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OUR Agents and Subscribers are requested to bear in mind that the New Zealand Tablet Co. is regularly called upon to meet the liabilities of the paper, and that consequently it is necessary the amounts due to the company should be settled promptly and regularly. They will therefore confer a favor on the Directors if they will be good enough to forward to the Hon. Secretary the sums now due, with as little delay as possible.

BISHOP MORAN'S APPROVAL.

THE manner in which the NEW ZEALAND TABLET has been hitherto conducted is deserving of approval. I have no doubt the future management will be in accordance with the past, and that this journal will continue to be an excellent Catholic newspaper. Under these circumstances, I can have no hesitation in saying it deserves the generous support of all Catholics in this Colony. I beg to recommend it to them most earnestly.

Given at Dunedin, 15th July, 1873.

† P. MORAN,
Bishop of Dunedin.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisements intended for insertion in the TABLET, should reach the Publishing Office, MILLS, DICK, and Co.'s, Stafford street, Dunedin, not later than 10 a.m., of each Thursday evening.

Subscription to the TABLET:—Single copies, 6d.; Half-yearly, by post, 12s. 6d., in advance. Remittances to be made payable to the Secretary to the company.

The TABLET is delivered in Dunedin on payment of 12s 6d per half-year, in advance, to the Secretary.

Mr Macedo, Bookseller, Princess street south, has been appointed an Advertising Agent for Dunedin to the TABLET.

SERVICES in St. Joseph's, Dunedin, are on Sundays and Holidays at 8 and 11 a.m., Catechism at 3 p.m., vespers at 6 30 p.m.

New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1873.

IMMIGRATION.

It has been announced that the General Government has handed over the entire management of immigration in Otago to the Provincial Government. If this report be true—and as it has not been contradicted there is no reason to doubt its truth—people will be curious to know the precise terms of the agreement. There is for this Province a dual system of immigration—the Colonial and Provincial system. Otago has an Immigration Agent-General in Glasgow, who employs local agents, and is sending home a special agent to recruit in Scotland. We are curious to know if under this new arrangement the Agent-General of the Colony is to be suspended, so far as immigration to Otago is concerned; and are none but Scotchmen to be permitted in the future to emigrate at the public expense to this Province? Are we to have no more English, Irish, or Welsh immigration? It is quite certain that the Provincial Government, if it could help it, would not permit any but Scotchmen to come here; and the taxpayers throughout the Colony will ask—is it right they should pay for an almost exclusively Scotch emigration to Otago? Whilst on this subject, it may be as well to refresh the memories of our readers as to a fact with which, of course, they are well acquainted, but to which they may not always advert sufficiently. Within the last two years

scores of emigrant vessels have been despatched at the expense of the colony from English, Scotch, Prussian, and Norwegian ports, but not even one from an Irish port. Let Irishmen bear this in mind when asked to applaud the Hon. the Premier, and his Agent-General who is too pious to allow his conscience to be defiled with the sin of permitting Irishmen to come into the country in numbers sufficient to establish Popery here. There are more reasons than one why this exclusively Scotch Immigration is not desirable even for Scotchmen themselves, and we would beg to call their attention to the

BOTHIE SYSTEM.

The Rev. Dr. Begg, in his speech in the Drill Shed spoke very feelingly and strongly in reference to this system which still prevails in some parts of Scotland. Chambers' Encyclopedia says that for single men a grievous laxity of morals is the consequence of this system; and that it has been introduced in some places for females with still more deplorable results. In this speech Dr. Begg said, "I may say that when I was first appointed minister of Liberton parish, out of four or five thousand acres of land yielding perhaps £30,000 a year, there was not a single cottage with two apartments; and there I was shocked to see the dead and living, the sick and the healthy, all mixed indiscriminately together." Did the Rev. Doctor whilst here see no large farms without cottages, did he see nothing like the Bothie System in all Otago? It must be so, else when speaking on the subject in reference to Scotland surely he would have had a word of reprobation for the beginning of such a bad system in this New Scotland. It is really a pity that one who interested himself so much and so successfully on this subject twenty years ago in his native country, did not go through all Otago, or at all events the agricultural districts. For had he done so, and then made enquiries of the superintendent of the Immigration Depot here, he would have discovered to his horror that something very like the Bothie System does prevail in Otago, and that the people who remain longest in the Depot without employment are married people. Such being the case, is it any wonder that in harvest time, for example, there is always—and particularly this year—such a panic as to the scarcity of laborers. What has become of the beautiful plan of which we used to hear so much in connection with the Public Works and Immigration Scheme? Land was to be reserved and villages laid out for Immigrants along the railway lines for settlement by independent and industrious laborers. The scheme was wise and philanthropic; but unfortunately it has not yet got beyond the paper on which it was originally written, and consequently, as might have been anticipated, it will be extremely difficult—for some years at least—to save the crops. Some, indeed many of our readers may not know what a Bothie is. For their information we here transcribe the description given of it by Chambers. Bothie, literally a hut, has come in recent times to mean "a house in which unmarried farm laborers are lodged.—A straining after economy in the working of farms has introduced in Scotland the practice of employing only unmarried young men, several of whom are usually lodged together in a Bothie, which is fitted up with some plain articles of furniture. As the inmates prepare their own food, and live without any kind of domestic control, a grievous laxity of morals is, of course, the consequence. In some places, Bothies for lodging groups of unmarried female laborers on farms have also been introduced with still more deplorable results. The prevalence of Bothies is sometimes very great, even in single parishes. In the parish of Wick there are 21 Bothies, containing 77 young men, and 65 young women." We fear a beginning of this system has been made in Otago, and we draw attention to it with the view of doing our part in preventing if possible its establishment here.

ANOTHER WARNING.

OUR learned and liberal contemporary the 'Evening Star' of Dunedin, in its issue of the 18th instant, has presented the public with a choice specimen of learning, taste, liberality, and conciliatory conduct. The 'Evening Star' is usually hard upon christians, particularly when they happen to be ecclesiastics, and though it does not always print the words, our holy religion—inverted commas like the 'Daily Times,' its contempt of Christianity and sneers at those who profess it, are as genuine though a little more carefully disguised; but when Catholics cross its path it forgets all decency and prudence, and bursts into uncontrolled fury, as does the enraged bull at the sight of the red rag.