

(SPECIAL TO THE PRESS AGENCY.)

Lord Hartington has tabled a motion censuring the engagement for the defence to Turkey.

It is unknown when Parliament will prorogue.

There is an agitation in Italy respecting the Cyprian and Austrian scheme.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL.)

LONDON, July 20th.
There is an active demand for money. Consols, 95½. The next wool sales commence on August 20th. All arrivals to date will be admitted. The total quantity then available will probably be 300,000. Prices are without noticeable alteration.

The market is heavy and inactive. The weather is splendidly favourable for harvest. The acreage under crop in Great Britain is about the average.

Lord Hartington has given notice of motion in the Commons complimenting Congress on having succeeded in securing the European peace, but regretting the incomplete settlement of the Greek claims and the undefined responsibility incurred by Ministers without the consent of Parliament.

Mr. Gladstone, at a Liberal demonstration, denounced the Treaty of Peace adopted by the Congress, and specially the Anglo-Turkish Convention.

July 19th.

After the Marquis of Salisbury's denial of Lord Derby's explanation of why he resigned, the ex-Foreign Secretary got up in his place, and reaffirmed his statement.

July 20th.

Consols, 95½. Market rates of discount, 2½.

Wheat and flour unchanged.

New Zealand four and a-half per cent. loan quoted at 10½.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL.)

LONDON, July 22nd.
Mr. Gladstone speaking to the Liberals at Southwell, and Mr. Forster at the Cobden Club, denounced the Convention with Turkey.

Enthusiastic meetings in Italy have pronounced against Austria and favoured Greece.

LONDON, July 23rd.

The reserves are being disbanded.

An amnesty is to be proclaimed in South Africa on the 31st inst.

ROME, July 22nd.

Democratic meetings are being held throughout Italy, claiming Trieste and Tyrol.

(SPECIAL TO THE PRESS AGENCY.)

LONDON, July 22nd.
Mr. Sullivan, in the House of Commons, moved for a new writ for Clare, in consequence of the absence of Sir Bryan O'Loghlen, the present member, who is now in Victoria.

It is stated by an Australian paper that Sir Bryan O'Loghlen is going Home to take his seat for Clare in the Imperial Parliament, and it is very likely that he will succeed Sir A. Michie as Agent-General for Victoria.

Commercial.

MR. HENRY DRIVER (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Company) reports for the week ending July 24th, as follows:—

The following fat stock came forward at the sale yards to-day; 200 head cattle, 4 calves, 2668 sheep.

Fat Cattle.—Of those yarded about one-half were prime, the balance only medium, and prices ruled a shade lower than last week. Best bullocks brought from £11 to £15 10s; do cows, £7 10s to £12—or equal to 35s to 37s 6d per 100lb. for prime quality, and 27s 6d to 30s for medium.

Fat Calves.—Those penned sold at full rates.

Fat Sheep.—The greater portion consisted of prime cross-breeds, but the number forward being rather in excess of the requirements of the trade sellers had to submit to a slight reduction on late quotations. Best cross-breeds brought from 14s to 19s; medium from 10s 6d to 13s 6d—or equal to 13½d per lb. for prime mutton. We sold 400 at the yards, and trade placed 600 during the week.

Store Stock.—There is a good enquiry for cattle, but no alteration has taken place in prices.

Wool.—Our London office cables:—July 16th. Wool is unchanged. Catalogues are to hand by Suez mail, careful examination of which gives prominence to a still greater decline in prices than the first week or two of the May-June series, not so noticeable in greasy merinos, but in all other descriptions; most prominent is scoured sorts, which up to the 4th June were selling at very low rates. The prospects of an early and plentiful harvest, together with present settlement of the Eastern political questions, have since revived trade, and brought prices to their former level at the opening. The next sales took place on the 25th August, when the prospects of the returns of the present growing clip will be more apparent. Small lots of last year's clip come forward weekly at our auction, which are readily picked up at full rates.

Sheepskins.—We offered a catalogue of 1800 on Monday last, which sold briskly at full rates, chiefly country slaughters. Cross-breeds, 4s to 4s 2d; Leicester, 5s 6d; fullwool merinos, 5s 4d.

Hides.—We sold 130; medium 16s to 17s; heavies 21s to 22s 6d—or on an average of 4d per lb.

Tallow was in better demand. We cleared off all old lots; prime mixed, 27s to 23s 6d; medium, 23s to 25s 6d; inferior, 21s to 22s.

Grain.—Wheat continues quite neglected by buyers. Prices are nominal at 4s 3d to 4s 6d for prime to choice milling; secondary, 3s 3d to 4s; fowls' wheat, 3s. Oats are in good request, particularly feed descriptions, at 4s to 4s 6d. We sold by auction a parcel of

mixed discoloured Riverton oats last week at 3s 5d to 3s 8d. Barley (feeding), 3s 6d to 3s 11d; malting is in good demand 5s to 5s 6d for ordinary to fair; choice heavy, 6s.

MR. MEEGER reports for the week ending July 24 as follows:—Retail prices only—Fresh butter, in ½lb and 1lb prints, best quality, 1s 10d per lb; lump butter, very scarce, 1s 6d per lb, and salt butter 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Fresh butter is very scarce, and likely to rise again; the market—is really scarce. Salt butter in kegs is coming in very freely, and can be got at 10d to 11d per lb. Cheese, best quality, 10d; side and rolled bacon, 10d; Colonial hams, 1s; English hams and cheese, scarcely any sale. Eggs are a little scarce at present, and retailing at 2s 6d per dozen.

MR. SKENE reports for the week ending July 26, as follows:—There is certainly no room now-a-days for grumbling on the part of labouring men. In the following lines the demand is far beyond the supply—Gardeners (Couples), agricultural smiths, ploughmen, dairy people, and female servants. Judging by the number of buildings going on and contemplated the building trade has cause to be satisfied. Inquiry is now on for shepherds, experienced hotel servants, men and women can easily be placed. When will the old country cease her generosity in sending us so many useless city bred youths? It is very cruel to them and a poor compliment to the Colony. Dairy hands will now be all needed, and milkers have all to be trained hands. Wages: couples, £65-70 to £90; dairy hands and knock-about, 15s, 26s, and 25s; ploughmen, £55, £60, and £65; shepherds, £65 and £70; hotel girls, 16s, 20s, and 30s; private house do. and farms, 10s, 12s and 15s; cooks, waiters, boots, etc., 20s and 40s; boys and girls, 5s to 10s; station smiths, 50s and found; gardeners, 25s to 35s.

MR. J. FLEMING reports (wholesale prices) for the week ending July 24th, 1878, as follows:—Oats (feed), 3s 10d to 4s per bushel. Wheat—milling, 4s; chicks, 3s to 3s 4d. Barley, malting, 5s to 5s 6d; feed 3s to 3s 6d. Pollard, £5 10s per ton. Bran, £5 10s. Flour, large bags, £11; small, £11 10s. Oatmeal, £20. Potatoes, £4 to £4 5s per ton. Hay, £5 5s per ton. Chaff, £4 10s per ton. Straw, £2 per ton.

MR. J. VEZY reports for the week ending July 24th, 1878, 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, 3d to 5½d per lb; veal, 4d to 8d per lb; pork, 6d to 8d per lb; lamb, 2s 6d to 4s per quarter.

General News.

QUITE a little ripple of excitement has been caused in high social circles by the report that Miss Henrietta Dana, the youngest daughter of Hon. Richard H. Dana, jr., and granddaughter of Richard H. Dana, the poet, has been converted to Roman Catholicism. —*Hartford Times*.

POPE LEO XIII. recently received in private audience a committee of American ladies headed by the authoress, Mrs. Turner, and with her, as spokeswoman his Holiness conversed very benevolently of the United States.

It has been decreed by the German Emperor that no picture commemorating any scene in the late war shall figure in the German collection of fine arts intended for the exhibition at Paris. Emulating this spirit, the French have ordered a similar course as regards French pictures.

THE following obituary notice, which we (*Bombay Gazette*) cut from the *Standard*, is surely the unkindest cut even given to a dear departed. Was it put in by Captain Jones's exasperated widow?—JONES.—April 5, drowned off Hasler Beach, Captain Grey Jones, R.N., in his 40th year, whilst under the delusion that he was saving life.

THE Catholic Church at Carrol, Iowa, was demolished by a tornado recently.

THE *World* protests against the new way ladies have of recognising a gentleman by giving a pert nod with the head, instead of a slight bow with the head and shoulders. Because the Princess of Wales chooses to recognise in this manner some favoured persons with whom she is on terms of intimacy, and whom she may have met once or twice before in the day, that is no reason why ladies in the Row should abandon what is graceful and ladylike for what is mannish and inelegant.

THE Pius memorial Church, Baltimore, the corner-stone of which was laid on Sunday, May 5th, was projected by Archbishop Spalding, a short time previous to death, to commemorate the Jubilee or twenty-fifth year of the Pontificate of His Holiness, Pius IX.

THE Cape colonies want telegraphic communication with England, and hitherto the only chance offered to them was by a submarine cable, to be laid at a cost of a million and a half sterling from Natal by Mauritius and Zanzibar to Aden. Sir Bartle Frere and the chief of the Telegraph Department, propose a line from Pretoria, the capital of our new province the Transvaal, to Tete on the Zambesi, thence to Zanzibar, and thence to Gondokoro in Soudan, to which point the Egyptian land lines are now being extended. The length would be 2,500 miles, in three nearly equal sections of about 800 miles each, and the cost would be just half a million sterling, one-third of the submarine cable.

A PLOT by the Shah of Persia's soldiers was discovered just before he left for Europe. The men's pay was in arrear and they naturally thought they should get some of it before the Shah left for a long journey. The Shah cut the knot of the difficulty by executing twenty of the soldiers, *pour encourager les autres!*

WE beg again to draw the attention of our readers to the sale of sections in the township of Burke's Brewery. The sale will take place on Saturday next, and will afford an unrivalled opportunity to persons desirous of obtaining property in every way valuable and possessing a certainty of rising in value yearly.

WE desire to draw the attention of our readers to the plan given in our supplement of farms on Crichton Park Downs to be sold on August 14th next.