

ther will soon be coming on, the good folks of Westport are feeling uneasy on purely sanitary grounds. On spiritual grounds the friends of the deceased are uncomfortable too, and would willingly have the nuisance removed, but they are in a fix about a ship. To charter one for 150 corpses would come heavy on their purses, but that is what they probably will have to do if they are to satisfy at once their own consciences and the scruples of the authorities. In the meantime they are endeavouring "to offer sufficient inducement," as the phrase goes, to owners of vessels by increasing the number of corpses. The Chinese in Wellington have applied to the City Council for leave to disinter the bodies of their countrymen from Karori cemetery. A good many Mongolians have their temporary abiding place there, and if they could be got to join with the gentlemen now waiting at Westport the two lots united might make up a party big enough to induce a vessel to take them home to China. The Wellington City Council have, however, refused the request, and practically told the Chinese that once in Karori, in Karori they must remain. Perhaps the unfortunate petitioners may find authorities in other parts more obliging, but if they don't, it will be a rather awkward position for the Westport Chinese, with a hundred and fifty corpses on their hands. The story goes that they have already paid £5 a head for having their friends dug up; probably it will cost as much to have them laid down again; and after all this bother and expense the poor dead will not be a whit better off and their friends will be the victims of whatever terrible punishment the Chinese creed has devised for those who neglect the most sacred wishes of the dying, and fail to carry out the most essential part of their duty to the dead.

Out of School Bounds.

They are a sensible people in the Mayfield (Auckland) district. With but few exceptions the parents there have signed an instruction to the schoolmaster requesting him to exercise his authority over the pupils not only within school hours, but on their way to and from the school. My readers are already aware that there has been trouble in many districts—serious trouble—over this divided authority of school and home, the point at issue being just where the one should leave off and the other begin. In many cases the parents are quite willing that immediately their children pass beyond their own gates they should come under the jurisdiction of the schoolmaster, and most schoolmasters are content to accept this extension of their kingdom, holding that they can more easily govern within school bounds if they are allowed to exercise powers of correction over the hitherto neutral ground that separates home from school. There are, however, foolish parents who resent this larger authority on the part of the schoolmaster as encroaching on the liberty of the pupil, or on the domain of the parent. My own experience is that those who take this view generally exercise very little authority at all over their children, the only judicious restraint the latter ever know being that exercised by the teacher when they are immediately under his hands. The parents who do exercise parental control will not object to delegate their authority to the wise schoolmaster during such times as they have not the children under their own eyes. They will be glad of his taking the added responsibility. Not that he can hope to exercise the supervision he would desire, but he at least may constitute a recognised authority in that somewhat lawless borderland between the home and the school. He relieves the policeman of a part of his duty the latter is least anxious to perform—the control of the youthful generation—and by doing so wards off the stern arm of the civic law, which,

when it falls on the young, often does more harm than good. We have every now and again to regret this interference of the civic authority in the place of the parental, which is wanting, but perhaps we would not have occasion to regret if the schoolmaster were entrusted with wider powers.

Although from the outside the August number of the "Review of Reviews" for Australasia seems devoted to the somewhat stale subject of the Coronation, that subject occupies but a small part of an issue that is full of interesting matter. Perhaps to New Zealanders there is nothing more interesting than the collection of caricatures and letterpress from Home and colonial magazines dealing with Mr Seddon in London. Among the excerpts are several from "Mr Seddon's Diary" now appearing in the "Graphic" pages. Sir John Colomb contributes an article on "Australian Sea Defence," and there is an interesting character sketch of Sir H. H. Johnston, of Uganda. Seven of the most prominent books of the month are reviewed, and there is the usual most readable selections with comments from the "Reviews."



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Here and There.

The Opatiki "Herald" states that between April 1st and August 31st of this year over 20,000 sacks of maize have been shipped from Opatiki.

A Wairarapa man has given an order for a motor car to seat 20 people. It is his intention to run it between Featherston and Martinborough. The car landed in the colony will cost close on £800.

Lord Roberts lately informed the Council of Scottish Associations in London that there is no intention of interfering with the dress and specific tartans of the Highland regiments, except that the colour of the service dress must be, like the rest of the army, khaki, but will be made to suit the Highland uniforms.

Speaking at Amberley lately, Mr Blackmore, Government pomologist, mentioned that last year Tasmania exported 350,000 cases of apples, and said he saw no reason why Canterbury, providing proper attention was paid to the orchards, could not export a similar quantity.

"I've got to go out and cut eighteen acres of oats with a scythe myself and sow the grass seed. As for the sheep, they are old, dying things, and I don't value them at anything at all, because I don't know that they will live." This was how an old lady depreciated her own property in giving evidence in a case at Darfield, Christchurch, lately.

Dr. Gatling, of famous gun repute, has been turning his attention to ploughshares. He has just invented a plough operated by a gasoline motor. The plough can be worked at the cost of 8/4 per day, and the inventor holds that it will do the work of 30 men and 80 horses. If this be so, the farmers have here an invaluable helpmate. The plough is to be a feature in the coming St. Louis (U.S.A.) Exposition.

To have known Melba is the proudest distinction the fashionable person can boast of for the time being. Those favoured creatures who went to school with Miss Nellie Mitchell, and perhaps had the high honour of sharing a sour apple with her, or of trading off a wounded doll for a slab of chewing gum, the property of the future queen of song, are the most envied mortals in Melbourne. They are to give the diva a special reception, to swap schoolday reminiscences with her, and to renew a friendship the value of which has been enhanced a thousandfold by Nellie's triumph abroad, and the fact that Kings and Emperors have been proud to salute her dimpled cheek. Something like a Melba craze has begun to take shape, and even the children are responding to it. A little girl, disputing with another on the St. Kilda sand last Saturday, crushed her rival with the proud boast, "Oh, my mother once turned a skipping rope for Madame Melba, see!"

At Kinohaku, on Kawhia harbour, the rudiments are now being formed of the first township on the south side of the harbour. In Kinohaku there is already a post office, store, boardinghouse and butcher's shop. Some distance from the landing place a party of men are clearing a six foot track to admit of packing up to the bush sections recently balloted for and now occupied. Kinohaku promises to be a busy and thriving township in the near future, as it is the natural outlet to the harbour for the Kawhia South lands.

A great deal of discussion is going on just now in New Zealand as to the cost of feeding fowls for the table, and the following particulars of how fowls are fed with the object of rapid development by one of the most successful poultry raisers in the Mana-

watu district will be of interest to our readers. Following are the details of a day's feed for fifty fowls, which costs at the rate of under a penny per fowl per week: In the morning a mash is made up of a gallon of mangolds (81lbs), 3d; green bone, 3d; half-gallon pollard, 3d; waste cabbage leaves, etc., or waste kitchen product, 1d; total, 41s. The mid-day meal consists of a bucket of mangolds, valued at 4d, cut in halves, and allowing the fowls to eat them out. For the evening meal 2½lbs of hard grain is given. This, at 4s a bushel, is worth 13d. The total cost per day, it will be seen, is 6d, or a fraction below a penny for each fowl per week. A bone-cutter is used, and all the food is put through the machine, the bone being put in last. This leaves the machine in good order. Fat-hen, a weed which grows in abundance, is an excellent constituent of a mash, and dock leaves are also very good. The acidity in the latter may be counteracted by placing ground charcoal near the birds. Mangolds can be purchased this year for 15/ a ton, and in ordinary seasons at 10/ a ton. From the above it will be seen that by judicious feeding the cost of keeping poultry is very small compared to the great returns. To succeed, a balanced ration, which will put flesh on the body and develop the bone, must be fed, and with reasonable forethought this can be easily managed.

A Wairarapa settler, resident of Alfredton, an applicant for an old age pension, states that he was born in 1801. He is father of eight children, and his descendants number 68 grand-children, 218 great grand-children, and 10 great great grand-children, making a total of 304. Ten of the number are in the fifth generation. The veteran was born in Stratford, England, is still in possession of his full faculties, notwithstanding his great age, and is able to get about with the aid of a stick. The application for a full pension has been granted to him.

A case of interest to lodgers came before the Stipendiary Magistrate, Wellington, in which a young man named William Hammond, describing himself as a commercial traveller, sued William Klein, a boardinghouse-keeper, for £10 damages for wrongfully detaining plaintiff's box and certain private papers. The defendant admitted retaining the box, but had offered plaintiff his papers. Klein gave as a reason for seizing plaintiff's box that the latter owed him £1 8/3 for money lent and board. Klein issued a counter claim for that amount. Hammond stated that he had lost part of the sum at cribbage, and, whilst admitting having borrowed small amounts from Klein, said that he had repaid them. Klein denied having played for money. Mr Haselden, S.M., said it would be as well for boardinghouse-keepers to know that they had no lien on a lodger's goods and chattels, and it was an illegal act to detain them. Judgment was given for Hammond for return of goods by Klein within twenty-four hours or £10 damages, with 11/6 costs. In the second case Klein was given judgment for £1 8/3, with 5/ costs.

There has been submitted to Parliament by Messrs. Percy Smith and A. Hamilton a lengthy report containing suggestions for the establishment of a Maori Museum, together with draft regulations under the Maori Antiquities Act, 1901. It is recommended that a museum be established in Wellington, to be called The National Maori Museum for the Preservation of the Antiquities of the Polynesian Race, and that a sum of £15,000 be appropriated for museum buildings and offices, with a provision that not more than £3000 be