

has refused to permit the provinces, such as Nelson, Westland, Hawke's Bay, which had hitherto helped Catholic schools, to do so any longer. But the Catholics of Kaiapoi and Rangiora have now found out the Hon. Mr. BOWEN, and they are not likely to be duped by him a second time. **THEY WILL REMEMBER THE HON. C. C. BOWEN, HIS BROKEN WORD, THE FLOGGED CATHOLIC CHILD, AND THE KALAPOI SCHOOLMASTER AND THE SCHOOL BOARD.**

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Owing to the superior importance of the reports of meetings we are obliged to hold over until next week the continuation of our tale, Tyborne.

Owing to the important reports of Catholic meetings in connection with the Education Bill which occupy so large a portion of our columns, we are obliged to hold over to our next issue several contributions and items of interest. We have further found it necessary to curtail our telegraphic intelligence, more especially with regard to that which has reached us by the San Francisco mail. The chief matters of importance, however, thus conveyed to us, besides those to which reference is made in another column, are, the serious riots that have occurred in connection with the strikes in America, more especially in the town of Pittsburgh, where the number of killed and wounded amounted to 45. At the meeting at Wimbledon the Irish team won the Elcho shield.

At a meeting of the Dunedin City Council held on Tuesday last, it was resolved that steps should be taken to ensure the Fever Hospital being kept open for some time longer than the 30th inst., and that the Committee of the General Hospital should be requested to take over the institution referred to at an early date.

A PETITION, whose object is the modification of the Education Bill, and of which a copy will be found in another column, has been drawn up for presentation to Parliament. Signatures may be affixed to it in the porch of St. Joseph's Church, Dunedin, on Sunday next, or on week days at the establishment of Mr. Macado, in South Princess-street. Persons intending to sign the document referred to are requested to lose no time about doing so, as it must immediately be forwarded to its destination.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Dunedin Catholic Young Men's Society was held last Friday evening, for the purpose of modifying and improving on the original rules. This evening the new rules are to be finally adopted, and, as there are some important alterations and additions that may affect some members, it is hoped that there will be a large attendance. If any member interested neglects to attend, it will be at his own risk.

In reference to the statement made at a recent meeting of the Board of Governors of the Christchurch Public Library, that the NEW ZEALAND TABLET, when forwarded to the institution under their control, had been received and placed upon the library table, we have only to say that in no instance has a paper been sent from this office there. If numbers of our journal have now and then reached the table alluded to, they have not come from us, but, as we know it has been the case in certain instances, must have been supplied by subscribers desirous of conferring a favour upon the institution in question. We do not forward the TABLET to any library or elsewhere, unless application is made to us to do so. As a matter of courtesy, we invariably comply with such a request made by the managers of literary establishments, but, so far as we are personally concerned, the affair is one of indifference to us. The NEW ZEALAND TABLET does not need further advertisement, and we consider that those institutions from which it is excluded, if such there be, are, with their *habitués*, the sole sufferers from such exclusion.

Owing to a misunderstanding that arose in connection with the dissolution of partnership by a certain firm in Dunedin, a charge of forgery was last week brought against Mr. Robert Rossbotham, a gentleman well known in the city referred to. A private enquiry, however, into the relations of the parties concerned having resulted in clearing the accused of all intentions to defraud, application was made to have the case withdrawn. Withdrawal was, therefore, sanctioned by the Bench on the technical grounds that there was not sufficient evidence to warrant a committal.

A GRAND CONCERT will be given on Friday evening next, 21st inst., in the Queen's Theatre, Dunedin, in aid of the Dominican Convent Building Fund. Signor Carmini Morley has most kindly tendered his services for the occasion, and a prominent part in the performances will also be borne by Messrs. Towsey, West, and Sykes. In addition to this, which of itself is sufficient to promise a musical entertainment of a high order, the aid of a large number of well-known amateurs has been secured. Tickets for the occasion may be obtained at the Convent, or from the ladies of the committee.

We are informed that a meeting of Catholics was held in Queenstown on the 2nd instant, when several resolutions were arrived at condemning the Education Bill now before Parliament. (A report of the meeting will appear in our next issue.) The same correspondent informs us that a meeting was held immediately after the above to organise a branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, when all present enrolled themselves, and promised to get their friends to do the same.

CATHOLIC PETITION.

The following form of petition in duplicate (one copy for the Legislative Council, the other for the House of Representatives) is now receiving the signatures of Catholics in Dunedin and its neighbourhood. As there are many in the country districts who will no doubt desire to affix their signatures to this petition, it is requested that they will be so good as to send their names written on one side only of a leaf of foolscap, to Mr. PERAIN, TABLET Office, Dunedin, who will see that such signatures are duly attached to the petition. It is also requested that they will be so good as to sign their names on two distinct leaves of foolscap—one for the Legislative Council, the other for the House of Representatives. The names should be of males only. The petition would not, we believe, be received if signed by even one female:—

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WELLINGTON.

Petition of Roman Catholics of Otago humbly sheweth,—

That the Education Bill now before Parliament, if enacted into law, will inflict a grievous injustice on Roman Catholics, inasmuch as it will effectually exclude all Catholic teachers from schools established under its provisions.

That no law can be satisfactory which compels Roman Catholic children to be present at the reciting of the Lord's Prayer, and the reading of the Bible, unless their parents or guardians ask an exemption in writing or otherwise.

That to compel teachers of Roman Catholic schools to obtain authority from boards of education to issue exemption certificates for children attending their schools, would not only subject Roman Catholics to great indignity and hardship, but also expose them to the danger of a refusal, without real or just cause.

That to compel Roman Catholics to seek exemptions for the non-attendance of their children at public schools from school committees, inspectors, and masters of public schools, is to insult parents, and to invade the rights of families and the sanctuary of home, as well as to unjustly subject parents in the management of the education of their children to the dictation of men holding no authority, from either reason or religion, to interfere with parental rights and duties.

That members of school boards should be nominated by a responsible minister, and should represent all denominations; and that in the election of school committees, should such be deemed necessary, the principle of cumulative voting, as in the English Act, should be recognised.

That in the opinion of Catholics, no Education Act can prove satisfactory and efficacious that does not embody the principle that all denominations of Christians and other religious denominations shall be entitled to aid from the public funds towards the maintenance of their own schools, such aid to be in proportion to the results in reading, writing, arithmetic, and other secular subjects.

That it is the duty and the interest of the Government to encourage and help the various denominations to establish schools; and that Government should not itself establish purely secular schools, except as supplementary to denominational and private schools, which latter ought also to be encouraged by payments for results.

That it is necessary and wise to assist, by pecuniary grants, training schools established by denominations.

Your petitioners, therefore, respectfully ask your Honorable House to devise such a measure for the promotion of education as will embody the above principles, and thus do justice to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

And your petitioners will for ever pray.

TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, September 9th.

A Russian official despatch states that the army of the Czarewitch was withdrawn to a new position at night, and is now concentrated at Zieg, where their works can be carried on unobserved.

The heights of Plevna were bombarded continuously on the 7th instant. Yesterday the Russian left occupied the southern heights, having 500 men killed in the assault, whilst the position of their right and centre is only 1300 yards from the Turkish entrenchments. Cannonading is going on furiously.

COMMERCIAL.

Mr. SKENE reports for the week ending September 12th, 1877:— Everything in connection with the labor market is looking much brighter. Out-door work on road, rail, farm, and station is now freely offered; and if men are at all suited for such, they need not be a day idle. Unfortunately, far too many are quite unsuited for colonial roughing. A good many skilled tradesmen are taking ordinary work until their own special lines improve. The demand is good for country smiths. Couples are also more sought for. Shepherds and musterers may now look out for their yearly campaign. Female servants are always short of the demand. The numbers are constantly thinned by marriage. Bushmen are at last moving off. We are sadly afflicted with so many incapables arriving here—young men who know nothing. The change for such is grievous. Country storemen will soon be in request, with the spring trade. Wages—Cooks, gardeners, and grooms, 20s, 25s, and 30s; couples, £70, £75, and £80; station smiths, 42s and 45s per week and found; musterers and shepherds, £70 and £75; female servants, 10s, 12s, 15s, 20s, and 30s; dairy hands, 15s, 20s, and 25s; day labor, 7s, 8s, 9s; boys and girls, 5s to 10s; country storemen, 30s and 40s and found.