

place them. They see that they are to be placed on unequal terms with their neighbors; that a wide spread plot has been hatched to deprive them of their rights; and in fact that those rights which have been hitherto protected by the divine and human law have been invaded by an unjust and penal enactment, which interferes with the obligation of parents to bring up their children in the fear and love of God. The more parents study this infidel secular education law, the more alarming it must appear to them. For they must expect from those who are educated under it a spirit of insubordination, a want of respect for those whom they should revere, and an absolute indifference to a future state. And all this at the expense of the parents themselves. Nay more, they have to meet the galling insolence of those who have the benefit of their money. They are made to feel that a kind of supremacy is given to one section of the people over the other. The natural consequence of this is, that there is not the same cordial feeling among neighbors as had been heretofore, and that they cannot meet one another with the same familiarity and open countenance. There is a kind of roguish feeling of gratification discernible on the one side, whilst the other party naturally feel that they are being dishonestly dealt with; and that they have been deprived of their money, to be used to their disadvantage. Our legislators do not appear to be actuated by the love of justice and fairplay. No; for contrary to the rules of God's eternal justice they enact laws to oppress one portion of the population to benefit the other.

I am Sir

A LOVER OF JUSTICE.

Province of Auckland.

CONCERT AT MILTON.

THE concert held in the Volunteer Hall, Milton, on the evening of the 5th instant, in aid of the "Building Fund" of the Roman Catholic Church, was a most decided success. The promoters have every reason to be satisfied with the pecuniary result, which is a profit of about £25. The weather during the day was very wet, but it did not prevent a large number from attending, the Hall being very well filled. The programme was long, but the interest of the audience was well sustained. The fact that most of the performers were new to a Milton audience contributed to this in no small degree. All of them were amateurs, and the committee are very much indebted to them for the pains they took to provide a highly pleasant evening's entertainment.

STORMING OF THE MASONIC HALL.

A very sensational proceeding occurred at the Dunedin Masonic Hall early on the evening of Friday, 8th inst. Mr Hudson, confectioner, purchased the property from the mortgagee on the 26th ult., for £2,500, and on the 8th, finding the doors open, put three men into possession about nine o'clock in the morning. Peaceable possession was held until five o'clock in the evening, when a number of persons, armed with crowbars and heavy bludgeons in variety, marched up to the building. Finding the doors barred and locked, they commenced an onslaught on a large window on the west side, and an entry was thus effected, although many of the storming party were cut with the glass. Resistance was made by those within, but they were soon overpowered and forcibly ejected. A patrol was then appointed, and a strict watch kept on the premises to prevent a surprise. No further disturbance took place, Mr Hudson stating it to be his intention to bring an action at law. A number of persons assembled opposite the hall, but remained neutral. The police were sent for, and provision thus made to prevent a recurrence of a similar scene. This description we take from the 'Daily Times.' The 'Evening Star' of a subsequent date hears that the justice of the peace and others concerned in the fracas at the Masonic Hall on Friday afternoon, will be called upon in a few days to answer an information charging them with forcible entry.

MINING.

OTAGO.

It is rumored, states the 'Tuapeka Times,' that steps are about to be taken to float a limited liability company for the purpose of working the now famous 50 acre block at Switzers.

The iron pipes which were recently purchased by some of the Blue Spur claim-holders have been fixed in their places. The water was put through them for the first time on the 26th ultimo. The 'Tuapeka Times' says they have been found to answer their purpose admirably, and no doubt they will be brought into more general use for sluicing purposes at no distant date. The hydraulic principle for mining is being daily more and more applied.

Favourable reports of the prospects of the Marewhenua Goldfield have reached us ('Daily Times'). It is beginning to attract the notice of experienced miners; and as an instance of the good times coming, we may state that during last week three miners from Tuapeka arrived there with the indispensable capital, with the intention of still further developing its auriferous resources. However inconvenient and retarding the snow may be at present, it is reasonably expected that in consequence there will be a large available supply of water in spring and early summer. There are other symptoms that this field will before long be a favourable one for those miners who can invest the necessary capital in the bringing in of water.

A contemporary has been informed that a gentleman who owns a run near to Athol recently purchased a tract of land under the Southland Free Selection Land Laws. A portion of the ground is auriferous, and upon which are parties of Chinese paying £4 a month, and other parties who have paid £12 for being permitted to mine for 100 yards along the banks of the creek. If the system of free selection be introduced in Otago, this is a specimen of what the mining population may expect. In the immediate neighborhood, another runholder has taken up 640 acres within the Nokomai gold fields, a portion of which also is said to be auriferous.

Ah Chuey and party, are suing Ham Tie and party for £1000 damages, for diversion of the Khotover river in such a manner as is likely to do the plaintiffs considerable damage. M'Caffrey's Evening

Star Company's claim, Arthur's Point, has, says the 'Wakatip Mail,' been put up for sale by order of the Trustees, and bought in for £300. The liabilities are over £1100. The 'Mail' is sorry for Mr M'Caffrey's misfortune—for ten years he has been struggling to develop this part of the river, and after expending all his earnings in employing labor, fortune has not been propitious. Mr M'Caffrey still remains confident that the ground will yet pay, but capital and a company are required to work it.

WEST COAST.

THE Ashura correspondent of the Grey River 'Argus' writes as follows of mining as it has been and is to be on the West Coast:—Gold-mining, as it was when the present generation of miners were serving their apprenticeship to the "profession," is gone where the woodbine twined, and the new, and second good time, which has been so long coming, has not yet arrived. The water which should be made to flood us with fortune, is still running to waste, without any attempt worthy the name being tried to utilise it for the benefit of the commonwealth. Gold, bright, beautiful gold, lies buried in our hills in cart-loads, without an effort with any chance of success to possess it. The "valleys lie smiling before us," full of ancient (and I was going to say honorable) auriferous drifts, and such is the condition of utter and apparently hopeless enervation to which local misgovernment has brought the Nelson Gold Fields, that unless through a special intervention of Providence, or, what would be the next best thing, the advent of a capitalist with water on the brain, and a mania for making water ditches, the whole place will become as rotten as old punk. Railways are fine things, and coal is a "grand invention," but of what use are those civilisers if nobody be left in the country to civilise. Every miner who can get away is going, provided he can do so with a clear conscience and a few pounds. Northern Australia is the new El Dorado, and most of the emigrants are bound for that sultry clime, taking all the money out of the country, although it must be confessed that if a man had all the hard cash some of these voluntary exiles "leave behind them" in the shape of bad debts, it would be a good rise.

The 'Westport Times' says:—Very rich stone is now being taken from the Little Wonder, Break-o'-Day, Monte Christo, and Prospectors claims, and each of these claims have large quantities of stone stacked awaiting the starting of crushing operations.

The Lyell correspondent of the 'Westport Times' says:—"From information gathered from men whom I can trust, and who have actually worked in the locality, and who have, swag on back, climbed or scrambled over the hills and mountains lying between the Lyell and Mokihinui, I am morally certain that there is a rich strip of country connecting the two above mentioned localities, a strip rich in quartz and rich in alluvial. Men prospecting between the Lyell and Mokihinui have actually found gold in payable quantities, but the trouble and risk of procuring and carrying 'tucker' was so great as to effectually daunt them from settling down to heavy work.

From the 'Charleston Herald' we learn that—"A "boss" Celestial has been inspecting the district lately with a view of introducing some three or four hundred of his countrymen to work ground in that neighborhood. Many and anxious enquiries have been made by him as to the possibility of purchasing a large area of garden ground; but the result is not known. The 'Herald' is also given to understand that he has intimated that money could be found to buy up all the large water rights in the district.

TELEGRAMS.

(From the daily papers.)

ALEXANDEA (Waikato), August 7th.—The Natives refuse to obey Tawhiao's orders to them to cease trading with the Europeans.

AUCKLAND, August 8th.—It is generally believed that the struggle for the Superintendency will be between Messrs Dargaville and Williamson.

WELLINGTON, August 9th.—The Government are offering for sale a new issue of 4 per cent. debentures, to the amount of £50,000. The principal and interest on this loan are to be made payable in the Colony. £17,000 worth has already been taken up, and the balance will be allotted, in the order of application, at the price of £90 10s per cent.

TAURANGA, August 9th.—A Native moutrosity born at Ohine-mutu is being worshipped by the Natives.—The Bay of Plenty Times condemns the canteen system and the large sale of adulterated liquors.

NAPIER, August 9th.—The Court House at Waipawa has been burned. Incendiarism is suspected.

WELLINGTON, August 11th.—The Independent says that the result of the petition against the National Bank, if successful, will delay operations for another year.

The rainfall for thirty two hours was four and a half inches. Three inches fell during the last twelve hours. The heaviest flood known in Wellington for many years has taken place. The damage is serious.

It is understood in well informed circles that an Opposition is being organised, with Mr Fitzherbert as leader. A move will be made on the discussion of the Budget.

AUCKLAND, August 11th.—The Freight Association has amalgamated with the New Zealand Shipping Company, and has telegraphed to London agents to work with the Shipping Company there.

Caledonians, £19; South British, £2 11s.

GREYMOUTH, August 11.—One hundred men are still on strike, and refuse to accept less than 11s per day.

AUCKLAND, August 12th.—The programme of the summer races, to take place on January 1st, has been published. On the first day there are two events, for 100 sovereigns, and a handicap for £150. On the second day there are two events for 100 sovereigns, handicaps. The entries will close on October 1st, and the weights will be declared on the 20th.

A child named Egan, left alone in a house at Whiniwhiri, was burnt to death.

Mr Alex. Saunders reports buyers of Caledonians at £18 10s;