

the same time, after their experience of the *wretches* brought by the "Asia," we doubt if the people of Dunedin are altogether in the humour to receive into their midst another batch of the same sort. Yet here we have a lot of 126 single women brought by the "Caroline," and of that number the 40 from the Workhouse (Cork) are reported by the Captain to have been the best behaved during the passage. This, certainly, does not say very much for some of the 86, of whom we must be prepared to hear more."

We venture to say that, for injustice and savagery, the above extract is almost without a parallel in the history of journalism. Our contemporary calls the poor girls who came by the "Asia" from Cork, *wretches*. Was there not one decent girl amongst them? Where they *wretches* without exception? In reality, how many of them proved themselves disreputable, and were the disreputable by the "Asia" in greater proportion to the total number of immigrants by that unhappy vessel, than in the case of other immigrant vessels? Not at all. But they happened to be from Ireland, and the arrival of any immigrants at all from Ireland in Otago is the real grievance. Bad as some few of the girls by the "Asia" were, they were not worse nor more numerous in proportion to the total number, than the bad who came by other ships. These latter, however, have been treated tenderly, whilst the names and delinquencies of the poor Irish girls have been ostentatiously paraded in the Press.

In Tuesday's issue, the 'Otago Daily Times' has in effect called upon the people of this Province not to employ even one of the 126 single females who came by the "Caroline," and to take measures to send them back to Great Britain. And why—because of the "126 single women by the "Caroline," the 40 from the Workhouse are reported by the Captain to have been the best behaved during the passage." The 'Otago Daily Times' takes it for granted that, these 40 females are like the "Asia" girls, all *wretches*, and that, as they were the best behaved, it follows necessarily that the remaining 86 must be still greater *wretches*, and should not be received into their houses by the people of Dunedin. The 'Otago Daily Times' is evidently in great trouble of mind about these *wretches*, and asks, in a despairing tone, "Is there no way of getting rid of this disreputable shipment? We are afraid not. At the same time, if by some good chance a ship bound for England could be got to take them, it would be cheap for this community in the end were these women sent back to the place from whence they came, even although the passage money charged per head came to double the usual rate."

Well done, 'Otago Daily Times!' Hang them all without exception. Spare no one; don't give them even a trial. It is a foregone conclusion; the best of them are from Ireland, consequently they must be all very bad. Ship them back to the place whence they came. The 'Otago Daily Times' knows nothing about them, except the fact that 40, the best of the 126 single females, are from a Workhouse in Ireland. This, however, is more than evidence enough. There is no use in giving any of them a trial; the 40 from Ireland cannot be otherwise than very bad, for no other reason than that they are from Ireland, and, therefore, the remaining 86 must be *wretches* indeed. Such is the reasoning of the highly moral, Christian, just and equitable 'Otago Daily Times,' and such the recommendation given by our contemporary to the citizens of Dunedin and the Government! But what is more to be deplored is the fact, that the 'Otago Daily Times,' in these sweeping extracts, gives, we regret to say, the opinion of a very large number of persons. Under these circumstances there is a dreary prospect before these 126 single females. Were the Government acting on the recommendation of our contemporary, to charter a vessel to take them back to the place from whence they came, our advice to them would be, accept the offer, and fly from the inhospitable shores of Otago, and the tender mercies of such journals as the 'Otago Daily Times.' We ask, in conclusion, have none of the immigrants from England or Scotland come from workhouses? Has not one? Perhaps the 'Otago Daily Times' can answer this question, and would explain how it is that, if such be the case, no notice has hitherto been taken of the fact?

#### OURSELVES.

WE would draw attention to a notice from the directory of the NEW ZEALAND TABLET Company, which we publish in another part of this issue. The directors have thought it advisable to republish the balance-sheet for the past

year, which was submitted to the shareholders a few weeks since, in order that those who might not have attended the annual meeting, or seen the statement, might be made aware of the position of the Company, and the financial success which this journal has proved itself to have been during the first year of its existence. It is well known to everyone that that period is the most trying in the career of a journal. There are difficulties, discouragements, and obstacles to be encountered during that critical time, which have no existence in its more mature age. We have therefore to congratulate ourselves that notwithstanding the many disadvantages under which we have laboured at the start, the NEW ZEALAND TABLET has not only mastered the difficulties by which it was beset, but that it is now an established success, financially and otherwise. This, a reference to the balance-sheet will amply prove. But though we have been so far successful in the past, the field of enterprise has been necessarily circumscribed; and it is with a view of remedying this defect that the present step of the directory has been taken. It had been the original intention of the TABLET Company to have started with a capital of fifteen hundred shares of one pound each; that intention, however, was not carried into effect, and hitherto the number of shares which have been allotted have scarcely reached one-third that number. The success which attended the operations of the Company during the past year, with the very limited funds at their command, has justified the directors in proceeding to carry out the original design as embodied in the prospectus with regard to the amount of capital, and with this view they have come to the determination of offering the remainder of the unallotted shares to the Catholic public. Their object in taking this step, is to place sufficient funds at their disposal to extend the sphere of usefulness of this journal by enlarging its present size, and increasing its circulation. To do this will, of course, cause a considerable increase in the working expenses; but we rest satisfied that, while involving a greater outlay, it will be counterbalanced by the additional advertising space at command, outside the important advantage of allowing a considerable increase in its reading columns. We shall thus be enabled to supply our subscribers with more news, while the rate of subscription will remain as heretofore. We have but little doubt that, with the enlargement of the TABLET, the circulation will also be considerably increased; and, in thanking our subscribers for the generous support which we have received in the past, we feel assured that the efforts which are being made by the Company of making the TABLET worthy of the cause which it defends, and the principles which it advocates, will be ably seconded. We are aware that the TABLET has not been everything we could have wished it, but that was the effect of circumstances beyond our control. Now, however, a struggle is being made to remedy many of the short-comings in connection with its production, and it lies in the power of the Catholics of New Zealand, by the support they will accord to the TABLET, to make it worthy of the cause of which it is the organ, the champion of their rights, and the mouthpiece of their wrongs. We need not dwell further on the subject. As a safe and remunerative investment, the balance-sheet for the past year is the best guarantee; and, with regard to the necessity for such a journal, there cannot be two opinions. Experience during the past few months has amply shown the advisability of Catholics having a medium for refuting the slanderous and unmanly attacks which have been made upon them as a body.

#### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

WE would remind the members of the Juvenile Contingent of St. Joseph's Branch, No. 73, that a meeting will be held in the school-room on Monday evening, 20th July, at 7.30 punctually. As the business is of importance viz., the election of office-bearers, we trust to see a good attendance.

A VOCAL and instrumental concert took place on the evening of Tuesday 7th inst., at St. Patrick's Hall, Christchurch. The entertainment, which was for the benefit of the Catholic Schools, was well patronised, there being between four and five hundred persons present. The bill of fare was a most pleasing and varied one, embracing ballads, songs—comic and sentimental—selections from various operas, with performances on the piano by the Misses Donnelly. The entertainment commenced with an overture by Mr C. Bonnington, and the Septett Band. Mrs Wiggins received well merited applause for her touching rendering of the pathetic ballad "The Irish Emigrant." Amongst the different items by which the audience were pleased and amused were "Floating on the wind," by Mrs Oakes; "Take back the Heart," by Mr Anthony, and "Do they think of me at home," by the same gentleman; Mr Kimble managed to keep the audience in continued good humour, his appearance being the signal for general merriment, and during the evening he appeared as "General Jinks," and "On the parade." The burden, however, of the entertainment