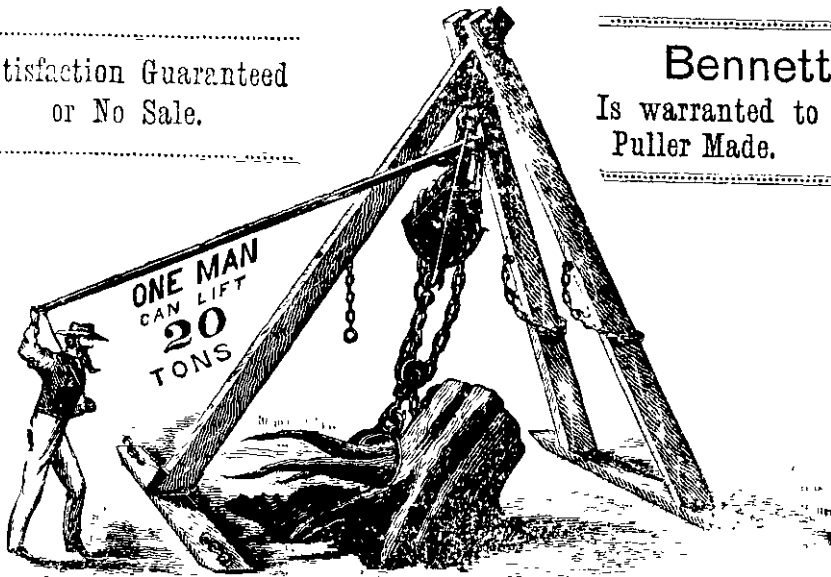


BENNETT'S STUMP PULLER

THREE SIZES. { No. 3 will lift 30 tons. } These sizes are what may be termed
 { No. 4 will lift 40 tons. } General Purpose Machines.
 { No. 5 is especially adapted to a heavy grade of work.
 No. 5 (Horse-power) will lift 130 tons. Suitable for Green Bush.

CHICAGO FAIR—AFTER 3 DAYS' TRIAL RECEIVED CENTENNIAL MEDAL.

Satisfaction Guaranteed
 or No Sale.



Bennett's Stump Puller
 Is warranted to be the only Practical Stump
 Puller Made.

And it can also be used for

Pulling pipe out of Bored or Drove
 Wells.

For Setting Heavy Monuments.

For Lifting Stone in quarries.

For Pulling Posts from ground.

For further particulars see Agents
 or write —

A. WOOD, M. & R. M. CO., CHCH.; N.Z.

are the best obtainable. When you buy a bottle see that it is the leading brand of
 Symington's "Edinburgh." CHEAP, PURE, AND ECONOMICAL, saves
 time and labour. Drums containing 2 gallons are specially put up for Hotels and
 Restaurants, ask your Merchant for them.

SYMINGTON'S COFFEE ESSENCES

the mother-house, and setting down wherever they can do any good. I think it was in about 1873 that they came first to Hokitika, brought there by the Very Rev Father Martin, the patriarch of the West Coast, who, notwithstanding his bad health, has never ceased improving the church and schools, and has brought them to their present flourishing state. In his old age and infirmities he must now find a great help in Father Lepetit, who was sent to him some time last year.

Hokitika, however, has been for some time very dull and quiet and quite different from what it was in 1871, owing to the falling off of the gold diggings in the neighbourhood, and although the train runs now between this town and Reefton, I doubt very much whether that will improve the state of affairs. It may be hoped, however, that some new and rich goldfield may yet be found which will restore it to its lost splendour.

DUNEDIN CATHOLIC LITERARY SOCIETY.

The usual weekly meeting of the society was held on Wednesday, the 11th inst, the rev president took the chair and there was a large attendance of members. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr W, Connor was nominated for membership on the motion of Mr Marlow and Mr Griffen.

A letter from Mr T. J. Lynch was read, in which he expressed his regret at having to leave the society on account of his approaching departure for Wellington. Mr Carolin said he was very sorry to hear that Mr Lynch was going away. As a member of the society he had carried out well anything he had undertaken, and he moved that a motion of regret at his departure be recorded. Messrs P. Hally and Griffen also heartily endorsed what had been said by Mr Carolin, and the motion was unanimously carried.

The meeting then resolved itself into the form of a parliament, the Rev Father Lynch occupying the Speaker's chair.

Mr Marlow (Premier) spoke as follows: Mr Speaker—In formally moving the following resolution, "That this house declares its unreserved opinion in favour of the land policy of the New Zealand Government, particularly in respect of (1) acquiring private lands for settlement; (2) the disposal of Crown lands under a leasehold system so as to reserve the freehold to the Crown; (3) a liberal scheme of special settlements, so as to afford all classes an opportunity of occupying the land; (4) the limitation of the area of land which any person or company may acquire in fee simple under the Land Act, 1892," I feel that my task is an important one, because the question

of how best to deal with the land must ever be a vital one. The question naturally arises on clause 1, "acquiring private land for settlement." Is it necessary? To answer this query it is essential to glance at the history of the land legislation of the Colony: in the first case we had companies purchasing from the Maoris, and selling to settlers, some of the earliest Maori wars being caused by these companies purchasing from chiefs that had not power to sell, and, of course, when the company went to take possession, the legitimate owner resisted, but the land laws may be said to commence with the granting of responsible government to New Zealand in 1853, then, for the first time in Australasia the control of the land was handed over to the Government, each provincial Government being given the control of the land within its province. Time will not permit of my describing the various systems that arose in the different provinces, suffice to say that in general the town and suburban lots were sold by auction, the rural land being fixed at 10s per acre, but by modifications the price was reduced to 5s per acre. It was at this time and price that the foundations were laid of some of the largest estates in New Zealand. To give you an idea of the extent of some of these, I will mention that there are in New Zealand 7 holdings of over 100,000 acres, or a total of 1,077,000, in the seven. Then there are 24 holdings between 50,000 and 100,000, with a total in the 24 of 1,530,000. You thus have 31 holdings averaging over 80,000 acres each, but perhaps as many of you are not farmers 80,000 or 100,000 acres, may simply be terms that would fail to convey to you a fair idea of their magnitude. Let me put it another way, there is an estate in Canterbury "Glenmark" through which a railway passes. The locomotive going at top speed takes one hour and five minutes to go from boundary to boundary. Do you grasp their enormous dimensions now? That these huge estates co-exist with a scarcity of land for settlement is a sufficient answer. Let us suppose the Government purchasing one of these estates, surveying it, adding the cost of survey, and letting it at a rental to cover the interest on the outlay, what is the result? In place of one homestead, a few shepherds huts, and a half wilderness, you have a hundred bright homesteads with nature bestowing her choicest gifts in response to the toil of the selector, and in due course an increase in customs, revenue, and exports. But if these are some of the direct benefits who shall estimate the indirect? These settlers requiring clothing, furniture, literature, and a hundred and one things necessary to civilisation, with their consequent employment to the inhabitants of the towns. I think, Sir, I have said sufficient to show that the "acquiring of private lands for settlement" is a wise and judicious scheme. Clauses 2 and 4 are so much bound up in one that I will take them together. Previous to 1892 we had three systems of disposing of

D. DAWSON, Practical Watchmaker and Jeweller,
 Exchange Court, Princes Street, DUNEDIN.
 Agent for N. Lassar's specialite Spectacles. Sights Tested by his Patent
 Process. These with Defective Sights invited to inspect.

