

MESSRS DONALD REID AND Co. report as follows:—

Sheepskins—Green crossbreds sold at 1s 3d to 2s 5d; do merinos, 1s 1d to 1s 7d; do lambs, 1s 6d to 2s 4d; dry crossbreds, 1s 8d to 4s 4d; dry merinos, 1s 3d to 3s 1d; dry pelts, 4d to 1s 1d.

Hides—Prime heavy, 2½d to 3d; medium, 2d to 2½d; light, 1½d to 1¾d; inferior, bull's, 1d to 1½ per lb.

Tallow—Prime rendered, 17s to 19s; medium, 15s to 16s; inferior, 12s to 14s; rough fat, 9s to 12s 6d per cwt.

Wheat—Quotations—Prime milling, velvet fusca, 2s 11d to 3s; prime milling, red wheat, 2s 9d to 2s 10½; medium milling, 2s 8d to 2s 9d; fowl wheat, 2s 7d to 2s 8½d per bushel (sacks in).

Oats—Prime bright Sutherland's, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; prime milling, 1s 3d to 1s 3½d; good stout feed, 1s 2d to 1s 2½d; inferior, 1s 1d to 1s 1½d per bushel (sacks extra).

Chaff—Best oaten sheaf, L2 5s to L2 7s 6d; medium to good, L2 to L2 2s 6d; cow chaff, L1 10s to L1 12s 6d per ton (bags extra).

Turnips—A considerable quantity have been disposed of at 13s to 14s per ton (loose in trucks).

Sheep—554 penned. Crossbred wethers, 2-tooth, 6s; crossbred ewes, 2 and 4-tooth, 6s 6d; crossbred lambs, 5s.

Cattle—25 yarded—all dairy cows except one pen. These sold at L5 to L5 7s 6d.

MR F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale price only—Oats: good demand feed, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; milling, 1s 3d, to 1s 3½d; seed, nominal. Wheat: Milling 2s 8d to 2s 10d; fowls' wheat, 2s 6d to 2s 10d scarce. Chaff: Inferior, to medium, 30s to 40s; good to prime, £2 5s to £2 7s 6d. Hay: Oats, £3; ryegrass, £2 15s. Potatoes: local's, 25s to 35s per ton; market full. Flour: Stone, £7; roller, £7 10s to £8 10s. Oatmeal, 25lbs, £7 10s; bulk, £7 5s. Butter fresh, 6d to 10d, salt, 6d, fair demand. Factory, 10d to 11d. Eggs, 1s 10d per dozen (scarce).

THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

(New York Freeman's Journal.)

ENGLAND'S aggressive activity in South America may lead to serious complications, if not to war, with the United States. Some time ago Congress was assured by Minister Bayard and Secretary Gresham that the Bluefields difficulty was amicably and happily settled. Better judges of British methods doubted it, and their doubts are known to have been well founded. About a year ago a man by the name of Hatch, an English Consular Agent, was expelled from Nicaragua for intermeddling in the domestic affairs of that republic and for conspiring with the Mosquito Indians against its authority. At that time England claimed a protectorate over the Mosquito Indians, and denied that Bluefields was Nicaraguan territory. She has since made it appear, or left the impression on the mind of our Secretary of State, that she yielded both those claims. It was this that caused Minister Bayard and Secretary Gresham to announce that the matter was amicably settled. But they were misled. English statesmen are fruitful in expedients. When they fail of their purpose by one method they quickly find another. Their purpose in the present case is to gain control of the eastern outlet of the Nicaraguan Canal, the great future waterway between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, just as they control the Suez Canal. Aside from this purpose the Bluefields territory is of little or no consequence. Having failed to gain this control by her sham claim of a protectorate over the Mosquito Indians and her pretence that the territory in question did not belong to Nicaragua, England uses the expulsion of Consul Hatch as a pretext to keep her land-grabbing hand on Nicaraguan territory, and makes a demand of 75,000 dolos on the Republic as "smart money," or a fine, for having expelled the busybody and conspiring Hatch. This demand is peremptory, and requires payment to be made within six weeks. She makes other claims for damages to other English subjects, who were expelled for their mischief breeding, but these claims she considerably leaves to arbitration, with the distinct understanding, however, that one of the arbitrators will be selected by herself, the other by Nicaragua, and that the third arbitrator must not be a citizen of any American republic.

This is a direct challenge to the well-known Monroe doctrine. It forces an issue which the United States cannot avoid. There is no alternative but to reaffirm and enforce, if necessary, the Monroe doctrine that has been held inviolable by the American people of all parties for twenty years, or to abandon it at the insolent challenge of Great Britain. Is it of much interest just now, in view of the overbearing attitude of England, we give here the text of the doctrine, as formulated by President Monroe in his annual message to the Eighteenth Congress, December 2, 1823:—

"We owe it to candour and to the amicable relations existing between the United States and the allied powers, to declare that we should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety. With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European power we have not interfered, and shall not interfere, but with the governments which have declared their independence and maintained it, and whose independence we have, on great consideration and just principles, acknowledged, we could not view an interposition for oppressing them, or controlling in any other manner their destiny by any European power, in any other light than as a manifestation of an unfriendly disposition towards the United States."

If this doctrine be once abandoned, if England be permitted to oppress the weak republic of Nicaragua, or in any manner control its destiny, it will be but a comparatively short time when European colonising nations, such as England, France, Germany and Italy, will be dividing up and parceling out South America, as they have parcelled out Africa among them. The thin edge of the wedge once successfully introduced the rest will follow. It is this consideration that gives importance to the action which the Administration may take in reference to Nicaragua and Venezuela questions, which England is now forcing.

The outrage on Venezuela is still more glaring. Stripped of diplomatic phraseology, it is simply a case of land robbery. The story may be told in a few words. The territory on the northern coast of South America formerly belonged to Spain and Holland. The dividing line between their possessions was the Essequibo River. All east of that river belonged to Holland, and all west to Spain. In 1810 a large territory west of the river freed itself from Spain and formed the Republic of Venezuela, and inherited all the rights that belonged to Spain; that is, all the land from the Essequibo, southward to the frontier of Brazil. In 1814 Holland ceded to Great Britain that portion of her territory extending from the east bank of the Essequibo to the Coventin River, since known as British Guiana. Since this cession from Holland in 1814 England has, under one pretext or another, been advancing her lines west of the Essequibo River and seizing Venezuelan territory. In 1840 she claimed all the territory up to the Oronoco River. The republic at Venezuela always protested against these advances, and now protests. This is the situation as it stands now. This English colonisation on the territory of Venezuela is directly in opposition to the principle laid down by President Monroe in his historic message, "The American continents . . . are henceforth not to be considered as subjects of future colonisation by any European power."

ST BRIGID'S CHURCH, WAITATI.

THE following address was presented to the Rev W. Newport and his Very Rev Confreres:—

We, the Catholic residents of Waitati and the adjoining districts, respectfully approach to bid you a hearty welcome. We regret very much the absence of our beloved Bishop on this joyful occasion, but can, through you, assure his Lordship that he has the fervent prayers of this congregation for his speedy recovery.

You have, Very Rev Fathers, come here to-day to join our own worthy Pastor in opening a new church, dedicated to the honour and glory of God, under the special invocation of the great patroness of Ireland, the illustrious St Brigid.

What better, then, can we do than to wish you, in the sweet tongue St Brigid spoke, a genuine *Cum melle facite*.

Our numbers are but small, still we have cheerfully given the little we could afford to erect this pretty church. We wish, likewise, to record here our grateful thanks to those of a different religious belief to ourselves who have so generously given their help to aid us in this good work.

We end as we began by wishing you, one and all, a hearty welcome to Waitati.

LITERARY NOTICES.

A Short cut to the True Church, or the Fact and the Word. By the Rev Edmund Hill, C.P.

This is the third edition, published also at the office of the *Ave Maria*, of a very admirable book of controversy. The author, who is himself a convert from Protestantism, has the advantage of understanding, by personal experience, the difficulties that lie in the path towards Catholic truth of the Protestant. These he meets by clear and convincing arguments—examining each point briefly but fully and with a virile strength, and a simplicity that are very striking.—To the Protestant desiring to know what are the arguments on which Catholics base their doctrines, or to Catholics called on to defend the truths of their religion against the attacks of Protestants, a better book can hardly be recommended. Like all the productions of the *Ave Maria* Press it is admirably turned out.

Money and a Domestic Currency for New Zealand is the title of a pamphlet published at the office of the Woodville Examiner, and which contains a lecture recently delivered on the subject by Mr W. Siewwright. The lecturer argues strongly in favour of a paper currency for the Colony and a State Bank. The pamphlet may be read with profit by those who are interested in the very important subject with which it deals.

Messrs Dawson and Co. George street, Dunedin, are always provided with a first-class assortment of watches, clocks, and jewellery. Repairs are executed by the firm with nicety and promptness. Their stock of spectacles is suited to all requirements.

Mr S. D. Stedman, George and Princes streets, Dunedin, is now holding a clearing sale of bicycles. Bargains are offered during the month that the sale lasts. Catalogues will be forwarded on application.

Messrs Scott and Wilson, St Andrew's street, Dunedin, are ready to execute in the most satisfactory manner possible all orders entrusted to them in the way of window blinds. The firm's patent improvements are especially worthy of attention.

RINK STABLES

CHRISTCHURCH.

Carrriages, Cabs, Landaus, Broughams, Dog Carts, Buggies, Dairy Carts, &c. always ON HAND at the Shortest Notice. Horses Bought and Sold on Commission, and Broken to Single and Double Harness. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Vehicles and Harness of every description Bought, Sold, Exchanged or Stored.

W. HAYWARD & CO., Rink Stables, Gloucester Street, Christchurch. Telephone 197.