

and £20 at death of member, and on the death of a member's wife £10, for the small sum of 1s per week, and entrance fee of £1 and upwards, according to age.

Trusting that it will in future receive that support to which it is entitled,

"We are, yours fraternally,

"GEO. J. SELLARS, D.P.  
"A. H. BLAKE D.V.P.  
"P. DONNELLY, D.T.  
"P. LEAHY, D.S."

The total number of members on the books is 385, of which twenty-six joined during the half-year; and the Hokitika branch has also joined the District Board. During the meeting it was proposed to hold a Conference of representatives from all the branches in New Zealand during the Exhibition, Wellington. The idea emanated from Bro. R. P. Lonargan, who is an ex-member of the Melbourne E.D., who will be in Wellington for the Conference, and who was appointed to represent the D.B. at the forthcoming A.M., Melbourne. It is confidently believed that much good will result from such a meeting. It was also proposed to hold an Art Union by a joint Committee of the D.B. and Christchurch Branch for the dual object of erecting a Hibernian Hall in Christchurch, and of assisting the Incidental Fund of the D.B.

A motion was passed, requesting the Branches to defray the expense of an advertisement in each of the Catholic papers in the Colony, not to cost more than £10.

A letter was read from the Registrar of Friendly Societies, Wellington, accompanied with the certificate of registration of amendment and alterations of the New Zealand H. C. B. S. rules, cancelling the general laws of the New Zealand Executive Directory, and providing for the substitution of the Otago-Canterbury District Board, subject to and controlled by the general laws of the H. A. C. B. S. The following were nominated for offices for election in February next:—D.P., Bros. G. J. Sellars and A. H. Blake; D.V.P., Bro. J. Burke; D.T., Bro. P. Donnelly; D.S., Bro. P. Leahy.

### CAUGHT IN THE ACT.

(The Nation, August 8.)

THE nature of the Errington mission to Rome has at last been fully disclosed to the public gaze. The miserable creature who has given his name to that enterprise has, as it were, been caught *in flagrante delicto*. The revelation discloses nothing, indeed, that had not been long suspected, and even proclaimed oftentimes in the Press and on the platform; but it is something to have from the man's own hands a plain admission of his dirty and wicked intrigues. The final proof of his guilt is almost a startling confirmation of the charges brought against him, and, indeed, at first sight, would seem to be rather an invention than a reality. Diplomats, it was generally thought, were on their guard against committing themselves in a fashion which has scarcely a parallel in the history of conspiracy for the childish frankness which it shows the slimy Errington to be capable of in underhand dealings with his confederates. But as murder will out, so it seems as if the evil genius which appropriately presided over the whole Roman mission betrayed the villain of the drama into an act of self-exposure. At any rate, the exposure has taken place, and the shape which it has assumed is the following letter which has recently fallen by some means or another into the hands of the proprietors of *United Ireland*, and been published in that journal:—

"House of Commons, Friday, May 15.

"Dear Lord Granville,—The Dublin Archbishoprick (*sic*) being still undecided, I must continue to keep the Vatican in good humour about you, and keep up communication with them generally as much as possible. I am almost ashamed to trouble you again when you are so busy, but perhaps on Monday you would allow me to show you the letter I propose to write. This premature report about Dr. Moran will cause increased pressure to be put on the Pope and create many fresh difficulties. The matter must therefore be most carefully watched, so that the strong pressure I can still command may be used at the right moment, and not too soon or unnecessarily (for too much pressure is quite as dangerous as too little). To effect this constant communication with Rome is necessary.—I am, dear Lord Granville, faithfully yours,

"GEORGE ERRINGTON."

It is not necessary nor even possible to translate this document into any plainer language. It tells as clearly as any words can that this self-appointed backstairs diplomatist, who professed to be such an excellent Catholic, has been all along trying to humbug and cheat the Vatican—has been playing with the most sacred interests of religion as freely as he would with any secular interests—in the interest of the half-Protestant, half-infidel Government of England, and for his own private ends. "I must keep the Vatican in good humour about you" (As long as Errington lives, and for a long time after he is dead, those words will be remembered and quoted as the most fearful condemnation that can be pronounced on the infamous gang of which he is a type and representative. They speak the doom of the West-British Catholic faction in Ireland, and they assuredly put an end no less certainly to the dodgery by which England, and especially English Whig Governments, have hitherto sought to govern Ireland through Rome. Thus we have had another illustration of the saying that out of evil comes good. When the Errington mission has resulted in the permanent ostracism from public life of personages of the class of the member for Longford, and in the opening of the eyes of the Roman authorities to the base designs of English Governments in all their projects, the Irish people at least may be well satisfied.

All those who desire to become students of the violin will do well to consult the advertisement of Messrs. Oakden and Howell, to be found in another column.

## Commercial.

MR. DONALD STRONACH (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Limited) reports for the week ending September 23, as follows:—

**Fat Cattle.**—136 head were yarded at Burnside to-day. A good deal of these, although not very heavy, were of very good quality; the balance were light and only medium. Competition was brisk all through the sales, and an advance on last week's prices obtained. Best bullocks brought £9 10s to £10 17s 6d; others, £5 10s to £9; cows from £5 to £10 2s 6d. We quote beef 25s to 27s 6d per 100lb.

**Fat Sheep.**—2,320 were penned for the week's requirements. Of these, 665 were merinos, and the balance cross-breds representing all qualities. A good demand existed, and prices realised to-day were slightly in advance of those obtained this day week. Best cross-bred wethers brought 14s to 15s; others, 11s to 13s 6d; mixed, up to 14s; merino wethers, good to prime 8s to 11s 6d; two pens extra prime from North Canterbury made up to 19s 3d. We sold on account of the New Zealand Agricultural Company, Waimea, 108 cross-bred wethers at from 12s 3d to 15s; 56 half-breds (small) at 12s; 36 merino wethers at 11s 6d; Mr. John Brahm, Hyde, 63 cross-bred wethers at 11s 3d to 12s 3d; and quote mutton 2½d to 3½d per lb.

**Lambs.**—Eighty-two were penned, and sold at from 8s 6d to 13s 6d.

**Pigs.**—385 were penned. This number was by far in excess of requirements. A number was turned out unsold, while the balance sold at lower prices than have been ruling this season. Porkers, 20s to 27s 9d; baconers, 30s to 50s.

**Store Stock.**—There is but little demand, and transactions are unimportant. We have no sales to report.

**Sneepskins.**—We submitted a large catalogue at our weekly sale on Monday to a fair representation of the trade. Competition lacked spirit, and last week's prices were scarcely realised. Country dry cross-breds (low to medium) brought 9d to 2s 10d; do. do. merino, 6d to 2s 5d; dry pelts, 1d to 5d; butchers' green cross-breds, 2s 3d, 2s 5d, 2s 7d, 2s 9d, 3s, 3s 3d, 3s 6d, 3s 9d; do. do. merino, 2s 2d, 2s 4d, 2s 6d, 2s 8d.

**Rabbitskins.**—At our weekly sales on Monday we catalogued five bales, two fadges and sixty-seven bags. There was a fair attendance of the trade. Bidding was spirited for prime winter skins properly classed and in good condition; inferior and indifferently classed command but little attention, competition for these being extremely flat. We sold suckers and low summer skins at 1d to 5d; medium winter and badly sorted, 5½d to 8d; fair to good, 9d to 13d; prime, 14d to 15d per lb.

**Hides.**—We have no alteration to note. Prices this week are about the same as last, but reports from the Australian markets are not favourable, and indications of lower prices being offered here are not wanting.

**Tallow.** There is little or no change in the market, recent values being maintained. We quote inferior and mixed, 14s to 16s; medium, 17s to 19s; good to prime, 20s to 21s; rough fat, 10s to 13s per cwt, the latter figure only for good clean fat, free from any rubbish.

**Grain.**—Wheat: Buyers are not purchasing with any freedom, but only for actual requirements; the trade apparently holding off in expectation of fuller supplies coming forward at no distant period. Fowls, wheat is in short supply, and in demand at higher rates than those ruling lately. We quote prime milling 3s 3d to 3s 4d; medium, 2s 9d to 3s 1d; inferior and fowls' wheat, 2s 3d to 2s 8d.—Oats: During the past week the steady demand mentioned in our last has been maintained, and both privately and at auction prices then quoted have been obtained, which we give again as follows:—Prime milling, 2s 1d; short bright feed, 1s 11d to 2s; medium, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; discoloured and inferior, 1s 6d to 1s 9d. Barley: There is no demand of any consequence for malting. Feed and milling are in fair request at from 2s to 2s 8d.—Ryegrass seed is only in moderate request and prices unchanged. We quote machine-dressed, 4s 6d to 5s; farmers' undressed lots, 2s 6d to 3s 9d.

### DUNEDIN PRODUCE MARKET, SEPTEMBER 23, 1885.

MR. J. H. KILGOUR, grain and produce broker, reports under above date as follows:—Wheat: There is a fair demand for small lots of prime milling for local requirements at recent quotations—viz., 3s 3d to 3s 4d for Tuscan and white velvet, and 2s 10d to 3s 1d for other milling sorts, at which prices I have placed several lines. Fowl feed and inferior milling are still in short supply, and sell at from 2s 6d to 2s 8d.—Oats: There is an active demand for good shipping parcels at a slight advance on last week's quotations, and I have cleared all lots on hand of bright feed at 2s, and milling at 2s 1d; ordinary feed, for local consumption, sells at 1s 9d to 1s 10d.—Barley: There is no demand for malting. My sales have been at 2s 3d for milling quality.—Chaff: My sales have been at £3 5s for extra good quality; ordinary sells at £3; inferior, £2 10s to £2 15s, but prices altogether depend upon supplies.—Potatoes: My sales have been at £4 per ton for prime Derwents.—Butter: Salt sells at 11d, in small lots; fresh, 1s to 1s 1d for prime, and 9d to 10d for medium.—Cheese: 5d for best quality.—Eggs: 9d has been the price up till to-day, when 8½d has been taken.—Grass Seed: 4s 9d to 5s for well-dressed parcels off old pasture; cocksfoot, 4d to 4½d per lb.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices, including bags: Oats, 1s 9d to 2s; wheat, milling 3s to 3s 1½d, fowls' feed 1s 6d to 2s 6d; barley, malting 3s to 3s 3d, milling 2s 0d to 2s 6d, feeding 2s; oatmeal, £3; ryegrass, £3; chaff, £2 10s to £3; straw, £1 15s to £2; bran, £4 10s to £5; pollard, £4 10s; flour, £7 10s to £8; oatmeal, £9 10s to £10; fresh butter, medium to prime, 1s to 1s 2d; eggs, 8d; good salt butter, scarce, 10d; cheese, 4s to 5d; bacon, 7½d in rolls, hams 10d; potatoes, Derwents £3 15s to £4, kidneys £1 15s.