

that though he was starving he refused to apply for parish relief because he wished to qualify for an old age pension. He also declined to ask his relatives for help, stating that he would not lower himself. The jury found that death was accelerated by starvation.

An American paper informs us that "General Frederick Grant, whose participation in uniform in the prohibition parade in Chicago caused a protest to the War Department that Secretary Dickenson pronounced unworthy of consideration, declares that he is not only a 'teetotaler' and a 'prohibitionist,' but that it is his desire that the whole world would adopt the theories and practices of prohibition." The General is son of another and far more famous general—Ulysses Grant, the man who hammered the Southern Rebellion to death and saved the Union. The elder Grant was no prohibitionist—far from it. He liked his creature comforts, and took them. It is of him that the celebrated story is told. Some of the then "temperance" advocates complained in deputation to President Lincoln that Grant drank. Lincoln, instead of being shocked, as his interviewers expected, inquired anxiously what brand of whisky Grant drank. The deputation said they didn't think anything turned on that. "Oh!" said Lincoln, "everything turns on it. If I could find out, I would have a few barrels distributed among the other generals."

It is said (states the North Otago "Times") that one train last week brought over 200 kegs of beer for Oamaru and 27 demijohns of other more potent liquors.

Says the London "Daily Graphic" of a recent date:—"At a meeting of Tunstall Urban Council it was announced that Mr. Edward Malam, of Hanley Brewery, who died a few days ago, had bequeathed a large sum to Tunstall, his native town, for the erection and endowment of a convalescent home for the use of the people of Tunstall. The amount of the bequest is believed to be between £30,000 and £40,000."

Referring to the production of Cape brandy says the Capetown correspondent of the "L.V. Gazette and Hotel Courier," from the latest returns that last year only one-half the quantity was produced that has been distilled in previous years. Of this, only a little over two per cent. was distilled from wine, and of the rest only 56 per cent. was produced from the whole grape; so that over two-fifths of the brandy production of last season consisted of the almost unsaleable dlop, made from the husks and stalks. In view of the finding of the Wine Commission that there is an increasing demand for wine brandy of the Cognac type, it is still only too plainly evident that the wine farmers have but themselves to thank for the present state of depression. It is of small use complaining of the large importation of foreign whisky when our own liquor is produced under inferior conditions.

It is computed that the breweries of the world consume forty millions tons of barley and seventy thousand tons of hops yearly. And it is such a mighty industry, employing millions of people and enriching tens of thousands of farmers, that a few crazy fanatics would destroy at one full swoop, reckless of the ruin and starvation that would ensue, if they could and Government would let them. And you may notice that we haven't said anything about the sugar that must also run into many millions of tons. What will the prohibitionists give the world in the place of these gigantic industries they plot to destroy? What have they ever given the world that was to its advantage or betterment?

Ireland in general and Irish hotel-keepers in particular may be congratulated on obtaining so illustrious and eloquent an advocate of the claims of their beautiful country upon the tourist as the Countess of Aberdeen (wife of the Irish Viceroy). In this respect, indeed, Ireland has many good friends, but not, for the most part, those whom she has sent to represent her in Parliament.—"London Caterer."

Mr. F. Greenfield has sold out of the Tokatoka Hotel to Mr. E. Hill, who was for some time hotelkeeper at Coromandel and Papakura.

We hear that Mr. E. Prenter, late of the East Coast, may shortly take over the Waiorongomai Hotel from Mr. H. Brunton.

Some authorities do not think that the report of the Whisky Commission has settled the problem. "What is Whisky?" (says Fairplay in a recent issue). The conclusions of the Commission is a sort of Yes-No which leaves the pot-still and the patent-still products with honors even. Of late years, British Royal Commissions seldom decide any such questions. They usually give both sides their blessing and bid them go on their own ways in peace. In the whisky case the rival parties have the comfort of knowing that each produces whisky. What is of more interest to the public, however, is the decision against compulsory maturing in bond. Maturing has always been held to give immunity from some of the worse effects of whisky. The Commission decides that it does nothing of the kind. New spirit is no more deleterious than old if only the same quantity is drunk. So the matured whisky is left to depend for its attractiveness upon the mellowness of flavor which age brings. This upsets some old and venerated theories.

As a rule hotel advertisements in England show but little originality or inventiveness. In the United States they do better. For example, here is an announcement of a certain hotel in one of the great western cities:—

When an architect can plan greater conveniences,  
When better and more comfortable furnishings can be bought,  
When greater attention can be paid to a guest's requirements,  
When Mother Earth can yield better things to eat,  
Then, and only then, will—have a better hotel than the—

AUSTRIAN WINE MAKERS.

A MAORI PROTEST.

THE SALE OF TWO GALLON LOTS.

A statement as to what is alleged to be taking place in the North of Auckland, through the making and sale of wine by Austrians, was made at the Young Maori party's conference by the Rev. J. T. William.

The speaker stated that in Herekino alone the Austrians grew grapes enough last year to produce 15,000 gallons of wine, and that the output this season will be over 20,000 gallons. There was a clause in the Licensing Act which allowed the man who grew grapes to sell his wine in two-gallon lots, provided it was not drunk on his premises. These were the only restrictions on the sale of wine, and it seemed ridiculous, he said, to surround the licensed victualler with dozens of restrictions and yet to allow these aliens to sell their wine almost without restriction. The evils in these districts, he said, could not be overstated. It was simply the ruin of the young men of the districts, and where there was a large native population it was only natural that the Maoris were supplied with a good deal of wine. The Austrians hawked the wine even 50 miles from Herekino in drays in summer and on pack-horses in winter over roads unspeakably bad, so keen are they on the profits accruing from this trade. The police were few and far between, and it was impossible for them to cope with the evils resulting from this wine industry.

Several speakers, Maori and pakeha, spoke in corroboration of the facts given by the first speaker.

The conference passed the following resolution unanimously:—"That the attention of the Minister for Agriculture be drawn to the many evils resulting from the sale of wine by the Austrians in the districts of Whangape, Herekino, Waiharara and Houhora."

A LESSON IN POLITENESS.

He was dining at a French restaurant, and while he was sipping his black coffee and firing 500 glances a minute at a girl in a fluffy pink and white dress, a stranger gracefully commanded his overcoat. He had just reached the door when the owner tapped him on the shoulder.

"Pardon me, sir," he said, meekly, "but would you allow me to get another cigar from my coat pocket, in case I do not meet you again?"

LEFT AS SECURITY.

A country-woman, in the absence of her husband, sold two cows to a passing dealer. As he said he had no money with him, she was unwilling to let him have them without security. "Very well," he said; "then I will leave one of the cows for security."

The woman agreed, and calmly allowed him to march off with the other cow.

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**IMPERIAL ALE**

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We can recommend with every confidence. **ALL BLACK Whisky** being the best matured Scotch Whisky ever imported into the Dominion.

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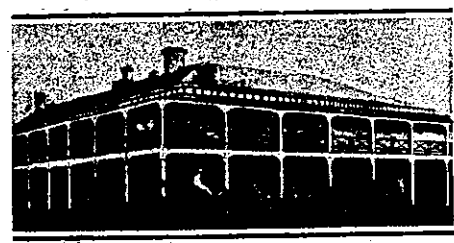
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  - 6 Years' Lease; rent, £7; trade, £60. Price, £3400. 23
  - 5 Years' Lease; rent, £12 10s; trade, £25. Price, £700. 43
  - 4 1/2 Years' Lease; rent, £13; trade, £150. Price, £3500. 19
  - 8 1/2 Years' Lease; rent, £10; trade, £150. Price, £5200. 52
  - 3 1/2 Years' Lease; rent, £2 10s; trade, £45. Price, £1050. 31
  - 3 1/2 Years' Lease; rent, £12 10s; trade, £160. Price, £4000. 18
  - 3 Years' Lease; rent, £5; trade, £50. Price, £2000. 15
  - 3 1/2 Years' Lease; rent, £3; trade, £35. Price, £1000. 32
  - 2 1/2 Years' Lease; rent, £4 10s; trade, £70. Price, £1600. 14
  - 3 Years' Lease; rent, £3 10s; trade, £40. Price, £1000. 30
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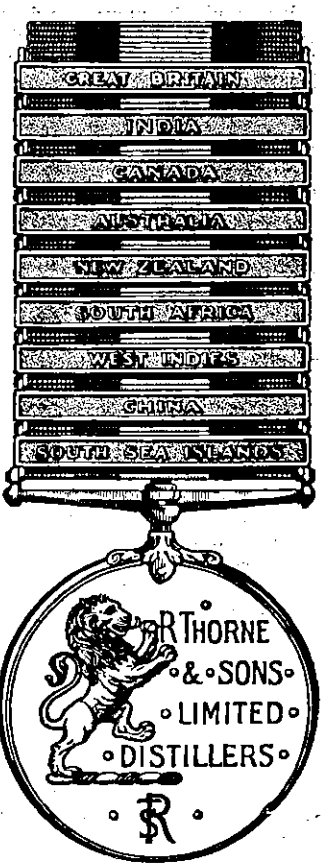
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