

MINTON HOUSE, PRINCES STREET.

## NOTICE.

**MATHESON BROS. AND CO. (Ld.)** beg to announce that owing to Large Shipments Landing and to Arrive, they have decided to offer the whole of their magnificent Retail Stock at prices that will defy competition.

The stock is well known to be the best and most carefully selected in the Southern Hemisphere, comprising Dinner, Breakfast, Tea, Dessert, and Toilet Sets, in all the latest styles and patterns, complete Sets Table Glass in rich cut and engraved; also cut or engraved Tumblers, Wines, Decanters, etc.; Vases and Ornaments in endless variety, including a choice selection in the New Quartz or Hailstone Ware, the very first in the Market; also raised flower Vases, Wrought Glass, Barbotene, Dresden, and Limoges Porcelain.

A splendid assortment of Lamps in cut glass, bronze, wrought brass, etc.

## SPECIAL LINES.

- 200 doz. wines in good English glass, 9s; worth 15s.  
 100 doz. wines, best English glass, 13s 6d; worth 20s.  
 500 doz. Cut Tumblers, 9s and 13s 6d; worth 15s and 21s doz.  
 200 Tea Sets from 25s to 100s; worth £2 to £7 10s.  
 100 Tea Sets in Old Blue at 70s; worth £5 5s.  
 50 Tea Sets in Old Blue at 45s; worth £4.  
 200 Breakfast and Tea Sets at £6 10s; worth £10 10s.  
 150 Dessert Sets from 30 to 100s; worth 60s to £7 10s.  
 800 Sets of (4) Table Corner-flower Holders at 5s 6d, 6s 6d, and 8s 6d; worth 10s 6s to 16s.  
 200 Breakfast Sets from 35s to 62s; worth 60s to 100s.

SALE COMMENCED ON 20TH NOVEMBER.

## JUST RECEIVED.—

THE  
 NRW PAROCHIAL HYMN BOOK, WITH MUSIC;

Price, 8s nett; post free, 9s 4s;

Also a splendid stock of Books for Prizes. Please order at once, so as not to be disappointed.

WHITTAKER BROS.,

CATHOLIC DEPOT, WELLINGTON.

## PORT CHALMERS PRESBYTERY ART-UNION.

Mr. Thomas Quilter, Waitahuna Gully ...	£1 0 0
Mr. T. Kearney, Lyttelton ...	2 0 0
Mrs. D. Bennett, Mosgiel ...	2 0 0
Mrs. M. Morrissey, Hawera ...	2 0 0
Messrs. D. McLeod & Co., Winton ...	2 0 0
Mr. M. Costigan, Oamaru ...	2 0 0
Mr Michael Leonard, Waikivi...	2 4 0

## CATHEDRAL FUND.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions towards the Cathedral Fund:—

Rev. T. Lenihan ...	£	s.	d.
School Children (Convent) ...	6	0	0
	3	0	0

## WEEKLY SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Per Rev. P. Lynch	£	s.	d.	Per Mr. W. Hall	£	s.	d.
„ Mr. Dillon	6	5	0	„ Miss Tobin	1	8	0
„ Mr. N. Smith	0	12	0	„ Mr. R. A. Dunne	1	19	0
	1	2	0		1	0	0

✱ P. MORAN.

**FEMALE TEACHER WANTED** for a Catholic school. Salary £90. Testimonials to be sent to J. F. Perrin, Esqr., TABLET Office, Dunedin.

## DEATH.

BONNINGTON.—Sept. 26, 1883, at San Francisco, Charles Bonnington, late of Christchurch.—R.I.P.

# The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1883.

## PROGRESS AND JUSTICE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

THE Catholics of New Zealand provide, at their own sole expense, an excellent education for their own children. Yet such is the sense of justice and policy in the New Zealand Legislature that it compels these Catholics, after having manfully provided for their own children, to contribute

largely towards the free and godless education of other people's children!!! This is tyranny, oppression, and plunder.

## ALARMING.



THE financial position of the Colony is, to say the least, disquieting. Last session Parliament found it necessary to increase the property tax, and it is now quite certain that next session our legislators will have to provide for a very large deficit of the revenue. Where are they to look for additional ways and means? Will it be to the Customs? With the exception of tea and sugar, almost everything imported is already taxed to its utmost capacity. Any further taxation, according to all experience, would only have the effect of impeding trade and rendering the Customs still less productive than they are at present. So far, then, as the Customs are concerned, nothing can be expected from them in the way of additional income, unless the duties on tea and sugar be restored to their former level. But, then, what becomes of the promise of a free breakfast table? And then, again, what an outcry and agitation would not a proposal to raise revenue by heavy taxes on tea and sugar provoke.

It is probable, therefore, that our Treasurer will look elsewhere for the required revenue. And where is he to look? Much additional revenue, under the present circumstances, cannot be expected from the land, unless, indeed, a smart land tax be imposed. But it is well known that the party in power dare not propose such a measure. Their existence depends on their resisting such a proposition. There then only remains an increase of the property tax as the one available source of additional revenue. This statement is, of course, subject to the supposition that the present party are to remain in office. But even were there to be a change of Ministry, the difficulty would be removed by a land tax. To meet a declining revenue and the additional burdens arising from the borrowing of the two millions to be raised immediately, Government will require from £150,000 to £200,000 per annum more than the amount of last year's revenue, unless there be retrenchment to that amount.

Is there any reason for expecting retrenchment to that amount? We have no doubt such a thing is possible, but is it at all likely? The expense, it is said, of the Civil Service can be reduced. We are not in a position to know, but past experience on this head does not inspire us with the confidence that would allay alarm as to the financial position of the Colony. Any one with even half an eye in his head, if he would only be candid, would readily acknowledge that all our financial difficulties arise from the insane attempt to educate all children at the public expense. Already fully two millions sterling have been squandered on this folly, and it has been stated by a competent authority that £600,000 will be required next year to meet the demands of the Education Department. And the fact is that in reality the Colony has been borrowing money during the last five years to enable it to give a free education to children whose parents, for the most part, were well able to pay for their education. It will be thought that we write this because we are opposed to the present system of education; and we are persuaded that any disclaimer on our part, that we are thus actuated, would be absolutely futile. But we do not write as we do through our dislike of the present school system. Our only object at present is to discuss the alarming financial position of the Colony dispassionately.

Two things are manifest; there is great depression at present throughout the Colony; and, secondly, a need has arisen for additional taxation, unless economy on a large scale can be practised. This is no time for additional taxation, and it may be doubted whether such economy can be practised in the Civil Service Department as will sufficiently relieve the present pressure. It only remains, then, to cut down the education vote by the sum of three hundred thousand pounds. And this can be done without impairing in the least the efficiency of such an educational system as would be suitable to the circumstances of the country. Absolutely free education should not be provided except for such as cannot pay anything towards the expense of their education. Considering the obligation imposed on parents by the natural and Christian laws, this is a proposition so evident, that no man in his senses would think of denying it. It is also manifestly unjust to impose an almost intolerable burden of taxation on every one in the community in order to give free education to the children of a section of the people, who are