

Caulley returned to Pohui the same evening, and came on to Napier last night. The county road between Pohui and Petane suffered considerably. Slips occurred all along, culverts disappeared, and five bridges were washed away. It will be some time before the route is fit for wheel traffic. Fences have been destroyed, and there are landslips in all directions. The Napier beach for miles is covered with driftwood, and people with all kinds of vehicles are busy carting it away. There are tons of wood lying about all over the country. Old settlers state that Friday's flood was

his coach on Saturday and it was inextricably bogged. Even getting through on horseback was no easy task, and he had to leave the main road many times to avoid slips and boggy places. All Saturday night he spent in Manuku bush waiting for the rivers to go down, to enable him to proceed on his journey. The Kissington Bridge has been entirely swept away.

Immediately the character of the disaster was realized subscription lists were opened in all the chief towns of the colony.

**A TOUCHING STORY.**

**A** SAD story, proving that the qualities of heroic fortitude and Christian resignation in the face of death are more widely distributed over the world than we are generally inclined to think, comes from the New Hebrides. Mr Oscar Michelson, the missionary in the islands, in his last letter to Auckland, tells the tale. He says:—

'When those gentlemen were gone I made inquiries about the Selebanga people's absence from the Bible class the Friday before. They then told me that Lei-one, a girl from their village, who had been staying at Mangarisu, had been trying to catch crabs on the rocky shore. Another girl, Lei Sumari (which means peace) called out to her to run, as there was a large breaker coming in. She did not hear this warning and in a few seconds after was caught and carried out to sea. It is a most dangerous place. The constant action of the water has dug out a cave, from which it is impossible to escape when a heavy breaker is rolling in. The sea was unusually rough, and her friends on shore called out to her, as she was swimming towards the rocks, not to attempt to land at that place, as she would be sure to be dashed to death. She said: "I know that, I only want to speak to you." She first gave a message to her brother, and then said, "I want to warn you not to attempt to save me; it is better that I die alone than that two should die." She was swimming about for some time, and was then killed on the rocks. Word was at once sent to Selebanga. The people from that village only came in time to see her devoured by the sharks. That then was their reason for not coming to the meeting on the Friday.'

**FATAL FIFTY-SIX.**

RENOWNED CHARACTERS WHO DIED AT THAT AGE.

AMONG the men and women of genius there seems to be a strange fatality connected with the age of fifty-six (says the *Atlanta Constitution*), some of the most renowned characters of the world have died on reaching that limit, including Dante, the Italian poet; Hugh Capet, King of France; Henry VIII, King of England; Henry IV, Emperor of Germany; Paganini, Italian violinist; Alexander Pope, English poet; George Sala, English Orientalist; Marcus Aurelius, Emperor of Rome; Frederick I, King of Prussia; John Hancock, American statesman; Maria Louisa, Empress of France; Phillip Massenger, English dramatist; Saladin, the great Sultan of Egypt; Robert Stephenson, English engineer; Scipio Africanus, Roman General; Helvetius, French philosopher and author; Henry II, the first of the Plantagenet line; the elder Pliny, Roman naturalist and author; Julius Caesar; Charles Kingsley, English author; Juan Prim, Spanish General and statesman; Henry Knox, American Revolutionary General; Thomas Miffin, American patriot; Von Tromp, Dutch Admiral; Abraham Lincoln; Marryat, the novelist; George Whitefield, English founder of Calvinistic Methodism; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, favourite of Queen Elizabeth; Johann Gasper Spurzheim, German physician and phrenologist, and Frederick II, Emperor of Germany.

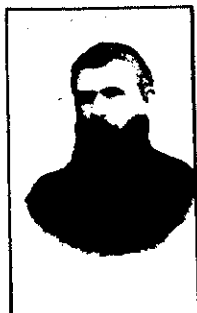


MR F. CASSIN,  
Clerk at Mr M. Lascelles's Auction Mart.

similar to that experienced in 1867, when the Ngaruroro River broke out at Roy's Hill, and following the old bed of that river until it is joined by the Tutakuri, near Redclyffe, sent the waters of both rivers over the lower part of the delta. This is what occurred on Friday, and accounts for the enormous body of water which suddenly came down. Mr McIntyre, of the Puketitiri mail-coach line, got safely through to Napier on Sunday night on horseback after experiencing a rough time. There is not a single bridge, he says, between Bennett's Creek and Puketitiri that has not in some way been damaged. He had to abandon



MR H. BRIARLY  
Wheelwright at Mr G. Fauiknor's Factory.



SERGEANT O'DONOVAN.



MR G. CHAMBERS,  
Blacksmith.



MR F. ANSELL,  
Carpenter at Mr R. Holt's.



MUNROE STREET, NAPIER.



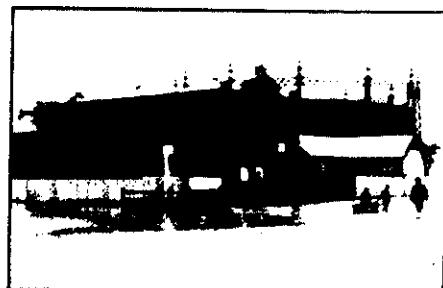
A GROUP OF ONLOOKERS.



REDCLIFFE BRIDGE, TARADALE.



PART OF THE BEACH AT FARNION.



GAS WORKS, NAPIER.

THE FLOODS AT NAPIER.