

# Correspondence.

We are not responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.

## EMIGRATION TO HONDURAS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TABLET.

MR. EDITOR,—I am in receipt of numerous communications from New Zealand, making inquiries as to the advisability of emigrating to this country, as to whether the offers made by the Bishop of Honduras in the early part of the past year, are still open, &c., &c.

As it is impossible for me to answer personally the many letters I receive, I must beg you to do me the favour to say to your readers that not only is Bishop Zepeda ready to reiterate his offer, but that he and the Government jointly offer greater advantages than before, the which will be duly set forth in a pamphlet which will be issued by me in Dublin about the latter part of March next (D.V.).

The only objection I can see to the emigration of New Zealanders to Central America is the cost of transportation hither from so distant a point. The shortest route would be by way of San Francisco and the Pacific port of Honduras, Amapala, but our colony is situated on the Atlantic, and the emigrants would be obliged to cross the country on mules, through many dangerous passes and undeveloped regions, and where no language but bad Spanish is spoken. The Atlantic coast is full of foreigners, and here and in the neighbourhood are many Irish. However, were there any organised movement, a special contract could be made with the Pacific Mail S.S. Co. at moderate rates.

As it is I can hardly encourage emigration of individuals to Honduras from New Zealand, but will gladly attend to any applications that I may find on my desk in Dublin, in March and April next. My address will be Victoria Hotel, Beresford-place.

Permit me to thank you in advance for the insertion of my letter and to subscribe myself,

Your humble Servant and Chaplain,

WM. L. POPE.

Parish Priest of San Pedro.

San Pedro-Sula, Department Santa Barbara,  
Republic of Honduras, Central America, Jan. 4, 1881.

## SCHOOL INSPECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TABLET.

SIR,—The subject of a scheme of competent inspection for the Catholic schools of the colony of New Zealand is one which has occupied the serious attention of the committee of St. Patrick's School, Grey-mouth, for some time past, and we deem it sufficiently important to place our views prominently before you, with the object of eliciting your opinion thereon, and of seeking your kind co-operation and advice on a matter which we consider of vital importance to the well-being of our schools throughout the whole of New Zealand.

We are of opinion that, in order to give each of our schools an independent status, a Catholic inspector should be appointed for the entire colony, who would make at least one visit of inspection to every school, or more if practicable within the year.

We think that the question might with advantage be brought under the notice of his Lordship Dr. Moran, and if approved by him, and with the joint concurrence of the bishops of Wellington and Auckland, a scheme could possibly be matured by their lordships which would effectually place our educational system on an efficient footing, and thus satisfy the growing objections which many of our people entertain against our self-imposed obligation to maintain our own schools.

We imagine that if a general system of inspection were inaugurated the schools presided over by the nuns and brothers should be included and that the cost could be defrayed by means of a capitation rate each school contributing towards the cost in proportion to the number of pupils in attendance. We reckon that the schools of the West Coast have an attendance of about 800 pupils, our own school having 200 or probably about one-fifth of the attendance throughout the colony, so that the expense might not exceed 2s. 6d. per head, and we believe parents would willingly pay this sum in addition to the usual fees. A thoroughly competent gentleman could be obtained either in the colonies or at home, and Bishop Moran being about to leave soon for the old country would no doubt be able to select a first-class man in England or Ireland and as the matter could not be placed in better hands, we trust that you will at once lay this before him. Should his Lordship approve of the idea perhaps you will give the matter prominent notice in your columns.

As "inspection" is the salt of education, our desire is to establish our schools on a healthy educational basis which will stop friends and enemies alike from expressing criticism adverse to our efforts, and afford the public at large a sure and legitimate test of the quality of the education imparted in the schools connected with our denomination.—We are, &c.,

M. KENNEDY,

—H. HAY,

For St. Patrick's Roman Catholic School Committee,  
Greymouth, March 10, 1881.

[The proposal of our correspondent we believe to be premature. There are, meantime, other ways than by the employment of an inspector in which schools may be efficiently inspected—and with much better results.—ED. N. Z. TABLET.]

The college students who figure in anti-Jew riots in Germany, are, no doubt, all young men of broad views, profound in metaphysics, and chock full of philosophy. But they act very much like ignorant ruffians, for all that.

# Commercial.

MR. DONALD STRONACH (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Co., Limited), reports for the week ending 16th March as follows:—

**Fat Cattle.**—The market to-day was heavily over supplied, 382 head having been yarded. Demand was in consequence very languid, and prices showed a fall equal to about 2s 6d per 100lb. Bullocks realised from £4 5s to £10 17s 6d, and cows £4 5s to £7 12s 6d per head. On account of Mr. J. C. Buckland we sold 15 bullocks and 18 cows, the former at £4 12s 6d to £5 7s 6d, and the latter at £4 7s 6d to £5 2s 6d per head. We sold also drafts of bullocks on account of Messrs R. and J. Paton at £6 7s 6d to £7 17s 6d; and Messrs. Little Brothers at £5 5s to £6 5s. Quotation for best beef, 20s per 100lb.

**Fat Calves.**—41 head were sold at from 12s to 14s each.  
**Fat Sheep.**—3134 head were penned (of which only a very small proportion were cross-breeds). Fair competition was exhibited by the trade, and last weeks quotations were maintained. Prices realised for cross-breeds ranged from 3s to 13s per head. For prime mutton we quote 2d per lb.

**Fat Lambs.**—212 were offered, and sold at from 4s to 9s 6d.

**Fat Pigs.**—65 sold at from 23s to 47s each.

**Store Sheep.**—We have buyers for a large number of full-mouthed merino ewes, and for cross-breeds of all ages. We report sales of 120 merino rams on account of Mr. J. F. Kitching, Moa Flat, and 100 on account of Mr. J. Anderson, of Wyndham, at satisfactory prices.

**Wool.**—We are glad to observe that the tone of the London wool auctions has experienced a decided improvement. Private and Press telegrams record an increase of animation, and an advance of about ½d. per lb. on the lowest rates current this series. It is announced that the next sales will commence on 10th May. We held our No. 5 sale on Tuesday, the 15th instant, and offered a varied catalogue, which elicited good competition. Prices were somewhat irregular, in certain instances fully last sale prices being realised, while in other cases a decline of ½d. to 1d. thereon were shown. We sold in all 265 bales and 12 bags at the following prices:—Cross-breeds, greasy, 7½d. to 10½d.; scoured, 12d.; merino, greasy, 7½d. to 11½d.; scoured, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d.

**Sheepskins.**—Our catalogue on Monday consisted chiefly of this year's skins, which, with a good demand, realised fair prices, say—Cross-breeds from 2s. for ordinary to 5s. 1d. for full woolled skins; merinos, ordinary, 1s. 7d. to 2s.; lambskins, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 10d.; pelts, 7d. to 1s. 4d.; skins in bales, 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.

**Hides.**—We cleared by auction this week sundry parcels at up to 23s. 6d. each (for average, 53 lbs.). The demand continues unabated.

**Tallow.**—The market is about the same as last week. We have made sales at up to 25s. for fairly rendered tallow, and 16s. per cwt. for butchers' rough fat.

**Grain: Wheat.**—The new crop is not as yet coming forward freely. We anticipate no difficulty in placing parcels of fair quality. Prices, however, will undoubtedly rule lower than last season, say 3s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. for prime. **Oats.**—There has been some demand for feed oats for shipment, and stock in warehouse being low, prices are well maintained. Sales have been made at 1s. 6d. to 1s. 6½d., and of milling at 1s. 7d., which we quote as to-day's prices. **Barley.**—No transactions to report.

## PRODUCE MARKET—MARCH 16, 1881.

MESSRS. MERCEUR AND McDONALD, Rattray street, report:—Fresh butter is still very plentiful, best and favourite brands (in 1lb. and ½lb. prints), 8d & 9d per lb.; Eggs, 1s 2d per dozen. Roll bacon, 8d per lb. Good salt butter, in kegs, none selling.

MR. F. MEENAN, Great King street, reports:—Wholesale prices: Oats, 1s 5d to 1s 7d per bushel; milling wheat, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per bushel; fowls' feed, 2s to 3s; barley, malting, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; feed, 1s 9d to 2s 6d per bushel; hay, £3 per ton; chaff, £2 15s per ton; straw, £2 per ton; bran, £3 per ton; pollard, £4 per ton; flour, £9 10s to £10 per ton; oatmeal, £9 per ton; butter, fresh, 6d to 8d; salt, 6d to 8d; eggs, 1s 2d; bacon in rolls, 8d; side, 8½d; hams, 10½d; fresh pork, 4½d per lb.; potatoes £2 15 to £3 per ton.

MR. JOSEPH B. SHEATH, Tuam street, Christchurch, reports on the grain market for the week ending March 12th, 1881. Wholesale prices:—Wheat, milling, 3s 5d to 3s 9d; chick, 1s 9d to 2s 6d. Oats, good milling, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; feed, 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Barley, best samples, 3s to 3s 6d; other sorts, 2s to 2s 6d; feed, 1s 2d to 1s 9d. Grass seed—in good demand, at from 2s 6d to 3s 6d; cocksfoot, 2½d to 2¾d. Butter, 6d to 7d. Cheese, 3d to 3½d. Hay, 40s to 50s. Oaten sheaves, 35s; good oat straw, 25s.

A report from Tipperary, December 15, states that the Rev. W. McKeogh, P.P., of Ballinahinch, was attacked by a man and stabbed under the following circumstances:—Father McKeogh was at the house of the parish priest of Boher and Ballina, County Tipperary, making a settlement between a widow who had been evicted from a farm and the farmer who had taken it, and who was on that account being boycotted. As Father McKeogh was leaving in the evening, in company with another priest, a curate of Ballina parish, a man, a relative of the boycotted farmer, made an attempt to stab him. Father McKeogh had his hand in his pocket, and received the first wound in the back of the hand. The man made another attempt at his breast, and cut his clothes; but, before he could accomplish his design, the curate knocked him down, and the would-be assassin fled. There was the greatest anxiety and indignation in Killcloe and Nenagh when the occurrence became known, as Father McKeogh is one of the most popular priests of the district. Happily, however, Father McKeogh was not badly hurt, as, with the exception of the ugly cut on his hand and the rent in his coat, he escaped injury.