are these Catholic States? We are not aware of the existence of one such. There are millions of Catholics, but there is not even one Catholic State that we know of in the world. On the contrary, the State as such is almost everywhere anti-Catholic. Again, who are the faithful and excellent Catholics who lead the Liberal party in Germany? Is Bismarck a Catholic? Perhaps Döllinger and his followers are meant. But they are heretics, and they are no more members of the Catholic Church than was Queen Elizabeth, who persecuted her Catholic subjects so fearfully. Who are the faithful and excellent Catholics leading the liberal party in Italy? Garibaldi? is he one of them? Are the excommunicated plunderers of the Church the faithful and excellent Catholics? Perhaps the sacrilegious Loyson is amongst the faithful and excellent Catholics spoken of by our contemporary!

The 'Guardian' wishes to represent the Catholic Church as divided into two parties—the clerical and the lay—opposed to one another in this age, particularly on the question of education. If the 'Guardian' knew the Catholic catechism, of which he is of course profoundly ignorant, and had only a slight acquaintance with the history of Catholics, he would not have committed the egregious folly of making such a statement. Whether our contemporary has been "*hifaluting*" or not we do not know, but we are quite certain that on this point, at least, he has been laboring under a great delusion.

WEEKLY EPITOME.

THE Hon. Mr Vogel has received a telegram stating that by the Mongol, there was coming out to the Colony Mr Joseph Holloway, who is described as the right-hand man of Mr Arch, whose name was so well known in connection with the movement which had sprung up in Great Britain for the amelioration of the condition of the agricultural labourers.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor arrived at Invercargill on Saturday evening from Queenstown, and was received most enthusiastically.

ADVICES which have been received by cablegram at Christchurch inform the New Zealand Shipping Co. that the demand for emigrant passages had largely increased, in consequence of the adoption of the nominated system. The agent of the Company in London, owing to the scarcity of ships, had arranged with the Albion Shipping Co. and Messrs Shaw, Savill and Co. to carry some of the immigrants. The New Zealand Co. have despatched during December eight ships, including the Mongol, s.s., which is expected alone to carry 600.

AT Greymouth on Sunday night last, 132 Chinese landed from the Alhambra, and were met on the wharf by a large crowd. They were much hustled and knocked about, though the police protected them as much as they could. Great indignation is felt at the treatment they received.

THE 'Nelson Examiner' ceased publication on the morning of the 15th inst. It was the oldest paper in the Colony, having first appeared in March, 1842.

THE Salisbury has arrived at Wellington from London with 200 immigrants on board, who are chiefly the Hon. Colonel Fielding's colonists.

THE brigantine Sarah Pile, which has been out three months, has arrived at the Bluff from Macquarie Islands with 54 tuns of oil on board.

IN Christchurch, action is being taken with a view to establishing a woollen factory.

THE tender for the summit contract of the Wellington and Masterton Railway from Messrs Collie and Scott, of Wellington, amounting to £18,700, will be accepted. The highest tender was £36,000.

THE total amount of duties collected at Wellington for last year was £88,654, against £64,682 for 1872.

IN consequence of the unfavorable reply from the Government, to the application of the Wellington Sugar Refinery Co, for a bonus or drawback, the directors have resolved not to proceed further in the matter, until it is ascertained what encouragement the Assembly is prepared to offer this new industry.

AT Auckland, Mr Moriarty, the Sydney Government Engineer, has reported in favor of the construction of a large graving dock, capable of accommodating the San Francisco steamers, on a site west of the Queen street wharf. The eligibility of the site evokes much discussion.

A LARGE meeting of carpenters was held at Napier on Saturday evening, and it was resolved to demand 12s per day, to take effect one month from the date of the meeting.

THE Provincial Council of Canterbury has decided to increase the Superintendent's salary from £800 to £1000 per annum. The Government announced their intention of obtaining a thoroughly competent Railway Manager, and that a salary of £800 or £1000 a year might have to be given.

THE Bright Smile Gold Mining Co., at the Thames, have not stopped pumping, although the City of London Co. decline to attend the Conference for settling the question of drainage contribution.

THE sum of £415 has been distributed amongst the passengers with families of the wrecked ship Surat, at the Immigration Barracks. The Committee have still a sum of about £300 in hand.

IT appears from a recent Queensland paper that a considerable number of small settlers in the Wide Bay district contemplate immigrating to the Province of Canterbury in March next. At a public meeting held to discuss the matter, a letter from a Canterbury farmer setting forth the excellence of the climate of New Zealand, especially that of the Southern Island, was read, and the Chairman observed that it would be well if more of the Queensland farmers would make up their minds to settle in New Zealand, which appeared to him to be the most prosperous Colony in the Southern hemisphere.

THE boat's crew of the schooner Dauntless had a wonderful escape from drowning in attempting to cross the Kaipara bar. They were picked up in an exhausted state by the pilot cutter, after being an hour in the water.

IN the Supreme Court, Auckland, an action has been brought by Mary Anne Stailey against John Lamand and Captain H. Anderson, to recover certain subscriptions collected on her behalf. The jury gave a verdict on all issues in favor of the plaintiff.

A MEETING of the parents of children attending the All Saints' Church school, and "of the friends of education," to mark the opening of the first Church of England denominational school in the province of Otago, was held in the All Saints' Church school-room, Dunedin, lately. Speeches were delivered by, among others, Mr Justice Chapman, Bishop Nevill, and the Rev. R. L. Stanford. A school in connection with St. Paul's (Anglican) Church, Dunedin, is also to be opened.

The census of the Colony is to be taken on the night of Sunday, the 1st March.

WRITING of the recent floods in the Molyneux, the Tuapeka Mouth correspondent of the Lawrence paper says, the continuous high state of the river must have been injurious up country, as the carcases of horses, boxes, and other *debris* have been floating past.

THE Provincial Government are now calling for tenders for the completion of an additional portion of the Mount Ida head race. The length of the work for which tenders are called is to be about nine and a half miles. With the exception of a large cutting which will have to be made, the country the race will pass through will be of an easy nature.

At an inquest at Auckland, the Coroner said he should endeavor to secure a medal from the Royal Humane Society to Charles Hopkins, who had four times brought up drowning persons by diving.

AN Invercargill paper states that among the decorations at Winton on the occasion of the Governor's arrival, the most noticeable was a large Scotch thistle, tied to the top of a manuka pole in front of a hotel.

IN the Supreme Court a few days ago, Mr Macassey intimated that, on an early day, a special case would be submitted for His Honor's opinion, involving the question of the right of the passengers by the Surat to their luggage, which was sold to the purchasers of the wreck.

WE read in an Auckland exchange:—The Reverend Mother and the Sisters of Mercy beg to acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of £50 from His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Croke, as a Christmas gift to the orphans under their care.

THE Dunfillan has arrived in port from London, after a capital passage of 78 days, with 158 passengers

NOTWITHSTANDING the heavy seas which have been breaking over the Surat, no damage has been done.

MR HILL, Collector of Customs, Dunedin, who is about to be removed to Auckland, has been presented by the mercantile men of Dunedin with a purse of 100 guineas and a flattering testimonial.

THE last southern escort which arrived in Dunedin brought down the following quantities of gold:—Switzers, 1709oz 7dwts; Waitahuna, 424oz 8dwts; Waipori, 286oz 19dwts; Lawrence, 2393oz 11dwts; Tokomairiro, 290oz; Northern escort, 16,129oz 7dwts; total, 21,233oz 12dwts.

THE 'Cromwell Argus' states that "a large number of Chinamen working at the Nevis are reported to have 'skedaddled' in the direction of the West Coast. A good many of them are said to have gone without paying a visit to their storekeeping countrymen, Kem Yung Fong and Sun on Lee. It is said that a European miner receives £50 for piloting them across the country."

A LABOURING man, named William Kennedy, was covered by a fall of earth a few days ago, whilst working at an earth cutting for Messrs Proctor and Whittaker. His mates instantly extricated him, and conveyed him to the Hospital, but he died before reaching the institution. At the inquest the jury returned an open verdict, with the rider that greater precaution should be used in future.

OUR Auckland correspondent telegraphs:—National Insurance 20s, 21s; Caledonian 10s, 15s, 11s; Thames £3 2s 6d.

THERE's nothing like leather! Judge Chapman who is an advocate for denominational education by denominations, and undenominational education by the Government! holds that the two classes of men best fitted to educate and have the control of education are Anglican clergymen and lawyers.

REFERRING to the advertisement of the Dominican Convent, we are requested to state, that applications for terms and particulars may be made to the Lady Superior, Dowling Street, Dunedin, or at St. Dominic's priory, Waikari; and further that private lessons will be discontinued.

THE SURAT INQUIRY.

JUDGMENT was given in this enquiry on Tuesday afternoon last. Mr Strode, R.M., Captain Thomson, Nautical Assessor and Mr Fulton, R.M., were on the Bench. The Court was crowded, the captain and chief mate of the Surat being in attendance.

The judgment, which was read by Mr Strode, gave first a summary of the evidence, and then the opinion of the Bench. It was as follows:—

The Resident Magistrates engaged in this enquiry now proceed to express their opinion and give their decision in the matter of the loss of the ship Surat. The ship Surat, bound for Port Chalmers, arrived off the coast of Stewart's Island between 2 and 3 p.m. on the 31st December last, at which time land was sighted bearing N.W. about 16 miles off, the wind blowing a fine breeze from W.N.W., and the ship being steered a N.E. course by the magnetic compass until abreast of Bruce's reef, off the East Coast of Stewart's Island. From this point