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Current Topics

AT HOME & ABROAD.



THE San Francisco mail brings us a clue to the policy of Prince Bismarck with respect to the Eastern Question. That the saturnine Chancellor, although not specially concerned in the preservation of Turkey's integrity, should desire or sanction the aggrandizement of Russia, we confess, seemed to us somewhat strange and inconsistent with the character of the statesman in question. Indeed, we had early concluded that he had favoured the war in the first instance, as there appears to be good grounds for asserting, because he hoped that the Muscovite Empire, even if victorious, must be weakened by the effort to subdue the Turks, who he foresaw were prepared to offer a more effectual resistance than was then generally supposed; and such a result indubitably must have followed, unless the other powers were resolved to adopt a course that would admit of Russia's profiting by her victory. So far, there was much to gain and nothing to lose by the war, and, therefore, it was secretly promoted. But now a prospect has been opened that displays Germany in a position to afford even the possible aggrandisement of Russia in return for an advantage which she seeks to obtain by encouraging the implication of England in hostilities, so as to provide the latter with work sufficient to engage her attention, while she herself secures an object long coveted in the annexation, or involuntary alliance, of Belgium, and, we doubt not, as well of Holland and Switzerland. The *Times* boasts that England is now as well prepared to wage a great war single-handed as she was when she opposed herself to Napoleon I. It may well be that it is so, but the need of those years called out Nelson and Wellington, on whose great qualities it is evident the event turned. Would the present need produce as mighty captains if it were pressed? The history of the past points to the fact that whenever they were wanted they came to the fore, and England relying on her former fortunes might take the field, persuaded that commanders would not fail her. But can it be expected that other countries would display a like confidence in her capabilities in this respect? The matter is at least problematical enough to excuse them in leaving it out of their calculations, and the probabilities are that they would value her at her strength in men and armaments, weighed by which we venture to doubt, although it may sound heretical, whether she would seem fitted to cope single-handed against an alliance of the European powers. It may be, however, that it would suit the purposes of Bismarck to see her engaged with Russia alone. We do not believe he would desire to have her eventually defeated. It would be sufficient for his purpose if she were placed *hors de combat*, so far as Germany is concerned, until the latter power had rendered herself invulnerable and unassailable by the annexation of the three States coveted by her. This a war with Russia alone might accomplish, and if, after the great desideratum had been gained, the Muscovites were to receive a thorough thrashing—which we wholly hope and partly believe they would—the admirable Chancellor would have "killed two birds with one stone."

THE agitation that has for some time prevailed with respect to the study of Gaelic tends, it would appear, to the vindication of the Celtic character, and we doubt not but that, as the question is further pursued, much will be brought to light that will compel an universal admiration to be accorded to that race which, of old, gave such proof of its superiority to the world, and to which Europe, although ungrateful, owes in great part the civilisation it has enjoyed for centuries. The spirit of the age, however high its pretensions may be, is in truth a grovelling spirit: material advantages and pleasures are the chief good it proposes to itself, and the effect is that a luxurious sort of chaw-baconism, if we may be allowed the expression, is palpable everywhere. "Eat, drink, and be merry, for to-morrow we die," such are the principles that direct the century, and it is a relief if we can now and then escape from the contemplation of the social condition they foster, to dwell amongst the memories of a state of things that was far otherwise. We have been enabled to do

so by reading an article in a late number of the *Westminster Review*. The writer, a student of Gaelic, had, in the course of an excursion to the west of Ireland, spent a night on the Clare Coast of Galway Bay in the cottage of some peasant family of the locality, and amongst these people he found the true culture of mind and spirit that is worth all the polish of what they call society. With the understanding of a scholar, moreover, he recognised the fact, that the legendary lore in which he found his hosts so rich, and which they imparted to him with such keen marks of appreciation was an inheritance derived by them from ages passed away. He did not recognise the truth that these illiterate people had been aided in preserving their ancestral legends by the disposition to cherish and love all that is noble and beautiful bestowed upon them by the Catholic Faith, whose influence is refining beyond the credibility of those who have not watched it long and closely, and watched it amongst a people whom otherwise there was nothing to refine but who were subjected to everything that might have brutalised and deadened to all human perceptions. A writer in the *Westminster Review*, however, must needs be a foe to religion, and it cannot enter favourably into his speculations. This is the weak point in his article, as we who have an intimate knowledge of the men concerning whom he writes plainly perceive; in other respects the paper is an admirable one. Take, for example, the following passages:—"No doubt these Burren men were rough folks. You wouldn't have cared to jostle against them at a fair; you, perhaps, might have met them scores of times, and found nothing in them." It is very seldom that one can unlock their hearts, for the Celt is shy and sensitive, tho' his manner, often brusque from very shyness, may make strangers think otherwise. Let him fancy you are "drawing him out," and he will either fool you to the top of your bent, or else shrink into himself like a snail when his horns are touched. What we contend for, then, is that there was in the old Gael only too much of literary culture, and that a great deal of it has come down to our day. The Englishman doesn't care for it; it is unprofitable, it neither brings railways, nor steam thrashing machines, nor does it drain bogs; moreover, its existence is a sort of reflection on his system, for men like Montalembert say, when they have studied it a little, "Surely a better hand might have been made of a race that is so gifted." But Englishmen ought to care for it; for Gaelic culture just supplies what is wanting in their modern society, in which everything, even to the most solemn mysteries of religion, is being made a matter of bargain. The present writer has always said: "Chivalry is of the Celts," and he has often felt thankful that Mr. Matthew Arnold seems to be of the same opinion. From them came that leaven that made feudalism bearable for so many centuries. Tenderness, delicacy, sentiment, what is called, in the "Study of Celtic Literature," "a straining of human nature more than it will bear," these are Gaelic, and they are just what we now-a-days, with the stream setting so strongly towards materialism, cannot afford to lose. It is not unlikely that the Scot has yet a work to do among us; for surely we want a little more "reaction after the despotism of fact," a little more of that straining after an ideal perfection which it is now the fashion to pooh-pooh.

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The New Utopia.

(From the Irish Monthly.)

CHAPTER IV.—continued.

"Not quite so long as you think," said Sir John; "I believe it is not so very long since the heir of Oakham has been within these very walls."

"Not Grant!" exclaimed my father; "no, not possible!"

"Ay, not only possible, but most certain," said Sir John; "Wm. Grant Carstairs, only son of Lord Carstairs, and grandson of the old Duke of Leven. His father never took the ducal title, and even dropped that of Carstairs when he settled in Australia; but I have indubitable proof that Mr. Grant, of Glenleven, was really the man; indeed it was well known in the colony, when I was governor. Carstairs died about a year ago, and his son, this William Grant Carstairs, is really Duke of Leven. He came to England to pay off the last remnants of his grandfather's debts, as he could not do this without putting himself in communication with the Commission of Creditors, of which I am chairman, I became acquainted with his real name and history."

"Then Mary was right," I muttered to myself, while Sir John continued:

"We shall place the necessary evidence of these facts before the right tribunals, and, meanwhile, Mr. Grant must be communicated with."

"He leaves England in a fortnight," said my father.

"He will do no such thing," said Sir John. "It will be a case for the lords, and he will, no doubt, have a subpoena to appear and give evidence."

It all happened as he said; there was no difficulty about the proofs of identity, for there had never been any concealment of the fact, and everyone in Queensland knew well enough who "Grant of Glenleven" really was, and why he chose to drop the family name and ducal title. Then as to the heirship, that was equally plain. There were but two male branches of the family, of both of which Grant was now the sole surviving representative. When all this had been sifted and proved, and every legal form gone through which could be demanded by the House of Peers or Doctors Commons, then, and not till then, did Grant consent to reappear at Oakham, and receive from the executors of the late earl all that was necessary to constitute him its master. It took more than a year to effect all this; and when at last the day was fixed for the new duke to take possession, not Oakham only, but the entire county prepared to give him a worthy reception. I had my share of the law business, and went down to assist my father in the heavy work which the occasion brought on him. I shall not easily forget it. All the gentlemen of the county had assembled there, lords and baronets; but I need not give a list. There were triumphal arches and processions of school children, and the Roxburgh Volunteers and a dozen carriages to meet him at the station. I remembered how at that same station he had stood alone a year before, looking in vain for some one to carry his bag to the White Lion; I remembered that, as I saw him now step on to the platform, and shake hands with the Marquis of Exborough, and when I heard the loud cheers that greeted him. How the bells rang out as the array of carriages drove through the village! What a bright gala day it was! The old family restored to Oakham, the old property given back to the eighth Duke of Leven.

But I don't intend to dwell on all this further. When the fuss of the grand reception was over, he sent for me to come to him. "Aubrey," he said, "what is to be done about the Australian business? Harry keeps on pressing for some one to go out. Can you find me anywhere an honest man with a clear head, and I'll engage he shall make his fortune."

I thought, and I hesitated.

"Will you go yourself?" he said at last. "Mind, I don't ask you to go; but if you decide on accepting the post, I believe you will not regret it."

I consulted my father, and he urged me to accept the offer. There did not seem much chance of making my fortune by English law, and so, to make a long story short, before Christmas I left England, whither, as things turned out, I did not return for ten long years that were full of changes.

I have no intention, dear reader, of troubling you with my personal history during that eventful period. It was a busy part of my life, and the duke was right in saying that I should not regret it. My concern just now is to tell you my friend's story and not my own; and my ten years in Queensland were certainly not without their utility in advancing his interests. I won't bind myself to say to a shilling the sums which I sent over to England as the produce of his gold fields at Glenleven, but Harry Gibson had not been far wrong in calculating their value at millions. If anyone will bear in mind the fact (which is a fact) that in those ten years, the produce of gold in this one colony exceeded £14,000,000, they will easily understand what must have been the value of a single property which extended over some thousands of acres; for when Lord Carstairs first settled in the country an enormous tract of sheep-feeding land could be bought for a comparative trifle.

My own interests, of course, were not forgotten; the duke's terms were more than liberal; and, when the whole estate had been finally disposed of, I was able to return to England a wealthy man. One commission, entrusted to me by the duke, spoke well for his heart; it was the removal to England of his parents' remains, which had been laid to rest in the little cemetery of Ballarat.

Yet I own there were some things in my home correspondence which gave me a secret anxiety. Much was said in praise of the new duke, of his generosity, his manly principles, his care for his property and his tenants; but expressions were now and then dropped which

showed me he had the character of being eccentric. I was sorry for this, though not much surprised; in my brief intercourse with him in former years it was impossible to deny that his originality looked in that direction. What did surprise me much more was that, judging by his own letters, far from despising money he seemed to care for it a good deal. He took his millions from Australia with a very good grace, and made no objection to the proposals I submitted, whereby a larger revenue could be raised from the property. And after all, I sometimes said to myself, this is but natural. Men theorise on gold and like to call it dirt, so long as their hands are clear of it; but let them feel its magic touch and the dirt becomes marvellously pleasant. Leven desires to get as much as he justly can from his property, and so do I, and so does everybody. And yet the sigh with which I closed my meditations showed me that my imagination had painted the "Grant" of former days as something higher and more unselfish in his aims than "everybody."

Then there was another thing that struck me as odd. A year or two after I came to Glenleven I became a Catholic. I had never thought much of these subjects in early youth; but many things which Grant had said had gone home; and the impressions first received from him were deepened in Australia. There, for the first time, I saw the Catholic religion at full work. I felt its mastery over souls, its reality as a Divine power, and to that power I submitted. It was only natural for me to imagine that the Catholic Duke of Leven would have been leader of his co-religionists in England. I had the English papers, Catholic and Protestant, sent out to me pretty regularly, and after my conversion I looked with some eagerness to see what part he took in parliamentary debates on questions affecting Catholics; and in the reports of Catholic meetings about Catholic interests, education questions, workhouse questions, church-building questions and the rest, I looked for his name and I generally looked in vain. In my perhaps romantic imaginings about his probable course I had pictured him as the founder of benevolent institutions through the length and breadth of the kingdom; I thought he would acquire a distinguished name and achieve great things for the poor and labouring classes; but, if he did so, the papers, at any rate had nothing to tell me about it. There is no denying, it was a disappointment, but I gradually grew used to regard the whole subject as one on which the fancy of youth had cheated me with its wonted delusions; and who is there who reaches middle life who has not to look back at one time or other at having been the slave of his imagination?

I returned, then, to England, spending a week or two in London before going down to Oakham, where my parents still lived; for though my father's age had obliged him to give up his post as steward into younger hands, the duke would not hear of his leaving the Grange. Mary had become the wife of Charles Oswald, a small squire of the neighbourhood, and was still able to be a good deal of comfort to her father and mother, and to find an ample sphere for all her capacities of usefulness. In returning to Oakham, therefore, I was still returning home, though I had formed no plans as to my own final settlement.

In London I found plenty of old friends to welcome me, not, perhaps, the less kindly, from the fact that rumour had credited me with having brought home an Australian fortune. Some of those whom I had left just entering on their profession, had fought their way to legal eminence, and some had earned their silken gowns and a certain share of reputation.

Sir Clinton Edwards, the brother of our Oakham vicar, was now a judge, and at his table I met a group of men more or less distinguished in the world of politics and of letters. The world has many phases, some more, and some less pleasant to come in contact with. A London dinner-room, filled with refined and intelligent people, who know everything and everybody worth knowing, is, no doubt, a very agreeable sample of polite society; but mark well this truth, dear reader, it is still the world, and anything higher and better than what savours of the world, you must not look to extract from its conversation. Sir Clinton had a fancy for well-mixed variety in his company, so on the present occasion I had the good fortune to meet a Solicitor-General and a Home Secretary, the editor of a popular philosophic review (whose theology, by the way, was not predominantly Christian), two men of science, and a county member. Including our host and myself, we numbered eight. It is needless to say that our dinner was irreproachable. For the passing moment I found myself a lion; for the gayest and wittiest circles so soon exhaust the sources of their gaiety, that any person who, for one half-hour, can stimulate a new curiosity, may calculate for exactly that space of time on enjoying a fair amount of popularity.

The conversation in such a circle was as graceful and varied as the forms in a kaleidoscope. Home politics, the state of the colonies, Hapirock's last pamphlet on the Council of Ephesus, the vicar of Oakham's long promised, and recently published work on Roman Antiquities, the last cartoon in *Punch*, and the University boat race, all passed in review, till for my sins I fell into the hands of the philosophic editor, who was, of course, profoundly ignorant of the creed of his next door neighbour. He was engaged on an article which aimed, I will not say at proving men to be well-developed monkeys, for I have never found that writers of this particular class ever aim at proving anything whatsoever, but at throwing out pleasant theories of the possible probability of their being nothing better. The intellectual inferiority of the Australian aborigines was the point on which I was subjected to cross examination, and every fact elicited was bagged by my tormentor for future editorial purposes. But the county member who sat opposite charitably stepped in to my relief.

"I tell you what, Ford," he said, when he could get in, a word, "you needn't go to Australia to look for intellectual inferiority; no, nor for savages either, nor for that matter for heathens; you'll find the whole stock-in-trade ready for inspection in a good many of our manufacturing towns, only nobody comes to inspect them."

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WONDER OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

In these days of sham and false pretences, it is pleasing to meet with anything that is reliable, truthful, and worthy of confidence. The following testimonial, which is given by way of example of the very many to the same effect received by the proprietor of GHOLLAH'S GREAT INDIAN CURES, speaks for itself and requires no comment. All who are suffering from Liver Complaints, Indigestion, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Lumbago, Rheumatic Gout, or that dreadful malady GOUT, can get completely cured by these remarkably curative

INDIAN MEDICINES.

Nelson, July 24, 1877.

SIR,—I can speak with great thankfulness of your INDIAN CURES. I have been a great sufferer for some time, and tried Wizard Oil, Painkiller, and all sorts of remedies, all of which did me no good; but the INDIAN CURES have effected wonders with me. I only required three bottles.

Hoping this may induce others who are ailing to try your medicines,—I am, yours truly.

(Signed) Mrs Wm. GILL, Wakapuaka.

JOHN HISLOP,
(LATE A. BEVELY),
CHRONOMETER, WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER,

Exactly opposite the Bank of Otago,
Princes-street.

Every description of Jewellery made to order. Ships' Chronometers Cleaned and Rated by Transit Observations.

N.B.—J. H. being a thorough Practical Watchmaker, all work entrusted to his care will receive his utmost attention.

WANTED KNOWN.

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE.

Drain Pipes of all descriptions; Flower Pots, Vases, Chimney Pots, Butter Crocks, Flooring Tiles, Bricks, &c.

LAMBERT'S
North East Valley Works.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

Mr. M'GOLDRICK, (Late of the Exchange Hotel, Revell-street, Hokitika), begs to inform the public that he has purchased BARRETT'S HOTEL, Revell-street, opposite the Duke of Edinburgh Theatre, which he intends opening shortly, as soon as the necessary repairs have been effected, due notice of which will be given.

HOUSE OF CONFIDENCE.

CH. CHEYMOL,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
AND
GENERAL FRENCH IMPORTER,
HUNTER-STREET,
WELLINGTON.

MELVILLE HOTEL,
MAIN NORTH ROAD,
TIMARU.

M. MULLIN, PROPRIETOR.

Good accommodation for Boarders and Travellers. Wine, Beer, and Spirits of the best brands.

FRANCIS MEENAN

Wholesale and Retail

PRODUCE AND PROVISION MERCHANT,

GEORGE-STREET.

DUNEDIN BREWERY,

Filleul-street.

KEAST AND MCCARTHY,

BREWERS, ALE AND PORTER BOTTLERS.

THE EQUITABLE INVESTMENT COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND (LIMITED).

BUILDING SOCIETY.

Capital ... £60,000
Subscribed Capital ... £30,000

DIRECTORS: The Hon. William Hunter Reynolds, J.P., M.H.R., Chairman; George Turnbull, Esq., J.P. (Messrs W. and G. Turnbull & Co.); James Robin, Esq.; Daniel Campbell, Esq.; Keith Ramsay, Esq., J.P.; James Hazlett, Esq., J.P. (of Messrs Mackerras and Hazlett); John Hislop, Esq., J.P.

MANAGER: William Parker Street (of Messrs Street and Morris).

AUDITORS: James Rattray, Esq., J.P. (of Messrs James Rattray & Co.); Thomas Sherlock Graham (Messrs Bing, Harris, & Co.).

The Directors are prepared to receive applications from intending members of the Building Society and they desire to draw the attention of both investing and borrowing members as well as depositors to the following important features of this Society:—

1. The security of a large subscribed capital protects the members against loss, and ensures that the terms contained in the tables will be faithfully carried out. 2. The subscribed capital affords a complete guarantee to depositors. 3. Facilities to investors to withdraw on favourable terms. 4. Facilities to borrowers to make special arrangements.

Printed forms of application may be obtained at the Company's office. Debentures for deposits issued on favourable terms for such periods as may be agreed upon.

TO DEPOSITORS.

The Equitable Investment Company of New Zealand, Limited, is now ready to receive deposits, either at call or for a fixed period, on very favourable terms: Depositors will have the guarantee of a large subscribed capital. Interest receipts or debentures granted.

Company's Office: Liverpool-street (above the South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company).

WM. PARKER STREET, Manager.

THE EQUITABLE INVESTMENT COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND (LIMITED) is now prepared to MAKE ADVANCES on Mortgage of Real Estate on such terms as may be agreed upon.

Arrangements may be made for repayment by such monthly, quarterly, or yearly instalments, as may suit borrowers. Temporary Advances made also on the security of Bond Warrants, Bills of Lading, Share Certificates, Wool, and other personal Estate. Loans on Personal Security, with approved co-obligants, may also be effected at very moderate rates. Reversionary Interests purchased on favourable terms.

Apply at the Company's Office, Liverpool-street.

WM. PARKER STREET, Manager.

RUSSELL'S PRIVATE HOTEL,

CORNER OF

CUMBERLAND & FREDERICK STREETS,

DUNEDIN.

Good Accommodation for Boarders.

Poet's Corner.

THE DE PROFUNDIS BELL.

BY MARIE IN THE AVE MARIA.

The day was dead. From the purple summits faded
Its last resplendent ray ;

And softly slept the wearied earth, o'er-shaded
By twilight's dreamy gray.

Then flowed deep sound-waves o'er the silence holy
Of nature's calm repose,

As from its lofty dome out-pealing slowly,
Through the still gloaming, rose
The deep and dirge-like swell
Of *De Profundis* Bell.

To heedful hearts each solemn cadence falling
Through twilight's misty veil,

An echo seemed of spirit voices calling
With sad, beseeching wail ;

And thus they spake in mournful intonation,
"Plead for us, brethren, plead !

From the drear depths of woe and desolation
Our cry of bitter need
Floats upward in the swell
Of *De Profundis* bell."

Then bowed each knee, that plaintive summons heeding,
And rose the blended sigh,

As incense breath of fond united pleading,
E'en to the throne on high :

"Hear, Lord, the cry of fervent supplication
Earth's children lift to Thee.

And from the depths of long and dread purgation,
The faith of captives free,
Ere dies on earth the swell
Of *De Profundis* bell."

If in Thy sight, scarce e'en the perfect whiteness
Of seraph robe is pure,

Shall mortals brave Thine Eyes eternal brightness,
Shall man Its search endure !

Ah ! trusting hope may meet the dazzling splendour
Of those celestial rays ;

And with Thee, Lord, is pardon sweet and tender
When contrite Sorrow prays.

Aye, Thou wilt lead from desert waste of sadness
Thy Israel's stricken band,

And Miriam's song of pure, triumphant gladness,
Shall, in Thy Promised Land,
Succeed the dirge-like swell
Of *De Profundis* bell."

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

IN every age of history, and in every nation acquainted with the first principles of civil government it has been laid down as a maxim, that every distinct community and every separate and idiosyncratic nation should have perfect domestic liberty, and the absolute and unfettered control of all matters which exclusively belong to them. This maxim has been established by modern political scientists as an inviolable principle, universally applicable, and essential for the contentment and prosperity of all peoples. But this principle does not imply that it is necessary that every distinct community or nation should have an absolutely independent existence. It may happen, as it has happened in past ages, that peoples essentially distinct and idiosyncratic are attached to each other by similarity of commercial and political interests, and individual connections, so closely as to render it extremely undesirable that they should exist as separate, independent and politically weak nations. In all general matters their interests may be identical, their combination is wise, just and expedient, and is the course pointed out alike by reason and experience. But at the same time their internal interests may be peculiarly different, may perhaps be as diverse as their foreign interests are similar. In such a case it would be injudicious, inexpedient, and contrary to the teachings of political science, to amalgamate absolutely. What form of government is the most applicable to people so circumstanced? "Political science," says Federalism, "let each community conduct the business which only concerns itself, let it have supreme control of all its domestic affairs, but let there be a combination for all general purposes, and let the various communities exist towards foreign governments as one homogeneous state.

From the very first dawn of civilization, from the earliest period when individuals allied themselves for common purposes and formed communities and states, the principle that laws should be formed by those for whose government they are intended has been recognised. It seems to be an inherent principle in man's nature, to repel the aggression of a foreign nation upon the land or state in which he was born, whether such aggression be territorial or legislative. This is not only justifiable, but praiseworthy, and has ever been lauded both in song and story from the earliest ages of the world's history. The patriot's praises are sung and his memory loyally cherished long after his bones have returned to their primeval dust, and in traversing the battle-fields of a country rendered sacred by the illustrious deeds of a nation's heroes, "sweet memory" recalls to the lover of his country recollections which cause the eye to glisten and touch the deepest emotional springs of the human heart. When after the destruction of the Primeval institutions in New Zealand, Sir George Grey proposed a modified form of Federal government, and one probably better adapted to the altered circumstances of the Colony than that which had hitherto existed, he was violently opposed, and even denounced

by men who were more fitted to tell the points of a bullock or the quality of a fleece than to sit at a nation's council board. Of course it mattered not to them that Sir George Grey had had a life-long experience of public affairs, that he had

"Moulded a nation's State decrees,
And shaped the whisper of the Throne."

when they were philosophising at the plough handle, or speculating on the digestibility of turnips. All this gave him no claim to deference or superiority, and the squatters of New Zealand, in their overwhelming vanity disputed the deductions of political philosophers and violated the plainest teachings of political science. Sir George Grey, in his work entitled the "Irish Land Question," asserts that without the control of its own affairs "no nation can be contented, prudent, or prosperous;" and at pages 18 and 19 of this work he demands with a rare brilliancy of language, and irresistible arguments, the concession of local self-government to Ireland. "The union of several Parliaments into one," he says, "charged with the minute special legislation upon so many points, in different countries, has thrown upon that one Parliament an amount of labour which it cannot perform. Hence its attention is distracted from its really important duties." He here refers to the House of Commons. And again:—"Give to Ireland a State Legislature and a State Executive in Dublin, secure thereby the residence of its ablest men in the country, open a fair field as ministers, legislators, orators, to its best and wisest men; afford from the same source, as would necessarily and certainly be done, occupation to Irish architects, sculptors, painters, and secure a resident aristocracy of worth, talent and wisdom, and you will at the same time restore the wealth, trade and commerce of Dublin and Ireland. Dumb Ireland will speak again. Half-inanimate Ireland will again awaken to national life, and breathe the breath of hope and freedom. Whilst by again accustoming the Irish people to the management of their own affairs, and to the administrative duties of the highest order, a willing people will be educated in that political knowledge which will enable them to put an end to the ills which afflict them, the cause and course of which none can understand so well as themselves."

Mr. Gladstone stated in 1872 that "the House of Commons is in a serious dilemma with regard to the transaction of its business, and the gravity of this dilemma is felt with a pressure which appears to increase from year to year. It had grown, it is growing, and he feared it would continue to grow."

From all this it is apparent that over-centralisation of the legislative business of any country, geographically or idiosyncratically divided is an evil, nay a curse. And of all the nations who have left "footprints on the sands of time" those whose institution were based on what we call the Federal principle stand pre-eminently the most glorious in arms, arts, and civilization. Was Peloponessus ever so great as when its petty independent states formed themselves into the Achaian League for purposes of reciprocal defence, while retaining unimpaired their cantonal freedom? Look at the mighty confederation of the United States of America, or of the German and Austro-Hungarian empires! Great Britain too has largely adopted the principle, and I hope the day is not remote when she will adopt it in its entirety.

Common reason ought to convince any person that a principle which applies to individual life, applies also to national life. Can any man's private business be conducted by another as efficiently as he would conduct it himself? Does any person presume to say that he has a keener appreciation of his neighbours' circumstances, and understands better all the minutiae of his private affairs, than he whose life-time has been spent in administering those affairs and thinking upon them? And in like manner, is it not unreasonable, and I might say preposterous, to expect the people of one nation to comprehend the domestic business and requirements of another nation better than those who have been born and grown up in the country and made its affairs their life-long study?

I am sanguine that the day will yet arrive when Great Britain will be constituted a great Federal nation, its three kingdoms enjoying absolute independence within the limits of their respective jurisdictions, and a great powerful Parliament to transact the Imperial business of our mighty empire in which the whole of its possessions will be represented. This would be a constitution worthy of Celt and Saxon, and worthy of the great destinies of our ancient isles. It would draw the colonies in closer connection to the mother country, and make them glory in being attached to a nation which confers upon its people political blessings unparalleled in the world's annals, and which cannot be rivalled in History's unwritten page.

Auckland, December 13th, 1877.

W. J. N.

The Holy Well of St. Winefride, in Wales, where the crutches and bandages deposited as offerings by those whose miraculous cures have been effected by the powerful intercession of the Saint, and by their own unshaken faith in her ministrant power, was recently visited by the British Archaeological Association, the members of which regarded these tokens as very instructive, as an instance of the late lingering of a thought and feeling which formerly pervaded the whole of the inhabitants of our land.—*London Universe*.

The Roman correspondent of one of the New York papers says:—Victor Emmanuel, whose annual income from the public treasury is about 3,500,000 dols. or nearly double what Victoria of England is paid, flings his money about in a prodigal manner, as if he had the exhaustless purse of Fortunatus in his pocket. His family have an additional 500,000 dols. a year among them. They live within their incomes, but his Majesty is considerably and continuously in debt, and every now and then his Minister of Finance has to execute the difficult and delicate duty of obtaining a large money vote, a Parliamentary "benevolence," to pay off the most pressing demands of the royal tradesmen. The King is rather popular than not with his Roman subjects. Accustomed as they have been in the Papal time to gentle manners and delicate ways, they scarcely understand the King, whose chief delight is in the sports of field and forest (at this moment and for weeks past he has been in his native Piedmont, hunting and shooting game and wild beasts of prey), and they smile, sometimes contemptuously at his rustic dress and address, which certainly have nothing princely in them.

RAILWAY HOTEL,

MOSGIEL.

WM. KNOTT, PROPRIETOR.

The above Hotel has been newly erected near the Railway Station. Visitors will find it replete with every modern convenience and comfort.

N.B.—Good stabling and careful grooms.
One of Alcock's Prize Billiard Tables.

LANE, CAMPBELL, AND CO.,

Successors to REEVES AND CO.,
Manufacturers of

British Wines, Cordials, Bitters, Liqueurs, Aerated, and Mineral Waters, &c.

Importers of Machinery and Cordial Makers' Goods of every description.

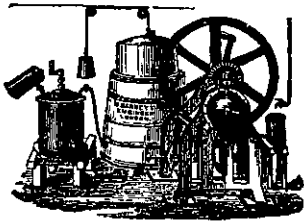
L., C., & Co., in soliciting a continuance of the large amount of support accorded to their predecessors, Messrs. Reeves and Co., whose various Manufactures are so favorably known throughout New Zealand, beg to assure their customers that no effort will be spared to still further increase the quality of their various manufactures.

Always in Stock and for Sale, in bulk or case, unadorned

Ginger Wine	Quinine Champagne
Ginger Brandy	Peppermint Cordial
Raspberry Vinegar	Clove Cordial
Orange Bitters	Tonic Orange Wine
Duke's Bitters	Curacao
Gooseberry Wine	Maraschino
Sarsaparella, &c., &c.	

STORE AND MANUFACTORY,
MACLAGGAN-STREET, DUNEDIN.

SOLE MANUFACTURERS OF THE PATENT STOPPERED AERATED WATERS.



THOMSON AND CO.,

Steam rated Waters and Cordial Manufacturers,
POLICE AND CRAWFORD STREETS, DUNEDIN.
AND
CHELMER-STREET, OAMARU.

Importers of Soda Water Machinery and Cordial
Maker's Goods of every description.

There has been forwarded to us for inspection the result of the analysis by Professor Black of a variety of Beverages procured from the establishment of Messrs. Thomson and Co., Aerated Water and Cordial Manufacturers, Stafford-street, by Mr. Lumb, Inspector under the Adulteration of Food Act, 1868. Of the medicinal and other Beverages analysed, amongst which were samples of Quinine, Champagne, Soda Water, and Lemonade, Cordials, and Bitters, Professor Black speaks very highly. "There are none," he says, "that contain anything likely to be injurious to health. All are of excellent quality."—'Otago Guardian,' December 4, 1874.

MORNINGTON HOTEL

MORNINGTON,

DUNEDIN.

FRANCIS M'CLUSKEY ... PROPRIETOR,
Wishes to intimate to his many friends and the general public that he has purchased the above hotel. Having just completed extensive improvements, he is now in a position to offer first-class accommodation. None but the best liquors kept. Good stabling and Paddock accommodation. Charges moderate.

UNIVERSAL HOTEL,

Maclaggan-street, Dunedin.

T. PAVELETICH, PROPRIETOR.

First-class Accommodation for Boarders.

The Finest Brands in Spirits, Wines, &c.

Refreshments always ready.



HENDERSON AND FERGUS,

GEORGE-STREET, DUNEDIN,

BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

Importers of Marble and Slate Mantel-pieces.

Arbroath, Castlemaine, and Malmesbury

Flagging.

Marble, Granite, and Oamaru Stone
Monuments.

A large supply of Building Materials always
on hand.

Estimates given, and communications punctually attended to. Designs sent to all parts of the colony on application.
Minton's Paving.

NEW CLOVERS.

We have just received

Ex Hooghly—A quantity of new Clovers, of different sorts, fresh, and guaranteed.

Ex Otago—We have received a few of Mitchell's Grain and Grass Seed Sowing Machines, with and without Turnip Seed Sowing Gear. It is a well-known fact that the saving in labour and seed by using these machines soon recoups the owners for the outlay. They have been in use on Greenfield, and several other Estates and Farms, where they give every satisfaction.

Ex Janet Court—Double Furrow Ploughs—We have for sale a few of these made by Messrs. Murray and Co., of Banff, at prices ranging from £12 10s to £17. Messrs. Murray and Co., hold a First Prize from the Royal Agricultural Society for Double Furrow Ploughs of their manufacture. We are instructed to sell, and an excellent article can now be procured at a low price.

We have also on sale—

Fencing Wire, Nos. 6 to 10. Corn Sacks, full and light weights, and Woolpacks.

Grass Seeds.

Extras for Pirie's Double Furrow Ploughs.

NIMMO AND BLAIR,

(Successors to the late Mr. G. F. Reid),

Agents for Nicholson's Reapers.

Customs, Shipping, Forwarding, and General
Commission Agents.

Stafford-street, Dunedin.

W A I M E A B R E W E R Y,

STAFFORD.

MESSRS M. HOULAHAN & CO.,

ALE AND PORTER BREWERS AND BOTTLEERS,

Ginger Beer, Lemonade, and Cordial

Manufacturers,

Having made extensive alterations in their Brewery at Stafford beg to call the attention of the public to the Superior Quality of their PRIZE ALES AND PORTER, which is recognised by connoisseurs to be the best in New Zealand.

Orders left at their Depot, Kumara, and at the Brewery, Stafford, will be punctually attended to.

NEW BREWERY,

FITZHERBERT-STREET, HOKITIKA.

MANDL AND STENNARD

Country orders attended to with care, and supplies forwarded to all parts with every possible speed.

Every cask branded,

MANDL AND STENNARD

NOTICE.

ROBERT GREIG,

CARPENTER AND JOINER,

DUNCAN AND ARTHUR STREETS, DUNEDIN.

Jobbing work done in all its branches.

Estimates given.

COMMERCIAL HOTEL

MOSGIEL.

SAMUEL O'KANE, PROPRIETOR.]

Wishes to intimate to his Friends and the Public, that he has purchased the above Hotel, and having made considerable alterations and improvements, he is now in a position to offer first-class accommodation. Good stabling with paddock accommodation. One of Alcock's Prize Medal Billiard Tables.

V.  R.

GOURLEY AND LEWIS,

UNDERTAKERS,

GEORGE AND MACLAGGAN-STREETS.

Funerals attended to and supplied at most reasonable prices.

Undertakers to the General and Provincial Governments.



HOLLOWAY'S PILLS

THE GREATEST!

WONDER OF MODERN TIMES.

Long experience has proved these famous remedies to be most effectual in curing either the dangerous maladies or the slighter complaints which are more particularly incidental to the life of a miner, or to those living in the bush.

Occasional doses of these Pills will guard the system against those evils which so often beset the human race, viz.:—coughs, colds, and all disorders of the liver and stomach—the frequent forerunners of fever, dysentery, diarrhoea, and cholera.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is the most effectual remedy for old sores, wounds, ulcers, rheumatism, and all skin disease; in fact, when used according to the printed directions, it never fails to cure alike deep and superficial ailments.

These Medicines may be obtained from all respectable Druggists and Storekeepers throughout the civilised world, with directions for use in almost every language.

They are prepared only by the Proprietor Thomas Holloway, 533 Oxford-street, London.

* * Beware of counterfeits that emanate from the United States.

**THE PROGRESS OF THE CATHOLIC RELIGION
IN SCOTLAND, SCOTCH INTOLERANCE, A NEW
ZEALAND POOR LAW, &c., &c.**

(Concluded.)

THERE is one remark of the *Herald* in reference to Father Gordon which I think might be well worth the consideration of the readers of the *Tablet* of all creeds. After advertising to the rev. gentleman's "anxiety" to keep the indigent members of his own flock from becoming a burden on the public, he says, were all the clergy, Catholic and Protestant, to act as Father Gordon acted in that respect, the necessity for charitable institutions of a public kind, and therefore for poor laws would cease to exist. We in this colony will most assuredly be afflicted ere long with a special compulsory assessment for the support of the destitute; with an English "poor law" in short and all its abuses and horrors.

We have such a law here in embryo already. A sum voted by Parliament and expended by paid officers of Government for the support of the destitute. That to all intents and purposes is an English poor law—so far. If Father Gordon could keep the destitute members of his congregation in Aberdeen from being a burden on the general public, why cannot the Catholic clergy here—why cannot the Protestant clergy here—do the same thing with the poor of their congregations? The question is easier asked than answered. I should answer it in this way. The thing cannot be done. In a Protestant country a compulsory assessment for the poor is a necessity; though it be a means of opposing, insulting, and degrading, or demoralising, the destitute, and cunningly robbing the people generally. You must either have a compulsory or Government provision for the destitute here, or many of them must die of starvation. Even with such a compulsory provision some of the poor do starve in England, and in the richest part of England—London. For this calamity Englishmen are indebted to the thing called the Reformation—that killed private or voluntary charity, or it did next thing to it. We must needs therefore have Parliamentary or compulsory charity in its room. That is the plain English of the matter. The idea of Protestant clergymen becoming "the fathers of the poor" of their congregations in the same way as Catholic priests are—or ought to be—is preposterous. The parsons, and kirk ministers, poor fellows, have their own wives and bairns to look after, and a hard job it must be to provide for them all, though many of them are kind, good, and charitable souls too, and would gladly drop a bawbee or two into the "aumus dish" or poor box when they can spare the money.

Let Parliament and the police see to the poor of their flocks. Practically that is their system, generally aided by benevolent societies. It would indeed be unjust to the Protestant clergy, and especially the clergy of the Church of England, to say that they are entirely indifferent to the necessities or hardships of the poor. But for all that the English clergy have robbed the poor, and that most shamefully. The ample revenues of the Church of England belong of right to the poor. If they had their rights there would be no necessity for any poor rate or education tax either. What was given to the Church was given to the poor, for whom the clergy are the natural trustees. To use Church revenues otherwise is to abuse them. After the clergy are provided with the necessities or conveniences of life befitting their station, all their income should go to provide for the corporal or spiritual wants of the poor. It never was intended by those who originally endowed the Church in England with its present large revenues, that they should be spent as they are now being spent, or squandered rather, to support numerous families in luxury and splendour, while poverty and ignorance pervade the land or are only removed, or partially removed, by unjust exactions on the people in the form of education and poor rates. The Anglican clergy in this colony have not the wealth which their brethren of the English establishment at home possess. But if they had as much or far more is it likely that they would employ it otherwise than is done by those in England? Would they devote any material portion of it as Catholic bishops, when they have large revenues, are wont to do—to the building of Churches, to the establishment of schools, colleges, orphanages, reformatories, or other institutions destined to promote religion, education, and charity? No, if the Anglican clergy in this colony had the wealth of Cressus or Rothchild at their disposal, very little of it would go in that direction. It would be used generally as the Anglican clergy at home use their income—to maintain themselves, their wives, and families, in comfort and at times in luxury and splendour, or hoarded up for heirs, leaving the destitute or unfortunate to shift for themselves, or to be provided for by poor law guardians or private benevolence. I do not say that Catholic ecclesiastics never betray their trust and misuse those funds which the bounty of the pious rich has placed at their disposal. But they have not done this so shamefully, so systematically, and for so many successive generations, as the modern Anglican bishops and clergy have done. They have robbed the English poor of their patrimony. But bad as this kind of robbery was, there was some little compensation for it, seeing that when the wealth of the Catholic Church was violently wrested from the hand of its lawful owners at home it was transferred to the hands of political bishops and parsons (or great part of it was so) who did some sort of clerical duty, such as it was. But in Scotland the case was infinitely worse. There the entire Church funds were clutched by the godly lay "reformers," with the exception of a small dribble left for the "sustentation" of the worthy kirk ministers, and lean "dominies," or parish schoolmasters. When John Knox "asked for more" on their behalf the greedy reforming CORMORANTS virtually "put their thumb to their nose and spread their fingers out," and so things yet remain. The strange thing is that the *people*, the poor—the parties who suffered most by such sacrilegious robberies—fawned upon the sacrilegious robbers and almost idolised them through fear or some other motive. They even defend the rascals to this day, or palliate their villany at least. The man who will insult and rob the Catholic Church will ever gain the applause of the tyrannical and wicked portion of mankind. I often recall to memory those "ruins grey" of the old churches or rather abbeys in Scotland on which I have so often looked in my youthful years. They are now, alas! scenes, as Sir Walter Scott calls them, both "sad

and fair" to behold. Who can look on such ruins now without excreating the memory of that bigot and barbarian, Knox, and the sanguinary crew of traitors, rebels, and robbers, whom he led? The General Assembly of the kirk have told us in the passage I quoted at the commencement of this paper, that "splendid Catholic temples" are now being raised in every large town in Scotland. But they are not so splendid as those which the piety, liberality, and taste of our Scotch Catholic ancestors caused to be raised in many a lovely or sequestered spot throughout the land in days of yore, and which Knox with his hands of impious, fanatic ruffians burnt to the ground, or laid in ruins. Pain, probably, would some of the present kirk ministers, and their deluded fanatical disciples, serve the modern "splendid temples" of Catholics as Knox served the old ones. But times are changed. They dare not try it, however inclined that way. The assembled divines and laymen of the kirk had, we see, the assurance, in their ignorance and blind fanaticism, to tell the world that the splendid Catholic temples now "raising their forms in every large town" throughout Scotland are intended for an idolatrous worship—"for idolatrous ceremonies." They are intended, let me remind those gentlemen, for the worship of the only living and true God—not by "idolatrous ceremonies," but by the offering of that "sacrifice and pure oblation" which the prophetic eye of Malachi saw was to be offered everywhere among the gentiles, from the rising to the setting-of-the-sun. I do not mean to enter on controversial theology—but I would ask Protestants where, except in the Catholic Church, does the world see that altar and that pure oblation, and sacrifice which the prophet of the Lord thus speaks of? Certainly not in the Scotch kirk at all events. A sacrifice and oblation imply an altar, not in figure but in reality.

Since the change of religion in Scotland, that country has of course advanced greatly in letters, material prosperity, and refinement of manners. But there is much reason to believe that in the virtues of genuine piety, honesty, temperance, and chastity, as well as manly independence, and disinterested patriotism, our rude Catholic ancestors in "wild and stern Calendonias" were superior to their more refined and lettered Presbyterian descendants of the present age.

In the small but picturesque Abbey town in Scotland, where I was born and spent my boyish days, I have seen innocent amusements and kindly acts done to the poor at Christmas tide which were obviously remnants of Catholic usages. Even these have I presume now passed away. The money and food then given to the aged poor, not always entirely "destitute," were given voluntarily and in such a way as not to wound their feelings. The cold and often repulsive charity of a modern Government "almshouse" is but a sorry substitute for the voluntary warm charity of Catholic times. We know that some at least of the honest poor in England would rather starve than submit to apply for relief to the Government "guardians" so called of the poor, and some of them have actually starved to escape the insolence of poor law officials. Every now and then when the veil which usually shrouds the management of the English poor houses is unexpectedly lifted, scenes are disclosed to the public which are not at all creditable to English humanity.

We shall soon see the like here, I fear. The English press now complain that gentlemen of position and means will not act as "guardians" to the poor. They leave that to scheming tradesmen who too often make a profit out of their guardianship. When the love of Christ grows cold in any country then is the time for the hypocritical and designing demagogue like Knox to come forward and form a party to assail and plunder the Church. That cunning fox threw the glamour over the Scottish populace, and made the ignoble rabble play into the hands of the greedy unprincipled nobles. Happily not a few members of these very noble Scotch families are now returning to the Church, and will no doubt by themselves and their posterity make amends to the utmost of their power for the crimes of their "forbears" against their Holy Mother. LAIG.

WHAT IS A HOODLUM?

THE *Springfield Republican* defines the hoodlum with surprising accuracy: "He is simply the child of the people, sent to the public schools long enough to gain a smattering knowledge, and a distaste for work, and without a particle of moral backing at home to create character, inspire self-respect, or turn to industry." It is only in San Francisco that this peculiar product of our American civilisation gets the name of "hoodlum," but his kind abounds in all cities. Where they go to for the most part after graduating from the public schools may be learned from following sentences of a report made recently by superintendent Vaux of the Eastern Penitentiary of Pennsylvania, "I implore you, gentlemen of the Legislature, to look at our statistics. They show that our prison is occupied by unapprenticed convicts. Of all the young men under twenty-five years of age admitted to the prison, seventy-five per cent. are without trade and *ninety per cent. are educated.*" Nine-tenths, that is, of the criminals, of the State, have enjoyed the benefits of State education. We observed the other day, in a speech made out West by a candidate for office, defending himself against the charge of having advocated the extrusion of the Bible from the public schools, that he had adopted this course because he had been assured by men of intelligence and observation, that if the Bible were once eliminated there would be a grand rush from the Catholic parochial schools to the public schools. "And I thought, that it would be a good thing to get those children away from their rosaries and crucifixes, into the pure, healthful atmosphere of these schools of the free." But, judging from the penitentiary reports, these State "schools of the free" seem to be only ante-chambers to the State prisons. When the State has done what it can toward training its youth in the way they should go, how are we to account for the fact that the way in question leads so often behind the bars?

THE *Staatsburger* contains the following advertisement:—A charming little girl of 18 months, who can speak and walk, will be given for a compensation in money to be devoted to the education of her elder sisters.

J. A. M A C E D O,
CATHOLIC BOOKSELLER,
 PRINCES-STREET SOUTH, DUNEDIN,
 Begg to announce to the People of Dunedin, that he will open his
SOUTHERN FANCY BAZAAR,
 With a Grand Display of Fancy Goods and Toys of every
 Description, on
SATURDAY, 22ND INST.

Also, a well-assorted Stock of Tobacco, Cigars, and Stationery
 of all kinds.

J. A. MACEDO has just received the following Books, all of which,
 are Handsomely bound and suitable for Christmas Presents or
 New Year's Gifts:—

Douay Bible, with approbation of His Eminence Cardinal Cullen,
 beautifully illustrated with splendid steel engravings, morocco,
 gilt sides and back, £2 15s.

PRAYER BOOKS—

Garden of the Soul, ivory, gilt edges, 30s.

Garden of the Soul, morocco, bevelled boards, gilt sides and back,
 12s., 12s. 6d., post free.

Garden of the Soul, morocco, richly gilt, 9s., 9s. 6d., post free.

Key of Heaven, morocco, bevelled boards, gilt sides and back, 12s.,
 post free, 12s. 6d.

Key of Heaven, morocco, richly gilt, 9s., post free, 9s. 6d.

Butler's Lives of the Saints, 12 vols., half-calf, gilt lettered, £3.

Story of Ireland, by A. M. Sullivan, illustrated, cloth, gilt side and
 back, 7s. 6d., post free, 8s. 6d.

Story of Ireland, cloth, gilt lettered, 4s. 6d., post free, 5s. 6d.

History of Ireland, by John Mitchell, 2 vols., cloth gilt lettered, 7s.
 6d., post free, 9s. 6d.

Speeches from the Dock, cloth, gilt lettered, 3s., post free, 3s. 8d.

Speeches from the Dock, stiff cover, 1s. 6d., post free, 2s.

Agent for London *Lamp* magazine, *N.Z. Tablet*, and all Dunedin
 newspapers.

J. A. M A C E D O,

CATHOLIC BOOK DEPOT,

Princes-street, south, Dunedin.

THE MOSGIEL WOOLLEN FACTORY CO., LIMITED.

MOSGIEL DRESS TWEEDS, in new checks and
 plain colors, for Ladies' Ulsters, Costumes, and Dresses.

MOSGIEL TWEEDS, in new checks and twists, are the Best Quality
 and Purest Woollen Goods of the class that are made.

MOSGIEL TWILLED BLANKETS, in all white and blue borders,
 made from fine long wool, and full sizes only.

MOSGIEL PLAIDING OR SERGE, in White, Shetland and Grey.

MOSGIEL 3-PLY HEAVY KNITTING YARN, in all the best greys,
 is of better quality than imported.

**MOSGIEL HEAVY RIBBED AND PLAIN LAMBS'-WOOL
 PANTS AND SOCKS**, are most comfortable wear and best
 quality.

MOSGIEL SHAWLS, PLAIDS, AND TRAVELLING WRAPPERS,
 in checked and plain.

The whole of the **MOSGIEL MANUFACTURES** are offered to
 the Trade at Prices that compete successfully with imported goods,
 and, as genuine honest Woollen Goods, will maintain their reputation
 with the Public.

WHOLESALE WAREHOUSE, HIGH STREET, DUNEDIN.
 (Formerly occupied by Messrs. Wm. Watson & Sons)

M A I T L A N D H O T E L,
 CORNER OF MAITLAND AND WALKER STREETS,
 DUNEDIN.

J. J. CONNOR, - PROPRIETOR.

HOGG AND HUTTON'S ADVERTISEMENT.

PORT WINE, 1834 Vintage, 42 years old; per dozen, 110s.

PORT WINE, 1844 Vintage, 32 years old. A bargain, Per
 dozen, 75s.

BROWN SHERRY, 10 years. Just arrived. Rare value. Per
 dozen, 75s.

COLONIAL WINES, 30s. to 35s per dozen.

LORNE WHISKEY (Genuine), 48s. per dozen.

HOGG AND HUTTON, Octagon.

S H E E D Y B R O T H E R S,

HAM AND BACON CURERS

AND

GENERAL PROVISION MERCHANTS,

WALKER-STREET, DUNEDIN.

(Shop lately occupied by A. HELLIER.)

SHEEDY'S Smoked Hams and Bacon are equal to the best Limerick
 or Belfast imported.

SHEEDY'S Plain Hams (sugar cured) are superior to any in Dunedin.

SHEEDY'S Side Bacon (plain and smoked) can be had from all
 Grocers.

ASK for SHEEDY'S Hams and Bacon, and be sure you get them.

NONE GENUINE unless branded **SHEEDY BROS., DUNEDIN.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

THE MISSES **H. & B. BROWNLIE** beg to draw the
 attention of the Lady Readers of the **TABLET** to their
VERY LARGE AND CHOICE ASSORTMENT OF
NEW SPRING GOODS.

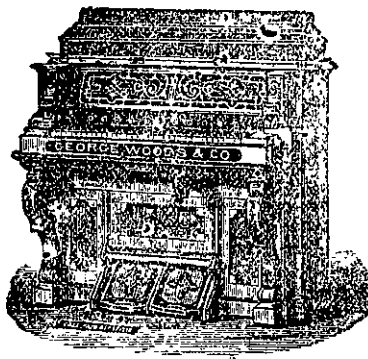
The good taste, style, and variety always displayed in their
MILLINERY, has won for it a very high reputation, which Ladies
 will find on inspection to be fully sustained this season.

H. & B. B. would take this opportunity of thanking the Lady
 readers of the **TABLET** for the very hearty support they have always
 accorded them, and hope that this season, as in seasons past, to find
 them among their liberal supporters.

H. & B. BROWNLIE,

BABY-LINEN WAREHOUSE,

OPPOSITE MESSRS HERBERT, HAYNES & CO.



DUNEDIN PIANO-

FORTE GALLERY.

GEORGE R. WEST.

Importer of Music and Musical
 Instruments of all descrip-
 tions. Pianos, Organs, Har-
 moniums, and other Instru-
 ments tuned and repaired.
 Pianofortes for Hire.

New Zealand Agent for **GEORGE WOODS and CO'S** unrivalled
 American Parlor Organs.

M R J. B. CALLAN, B.A., LL.B.

SOLICITOR, &C.,

Has Removed to the Corner of

BOND STREET AND JETTY STREET,

DUNEDIN.

WANGANUI.

(From a Correspondent.)

OUR Catholic children here have been enjoying great treats lately. On the 30th November the children and their teachers presented the Rev. Father Kirk with a beautiful dressing case, and a lot of fancy work made in the school; and, in the address read to him, all wished their kind Father many happy returns of his natal day. After the reading of the address, Father Kirk replied, expressing himself, as very much pleased as he was surprised at the touching way in which they had given expression to their affection for him. He knew they would like to please him, and he would tell them how to do it. "Attend to three things," said he, and you will please me very much. 1st. Be very fond of your teachers, who are so painstaking. 2nd. Be proud of your school, and prove you love it by working well. 3rd. Let every child hate lying, which is so mean a thing." And now began the real day. In singing and playing the time was spent, until the entertainment began at 3 o'clock; then came the feast at 5 o'clock, and the happy day finished up with the exhibition of a fine magic lantern at 7 o'clock. On the following Monday morning, at half-past six o'clock, the children preparing for First Communion, and the Children of Mary received the first instruction of their Retreat, and afterwards assisted at High Mass. Catechetical instruction was imparted at half-past three o'clock, and in the evening at seven the Rosary was recited, and a little sermon was delivered. The same order was followed until Friday. Confessions were heard during the week. On the 8th, the beautiful feast of the Immaculate Conception, twenty-five received their First Communion, after listening to a very simple and touching discourse.

On the evening of the 9th, these children renewed their Baptismal vows, and made their consecration. Then the Children of Mary read their renewal of their consecration; and afterwards, all took part in the procession through the church. Benediction of the M. H. Sacrament followed.

On Monday, 17th, the examinations of the school began, but I must refer you to the very fair report of the *Herald* for interesting particulars about these:—

It was already known that the examination of St Mary's Schools, which commenced on Monday morning in the presence of the Rev. Father Kirk and a few more gentlemen, were to be concluded on Tuesday evening, and were to be followed by recitations, &c. Hence at about 7 o'clock in the evening a large crowd, consisting of the children attending the schools and their parents, assembled in the fine hall presented by the three schoolrooms when the separating partitions are removed. At half-past seven the curtain, in front of the simple yet appropriate platform or stage was drawn, and a number of girls of the senior and junior schools delighted the audience with a beautiful chorus. The touching and difficult selection from Byron, "The Prisoner of Chillon," was then recited in stanzas, by the girls of the first class. No sooner had they bowed themselves off the platform, than Master James McKittrick sent the audience into fits of laughter with his well delivered piece "I'm a Merry Little Squirrel." And then Miss Jane Lough as "Sarah," and Miss Effie Gerse as "Mary," would give a practical lesson to everybody—Sarah had lost her trinket, and came as usual to borrow the one used by Mary; but whilst giving a reason for asking the loan, Sarah had administered to her by her young friend, in an imitably sage tone of voice and with capital gestures, an excellent rebuke. Sarah promised an entire change of conduct, and all present were very seriously informed that "there is a place for everything, and everything ought to be in its proper place." A manly little fellow, Master W. Comery, succeeded to the little wisecracks, and no sooner had he done his nice piece than the two Birdies, Misses Polly Turner and Teresa Hartnett, entered into a disquisition as to whether they should fly away or not. Little Sissy Reid chased them away, however, that she might have a word with the audience, until Master Grogan, as "Rolla," stepped forward with his "Address to the Peruvians." The chorus which followed enchanted the audience. The music was faultless, the different voices blending in delightful harmony, and the time being well kept. This was a fitting prelude to the little drama, "Who is to Inherit," one of those excellent home plays now used in the best convents,—indeed, it is to the good Superioress of the Dominican Convent, which ranks second to no educational establishment in the colony, that St. Mary's is indebted for its copy of the present play. These plays are intended to develop the powers of head and heart, to exercise the memory and cultivate man's nobler feelings, and to give facility in conversation and grace of movement. The various parts were well sustained by the Misses Agnes Leydon, Ferdinonda Gerse, Mary Cronin, Mary Comery, Lina Gerse, Amelia Neill, Ellen Cullum, and Jane Sweeney. Each of the girls rendered the part assigned her faultlessly; and it must be admitted that for the pitch of voice, distinctness of utterance, and naturalness of action the Christmas play of 1877 was far superior to the best efforts of the children hitherto. With the distribution of prizes, and the crowning of best children and a beautiful chorus, the happy evening was brought to a close.

According to one of the Italian papers, as soon as the death of M. Thiers was known here, some prelates hastened to carry the news to the Holy Father, who merely remarked, "Let us respect the decrees of Providence!" The next day His Holiness, talking of the sudden death with various persons around him, said, "It is assuredly an event of great importance for France, and which may have serious consequences; but I do not share the opinion of those who rejoice at that loss, as if it would be an embarrassment the less for the men in power. That idea is, in my opinion, an error. I do not desire to specify the qualities and the defects of M. Thiers, but I say that his presence might have been more useful than injurious to the cause of order. What will happen? Parties will be more ardent than ever, and I should not be surprised if that unfortunate country should yet have to pass through some terrible trials. May God grant that my prévisions are erroneous!" The persons present looked at each other, and a long silence followed those words of the Pope.

HOW THEY PUT DOWN THE INDIAN MUTINY.

In the October supplement to the *Popular Science Monthly* there is an article by Prof. Goldwin Smith on "The Policy of Aggrandizement," in which the writer calls attention to the dreadful atrocities perpetrated by the English soldiers in stamping out the Indian Mutiny. Prof. Smith, himself an Englishman, says:—"The wholesale slaughter of these wretched men, in cold blood, when they had laid down their arms, and in some cases when they had apparently been guilty of little more than being carried away like animals by a stampede, may have been a political necessity of conquest, but it will never be described by impartial history as an act of moral justice, and participation in it, and in the hideous scenes of that period generally, could hardly fail to affect the character of the Englishmen engaged. The work of Dr. Russell is well known. Lieutenant Majendie's 'Up among the Pandies' is not so well known, but it is a vivid, simple, and apparently truthful photograph of scenes which that officer himself witnessed. We give a couple of extracts:—

"I have before adverted to the hardness of heart which in some cases was shown by our men, and to the careless and callous indifference with which they took away human life; and I will here relate one of the several instances which came under my notice in illustration of this fact. After we had occupied the Iron Bridge for some days, and when we supposed that the houses in the neighbourhood were quite clear of the enemy, we were astonished one evening by hearing a shot in one of the many buildings which we occupied, and, directly after, some of the soldiers rushing in dragged out a decrepit old man, severely wounded in the thigh. It seems that the sentry, having heard somebody moving about the house, had challenged, and, receiving no answer, fired, and hit the poor old wretch in question in the leg. He was brought out, and soon surrounded by a noisy, gaping crowd of soldiers, who clamoured loudly for his immediate execution, expressing themselves in language more remarkable by its vigour than either its elegance or its humanity. "Ave his nut off," said one; "Hang the brute," cried another: "Put him out of mess," said a third; "Give him a Cawnpore dinner" (six inches of steel), cried a fourth; but the burden of all their cries was the same, and they meant death. The only person in the group who appeared unmoved and indifferent to what was going on was he who certainly had every right to be the most interested. I mean the old man himself, whose stoicism one could not but admire. He must have read his fate a hundred times over in the angry gestures and looks of his captors, but never once did he open his lips to supplicate for mercy, or betray either agitation or emotion, giving out the idea of a man bored by the noise and the proceedings generally, but not otherwise affected. His was a case which hardly demanded a long or elaborate trial. He was a native—he could give no account of himself—he had been found prowling about our position at night; stealthily moving among houses, every one of which contained a quantity of gunpowder, and where, for aught we knew, and as was more than probable, mines may have existed, which a spark dropped from his hand would have ignited—or he was a spy, or—but what need of more? In this time of stern and summary justice (!) such evidence was more than ample; he was given over to two men, who received orders to 'destroy him' (the expression usually employed on these occasions, and implying in itself how dreadfully common such executions had become), and they led him away. This point being settled, the soldiers returned to their games of cards and their pipes, and seemed to feel no further interest in the matter, except when the two executioners returned, and one of their comrades carelessly asked, "Well, Bill, what did yer do to him?" "Oh," said the man as he wiped the blood off an old tulwar, with an air of cool and horrible indifference which no words can convey—"oh, sliced his 'ed off, resuming his rubber, and dropping the subject much as a man might who had drowned a litter of puppies." This old man, it will be observed, was not a Sepoy, he was only a native, and not the slightest attempt appears to have been made to verify the suspicion as to a mine of gunpowder. In the next case the victim was a Sepoy, taken in a skirmish, in which a British officer of a Sikh regiment had fallen:—

"Inturated beyond measure by the death of their officer, the Sikhs (assisted, I regret to say, by some Englishmen) proceeded to take their revenge on this one wretched man. Seizing him by the two legs, they attempted to tear him in two. Failing in this, they dragged him along by the legs, stabbing him in the face with their bayonets as they went. I could see the poor wretch writhing as the blows fell upon him, and could hear his moans as his captors dug the sharp bayonets into his lacerated and trampled body, while his blood, trickling down, dyed the white sand over which he was being dragged. But the worst was yet to come: while still alive, though faint and feeble from his many wounds, he was deliberately placed upon a small pile of dry sticks, which had been improvised for the purpose, and there held down, in spite of his dying struggles, which, becoming weaker and more feeble every moment, were, from their very faintness and futile desperation, cruel to behold. Once, during this frightful operation, the wretched victim, maddened by pain, managed to break away from his tormentors, and already horribly burnt, fled a short distance, but he was immediately brought back and placed upon the fire, and there held till life was extinct."

THE London correspondent of the *Dublin Freeman* says:—"I have been informed that Dr. Newman and several other eminent divines have been asked to undertake a new English translation of the Holy Scriptures to replace the Douay version, which is couched in an excessively Latinized style. Dr. Newman is widely known as an incomparable master of pur English, and to no better hands could the most important work be entrusted.

M. THIERS has left an unpublished work in which he attempts to refute, on the authority of history, the doctrines of Darwin, Comte, Littré, Renan, and Spinoza. M. Thiers was, in his last days, eminently religious in his principles. He is reported to have said, in one of his latest conversations, "The fundamental truths on the existence of God and the soul are not only incontestable from the point of view or reason, but also indispensable in social life;" and he added, "I have abdicated philosophical pride."

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY
THROUGH THE COLUMNS
OF THE
NEW ZEALAND TABLET.**

**EXTENSIVE ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS
TO
THE CUTTING WAREHOUSE.**
NEW MILLINERY ROOM.
NEW COSTUME ROOM.
NEW DRESS ROOM.

THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.

Begin to announce the **COMPLETION** of GREAT ALTERATIONS and ADDITIONS to their **DRAPERY WAREHOUSE**, to meet the requirements of a Steadily Increasing Business, and to ensure the Comfort and Convenience of their Customers. Importing and holding this Season the Largest, Best, and Cheapest Stock they have ever had the pleasure of submitting to the Public, and opening up Large New Show Rooms to contain it, Buyers will be enabled to make their Purchases at the **CUTTING WAREHOUSE** on the **MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TERMS.**

SPLENDID STOCK OF NEW MILLINERY.

An Entire Flat devoted to the **DISPLAY** of **STRAW GOODS, HATS, BONNETS, FLOWERS, FEATHERS, ORNAMENTS, and UNDERCLOTHING.**

SPLENDID STOCK OF COSTUMES, MANTLES, AND SILKS.

A Large Room set apart this season for the Display of Black and Coloured Silks, Evening and Marriage Silks, Newest Costumes on Parisian Stands. Mantles, Fichus, and New Cross-overs in Silk, Lace, Cashmere, Net, and Applique Work—Novelties of the Latest Fashion.

SPLENDID STOCK OF DRESSES—MUSLINS, PRINTS.

Three times More Space is now occupied with the above Stock, so that Customers will have some idea of the Choice Selection of Goods we can place before them.

INSPECTION INVITED.

**THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.'S
SEASON'S IMPORTATIONS**

**OF
SPRING AND SUMMER GOODS
NOW LANDED,
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THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**

Choice Millinery—**THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**
New Mantles—**THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**
Choice Flowers—**THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**
New Fichus—**THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**
Choice Silks—**THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**
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New Costumes—**THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**
Choice Jackets—**THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**

MAGNIFICENT STOCK OF DRESSES

Yachting Beige, Sultana Stripes, Wool Crepes, Silk Warps, Norwich Poplins, French Matallasses, Lustres, &c., &c.

The whole of the Dress Stock comprises an assortment of the Newest Goods in the market, which for style, variety, and price cannot be excelled in the City of Dunedin.

INSPECTION INVITED.

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New Muslins **THOMSON. STRANG, AND CO.**
Devonshire Checks **THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**
Galatca Stripes **THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**
Brocade Grenadines **THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**
Swiss Checks **THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO**
Muslin Stripes **THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**
New Tarlatans **THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.**

MANIFICENT STOCK OF TRIMMINGS.

New Buttons, New Laces, New Fringes, New Ribbons, New Scarfs
New Frillings, New Collars.

This Season we hold by far the largest and best of Stock ever imported since the opening of the Cutting Warehouse, and we feel confident that the **SCALE** of **PRICES** will bring the customers.

INSPECTION INVITED.

Millinery, Mantles, Costumes, and Dressmaking conducted on the Premises.

TAILORING IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.

THOMSON, STRANG, AND CO.,
SILK MERCERS, DRAPERS, CLOTHIERS, TAILORS,
GENERAL OUTFITTERS.
PRINCES-STREET, DUNEDIN.

HERBERT, HAYNES, and CO.,
respectfully invite attention to their Extensive and Well-Assorted Stock, imported direct from the Manufacturers, and the continuous additions made to the various branches. We are now Showing a **STOCK** exceeding in value **SIXTY THOUSAND POUNDS.**

The several Departments are now replete with approved Selections of British and Foreign Manufactures.

MADE-UP COSTUMES.—This important Branch comprises a beautiful variety of Summer Novelties, combining a distinct selection of Parisian and British Models.

NEW BLACK DRESS GOODS.—Black Japan Goods, Black Atho' Cloths, Black Sicilian Cloths, Black Wool Poplins, Black Cachemeres, Black French Merinos, Black Alpaccas, Black Lustres.

COLORED DRESS MATERIALS.—A rich and beautifully distinct selection of these Goods, comprising a Large Variety of New Material, New Styles, New Designs and Colorings, that harmonise beautifully in Combination.

BLACK SILKS.—This always Important Branch has received every care and attention, the Selections being those of Manufacturers, whose Goods have always been found to wear well.

Black Silks, 2s 3d, 2s 6d, 2s 9d, 3s 6d, 4s, and up to 16s 6d per yard.

MILLINERY DEPARTMENT.—New Shapes in Chip, Straw, and Millinery Bonnets; New Shapes in Hats, Trimmed and Untrimmed; French and British Flowers, Wreaths, Sprays, &c.

RIBBONS.—A most Extensive Assortment in all the required Widths and Colorings, Sash Ribbons, Fail Ribbons, Corded Ribbons, Armure Ribbons, Matellase Ribbons, Edged Ribbons, Brocade Ribbons, Satin Ribbons, Nette Ribbons.

HOSIERY.—Ladies' Colored Balbriggan Hose, Ladies' Striped Hose, Ladies' White Cotton Hose, Silk Hose, Spun Silk Hose, Croquet Hose, Embroidered Lisle Thread Hose, Opera Hose, Children's Socks, Knickerbocker Hose.

GLOVES.—2, 4, 6-Button Gloves, Evening Shades; Josephine Gloves, in Light, Dark, and Medium Colors; Danish and Spanish Kid Gloves, Pic-Nic Gloves, Riding Gloves, Driving Gloves.

CARPETS.—Brussels Carpets, for Drawing Rooms, Dining Rooms, Studios, Church Purposes, Lobbies, Stairs, Bed Rooms, Offices. The estimated Selection for this Branch exceeds Twelve Thousand Yards. Tapestry Carpets, 2s 11d per yard; Brussels Carpets, 3s 11d per yard.

HERBERT, HAYNES, and CO.

CALEDONIAN SOCIETY OF OTAGO.

SIXTEENTH GRAND ANNUAL GATHERING.

JANUARY, 1st, 2nd, and 5th, 1878,

Commencing at 11 o'clock.

£511 GIVEN IN MONEY, viz.:

Running, £210; Walking, £44; Dancing, £55; Wrestling, £74.
Hammer Putting, and Caber, £38; Bagpipe Music, £36; Leaping
and Vaulting, £10; Quoiting, £8; Pony Race, £8;

BAYONET COMPETITION, £15;

FIRE BRIGADE COMPETITION, £10.

NOTICE.—The date of entry for the Running and Walking Handicaps has been extended to Monday, the 24th December, at 8 p.m., and the declaration of the Handicaps till the 27th.

Acceptances will be received up to 8 p.m. on the 29th.

Entry Money for the Caledonian and Dunedin Handicaps, 6s; acceptances, 4s. Walking and Consolation Handicaps: Entry, 3s; acceptance, 2s. Trotting, match: Entry, 5s. All other events, 2s 6d.; youths, 1s.

For full particulars see the programmes.

GEORGE WATSON.

Secretary.

O T A G O R E G A T T A,
TO BE HELD AT
S T. L E O N A R D S,
ON
S A T U R D A Y, 2 6 T H J A N U A R Y, 1 8 7 8.

Under the auspices of the Otage Rowing and Sailing Association.

P R O G R A M M E.

1. Champion Yacht Race, fixed keel boats. 1st prize, 26 guinea Challenge Cup, presented by the N.Z. Shipping Company, and £20 (Cup to be competed for annually); 2nd prize, £5. Distance, 14 miles.
 2. Maiden Four-oar Race. Prize, £5. Distance, 2 miles.
 3. Amateur Pairs. Prize, trophy. Distance, 2 miles.
 4. Open Boat Sailing Race. Prize, £8. Distance, 8 miles.
 5. Yacht Race, centre-board boats. Prize, £10. Distance, 8 miles.
 6. Champion Fours. 1st prize, 25 guinea Challenge Cup, presented by the N.Z. Shipping Co., and £20 (cup to be competed for annually); 2nd prize, £5. Distance, 3 miles.
 7. Amateur Fours. Prize, trophy. Distance, 2 miles.
 8. Canoe Race. Prize, £2. Distance, 2 miles.
 9. Champion Pairs. Prize, £5. Distance, 2 miles.
 10. Handicap Four. Prize, £6. Distance, 3 miles.
 11. Pig Hunt.
- Entrance Fees.—Rowing Races, 5s. per oar; canoe race, 5s.; sailing races, 5 per cent. on amount of 1st prize.
Entries to be made with the Secretary on or before the 19th January next.
All boats to be approved of by the Committee before starting.
W. G. FULLER, Hon. Sec.

NOTICE.

THE ART UNION DRAWING, in connection with the Catholic Schools, Wellington, has been unavoidably POSTPONED UNTIL MARCH 18TH, 1877.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

M. AND J. MEENAN beg to inform their numerous Customers and the Public generally, that they have Removed to their New Premises, opposite the Waverly Boarding House, Moray Place, four doors from the Premises at present occupied by them.

A CATHOLIC TEACHER with first-class testimonials and large experience in Victoria, New South Wales and New Zealand, is open for an engagement, either as Public Teacher or Tutor in a private family. Address, "Teacher," NEW ZEALAND TABLET Office, Dunedin.

WANTED.

A MALE TEACHER for the Roman Catholic School, Lawrence; good references required as to character and ability. For particulars apply to the Rev. T. Crowley, Lawrence.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST IN AID OF THE BUILDING FUND OF THE NEW CONVENT, DUNEDIN.

(Collector—Mr. Michael Moran, No. 59.)

Michael Moran, £1 1s; Mrs. Wilkinson, 5s; Daniel Enright, 10s, Mrs. McIntyre, 10s; Thomas McIntyre, 10s; Mrs. Enright, 5s; John Healy, 5s; Thomas Mulvibill, 5s; John Nolan, 5s; Denis Nolan, 5s; John Flynn, 5s; Patrick Barron, 5s; Mrs. Butel, 5s; Mrs. McDonald, 5s; Thomas Condon, 5s; James Cosgrave, 5s; James Delaney, 2s 6d; Miss Ryan, 2s 6d; Mrs. Traynor, 2s 6d; Ned Mullins, 2s 6d; Patrick Kerin, 2s 6d; Owen Traynor, 2s 6d; Mrs. Healey, 5s.—Total, £6 11s.

The following donations have also been received:—

Mr. J. J. O'Connor, Timaru, £1; Mr. Thomas Moynahan, £1; Mr. Sullivan, £1. Subscription List per Sergeant Shiel, Carlyle; Mrs. Kennedy, Switzers; Mr. O. Cummins, Cromwell.

It is requested that persons will acknowledge the receipt of prizes forwarded to them.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO TABLET FOR WEEK ENDING JAN. 3.

	£	s.	d.
Mr. M. O'Connor, Oamaru, to August 3rd, 1878	0	12	6
„ Ring, Oamaru, to February 10, 1878	0	6	6
„ M. Gleeson, Oamaru, to October 20, 1877	0	5	6
„ Casey, Oamaru, to October 27, 1877	0	6	0
„ M. Greney, Amberley, to December 14, 1878	1	5	0
„ O'Halloran, Carrolton, to December 14, 1878	1	5	0
„ M. Duncan, Rangiora, to August 17, 1878	1	5	0
„ Reiney, Orari, to February 10, 1878	0	12	6
„ McPadden, Invercargill, to April 17, 1878	0	12	6
„ Foster, Christchurch, to November 17, 1877	0	6	6
„ Smith, Motea, to September 1, 1878	1	5	0
„ Briody, Kumara, to February 23, 1878	0	6	6
„ Smith, Doyleston, to December 14, 1878	1	5	0
„ McKinlay, Christchurch, to February 24, 1878	0	12	6
„ Sergeant Shiel, Patea, to May 4, 1878	0	10	0

The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 1878.

THE PREMIER AT THE THAMES.



SIR GEORGE GREY'S speech to his constituents has been read with great interest, and not a little anxiety, by all New Zealanders. The honourable gentleman's policy is the same as of old, but in this speech he has announced his principles more distinctly and emphatically than hitherto. Sir GEORGE GREY is a statesman of a high order, and a speaker of great eloquence; and has no doubt produced a great effect on his constituents and throughout the entire colony. His principles and policy will be received favourably by a large majority, and cannot fail to meet with the sympathy of all. "A population well clothed and well educated" is precisely what all admire, desire, and each in his way, labour for. It would be impossible to find any one who would be opposed to the existence of such a blessing.

But, then, how is this blessing to be secured? This is the great point, and we regret to have to say that Sir Geo. GREY has not yet satisfied us in reference to it. He has, indeed, told his constituents that his Government will resolutely set its face against the sale of large blocks of Crown land; and that this will, to a great extent at least, bring into existence a well fed and well clothed population for all time to come. We are sorry we cannot agree with him. The experience of mankind proves that something more than he has yet proposed is required to secure the end he has in view. The policy of not selling large blocks of Crown land to individuals, may prove a palliative for a season, but that is all. But a great and wise statesman will not rest satisfied with such a result as this. Perhaps Sir GEORGE GREY has some plan in reserve, of which we have as yet no indication, by means of which New Zealand is to be saved in the future from the evils arising from a large landed aristocracy and a population of serfs. It is to be hoped he has.

It is a well known fact, established by the history of all times and places, that capital commands labour, and that the tendency of land is to accumulate in the hands of individuals; and that one of the peculiarities of the Anglo-Saxon race is its admiration of a lord, and its yearning after a large landed proprietary. The history of the nations of the European continent affords innumerable proofs of the truth of the first two of these assertions, and Sir GEORGE GREY'S experience of an agitation kept up for years by the English settlers in the Cape of Good Hope cannot but teach something very suggestive as to the last.

Is Sir GEORGE GREY prepared to recommend for the adoption of our colonial legislature the provisions of the Roman Dutch law as to inheritance; and for the repeal of which the English colonists of the Cape of Good Hope, particularly the wealthy amongst them have agitated so long and earnestly. And yet there is no other way possible to prevent the existence of large landed estates. Under the Roman Dutch law, and similar laws prevailing in many of the nations of Europe, large landed estates and other properties become necessarily broken up after the death of their owners, and thus is effected a never-ceasing distribution of land and money amongst a multitude of people. Nor is it in the power of the admirers of great families and estates, to create by will a large landed proprietary. For the law absolutely forbids such wills and declares them invalid. And this is precisely one of the provisions of this wise law against which wealthy English colonists, who whilst poor, were democrats, but aristocrats when grown rich, so loudly proclaim. In the midst of their riches they complain they can not raise up great families to perpetuate their name, in grandeur and by the possessions of tens of thousands of acres.

Time will tell what the Premier really intends to propose on this subject. But another question arises. How is Sir GEORGE GREY going to secure for this country a well educated people, intelligent, knowing its rights and duties, and moral, prepared to exercise the former justly, and to do the latter fearlessly? This is the great question, and we much

regret we are not at all satisfied that Sir GEORGE is likely to adopt the only plan or system of education that will secure such a population. It is not now worth while discussing the question what Sir GEORGE GREY, if left to himself and free to carry out his own views, would do in the matter of education—for the present at least. He has accepted, with seeming approbation, the new Education Act, and is surrounded by colleagues who have either voted for this Act or advocated a worse system. Purely secular education it is to which the colony is now and shall be, for a considerable time to come, subjected, and all who are not now deluded or wilfully blind, can entertain no doubt whatever as to where this must land the people.

The example of all the countries which years ago adopted a godless or a mixed system of education is a closed book to our politicians. In Germany, France, and the United States of America, such systems have led directly to wide-spread infidelity, and political and social insecurity. In Germany, godless education has ended in the abandonment of the churches, to contempt for the ordinances of religion, and the rejection of Christianity, except in name; in the United States of America to the filling of the gaoles with the well-educated pupils of national godless schools; and in France, to perpetually recurring revolution and political anarchy. It is madness, therefore, to anticipate peace, prosperity, and morality from the system of education lately sanctioned by the Legislature for New Zealand. To us, therefore, Sir GEORGE GREY's expectation of a well-fed, well-clothed, and well educated New Zealand population has little foundation in fact.

News of the Week.

ON Tuesday last. Feast of the Circumcision, Masses were celebrated at St. Joseph's Church, Dunedin, at 8, 9, and 11 a.m., as on Sundays. His Lordship the Bishop of the Diocese delivered a short address at the first Mass, which was celebrated by him, and after he had reminded the congregation that several of those who had been present there on the last New Year's Day, had been called away out of life during the course of the past year, and admonished them to be prepared to answer a like summons, he alluded to the grave events that had characterised the preceding twelve months, and said that probably the year that had now begun would witness a continuance of war and calamities, which were the penalties of sin. He exhorted them to pray fervently that they might be shielded from such grievous visitations, and he added that as, in all probability, what is called the "Roman Question," would ere long be submitted for settlement—it was their duty to be earnest and constant in their supplications for the Holy Father and the Church.

PREPARATIONS have for some time been made in Wellington for holding an Art-Union in aid of the Catholic Schools in that city. Several valuable and handsome prizes have been acquired, and the tickets are offered at a low rate. It was intended that the drawing should have taken place immediately, but as it has been found impossible to obtain returns from the country parts as early as it was hoped for, the affair has been unavoidably postponed to March 18th next. Persons desirous of helping in the good work will be furnished with particulars on application to any of the clergy at Wellington, and Catholics in every quarter of New Zealand should remember that Catholic schools, no matter where they may be situated, have a claim on their sympathies and form a common interest to all.

THE annual sports of the Caledonian Society of Otago were held in the Society's grounds at Kensington on Tuesday and Wednesday last. A large number of spectators were present, and matters were carried out as successfully as usual. The sports will recommence and terminate to-morrow.

THE New Year was welcomed in at Dunedin by the wonted merry-making. The streets were thronged by good-humoured crowds, and bells, fireworks, and music, enlivened the scene.

WE would remind our country subscribers that in order to ensure our passing the happy new year which we are persuaded they wish us, and which we very heartily invoke upon all our readers, it is desirable they should be punctual in forwarding us the amount of their subscriptions due. We have, monthly, heavy bills to meet in connection with the printing and publishing of our journal, and it is very necessary to our welfare that we should be kept in funds.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. W. D. Murison, late editor of the *Otago Daily Times*, which occurred on Friday, the 28th ult., at his residence in Dunedin. The deceased gentleman was much esteemed by a large circle of friends, and his funeral, which took place on Monday last, was attended by a numerous assemblage.

THE annual picnic of the Christian Brothers' Schools, Dunedin, took place at Waitati on Wednesday last. The Brothers, accompanied

by their pupils, to the number of 260, left town in the 9.30 A.M. train, and returned in that which reached the Dunedin terminus at 8 P.M. The day was merrily spent in various games, and the high spirits with which the lads returned to their homes in the evening testified to their thorough enjoyment of their holiday. His Lordship the Bishop of the Diocese, accompanied by the Rev. Fathers O'Leary, Sheehan, and Larkin, was present on the grounds throughout the day.

WE learn that the Rev. Father Sheehan will visit Macraes on Sunday the 13th inst.

Telegrams.

[BY CABLE.]

LONDON, December 24th.

The Czarewitsch's army crossed the Lom, cutting off communication with Rústchuk and Varna.

The Czar has reached St. Peterburg.

The combined Russian-Roumanian army is approaching Widdin. Snow impedes operations everywhere. Snow blocks up the Varna and Roumanian Railway. The cold in Armenia is the greatest felt for 50 years. The troops are suffering terribly. 11 men and 50 horses were frozen to death close to Bucharest.

The Porte declared Prince Milan deposed.

The Russians subsidise Servia with a million roubles monthly.

The Queen opens Parliament in person.

December 25th.

The Emperor of Russia, in replying to an address, said much remained to be done, but hoped Russia's mission would be duly accomplished.

December 26th.

The Turks are preparing to evacuate Sofia.

The Turkish prisoners taken at Plevna are dying of cold. It is impossible to aid them.

Depretis has formed an Italian Ministry. He is President and Foreign Minister, and Crispi is Home Minister.

The Servians have captured Akpalanka.

The bombardment of Nisch has commenced.

70,000 Turks are leaving the Quadrilateral for Adrianople.

The ice is drifting down the Danube. Several Russian bridges are broken.

The Queen goes to Osborne on Friday.

Sulienan Pasha has garrisoned the Quadrilateral, concentrating the rest of his troops at Adrianople.

It is believed the Porte has resolved to continue the war to the last extremity.

The Emperor of Russia has received an enthusiastic reception at St. Petersburg.

The Russians are investing Erzeroum.

December 27th.

The Servians have captured Akpalanka, Lesconivatz, and Kurchumeje, after severe fighting. They afterwards crossed the river Marava, and commenced bombarding Nisch.

The fall of Erzeroum is imminent.

LONDON, December 27th.

The Servian troops are reported to have effected a junction with the Russian army, and are now advancing towards Sophia. This news, however, comes from St. Petersburg, and requires confirmation.

The early opening of the British Parliament encourages the Porte to resist, and increased confidence is felt at Constantinople.

The Armenians at Stamboul have refused military service.

The Servians' attack on Semnitzza has been repulsed.

(SPECIAL TO THE "ARGUS.")

LONDON, December 28th.

Austria has forbidden Servian operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The British fleet has quitted Besika Bay for the Gulf of Voló.

A Russian frigate has captured a Turkish transport with 875 soldiers.

Many Russian cavalry have been compelled to recross the Danube, owing to the scarcity of forage in Bulgaria.

The body of Osman Pasha has arrived at Bucharest, en route for Moscow, where it will be interred.

LONDON, December 29th.

The Sultan has solicited the mediation of the British Government with the Emperor of Russia, and England has consented.

Austria, in reply to a Turkish note, intimates that she will only permit Russia to conclude peace on the basis of the Treaty of Paris, and will not sanction the dismemberment of Turkey, nor allow the Black Sea to become a Russian lake.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM.

LONDON, December 30th.

A leader in the *Observer* says:—Russia has refused to conclude terms of peace, and must leave England to intervene in the war.

A discussion continues in the press regarding England acquiring Suez and Egypt.

Austria has endorsed England's policy.

The Hungarian Minister, Tezza, is visiting Berlin.

The Czar has ordered the enrolment of 480,000 troops for 1878.

The armament of the Russian fleet is being vigorously pushed forward.

An urgent message has been sent by English Ministers to their supporters abroad to return for the opening of Parliament.

WELLINGTON, December 31st.

The following is a copy of a cable message received to-day by the Mayor of Wellington:—"If not sent you from Madras, please note telegram received, and acquaint Provincial Mayors that your exertions, and those of the committees in all parts of the British dominions, have brought such liberal aid that, under the present favourable prospects, we gratefully say collections may cease. The

munificent contributions from the Australian Colonies excite profound gratitude. The total receipts from all quarters are 89 lacs. Kindly repeat to Mayors of Sydney, Adelaide, Hobart Town, and other centres.—E. FITZGIBBON, Melbourne."

[BY CABLE.]

LONDON, December 31st.

Mukhtar Pasha has been recalled to Stamboul.

An attack by torpedo vessels on the Turkish fleet at Batoum failed.

The Turkish commander defending Nissa has made proposals to surrender.

The Channel fleet and the ships under repair have been put in commission, and all ordered to be ready for sea by the 16th inst. (?)

Count Andrassy, according to the Government organ at Pesth, states that Austria was forced temporarily to join the tripple alliance, but will support England the moment she decides upon a resolute policy.

LONDON, December 31st.

A Russian semi-official note states that the British Government have intimated to the Russian Government that in the event of certain contingencies arising, national feeling may force England to defend her British interests in the East. It is officially stated that Russia is now willing to consider direct Turkish proposals for peace.

Commercial.

MR. SKENE'S labour report for the week ending December 31.—At the close of the year it is well to glance back on the position of the labour market during the twelve months gone. There have been a good many ups and downs, and a good deal of discontent. During the winter months, the iron trade was very depressed. The building trade flagged a good deal, but this is looked for in winter. Other skilled trades, such as bootmakers, tailors, cabinetmakers, painters, &c., weathered the dull time very well. In very few cases did really good tradesmen need to go idle long. Day labourers, sawmill, and bush hands were very slack for a while—from unsuitable weather—but now their prospects are much improved. During the whole year couples with families have been very hard to place. It is very humbling to report that couples with large families are so much neglected by farmers and squatters. This is a very short-sighted policy. Female servants have all along been far short of the demand; the best are at once secured, and soon get married, leaving in many cases only those without training and experience to supply the market. As to agricultural labourers, ploughmen, shepherds, and all degrees of these classes, the demand has been constant, and no one trained to such work need be idle for a day. Unfortunately far too many arrive here under false colours, saying they do farm work, and on trial are found useless. During the year we have never ceased crying out against the evil of sending useless young men to Otago. In fact many for whom the old country has got too warm. We can now look forward to the opening year with good prospects for all classes. Wages—Couples, £65 to £85; ordinary females, 10s to 15s; upper do., 15s, 20s, 30s, and 40s; shepherds, £70; ploughmen, £52, £55, £60, and £65; day labour, bush, road, and rail, 7s, 8s, and 9s; masons and bricklayers, 12s and 13s; carpenters, 10s to 12s; dairymen, 20s and 25s; boys and girls, 5s to 10s; cooks, waiters, grooms, gardeners, station cooks, &c., 25s, 30s, and 40s; clerks, &c., 30s to 60s.

MR. A. MERCER'S market report for the week ending January 3. Retail prices only.—Fresh butter in $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 lb prints, 8d to 10d; extra brands, 11d to 1s; fresh butter in lumps, 8d to 9d; powdered and salt butter, 9d. Fresh butter is still very plentiful and there is a fair demand. Cheese, best quality, old, 10d to 1s; cheese, new, 10d. Side and rolled bacon, 9d. Colonial hams 11d to 1s. English hams (new), 1s 4d; old hams, 1s to 1s 2d, no demand. Eggs are scarce, and retaling at 1s 3d per doz.

MR. J. VEZEY reports for the week ending Jan. 3, 1877, retail.—Roasting beef, 5d to 8d per lb; boiling do., 3d to 5d per lb; stewing do., 4d to 6d per lb; steak, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 5d per lb; veal, 4d to 8d per lb; pork 6d to 8d per lb; lamb 2s 6d to 4s per quarter.

MR. J. FLEMING reports (wholesale prices) for the week ending Jan. 3, 1877, as follows:—Oats (feed) per bushel, 3s to 3s 3d. Wheat—milling, 5s to 5s 6d; chicks, 3s to 3s 7d. Barley, malting, 4s to 4s 6d; feed, 2s 10d to 3s. Pollard, £6 per ton. Bran, £4 5s, bags included. Flour, large bags, £14; small, £14 10s. Oatmeal, £17. Old Potatoes, £1 15s per ton. New Potatoes, 12s per cwt. Old Hay, £7 10s per ton. Chaff, £5 10s per ton. Straw, £2 per ton.

Noyon's heroine is a servant girl. A common sewer of great depth has been opened for repairs, and four men, passing that way in the dark, fell in. It was not until midnight that their perilous situation became known. The poor wretches were already suffocating from a poisonous vapour: their moanings were heard, and their wives and children, frantic with grief, besought the bystanders for aid; but among all the stalwart men who gathered round the hole there was not one brave enough to go down and rescue his fellow-creatures. Then it was that Catherine Vasseur, a lass of seventeen, volunteered to descend into the pit. She was lowered into the sewer, where she fastened a rope around two of the men, and, assisted by those above, she had the happiness of restoring them to their wives and children. Again she descended and fastened the rope around the body of a third man, but her breath began to fail her. Fainting from foul air and exhaustion, she had sufficient presence of mind to knot the end with her own luxuriant tresses, so that when the dastardly fellows above drew the man to the surface they found the all but inanimate body of the young girl swinging by her hair to the end of the rope. Fresh air and stimulants restored her to consciousness, but not in time to enable her to save the fourth man, who perished in the pit.—*Richmond Enquirer*.

General News.

A child was lately attacked on Grosse Tete by a large eagle. Upon hearing the screams of the child, its mother ran into the yard, and when she discovered the eagle endeavouring to carry off her child she made a desperate attack upon the intruder. During the fight between the eagle and the mother the child crawled under the house, and finally the mother was forced to retire, as the eagle fought with unusual desperation. Several persons were attracted to the spot by the screams of both mother and child, and after firing several shots at the eagle, he was finally killed.—*Montreal True Witness*.

Some of the memorials in the hallowed and time-honoured cemetery of St. Pancras must, it is stated, be displaced, in order that the Midland Railway Company may carry on their projected work. Amongst those whose memorials are to be so treated are two famous Irishmen—Arthur Richard Dillon, Archbishop of Narbonne, and the Rev. Arthur O'Leary, whose reputation will survive as long as wit is appreciated or genius excites admiration.

A duel, which ended in the death of both combatants has taken place at Wilmington, Delaware. It arose out of a paragraph in a paper burlesquing a younger brother of a youth named Young, himself only fifteen years of age. Having demanded satisfaction of the editor, Mr. Brown, the latter instead of giving it knocked him down, and a challenge to mortal combat with pistols was immediately given by Young and accepted by Brown. The combatants were placed on each side of a railway track. When they approached the rails the order was given to fire. At the first discharge the ball from Young's revolver entered Brown's breast, and that from the latter's revolver the lower part of Young's abdomen. Brown continued firing at his antagonist, but Young, finding his revolver did not revolve, closed with Brown, when both fell, and began pummelling each other with their pistols. The seconds then interfered and separated the men. They were laid out on the railway platform, both in a dying condition. Young while in that state, cursed his adversary, who died in a few minutes later. The former lingered until next day in great agony.

In the district of the Jura twenty of the curés who had been installed by the cantonal Government in the parishes rendered vacant by the forcible removal of the lawful Catholic pastors have been prosecuted for various crimes. One of these individuals has just absconded and is sought after by the police for a career of swindling, by carrying on a fraudulent trade in watches, and the *Evangelische Kirchen-Zeitung*, the organ of the Protestant synod of Berlin, which reports the fact, adds that the person in question has been taking advantage of the clerical position conferred upon him to practice his rogueries with the more success.

Two men have just been tried before the Court of Assizes of the Basses-Pyrénées for a number of robberies, which, by an accidental circumstance, led to an interesting archaeological discovery. The accused, Rivas, a shoemaker, aged thirty-two, and Bellier, a weaver, aged twenty-six, were arrested in May last, after frequent burglaries and armed attacks on the highways had spread terror around the neighbourhood of Sisteron. The evidence against them was clear, but no traces could be obtained of the plunder until one of the men gave a clue to the mystery. Rivas in his youth had been a shepherd boy, near that place, and knew the legend of the Trou d'Argent, a cavern at the summit of one of the Alps, with sides so precipitous as to be almost inaccessible, and which no one was ever known to have reached. The Commissary of Police of Sisteron, after extraordinary labor, succeeded in scaling the mountain and penetrated to the mysterious grotto, where he discovered an enormous quantity of stolen articles of all kinds, comprising watches, clothes, domestic animals, food, spirits, firearms, etc. The way having been once found, the vast cavern was afterward explored by savans, and their researches brought to light a number of Roman medals of the third century, flint hatchets, ornamental pottery, and the remains of ruminants of enormous size. The advocate of Rivas asked for the indulgence of the jury for these pioneers of science, but both persons were sentenced to twenty years' hard labour.—*London Globe*

THE following is a portion of a letter of the *Times* Correspondent from the Relief Camp, Carlova. "As we rode up the main street, which, from its pebbly appearance, is evidently in winter the bed of a roaring mountain torrent, we noted that every house was closed and carefully barred. It seemed like another city of the dead. A few Turks were at the door of a coffee-house, and our sixty-five arat drivers were lounging about waiting for us; but beyond these and a few dogs and cats, this town, which lately boasted some 10,000 inhabitants, was apparently tenantless. I say apparently, because as we went up the street it became necessary to halt while Mr. Fawcett got out his credentials for the mudir; and during that temporary stoppage a sight was encountered which brought tears to the eyes of more than one of our rough-looking party. A well-built house, close to which we reined up, was discovered to have inhabitants, and how we discovered this was that the tips of several little white noses poked through the strong wooden bars, which were carefully nailed up from within, for all the world like rabbits pushing their noses out of a hutch. At our inquiry if anybody was within, given in Turkish, the spaces between the bars became instantly blank. Calling up our dragoman, who spoke Bulgarian, we told him to speak gently, and the little noses re-appeared. "How many of you are there?" we inquired. "Ten," was the faint reply, in a childish treble. "How long have you been shut up here?" "Nearly forty days." "But why do you stay in there?" "Oh, do not ask us; they are killing everybody. Where is our father?"—from a dozen little throats at once. "Have you anything to eat?" "Nothing now; we have lived all the time on the grapes in our garden, but they are gone." The rest was lost in a chorus of sudden sob's."

FATHER MORRIS, whose unwearied researches had already led him to collect materials for another volume of his series, "The Troubles of our Catholic Forefathers," has been entrusted with the task of establishing a Jesuit College at Malta.

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Being under the management of an experienced Cutter, we can guarantee a perfect fit, combined with correct taste. Every garment warranted hand-sewn, and thoroughly shrunk. Patterns forwarded on request, accompanied with explicit self-measuring charts. A large stock now on hand of the latest styles in Fancy Coatings, West of England, Bannockburn, Scotch, and Mosgiel Tweeds.

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AND CO.**

SUPREME COURT HOTEL,
Stuart-street,
DUNEDIN.

C. O' DRISCOLL,
PROPRIETOR,
Wishes to intimate to the General Public that, having just completed the above building, he is now in a position to offer accommodation second to none in Dunedin. The Hotel is built substantially of brick, is five minutes' walk from Railway Station, and is supplied with every modern appliance requisite in a first-class Hotel.

Hot, cold, and shower baths can be had at all times during the day. Private apartments for ladies and families. Persons called in time for all the early trains, coaches and steamers. One of Alcock's Prize Medal Billiard Tables.

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N. ENGLISH.

LECTURE ON OLIVER CROMWELL.

THE good folks of Kumara have been on the tip-toe of expectation during the last week in consequence of Mr. J. J. Crofts having announced his intention of delivering a lecture on Oliver Cromwell and the Puritans, in reply to one which had been delivered in this town on the same subject by the Rev. C. Clarke.

Although Mr. Crofts' ability as a speaker had been already known in the West Coast, and, through your columns, to the whole of New Zealand by his vigorous opposition to the "Secular Education Bill" of the late Ministry, and in his eloquent speeches in defence of Catholic Education, still it was expected by the partisans of the view which Mr. Clarke took of the *Lord Protector*, that he would not be able to succeed in his attempt to reply, with successful effect, to the eloquent and reverend lecturer. Those that thought so were grievously disappointed at hearing Mr. Crofts in the Theatre Royal on Saturday evening last.

His lecture may be characterised without exaggeration as being brilliant, logical, eloquent, and consistent with historical truth. He did not confine himself to Irish Catholic historians, and quoted largely from Macaulay, Hallam, Clarendon, and others. He started from the "plantation," or rather, as the lecturer appropriately designated it, the "confiscation of Ulster" by James I. He glanced rapidly over the quarrels between Charles I. and his Parliament. He painted in nervous English the baseness, ingratitude, and treachery of Charles and his minister, Strafford. The rising of 1641, the causes which led to it, the various battles fought, the disposition of the forces under the various generals on both sides, and the number of slain and wounded were aptly and minutely described. The "cessation" and its effects on the Confederate cause were touchingly portrayed.

His description of the Battle of Benburb, Owen Roe O'Neil's generalship, the impetuous charge of the Irish troops, and the complete rout of Monroe's forces, with the latter's ignoble flight without hat, cloak, or sword, to Carrickfergus, where he shut himself up in the fortress, was received with loud and prolonged applause.

The diabolical cruelties of Coote, Inchiquin, Ranelagh, and the other Puritan generals were feelingly depicted. But the butcheries of Cromwell in Drogheda and Wexford sent a thrill of horror through the audience.

He clearly proved that the Rev. Mr. Clarke was guilty of *suppression veri*, and of offering a direct insult to the Irish Catholic nation by completely ignoring its existence during a most important era of English history, when the changes wrought in England reacted with such terrible and disastrous effects on the religion and people of Ireland.

It would be impossible in the limited space of a single letter to do anything like justice to the lecture.

He concluded with a brilliant peroration on the intellectual, physical, and moral character of the Irish race, which completely displaced the implied calumny contained in the ignoring of, or any allusion to Ireland, by the Rev. C. Clarke in his lecture on Oliver Cromwell.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Crofts will cause his lecture to be published in pamphlet form. If he does, I trust a copy of it will be found in the house of every Irishman in the colonies.

Mr. Crofts certainly deserves the thanks of all Irishmen for his able and successful refutation of Mr. Clarke's fulsome panegyric on the greatest monster that Ireland in her long list of cruel persecutors suffered and bled under.

Dec. 18, 1877.

P. DUGGAN, R.C.S.F.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOLS, NELSON.

(From the Nelson Colonist, 20th December.)

YESTERDAY afternoon the prizes were presented to the children attending these schools, who had by their efforts gained the awards. The schoolroom had been made more gay for the occasion by the tasteful arrangement of flowers, etc., and upon the walls were exhibited many highly creditable specimens of the skill and handiwork of the scholars in either of the schools. Mr. Curtis, M.H.R., had been requested to distribute the prizes, and that gentleman was supported by the Rev. Fathers Garin and Mahoney, Judge Broad, Mr. J. Shephard, etc. The distribution at the girls' school took priority, and there the proceedings commenced with a programme of recitations and vocal music, embracing over 30 performances, the whole of which proved highly creditable to the scholars and to the excellent ladies in whose charge the school is. At the conclusion of this somewhat long but pleasant prelude, they proceeded to the business more immediately to hand.

Mr. Curtis said he had been asked to give these prizes to those young ladies who had earned them by reason of their efficiency in the different branches. He had always taken the very strongest interest in these schools, seeing the great amount of good they had done, and he only hoped they would continue in the future as they had done in the past. He did trust that the changes in the law which had been made last session would not have any effect in materially reducing the usefulness of the schools. He would only add before proceeding to distribute the prizes, that he hoped they would all enjoy their holidays, and that they would all come back with the full determination to work, that they would do as well, at all events, as they had done last year, and, if possible a great deal better. He then went through the prize list, presenting the prizes.

The Rev. Father Garin wished the pupils to remember the work they had done the last year; they had learned many useful things, which would be more useful to them than if they had been at manual work, because their work now was for life. Those who worked manually might gain money, but on an accident befalling them they would lose all that, but the useful things they learned at school they would never lose, so that what they learned now was more precious than money. To those who were leaving school he would

advise that they made a proper use of what they learned. When a soldier was brought up to defend his country he was taught to master his weapons, but if he only used his information to commit murder he abused his knowledge. Now if they did not turn their knowledge to proper account they would be like the soldier who used his knowledge for wrong doing. He warned them of the danger of reading bad books, and advised them to be careful in their choice. He said they could write well, and would no doubt be happy to write to their friends, but they must remember that if they did not write according to good manners they would soon lose the esteem in which they might be held. He thanked Mr. Curtis for his action during the last session, when he had supported their cause as far as possible, and he also thanked those who seconded his efforts. He also expressed his thanks to the Hon. Mr. Larnach, who had visited their schools and shown his interest in their welfare by requesting his acceptance of a handsome donation to be expended in prizes. It was his hope and desire that they would all enjoy their holiday, and he wished them all success in the future, and for the present, a happy Christmas.

Mr. J. Shephard said the Rev. Father Garin was rather a hard schoolmaster, for he insisted on his saying a few words, and he was confident the scholars were of opinion they had been kept long enough. What he had seen that day only strengthened all that he had previously heard of the institution where they were now met, and which conferred so many advantages. They must all feel, with Father Garin and Mr. Curtis, how unfortunate it would be for those advantages to be taken away, or if the efforts that were being made to secure the continuance of the schools did not succeed. He expressed his extreme pleasure in seeing so many happy faces around him, and hoped they would long continue to gather there, and that the people of Nelson would long have the opportunity of having their children, so well taught as they had been at this institution.

The company then adjourned to the Boys' School, where there was a similar ceremony, Mr. Curtis prefacing the distribution by telling the boys they had done all the speech-making at the Girls' School. He then delivered the prizes.

The Rev. Father Mahoney then requested that the boys might be allowed to express their minds to their teachers, whereupon two of the leading boys stepped forward with addresses, and in turn each read one. The first was to Mr. Richards, expressing most kindly feelings, and there were presented to him some handsome volumes and a paper knife; the second was to Mr. Kavanagh, in the same strain, and which was accompanied by an inkstand and thermometer.

Mr. Curtis made the presentation on behalf of the boys with suitable remarks, and Mr. Richards and Mr. Kavanagh feelingly thanked the boys.

The proceedings terminated with three cheers for the Rev. Father Garin, three times three for Mr. Curtis, three more for Rev. Father Mahoney, and yet another three for Mr. Larnach; and more for other friends.

OPENING OF A ROMAN CATHOLIC READING-ROOM.

A NUMEROUSLY-ATTENDED meeting of Roman Catholics was held recently, in St. Patrick's Hall, Hobson-street, on the occasion of the opening of a reading-room in connection with the Christian Doctrine Society. Among those present, besides the chairman, were—the Rev. Fathers W. Macdonald, O'Dwyer, and Grange, and Mr. J. T. Boylan, and other well-known citizens. Precisely at eight o'clock the Very Rev. H. J. Fynes, Vicar-General, took the chair, and immediately opened the proceedings. The Very Rev. Chairman delivered a lucid address, explanatory of the objects of the Christian Doctrine Society, and the general advantages to be derived by Catholic young men from its operations. He announced that a library, containing a vast amount of standard moral and religious literature, was in the possession of the Society, and open to the public at a merely nominal charge. Father Fynes adverted, in a few pregnant sentences, to the spread of indifference in the nineteenth century, and the urgent need of co-operation among Christian workers to stem the tide of infidelity and godlessness. He referred amusingly to the free-thought lecturer recently in this city, satirising that gentleman's remark that it was reserved for the nineteenth century to witness the unfettered development of true thought, and the fearless expression of it. Talk of the Dark Ages! said the preacher, they were ages of spiritual wealth in comparison with this irreligious and morally degraded century. He exhorted his hearers to warmly second the efforts of the young men of the Christian Doctrine Society to supply reliable religious intelligence from all parts of the world for the benefit of the Catholic community, and stated that the leading Catholic newspapers and magazines of the United Kingdom and America could be always found in the Reading Room. Illustrated and comic papers would also be found there to relieve the mind. The very rev. gentleman concluded with a few eloquent remarks on the advantages of pious reading and the cultivation of Christian morals.—Mr. J. T. Boylan spoke of the immense importance to Catholics of being well represented by the Press. He asserted, however, that the opinions of Catholic papers should be as open to criticism as those of the secular Press. He concluded by moving, "That this meeting pledges itself to warmly foster and support the library and reading-room of the Christian Doctrine Society." This was agreed to. Father Walter Macdonald, in a few apposite remarks, proposed a vote of thanks to the Very Rev. Chairman, which was carried by acclamation. The reading-room was tastefully decorated by flags, and the tables set off to advantage with flowers, &c. General commendation was given to the members of the society for the activity they had displayed in advancing the interests of the society.—*Auckland Paper*.

THE population of Honan, China, is 23,000,000, of which 5,000 are Catholics, attended by nine missionaries and three native priests.

THE *Montreal True Witness* says it is quite true that Mr. Chiniquy wished to see a Catholic clergyman when sick, notwithstanding the denial.

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G. E. DERMER,
having removed to Mr. MURPHY'S NEW BUILDINGS, above Queen's Theatre, opposite Messrs. Reith and Wilkie, Princes-street, takes this opportunity of thanking his Friends and Customers for their past favours (for the last 16 years), and solicits a continuation of their kind patronage, and being in the constant receipt of drugs and chemicals from the Glasgow Apothecaries' Company, can guarantee the quality and freshness of all medicines obtained from his Establishment:**PHENIX FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF LONDON.**

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DUNEDIN.W. G. G. imports Coffin Furniture of the newest designs, and every Funeral requisite. Mourning Coaches with SEPARATE COMPARTMENTS FOR CHILDREN'S COFFINS, white and black Ostrich Plumes and Head Feathers, and every equipment of the best description.
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SHOOTING UNDER WATER.

MAJOR-GENERAL VON UCHATIUS, the inventor of the new field gun adopted in the Austrian army, publishes in the *Vienna Artillery and Engineer Journal* an account of some interesting experiments recently made by him with the object of ascertaining the effect produced by firing a rifle under water.

It is known, he says, that fishes, when they are not too much below the surface of the water, can be shot from the shore or from a boat. The armour plates of ships of war, however, do not usually extend any lower than two or three metres below the surface, as beyond that depth ships are regarded as unassailable even by the largest shot. This is so, no doubt, when the shot is fired above water; but Major-General Von Uchatius wished to find the result, which would be attained by firing under water.

For this purpose he procured a wooden raft, to the under surface of which a Werndi rifle was attached with iron clamps in such a manner that when the raft floated on the water the rifle was fired horizontally at a depth of half a metre below the surface. An attendant then opened the lock, introduced a cartridge, placed the rifle at full-cock, and fired it from the shore by means of a string attached to the trigger. The target consisted of a wooden board an inch thick.

The result of the experiment was as follows: There was no difficulty in loading and firing the rifle, and there was the advantage that after each shot the inside of the barrel was cleaned by the water. About thirty shots were fired without doing the smallest damage to any part of the rifle. At each shot there was a dull sound, which could not be heard beyond a distance of fifty paces, and bubbles of smoke rose above the surface. At a distance of one and a-half metres no impression whatever was produced on the target; at one and a-quarter metres the bullet entered to a depth of from three, to four millimetres, and at one metre the target was pierced through.

Major-General Uchatius also made some experiments with the view of ascertaining whether a greater effect could be produced by corking up the barrel at its mouth so as to keep the water out, and thereby diminish the resistance to the egress of the bullet; but he found that for all practical purposes the resistance of the compressed air in the barrel was equal to that of the water, the target being penetrated only at the maximum distance of a metre, as in the previous experiment.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

BARON TRISTAN LAMBERT ON THE BROTHERS' SCHOOLS.

[Translated for the N. Y. Freeman's Journal.]

BARON TRISTAN LAMBERT, of the Chamber of Deputies, recently delivered at the School of the Christian Brothers at Fontainebleau, an address which we particularly recommend to the attention of our readers:—"I feel highly honoured to-day in presiding over this distribution, which your just satisfaction as deserving pupils, the zeal of your excellent instructors, and the unceasing sympathy of all the noted persons of our city and of our municipal representatives, has always so aptly made, not only a grand occasion, but a genuine family fête. You receive, my dear children, at the Christian Brothers' Schools, the instruction; which, from the diligent students that you now are, will transform you into useful and practical men; the education, which from true and honest children, respectful to their parents, and devoted to their duties, will make you honourable men, and when your time comes, good and excellent heads of families. You receive that Faith, that will make you true and great Christians, and strong men in the full acceptance of the term.

"You fully appreciate these three blessings, these three gifts, which complete one another, and which must absolutely remain inseparable from one another. Everyone, in our town, and wherever free play is given to the devotion of the Brothers of the Christian Doctrine, can judge how much you can do, how much the youth of France can do, to become worthy of these three priceless gifts.

"The crowns that will be conferred upon you, in a few moments; the brilliant and repeated triumphs achieved in Paris and at all the competitions in France by the Brothers' pupils, prove it beyond all cavil, even to those who would willingly ignore it.

"You have the right, then, to be justly proud of your teachers, and most assuredly, notwithstanding the little inequalities in work and discipline, and which are unavoidably inseparable from youth, your instructors have every reason to be proud of you.

"We may say of you both, and with much justice: Like master, like pupil."

THE EMPRESS AUGUSTA AND THE NUNS.

DURING the visit which their Imperial Majesties paid to the Rhenish province last week, Empress Augusta showed a really tender solicitude for the welfare of the few convents that have not yet fallen victims to the Kultur-Kampf. On entering the Catholic Hospital at Kaiserwerth, she greeted the sisters with the Christian salutation so seldom heard from Protestant lips: "Praised be Jesus Christ!" When the Rev. Dauzenberg had finished presenting the sisters of the establishment, her Majesty said: "These then are the children of our never-to-be-forgotten Mother Francisca" (the general-superioress of the order who died last year at Aix-la-Chapelle). After a pause, she continued; "I loved her with all my heart; so much so, that I cannot get over her death yet. I rejoiced when I knew that I should soon come to this convent again, and I am very glad to be here now." Then she requested the Rev. Dauzenberg to conduct her to the chapel, where she knelt down and prayed for a few minutes, just as a good Catholic would have done. She left the convent with the same salutations she had used when entering it. In Dusseldorf the Empress visited St Ann's Institution, where she was received by the protectress of the foundation, Princess Hohenzollern. On leaving the convent she recommended the house in extremely warm terms to the president of the district government and the burgomaster of Dusseldorf, who were present. From here she went to see the Sisters of the Holy

Cross, with whom she stopped a full hour conversing, with exquisite affability, with every one of the humble sisters, several of whom had received distinctions from the Emperor for their admirable conduct in the last war. Whilst her Majesty was thus paying visits to poor nuns, her son, the Crown Prince, spent his time in the society of the Dusseldorf Freemasons, the bitter enemies of nuns and priests. Considering how cruelly the Catholic population is treated by the Emperor's Government, the reception of the Imperial family in Rhenish Prussia was a very cordial one. The Emperor expressed himself highly gratified at it, and sent a Cabinet Order to President von Bernuth to thank his loyal city of Cologne for the magnificent reception he and the Empress met with on their visit to that metropolis. Brühl, Cologne, and other towns through which their Majesties passed were brilliantly illuminated in the evening. After the last grand parade near Euskirchen, the Imperial cortège proceeded by rail to the Niederwald, near Bingen, where the Emperor laid the foundation-stone of the monument which is to be erected in memory of the gallant deeds of the German army and the political success achieved by the German nation. On the 16th of September the Emperor arrived at Carlsruhe, accompanied by numerous princes and generals, who all assisted at the grand review which the Emperor held of the 14th Army Corps.—*Liverpool Catholic Times*.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN.

THE New York correspondent of the *Catholic Union* sends the following:—

"You know George Francis Train. Of course you have heard of the Train who ran for the presidency of the United States in '72. Everybody has heard of him, but his true history has never been told. If you will walk with me over to Madison Square, I will introduce him to you. No, I can only point him out to you, for he never speaks any more to a person over fourteen years of age. However, I notice that he occasionally gets deceived in the age of young ladies, and speaks to those who are two or three years beyond the standard. This eccentricity began two or three years ago, since which he has occupied a bench under one of the trees in Madison Square almost constantly. He appears at his seat, both summer and winter, wet or cold, at precisely six o'clock in the morning, and never leaves it before ten o'clock at night. In dress, except when mussed by rain or snow, he is a picture of neatness. A two thousand dollar cluster sparkles from his bosom, and a four hundred dollar watch, hung to his vest by a two hundred dollar chain keeps for him the time of day. He owns a fifty thousand dollar residence in Madison avenue a few rods away, the inside of which he has not seen for three years. In its place, he rents a fourth story hall bedroom to a house in Fourth street, near Second avenue, paying therefore two dollars a week, the money being handed to a ten-year old son of the landlord every Sunday morning. Except in a case of a severe storm, he invariably takes the blankets from his bed and ascending, through the scuttle, sleeps on the roof. His landlord stated to me that during the past year, Train had not missed above forty nights from his roof. Even the coldest nights of last winter found him there. He never wears any covering to his head and allows himself but one regular meal a day, which he takes at half-past five in the morning at a coffee house on Third avenue, opposite Cooper institute. He enters the park in the morning with every pocket crammed with candies, fried cakes and crullers. In a paper bag he parcels out to the children and the birds during the day. The birds partake first of his bounty in the morning. They have become so accustomed to his hospitality that the ground about his seat will be covered with them the moment he arrives. They will alight on his head, shoulders, and eat from his hand, a dozen at a time. The children begin to gather around him at seven o'clock, they are treated with less generosity than the birds, his bag and pockets being of less capacity than their stomachs. Neither the children nor the sparrows seem to think Mr. Train insane. Everybody else about New York does, but a committee of doctors have pronounced him harmless. I think him insane, and the cause I attribute to an excessive and disappointed desire for popularity and fame."

Says the *Dublin Irishman* of September 15th:—There is a difference of opinion amongst Irish journalists as to the wisdom and prudence of Obstruction. The *Freeman*, being wise in its generation, essays a safe course between the rock and the whirlpool. But it thinks Mr. Butt's letter shows more of the advocate's ingenuity than of the statesman's power. The pleader's zeal, says the *Freeman*, taunted Mr. Butt to push his arguments farther than the facts warrant him. Still, the Home Rule organ declares that it is not in favour of Obstruction. Then, it asks, how often has Mr. Butt proved that, for Ireland, the British Constitution is a hollow mockery, and transparent sham. "How often has he appealed in vain to the English Parliament to give Ireland that which she enjoys in name alone—the protection for the British Constitution." In conclusion the *Freeman* asks, "How can Mr. Butt expect the Irish people to share with him his reverence of the British Constitution?" We could expect no favourable criticism from the *Express*, and no one need be surprised that it seizes upon a weak point in Mr. Butt's armour—a point which touches Tories in a sensitive part. The Castle mouthpiece reminds the member for Limerick of his declared intention to dispute the estimates for the Queen's Colleges if his University Bill is not passed next year. The *Express* argues that opposition to the estimates is as unconstitutional as Mr. Parnell's Obstruction, the only difference between the members of Limerick and Meath being one of degree. The most remarkable comments have appeared in the *Saunders*, just where they were least expected. Replying to Mr. Butt's forewarning that Parliament will put down obstruction, the *Saunders* says Obstruction cannot be put down if a considerable number of Irish members join it. It adds—"We think the only direction in which energy, activity, &c., can be applied is in Obstruction. In any other direction they are wasted. We see this so clearly that we refuse to discuss the question any longer."

WELLINGTON STEAM BISCUIT AND CONFECTIONERY WORKS,

FARISH STREET, WELLINGTON.

The Proprietor, possessing the most complete Plant of Machinery in his line in the Colony, is able to supply the trade with goods which in price, quality, and variety defy competition.

For Catalogue of Prices apply to the Factory.

S. S. GRIFFITHS, PROPRIETOR.

M E D I C A L.**DR. HANSON, L.R.C.P., AND L.R.C.S., OF EDINBURGH,**

BEGS to announce to the DUNEDIN PUBLIC that he has opened a DISPENSARY in the OCTAGON, next door to the OCTAGON HOTEL, where he can be CONSULTED DAILY.

Hours—10 to 12 Morning, and 7 to 9 Evening.

Hours—9 to 12 Morning, Sundays.

Advice—1s 6d

Medicine—1s 6d.

} During above Hours.

During other Hours DR HANSON can be Consulted at MURRAY'S PRIVATE HOTEL, Rattray-street.

DR. HANSON also begs to intimate to the HOMŒOPATHISTS of Dunedin that he has a thorough knowledge of Homœopathic and Hydropathic Treatment.

Specialist for Brain, Nervous, and Rheumatic Affections.

WOODFIELD AND JOLLY,

GENERAL PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS,

OCTAGON, DUNEDIN.

W. and J. having recently imported a

most extensive and varied printing plant, are now

prepared to execute every description of Plain and Orna-

mental Printing in the newest and neatest styles, and with despatch.

Books, Ball and other Programmes, Chemists' Labels, Bill-

heads, Handbills, Posters, Magazines, Pamphlets,

and Publications of any size or form.

TURKISH BATHS.

The growing luxury of the age to the healthy, and, with the aid of Warm, Hot, Cold and Shower Bathing, properly administered, the only certain and effectual cure for all the "Ills that flesh is heir to."

Advice gratis every day, by a thoroughly experienced and successful Practitioner of Hydropathy, at the Baths Moray place.

GRATUITOUS ADVICE.

Regulate your appetite and keep open by means of the Bath, "The corkscrew pores of the skin, computed at eight millions in the human body, and twenty-eight miles in length," and which, when open, discharge from two to three pounds waste matter in twenty-four hours.

"Throw Physic to the Dogs."

The growing attendance at the Baths in Moray Place affirm the assertion made long ago, and now again put forth—nevertheless the vaunted superiority of others—that the WARM, HOT, COLD, SHOWER, TEPID, SWIMMING, and TURKISH BATHS which are to be had there every day from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sundays till 10 a.m., are, for comfort, attention, and cleanliness, SECOND TO NONE in the Southern Hemisphere, and out of London and the Continent, superior to anything in the Northern Hemisphere.

See Testimonials at the Baths by Visitors from all parts of the World.

BARRETT'S FAMILY HOTEL

(Late Devonshire Arms.)

Corner of Durham and Peterborough Streets, CHRISTCHURCH.

This Hotel, which has been erected regardless of expense, to replace the Old Devonshire Arms, is capable of accommodating a large number of boarders and travellers, is furnished in first-class style, as well as Special Suites of Rooms for Families.

Terms Moderate.

Hot and Cold Baths.

The Billiard Room contains one of Alcock's Prize Tables.

Wines, Spirits, and Ales of the very Best Quality, including Jamieson and Son's Old Malt Dublin Whiskey, specially imported by the proprietor.

First-class Stabling.—Hacks and Bugies on Hire.

J. BARRETT, Proprietor.

GRANGE HOTEL,

HANOVER-STREET,

DUNEDIN.

C. BUNBURY,

Proprietor.

CASEY [AND M'DONALD,

DENISON HOUSE, LAMBTON QUAY,

WELLINGTON,

Have much pleasure in announcing to their many friends and customers in the city and surrounding districts of Wellington, the completion of the extensive alteration and additions to their

DRAPEY, MILLINERY, AND CLOTHING WAREHOUSE.

As the alterations and additions to our premises have been made to meet the requirements of our largely increasing trade, and to ensure the comfort and convenience of our customers—the shop being now more than double its former size—we desire to offer our grateful thanks for the liberal support accorded to us since commencing business in

DENISON HOUSE, LAMBTON QUAY, WELLINGTON.

We in many instances import direct from the makers, and at all times buy in the very cheapest market. We are sewing this season the largest, cheapest, and most varied stock of

DRAPEY, MILLINERY, MEN'S, YOUTHS' AND BOYS' CLOTHING that we have ever submitted to the public of Wellington, and we will endeavour to supply our customers at all times with really good and useful Drapery and Clothing at

The very Lowest possible Prices.

We have just opened New Dress Materials, Fichus, Jackets Shawls, choice patterns in Prints, and all the novelties of the season in every department.

OUR NEW LADIES' SHOW ROOM

contains a most beautiful choice of Trimmed Hats and Bonnet Ladies' and Children's Untrimmed Hats, in plain and fancy straws Feathers, Hat-Trimnings, Ornaments, and other novelties for ladies wear.

CASEY AND M'DONALD'S MEN'S YOUTHS' AND BOYS' CLOTHING DEPARTMENT.

We are now offering an extensive choice of clothing *made specially to our own order* in Melbourne—Geelong Tweed Trousers and Vests, Men's Colonial Tweed Suits, Boys' Colonial Tweed Suits, Hats, Shirts, Scarfs, Flannels, Drawers, and every requisite for complete outfit kept on stock. *Every article throughout the establishment is marked at the lowest remunerative prices.* CASEY AND M'DONALD will forward to their customers in the country, free by post on application, complete sets of patterns and prices, and all orders executed with the same attention as if selected by the customers themselves.

CASEY AND M'DONALD

DENISON HOUSE, LAMBTON QUAY,

WELLINGTON.

THE WESTMINSTER LOAN AND DISCOUNT SOCIETY.

Office—GEORGE STREET (Three doors from Southampton Buildings), A. E. MELLICK, MANAGER.

This Society advances CASH to all respectable parties on personal security, in sums of £5 to £500, repayable by weekly instalments of one shilling in the pound, at a uniform charge of ten per cent., which is deducted from the amount borrowed when the Loan is granted.

N.B.—These advertised terms are strictly adhered to.

CASH advanced on freehold, leasehold, and all other available securities. Bills Discounted.

JOHN VEZEY

(Successor to John Gardner),

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL BUTCHER,
PRINCESS-STREET SOUTH, DUNEDIN.

Families waited on for Orders in all parts of the City.

Shipping supplied. Pork skins for sale.

MR. JOHN MOUAT,

SOLICITOR,

Banks, Barron, & Co.'s Buildings, Rattray-street,
DUNEDIN.**NOTICE.**

I HAVE SOLD to Mr G. W. Driscole my business of Tailor and Clothier, carried on by me in the Arcade; and I beg to solicit for him a continuance of the custom so liberally accorded me. Mr Driscole is entitled to receive all debts owing to me accruing since the 21st day of May last.

Dated the 4th day of June 1877.

(Signed) GEORGE DAVIDSON.

In reference to the above, I trust, by strict attention to business and by supplying a superior article, to secure a continuance of the favours accorded my predecessor.

(Signed) G. W. DRISCOLE.

THE VICTORIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THE new system had not been long in existence when the teachers began to labour and groan under a number of grievances, and no attempt that has been yet made to remove these has been successful. Their discontent has now become chronic, and this certainly is not a condition of things conducive to efficiency in the performance of their duties, or to successful results in the administration of the Act. It does not seem that Mr. Kane was succeeded by an officer as efficient as that gentleman certainly was, and it is still more apparent that no responsible Minister who has had the department under his control since it was established was capable of thoroughly investigating its affairs and setting them in order. Without exception on the part of the gentlemen who have succeeded each other in the office there has been sufficient activity to accomplish a vast amount of useful work, but that any work of the kind has been accomplished there is no evidence. The building is the only branch of the department which can really show substantial results, and if the whole establishment were wound up to-morrow the only assets the country would have for an extravagant outlay would be the investments in brick and mortar. The morale of the teacher is lower than it was under the board, the morality of the pupil must also be lower, the discipline of the school is bad, the standard of instruction has fallen, and the administration of the huge department is in the worst possible condition.

According to a letter which appeared in the *Age* of Monday, from a teacher of many years experience, his class look upon the inspector as their natural enemy. He endeavours to cut down their claims to remuneration, they endeavor to deceive him, the unavoidable deduction being that there is a disaffected army under officers who are thoroughly distrusted and disliked, and, as some say, in many instances, wholly incompetent for the work they have to perform. How the thing is managed by the teacher is no secret. It is important to him that the average attendance should keep up, and between the visits of the inspector he encourages the attendance in the infant classes; the promotions from one class to another he makes with a keen and intelligent eye to his own interests, and these being his first care he whips or otherwise frightens old children and dunces out of the school before examination day. He and the inspector are at war, and the inspector it seems is no match for him—so, at least, a teacher of many years experience writes to the *Age*, and so that journal appears to believe.

But if the teacher outwits the inspector, the latter occasionally has his revenge, per favour of the managing heads of the department. Inspectors and permanent heads appear to work together very harmoniously—in fact, to understand each other perfectly. The machinery to that extent works very smoothly indeed, and the happy consequence is that the disorder in other parts is seldom brought under notice. There is no such thing as a conspiracy of silence, but sensible men, like permanent heads and inspectors, could not but understand that it is inexpedient to expose defects too frankly, and that it would be impolitic in the extreme to divulge information which might excite dissatisfaction in the public mind.

But Mr. Punch, who is restrained by no considerations of the kind, and who has no respect for persons, has been peeping behind the thick screen by which the official transactions of the office are kept dark to the outsiders; and the state of things he disclosed in his issue of the 22nd November must have startled his readers. Exposing "The Secret System at the Education Office," he says, with respect to the Glennon inquiry:—

"The Education Department, it seems, is in the habit of receiving from its district inspectors, secret, or as the officials prefer to term them, confidential reports. Upon the strength of one of these precious documents a teacher may be removed, degraded, or otherwise dealt with, yet he is not allowed to see the report, or even be aware of its existence, because it is *confidential*!

"To show how a report may be altered, cut up, and gummed over in private, prior to its being made the *confidential* instrument, whereby a young man or woman may be degraded, and his or her prospects blighted, we will briefly set forth a case that has actually happened:—

"Two charges were preferred by the Local Board of Advice against an assistant-teacher. The letter of complaint was referred to, say, Mr. Inspector Irksome, for report. This worthy gentleman does not proceed to the school—he does not make any investigation at all, but as he had been at the school some two or three months before, he feels himself justified in reporting unfavourably upon the assistant.

"While my hand is in,' doubtless soliloquises the official, 'I may as well effect a clearance. I do remember at examinations held at this school, that the head teacher, as well as his assistant, have sat upon me for asking the children obsolete measures and catch questions. There is some pleasure in being an inspector!'

"Anyhow, he sits down, 'cool, calm, and collected, in the privacy of his suburban residence' (his own words), and pens a confidential report, finding by an inspection made in April, that the charges preferred in the July following are proved, and recommending the removal of the head teacher, against whom no charge had been made, as well as that of the assistant.

"This report Mr. Inspector Irksome takes to the Education Department. By what system of unreason, or departmental 'cooking' this document is manipulated, we know not, but when it is laid before the honourable the Minister, with the Secretary's recommendation upon it, it bears a very different purport from its original one. Perhaps the head teacher is not likely to submit as quietly as the smaller fry—perhaps he is less obnoxious to the department at present, and the time has not yet arrived for him to be 'potted.' Whatever the reason, it is a fact that a piece of foolscap is gummed over part of the original report, concealing from view the name and suppressing all mention of the head teacher. The undecayed portion of the old report is then carried forward upon the fresh piece of paper, to this effect: 'I would recommend the assistant's removal to some district where he would be less exposed to the distracting influences of Melbourne!'

"This confidential report is acted upon, and the first intimation that the assistant has of any charge, trial, conviction, or sentence, is the receipt of a letter informing him that the Minister has ordered his removal under censure. No investigation held, no defence asked or permitted, he learns only the sentence. Even the head teacher knew of no inquiry; nor does he know how, unless he learns it from this article, that he himself was originally destined by Inspector Irksome to seek that change of air which a removal to Rutherglen, Mount Hope, or some other country district would necessitate.

"With respect to the assistant, as he was not in favour with the Department, an unusually 'hot' letter was sent to him, for the officials could not resist the coveted opportunity of giving the obnoxious individual a red-tape 'slap in the face.' Here, however, their desire for pleasure outran their discretion, for he resigned, showed fight, and came off best; for the officials have failed to convince the Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry that the fact that a young man devotes his spare time to studying for the bar, is a 'distracting influence,' incompatible with the proper performance of an assistant teacher's duties."

For all Punch's voluminous comments on this exclusive information we cannot make room, but our readers will not need them to come to the conclusion that the teacher's grievances are not fanciful, but hard, bitter realities which it must be hard to bear.

And now why do we assist in the exposure? Why do we take any interest in the department, or expect our readers to do so? For very good reasons indeed, as we can readily satisfy those who would put such questions to us.

We have always maintained that the department, as constituted under the present system, is demoralised; that it does not represent the working of the system honestly; that it purposely confuses its statistics with the object of deceiving the public; that it wilfully neglects to obtain the information on which it could and should truthfully represent the attendance at Catholic schools—that in a word it studies to mislead Parliament and the public on an important question, and in its report aims solely at preserving for the system the good opinions of those who, from any motive, favour secular education. And do not these exposures in the *Age* and *Punch* prove that the system is to the core rotten, and on such a system are the charges we have ourselves made a libel? Is our object in this article now apparent? It should be certainly.—*Melbourne Advocate*.

No steps have been taken by the Government to make good the damage done the Christians of the district of Lin-chong-hien, Western Su-tchuen, China, during the persecution to which they were subjected during the months of July, August, and September, 1876. During its continuance 39 Catholics were massacred, at 21 stations composed of about 300 families, the dwellings were burned and destroyed, the church at Lin-chong-hien was razed to the ground, four oratories in the country were demolished, and a pharmacy belonging to the Holy Childhood was ruined. The Mandarins, who made no opposition to the vandalism of the pagans, have opposed every imaginable obstacle in the way of reparation.

HISTORICAL! Vide "Jurors Reports and Awards, New Zealand Exhibition." Jurors: J. E. Ewen, J. Butterworth, T. G. Skinner. "So far as the Colony is concerned, the dyeing of materials is almost entirely confined to the re-dyeing of Articles of Dress and Upholstery, a most useful art, for there are many kinds of material that lose their colour before the texture is half worn. G. HIRSCH, of Dunedin (DUNEDIN DYE WORKS, George-street, opposite Royal George Hotel) exhibits a case of specimens of Dyed Wools, Silks, and Feathers, and dyed Sheepskins. The colors on the whole are very fair, and reflect considerable credit on the Exhibitor, to whom the Jurors recommended an Honorary Certificate should be awarded. Honorary Certificate, 29: Gustav Hirsch, Dunedin, for specimens, of Dyeing in Silk, Feathers, &c.

WATCHMAKERS.

THE undersigned having purchased the Stock-in-trade, of Messrs Harrop and Neill, Watchmakers and Jewellers, at a great reduction on the original cost, beg to intimate to the public that they are now in a position to offer the whole of the above stock, which has been personally selected by Mr Harrop in the Home market,

AT PRICES WHICH DEFY COMPETITION. They respectfully solicit an inspection of their magnificent stock of SILVER and ELECTRO-PLATED WARE, GOLD and SILVER WATCHES, and every other requisite connected with the Jewellery and Watchmaking business.

Having also acquired the splendid machinery brought out from Home by Mr Harrop, and being thoroughly practical workmen, they are prepared to execute all orders for Cups, Medals, Trophies, Jewels, and Jewellery to any design or pattern, with the utmost despatch and care, and trust by strict attention to all orders entrusted to them, to merit a continuance of the patronage so liberally bestowed upon their predecessors.

GOLDSTEIN & MOLLER,
Manufacturing Jewellers, Gold and Silversmiths,
Late of Rattray-street,
Successors to HARROP & NEILL, Watchmakers, Jewellers, and
Silversmiths, Princes-street.
EVERY DESCRIPTION OF JEWELLERY REPAIRED OR
MADE TO ORDER.
All kinds of Chronometers, Repeaters, Watches, Clocks, Barometers,
Nautical, Surveying, and Mathematical Instruments, &c.,
Cleaned, Repaired, and Adjusted.

N.B.—The Watch and Clock Department is now under the supervision of Mr. Neill.

WE HAVE much pleasure in recommending Messrs. GOLDSTEIN & MOLLER to our Customers, and solicit a continuance of their patronage so liberally bestowed upon ourselves.
HARROP & NEILL,

C A R R O L L ' S H O T E L,

(LATE EUROPEAN),
GEORGE STREET, (NEAR THE OCTAGON), DUNEDIN.

JOHN CARROLL (LATE OF THE HIBERNIAN HOTEL), PROPRIETOR,

Wishes to inform his friends and the public, that he has now completed extensive alterations to the above HOTEL. The new addition is constructed of brick and stone throughout, and is furnished in the most SUPERB STYLE, while every modern appliance and requisite necessary for the comfort of his patrons is provided.

The HOTEL, from its CENTRAL POSITION, will be found a desirable residence for persons from all parts of the country having business to transact in Dunedin.

The Proprietor trusts that his LONG EXPERIENCE in the TRADE is a sufficient guarantee as to the general mode in which the establishment is conducted, and also as to the excellence of the viands.

HOT, COLD, and SHOWER BATHS at all Hours. PRIVATE APARTMENTS for Ladies and Families. A Splendid Billiard Table, with one of ALCOCK'S PRIZE TABLES. Good LIVERY AND BATE STABLES.

SMITH'S EXPRESS LINE OF COACHES for Blueskin, Waikouaiti, and Palmerston, arrive and depart daily.

Persons CALLED IN TIME for all the early Trains and Coaches.

INSPECTION OF THE HOTEL INVITED.

HIBERNIAN HOTEL,

TIMARU.
THOMAS O'DRISCOLL - PROPRIETOR.

Good Accommodation for Boarders and Travellers.

Private Rooms for Families.
Good Stabling.

LYON'S UNION HOTEL,

Stafford Street, Dunedin.

Good Accommodation for Boarders.

Private rooms for families. Charges moderate.
Wines and Spirits of excellent quality.

Luggage Stored Free.

One of Alcock's Billiard Tables.

BASKETS. BASKETS.

Undersigned has always on hand, Baskets of every description.

Orders promptly attended to.

Note the Address—

M. SULLIVA N,
Wholesale and Retail Basket Maker,
Princes-street, South Dunedin, (opposite Guthrie and Asher's).

SPECIAL NOTICE.

JAMES MOWAT, TAILOR AND CLOTHIER (for the last four years Cutter to D. Sampson), has commenced business Next Door to Burton Bros., Photographers, PRINCES STREET. J. M. will always keep on hand a large and well-selected Stock of Woollen Goods suitable for a first-class Tailoring Establishment. Prices strictly moderate. Inspection respectfully invited.

J. T. ROBERTS,
HOUSE AND ESTATE AGENT.
VALUATOR, SHAREBROKER, &c.,

Manse-street, Dunedin

J. FLEMING,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
PRODUCE MERCHANT,
PRINCESS-STREET, DUNEDIN.
Cash buyer of Oats, Wheat, Barley, Potatoes &c., &c.

WELLINGTON STEAM BAKERY,
MANNERS STREET, WELLINGTON.
ALEX. McDONALD,

Fancy Bread & Biscuit Baker, Confectioner, &c.
Families and Shipping supplied.

EDMOND & HARRINGTON
WOOD AND COAL MERCHANTS,
MARKET-STREET, DUNEDIN.

Best Walton Park Coals, 20s per ton delivered. Newcastle, Kaitangata, and Scotch Coal at the lowest current prices.

Orders punctually attended to.

G. T. WHITE,

COLOMBO-STREET,

CHRISTCHURCH,

(Four Doors from Gee's Confectionery),

WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, AND
IMPORTER.

English Lever Watches by Rotherams, R. Stampford, Klean and Co., Settle Brothers, C. J. Hill, and other good makers, from £7 10s; written guarantee with each watch.

	s.	d.
American Lever Clocks from ...	12	6
American Cottage " ...	8	6
American Alarm " ...	10	6
American Striking " ...	15	0

(Warranted for 12 months)

Gold Lockets from ...	6	6
Gold Keeper and Wedding Rings from ...	7	6
Gold Signet Rings from ...	8	6

Just received—A few dozen of the celebrated WALTHAM LEVER WATCHES, with guarantee from manufactory with each watch, price £5 10s. Warranted two years.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH HOTEL,

Russell-street, Dunedin.

WANTED KNOWN—That a few respectable Boarders can obtain excellent Accommodation at the DUKE OF EDINBURGH HOTEL, Russell-street. The situation is most healthy, and only a few minutes' walk from the Post Office.

HALL OF COMMERCE,

D. TOOHEY.

DRAPER, CLOTHIER, & OUTFITTER,

Oamaru.

N.B.—Millinery and Dressmaking on the Premises.

CROWN HOTEL.

RATTRAY STREET.

P. KELIGHER wishes to intimate to his friends and the public that he has purchased the above Hotel, which is most centrally situated, and affords accommodation not to be surpassed by any Hotel in the City.

Persons desirous of the comforts of a home would do well to make an early call at the Crown.

P. KELIGHER ... PROPRIETOR.

WHITE HART HOTEL,

THAMES-STREET,
OAMARU.

M. HANLEY ... PROPRIETOR.

Wishes to inform his many friends and the general public that he has again commenced business at the above address, and hopes by strict attention to the requirements of his numerous customers, to obtain a much larger share than hitherto of public support.

Good Stabling and Padlock Accommodation.

OBSERVE THE ADDRESS.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

ANDREW MERCER,

Family Grocer,

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANT,

Third Shop Rattray-street (opposite Otago Hotel),

DUNEDIN.

ALBION HOTEL,

GREAT SOUTH ROAD,
TIMARU.

JOHN COLE ... PROPRIETOR.

Good accommodation for Boarders and Travellers. Good Stabling. Alcock's prize medal Billiard Table.

I HEREBY beg to intimate that I have become the PURCHASER of all DEBTS owing to the late Firm of JEWITT and TUNNAGE, and that same will be received by me. I also notify that all monies due by the late firm will be liquidated by me.

I beg to take this opportunity of tendering my best thanks for the generous patronage the old firm has at all times received, and would intimate to my customers and the public generally that in taking over the business, my best attention and care will be given to same, and that I shall thereby continue to merit a fair share of their support and patronage.

JOHN TUNNAGE,

Princes-street.

BRITANNIA HOTEL,

WHATELY-ROAD, CHRISTCHURCH.

DANNIEL M'GUINNESS,

Late of the Foresters' Hotel, Proprietor.

The Partnership hitherto existing between CHARLES GREEN and D. M'GUINNESS having been mutually Dissolved, the above Hotel is now solely under the management of D. M'Guinness, who trusts that no exertions on his part will fail to preserve the custom that has been so liberally bestowed by his friends and the public generally.

The Hotel has been thoroughly renovated and fitted up with every comfort and convenience.

WINES, BEER, AND SPIRITS OF THE CHOICEST BRANDS.

Good Stabling.

DOCTOR GEORGE FREDERIC THOMAS,

From Lonsdale-street, Melbourne, May be consulted at his rooms, George-street North, between Hanover and Frederic-streets, Dunedin, in Derangement of the Nervous System, Skin and all diseases incidental to the human frame.

Hours of Consultation from 9 A.M. till 8 P.M.

Consultation by Letter—Fee £1.

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