

### Money in Abundance.

The Trust and Loan Company of Wellington emphasizes the return to prosperity with a good dividend. The fact reminds us that the building societies have reduced their deposit rate, and that the announcement has been made that the banks intend to do so shortly. Moreover, it is now freely stated in financial circles that there is abundance of money for investment on "gilt edged securities" (the phrase sounds somewhat peculiar, being decidedly restrictive) at 5 and 5½. It does not matter too much to the farming community, for the order with them since wool went up is not of the "cashing up" kind familiar in doleful times, but of increased receipts on consignments. With wool keeping up to its present noble proportions of price, they will have no difficulty in understanding the growth of large sums awaiting investment, even on securities that are not too gilt on their edges.

### Fresh Air.

There is a letter going the rounds of the Press here of import most touching to our people, who, whatever their grievances, have no lack of food or fresh air or country wanderings in their lives. It is from the head of the Pearson nest of newspapers, and it makes moving appeal for help to the Fresh Air Fund started and administered gratis by that firm for giving outings to the poor children of the great cities. They spent last year a quarter of a million in this way, paying all expenses of administration themselves, so that every penny reached the little ones, each of whom got a splendid day out for ninepence sterling. It is the newest and best edition of the nimble ninepence that has yet been issued to an astonished public. There was, in addition, provision for giving a week or a month to those little children who required an extended stay in the country. What all this means has been brought home to the public by some pathetic words of the Mayoress, who, addressing one of her many meetings the other day, narrated her own experience some years ago with this Fresh Air policy, which has been practised by good people at various times in the great city of Babylon. She told of the stupefaction of amazement and the helplessness of delight with which the children brought from London to the neighbourhood of Brighton beheld green trees, flowers, and pleasant meadows for the first time of their lives. They rolled in the grass, they absorbed the scent of the fresh earth, they plunged their hands in the cool fragrant grass; they actually forgot to eat of the good things piled up beside them by their entertainers, and that though they were as hungry as they could be. But hunger was an every-day experience, while this—well, it was Heaven, or the nearest thing to what they had ever heard of as the Acme of Bliss. Between the plain facts of the letter and the shading so opportunely and pathetically filled in by Mrs. Newman, there is likely to be a stream of ninepences setting towards the great slums of the Old Country.

### Penny Dreadfuls Again.

The young people reminding us of their existence are not solely of the outer world. Before the Supreme Court we have now waiting to be dealt with a couple of boys, who, according to their counsel, have gone wrong through the reading of "penny dreadfuls." It has of course been made to appear that the "penny dreadful" requires a something more than mere reading for its due effect. There must be lack of parental control, and in this case that has been proved abundantly. Still, so far as the boys are concerned, there is not much in the point, for the essence of the thing is that they are not themselves altogether responsible. Boys are not abnormal monsters, who appear suddenly to perplex and annoy mankind. Their wickedness, when they are wicked, is more their misfortune than their fault. Our system, however, is such that their misfortune very soon does become their fault. Here is the weakness and the pity of the position, which will neither of them be removed by the abolition of the "penny dreadful."

### Commissioner Hay.

Apropos one reads with pleasure of the doings of the Salvationists in our midst. A visiting Commissioner—suspecting General would be the appropriate word, according to the principles of Salvationist phraseology—is going round the country at the speed of lightning, inspecting, holding meetings, retailing statistics by the yard, exhibiting the energy of the order in all its ways normal and

abnormal. With all this one is familiar by long acquaintance with the ways of the Army. What strikes one most in this instance is the practical statement of this Commissioner, that Governments do not seem to understand that the principles of Christianity are the best for the reform of all possible abuses. Commissioner Hay just contents himself with saying so, and then he passes on to the hundred and one points of the Salvationist line. These he handles with the accustomed ability of the chiefs of this remarkable organisation.

The new proposal of the new Prophet Enoch—some water has passed under the bridge since the first one said anything particular—though made afar off, concerns us nearly. It is on the face of it a good proposal enough. It means the endowment of British cities with endowments of colonial lands, in order that they may mend the evil of poverty and pauperism among their people by settling the endowments with suitable persons, thereby benefiting themselves and the Empire to which they are so proud to belong. This is following municipally the line struck out some years ago by General Booth, who at that time was very sanguine of success. The rock he split on was the objection to the presence of paupers and worse who were sure to be brought out by his scheme. He promised to control them, and the wonderful organising power of the Salvation Army was a guarantee which he could well put forward. But he failed nevertheless. Will the new prophet Enoch succeed? It is a question for those who have large quantities of land for the settlement incidental to the proposed scheme. This Dominion has but little land left for disposal at first hand, and the devotion of lands bought back hardly lends itself to anything of this kind. For us to join the scheme would be much like offering a stone to a collector for a charity. Moreover, if we had the land we have not the necessary law for the Statute Book contains provision for only acquiring land in a certain way, known to all men. We shall watch with interest, however, the way in which the Australians, Canadians, and Africans wrestle with this subject. They all want population, they all have vast areas on which to settle the same, they will none of them have the right to feel safe against the disturbing influences of national migration until these areas are less empty. When that time comes they will be most profitable people for us to trade with. We hope by that time to have turned our wealth of iron and water powers to such account that we shall be the manufacturing nation par excellence of the Pacific world.

### When Day Breaks.

Some carping we note about the High Commissioner's cable quotations of prices current. Farmers throughout the Dominion will, of course, readily understand the desire of interested people to keep business of this sort—vital to the farmer, for it affects the price of everything he raises—under the original bushel of darkness. Hence he will readily understand also the violent objections now raised to these quotations as being too high to be trustworthy, as useless to all practical men, and so forth. Happily also he will also as readily understand the general defence made of the quotations, as giving the producer the best news of the markets which affect him, which news is for him the safety valve of the position. When day breaks, it is said, that the pieces go into mourning (morning). When this day of truth breaks from the High Commissioner's Office, we all know who are the pieces that go into mourning, and we can recognise their lamentations; at which we can also laugh with the humour of the man who laughs last.

### Mysterious Disappearance.

A case which Messrs. Stafford (for the Public Trustee) and the children and next of kin of Richard Tuckwell (deceased) brought before Mr. Justice Cooper, sitting in banco, last week in Wellington, presented such remarkable features that his Honor was moved to remark: "This appears to me to be another Tichborne case. It certainly contains excellent material for a novel." The case was referred to, but briefly, in August last, when Mr. Justice Cooper had before him a petition for direction lodged by the Public Trustee to the will of George Tuckwell. It appeared that Tuckwell went to Australia in 1890, and had not been heard of since 1893. The judge on that occasion ordered that advertise-

ments be inserted in the chief papers circulating in the principal cities of Australia, in order that the Public Trustee might be separately represented in the Court when the matter was argued. The advertisements had been published as directed by his Honor, and to-day he declared that George Tuckwell was dead, and that he died intestate, that he was never married, and that consequently there was no issue.

The facts of the case, as set out in the affidavits and other documents, and from his Honor's remarks, are certainly curious. Richard Tuckwell was a farmer at Karori in the early days, and made a fair competency. When he made his will he provided for his wife, who predeceased him, and for his children. After this, the balance of his estate was to be distributed among the children on the coming of age of the youngest of them. George Tuckwell, the eldest boy, went away to Australia, and while he was away his father died, in 1882. He came over to Wellington afterwards to learn of his interest in the will, and it was in 1882 that he was last seen in Wellington. He was then unmarried. After his departure for Australia a second time Tuckwell corresponded with his relatives here with some regularity, and letters were received from him up to 1883. Then they suddenly ceased, and from 1883 up to now no letters had been received from him by his relatives in New Zealand or elsewhere. He had brothers in Australia, and the last relative who saw George Tuckwell alive was his brother Archer, and that was in Sydney. Inquiries made subsequently showed that George had shared lodgings with another man in Sydney, and at his lodgings in 1887 there was a box of his containing papers. Advertisements were published in Australia and New Zealand for George Tuckwell between 1892 and 1898, but with no result.

However, in 1893, a letter was written to a brother of George Tuckwell in Wellington, purporting to be from the missing man, and asking for photographs of the family. The brother who received this letter was satisfied it was a forgery. Then a letter came to say that a former friend of the Tuckwell family was coming to Wellington, with a power of attorney from George Tuckwell, to collect the moneys due to him. The sum involved is about £900. The money was claimed from the Public Trustee, and the power of attorney was addressed to him. It was said that George Tuckwell was then at Cobar, New South Wales. The friend in question said he was coming to Wellington. He admitted that the writing of the letter was his, but that it was at George Tuckwell's dictation. Evidence was clear, said his Honor, that the friend had been in Cobar under an assumed name, and that he received a telegram from Wellington in reply to inquiries made in connection with George Tuckwell. The friend wrote to his mother in Wellington, and some of the letters were obtained by the police. They contained inquiries as to the money left to George Tuckwell. The friend's family refused any information of his whereabouts to the police, and efforts to find him had been fruitless. No claim had been made on the Public Trustee from anyone on behalf of George Tuckwell. The indications were, his Honor said, that the friend obtained possession of papers from George Tuckwell, and from them obtained information of the death of Tuckwell, but there was no indication of the registration of his death, and it was quite possible that he died under an assumed name.

In 1905 the matter came before his Honor, who made an order for the Public Trustee to hold the funds until he had made further inquiries. This was done, but with no result. It had been mentioned that a George Tuckwell had married at Narrandera, New South Wales, in 1897, and that his wife instituted proceedings for divorce, but her husband's identity with the George Tuckwell in question was not established. In 1893 a conveyance was taken by a well-known Wellington solicitor of land at Kaiwarra, which George Tuckwell had been left by his father. This land was paid for, and the proceeds sent to the supposed George Tuckwell. A fraud, his Honor said, was successfully committed in 1893 by someone impersonating George Tuckwell, and this person attempted to claim the moneys held for George Tuckwell by the Public Trustee.

His Honor presumed George Tuckwell to be dead, unmarried, intestate, and that he died prior to the coming of age of Valentine Tuckwell (the youngest child), and he thought it would be wise for the Public Trustee to hold the fund for further period of six months, and, pro-

viding no applications are received at the end of that time, to receive an order for the payment of the money over to the persons entitled to receive it.

### New Zealand Rifle Association.

As a result of representations made by Captain Skinner, the New Zealand Rifle Association meeting at Trentham has been postponed till March 4, so as not to clash with Lord Kitchener's inspection of local volunteers on the 2nd.

### Pressure of Judicial Work.

His Honor Mr. Justice Edwards, who has been the judge in the Auckland district for the past seven years, has at last been obliged to declare publicly that the work in the Auckland judicial district is more than one judge can possibly cope with. The work in the northern half of the island of late years has increased by leaps and bounds, and the number of circuit sittings has been augmented. His Honor has made representations to the Minister of Justice in the matter, and it is probable that before another year has passed, there will be two permanent judges in the northern district. He will, no doubt, surprise those guileless persons who imagine that when the Court is adjourned the judge's work is done to learn that during the sessions here Mr. Justice Edwards is hard at work in his chambers night after night, tre-

## NERVES ON FIRE WITH NEURALGIA.

This Case Resisted all Kinds of Treatment,

Until the Nerves Were Restored by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

When Mrs. Esther Bullock, Walker-st., Waikato, N.Z., was suffering agony with neuralgia, she found that rubbing the face and applying various applications didn't do a bit of good. This treatment couldn't be expected to, as neuralgia is caused by weak run-down nerves. Liniments and poultices couldn't possibly build up the nerves. When she tried Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, which have a reputation for being such a splendid nerve tonic, Mrs. Bullock found prompt relief, and was finally entirely cured. She gave the following account of her illness to a reporter.

"I suffered most acutely for several years on and off from Neuralgia. I would be attacked without warning. I'd go to bed quite well and wake up suffering dreadfully. An attack might last for days or even weeks. I'd often be so bad I'd be helpless. Housework simply had to go. The pain was worse in the right temple, but it would attack each side of the temples in turn, and also the corners of the eyes. I'd try hot cloths and wet cloths, but there was no relief. I'd often take two anaesthetic powders at a time to get a little ease. My head felt as if it were on fire. I couldn't bear any noise or have the children speak to me, I'd be so wretched and irritable. At first the attacks only came on twice a year, but they increased and I'd get them every month, or two months. I'd try hot vinegar, but salt, any mortal thing that I thought might ease me. I used to suffer agonies if a door slammed. My sister would often come in at two o'clock and not a hand's turn would have been done about the house. I went to the doctor, and he said I was anemic. I had tonics, but got no benefit. Then a friend told me about Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and I tried them. After I'd taken the first box the Neuralgia went off, and for four solid months I was free from it. Then I was attacked again, but not severely. I took another box with similar good effects, and two more after that, and with each box the attacks lessened. I have not had a trace of it since I finished the last box, and now I am in capital health. In every way, I shall always be glad to very strongly recommend Dr. Williams' Pink Pills."

Remember, only the genuine Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure. Don't be misled into taking something else to be just as good. Of all dealers at 3 per box, 6 boxes 16s. 6d. or from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co. of Australia, Ltd., Wellington.