

NORTHERN STEAM SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Weather and other circumstances permitting, the Company's steamers will leave as under:—

For Russell.
CLANSMAN Every Monday, at 7 p.m.

For Russell, Whangaroa, and Mangonui.
CLANSMAN. Every Wednesday, at 5.30 p.m. No Cargo for Russell.

For Awani, Waiharara, Houhora, Whangaroa, and Mangonui.
JAPANEI Every Monday, at 2 p.m. No Cargo Whangaroa and Mangonui.

For Whangaruru, Helena Bay, Takaka, and Whananaki.
PAEROA Monday, 20th Dec., 1 p.m.

For Great Barrier.
WAIOTAHII. Every Wednesday, midnight

For Waiheke and Coromandel.
LEAVE AUCKLAND.
DAPHNE. Every Tues. & Thurs. Forenoon.
LEAVE COROMANDEL, VIA WAIHEKE.
DAPHNE. Every Wed and Fri., Early

FOR WAIHEKE.
FROM ONEHUNGA.
For Hokiang.

CLAYMORE Every Thursday
For Raglan and Kowhia.
CLAYMORE. Every Monday

WHANGAREI SERVICE.
Steamers leave Whangarei as under:—
S.S. NGAUPHI.

Goode re-ceived till Tiaia	Manapal.	Parus Bay.
2nd—9.15 a.m.	1 p.m.	10 a.m.
4th—9.15 a.m.	11 a.m.	No str.
7th—11.45 a.m.	2 p.m.	1 p.m.
9th—11.45 a.m.	3.45 p.m.	2 p.m.
11th—Prevs. day.	9 a.m.	No str.
14th—Prevs. day.	9.30 a.m.	8 a.m.
16th—9.15 a.m.	11 a.m.	9 a.m.
18th—9.15 a.m.	11.45 a.m.	No str.
21st—9.15 a.m.	1 p.m.	11 a.m.
23rd—11.45 a.m.	3 p.m.	1 p.m.
24th—No cargo.	2 p.m.	No str.
25th—Prevs. day.	9.30 a.m.	8 a.m.
30th—9.15 a.m.	11 a.m.	8 a.m.
31st—No cargo.	11 a.m.	No str.

*Goods outward by steamers leaving on following dates, viz: 4th, 11th, 14th, 18th, 23rd, and 30th, must leave up-country stations by afternoon train previous day.
NORTHERN S.S. CO., LTD.
Agents.

The Wide World.

CABLE NEWS IN BRIEF.

IMPERIAL.

WHEN Parliament met again on Tuesday after the Easter adjournment, Mr. Asquith gave notice of his reform resolutions, the principle of which had already been affirmed by the House. He moved: "That the House resolve itself into a committee to consider the relations of the two Houses and duration of Parliament." He admitted that he had changed his youthful opinions, and now considered two chambers expedient. He proceeded to propound a long constitutional argument to prove that limitation of the veto and the shortening of Parliaments was the most practical way of securing that the popular will should not be frustrated. A referendum or joint session of the two Houses, as in Australia, was inadmissible under existing circumstances. He concluded that the Lords' absolute veto must follow the Crown's veto before the road was cleared for the advance of full-grown and unfettered democracy.

Sir R. B. Finlay moved the official amendment of the Opposition: "That this House regards a strong and efficient second chamber as necessary; it is willing to consider proposals to reform, but declines proposals for destroying the usefulness of any second chamber, however constituted, and removing the only safeguard against great changes being made by the Government of the day, not only without the consent, but against the wishes, of the majority of the electors." The division on the amendment and motion will be taken on Monday.

America and Canada have reached an agreement upon the tariff question, and the threatened war has been averted. In return for the Payne minimum tariff Canada extends by Order-in-Council the international rate on a dozen items of American exports which compete with French products entering at reduced rates, including cotton seed oil, manufactured silks, some wines and fruits. The agreement provides for legislation for the mutual reduction of duties on articles of natural exchange.

Thirty thousand emigrants leave Britain this month for Canada.

Bishop Barry, formerly Bishop of Sydney and Primate of Australia, died at Windsor last Friday.

Britain's drink bill decreased by eleven millions sterling during last year.

COMMONWEALTH.

The most sensational happening of the week was the foundering of the Aberdeen-White Star liner *Pericles*, a new vessel, which was launched less than two years ago. Particulars of the disaster will be found in another column.

At the sitting of the Labour Congress in Sydney a proposal in favour of the repeal or amendment of the Industrial Disputes Act was lengthily discussed. Most of the speakers advocated amendment. The statement was freely made that the Act had practically killed militant unionism. The Congress adopted a resolution emphatically protesting against Mr. Wade's coercive Industrial Disputes Amendment Act of 1909, and pledging itself to make every effort to return labour members at next election in sufficient numbers to have the amended Act repealed and the Industrial Disputes Act itself amended so as to be suitable to the workers. Another resolution was carried that the Congress favours obtaining its ideals and redressing its grievances by constitutional methods, and is of opinion that strikes should only be resorted to when every possible hope of conciliation has failed.

Tommy Burns, the ex-champion heavy-weight, has accepted a challenge to fight Sam Langford, the coloured boxer, who beat Ian Hague, at Richmond, near Oakland, California, on September 25, for a purse of 25,000 dollars (£5000).

Sir George Reid says that there is room in Australia for tens of thousands of English girls and boys, and that juvenile emigration is the best emigration for Australia.

FOREIGN.

The dancing room of an inn in the

village of Mekoerito, in Hungary, took fire while a village ball was in progress on Saturday night. One door had been nailed up to keep unauthorised persons out, and it could not be opened from within. Many were trampled to death in the struggle to escape, while the majority of the remainder were burned to death. The roof fell in and completed the holocaust, 325 of the 400 present losing their lives. Another dreadful tragedy is reported from Russia, where, while a gipsy caravan consisting of a number of vehicles drawn by horses and donkeys was crossing the frozen surface of Lake Cherenomozki, the ice suddenly broke under the weight. The whole party were precipitated into the icy waters, and 50 were drowned.

Mount Etna has been in violent eruption all the week, and two villages have been destroyed by streams of lava which have devastated large areas of the country. Heavy shocks of earthquake have been felt in Catania and Messina.

The Russian Government is introducing into the Duma a shipbuilding programme for ten years, totalling £75,000,000. The Duma is asked to vote the first annual instalment. The main base of the German navy has been shifted from Kiel to Wilhelmshafen, on the North Sea, with advance posts at Heligoland and Borkum. After extensive tests, the French navy has adopted wireless telephony as a means of communication between the ships.

A dreadful crime, which evidently involves many others, is reported from New York, where the body of a 16-year-old girl named Ruth Wheeler, a typist, was found on a fire escape outside a flat occupied by a youth named Wolter. She had been strangled and partly incinerated. It is alleged that numbers of girls have visited Wolter's flat, and that 15 of them have disappeared. Wolter's counsel declares that he was but the tool of a gang of "white slave" traffickers.

Dr. Brengus, a highly-respected doctor practising at Nimes, has been arrested on a charge of murdering his brother-in-law.

It has been discovered that the famous Hope diamond was sold before the wreck of the *La Seyne*.

During 1909 more than 1400 people committed suicide in St. Petersburg.

Mother of Parliaments.

HOW IT STRIKES A NEW ZEALAND MEMBER.

DR. CHAPPLE'S IMPRESSIONS.

TRAGEDY OF MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

LONDON, February 25.

The impressions of a New Zealander on taking his seat for the first time on the benches of the House of Commons will no doubt be of interest to his compatriots. I asked Dr. W. A. Chapple, M.P., formerly a member of the New Zealand Legislature, to describe to me his sensations at the opening of the new Parliament at Westminster this week. The New Zealander was elected to the "Mother of Parliaments" by a record majority for the county of Stirlingshire at the recent General Election.

"You ask for impressions? It is hard to be definite," said he.

"Sitting in the historic chamber of the House of Commons, the first impression on the sight gives one a sense of oppressiveness. The walls are too close, too heavy, too overhanging. One feels as if too close to a beautiful picture and unable to get back a sufficient distance to get the right focus and point of view."

"One's field of vision feels crowded—but everything is crowded. The detail of the building is crowded. One's thoughts are crowded."

"One's body is crowded, too. All the seats are packed by those who manage to bag a seat in the scramble or to insert their signal card in the little frame fixed to the back of a seat for the purpose. Those who have not been successful crowd up the standing room in

front of the table and stand throughout the ceremony of election of Mr. Speaker.

MIXTURE OF ACCENTS.

"Another 'first impression' falls on the ears—I mean the mixture of accents, north of Ireland, south of Ireland, north of Scotland, south of Scotland, north of England, south of England.

"Then with this mixture of accents there is a mixture of appearances. The typical Scottish face and physique, the unmistakable Irish countenance, now severely stern, now rollickingly good-humoured.

"Then there is a 'first impression' on the nostrils. The sense of stuffiness is almost oppressive, notwithstanding the allegedly perfect system of perforated floor ventilation. It suggests the stories of the unhealthiness of the House of Commons' atmosphere and the number of members who get knocked up at the end of the session.

"The dim religious light adds to the sense of awe-someness, and suggests the presence of the spirits of the mighty dead that once in the flesh made British history within those walls.

"Mr. Asquith enters, ruddy faced, clean shaven, with abundant silver locks to whom the barber has been denied. "Ye-ah-ye-ah-ye-ah" continues apparently from the Government benches only, for about a minute or more. This, being interpreted, means "hear, hear," repeated to about ten places of decimals. There is no clapping nor tramping, but this is deemed a fitting and an hearty welcome.

"From the other side of the Speaker enters Mr. Balfour, spotlessly and elegantly attired, slim, graceful, cultured, ascetic. The same welcome is accorded to him from the other side of the House, repeated to the same number of decimals.

"Measured speeches are made by Mr. Balfour, the oldest member of the House, from the Government side; Mr. Chaplin (who runs him close); Mr. Lowther (the Speaker elect); and the Leaders of the House and the Opposition respectively, and the new Speaker is elected.

A TRAGIC SCENE.

"I had the interesting experience of seeing Mr. Joseph Chamberlain sworn in. Lord Morpeth and Mr. Austen Chamberlain acted as his crutches while he shuffled up the floor of the House during a quiet interval, when almost all the other members were gone.

"He leant heavily on his supporters, and was placed on the Premier's seat while his son signed the register on his behalf and then placed it upon his father's knee. Mr. Chamberlain could only touch the pen which made the cross against his name.

"The remarkable thing about him was that he looked so young. His face was full and bronzed, and it was almost impossible to believe that he had passed the allotted span of threescore years and ten.

"He had an almost apologetic look as he sat, and this broke into an almost apologetic smile as he shook hands with the Speaker, and with the help of his friends was led out to his carriage.

"It was a pathetic spectacle, and one reflected sadly upon this Sanson scorn of his looks by the hand of disease. He would have been a mighty force at this crisis if the energy and health he once possessed were with him now."

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WILL CLIP YOUR HORSE IN HALF-AN-HOUR.



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British Made Throughout.
Gears enclosed in Dust-proof Box.
Featherweight Shaft.
Stocked by all leading Stores.

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He had handled books for forty years, and some of them had borne the dust of centuries. As a matter of fact, he once got a book that in the sixteenth century had been in the library of a monastery in which an epidemic of disease had been very fatal to the monks. It was a very dirty book. He had cleaned up every page, and he was still alive. He had handled thousands of second-hand books in all stages, and had never been any the worse for doing so. Most sellers of second-hand books lived to a green old age. The bacteria to be found on the books did not affect them. He had never heard of any public librarian, second-hand bookseller, or any collector suffering disease as a result of handling books. The bacteria on books was a very common sort of dirt microbe.—*Mr. H. Shaw, of the Libraries' Association.*

SICK HEADACHE

MOST people are content with the belief that a headache is only a headache, and a thing to be borne with as much forbearance as the severity of the case may call for. Sick Headache is one of the most prominent symptoms of bilious attacks, some of the signs of its approach being a heavy aching pain in the front of the head, dizziness and specks before the eyes. The only reliable remedy is **Bile Beans for Biliousness**, which permanently remove the cause.

BILE BEANS