

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

MESSEES. WRIGHT, STEPHENSON AND Co. report as follows:—
We held our usual sale on Saturday, but, as is very often the case on the sale after the New Year, the attendance was very small and the entries were altogether composed of town and dealers' lots. As might be expected, very little business was done, and in the absence of any sales of good sorts of horses we repeat last week's quotations, which are:—For first-class draughts (extra heavy), £25 to £30; good ordinary do (young), £18 to £22; medium do, £12 to £16; aged do, £6 to £10; good hacks and harness horses, £12 to £16; medium do, £7 to £9; light and inferior do, £2 10s to £5.

MR F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale price only—
Oats: Improved, feed, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; seed, nominal. Wheat: Milling 1s 9d to 3s; fowls' wheat, 2s 0d to 2s 7d. Chaff: Inferior, to medium, 30s to 45s; good to prime, £2 5s to £2 15s 0d. Hay: Oats, £3; ryegrass, £2 0s. Potatoes: new locals, 6s per cwt; imported, 4s to 5s per cwt; old, 25s to 30s. Flour: Stone, £6 10s to £7 0s; roller, £7 to £7 10s. Oatmeal, 25lbs, £7 15s; bulk, £7 10s. Butter, fresh, 4d to 10d, salt, 5d, dull demand. Eggs, 7d per dozen (plentiful).

GENERAL REPORT OF SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS IN THE DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN, 1894.

THE examinations of the parochial schools of the diocese of Dunedin was begun on November 5, and completed on December 13. The examinations were conducted strictly according to the requirements of the State schools' syllabus, 1891. The following results were shown:—

St Joseph's school (girls) Invercargill. Presented for examination in the standards, 98; passed, 72; failed, 26; excepted (by reason of ill-health, defective sight, very irregular attendance or like cause, 14; absent, 18; preparatory class, 20.

St Mary's school (boys) Invercargill. Presented 40; passed 39; failed, 1; absent, 9.

St Joseph's school (mixed) Milton. Presented 56: passed 54; failed, 2; excepted, 4; absent 2; preparatory class, 12.

St Patrick's school (mixed) Lawrence. Presented, 49; passed, 37; failed 12; excepted, 2; absent 4; preparatory class, 11.

St Mary's school (mixed) Mosgiel. Presented, 29; passed, 27; failed, 2; excepted, 1; preparatory class, 9.

St Joseph's school (girls) Dunedin. Presented, 108; passed, 104; failed, 4; excepted, 9; absent, 4; preparatory class, 25.

St Patrick's school (mixed) South Dunedin; presented, 99 passed, 87; failed, 12; excepted, 13; absent, 17; preparatory class, 52.

St Joseph's school (girls) Oamaru. Presented, 108; passed, 97; failed, 11; excepted, 6; absent, 30; preparatory class, 71.

St Patrick's school (boys) Oamaru. Presented, 64; passed, 58; failed, 6; excepted, 20; absent 5.

St Mary's school (mixed) Port Chalmers. Presented, 21; passed 16; failed, 5; excepted, 2; preparatory class, 12.

St Mary's school (mixed) Gore. Presented, 26; passed, 25; excepted, 1; absent, 16; preparatory class, 30.

St Joseph's school (mixed) Queenstown. Presented, 30; passed, 20; failed, 10; excepted, 2; absent, 3; preparatory class, 17.

St Patrick's school (mixed) Arrowtown. Presented, 11; passed, 8; failed, 3; absent, 2; preparatory class, 10.

St Patrick's school (mixed) St Bathans. Presented, 15; passed, 14; failed, 1.

The large proportion of passes recorded above is ample proof of the efficiency, as regards secular instruction, of these schools. The children's gentleness and self-control in the classroom and on the playground, the absence of roughness and lawless speech speak well for the discipline of the school system. Reverence for superiors and punctilious purity in conduct and speech are absolutely insisted upon; precise and fixed moral and doctrinal instruction is given; whilst devotional acts sanctify the whole routine of each day and week. The influence of such training is so marked in the behaviour of the children that anyone seeing, and fit to appreciate, all the work done by the educational organisation of the diocese could not but declare with enthusiasm that this work far more than compensates for the labour and self-sacrifice of those who have built and maintained these schools.

The failures and exceptions noted above have been, in most instances, due to irregular attendance. True, some of the schools were closed for weeks on account of influenza, still the carelessness of some parents and the necessities of more have had something to answer for in this matter of irregular attendance. The parochial clergy, whose pains in helping the schools are unceasing, might profitably fix their attention for a time on this greatest of obstacles to progress—irregular attendance. Public exhortation and private advice would, no doubt, go a far way to awaken careless parents to a sense of duty and to inspire poor parents, whose needs tempt them to avail themselves of their children's help at home, with resolution to struggle and give their little ones for a few years as much time as possible at school.

The series of school books, etc, are well up-to-date. Too much or too little attention does not appear to be given to any particular subject. The State school syllabus is closely adhered to; and this syllabus, as far as secular instruction goes, seems well suited to a new country like New Zealand. Dr Gilmour's translation of Businger's *Biblishe Geschichte für Katholische Volksschulen* might be introduced with advantage, especially into those schools in which the clergy, owing to want of time cannot give religious instruction repeatedly each week. That this work is well suited to its purpose is shown by its wide circulation. It is published in German, Eng-

lish, French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Polish, Hungarian, Dutch, Rumanish and Breton.

The courtesy shown by the teachers, lay and religious, to the examiner should not go without acknowledgement. They lightened his labour very much. In almost every case they showed a conscientious anxiety that their work should be properly inspected and that the examination should be thorough and honest. His thanks are also due to the parochial clergy for their kindly hospitality. They, also, with scarce an appreciable exception, helped him cheerfully during school hours in the troublesome work of supervision.

Queenstown, December 27, 1894.

W E L L I N G T O N .

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

December 29, 1894.

THE Rev Father Goutenoire, who is now on a visit to Westport, has been appointed to the charge of the Meance Seminary in place of the Rev Dr Peetre who, as Provincial of the Marist Order, will be located at St Mary's of the Angels, Wellington.

The solemn ceremonies in connection with the Christmas festival were conducted in a most impressive manner in each of our three Catholic churches on the 25th.

The Catholic children's picnic, combined with the gipsy encampment and bazaar in aid of the Petone Church fund, took place on the show grounds, Petone, on Boxing Day.

The many friends and schoolmates of Martin Joseph Ryan will regret to hear of his death which occurred here on the 20th inst. Deceased had a successful career at St Patrick's College and was a great favourite with his companions. About a year ago he obtained a position in the Registrar General's office for which he was well adapted, being possessed of natural ability and of a gentle and retiring disposition. He was also to be a candidate at this year's Senior Civil Service examination. As soon as his illness became serious the parents, who reside at Lyell, were immediately communicated with and as early as possible the mother was at his bedside but only to witness his last struggles. Much sympathy is felt for the parents in their sad bereavement at the loss of so promising a son in his 19th year. The remains left Wellington on the 21st, and were conveyed to the Lyell for interment.—*R.I.P.*

It is also with regret we have to announce the death of Mr Thomas Hodgins, Pahiataua, formerly of the Shamrock Hotel in this city. Mr Hodgins, who was a native of County Tipperary, Ireland was 63 years of age, and came to New Zealand about 28 years ago, over 20 of which he spent in Wellington. On retiring from business in town about four years ago he went to reside with his wife and two sons on land in the 40-mile bush, the third son remaining, and is still, in Wellington. Deceased was highly respected, and, as a Catholic and an Irishman, was possessed of many estimable qualities. His death occurred in this city on the 17th inst, and the burial took place at the Karori cemetery on the 19th. The Rev Father O'Meara conducted the funeral obsequies, and a long procession followed the remains to the grave.—*R.I.P.*

The quarterly meeting of the Wellington branch of the Hibernian Society was held in St Patrick's Hall on Thursday evening. The president, Bro J. Stratford, occupied the chair, and one member was proposed for initiation and one was elected, making a total of 33 new members for the year. The election of officers for the coming term resulted as follows:—President, Bro F. Lessington; vice-presidents, Bros F. Haughey, P. D. Hoskins and P. Kelliber; secretaries, Bros W. J. Grant and H. G. Houldsworth; treasurer, Bro M. Bohan; medical attendants, Drs Cahill and Maxin. Subscriptions to the amount of £25 were received during the evening, and the meeting passed hearty votes of thanks the Rev Father Devoy and Rev Father Goggan for their interest in the welfare of the Society.

Mr W. H. Taggart has sold the Criterion stables, Dunedin to Mr James Jeff, late of Palmerston, whom he confidently recommends, as his successor, to the public.

Every one who desires to have his hair well dressed or to make a satisfactory purchase in the tobacco line will achieve his object by calling on Mr Langley, 126 Colombo street, Christchurch.

Messrs A'kinson and Tomline, farmers' implement works and shoeing forge, 204 St Asaph street West, Christchurch, are executing in the most satisfactory manner possible and at very reasonable charges all orders with which they are favoured.

Messrs Wilkinson and son have removed their Medical Hall to 91, Princes street, Dunedin, where their patrons and the public generally will find them more commodiously situated. The new premises are immediately adjoining those recently occupied by the firm.

Farmers and horse owners have a care for your horses, and do not get them shod at cheap forges. Mr Richard Tucker, so well and favourably known in Victoria street has transferred his business to a more central position in Manchester street, opposite Bedford Row, Christchurch, where he anticipates to meet a lot of old friends who have always profited by getting their horses shod by him. Mr Tucker would feel satisfied if all the readers of the TABLET will bear this in mind, and only give him a trial.

Intending insurers will find it to their advantage to do business with the Commercial Union Assurance Company. The terms offered are extremely liberal.

Messrs Hunter and Co., Madras street, Christchurch, invite inspection of their monuments and memorial stones. Their prices have been reduced to meet the times.

It is reported that the demand for Mother Aubert's remedies is increasing rapidly not only in New Zealand, but also out of the Colony. We understand that orders have been received even from England and Scotland, where former residents of New Zealand are not forgetting the great benefit they have personally derived from these most valuable preparations and wish their friends to give them a trial after other means have failed.

J. F. STRATZ, 261 High Street, Christchurch. capped, seven jewels, and gold balance will be sent to any part of New Zealand, free of charge, on receipt of £3 12s 6d—usual price, £6 10s. Any person wishing to secure one of these watches will oblige by sending the addresses of five trustworthy friends to whom I may send some of my catalogues. Only one watch will be sent to each district early application necessary.

Rotherham's English Silver Hunting Lever Watch, heavy case, capped, seven jewels, and gold balance will be sent to any part of New Zealand, free of charge, on receipt of £3 12s 6d—usual price, £6 10s. Any person wishing to secure one of these watches will oblige by sending the addresses of five trustworthy friends to whom I may send some of my catalogues. Only one watch will be sent to each district early application necessary.