

WHEN in Melbourne lately, Mr Alfred Anderson, of Messrs Begg and Anderson, made arrangements with Mr W. Spaurin Lyster for the Royal English Opera Company to open a season in Dunedin about Christmas. The company is a strong one, including a number of favourite artistes. The repertoire of the Company includes a large number of established favourites, among them being the "Grand Duchess," "Blue Beard," "Orpheus" (Offenbach's new opera), "Satanella," the "Rose of Castile," the "Bohemian Girl," "Maritana," "Der Freischütz," "La Sonnambula," "Généviève de Brabant," "Martha," &c. &c.

COBB'S Tokomairi coach met with a capsiz at Scrogg's Creek about half-a-mile the other side of the Kent hotel, on Monday afternoon. Some of the passengers narrowly escaped a violent death. One had an arm broken; another has over fifteen bruises on his body. One of the passengers stated to us that, in his opinion, a restive, ungovernable horse was the cause of the accident. More care ought to be given to this class of animals used in travelling by the owners. This is the third upset on that road within the last twelve months.

It is believed that the action taken by the Provincial Government in connection with the contemplated Railway workshops will result in their erection at Andersons Bay.

THE inhabitants of Arrowtown are petitioning to have that township declared a municipality.

THE Lawrence swimming bath, constructed last summer at some considerable cost, has been partly destroyed. Some mischievous individuals have broken down the wall and stopped up the outlet, causing the water to overflow and wash away a portion of the embankment.

A SON of Constable Youngson, stationed at Tapanui, died on the 1st inst., from the effects of eating lucifer matches.

THE propriety of adopting some system for the more effectual drainage of the City formed the subject of considerable discussion at a late special meeting of the City Council. A motion by Mr Burt, "That the Works Committee be requested to bring up a report as to what scheme of drainage they would recommend the Council to carry out," was carried.

THE petition from the citizens of Dunedin against the erection of the railway workshops at Mussel Bay has been forwarded to Wellington. The petition, which bears 2300 signatures, has been sent to Mr Reynolds, to be by him presented to the House.

THE 'Bruce Herald's' peripatetic is consumed by a desire to know who designed the Mataura post and telegraph office. As an Architectural monstrosity, he says it is far and away beyond anything that eccentric genius ever in its wildest dreams conceived. The peripatetic has travelled over pretty nearly the whole of New Zealand, and a great part of Australia, but never saw anything so grotesquely hideous. Seriously he asks—is it absolutely impossible for the Government to construct a building, the chief cost of which shall not be devoted to making it ostentatiously ugly?

THE Municipal Council of Invercargill has resolved to undertake the duty of supplying that town with gas.

A FULL meeting of the Committee of the Dunedin Jockey Club took place at the Empire Hotel a few evenings back. On the occasion of the Spring gathering, which is to take place on St. Andrew's Holiday, December the 1st, there will be six events, representing a total sum of money to be distributed for competition of about £200. In March the Races will extend over three days, and among the fifteen programmed, are it is representing a total sum of £1500, five of which are to be disposed of each day.

A WELLINGTON telegram in the 'Bruce Herald,' states that a Commission has been signed authorising Mr Maitland, R.M., to examine, on oath, witnesses in the charge preferred by the Rev. Father Coleman against Mr Ross, rector of the Tokomairi Grammar School.

At a meeting of the Kaitake School Committee, held on the 13th inst., the following was agreed to:—"That in the opinion of this committee no change in the school books at present in use is necessary, at least so far as the Kaitake school is concerned, and that the Education Board be requested to reconsider their decision in the matter." "It will be," says the 'Evening Star,' "remembered that a short time ago the Education Board, at the request of the Roman Catholic Priesthood, decided that certain books at present in use in the schools should be interdicted. This is felt by many parents to be a great hardship, as the children at present have these books; and if the resolution referred to is carried out, they will have to be at the expense of a new set of books. This is deemed wholly unnecessary, as the books in question are good standard works, and contain nothing which can give reasonable ground of offence." These books are studiously packed with calumnies on the Catholic religion, as may be seen from the quotations from them of statements untrue and insulting to the Catholic religion and those who profess it, which have repeatedly been published. What does the unprejudiced 'Star' define as "no reasonable ground of offence?"

OUR Auckland correspondent, telegraphing to us on Wednesday evening, says: - Business done: South British Insurance, 47s 6d; Bismarck, 35s; Caledonian, £12 17s 6d to £13; City of London, 28s; Back Angel, 23s 6d; Cure, 8s; Royal Oak, 18s.

### TELEGRAMS.

(From the daily papers.)

WELLINGTON, September 10.—The Post asserts that some of the correspondence between the Government and the Agent-General has not been published, namely, a letter dated June 13th, in which Dr. Featherston defies and censures the Government; replies that the charges against him are unfounded, and says that he has carried out all his instructions, though many of them were extremely injudicious and ill-advised, and he does not hold himself responsible for giving effect to them.

WELLINGTON, September 11.—The Independent to-day suggests the flooding of the Upper House with men of the John White and Thomas Luther Shepherd stamp.

AUCKLAND, September 11.—Over 40,000 shares in the National Insurance Company have been applied for in Auckland.

CHRISTCHURCH, September 11.—30,000 shares in the National Insurance Co. have been applied for here.

The ketch Duke of Edinburgh, which was supposed to have been lost, arrived here in tow of the Phoebe.

AUCKLAND, September 12.—A public meeting is called to originate a subscription for the sufferers by the late fire.

HOKITIKA, September 12.—The Claud Hamilton arrived at 3 o'clock this morning, and was tendered at 1 p.m. She left Melbourne on the 5th inst., and brings 15 saloon and 13 steerage passengers for all ports. At 11 p.m. on Sunday night she was struck by a heavy sea on the main and quarter-decks, carrying away the bulwarks and skylight on poop companion, also the captain's cabin, with Captain Rouse, who was in his cabin when the sea struck the vessel, and who was carried overboard and drowned. There was not a vestige of anything left on the quarter deck but the wheel for steering. The deck cargo was washed completely overboard into the sea. The man at the helm was only saved by being secured to the wheel. The ship was then hove to until 2 p.m. the next day, the 8th, repaired damage done by the gale, and started for Hokitika.

WELLINGTON, September 12.—The Colonial Industrial Committee has reported, recommending the construction of railway works to connect the Buller coal fields with Westport.

Subscriptions are being raised in aid of the sufferers by the Auckland fire.

WELLINGTON, September 13.—It is almost certain that Mr Tolmie will bring in a Bill to increase Ministers' salaries—the Premier's to £2000, and those of the other Ministers to £1500, and all allowances to be abolished.

Unless a deadlock occurs with the Council, the session will probably close in three weeks more. Bills are being rushed through all their stages at a sitting, almost without consideration, and with unprecedented haste.

AUCKLAND, September 13.—The papers comment favorably upon Mr Russell's mail contract. The journals infer that Auckland will be the first port of call in the Colony, and the last port of departure.

TAURANGA, September 13.—The survey of the immigration settlement at Oropi is being proceeded with.

AUCKLAND, September 15.—The ship City of Auckland has arrived from London, 99 days out, with 12 saloon and 23 steerage passengers, all of whom are well.

24 families and 16 single men, who arrived in the Berar, still remain unemployed. The Government stopped their rations on Saturday, leaving them destitute. The Deputy-Superintendent has telegraphed to the General Government, remonstrating against this step. Great complaints are made regarding the accommodation provided for the immigrants. The single girls are allowed to wander about the streets without guardianship, and many of them have been seen drinking at bars.

CHRISTCHURCH, September 15.—The match, Harris v. Fox, takes place on Saturday next. It excites very little public interest here.

It is likely that Canterbury will send representatives to Melbourne to compete for the Victorian Rifle Association's prizes.

WELLINGTON, September 16.—There will almost certainly be a majority of four against the Provincial Borrowing Bill in the Legislative Council.

An inquiry was held at Nelson before the Collector of Customs, into the disaster to the Claud Hamilton, and the following decision was given:—"That it is possible the late master committed an error in judgment, considering the bad state of the weather, in not having the vessel hove to, and that no blame can be attached to the present master and crew; and I am further of opinion that as the late master unfortunately lost his life by the accident, any further or formal inquiry would be of no service."

AUCKLAND, September 16.—A lunatic named Smith, formerly resident in Canterbury, but latterly at Levuka, has been shipped to Auckland by the Fijian authorities. Some murderers whom it was attempted to hang at Levuka, were cut down before they were dead, and shipped to Auckland. It is thought such practices should be stopped.

A public meeting appointed a committee to receive subscriptions for the sufferers by the late fire.

GRAMMISTOWN, September 16.—Tookey's mine caught fire at eleven o'clock last night. The mining men were below at the time, but all escaped, though with some difficulty. The damage is confined to one level, and is not very great.

CHRISTCHURCH, September 16.—The case of the immigrants by the Berar, at Auckland, excites much interest here. The 'Lyttelton Times,' in a leader on the subject, says:—"It is almost impossible to believe that the succeeding details which we extract from the same authority, can be true in every respect, they are so very revolting and so damaging to the reputation of the Colony. An enquiry into the whole of the circumstances is of course indispensable. If only a tithe of what is set down should turn out to be true, the treatment meted out to a number of newly-arrived immigrants was disgraceful and may prove disastrous."

The Board of Education at its sitting yesterday, had before it the question of John Graham visiting Government Schools at Waimata and Temuka, and giving lectures there on table-rapping, &c. The Board decided to call the attention of the School Committees to the prohibiting clause in the Ordinance, and to request that the same should not take place again.

### CABLE TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, September 2.—It is rumoured that the Marquis of Hartington will be Postmaster-General, and that Mr Foster will succeed him as Chief-Secretary for Ireland.

Admiral Yelverton has captured several insurgent vessels at Carthage, and taken them to Gibraltar. The insurgents threatened to fire upon the British fleet. The English residents have left the city, and the insurgents threaten to confiscate their property, and are greatly exasperated. A conflict is expected.

The King of Italy visits Berlin and Vienna.