SHIPPING.

(By Cable.)

Melbourne, Nov. 10.

Sailed—Rotomahana for the Bluff.

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Ashburton Branch:

EAST STREET.

WM SPARROW,
Manager.

910c

TOWN EDITION.

[Issued at 5 p.m.]

The Ashburton Guardian.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1880.

Drunken Holidays.—The holiday of yesterday brought its usual quantum of inebriates to the police station. A man named George Nugent, who had taken a larger skinful than he could carry, got to wrestling with one of his pot companions, and was turned out of the Commercial Hotel. Constable Smart took him in charge. Two men, whose whisky had been of the sympathetic kind, felt their bowels of compassion begin to yearn for the unfortunate Nugent. We do not know that, like Tam O'Shanter, they "loved him like a vera brither," because of the frequency of their drinking bouts with him, but anyhow they essayed to follow him to quod, and bail him him out. The constable, finding that the sympathetic ones were as drunk as the man he had apprehended, took charge of them also, and he had three prisoners instead of one. A plea for being let off was set up by the sympathetic two that they had drays and horses standing out on the belt. The constable made inquiries, and found that the plea was well founded on fact, and he brought in the animals, which were in a sorry state, having been standing a long time without food, while their stupid drivers were getting more stupid with liquor. Yesterday the trio were had up before Mr. Nugent Wood, and were thus disposed of:—Nugent was fined 10s. for being drunk; Par Petersen was fined 5s. for being drunk, 10s. for leaving his horses, and 25s. costs; Donnlan was fined been Par's. Another drunk [illegible] having Burgess was fined 5s., but failed to pay, and Sergeant Felton has found a compulsory job for him at the station. To-day Mr. Wood sat on another two drunks, one named Hill, who paid 5s. fine, and another named Dawson, who contributed another crown, with a shilling extra for the express in which his drunken carcase was wheeled to the police station.

The Temuka Review.—The review and sham fight came off yesterday at Temuka in excellent weather. The C.Y.C. left Ashburton the previous night, joining the contingent there, and taking part in the sham fight in the morning. The Ashburton Rifles left yesterday morning with the first train, and reached Temuka somewhat late for the sham fight, but in time to take part in the review, which took place on the parade ground. The mounted officers were Captain Hammersley, of the Timaru Artillery, and Captain Young, of the Temuka Rifles. After several movements had been gone through, amongst which was receiving a cavalry charge, the horses and men of the contingent behaving admirably under fire, the men were marched back to the fine drill shed of the local corps, where an ample luncheon was supplied to the visitors. Ample justice having been done to this, the Ashburton men adjourned to the butts, and fired off an extemporised rifle competition, with the following result, the ranges being 200 and 300 yards, five rounds at each:—Corporal Jessop, 12, 12—24; Color-Sergeant Dolman, 12, 10—22; Pvt. Craighead, 14, 2—16; Corporal Vaughan, 10, 5—15; Privates Worner and Leitch, 6, 4—10 each. The remainder did not finish. The afternoon was filled in with sports, got up by the Yeomanry Cavalry, which were well attended by the general public. Ashburton made a very fair appearance at the sports. In the heads and posts competition, Sergeant Scott carried off the first trophy, with sixteen points, Trooper Waddell being second with ten points. There were eight competitors, amongst whom was also Trooper Chambers, of Ashburton, who rode with great dash, and took such heads and rings as he gained very fairly. Sergeant Scott and he were certainly the most interesting operators in the competition, though Messrs. Waddell and Hooper, who tied for second place, did their work remarkably well. The cup won by Sergeant Scott will be on view in Orr and Co.'s window for a short ime. The other Ashburton men who took honors in the competitions were—Corporal Cookson, of the Cavalry, first in cavalry sword exercise in a field of nine competitors, winning, we believe, a handsome medal owing to the difficulty of obtaining a suitable prize sword in the colony; and Private Groves, who won the half-mile handicap foot race from scratch. The Timaru, Temuka, and Ashburton brass bands were present on the grounds, at the sports, and the Timaru and Ashburton bands played during the volunteer parade. We must certainly give our own band credit for playing in admirable time, so that marching to their music is easy. Though the other bands may claim a higher musical position, we fancied they were not so useful as military bands as is our own. With the last train the Rifles returned, and were dismissed at the parade ground. We may add that Lieut. St. George Douglas accompanied the Rifles, but being only newly gazetted, was not in uniform, and the command fell to Color-Sergeant Dolman. The Company has not been very handsomely treated by Government. Notwithstanding repeated promises, not a single belt has been forwarded to the men, who have thus no opportunity of learning the bayonet exercise, and yesterday they paraded with such makeshifts for bayonet frogs as they themselves could manufacture.

The R.M.—In a Gazette of the 1st November to hand we find the appointment of Mr. J. Nugent Wood to the Ashburton Magistracy.

The Volunteers.—As we go to press we learn that a consignment of belts—waist and shoulder—and other accoutrements, for the Ashburton Rifles, are at Lyttelton, and will be here in a few days. Last night a consignment of ammunition arrived here, and skirmishing drill, with blank cartridge, will take place next Tuesday.

Unseemly Conduct in a Church.—What are termed by the press the Sunday evening concerts at St. Paul's, Auckland, appear to be getting lively. At the evening service on Sunday last, the incumbent, the Rev. C. M. Nelson, took occasion to allude to the indecorous conduct of some members of the congregation, who displayed a volatile spirit in the sacred edifice. After commenting on the discreditable nature of such conduct, he stated that, should it be continued, he would refuse to proceed with the service, and the churchwardens would feel it their duty to remove the persons persisting in it.

The Christchurch Derby.—It is worthy of note that the Christchurch Derby was done in faster time than on any previous occasion. The Hon. R. Campbell's Sir Modred, which started at the odds of 4 to 1, did the distance in 2 min. 43 sec. The Melbourne Derby this year occupied one second longer, and many authorities are pretty well agreed that for any race of a mile and a half, the Flemington course is equal to three seconds better than Christchurch. This would give Sir Modred the reputation of being four seconds faster than Grand Flaneur, with the same weight and distance. Lure, the fav rite, and own sister to Lurline, started at the odds of 3 to 2 on, and finished fourth. The result will be disastrous to the metallicians.

A Projected Regatta.—During the cricket match yesterday, the Borough water scheme was subject of comment and admiration by all who attended the grounds—a no small number. There was great unanimity of opinion as to the further improvement of the Domain by constructing two or three dams, by which reaches could be made that would afford water for the holding of regattas for canoes and other light boats. It must be evident to any person having knowledge of earthwork, that the cost would be but trifling as against the advantage to be derived by the public. These dams would supply bathing depths and boating reaches, and the subject is worth the consideration both of the County and Borough Councils.

An Unfortunate Line.—A narrow escape from a very serious accident occurred on the Wellington-Masterton Railway on Monday afternoon. The down train from Masterton had reached to near the summit of the Rimutaka when it came into collision with a large tree which had fallen across the line. The leading truck of the train, which contained two horses, had the front portion smashed by the shock. This truck, along with the next carriage, which was occupied by a number of passengers, was thrown off the line. The other passenger carriages and the engine remained on the line, but some excitement was caused amongst the occupants. The obstruction was cleared without delay and the train arrived safely in town, being upwards of an hour behind time. Those in the train must be said to have had a miraculous escape, as some workmen passed the spot a few minutes before the accident occurred and the line was clear, thus showing that the tree must have fallen immediately before the approach of the train.

Cricket.—Yesterday a match between a team of the Christchurch Bakers' Cricket Club and an eleven of the Ashburton Cricket Club was played in the Domain. Neither team could have been looked upon as a representative one, our best local men being absent—notably Denshire, Wix, Mainwaring, and others; consequently, the Metropolitans had the opportunity of taking from Ashburton a cheap laurel. Their victory—if it may be [illegible] to draw stumps at 5.15, and when that hour arrived there were 34 runs to be made by Ashburton to win, and there was plenty of time before the train went to do it. But as the local batsmen were well set and making runs at the rate of one per minute, and only three wickets down, the "floury" men preferred accepting such victory as the agreement gave them to one won on the merits of the game. We cannot refrain from condemning the imputations made by the bakers against the decisions of the Ashburton umpire, which imputations were, to say the least, in bad taste. When cricketers meet a far better spirit should be displayed. We were glad to notice a great improvement on the cricket ground. All that appears to be wanting now is time, and in two years we feel sure the Ashburton ground will be inferior to none in the colony. Mr. William Power dispensed refreshments in the pavilion and this building was a favorite resort of the public, and afforded the onlookers a welcome shelter from a chill nor' wester that blew during a portion of the afternoon. The following are the details:—Ashburton Club.—First Innings.—Andrews, c Easton, b Broughton, 4; A. Fooks, b Broughton, 21; Hodder, run out, 37; MacLaren, c Philpot, b Whitfield, 9; Duncan, run out, 1; Mayo, b Broughton, 3; Marsh, c Philpot, b Broughton, 2; Curtis, run out, 1; Guy, not out, 5; J. Fooks, b Broughton, 2. Extras, 6. Total, 82. Second Innings.—Andrews, b Hislop, 6; A. Fooks, c Philpot, b Bennett, 7; Hodder, not out, 15; MacLaren, b Broughton, 6; Duncan, b Hislop, 2. Extras, 12. Total, 48. The Bakers' Club—Easton, c Duncan, b Andrews, 1; Ritchie, c Fooks, b Andrews, 2; Lloyd, c Hodder, b Duncan, 11; Whitfield, c Andrews, b Andrews, 7; Philpot, run out; Bennett, c Marsh, b Shury, 28; Broughton, b Shury, 2; McNae, run out, 14; Hislop, not out, 1. Extras, 24. Total, 103. Second Innings.—Easton, c Hodder, b Andrews, 0; Ritchie, b Duncan, 2; Lloyd, run out, 16; Whitfield, c Guy, b Andrews, 2; Philpot, b Andrews, 5; Bennett, l b w, b Shury, 5; Broughton, b Andrews, 0; McNae, b Shury, 7; Hislop, not out, 10. Extras, 10. Total, 57.

CABLE NEWS.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

(Per Reuter's Agency.)

Trade Returns.

London, Nov. 6.

The Board of Trade returns of imports for the past month amount to £27,437,500 being a decrease of £4,875,000 compared with last year. The exports for the same period amounted to £18,687,500, being an increase of £1,000,000 compared with last year. Large withdrawals of gold from the Bank of England are being made for North America.

The Troubles at the Cape.

Latest intelligence from Basuto land reports continuous fighting with the enemy. The Cape Rifles, under Colonel Clark, have stormed the Molethanes' stronghold, and driven the enemy from their positions. The Basutos, however, in overwhelming numbers, have recaptured Letherodis, the village which was recently taken by Carrington. The colonials, notwithstanding the strength of the enemy, retired from the village in good order

The Leaguers.

London, Nov. 8.

Meetings are being held in Ireland to protest against the trial of the Irish Land Leaguers.

"Hold the Fort."

Constantinople, Nov. 8.

The Albanian Chiefs have replied to the request of Dervisch Pasha that they should submit without opposition to the cession of Dulcigno. They state they cannot agree to the cession and will defend their territory with their lives. A body of Nizams were landed by Dervisch Pasha, but were prevented by the Albanians from entering Dulcigno.

Constantinople, Nov. 9.

The Porte is sending further reinforcements of troops to Dervish Pasha, who, together with Riza Pasha, has now left the neighborhood of Dulcigno.

The Nihilists.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 8.

The trial of a number of Nihilists charged with having perpetrated the explosion in the Winter Palace in February last has been commenced.

A Famine in Russia.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 9.

Owing to a famine which it is feared is impending in Russia, prices of goods generally, but especially wheat, are rapidly increasing. Much alarm exists, and Government threatens to transport some of the leading grain merchants for the manner in which they have raised prices.

The Markets.

Three per cent. Consols, 99¾; Adelaide wheat, per 496lbs., ex warehouse, 50s. 6d; Adelaide flour, per 280lbs., ex warehouse, 35s. 6d.; New Zealand wheat, ex ship, 44s. 6d.; best Australian beef tallow, per cwt., 35s. 7d.; best mutton tallow, 37s. 3d. The total stock of tallow in London on November 1st was 18,000 casks.

Quiescent.

Calcutta, Nov. 9.

The latest advices from Cabul, dated October 24th, state that everything was quiet.

Garibaldi.

Rome, Nov. 4.

General Garibaldi, is now on a visit to Genoa.

AUSTRALIAN.

(Per Reuter's Agency.)

A Turf Fraud.

Melbourne, Nov. 8.

The stewards of the Victorian Racing Club have decided to disqualify Mata and his jockey for ever for dark riding in the recent races.

We Should Think So.

Melbourne, Nov. 9.

The action taken by Mr. Gaunson with regard to the reprieve of Ned Kelly is generally condemned. The execution will take place on Thursday next.

Review.

There was a grand review held to-day, 3000 Volunteers and 900 British and Foreign seamen being present. The weather was brilliant.

The Markets.

The tone of New Zealand oats generally is quiet but steady. The tone of sugar is very active.

Mata's Disqualification.

It is stated that Mr. Vallance intends bringing an action against the Racing Club for having disqualified Mata, and it is expected that the disqualification will be rescinded.

Gaunson to be Censured.

Melbourne, To-day.

It is expected that a motion for the censure of Mr. Gaunson, for the action he has taken in regard to the Kelly reprieve, will be passed in the Legislative Assembly. Meetings in agitation of reprieve continue to be held in Melbourne and other places.

The Gas Shut off.

Sydney, Nov. 9.

Parliament is dissolved.

New Editor.

A son of Mr. Buzacott, Postmaster-General, succeeds Mr. Lukin in the editorship of the *Brisbane Courier* in January next.

NEW ZEALAND

(Per Press Association.)

[illegible]

Auckland, Nov. 10.

Five specimens from Te Aroha, estimated to yield 10 ounces to the pound, have been lodged in town.

Art.

The Auckland Society of Artists hold an Exhibition in March next.

The Lord Mayor of London.

Messrs. Macarthur and Co. gave a grand banquet last evening to celebrate the installation of Alderman Macarthur, the head of the firm, as Lord Mayor of London. Nearly 200 people were present. Amongst the guests were Bishop Cowie, the Attorney-General, Sir M. O'Rorke, and several members of the House of Representatives. Councillor Waddell, the acting Mayor, proposed the health of the Lord Mayor of London; and Mr. McMillan, his nephew, in responding, said Mr. Macarthur is the first Irishman elected Lord Mayor of London. The toast of the New Zealand Ministry was responded to by Mr. Whitaker, who said that general retrenchment and non-borrowing must be the policy of the country for some time to come. He was positively ashamed to hear the word "repudiation." He had been 40 years in the colony, and felt convinced that, notwithstanding croaking, the colony is in a position to meet its obligations. Sir M. O'Rorke, in replying to the toast of the House of Representatives, did not believe the colony would reel under its burden, though retrenchment pressed hardly on individuals. He was glad to say there was no necessity for imposing fresh restrictions on the debates of the House, the forms existing at Home being sufficient. Bishop Cowie, in his speech, advocated the establishment of a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

Smuggling.

Wellington, To-day.

At the Magistrates' Court a charge against the captain and steward of the ship St. Leonards for being concerned in the recent smuggling case was heard. The steward was fined L25, and the charge against the captain was dismissed.

The Australian Cricketers and New Zealand.

Dunedin, To-day.

A gentleman in town has received a letter from Mr. Alexander, stating that the Australian team are anxious to visit New Zealand, playing two or three days in each of the principal towns. If suitable terms can be arranged, their leave will be extended.

SPORTING.

Metropolitan Meeting, 1880.

The first day of the Metropolitan Meeting (yesterday) was one of grand sunshine, and full advantage of the outing was taken by the public, though the attendance was not so large as the fine day would have led one to anticipate.

The Free Handicap was the first item on the card, and it resulted as follows:—

The Free Handicap. A sweepstakes of 3 sovs. each, with 100 sovs. added. One mile.

Mr W. Walters' b c Billingsgate, by Izaak Walton—Slander, 4 yrs, 8st 6lb (Nolan) ... 1
Mr H. Goodman's ch h York, 5 yrs, 7st 8lb (Rudings) ... 2
Hon W. Robinson's ch h Natator, 5 yrs, 9st (Derrett) ... 3

Adamant, 4 yrs, 7st 11lb; Lara, aged, 8st 4lb; Talent, 4 yrs, 7st 13lb (carried 2lb over); Bogardus, 6 yrs, 7st 11lb; Mischief, 3 yrs, 6st 13lb; Laertes, aged, 7st 4lb; Levant, 6 yrs, 6st 11lb; and Holderness, 3 yrs, 7st 4lb, also ran.

Betting—3 to 2 against Natator, 2 to 1 against York, 3 to 1 against Billingsgate and Mischief.

There was an uneven start for this race, and Mischief soon came to the front, followed by Billingsgate, then Adamant, then the crowd in a knot. This order was kept at the turn, but in the straight Billingsgate got to the front, and after a stiff contest the finish showed as above. Time—2min. 45½secs.

The Derby Stakes, a sweepstakes of 20 sovs each, with 250 sovs added, for three-year-olds. Colts, 8st 10lb; fillies, 8st 5lb. Second horse to save his stake. One mile and a half. Closed with 39 subs.

Hon R. Campbell's b c Sir Modred, by Traducer—Idalia, 8st 10lb (S. Harris) 1
Mr Wm. C. Webb's b f Virginia Water, 8st 5lb (Derritt) ... 2
Mr W. S. Moorhouses' ch c Badsworth, 8st 10lb (Ruddings) ... 3

Lure, 8st 5lb; The Governor, 8st 10lb and Nautilus, 8st 5lb; also ran.

Betting—Even on Lure, 6 to 4 agst Virginia Water, 4 to 1 Sir Modred, 5 and 6 to 1 the others.

Sir Modred and Badsworth had the best of the start, and the latter shot ahead. At the back of the course, Sir Modred became first horse, and Virginia Water came up to him, Badsworth taking a third place; and, after a splendid race, the finish showed the above order. Time—2 min. 43 sec.

The Canterbury Jockey Club Handicap. A sweepstakes of 20 sovs. each, with 500 sovs. added. Second horse to receive 50 sovs. from the stake; third horse to save his stake. Two miles.

Mr G. Fraser's ch h Le Loup, by Traducer—Mermaid, 6 yrs, 8st 9lbs (Wattie) ... 1
Mr. W. Walters' b c Piscatorious, 4 yrs, 7st (Nolan) ... 2
Hon. W. Robinson's br h Foul Play, 6 yrs, 9st (Derritt) ... 3

Betrayer, 4 yrs, 8st 3lb; Hornby, 4 yrs, 8st 5lb; Luna, 6 yrs, 6st 9lb; Sir George, 3 yrs, 6st 9lb; Miss Domett, 3 yrs, 6st 7lb; Kosciusko, 4 yrs, 7st 5lb.

Betting—5 to 2 against Le Loup and Foul Play, 3 to 1 against Betrayer, 5 to 1 Piscatorious, 8 to 1 Marie Antoinette. Her owners declared to win with Marie Antoinette.

Fifty yards from home it was quite evident that the finish lay between Le Loup and Piscatorious, but the chestnut, running with much determination and honesty, stayed the longest, and won a splendid race by a length from Piscatorious. Foul Play who came very fast at the finish, was a fair third, and Betrayer fourth. Time, 3 mins 39½ secs.

The Welcome Stakes. A sweepstakes of 15 sovs each, with 200 sovs added, for two-year-olds. Colts and geldings, 8st 5lb; fillies 8st. Second horse to save his stake. Four furlongs. Closed with 32 subs.

Mr H. Horsford's ch f La Mode, by Albany—Mermaid, 8st (Webster)... 1
Mr G. Fraser's b f Hinemoa, by Totara—Amohia, 8st (Wattie) ... 2
Mr R. Mason's b g Rawdon, by Albany—Becky Sharp, 8st 5lbs (Nolan) ... 3

Amulet, Louis D'Or, Nonpareil and Blue Jacket also ran. Idalium was scratched.

Betting—2 to 1 agst Amulet, 3 to 1 agst Hinemoa, and 5 and 6 to 1 the rest.

After some delay the lot got nicely away on the fall of the flag, with the exception of the favorite, who hung on the post and was never in the hunt. When the lot had fairly settled to their work La Mode and Rawdon were the first to show to the front, and led for some way up the straight. The latter was now supplanted by Hinemoa, who got on terms with her about the distance post. The two ran home together, La Mode just winning a splendid race by a nose, Rawdon a good third, and the rest pretty close up. Time—51½secs. The winner was loudly cheered on returning to scale.

Another Massacre by Islanders.

[By Telegraph.]

Auckland, Yesterday.

News via Noumea states that the cutter Idaho was engaged in recruiting for labor in the island of Sante. On the evening of her arrival from Noumea the natives came and promised to return in the morning with recruits. Two canoes, with about a dozen men in each, came aboard, bartering bananas in a friendly manner and most of them speaking good broken English. On their arrival the ship's boat in charge of a native crew, under the orders of a native named Sammade, made a trip ashore. As soon as she was gone the natives left the cutter for their canoes to get tomahawks, and returned to the vessel armed. They gradually surrounded McMillan, who was at the stern of the vessel cleaning firearms, and suddenly split his head open with a tomahawk. There were no other whites aboard, but three natives and seven recruits. These were attacked; two were killed and a boy wounded and pitched into the hold, where two natives sought refuge. These two men seizing muskets menaced the natives, who cleared out, plunging into the sea. Simultaneously, the boat's crew were attacked, and all killed, save Sam and Santo Charlie. As soon as the attack began Sam plunged into the sea, and made for a distant point of land, and concealed himself in sight of the vessel until all was quiet, and then swam off. He then heaved anchor, and sailed the vessel as best he could, aided by the two left of the crew and the recruits, for several days. They were sighted by the Lady Belmore, 140 miles from the scene of the outrage.

Mount Somers Railway.

(Otago Daily Times.)

An advertisement appears in our columns signed on behalf of the Public Works Department by W. N. Blair, engineer-in-chief of the Middle Island, calling for tenders for the "Ashburton branch extension contract." On enquiry, we find that this is what has been otherwise known to fame as the Mount Somers line, a portion of which, some twelve miles or so in extent, has been completed, and for a short time at work. Turning to the tables of relative percentage of expenditure to receipts for the month of September, we discover that the Mount Somers line has a proud pre-eminence above all other lines in one important respect. It is, *par excellence, the line that is worked at the greatest loss of any on the list*; and not only the greatest loss, but far and away the greatest; for, while the short Shag Point branch, of which so much has been said, is worked at a loss represented by 258 per cent. on the receipts, the Mount Somers branch is worked at no less than 355 per cent. In other words, for every pound taken for traffic on this remarkable branch *three pounds ten shillings* is expended. This state of things has evidently attracted the attention of the Minister for Public Works. He has doubtless argued thus:—"This line manifestly wants a little stimulus applied to it: as it does not pay—stands, indeed, at the very zero of non-paying lines, we will make a few more miles of it; the result cannot possibly be worse, and may by a lucky chance be better than at present." That is what we may term a bold, farseeing policy; any ordinary Minister would have said, Shut it up; but Mr. Oliver is not an ordinary Minister. On looking a little further into the matter, we cannot discover that Parliament has given any warrant for continuing this line, or that the Minister for Public Works even asked Parliament for any such warrant. In his Public Works Statement he is silent about it, and in the Public Works Appropriation Bill only a very small vote was taken, a few hundreds in excess of the estimated cost of work done or then in progress. The inference fairly is that this line was not to be extended till Parliament could again vote upon it. There is, it is true, in the Railway Commissioners' report a recommendation regarding it to the following effect:—"This branch is already in progress; the cost will be small, and it will serve a large agricultural district, and at the same time open out a coal-mine and stone-quarries at Mount Somers, which it may fairly be calculated will bring considerable traffic to the line." But one thing more than all the rest marks out this line as one to be made at all costs. It leads, we believe, to the land and the residence of Mr. E. G. Wright, one of the Railway Commissioners, who must therefore know something about the capabilities of the country. He is, indeed, probably interested, in a patriotic sense, in the stone-quarries and coal-mines which are to do so much for the traffic; and just as his colleague and our particular friend Mr. John Reid, of Elderslie, naturally preferred the Livingstone line to the Otago Central, so Mr. E. G. Wright prefers the Mount Somers line to any other line whatever. But how has he managed to impress his views upon the Government? Are *all* the Commissioners to be gratified for their valuable services by a piece of line being made at the public cost to their doors? Surely Mr. Curtis will not be left out in the cold; and if Mr. J. M. Clark, of Auckland, and Mr. Edward Pearce, of Wellington, do not want railways, they are all but certain to want something else. The Government can but deal fairly with them all round. It cannot be that a Government which we had regarded as above all suspicion of jobbery is being led into anything improper; *that*, at least, we will not believe. No; appearances may be all against them, but somehow or another it *must* be all right. After all, the line is "only a little one," and the tender called for at present is only for formation. It may be true that formation is usually followed by sundry expenses for sleepers, rails, and ballasting, to say nothing of working it afterwards at a loss; but these may be postponed, as they will almost certainly follow if the line is formed when Parliament meets. The 355 per cent. expenditure to which we have alluded only shows that *something* must be done to make this branch pay, so why not extend it? The argument may be somewhat of the *lucus a non lucendo* character, but we cannot help that—it is a matter for faith and not for sight, and we are bound to believe that the Government could not possibly intend to make a line that will continue to cost a large sum annually to work it, merely because the making of it will gratify and mayhap enrich an ex-commissioner. Some curious Otago members, however, may like to put a question or two on the subject to the Hon. Mr. Oliver, and point out to him one or two lines that *they* would like gone on with in the absence of a Parliamentary vote. There are Catlin's River, Orepuki, and other places that will repay quite as magnificent a return as the Mount Somers line is doing, for railway communication. That pre-eminent "shocking example" of non-payableness can scarcely be emulated, but it may be approached.

THE

CHIMNEY CORNER.

THE DISRUPTION

A TALE OF TRYING TIMES.

[According to promise we give the two chapters that went amissing some weeks ago, and without which the tale is incomplete].

CHAPTER XVIII.

Awa, ye selfish warly race,
Wha think that havins, sense, an' grace,
E'en love and friendship should give place
To catch the plack!
I dinna like to see your face,
Nor hear your crack.
Burns.

How Mr. Bacon gathered himself up after his fall; how Miss Stimperton poured the balm of sympathy into his wounded pride; how he smiled on her as he never smiled on woman before, and frowned on Jean Brown and Robin Afleck for their merriment at his expense, need not be circumstantially related. Neither is it necessary to describe how he became mollified, or by what means Jean Brown managed to obtain access to every corner of his house, and to gratify her love of fun by prying into every oddity of his domestic economy. Suffice it to say, all this took place; and, before the shades of evening fell, Mr. Bacon was left 'alone in his glory.'

The proceedings of Stiffriggs and Mrs. Renshaw now require some attention. Instead of attending Mr. Bacon's drawing-room rehearsal, the mistress of Whinnyside was engaged in playing a Bold Stroke for a husband. Ringan Stimperton met her, according to previous appointment, to assist her in transacting certain business affairs, which, as she herself alleged, could not well be managed without the help of "some man body." Stiffriggs did not possess, or pretend to, much knowledge of such business; but he was disposed to be obliging, and readily agreed to aid his fat and fair neighbor in the matters in which she solicited his assistance.

He found her dressed very showily, and ready to go with him; but she desired him to be seated for a minute, as she had something to explain. She then, with an air of mystery, closed the door, and took from her pocket a small parcel, put up with great care in a silk handkerchief.

'This is a pickle siller,' she said, speaking low, as if afraid of being overheard, while she produced a bunch of bank notes—"This is a pickle siller I hae scrapit thegither, and want put in a safe place. Ye'll find that it comes to the feck o' five hundred pound. Three hundred and fifty o't was lent to auld Gideon Miggumeri on his house, so it was nae wonder I was against James Duncanson taking the dochter, for you see the family were as puir as skim milk at Martinmas; but they've gotten abune the broo at last, and paid aff my bond, plack and bawbee; so Jimes has no chance there, at ony rate. Will ye just be sae gude as see if there be three hunder and fifty there in big notes, and hoo muckle mair there is in wee anes?'

'Ay, ay, neighbor! ye're weel gathered, I think. Let me see—here ye hae three notes o' a hunder, each, and five o' ten pounds the piece. Exactly, that's just three hunder and fifty. Then ye ha'e—let me see—ay; ye ha'e twenty fives, and three bunches o' single notes, wi ten, I reckon, in every bunch.'

'Just that. Then I have a pickle guineas in this purse, or sovereigns as they ca' them noo. Do ye think they'll gang?'

'Gang! ay. At least, they ay gang fast eneuch awa frae me.'

'Weel, then, I should ha'e within a pound or twa o' five hunder there a'thegither, and I want to see what ye think I should do wi't? Ye ken I'm just a lone woman, and canna be expeckit hoo to do for the best in sic matters.'

'Trowth, it's my opinion ye ken far better than me, for ye've managed to mak' a hantle mair siller than I could ever fairly ca' my ain.'

'Toots, man! that's no a' I have, nor the hawf o't. There I have four hunner pounds in the laird's hand, and the stocking o' the mailin is worth as muckle mair. But mind, ye mauna tell ony body o' this, for I wadna for the worl' hae folks talking aboot it. It wadna be lang o' being haurled through my fingers if it were kent I had it; so it's best to keep a calm sough and ca' canny. I just want to hear how ye think this odd pickle could be turned to the best advantage.'

'Weel, I'll tell you, Mrs. Renshaw, what I think ye should do wi' some o't.'

'Le me hear, then, and I'm sure I'll be oblegeed to ye.'

'I think ye might do waur than lend your nevoye as muckle as wad bring him decently through the college.'

'Deed, Mr. Stimperton, I'm no sae daft. Whaur wad the profit be o' that I wonder? I trow, the principle and interest wad come back to me wi' the blin' carrier. Set my nevoye up wi my hard won siller, truly, after he's been sae ungratefu' for what I have spent on him already! Na, na, I may need a' my gear mysel', Mr. Stimperton; at at least, if I gie't awa, I'll gie't to somebody better deserving o't than Jimes Duncanson. He ran awa' wi' the harrows about this Non-intrusion nonsense, and never speert my leave, though I was his only auntie, and had done everything for him. As little did he speer my leave whan he drew up wi' Agnes Miggummerie; and this was the mair provoking when her faither was sae deep in debt to me. I would be as foolish as himsel', I think, if I sent ony mair o' my siller that gate. And as for his coming through the college, what wad it signify though he was through the morn, when he has spoilt his best chance o' being a parish minister, and may need to leave the Kirk o' Scotland a'thegither?"

'If he does leave the Kirk it will be to his honor, and for conscience' sake; and he may be a usefu' minister, and a bright an' shining licht after a'.'

'I wadna gie a snuff for ony minister but a parish minister. A pu'pit without a parish is nae better than caff without the corn, or a saddle without a horse. It's just a mock and a blafum.'

'It grieves me to hear ye speak in this way, neighbor,' said Stiffriggs; 'your wisdom is of the earth, earthy; and your siller is but trash, since ye canna see hoo to mak' the right use o't.' Saying this he pitched the notes which he had just tied up again on the table; but they rebounded and fell on the floor. He then gave the precious parcel a kick which sent it to the other side of the room, repeating at the same time, half jocularly half in earnest, 'trash.'

'For gude's sake, Mr. Stimperton, tak' care o' the notes, or they'll be in the fire!' exclaimed the lady, in a dreadful panic. She snatched them up immediately, and after tying them again in the silk handkerchief, replaced the parcel in her pocket, saying in rather a sulky and disappointed manner—'So ye're no gaun to advise me what to do wi' the siller?'

'I've gi'en ye my advice already, ye ken.'

'Toots, man! the advice I want to get is aboot what bank would be the safest and gi'e the maist interest. Can ye no tell me that?'

'Yes, the Bank o' Christian duty. That's whaur yoor siller would be safest, and bring you the best interest.'

'I never heard o' sic a bank. I was thinking o' tryin' the British Linen Company. But there's anither business I maun see after first.'

'Ay, what is't?'

'It's an account that's awn me for meal and cheese, by a worthless bagibon in the toun here. I've sent and written to him often abooi it, but canna get the siller oot o' his fingers. Ye see hoo a single woman's imposed on Mr. Stimperton. He wadna trifle wi' the like o' you, I'm thinkin', the way he trifles wi' me; so ye maun come along wi' me, and see if ye can fricht him.'

'Trowth, mistress, if a body may judge by the siller ye've made in Whinnyside, ye're a hantle better at managing money matters than me, for ye've grown rich while I havena been gaun oot the bit. Hoosomever, I'll gang wi' ye, and see what can be dune wi' this scooneral customer o' your's.'

(To be continued.)

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Diseases of the skin, ringworm, scurvy, aundice, scrofula or king's evil, sore heads, and he most inveterate skin disease to which the human frame is subject, cannot be treated with a more safe and certain remedy than Holloway's Ointment and Pills, which act so perculiarly on the constitution and so purify the blood, that these diseases are at once eradicated from the system, and a lasting cure obtained. They are equally efficacious in the cure of tumors, burns, scalds, glandular swellings, ulcerous wounds, rheumatism, contracted and stiff joints. These medicines operate mildly and surely. The cures effected by them are not temporary or apparent only, but complete and permanent.

Consultations.

ASHBURTON CO-OPERATIVE CONSULTATIONS.

No. 1. On the Ashburton Cup Handicap (open).
No. 2. On the County Steeplechase (for District horses only).

Each consultation is for £500, and the Fee to the administrators of the estate for advice is £1 for each record.

The judgment on the Cup will be argued and decided at 8 p.m. on Nov. 16th.

The judgment on the Steeplechase will be argued and decided at 8 p.m. on Nov. 17th.

Letters of advice can be obtained from the Agents in all parts of the colony.

QUILL & WILKIE,
Consulting advocates for the
477 Co-operative Association.

ANY person having unimproved Town or Suburban Sections for Sale at a reasonable price will hear of a Cash Purchaser by addressing a letter to A. B. C., care of Mr. Douglas, Postmaster, Ashburton, stating area, locality, and price. None but principals dealt with, and those persons not in a position to give a title for cash need not apply. 492

Wanted.

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT. Apply at *Guardian* office. 484

WANTED, a NURSE GIRL. Apply to Mrs. MacBean Stewart, Moore street. 471

WANTED — BOARD and RESIDENCE, within easy distance of the *Guardian* office. "X.Y.," office of this paper. 485

A LADY DESIRES to meet with an ENGAGEMENT as Companion or Lady Help in Ashburton or the neighborhood. Address, Q.E.D., office of this paper. 490

WANTED TO RENT, for a year or two, a six or seven roomed HOUSE in Ashburton. Apply, Poyntz & Co. 473

WANTED KNOWN,—That GEO. F. HENRY, Saunders' Buildings, East Street, Ashburton, is the ONLY PHOTOGRAPHER in New Zealand who is supplying the Public with Re-touched PICTURES, Finished Off in the Best and Latest Fashionable Styles, at TEN SHILLINGS per Dozen. 470

WANTED KNOWN.

SOMERSET LIVERY AND BAIT STABLES.

J. W. M'RAE begs to inform the public that he has taken the above Stables from Mr. Bossenberg, and is making extensive repairs.

Buggies and saddle horses on hire.
Lowest prices and best attention.
908c—286c

Board and Residence.

BOARD AND LODGING, 17s. per week, at S. Corrigan's, Tinwald. 446

Lost.

LOST, near Hodder's, a PURSE containing money, with the owner's name inside. Whoever brings the same to this office will be rewarded. 483

£1 Reward.

LOST, from Wakanui, on Monday, November 1st, One Chestnut HACK, branded HD on the left shoulder, with hollow back. Last seen in the direction of Barrhill.—Anyone returning him to Friedlander Bros. will receive the above Reward. 487

Educational.

SINGING CLASS will be commenced on Wednesday next, in the large room above Mr. Jones' shop, Wakanui road. Mixed class from 7.30 to 9 p.m. Terms in advance, 12s. 6d. per quarter, or 5s. per month. Children's class, same evening from 6 to 7 p.m. Terms in advance, 2s. 6d. per month, 7s. per quarter. Apply, H. J. Weeks, Teacher of Music, Cameron street, West, or Mr. Jones, Stationer.

Borough Council Gazette.

ASHBURTON BOROUGH COUNCIL.

ANNUAL ELECTION OF MAYOR.

"Municipal Corporations Act, 1876," and the "Regulation of Local Elections Act, 1876."

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, That the ANNUAL ELECTION of MAYOR, under the first-mentioned Act, will be held at the BOROUGH COUNCIL CHAMBER, on WEDNESDAY, the 24th day of November instant.

Nominations of Candidates (which must be made in the manner provided in Clause 11 of the second-mentioned Act) will be received at the Town Clerk's Office, till 12 o'clock Noon, on Tuesday, the 16th day of November instant.

Forms of Nomination may be obtained at the Borough Council Office; and a Deposit of £10 must be left with each Nomination Paper.

Dated this 8th day of November, 1880.
CHARLES BRADDELL,
476 Returning Officer.

For Sale.

Poyntz & Co.

HAVE FOR SALE, on advantageous and easy terms of payment, the following

TOWN AND SUBURBAN PROPERTIES:—

A good five-roomed House, on quarter-acre of land, within three or four chains of the East Town Belt.
A compact four-roomed House, with one acre of land, well fenced. Three-quarters of an acre laid down as a paddock.
A nice four-roomed House on half acre of land near the Gas Works, well finished throughout.
Town Sections, 742, 743, 465, 466, 467.
Town Section 711 upon which is erected a capital four-roomed House fitted with every convenience.
A two-roomed House, with outbuildings, on a quarter acre, well fenced and planted, on N.E. Belt.

MONEY for investment, on approved security, in sums of £50 and upwards, at current rates.

Gazette in Bankruptcy.

V. R.

In the District Court of Christchurch, holden at Ashburton.

IN THE MATTER of the Bankruptcy of WILLIAM HENRY ROBINSON, of Ashburton.

I HEREBY call a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the abovenamed bankrupt, at the Office of Mr. O'Reilly, Tancred street, Ashburton, on SATURDAY, the 13th day of November, 1880, at Twelve o'clock Noon, to consider the Bankrupt's application for his discharge.

Dated this 8th day of November, 1880.
FREDK. PAVITT,
486 Trustee.

V. R.

In the District Court of Christchurch, holden at Ashburton.

In the matter of the Debtors and Creditors Act, 1876, and the several Acts amending the same, and of the bankruptcy of JOHN THOMPSON, of Ashburton, shopkeeper, a Debtor.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors having failed to elect a trustee, I have, in pursuance of section 46 of the first-mentioned Act, appointed William R. Boyle, of Ashburton, a certificated accountant in bankruptcy, to be Creditors' Trustee of the estate of the abovenamed debtor, and that the said William R. Boyle has, in writing, signified his acceptance of the said trusteeship.

Dated this 10th day of November, 1880.
C. CAVENDISH HURRELL,
Clerk of the District Court.
C. W. Ireland,
Solicitor for Debtor. 488

Tenders

TENDERS WANTED for CARTING TIMBER—up till six p.m. on SATURDAY next. Apply Muir and Reid, Kermode street. 489

TENDERS. — Wanted, Tenders for Erection of COTTAGE (Labor only) in Peter street.—Plans and specifications to be seen at HAYES' Yards, East street, Ashburton. 481

TENDERS are invited for the ERECTION of a three (3) roomed HOUSE on the Alford Forest road.

Tenders due on FRIDAY, 12th inst.

Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the undersigned, to whom Tenders are to be addressed.
472 POYNTZ & CO.

TENDERS.

TENDERS are invited for ERECTING about 300 Chains of SOD FENCE, near the Township of Westerfield.

For particulars, apply to
MR. OLIVER,
Manager,
467 Westerfield.

UPPER ASHBURTON ROAD BOARD.

TENDERS are invited for the REPAIRS and MAINTENANCE of all the Roads in this district for a term of three years; each ward to be tendered for separately.

Written tenders, endorsed, are to be sent in, addressed to the Chairman, not later than noon of MONDAY, the 29th day of November.

The Clerk will be at the office every Thursday of each week, from nine to twelve o'clock a.m., to give the general conditions and specifications of the work.

ROBT. D. PULLAR,
Clerk and Surveyor to the Board.
Road Board Office,
Westerfield, Oct. 27, 1880. 408

Public Notices

BANK HOLIDAYS.

IN TERMS of Clause 27 of the Banks and Bankers Act, 1880, we, the undermentioned Bank Managers, appoint the following days and half days to be special BANK HOLIDAYS in Ashburton—TUESDAY, 16th November, for the Ashburton Agricultural and Pastoral Association's Show Day; WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, the 17th and 18th November, from 12 o'clock noon, being Race Days.

For the Union Bank of Australia (Limited),
A. H. SHURY,
Manager.

For the Bank of New Zealand,
S. S. REVANS,
491 Manager.

AN APOLOGY.

CHARLES NEATE, Chemist,

BEGS to apologise to innumerable Customers for the inconvenience caused them while

REMOVING TO NEW PREMISES,

NEXT

Mr. Bullock's Auction Rooms,
469 EAST STREET.

ALL DEBTS due to Ashburton Herald and Guardian business must be Paid to Mr. S. E. Poyntz, on behalf of the Assignees, at the Guardian Office, East street, Ashburton, and his receipt alone will be a sufficient discharge.

S. SAUNDERS,
For Self and Co-Assignees.

ASHBURTON AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL SHOW

OF

STOCK, PRODUCE, IMPLEMENTS,

&c.,

WILL BE HELD ON

TUESDAY, 16th NOVEMBER.

Entries must be made with the Secretary not later than Tuesday, 9th November.

Members will oblige by forwarding their Subscriptions at an early date.

GEORGE JAMESON,
326 Secretary.

ASHBURTON AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL ASSOCIATION.

PRIVATE PRIZE LIST.

W. Montgomery and Co. (Limited), £3 3s.—For the best dry Draught Mare.
L. E. Corsbie, £3.—For the best Yearling Colt or Filly by Tribune; £2—For the second best ditto.
H. Matson and Co., £3 3s.—For the best Yearling Draught Colt.
John Carter, £3 3s.—For the best Yearling Colt or Filly by Dexter. £3 3s. —For the best foal by Dexter.
Hodder and Co., dress value £1 1s. (in addition to the Association's Prize) —For the best Fresh Butter.
R. Wilkin and Co., £3 3s.—For the best Yearling Draught Filly.
W. Anderson, a Ladies' Bridle (in addition to the Association's Prize)—For the best Ladies' Hack.
New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, silver cup, value £4 4s.—For the largest prize-taker in long-woolled sheep.
Friedlander Bros., £3 3s.—For the best Carriers' Spring Dray made in the County.
Sealey Bros., £1 1s.—For the best Three 4lb Loaves of Bread made from Ashburton Flour.
M. Stitt, £2 2s. (in addition to the Association's Prize).—For the best High Jump.
Orr and Co., £1 1s.—For the best collection of Vegetables grown by an Amateur.
P. Cunningham and Co., £3 3s.—For the best collection of Farm Seeds.
R. W. Shearman, £2 2s.—For the best round of Cured Corned Beef; and £1 1s. for the second best, if there are at least three exhibits; and 10s. 6d. for the third best, if there are five exhibits; the round not to be under 20lb nor over 50lb weight, and to be fixed at a price per lb to be mentioned at the time of entry. The judges to take into consideration quality of beef and form of rounds.

GEORGE JAMESON,
455 Secretary.

Boarding House, &c.

SOUTH RAKAIA BOARDING HOUSE.

A. J. ANDREWS begs to inform the inhabitants of Rakaia and Surrounding District that he has taken the premises adjoining McKerrow and Co.'s Grain Store, and has opened them as a Restaurant and Boarding House. Good accommodation for Travellers.

MEALS 1s. BEDS 1s.

A. J. ANDREWS,
Proprietor. 113c

CASH RECEIPTS Printed at "The Guardian" office.