

The "Daily Mail" alleges that Anthony B. Rowe, a partner in the firm of Bewick Mortign, civil and mining engineers, has disappeared. It was reported on the Stock Exchange that he obtained advances on forged share certificates of the Great Fingal Consolidated Company. It is supposed that he speculated contrary to the partnership agreement, and that the decline in Westralians caused his undoing. It is understood that the forgeries concern fifteen thousand shares, valued at £90,000. The auditors are making investigations.

The firm state that their financial position is not involved.

It is reported that the firm received a letter from Rowe admitting a certain offence.

Anthony Rowe, the defaulter, did not profit by the forgeries of Great Fingal (W.A.) scrip, which were intended to cover differences on Kaffirs. Though legally not liable, his partners are arranging with the holders of certificates. Fingals fell 13-16ths and recovered a quarter to £6 5/.

A private cable received gives assurances that the London firm has undertaken responsibility in connection with Rowe's scrip forgery.

#### SOUTH AFRICA.

Mr Chamberlain's grasp of details and his impressive speeches have taken Natal by storm. While attending the banquet at Durban 3000 outside clamoured for a speech. Mr Chamberlain said Britain recognised her responsibility towards her oversea kinsmen's well-being, and was ready to cherish them while children, but expected that when they attained manhood they would help themselves. The Motherland now bore the whole burden. He hoped the colonies would exhibit a sense of their obligations. The foundations of the grand British Empire must be based on mutual help.

Mr Chamberlain had a great ovation on his arrival at Pietermaritzburg. He paid a magnificent tribute to the soldiers and sailors of the Empire and to the colonials who had shown themselves worthy to stand side by side with the noblest of both services. The Motherland had demonstrated that her arm was strong to help her children. The advantages of the recent conference of Premiers was, he said, most marked.

The Boers at Utrecht and Vryheid astonished Mr Chamberlain by asking for £1,350,000 as compensation for war losses. He told them that it was impossible to recoup everything.

He also made it clear that he did not intend to confer equal civil and political rights on the natives, though securing them equal rights of justice and humanity.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at Pietermaritzburg, said that before self-government was conceded there must be evidence of active, besides passive, loyalty, and it must be placed beyond the power of anyone or any party to undo the results of the war.

Mr Chamberlain met Lord Milner at Charleston and reached Pretoria at midnight. A large, enthusiastic crowd welcomed him, but there was no public ceremony.

The Rev. Mr Vlok, in a farewell sermon at Piquetburg, declared that he had been bounded out of his congregation for the awful sin of loyalty.

The "Standard" states that the loyalists are leaving Burchersdorp. The Dutch are particularly aggressive and urge the boycotting of Mr. Chamberlain.

The church predikants in country districts exclude National Scouts from communion.

The Transvaal revenue for the current year is four millions.

The Dutch Church has circulated an order throughout the Transvaal refusing communion to ex-National Scouts, and also refusing the baptism of their children.

#### THE DELHI DURBAR.

The arrival of Lord Curzon, the Viceroy of India, at Delhi, was notified by 31 guns, and the singing of the National Anthem. The Connaughts were similarly honoured.

The ruling chiefs were presented to Lord and Lady Curzon, and the Duke and Duchess, who were mounted on elephants, traversed the lines

of the ruling chiefs.

The chiefs' elephants were made to salute by trumpeting and throwing their trunks in the air, and then falling into a procession.

The pageant at Delhi is a wonderful combination of Oriental exuberance of wealth and splendour with Western precision of organisation.

Enormous crowds watched the scene with reverent curiosity, salaaming humbly when the Viceroy (Lord Curzon), the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and the high Princes passed.

Following the herald and twelve trumpeters came the Viceroy's escort in scarlet and gold on picked bay horses.

Next came Portab Singh, who led the Viceroy's bodyguard, consisting of 30 Imperial cadets. Princes and scions of the ruling races, who were mounted on black chargers.

The elephants' procession was the most remarkable feature of the day.

Fifty of the chief Indian princes, mounted on elephants, followed, two abreast, the Nizam and Maharajah of Mysore leading.

Their display of pomp, splendour, and wealth eclipsed the vice-regal party's. They wore jewelled robes and turbans.

A marvellous and immense cavalcade followed, consisting of the Grand Duke of Hesse, Viscount Kitchener, the Governors of the Dependencies and Provinces, Khan of Khelat, and many Pathan and Assam chiefs with brilliant bodyguards.

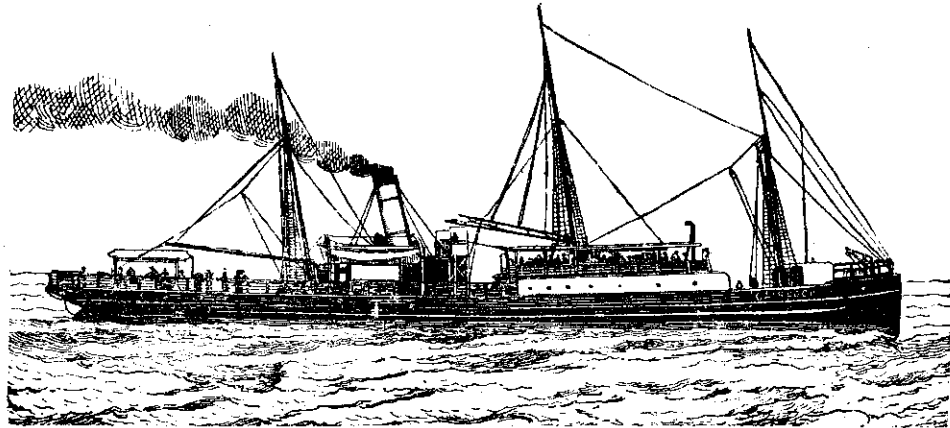
New Zealand dredges for the abnormal stress and strain of New South Wales dredging. Silver mining has been restricted by the exigencies of the metal market. The principal copper mines have been brought to a standstill for the lack of water.

M. Kruckoff, who was deputed by the Russian Minister of Agriculture to visit Australia, says the farmers are not so industrious in Australia as those of England, Germany or America. They are inclined to be lazy, especially the women, who do not look after the poultry and the dairying. The resources of the country are good, he says, and he speaks highly of the sheep-breeding industry.

The Executive has decided that Patrick Kenniff is to be hanged on January 12, for the murder of Mr Danke and Constable Doyle. James Kenniff's sentence has been commuted to imprisonment for life.

An old man named Newton, living at Forbes, who has been picking up a very precarious livelihood by various means, has received word that he has been left a million sterling by the death of a relative in England.

Major Taylor, the American cyclist, addressed a meeting in a Sydney church. He urged the young men to abstain from cycling and other amusements on Sunday, and to do only what was right in the sight of God in order to secure true happiness.



THE NORTHERN STEAMSHIP COMPANY'S GAIRLOCH, WRECKED ON MONDAY AT OAKURA.

They were followed finally by a hundred and fifty superb elephants bearing gorgeous retainers, ruling chiefs, and by troops of camels and the Bengal Lancers.

The Maharajah of Jaipur has given a lakh of rupees to the Indian people as a famine trust.

Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India, in a singularly impressive and eloquent speech, delivered with great dignity and eloquent effect, emphasised the grandeur and advantages of British rule. He dwelt on the significance of the fact that one-fifth of the human race, through their representatives assembled, had testified their allegiance and faithful attachment to their common Sovereign.

The Emperor's assurance that the supreme object of his rule was to advance the welfare of his Indian subjects produced a profound impression.

#### AUSTRALIA.

It is reported from Melbourne that although business during the year has declined in the aggregate it remained sound. The insolvencies did not exceed the average of recent years. The revenue for the last half-year decreased by £128,000 as compared with the corresponding half-year of 1901.

The New South Wales revenue for the last half-year shows an increase of £261,000 as compared with the same period in 1901. Mining development for the year was seriously retarded by the drought, though when the figures are complete a substantial increase will be shown in the gold yield. Dredging promises satisfactory returns. Costly experience has demonstrated the weakness of the earlier forms of the

Imperial Government has suggested that the Commonwealth should not accept any proposal to establish a wireless telegraph system without first consulting it.

In accordance with this suggestion the Commonwealth Government declined a proposal by the Marconi Company to establish a system between Australia and New Zealand.

The Rev. Wools Rutledge replies to Cardinal Moran's challenge to deny whether he ever apologised in any form to the Admiralty at Home, or to any responsible officer then or now in Australian waters, for his statement with regard to the action of the British navy in Samoa. Mr. Rutledge goes on to say, if the Cardinal has made an apology he is more honourable, though less truthful, than he appears. If he has not apologised he is less honourable, though more truthful, than he is generally given credit for.

Friday last was the hottest day in Sydney west of the mountains this summer. The thermometer ranged from 102 degrees at Bathurst to 116 at Bourke.

The intense heat on the Clarence River is affecting the maize crops severely. The whole yield is scorched, and will be destroyed unless rain soon comes. The bulk of the early maize is totally destroyed.

Three deaths from heat apoplexy have occurred in New South Wales.

A man was struck dead by lightning, and two others were slightly injured.

The heat in New South Wales is unabated, there being many records well over 100 degrees—Mount Drysdale 122, Baradine 112, Brewarrina 119, and Kempsey 118.

#### OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

##### POHATUROA MOUNTAIN, ATIAMUKI.

A striking feature in the landscape at Atiamuri is the rocky pinnacle of Pohaturoa. To those not acquainted with the secret path to the summit this mountain is inaccessible, and hence, like most natural fortresses in New Zealand, it played a part in Maori story. One of the tales connected with the place is told to the tourists who visit Mr Parsons' hotel on the picturesque banks of the river, and goes somewhat after this fashion:—The natives who lived in the Atiamuri district were called Ongorotos, and one of their number married a woman from Rangiawhia and returned to Ongoroto to live. One day, while the others were out hunting, the husband killed his wife in a fit of passion. The slave who had accompanied her from Rangiawhia ran back to Rangiawhia and informed the natives there, who organised an expedition against the Ongorotos. The latter, hearing of their approach, fortified themselves on the top of Pohaturoa. As the fortress was impossible of capture by assault the Rangiawhia natives calmly sat down before it and waited till hunger would reduce the besieged to submission. The fort commissariat soon being exhausted, the Ongorotos

agreed to capitulate, and sent their women down first. While the besieging party, unsuspecting treachery, were busy welcoming the women, the Ongorotos crept down and pitched into the enemy, who being surprised and in great disorder were routed and killed almost to a man. The Ongorotos then had a great cannibal feast and placed a row of stones to mark the site of the battle, one stone for every man killed. The stones may be seen now on the bank of the Waikato at the foot of Pohaturoa.

A curiosity in the shape of a fish was picked up on the beach at Cape Saunders, Otago, lately. It is described as about two feet long in the body, and its shape somewhat resembles a sting-ray, with a bony tail six inches in length, and having a mouth like a dog, but with the teeth of a shark. It has a pair of jointed legs eight inches long, webbed feet, and a proboscis akin to that of an elephant fish.

#### A POSITIVE ANTIDOTE.

"RHEUMO" is a positive antidote for uric acid poisoning. When Rheumo goes in the poison goes out—the two cannot exist together. Uric acid poisoning causes Rheumatism, Gout, Lumbago, Sciatica, and kidney disease, and Rheumo is the only safe and reliable cure. Rheumo works systematically. As soon as you swallow a dose of Rheumo it rushes off to the affected part, kills the poison, removes the swelling, and eliminates the excess uric acid, which is the main cause of agony. There's nothing to compare with Rheumo for prompt results and permanent benefit. It is Nature's Remedy, and acts like Nature. "Rheumo Conquers Rheumatism." Stocked in Auckland by H. King, Chemist, Queen-st.; J. M. Jefferson, Chemist, Queen-st. and Upper Hornum-st.; J. W. Robinson, Chemist, Barnard-st.; and sold by all Chemists and Stores at 2/6 and 4/6 per bottle.