You desired to get her out of my way: you wished to hide her from me! Is not this true? Deny it if you can!"

"I have no wish to deny it," replied Lady Trevor. "I understood from Madame Lange that Miss Rosse was of low family. I saw that you were infatuated with her beauty. I did not believe her worthy of the place in your home and heart you desired to give her. I liked her work. I had need of her services. So I engaged her to go to Greycourt partly, I own, that she might be out of your way until I had had time to win your heart, and partly that you might not act upon a generous impulse which you might afterwards regret. There is the whole truth. If I have done wrong, you can blame me. I am sure that I have suffered enough to be pitied."

She uncovered her face. That she had suffered was apparent in the haggard eyes and drawn visage, but the nature of her suffering was not so plain.

"Is this true, Edith?" demanded the old marquis, sternly and solemnly. "As God hears you, do you know nothing of the whereabouts or the fate of Miss Rosse?"

"As God hears me I do not!" declared Lady Trevor, with equal solemnity, but with an irrepressible shudder. "Grandpapa, of what do you suspect me? Let me know the worst."

"I have thought it possible that you may have procured Miss Rosse a situation elsewhere than in Yorkshire, or that you may have sent her back to her old home—"

"I demand an investigation. Send for the best detectives at Scotland Yard. Question my servants. I insist upon the fullest investigation," cried Lady Trevor, in a fine flash of seeming indignation. "If you can believe one of your blood guilty of treachery and baseness, grandpapa, I hope you will prosecute me mercilessly until my innocence is proved. I am alone in the world"—she

clasped her hands together and turned her hard, black eyes upward—"alone and friendless. My own grandfather turns against me. I wish—oh, I wish that I were dead!"

She drew forth a lace-trimmed handkerchief and covered her eyes, while she gave way to a burst of sobs that were by no means fictitious. She had been wrought up to the point of hysterics, and her angry emotion passed very well for an outburst of grief and indignation.

The old lord regarded his lawyer reproachfully. Despite his dislike of his grandchild, and his distrust of her, the marquis could not in his heart believe her really base and wicked, although there were times when he suspected her of a hideous crime in the past.

"There, there, Edith," he exclaimed, testily. "If there's anything I hate, it's to see a woman cry. If you've not sent Miss Rosse out of the country, or done her any harm through your absurd jealousy, you've nothing to cry about."

"But you don't be—believe me!"

"That needn't trouble you," replied the old marquis, coolly. "I never used to believe you, you know. But I don't quite think you capable of crime, Edith, nor do I think one of my blood can be utterly lost to honor. And if you solemnly declare that Miss Rosse's fate is as great a mystery to you as to me, I suppose I shall believe you!"

"I swear that I know no more of her whereabouts than you do!" ejaculated Lady Trevor, with another irrepressible shudder.

"Enough. With all your faults, I cannot believe that you would perjure yourself by swearing to a lie, Edith. We shall find Miss Rosse. Barker will institute a thorough and complete search for her. And when I do find her, if she will consent, I shall adopt her legally and make her my heiress. So your amiable efforts in my behalf will be frustrated, Edith, and any hopes you may have built upon succeeding to my unentailed property will be without fulfilment."

"You have said all that you wished to say, grandpapa? You desire me to leave St. Leonards at once?"

"Not so. You are welcome to stay as long as you like, as my guest, but not as my heiress. I expect Lord Glenham and his mother to join us, and I particularly desire you to remain throughout their visit."

"You wish shall be my law, grandpapa, even though I am less to you than this sewing-girl you have seen but twice," said Lady Trevor, bitterly. "And now, if you will excuse me, I will retire to the drawing-room to recover from my agitation. But one last word. I beg you to believe that I shall join in the search for Miss Rosse with as much energy as even you can display. You seem to suspect me of some treachery in regard to Miss Rosse, and I am determined to find her in order to clear myself in your sight. That much at least my own self-respect demands."

She arose and withdrew to the drawing-room.

There was a brief silence after her departure, which was broken by the old marquis.

"Well?" he exclaimed, testily.

"What have you to say, Barker?"

"I don't know what to say," replied the lawyer, frankly. "Lady Trevor acknowledges having tried to get Miss Rosse out of your reach, but professes to be as ignorant as ourselves of Miss Rosse's whereabouts. She has sworn to her ignorance—"

"And consequently we must believe her," interrupted the old lord. "The mystery becomes deeper than ever. Where can Miss Rosse be? Set your clerks at work; engage a detective to pursue the search, and scour Europe from end to end—but find the missing girl! There is some great wickedness involved in

her disappearance. She has some secret enemy, perhaps, who seeks to compass her destruction. Whatever the mystery is we must solve it?"

CHAPTER XXVI.

THE EARL AND THE TRAITOR.

Upon the same day on which Lady Trevor arrived at St. Leonards, the Earl of Glenham, accompanied by his mother, returned from his trip to the Continent, and proceeded directly to a private family hotel in Piccadilly.

He had visited Zorlitz, and had learned, to his amazement, of the Herr Pastor's death and of Cecil Rosse's departure for England, attended by old Gretchen. He had been informed also of Mالدred Crafton's visit to Zorlitz, and was greatly puzzled to account for it, he having been kept in ignorance of his companion's passion for Cecil. He was even more puzzled at Crafton's reticence in regard to that visit, and, during his journey back to London, had telegraphed to his treacherous kinsman to meet him that evening at his hotel.

Lord Glenham dined with his mother in their private parlor. After the dinner, they settled themselves to await the coming of Crafton, both anxious and restless. The countess ensconced herself in a high-backed chair at the corner of the hearth, and shaded her face with her fan. That haughty, high-bred face wore a greatly troubled expression. The proud old eyes were full of anxiety and apprehension. She had known, before her departure for the Continent, that Cecil Rosse was no longer at Zorlitz, Crafton having deemed it best to inform her of his secret visit to the Black Forest. She had kept this knowledge to herself until now, but at what cost she best knew. With a nice sense of honor, proud of her truthfulness and courage, it required all her idolatrous love for her son, all her strong determination to save him from the clutches of a supposed adventuress, to reconcile her to the part she was playing.

"Strange that Crafton does not come!" he exclaimed, looking at his watch.

"Perhaps he did not receive your telegram?" suggested the countess.

"It would have been forwarded to him, and if he were in England he would have had time to precede us here. I have trusted him as if he were my brother. I cannot suspect his motives in revisiting Zorlitz secretly—yet why did he not tell me? He knew that Herr Brocken was dead, and that Cecil—my innocent, child-like Cecil—was in London. Where can she have found refuge? I tell you, mother, when I think of Cecil, so ignorant of the world, so unsuspecting and guileless, adrift in this great, wicked London, exposed to a thousand perils, I feel as if I should go mad."

"You forget always that she has a servant with her, Gordon?"

"Her servant, a simple peasant woman of the Black Forest, as credulous as a child, would be no protection to her. To the contrary, Gretchen might lead her into perils, which, if left to herself, her superior intelligence would cause her to avoid. But it cannot be impossible to trace Cecil. Her youth, her wonderful beauty, her patrician air, will render her marked wherever she may be seen—"

A knock upon the door caused them both to start. A servant entered, bearing a card upon a salver.

"Mالدred Crafton!" read Lord Glenham, taking up the bit of paste-board. "Show him up at at once."

The servant retired. Neither mother nor son spoke again until Crafton was ushered into the room.

The traitor came in with a smile on his swarthy visage. His manner as usual, was plausible, and insinuating. His small black eyes were joyful in their expression, and he held out his hand with a cordiality that appeared to be apprehended as

a failure of response.

But the earl kept his own hands at his side. His blonde features wore a stern look. The warmth in his eyes gave place to a coldness which Crafton had never seen in them before.

"How do you do, Gordon?" inquired Crafton, not appearing to note the changed manner of his kinsman, or the tacit refusal to clasp his hand. "Welcome home again. I am glad to see you Lady Glenham."

The countess arose. Crafton was in a measure her confederate in her scheme to save her son from a marriage distasteful to her, and she was compelled to greet him in a friendly manner. But she, animated by noble although mistaken motives, and by an adolatrous affection for her son, was as different from Crafton as day from night. She was secretly ashamed of her confederation with him, and despised him for his readiness to cheat the friend who had so implicitly trusted in him, yet she believed that his aid was essential to her plans.

"I am glad to see you again Mr. Crafton," she said, shaking hands with him. "We are just returned from Zorlitz."

"Oh, indeed!" exclaimed Crafton easily. "I received your telegram, Glenham, last evening. I was in Yorkshire, and it was forwarded to me. You are looking ill. Has anything happened?"

"Will you sit down?" asked the earl. "You cannot be unprepared for what I have to say to you, Crafton, now that you know that I have been to Zorlitz. Has your conduct during the past few weeks been that of a loyal friend?"

"It has, indeed!" exclaimed Crafton, heartily. "Why do you ask such an absurd question? Do you suspect me of disloyalty?"

"I have been informed of your secret visit to Zorlitz. When you left Breezy Lodge on the very morning of your arrival there, pretending that you found it absolutely necessary to return to London on business, you went straight to Zorlitz, as fast as steam could carry you. Can you deny this?"

"I cannot. I have no wish to deny it. By Jove, Gordon, you don't mean to condemn your best friend and throw him over without giving him a chance of explanation or self-defence? I wouldn't have believed that you would have condemned me unheard."

The air of injured innocence which Crafton assumed staggered his accuser.

"If you have anything to say for yourself," said the earl gravely, "I am ready to hear it."

"I came to London from Breezy Lodge on business, as I told you," declared Crafton, boldly, having planned his defence in advance; "and when I arrived in town I found that my seal ring—the Crafton heirloom—you remember how greatly I have always cherished it, and with a sort of superstition, as I am willing to confess—I found that my ring was missing. You can imagine the panic I was in. I remembered that the last time I saw it was in our lodgings at Zorlitz. I laid it down upon my washstand in my bed-room. I had no remembrance of picking it up again, and I knew that I must have lost it there. I could not telegraph to Zorlitz, so I took the first train for Dover, and posted through with all speed. And I found my ring!"

He pulled off one of his gloves as he spoke, and displayed his massive seal ring.

His story had been told with such an appearance of honesty that the young earl was constrained to believe it.

But Lady Glenham knew that the tale was false, and her haughty old face flashed hot with shame that she should be leagued with this man to deceive her son.

"When you arrived at Zorlitz, you

found that the Herr Pastor was dead," said Lord Glenham, "and that Miss Rosse had departed for England. Yet when you returned to Breezy Lodge you concealed these facts from me."

"I plead guilty of the charge. But how could I tell you, Gordon? You were encumbered with a party of invited guests. You could not have discovered Miss Rosse sooner than I have done. I never for one instant, flattered in my simple loyalty to you my friend. I kept my secret, fearing to distress you, and determined to seek Miss Rosse and find her, and then to tell you all. I never once imagined that my motives might be suspected. I thought that we had been friends too long for suspicion to come between us."

The earl took a step nearer Crafton. Then he paused again, in decision.

"Have you sought Miss Rosse?" he inquired. "Have you found her?"

Crafton hesitated. His intimacy with the Earl of Glenham had benefited him very materially in many ways. He could relinquish it for the sake of his love for Cecil Rosse, but Miss Rosse had disappeared mysteriously, leaving no clue to her fate. Until he could regain her, it might be well for him to maintain his apparent friendship for the earl, to watch his lordship's movements, and to share his life. He concluded, upon the whole, that the earl would discover through Lady Trevor that he, Crafton, had visited her to make inquiries after Miss Rosse; and it would be best to forestall Lady Trevor, and make confession in a manner to reflect credit upon himself.

"I have sought Miss Rosse," he exclaimed. "You remember that I made but a brief stay after my return to Breezy Lodge. I was anxious to find Miss Rosse, and to restore her to you. I searched London from one end to the other. I haunted the streets at the West End. I made inquiries in every place I deemed it possible that she had taken refuge. And at last, quite by chance, I found her!"

"You found her?" cried the earl, springing forward, his eyes alight.

Lady Glenham started. Was Crafton about to reveal the conspiracy she had entered into with him? Would her son, whom she so idolized, despise and hate her for the part she had taken? A low moan escaped her lips, and she sank back in her chair, pallid and gasping. No one noticed her agitation.

"Yes, I found her!" replied Crafton, recoiling before the earl's impetuous advance. "I met her in Regent-street, attended by Gretchen. Miss Rosse was doing embroidery work for Madame Lange, a French fancy-work dealer. She gave me her address, which I have written upon a card somewhere."

"Give it to me—"

"Here it is!" said Crafton, producing it. "But Miss Rosse is no longer at that address. She has disappeared in the most mysterious fashion. I expected to be able to find her for you before you should discover her loss. I have searched for her during the past two weeks, but I can find no trace of her?"

"Lost!" cried the earl, aghast.

"Why, what can you mean? Explain yourself, Crafton."

"I have worked for you," said Crafton, plaintively, "I have tried to spare you this sorrow at all cost to myself, and my reward is to be considered a traitor to you. I had thought that our years of friendship would vouch for me that you would trust me through good and evil report, as I would have trusted you—"

"Forgive me, Crafton," interrupted the earl, impulsively, stretching out his hand and grasping the reluctant member of the traitor. "You must own that I had cause to be grieved. I could not understand your reticence in regard to that visit and Cecil's

coming to London. I grant that your motives for concealment were not incompatible with your loyalty to me. Again, forgive me!"

"Willingly—freely!" ejaculated Crafton. "Let us say no more upon so painful a subject as your injustice to me. Miss Rosse has disappeared, Glenham, completely and utterly, as if she had vanished from the earth. It is one of those unaccountable disappearances that occur now and then, and which puzzle the keenest detective. She had engaged to sew some embroidery-work for Lady Trevor—"

"For Lady Trevor?" exclaimed the countess, involuntarily.

"Singular complication, is it not? But Lady Trevor had no idea that she was the Miss Rosse of Zorlitz. Madame Lange recommended the young lady to Lady Trevor, and her ladyship engaged her to go to Grey-court for the winter to repair some valuable tapestry. Miss Rosse, accompanied by Gretchen, having relinquished her lodgings at Bayswater, proceeded in a cab to South Audley-street for directions for the journey. She alighted at Lady Trevor's house, the footman summoned a fresh cab, and the order was given to Euston Square station. The cab rolled away, with Miss Rosse and old Gretchen inside—and they haven't been seen since."

The earl stood as if turned to stone.

"I traced Miss Rosse to and from Lady Trevor's house," continued Crafton. "I have questioned the cabman who conveyed her to South Audley-street. The second cab was a chance one, and there is no clue to trace it. I have worked very quietly but thoroughly, and the mystery remains impenetrable."

Lady Glenham's eyes scanned Crafton's face keenly. She saw that he was telling the truth, and breathed more freely.

"The mystery will soon be solved," exclaimed the earl, arousing from his brief stupor. "I will find Cecil. Where is Lady Trevor?"

"At St. Leonards, visiting her grandfather."

"We are expected at St. Leonards to-morrow," said the earl. "We will go down by the morning train. I will see Lady Trevor and discover if she can throw any fresh light upon the matter. And if she cannot, I will leave you at St. Leonards, mother, while I return to prosecute my search for Miss Rosse. Have you no theory in regard to this matter, Crafton?"

"I have," replied Crafton, gloomily.

"I sometimes think that the cabman may have murdered the young lady and her servant for their money. But oftener I think that some scoundrel, infatuated with Miss Rosse's beauty, may have seized her and deprived her of her liberty. The idea is no: probable. Such deeds are not in keeping with these prosaic days—but what else can I think? She has not gone back to Zorlitz—or you would have seen her. She has not returned to her lodgings at Bayswater. Madame Lange has not seen her; she has not arrived at Grey-court, although the honest old housekeeper had prepared a room for her, and had sent to the station to meet her at the time appointed for her coming. I have begun to despair of finding her. But if you and I work together, Glenham, we may succeed!"

"We will work together!" exclaimed the earl, again grasping the hand of his secret enemy. "We will trace her from the moment of leaving Lady Trevor's house. I will see Lady Trevor to-morrow, and meet you here in this room to-morrow evening. Great Heaven! Where can she be? What can have happened her?" and his voice was sharp with his agony. "Two weeks lost! I fear that she is dead!"

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Section No. 1 in the township of Danevirk, has been proclaimed an educational reserve, and as a site for a school.

MAIL ITEMS.

THE Pall Mall Gazette Constantinople correspondent writes, that a deplorable state of affairs exist owing to the blockade. Trade in the great staple of production is stopped, and no return is obtained for the great mass of last year's labor. Consequently that labor will only be renewed this year to a greatly-reduced extent, and next year will be one of scarcity. The danger which most threatens the Government in the event of a prolonged military watch on the Danube and the Georgian frontier is the increase of anarchy in the provinces. I had letters by yesterday's post from Rhodes, Jerusalem, Smyrna, Enos, Erzeroum, and Gallipoli, all of which complain of the utter powerlessness of the police to check the increase of lawless conduct which is wearing out the patience of the population, and rendering life in many places almost impossible.

The Empress Eugenie was to leave Madrid for England on the 23rd June. The Prince Imperial is at Chiselhurst.

Prince Henry of Prussia, second son of the Crown Prince is to be brought up in the navy, and is to be attached to the Niobe to learn seamanship.

The Grand Duke Constantine commands the Russian Mediterranean Fleet. M. Thiers reached his eightieth year on April 14. He is active, vigorous, and good-humored as ever.

Mr. Neville Lubbock read a paper on Jamaica before the Royal Colonial Institute, on April 17. At the dinner given before the meeting, there was present a large and distinguished company. Among the list of names we notice, John A' Deane, Esq., of Hawke's Bay.

Jane Favel, a widow, was charged on April 9 at Leighton Buzzard with having murdered her daughter, Mary Ann Favel, aged 26, at Lamey in 1876. The scientific evidence at the inquest, and the subsequent magisterial inquiry, left no doubt that the girl had been killed, by having fire applied to benzoin, with which her clothes had been saturated. The woman was committed for trial.

A carpenter named Arthur Stillman, who held the office of sexton at St John's Parish, Newbury, was charged with robbing the alms-box, and the jury having found him guilty, he was sentenced to nine months hard labor.

Mr. W. Charles Webb, junr., partner in the firm of Hargreaves and Webb, woolen manufacturers, was brought up at the Tinbridge police Court, Wiltshire, charged with embezzling between £14,000 and £15,000. The case was remanded.

A cattle-plague broke out at Willesden on April 10. Between two and three thousand cows were affected, and it is believed the whole will have to be destroyed. 100 cows out of a herd of 157 had either died or been slaughtered; and the whole herd will have to be exterminated. The Government bears a portion of the loss.

The London Gazette of April 30 contains a full statement of the rules of neutrality which Her Majesty's subjects in all parts of the world are solemnly cautioned against violating. It omits a few words which were contained in the proclamation issued in 1870, and which announces a firm intention, not only in the present case to maintain neutrality, but also to "abstain altogether from taking part" in the war, and to "remain at peace" with the belligerents.

On April 8th the Bishop of Lichfield, than whom no one was more competent to speak on the subject delivered the first of a series of lectures in the parish church of St. James, Piccadilly, on "The Work of the Church." The bishop's sermon was founded upon the tenth verse of the thirteenth chapter of the Prophecy of Ezekiel. It contained an urgent appeal for the outgrowth of a larger measure of missionary effort in the Church, and the preacher spoke, not only on his own efforts in New Zealand, which are known, but of those who are now working in India and the colonies and dependencies of the British Crown. It was, however, rather a general statement of results than of detailed operations in the various parts of the world with which Bishop Selwyn is so well acquainted.

Sumptuary laws have never been a great success and it may reasonably be expected that the conduct of the Rev. Robert Burton vicar of Great Tey, Essex, will not find many imitators. The rev. gentleman recently issued an order that the girls attending the Sunday-school should not wear either collars, cuffs, artificial flowers, feathers, brooches, lockets, earrings. Eight girls who dared to disobey the injunction were ejected from the school on Easter-day the result being a general stampede of the others girls. Good Mr. Burton is now said to be hesitating whether he

shall withdraw the decree, or prepare a similar order for the ladies who attend his church.

An agrarian murder is reported to have occurred near Ballybunion, Ireland, arising out of a dispute between two men, named Slack and Piers, about a plot of land. The landlord had decided in favour of Slack, who on going to take possession was met by Piers, who, it is said, killed him.

An extra force of police has been sent into the district of Ballaghaderreen, County Mayo, in consequence of an organized system of terrorism recently attempted to be put in force by a body of twenty or thirty men, who visited the house of a man named Dooney, under-agent on the estate of Captain Costello, J.P., dragged him and his son out of bed, and obliged them to swear that they would not raise the rents. After firing shots over the bailiff's head, they went to the houses of the tenants and obliged them to swear that they would not pay any higher rents. They paid other visits of the same nature, and a good deal of apprehension has been excited in consequence.

A singular occurrence is reported from Mayo. It is stated that, about a week ago, over 500 armed men collected at Clonmore, near Carron Castle, in the county of Mayo, and inquiring for the steward, John Martin, informed him that if he did not direct Mr. O'Connor to let his lands cheap they would pay him another visit. Five of the men presented their weapons at his breast.

It is confidently asserted that at the end of the present session Mr. Hardy will resign his portfolio as Minister of War, and retire to the comparative ease of the Upper House. His successor will probably be Sir Michael Hicks-Beach. If Colonel Stanley were a better debater, he would be the right man in the right place as Secretary of State for War.

Count Armin is very, very ill. Recently he has lost his sight, and his sufferings from facial neuralgia are intense. His eldest daughter waits on him with loving dutifulness; but it is not too much to say that death which may occur any day, will be welcomed as a release.

Early on Sunday morning a servant-girl, aged fourteen, murderously attacked her mistress, Margaret Wenden, aged seventy-eight, of Yoxford, Suffolk. The old lady was in bed, when the girl battered her head with a billhook, rendering her unconscious for a long time. The girl was about to go by the train for London when apprehended. Mrs. Wenden lies in a critical condition, and her deposition has been taken. The girl has been remanded by the magistrates, to see whether the woman recovers.

New York, April 21.—Information has been received here of the terrible slaughter of a Moravian missionary and his family at the settlement at Lance, a camp on the Labrador coast, during the absence of the young ministers from the mission-house and while the only occupants were two feeble clergymen, the son of one of them a paralytic, and his two sisters. The names of the victims are Rev. W. Balfie, who has spent thirty years in Labrador; Ernand Balfie, his son, and Charlotte and Anne, his daughters. The bodies were frightfully mangled, and a large quantity of English and Canadian money stolen. The murder is believed to be traceable to four Esquimaux, who had been refused rum at the mission.

Admiral Popoff will take command of the Russian armament in the Black sea.

Several Russian merchantmen have already been captured by the Turkish fleet.

The Geneva Red Cross Society is sending ambulances to Roumania and Montenegro.

The Russians have stopped the manufacture of gas at all their Black Sea ports, fearing flagration in case of bombardment.

Servia has concluded a loan of 12,000,000 francs with the French Union Commerce Bank.

Russia is seeking German machinists in order to make the Russian navy ready for sea as soon as possible. Numbers of American naval officers, engineers, and machinists have been arriving at Hamburg for some time, on their way to St. Petersburg.

A decree has been issued at Belgrade forbidding Servians to leave the country without permission of the authorities. The order is undoubtedly promoted by the prospect of a general mobilisation of the Servian troops.

A Constantinople special says: "Notwithstanding the Russian promise that Turkish ships should have eight days allowed them to leave Russian waters, ten Turkish ships were seized at Kertch the day after the declaration of war.

The Porte has instructed Musurab Pasha, its Ambassador at London, to request England to remonstrate at St. Petersburg against the act."

Mr. Dawson Burns, in a letter, calls attention to the enormous amount of money spent in the consumption of alcoholic stimulants, which reaches for the year 1876 the sum of £133,631,021. The statement of such a sum is well calculated to startle us out of that snug respectability with which we are wont to envelop ourselves, and though not agreeing in all that the before-named gentleman brings to the charge of drink, yet we think there are many truths contained in his letter. The great question which all thinking men must ask themselves when brought face to face with these statistics is—What can be done to put a stop to this traffic, which is slowly but surely undermining our national character?

Princess Mary of Hanover, after taking eight months to make up her mind, has finally refused the hand of her cousin H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught.

The World says:—Ex-President Grant on his arrival in London will have a special audience with Queen Victoria and be the guest of Disraeli and other eminent men. It is said that in deference to the high office he has filled, the Queen will pay him a visit.

The Daily Bulletin says:—The United States Attorney-General has decided that the public interest will be best subserved by Tweed's release, and this will probably occur in a short time.

The real story of Hobart Pasha is said to be this. He has sold his interest in all salary likely to accrue to him from his position in the British Navy. Were his name, therefore, to be removed from the Navy List, others, and not he would suffer.

A Mr. Henn insisted the other day at Dublin upon being introduced to the Duke of Connaught, because, he said, his son had sat next H.R.H. when both passed their examination for the army. I was then, observed the Duke, between two birds, for on my other side sat a Mr. Peacock, and none of us were plucked.

The effective armies of Europe are as follows:—Russia, 1,989,521; Germany, 1,249,934; France, 1,118,525; Austria, 964,268; Italy, 871,871; England, 655,808; Turkey, 629,736; other countries, 476,321; total, 7,754,935. Allowing only £30 per head for the cost of each man, £232,648,050 per annum is expended for the maintenance of these enormous armies. As they are drones in the hive instead of workers, if what they might earn be added to what they cost, this permanent system of "blood and iron" is maintained at an expenditure to the hive of about £500,000,000 per annum. But the most remarkable fact in the statistics of European armaments is that France has two more ironclads than we have. The numbers are, France, 63; Great Britain, 61.

A painful scene appears, by the account given of it in the Stirling Journal, to have occurred on a recent Sunday in a parish church near Gartmore, in that country. The minister, who is in the habit of warning his congregation on special occasions against the machinations of the Evil One, was delivering a discourse on his favourite theme, when suddenly a large window-blind and roller behind the pulpit lost its hold, falling right over the preacher, and completely concealing him for a time from his flock. In its descent the roller smashed a number of window-panes, and the clatter of the falling glass added panic to the already terrified condition of the enshrouded preacher. Ignorant of the cause of the sudden darkness and horrible noise, he thought that he might have exceeded the bounds of discretion in his denunciations of the devil, who had thereupon arrived hastily in person bent on retaliation. A frightful shriek of "I am gone!" echoed through the church, and the maddened preacher with one bound cleared the pulpit, nor ever stopped until he reached the extreme corner of the edifice. It may be well imagined that the suddenness of this alarming incident and its dramatic nature exercised a most powerful effect on the nerves of all who witnessed it. Fortunately there was no general panic, or the consequences might have been serious; but the story should be a lesson to those ministers who touch upon the delicate question of the personality of the devil to retain their self-possession under any circumstances, and not leave the pulpit unless absolutely ejected from it by force.

Liverpool, May 10th.—The Post London correspondent says: When Mr. Cross boasted on Monday of the entire unity of the Cabinet, he was indulging in a flight of imagination. The truth is, that nominal unity was only restored on Satur-

day and this result was obtained after an angry discussion in the Cabinet and by the threatened resignation of four members. Earl Beaconsfield was in favor of a violent and sensational policy. The British fleet had been ordered to rendezvous at Corfu, with sealed instructions to sail for the Bosphorus, and there was every probability that an armed demonstration in favor of the Turks would be made. Gladstone's resolutions, or rather the expression of public feeling they invoked, put matters in an entirely different position. When the Cabinet met on Monday, several members declared that they would not at present sanction an armed demonstration on the Bosphorus. The four members to whom the country owes the final decision of the Government in favor of neutrality, are Lord Salisbury, Sir Stafford Northcote, Lord Carnarvon and Mr. Cross. They declared that they would not support a warlike policy, and as their retirement would break up the Government, the Prime Minister and his warlike colleagues were compelled to submit. It should not, however, be forgotten that this policy is provisional, and that the whole Cabinet recognize that intervention may become necessary.

Rome, May 16.—The Pope's health again causes disquietude, perhaps with more reason than previously. He has no special ailment. He is in good spirits, but is extremely and increasingly weak, and has again taken to being carried in a chair, which he does not leave during an audience. Audiences continue almost daily, and are a source of considerable uneasiness to the Pope's medical attendants.

London, May 16.—The British fleet have arrived off Port Said. The Hotspur is moored at the entrance of the canal. The Devastation has taken up a position commanding the mouth of the harbor, and the remainder of the fleet is anchored two miles off shore, completely guarding the entrance of the canal at Port Said.

London, May 15.—Captain Henry Small and his sister, and chief officer Dyer and three seamen of the American barque Edmund Pbinney, died of cholera at Akvab on the 25th March last. Cholera prevailed to an alarming extent about Chittagong, and the islands inundated by a great storm wave on the 31st October. Fifty thousand deaths have been reported from cholera in addition to a large number from pestilential fevers.

A correspondent writes: The present state of Jerusalem shows, on a small scale, what that of Turkey in Europe would be if Russia occupied Bulgaria, and also proves the efficiency as a police force of the regular Turkish troops. In the Holy City it is the tolerant protection of the Turkish soldiers, as peace officers, which alone holds back the rival churches from coming to blows, and protects the Jews; for the common hatred of a Jew by these rival Christians is not smaller than that of each other. A Jew guide whom I employed there said he was sure to be killed if he were to go into the Church of the Holy Sepulchre; and his unmistakable terror when I urged him to enter with me showed that he was in earnest. Anyone who has been in the sacred building at Easter knows how well the Turks fulfil their duty. The Russians have, under the guise of a convent, built a fortress outside the walls of Jerusalem, and this commands the city. Allow Russia to occupy Bulgaria and she will in likewise threaten Constantinople. When the "Sick Man" dies, their fortress gives the Russians power over Jerusalem, and then woe betide their rival Christians and the Jews. Would it be otherwise as to those inhabiting Turkey in Europe?

A correspondent of the Times writes:—"The Danube floods are never expected to commence falling before the 1st of June, and it would certainly be hazardous for the Russians to attempt a passage of the river in force before the waters subside, unless the crossing is made above Widdin, where the banks are perfectly practicable. At the present time delay will be good policy for the Russians, as the Turks have already placed every man they can muster in the field, while the Russians can constantly increase their armies up to the chosen moment of action. Therefore it is an advantage to delay the crossing of the Danube until the river is perfectly practicable at all points where the Russian commanders intend entering Bulgaria. Nevertheless, a Russian General remarked the other day to an acquaintance of mine that they were perfectly prepared to sacrifice 300,000 men in forcing the passage of the Danube, should circumstances force them to immediate action in that direction."

Particulars are furnished from Peri of the funeral of Mrs. Hobart, the highly-esteemed wife of Hobart Pasha. Not only the English colony, but representa-

tives of almost every nationality in the Turkish capital, were present at the ceremony. The Sultan sent his aide-de-camp, Colonel Ahmed Ali Bey; several Pashas, and many other Turkish officers, also attended. The coffin, which was carried by British men-of-war's men, was heralded in the procession by a number of Turkish seamen, and messages of condolence were sent from all sections of the Turkish community. As bearers of the pall eight of the best known English residents officiated. The body and the mourners were conveyed in three large steamers to Scutari Cemetery, where a choral service was performed, many ladies kneeling by the side of the grave: **Hobart Pasha was too seriously indisposed** in consequence of his sudden bereavement to attend the obsequies, but has since then somewhat recovered.

Something like a gun, says "Coming Events," has been invented by Sub-Constables Kovnan and Patchells, of Waterford, and will (as we are informed) shortly be brought over to the War Office for inspection. It consists of forty chambers of regular rifle size, enclosed in a single cylinder. The chambers can be simultaneously charged with cartridge, fired and cleaned out with such rapidity that the weapon fires 800 rounds per minute. The inventors calculate that if 10,000 men were armed with 1,666 of these guns, they would fire 1,332, 800 shots per minute; whilst if 600,000 men were armed with the Martine Henry rifle they could not fire more than 1,200,000 per minute. In other words, 10,000 men armed with 1,666 of the "Irresistible Guns," as they are called, would be equivalent to 1,000,000 men each provided with the ordinary British rifle. The gun is built on wheels, and is cased with bullet-proof steel; and in case of retreat the men could still fire about 800 shots per minute.

Obituary.—E. C. Cawley, M.P. for Salford; the Hon Augusta Holdsworth; T. S. Morris, J.P. and D.L. for Warwick; Andrew Halliday; Sir Thomas Tilson; the Hon W. Ashley; Lady Frances Pettward; Dowager Lady Mary Molesworth; Mrs Cobden; Sir A. Bannerman, Bart; the Hon W. O'Callaghan, M.P.; Mrs Lyon Playfair; Lord Sudely; Sir John S. Ripon, Bart.

HARBOR BOARD.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26.

The Board held its usual fortnightly meeting to-day.

Present:—Messrs Kinross, (Chairman) Vautier, Smith, Rhodes, Kennedy, Sutton, and Newman.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr Parker's tender for metalling the quay at the western breastwork, at £89 19s was accepted.

Messrs Margoliouth and Banner's tender for undertaking the auction sales of reserves for the Board was accepted, the price being £1 11s 6d per diem.

A letter to the Engineer to the Board was read intimating the resignation of Mr R. Bell as Inspector of Works, the Contractor having offered Mr Bell a higher salary. The Engineer recommended the appointment of Mr Henry Renouf.

The Board agreed to the recommendation accepting Mr Bell's resignation, and appointing Mr H. Renouf in his place.

Mr. Vautier proposed and Mr. Sutton seconded, "That the ferry from the Eastern to the Western Spits be leased for a term of five years, with the under-mentioned conditions, viz., the lessee to provide a steam launch to carry not less than 20 passengers. The ferryman to be in attendance from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily, (Sundays included); the launch to run every half hour if required. The lessee to provide a suitable punt capable of taking over a team of bullocks and dray, the launch to have sufficient power to tow the punt across when required. The whole of the above to be subject to the approval of the Harbor Board, or their Engineer. Tenders to be called for after the passing of this resolution, and receivable up to August 1st next."

Carried. In accordance with the Act the Chairman's term of office having expired, Mr. Sutton nominated Mr. Kinross; Mr. Smith nominated Mr. Rhodes. The latter gentleman declining to accept office, Mr. Smith withdrew his proposal, and therefore Mr. Kinross will be elected at the next meeting unopposed.

Vouchers for payments were passed and ordered to be paid, and the Board then adjourned.

The steamer Hauraki arrived in Manulau harbor on Monday from Sydney.

THE WOOL MARKET.

The course of the wool market since June last has been such as to baffle calculation. In that month a very heavy fall took place, which brought prices down from a comparatively high level to within a penny per pound of the lowest rates in the disastrous year 1870. By August a considerable recovery had taken place, which was still further improved in the November-December series of sales. All this latter advance, however, was lost in the February-March series, and the fall which has since taken place at the current sales must have brought us down again to about June values. A slight gleam of hope is given in the latest telegram, which speaks of a strong competition and a partial recovery, but with the probability of England being involved in the war, it was hardly to be expected that confidence would be strong enough to sustain the market in the face of heavy arrivals. It is quite possible that the clothing of a large number of troops placed suddenly on a war footing may tell on the demand for some descriptions, but all other departments of trade must be affected unfavourably by the uncertain relations of England with the two belligerents. If Turkey continues to hold her own as well as she appears to be doing up to the present time, intervention on the part of Great Britain will be unnecessary. It is only when Russian successes begin to threaten British interests in the East that England will step in. Therefore, on the whole, our sympathies and interest will be in a measure on the side of the Turks, whose defeat means war and numerous other evils. While this uncertainty exists, we can scarcely hope for any permanent recovery in wool, and must derive what consolation we can from the fact that wheat is high, and that the losses by flood will be more than made up to the farmers by the increased price. This, however, will not be so satisfactory to consumers as to producers, since it means a dearer loaf. It is a striking illustration of the character of modern commerce that causes so remote an effect us so nearly—just as a tidal wave setting from the shores of South America wrecks a vessel on our coasts.—Otago Witness.

THE EDITOR AT HOME.

We were sitting in our sanctum the other day, engaged in whistling a few of the lively strains from an oratorio, at the same time twirling a pair of scissors in the air and wishing something startling would turn up, as the "news" was scarce and the fenshish printers on the floor above were displaying enormous appetites for copy. Suddenly the door of the sanctum was opened cautiously, a head resembling a dilapidated door mat was pushed in, and a hollow voice, which seemed to come through a speaking tube from the speaker's boots, said:—

"Be this a Republican newspaper?"

"Yes," we answered, decidedly convinced that the speaker had never heard of that proverb, "Cleanliness is next to Godliness," and wondering whether he was a Councilman candidate, or was a canvasser with elegant rheumatic-looking portraits of the Presidential aspirants.

"You ain't heard nothing of that plot, have you yet?" and here his voice sank to an explosive whisper; "It's only begun growing now, sorter hid like, but it's bound to come to light, and the whole country will be filled with it. It's an awful plot, and I'm the man that can uncover it and lay it bear to the world. It's a coming to a head about spring time—'bout inauguration day."

"Heavens, you don't say so? Won't you give us some particulars, and we will print them?"

"That's just what I was a coming to. But I am poor, you know, and this information is 'news,' and what is 'news' is worth paying for, ain't it now?"

"Why, certainly; we don't mind paying for it if you do not furnish it to any other paper. Now, here are 10 dollars, and what's this awful plot?"

Grasping the 10 dollars, and looking towards the stairs, the mysterious man of the door-mat heal mumbled: "Why, the grass plot up in my back-yard. 'Bout spring-time 'twill be uncovered; snow's on it now."

But he was not quite quick enough for us. When we got through thrashing him we laid him gently down on the floor, walked over him about ten times on the bridge of his nose, and we are now anxiously waiting the verdict of the coroner's jury.

The Rev. Josiah Henson, the original of Mrs. Beecher Stowe's "Uncle Tom," has left England, having succeeded in raising subscriptions to pay off the debt on the Dawn Institute and provide a fund of £2,000 for his own benefit.

ALLEGED CRUELTY TO A PATIENT IN THE MOUNT VIEW ASYLUM.

A STATEMENT having found currency that a man, who was committed to the Asylum two years ago in a state of sound bodily health, had just been discharged, reduced by the treatment there received to the condition of a helpless cripple for the remainder of his life, we (Post) made full inquiry into the matter to-day, and the facts of the case, as represented to us, are as follows:—The patient referred to, whose name is John Gooder, was admitted to the Asylum, about two years ago, sound in limb, but feeble in general health, and weak on his legs, being advanced in years and mentally deranged. In November last Gooder complained of pain in his left hip-joint, and stated that he had hurt it by falling in consequence of a push received from one of the attendants, while he was in the act of passing through the doorway between two of the yards attached to the Asylum. The attendant on being spoken to on the subject, denied that he had pushed Gooder, and asserted that Gooder, who, as already stated, was very feeble on his legs, fell while in the act of making a turn in the doorway, by catching his foot against the sill which is about four inches in height. On the patient being examined, no traces of any bruise were discovered, but he complained of pain and lameness, which evidently were caused by the state of his hip-joint. That joint was found to be somewhat swollen, apparently from the effects of a fall. In the opinion of the medical officer, a slight fall, in the case of a man advanced in years and feeble in condition would be sufficient to account for the injury. Neither shortening nor distortion was noticeable after the accident, and about a month after Gooder first complained of pain, its effects appeared to be passing away, but subsequently he complained of pain in the other leg which for a time was worse than the injured one. The ultimate result is that he probably is permanently crippled. None of the other attendants or patients seemed to have witnessed the accident. We understand that Gooder frequently has stated since his discharge that he was kindly treated in the Asylum, and had no apprehensions in case of being sent there again. We believe that his Worship the Mayor took the initiative in this matter, and that on his representations an enquiry took place, when the above facts were elicited.

ROUMANIANS NOT UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE RUSSIANS.

London, May 18.—The Times Vienna correspondent, commenting on the feeling in Roumania towards the Russians, says:—"Despite the excitement caused by the Turkish bombardment of Roumanian towns, there are not wanting men who will not allow themselves to be led away by the prevailing current. They were not able to stem it, but a reaction seems to have set in very soon, and despite all pains taken to disguise the real state of things, the conviction is already dawning that far from having taken steps toward her cherished independence, Roumania has only taken steps toward exchanging a Turkish master for a Russian master: King Log for King Stork."

NOT A CHICKEN.

At precisely two o'clock by the bells the other morning a policeman caught sight of a negro who was skulking along a fence, and he called upon him to stop.

"Ize in a big hurry to ketch de mawning train?" called back the African.

The officer threatened to shoot if he did not stop, and the skulker halted.

"Does you imagine that I hez got a chicken heah?" he asked, as the officer approached.

"Yes, sir—that's exactly what I imagine."

"And if I hezen't got a chicken I kin go right down to de depot, kin I?"

"I guess you can."

"Well sah, den gase on dis yere an' tell me if de name is chicken!" said the man, as he pulled a big goose around in front of him.

The officer went back on his word, and took the negro under arrest, and the victim was yesterday explaining:

"Whar's de use ob tryin' to get along wid dem p'licemen? De best way is to drop de goose an' make fur de woods."

The other day, in a New York up-town residence, a ring at the door was heard, and the servant girl, calling to her mistress, said: Please mum, go to the door, an' ef it's anybody for me, tell 'em I'm engaged."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE RABBIT PEST.

SIR,—In a paragraph to-day you say—"We have lately heard that some rabbits have been let loose on the Ruataniwha Plains." The rabbits have been plentiful on the north side of the plains for the last ten years, but have been prevented by that most useful bird the hawk from multiplying so fast as to become an evil. If a certain society would let what they are ignorant about alone, anything so monstrous as the polecat, weasel, and black snake to keep the rabbits under, would never by heard of; but when such murderous doings are tolerated, where it will end no rabbit can tell.

A BUNNY.
Ruataniwha Plains, June 21, 1867.

"THE HASTY SCRIBBLER."

SIR,—I notice a paragraph in the Herald denying the accuracy of Mr Harding's report of Mr Justice Richmond's remarks on the libel case. Permit me to say as one who was close to the judge when he used the epithet of "hasty scribbler," to fully bear out what Mr Harding has furnished to you. I cannot understand why the "hasty scribbler" should be so exercised when his own lawyer during the case termed his letter "hasty, turgid, ambiguous, and stupid."—I am, &c.,

ONE WHO WAS PRESENT.
Napier, June 22, 1877.

NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF AUCKLAND.

The correspondent of the London Tablet, writing from Rome, on April 21st ultimo, gives the following item of news in connection with the new Roman Catholic Bishop for the Auckland Diocese:—"The Bishopric of Auckland, New Zealand, some time vacant by the resignation of the Right Rev. Dr. Croke, now Archbishop of Cashel, has been filled by the appointment thereto of Dr. Chareyre, a French priest of the Diocese of Wellington." From this it may be assumed that the Bishop elect will at once take over the administration of his charge. We understand that intelligence has been received from Dr. Moran, Bishop of Dunedin, intimating his intention of paying an early visit to Auckland, and no doubt Bishop Chareyre will accompany him, and be duly consecrated. Father Jean Pierre Chareyre has been in New Zealand for about nine years. He was for several years connected with the Nelson district, and after some time left Nelson city for the West Coast of the Middle Island, from which he removed not long since to Wellington. The new Catholic Bishop of Auckland is a man of high culture, of attractive manners, and of kindly yet firm disposition. His labours in Nelson province and on the West Coast, were marked with earnestness and self-forgetfulness, and all who know him—especially those who knew him intimately—entertained for him both respect and affection. We believe His Holiness the Pope could not have made a better choice for Auckland.

SCHAMYL, THE YOUNGER.

Schamyl, the prophet Chief of the Circassians, in his day had a deadly hate of the Russians, and gave them much trouble. He was at last subdued and captured, however, and that is something his people will never forget nor forgive. Schamyl has a surviving son, who inherits all his father's rancour, and perhaps was made to take a vow, as Hannibal did, never to be at peace with his country's enemies. This son, it is believed, has been the cause of the insurrection reported in Circassia. The country inhabited by his people is a succession of lofty mountains, with inaccessible places of retreat, to which they always flee when pursued by a Russian army. The only practicable road for the passage of troops and supplies, from Russia into Asiatic Turkey, traverses the gorges of the Caucasian mountain chain, which will afford the Circassians an excellent opportunity to annoy a marching column. What renders the presence of young Schamyl among his people quite valuable is the fact that he was in Constantinople a few weeks ago, from which city he disappeared suddenly without announcing his point of destination.

Mr. Frost gave a lecture on electro-biology and mesmerism in the Oddfellows Hall on Saturday evening. The attendance was very meagre. As a lecturer on these subjects, there is no comparison between Dr Carr and Mr. Frost.

RESIDENT MAGISTRATE'S COURT

FRIDAY JUNE 22.

(Before R. Stuart, Esq., R.M.)

DRUNKENNESS.

S. Grigsby was charged with drunkenness, and fined 5s, or in default, the usual alternative of 24 hours imprisonment.

CIVIL CASES.

M'Crae v Tracy.—This was a claim for 15 weeks wages and money lent. Defendant denied his liability, pleading that she had only stopped at his tent as a friend of his wife's, and the sum of £7 lent he kept for board. Judgment was given for £7 and costs.

Vickers and Tye v. Henare Tomoana.—Claim £19 18s 9d. There was no appearance for plaintiff, and judgment was given for the amount claimed and costs £1 17s.

E. Lyndon v. D. Lindsay.—Claim £7 2s 10d. The amount of £4 7s 6d had been paid into Court, the balance been disputed. From the evidence of Mr Lyndon it appeared that some negotiation had been entered into between himself and defendant for exchange of some land. Mr Lyndon had the land he was to have got in exchange fenced in and now that the negotiations had fallen through, claimed the cost of erecting the fence on the land. The defendant denied that he was a party to any such negotiations. Judgment was given for the amount paid into Court, costs being paid by the plaintiff.

Dinwiddie v. Jessop.—This was an application for a judgment summons. The case was adjourned until to-morrow, owing to the absence of a witness.

Several other cases were settled out of Court.

MONDAY, JUNE 25.

INEBRIETES.

Thos Phillips and John Kelton were charged by Constable Motley with being drunk. The cases being proved, they were both fined 5s or in default of payment 24 hours imprisonment. Philips paid his fine, but Kelton, having spent all his money, was locked-up.

FORFEITING BAIL.

Richard King, who had been out on bail, neglected to make his appearance, and his bail money of 20s forfeited.

ILLEGALLY ON PREMISES.

William Smith, attracted by the smell from the club culinary, made his way there without lawful permission last evening, and His Worship, for this offence, sent him to the gaol culinary for 14 days, where he could regale himself with prison fare.

TUESDAY, JULY 26.

FORFEITED BAIL.

Patrick Loughran, who was found by Constable Irvine in a state of drunkenness last evening, and had been let out on bail, preferred forfeiting his bail money £1, to making a public appearance in Court.

LUNACY.

A man named John Matthews was brought up on a charge of lunacy. Inspector Scully stated that the man lived at Moteo among the natives with his wife, and he recently exhibited symptoms of insanity. He had not been drinking. Matthews was remanded for medical examination.

CIVIL CASES.

Lindsay v. Newman.—Mr. Sheehan stated that these cases had been referred to arbitration, and settled, with the exception of costs. He would ask the case to be adjourned until Friday next, in order that he might confer with the solicitor on the other side (Mr. Sainsbury.) His Worship acceded to the request.

Mitchell and Beatson v. De Gruchy.—Claim £4 13s 10d. There was no appearance of defendant, and judgment was given for the amount claimed, and costs 9s.

Mitchell and Beatson v. Annabel Lory.—Claim £5 3s 7d. Defendant not appearing, judgment was given for amount, and costs 16s.

This concluded the business.

"That's my butcher," said a leading actor in this city to a friend, at the same time pointing to a lean, cadaverous looking man just passing. "Looks pretty bad, don't he?" "Does look bad," was the reply. "Looks as if you had dealt with him a long time, don't he?" The subject was immediately changed.

RUSSO-TURKISH WAR.

By our cablegrams, it would appear that the tide of battle has turned against the Turks in Asia Minor, but it will be observed that the account of the Turkish defeat is from a Russian source. The news, however, may turn out to be true. The utter recklessness of the Russian generals, who prize a victory however unimportant, above the value they place on the lives and sufferings of their troops, would lead us to infer they would overcome all obstacles preventing the capture of an important city like Kars. The defeat of the Turks at Delibate relieves the Russian besieging force at Kars, and will enable it probably to obtain supplies uninterrupted. More active operations are about to be undertaken by the Russians on the Danube than the floods in that river have previously permitted. The exact points selected as the crossing places for the invasion of Turkey proper are not stated in our cablegrams. The battle now hourly expected to ensue on the attempt of the passage of the Danube, we may be sure will be most sanguinary.—Daily Telegraph, June 23.

From Prince Gortschakoff's despatch to the British Government, it is clear the Russians are determined to carry on the war to the bitter end. It is equally plain that they desire the European powers to remain neutral, and leave to Russia and Turkey the settlement of the Eastern question. The Czar is resolved, apparently, to reach Constantinople with his army, and to seize, and hold, a material guarantee for the better government of the Sultan's Christian subjects. That guarantee if secured at all will undoubtedly be a portion of the territory of the Turkish dominion, but what portion must necessarily be left to the force of arms. It may so turn out that Russia is reckoning without her host, but from the tenor of the despatch, it may be inferred she contemplates holding some key, either on the Bosphorus or the Dardanelles, or insisting upon a right, that will open the way from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean. The great battle on the Danube, that was expected to come off, according to the Agent-General's despatch to the New Zealand Government, at the first attempt of the Russians to cross that river, has not yet been fought. The Russians have succeeded in throwing a small force of 6000 men on the Dobrudsha side, where, probably, no resistance was offered. It was close by Galatz, viz., at Reni, where the Russians first tried to cross the river, and met with a repulse. In Asia Minor, the Turks have gained a decided advantage in the recapture of the important fortress of Bayazid. And here it would be as well if we stated that we are at a loss to discover any place answering to the name of Delibate, where some serious fighting was reported in recent cablegrams. We are under the impression that the word in the cable message should have read Diarbekir, and not Delibate, and then, if this should prove correct, the following paragraph from the Melbourne Argus will explain in some measure the Russian march upon Diarbekir:—By the occupation of Bayazid the Russians have acquired a most important *point d'appui*. It is the key to Koordistan, to Diarbekir, to Mosul and the whole course of the Tigris as far as Bagdad. Supposing that the Czar could count upon the assistance or the neutrality of the Koords, and were assured of the connivance of Persia—of which latter there can be little doubt—an army could be marched down into Syria, the distance being not more than 600 miles, and the route practicable throughout. "I do not think," writes Major General Mackintosh, "that there is a place of greater importance than Bayazid, in a military point of view, in the whole of Western Asia. There is a continuous descent along the banks of the Euphrates to the Persian Gulf; but as this great valley conduits through the range of Mount Taurus into Syria, its value to Russia on this account alone must be obvious. It is much nearer to her present frontier, and much more accessible than Erzeroum, which lies on the western branch of the Euphrates. Should the contingencies of war render it possible for Russia to push on a force into the northern part of Syria, the goodwill of the Koords, at the moment of undertaking such an operation would afford her an immense advantage." It will thus be seen that the recapture of Bayazid by the Turks is a more important advantage than might at first be thought.

It will be seen by the report of the Harbor Board proceedings in to-day's Mercury, that tenders will be immediately called for the lease of the Spit ferry. The old and unsafe rowing boat is to be done away with, and a steam ferry service substituted in its place.

NATIVE LANDS BILL.

We awaited with some anxiety the appearance of the new Native Lands Bill, confidently hoping that, though it might not at first embody all the features which were intended to be introduced, it would at least afford some clue to escape from the labyrinth in which all native land questions have hitherto been involved. But after the most careful perusal of the Bill, we must confess that even our moderate expectations have not been realised. Let us first consider those clauses which relate to the division of hereditaments. This is admittedly—in this district at least—the most important question to be considered. Clause 63 provides that when applications for division have to be considered, "The Court shall deal with the case as nearly as conveniently may be in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and the practice of the Court in respect of original applications for the investigations of titles." Excepting this very vague and indefinite direction, no rule is laid down for the guidance of the Court, therefore, the Judges will feel a delightful sense of irresponsibility, and each of them will be guided to his decisions by his own peculiar notions of equity and justice.

It would not afford us much surprise if, in such circumstances, their decisions had the same measure of uniformity that was exhibited in the opinions of the Returning Officers during the late County elections. We have no objection to make to the proposed constitution of the Court; nor is it easy to perceive how a Court of Appeal could be constituted which would be more certain to give satisfactory decisions than that which is proposed, but it appears to confer almost absolute power on the Chief Judge.

It may further be pointed out, that by omitting to lay down any rule for determining the respective values of the interests of grantees, or applicants, an inducement will be held out to the natives to exaggerate the value of unalienated shares. Of course the Court would not be bound to accept such evidence or be guided by it in its decisions, but great difficulty would be experienced in sifting the evidence, in order to distinguish the false from the true. The clauses relating to surveys also demand a certain share of our attention, on account of the attempted introduction of what we cannot but regard as a vicious principle in politics, viz., the unnecessary extension of the area of Government patronage. We use the word "unnecessary" advisedly, because it can be clearly shown that such surveys as will be required for the Court can in all cases be executed as economically and efficiently by private surveyors as if performed by the permanent staff of the Colonial Survey Department. One of the most dangerous results to be apprehended from the centralization of Government is, that the accession of power and patronage thereby secured to the Ministry of the day may be ultimately abused for political purposes. Clause 46 invests the Surveyor-General with the sole power of determining who shall be employed to make a survey of any native land, and virtually prohibits any other arrangement without his sanction. There is, at least, no clause empowering a native claimant to make a direct contract for the survey of his claim.

As cases may evidently arise in which the claim of the Government and the natives may conflict, it is manifestly desirable that there should be a clause empowering native claimants to employ a person free from all Ministerial influence. Naturally prone to suspicion as the natives are, in common with other semi-barbarous races, they should be quite unfettered in the choice of their employes. Surveys required to be made under the provisions of the Land Transfer Act are in all cases undertaken by private surveyors, and no reason can be adduced for such a course which would not apply equally in the case of native lands. The experience gained from the Act of 1875, under which surveys were made by private contract, does not afford arguments in favor of either course. At that time there was no effective system of checking surveys, the major triangulation being then incomplete. Now, with strict regulations and conditions for private surveys, there would be ample security that they would be as correct, useful and as cheaply executed, as if undertaken by the officers of the Colonial Survey Department.—Daily Telegraph, June 25.

The appeal of a man named Lawrence, who has been sentenced at the Middlesex Sessions to three months' imprisonment for obtaining money upon a representation that he was a spiritualist medium, was dismissed by the Court of Queen's Bench, and the defendant committed to prison to undergo his sentence.

ADMIRAL ROUS.

ADMIRAL ROUS, whose death is announced by cablegram to-day, was a gentleman whose name was familiar to all persons having connection with the sporting world. His career is thus given in the latest edition of "Men of the Time":—"Admiral the Hon. Henry John Rous, second son of the late Earl of Stradbroke, born Jan. 25, 1795, entered the navy in 1808, served as a midshipman in the Flushing expedition, and received a medal for his bravery in boat actions and land expeditions, in the Bacchante, under Sir W. Hoste. Having sailed in various vessels, he was made Captain in 1823, was appointed to the Rainbow in 1825, and served on the Indian and New Holland stations till 1829, when he went on half-pay. In 1835 he was placed in command of the Pique, which vessel he brought home from Quebec after she had struck on a reef of rocks on the Labrador coast, in the straits of Belle Isle, on which she was jammed for 11 hours, and brought her across the Atlantic with a sprung foremast and without a keel, forefoot, or rudder; making 23 inches leakage per hour; an unparalleled feat of seamanship, for which neither the officers nor ship's company received the slightest reward. Soon after this he completed his sea time, and retired from the service. He was returned one of members for Westminster in the Conservative interest in July 1841, but was defeated in Feb., 1846, in which year the late Sir Robert Peel appointed him a Lord of the Admiralty. He was elected a Steward of the Jockey Club in 1838, and has been re-elected since 1858 to the present time; and in 1840 received the sole control of the Duke of Bedford's horses. Admiral Rous is the author of "Laws and Practice of Horse Racing," termed "the Backbone of the Turf." A magnificent testimonial was presented to him at a banquet in 1866."

FRENCH POLITICS.

"THE French Senate has adopted the proposal for dissolution." Such is the short message received by cablegram, concerning the very curious aspect of French politics. The last general elections resulted in the return of a large majority of Republicans of the liberal type, who not only believed in the adaptability of republican institutions to the circumstances of the country, but also in the safety of granting larger measures of liberty than had hitherto been allowed the people. President McMahon, apparently, acquiesced with the decision of the nation, and the Jules Simon Ministry gave evidence of a desire to fairly give effect to the wishes of the country. Latterly, however, the freedom demanded by legitimate representative government appears to have exceeded the limits to which, in the opinion of the President, it was advisable to go, and the Jules Simon Ministry were dismissed because the Premier declined to make a stand for the preservation of the Conservative Press laws when the Radical Senate repealed them. The Duc de Broglie was then entrusted with the Government, than which nothing could better have shown the President's determination to check the liberal tendencies of the time. The spectacle was then exhibited of a Ministry being appointed to office that could reckon on no support in the Senate. That the President was heartily abused by the Republican party for this disregard of representative institutions may be well imagined, and the next news from Paris was that the Mayor of that city had been arrested for an attack upon him. The President soon found that it was impossible to administer public affairs with an unsupported Ministry, and on the 18th of this month he asked the Senate to assent to dissolve, because the Government were unable to exist. The Radicals were paving their way to power, and the only means to prevent such an event would be to resort to a general election. The President's request was submitted to a committee, and our latest cablegram states that the Senate has adopted the proposal for dissolution. Should the next election result once more in the return of a Radical Parliament, it is not improbable McMahon will resign, and M. Thiers take his place.

A man named William Blackburn met with a terrible death recently at the works of the Aire-side Hematite Iron Company, Leeds. He had gone to sleep on some slag at the foot of a "tip," and before he was observed a mass of red-hot slag was shot down. He was observed to look up at the moment of tipping, but before he could effect his escape was overwhelmed by an avalanche of incandescent metal and burnt to death. His skeleton was dug out soon afterwards.

THE TE KOOI SCARE EXPLAINED.

(From the Poverty Bay Standard, June 20.)

CAPTAIN PORTER, having returned from the East Coast after the two public meetings had been held at the Court House, and being informed what had passed, undertook to enquire into and trace the reports which had been circulated. For this purpose, Captain Porter sent for Te Tihī, a youth about 18, as also for others, Rakiora included.

Te Tihī belongs to the Tauranga tribes. A number of his people are residing at the Kuiti. Another native named Te Hapi, of the Wairoa, had a dream, and he felt a desire to go to Te Kooi to get an interpretation of it. Te Tihī, hearing of this, expressed a desire to accompany Te Hapi that he might see his relations, as also the country. The two went together. On arriving at the Kuiti, they saw a number of natives using horses for thrashing out wheat. They shook hands with many of them, among whom was Te Kooi, who, however, was unknown to the two natives. Te Tihī afterwards recognised Te Kooi by his being deficient of a finger, lost at Taupo. Te Tihī retired to his friends on one side of a creek on the opposite side of which resided Te Kooi. Just before leaving to return to the Wairoa, Te Kooi sent for him, saying he wanted to speak to him. Te Tihī went, when Te Kooi asked him whether he knew a woman named Matha. Te Kooi said, because if he did he wanted him to take a message to her. He was to tell her that his love for her was very great. That she was his rightful wife, and that the others he had no regard for. If she loved him still she was to rejoin him in Waikato, either by the way of Taupo or by steamer to the Thames and so on to Ohinemuri where if she did not like to come he would meet her. Te Tihī said he would deliver the message and he did so. His companion Te Hapi was the bearer of many messages from the Wairoa natives who had lately seen Te Kooi. Te Tihī did not himself hear Te Kooi deliver the messages to Te Hapi. Te Hapi told him of the message as he was returning on his way to Wairoa. Te Hapi when he returned to the Wairoa delivered messages to this effect: "Tell the natives that if any of them wish to tangi (condole) with me let them come; but not in the same way that Arate and others had come before, as he was not a god and able to cure and make men whole. He said Rakaroa must not visit me. If he does the guns will return (meaning that he would shoot him.) But if Paratene wishes to fetch away his sister he can do so. Tell the people to be steadfast in their worship of the Gospel, and industrious in planting food, or use means by which they may live long."

Te Kooi during one of his interviews with Te Hapi presented him with two Bibles which contained the particular heads of the additions to his belief. But he did not in particular refer to this (peculiar) worship when he was speaking in the message he sent to the natives of the Wairoa recommending them to be steadfast in the worship of the Gospel. This was the substance of what Te Tihī communicated to Captain Porter but there were additions by others—as in these instances, and to the effect, that if Rakaroa stayed at his kainga (at Reinga) he (Te Kooi) would come to him and that that would be the last of Rakaroa's days. Also that if Martha did not join him in Waikato he would with his own hand get possession of her. Martha says she never received such a message from Te Tihī.

In reply to a direct question to Te Tihī by Capt. Porter, whether Te Kooi had expressed his intention to resume hostilities.

Te Tihī said that Te Kooi was living under suzerainty at the King's place and never took part or spoke in assemblies of Kingites further than to welcome the guests. A large meeting of the Thames and Matorua natives was held at the King's place while Te Tihī was there. Matters relating to the welfare of the natives were referred to but Te Kooi took no part.

And this is the whole of the substance pertaining to the Te Kooi scare. And we hope as Captain Porter leads us to believe this will be the last of it.

The scare on the part of the Maoris in the district, and on the East Coast is due to the belief on the part of the natives that the Europeans were better informed than themselves.

The Rochester Democrat says—"The sale of Bibles in Chicago is said to be three times as great as it was a year ago. Mr Moody drew attention to the work, and they think it is a new book."

BOILER EXPLOSION AT SEA.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON BOARD THE STEAMER SIDONIAN, OF GLASGOW.

THE CAPTAIN AND SIX OF THE CREW KILLED.

Boston, 6th May, 1877.

The steamer China reports that at half-past 6 o'clock on the evening of 30th April, latitude 48 deg. 21 min., longitude 33 deg. 20 min., she was signalled by the steamer Sidonian, of Glasgow, from New York for Bristol, disabled and requiring a surgeon. At 7 p.m. she stopped, and sent the ship's surgeon on board, who returned and reported that on the 29th, of April the boilers exploded, killing the captain, three engineers, two firemen and one trimmer, and injuring the cook. The rest of the crew were well, and no further assistance was required.

ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS.

The following additional particulars of the explosion are obtained from the purser of the China:—Early on the morning of the 29th a pin in the slot of the expansion eccentric of the engine became disarranged, and while it was being adjusted the explosion occurred. Milkan and James Gray, engineers; Henry Tuggell and James Power, firemen; John Hodge, trimmer; R. Hutchinson, cook, were wounded. When the surgeon of the China went on board all were dead but one fireman. When asked the cause of the explosion he answered:—"I will tell you in the morning," but he died in a few minutes, and it was impossible to learn the cause, as all who witnessed it were killed. The Sidonian proceeded under sail, and will not arrive at her destination under two weeks.

TOO GOOD A CHANCE TO LOSE.

When a grocer's boy yesterday delivered a basket full of packages to a lady on Columbia-Street, her quick eye detected the fact that she had received only eleven oranges in place of a dozen. "Young man, you ate that other orange as you came along!" she exclaimed as she recounted the number. "Never—never!" he earnestly replied. "Well, where is it then?" "Perhaps they counted wrong, ma'am." Well, I'll go right back with you and see." "I didn't eat the orange," he began, after a little reflection, "but I'll tell you how it was. Down here, about two blocks, I saw an old chap out in his garden with his hat hanging on a plum tree as he sawed at a limb. He was the bald-headedest man I ever saw, ma'am." "Well, what has that to do with the orange?" she asked. "Lots, ma'am—heaps. If you was a boy and you saw such a head, and you knew you could hit it and get away all right, wouldn't you put an orange agin it?" "It was very wicked," she softly answered. "Well, I dunno but 'twas: but if you'd seen that old gent catch his legs and make a jump, and if you'd heard him yell out as he came down and grabbed for his hat, why, ma'am you'd lend me another orange to pop at some one as I go back!"—Detroit Free Press.

"Isn't he a darling little Spring blossom?" asked Mrs. Kobobulus, dandling the crowing baby towards her husband. "Yes," grunted Mr. Kobobulus, standing before the glass, deep in the mystery of fastening a collar with three button-holes on one button, "yes, he is a regular little crow cus." And it made Mrs. Kobobulus so mad, she threw the baby at him.

TO ARCHITECTS REQUIRING PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE.

DESIGNS prepared from rough sketches. Plans colored or etched in first style J. SPARROW, Architect and Building Surveyor, Waipukurau.

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 colony.

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

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS.

NAPIER—TAKAPAU.

TIME TABLE.

	DOWN.				SUN-DAYS.
	A.M.*	A.M.†	A.M.	P.M.	
Spit, depart ..	7.40	11.0	3.40		
Napier } arrive ..	7.50	11.10	3.50		
Napier } depart ..	6.45	7.55	11.30	4.10	2.30
Farnndon depart	7.10	8.20	11.55	4.35	2.55
Hastings, depart	7.55	8.45	12.20	5.0	
Pak Paki } arrive ..	9.5			5.18	
Pak Paki } depart	7.53	9.13		5.20	
Te Aute, } arrive	8.32			6.5	
Te Aute, } depart	8.35	9.55		6.5	
Kaikora, depart	9.15	10.35		6.45	
Waipawa, depart	9.35	10.55		7.5	
Waipuku- } arrive	9.55	11.15		7.25	
rau } depart	10.0	11.30			
Takapau, arrive	10.50	12.20			

* On Monday and Thursday only.
† On Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.

UP. WEEK DAYS. SUN-DAYS. A.M. A.M. P.M. P.M. Takapau, depart .. 7.10 .. 3.15 .. Waipawa, depart .. 7.30 .. 3.35 .. Kaikora, depart .. 7.50 .. 3.55 .. Te Aute } arrive .. 8.31 .. 4.55 .. } depart .. 8.33 .. 5.15 .. Paki Paki } arrive .. 9.12 .. 5.32 .. } depart .. 9.12 .. 5.32 .. Hastings, depart .. 9.32 1.0 5.42 5.20 Farnndon, depart .. 9.57 1.25 5.7 5.45 Napier } arrive .. 10.22 1.50 6.32 6.10 } depart .. 7.20 10.25 3.0 .. Spit, arrive .. 7.30 10.35 3.10 .. * Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday only.

Passengers are requested not to enter or leave the carriages while in motion. Season Tickets issued to and from all Stations. Apply to the Manager. To ensure despatch, Parcels should be booked fifteen minutes before the starting of the Train

W. J. MILLER, General Manager. Napier, March 8, 1877.



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 dragoon Mahomet to inform me "Fakay 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."

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HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

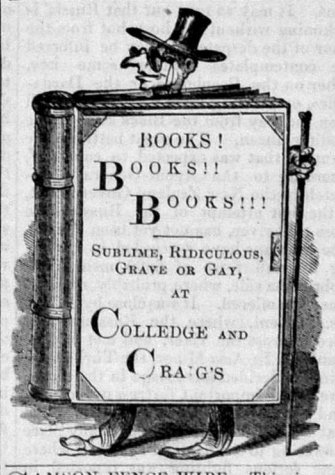
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Mr. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls,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

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Beware of all compounds styled HOLLOWAY'S PILLS and OINTMENT With a "New York" Label.



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SUBLIME, RIDICULOUS, GRAVE OR GAY, AT COLLEDGE AND CRAIG'S

SAMSON FENCE WIRE.—This is an entirely new article, and is fast superseding the old style. Five Wires weigh Ten cwt. per mile, and costs in Melbourne £12 10s, versus Seventeen cwt. ordinary wire costing £14 10s, (the relative cost will be the same at the principal ports of Australasia) with the advantage of having Seven cwt. less to pay carriage for. Over 1,000 TONS sold by one firm last year, giving unbounded satisfaction. Send for full descriptive circular with innumerable testimonials from leading colonists, and judge for yourselves. McLEAN BROS., and RIGG, Importers, and General Ironmongers, Melbourne.

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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 shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—See in the Civil Service Gazette.

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