

he believed this failing to be a recent introduction into England. According to him the custom of drinking healths came into England from Europe—from Germany, Poland, and Scandinavia. He condemned the custom as a relic of primitive devil-worship, and rightly maintained that, owing to the principle of "no heel-taps," it involved an excess of drinking which was injurious to health. He fails to recognise that Anglo-Saxons have always been robust drinkers, and he attributes all the intemperance of his age—which was very nearly the period of Falstaff—to the habit of "healthing." His learning is so vast and his citations from Greek and Roman writers are so copious that we are inclined to believe him to have been rather a student of books than an observer of facts.—"The Lancet."

#### THE WHISKEY PROBLEM

The troubles of the whiskey trade, which have endured for some years now, and which have necessitated the appointment of a Royal Commission to diagnose and report upon them, seem to be on the point of disappearing. The question which required settlement divided itself naturally into two branches of inquiry, one branch concerning the mode of distillation, and the other the nature of the ingredients employed. The purists argue that whiskey, whether Irish or Scotch, must be manufactured in an apparatus known as a "pot-still"; and they contended further that the only cereal permissible in the process was barley malt, with, however, the addition of certain other substances in the case of the Irish product. Their claim and their assumption derived inspiration from the prevailing craze for studiously exact definition. To describe a spirit produced in a patent-still from a blend of cereal ingredients was, they told us, a flagrant instance of "terminological inexactitude." It is further from our wish to pose as an advocate of false trade descriptions. In the case of wines, correct labelling of their nature and origin is an essential of fair dealing. But wine comes much nearer to being a natural product than either whiskey or beer, both of which are the results of purely chemical processes. The Spirit and intention of the champions of the pot-still are similar in kind to the principal which actuated the Pure Beer party. The latter laid it down as an unalterable axiom that beer having once been the resultant of a blend of malt and hops, it must never be anything else. The pure whiskey faction went a step further, and sought to insist that not only should the ingredients remain fixed, but that the plant as well should conform to an unvarying type. Such a claim puts out of the field all scientific aids to the improvement of these beverages, and it is therefore untenable because; as we have said, whiskey is an artificial product, and the processes involved in its manufacture are capable of further development. For example, the advocates of the patent-still have contended that the operations are quicker and more under control at points when the elimination of impurities and the retention of desirable bodies are required. The Royal Commissioners tentatively confirmed this view in an interim report which they have published since the last sitting. Apart from the manufacturing and technical phases of the problem, the consumer's standpoint has surely to be considered. Experience shows that his tastes incline to a blend of malt and grain, and this being the case, there is no possible reason for the legislature to interfere.—"The Brewers Gazette."

#### TWO KINDS OF THEM.

There are two kinds of prohibitionists (says Geo. W. Peck, in the "Pacific Wine and Spirit Review"). One kind has always been so, and he is dried up, diseased, never breathes his lungs full, has a kind of blood that looks like curdled milk, if he cuts his finger, whose eyes shine yellow, whose hand is cold and clammy, who looks, you not in the eye when you talk to him, a man who carries liver pills in one pocket, and laxative pills in another, and takes indigestion tablets after his meals, and gulps wind, and flocks with weak and sympathetic women instead of full-blooded men, and thinks he is doing God's

work in looking after his neighbours' morals. The other kind of prohibitionist is the business or professional man or politician, who is in it for what there is in it for him, who pulls the leg of the dyspeptic dry man, who will proclaim aloud that he is dry, when in the presence of dries, but who will wink and laugh a shamefaced laugh when talking with a wet, take him to one side and whisper that he don't believe in it, but "you know how he is, we have to stand in with the dries, or they will ruin our business."

#### WHEN THE WEATHER WAS VERY COLD.

An American and a Scotsman were discussing the cold experienced in winter in the North of Scotland. "Why, it's nothing at all compared to the cold we have in the States," said the American. "I can recollect one winter when a sheep, jumping from a hillock into a field, became suddenly frozen on the way, and stuck in the air like a mass of ice." "But man," exclaimed the Scotsman, "the law of gravity wouldn't allow that." "I know that," replied the tale-pitcher. "But the law of gravity was frozen, too!"

#### A FEMININE VIEW.

"One half of the world doesn't know how the other half lives," observed the moraliser. "How provoking!" exclaimed Mrs. Gossyp.

#### AT THE WEDDING.

"Who's going to give the bride away?" "The newspaper."

"One has more respect for the 'dry' who was born so, and never had a generous impulse in his life, and never knew the blessing of a good, hearty laugh, or the pleasure of associating with a man with good red blood in his veins. The dry, who is dry for business or political reasons,

As for wit and  
Humour good,  
Bet a bit and  
Back Tom Hood!  
And as Hood's great  
Humour's pure,  
So is Woods' Great  
Peppermint Cure!



#### DISTRICT ORDERS.

By  
LIEUT-COLONEL G. C. B. WOLFE,  
COMMANDING AUCKLAND  
DISTRICT.

Defence Office, Auckland,  
September 11, 1908.

#### D.O. 74, 1908.—DOMINION DAY.

It is hereby notified that it is desired by the Right Honorable the Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, that Dominion Day be celebrated by Parades of Volunteers at the various centres of the Dominion.

#### D.O. 75, 1908.—PARADE.

In accordance with the above, the whole of the Volunteer Corps of the District, including Defence Cadets, will Parade as strong as possible on SATURDAY, the 26th inst., for Review, as under—

(a) Auckland Garrison Corps at 3 p.m., on the Outer Domain, and will be formed up in line of quarter-columns (for Review) on the same ground as used on the 10th ultimo.

(b) Officers Commanding Units at outdistricts will arrange for the Squadrons or Companies of their respective Units to Parade at 3 p.m. (or earlier if most suitable) for Review or Fle'd Day. At places where there are more than one Squadron or Company, the senior combatant officer present will command.

(c) Dress: "Review Order," Staff in blue.

(d) As the procedure is to be on somewhat similar lines (except where Field Day is held) to those observed on the first celebration of Dominion Day (omitting presentation of colours). Officers Commanding will be good enough to arrange as far as possible to work in unison with local civil authorities re Public School Cadets, etc.

(e) Officers Commanding Units will forward to this Office at their earliest convenience a detail of the arrangements they have made in respect to carrying out the celebration.

ROBERT CARPENTER, Captain,  
A.A.G., Auckland District.

who proclaims that he is dry, and winks when he says it, is like the man on the car, when those present were telling what States they lived in. Each was lauding his State, and was proud of it. Finally they asked the last man where he lived, and he looked around, smiled, and said, 'I am from Missouri. Now, laugh, darn you!'—Geo. W. Peck.

Barber: You certainly need a haircut.

Customer: Yes. Been away. Hair in bad shape, eh?

"Fierce. Must have been in the country."

"Yep."

"Cut by a farmer?"

"That's right."

"He certainly didn't know the business."

"That's so."

"Where was it done?"

"You did it before I went."

"You say the victim was shot in the head?" queried the coroner. "Yes, sir," replied the witness. "Previous to the shooting had there been any trouble or threats that would have led the victim to expect the shot?" "No, sir; I don't think such a thing ever entered his head before."

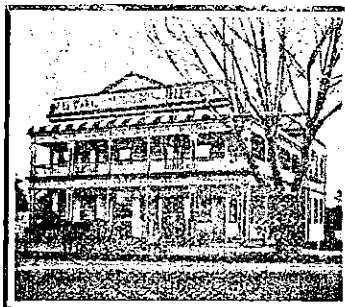
Woods' Great Peppermint Cure for  
Coughs and Colds never fails. 1s 6d and  
2s 6d.

#### KENTISH HOTEL, WAIUKU.

JOE MOLLOY ..... Proprietor.

First-class Accommodation for the  
Travelling Public.

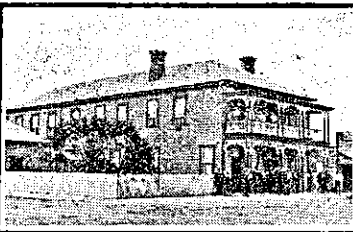
WINES, ALES AND SPIRITS OF THE  
BEST BRANDS ONLY.



#### ROYAL HOTEL, HAMILTON EAST, WAIKATO.

F. MOLESWORTH ..... Proprietor.

Beautifully situated on the east side  
of the town. Affords Accommodation  
of the best for Travellers and Boarders.



#### WHEN VISITING TE KUITI

Please Remember that the

#### TE KUITI TEMPERANCE HOTEL

H. E. KERR .. Proprietor  
(Late J. T. Hetet)

Possesses three recommendations—  
First-class Table, Comfortable and Spacious  
Bedrooms, Good Sitting Rooms.  
Attention and Civility gratis.



#### MASONIC HOTEL, CAMBRIDGE.

E. W. SMITH

(Late of Oxford Hotel, Trau).  
Only Best Brands of Ales and Spirits  
kept.  
Excellent Table.  
Every Convenience for Tourists, Travellers  
and Families.  
Hot and Cold Baths.  
Terms Moderate.

#### GROSVENOR HOTEL, corner Moor- house Avenue and Madras Street, CHRISTCHURCH.

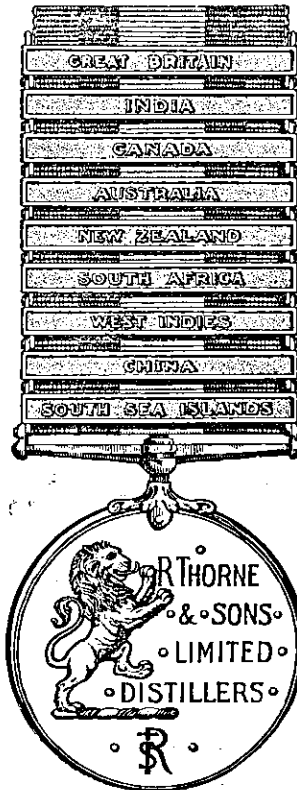
One Minute from the Railway Station  
and Trams.

JOHN JACKSON .. Proprietor

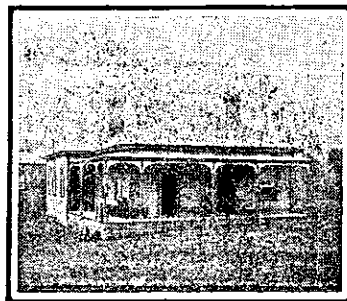
(Late of Governor's Bay).

This house has been thoroughly re-  
novated, and visitors will find every  
comfort and convenience, combined  
with civility and attention. Only the  
best Wines and Spirits in Stock.

# THORNE'S WHISKY HOLDS THE MEDAL



## Victorious everywhere



#### TANGITERORIA HOTEL

G. BURDETT ..... Proprietor.

On the road from Whangarei to Dargaville. Every Convenience for Travel-  
lers and Tourists.  
The Famous Wairua Falls are a few  
miles distant from the Hotel. One of  
the Sights of the North.



#### NORTHERN WAIROA HOTEL, DARGAVILLE.

EVERY POSSIBLE CONVENIENCE  
FOR THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC.

The BILLIARD ROOM is fitted with  
one of Alcock's Best Tables.  
Good Stables and Paddock adjoining  
the premises.

W. MONTGOMERY. .... Proprietor.



#### RAILWAY TEMPERANCE HOTEL, TE KUITI.

F. H. SIMS ..... Proprietor.

Owing to the great increase of busi-  
ness, F.H.S. has been compelled to  
erect 12 additional rooms, including  
Large Commercial Room. Every Com-  
fort and Attention. Travellers by the  
Early Train specially catered for.