

THE RETORT COURTEOUS.

Among the Presbyterian ministers who were presented to President Roosevelt recently was one who bears the burden of an overweighing sense of duty, and is wont to "rebuke in season and out of season" — mostly out of season. "I regret," said the preacher, "to see that the Administration countenanced the use of liquor in the Governor's palace at Havana." "But I am glad to see," said the President, "deftly changing the subject, that the General Assembly is discountenancing the use of brimstone."

PLENTY OF ROOM.

The Hotel Bristol at Paris has always been our King's favourite resort in Paris. His rooms are not large, but cheerful, commanding the Place Vendome, on the ground floor. Some time ago an American lady, who has often occupied them, proposed to give a little dinner, but thought the space hardly large enough for those she desired to ask. "Oh, I assure madam," exclaimed the major domo, "there is plenty of room. Why, when the Prince of Wales was last here he had just as many. The Czar sat there, the Czarina here, the King of this at that corner, the Empress of that at that corner," etc. "Oh, well," she said, quite overwhelmed, "if all these crowned heads squeezed in so well, I suppose my people can manage it."

FASHIONABLE INTOXICANTS.

A new intoxicant, camphor, is being resorted to by fashionable Parisian ladies to give freshness to the complexion. One of its certain effects is to induce mental torpor, somnolence, and general weakness. The camphoromaniac becomes of leaden heaviness and apathetic. Her face has as much expression as a mask. Some years ago belladonna was resorted to as a means of giving lustre to the eye by enlarging the pupils, with sad consequences. Another mode of mania was the hypodermic injection of morphine, operated in the cloak-room before entering the opera box or ball room. This was supposed to give beautiful animation to the countenance and manners. It led to the frequent use of the drug. A short time ago a pharmaceutical chemist was sentenced to eighteen months for selling £80 worth of morphine in two months to a woman of fashion who had become a morphomaniac.

PROHIBITION IN CLUTHA.

As the above-mentioned district is being continually held up by prohibitionists as an example of the so-called benefits of prohibition, some interest attaches to the following portion of a speech which was delivered by Mr. Quin, who was a candidate for Clutha seat at Clinton. He said that on the subject of prohibition he would not say much. Prohibition was the law of the land in this electorate, and was likely to remain so, and be carried elsewhere, too. There was, however, little doubt in his mind that it would have been much better had the prohibitionists declared for the whole colony instead of for one electorate, for a man like himself, constantly on the road throughout Clutha, saw the evils that had arisen through prohibition. It had closed the hotels, but in every corner the sale of grog would go on like the brook. The people would have, and would get, drink, and he could assure them that instead of sixteen licensed sellers of grog in the Clutha nine years ago, there were now five times that number of unlicensed sellers. It was peddled by hawkers and sold by butcher and baker boys in his district. Prohibition being on the Statute Book, the prohibitionists should endeavour to stop this liquor traffic that has arisen since its enforcement. It was a disgrace that though in this electorate a glass of liquor could not be purchased in a legitimate manner, the grog shops were swarming, with dissipation and drunkenness in every corner. He believed Clinton was the soberest town in the electorate; he could not say the same of Balclutha and Tapanui, and in certain parts of the district the sly-grog trade was growing and becoming a perfect evil. Within the past week he had witnessed two scenes of drunkenness he would be ashamed to retail to his hearers. Again, these sly-grog shops sold poison in the shape of liquor—a growing evil he was anxious to stamp out, as he was strongly desirous of stamping out the bad class of grog shops existing in many corners of the electorate."

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LATE PROPRIETOR OF THE PONSONBY CLUB HOTEL FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS,

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THE PREMIER HOTEL OF THE AROHA,

FRANK PILLING.....Proprietor,

OFFERS SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR TOURISTS, FAMILIES AND VISITORS.

COMMERCIAL SAMPLE ROOM.

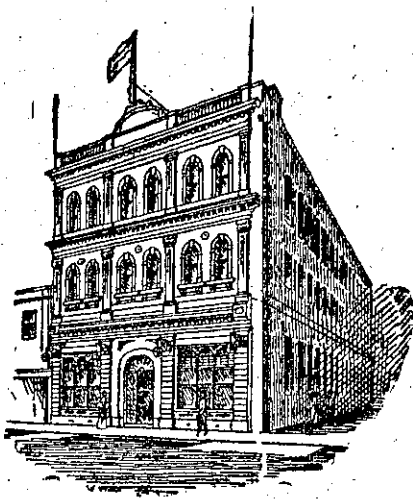
TELEGRAMS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO

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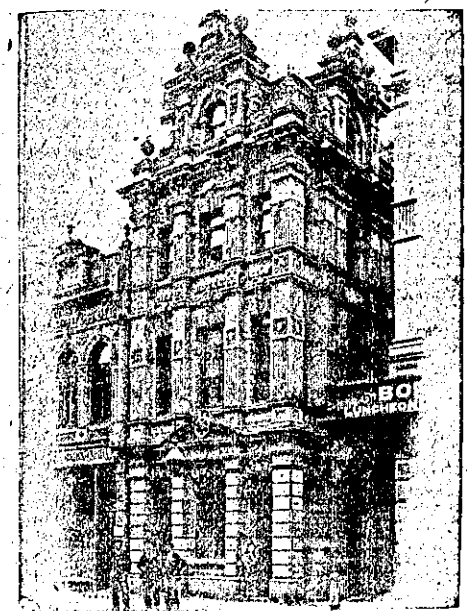
BILLIARD ROOM.

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50 to 600 ACRES (at option).—The finest land in Taranaki. A large estate is being cut up to suit purchasers. Terms 2 per cent cash, balance 5 per cent. Creameries are being erected on the estate.

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SHEEP RUNS.

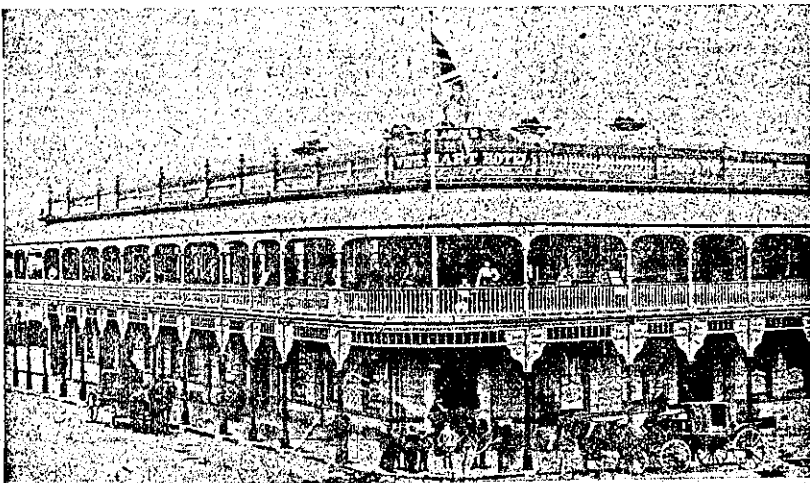
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[UNDER VICE-REGAL PATRONAGE.]

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(OPPOSITE RAILWAY-STATION), NEW PLYMOUTH.

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HAS just opened this new and commodious Hotel, and will now cater for the Public. The house is lighted by electricity. Terms on application. Passengers by early steamers can always rely on getting breakfast before leaving by train. An electric bell will be rung in the dining-room five minutes before the departure of any passenger train from the station. Speight's Dunedin XXXX Ales always on tap. Best wines and spirits retailed. Night porter in attendance. The kitchen is entirely under the supervision of Mons. Mossong, late of Coker's Hotel Christchurch.

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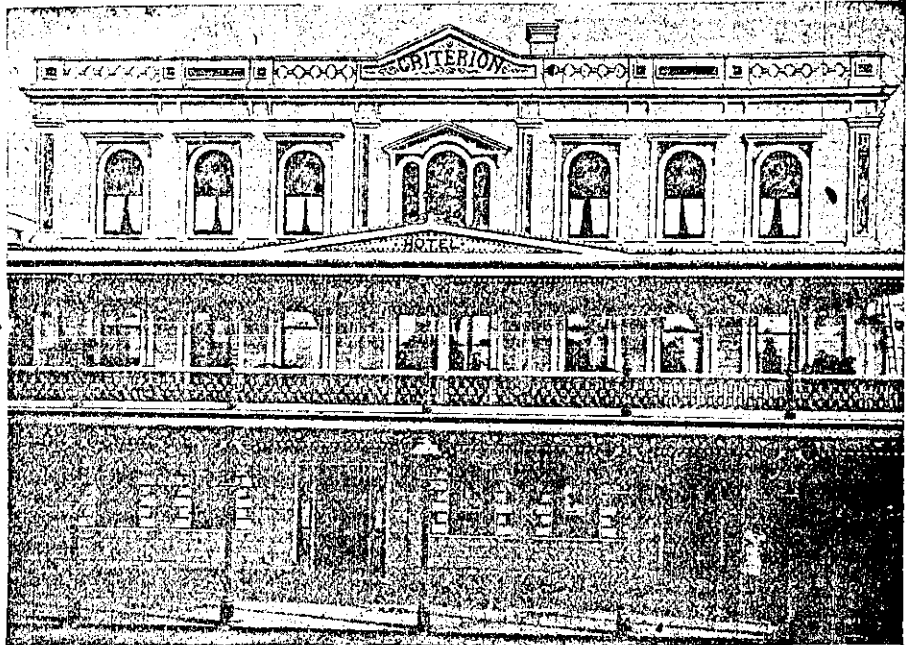
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