Commercial. EVENING STAR OFFICE, Monday, July 26th. THAMES STOCK AND MINING ASSOCIATION. The following are the quotations at noon, this day, July 26, 1875:--SALES.....City of London 2 11 .0 Britannia ... Gem ... New Exchange ... SELLERS ... City of London ... Bright Smile Red Queen Gem BUYERS ... City of London Queen of the May Golden Calf (double) ... Britannia

POST OFFICE NOTICES.

JOHN FRATER, Chairman.

For Southern Provinces (for transmission per s.s. Ladybird) on Wednesday next.
For Sandwich Islands, North and South America, British and Foreign West Indies, Continent of Europe, and United Kingdom (via San Francisco) on Thursday, the 5th August.

EDMUND COOK, Postmaster. Post Office, Mary street. July 26, 1875.

SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Casual Advertisements preceding the leader are charged at the rate of FIVE SHILLINGS per inch for each insertion.

J. COSGRAVE & CO

BEG to Inform the Inhabitants on the

Thames that, owing to Excessive Shipments to Hand and Expected.

THEY FIND IT NECESSARY TO CALL A SALE

OF THEIR

DRAPERY

WINTER CLOTHING

AT OWEN STREET,

AND AT THE CASH PALACE.

In Albert Street, Grahamstown.

The STOCKS in both these Establisments. VALUED at

£20,000,

Have been RE-MARKED, and will be Offered to the Public AT COST.

THE SALE COMMENCED LAST

SATURDAY.

Morrow.-On the 21st, at the Prince Arthur Hotel, Shortland, the wife of Charles

DEATHS.

BRYERS.-On the 26th instant, at Parawai Mary, wife of George Bryers, aged 35

Doubt.—On July 25, at Auckland, James Doull, late of Bonsill, Dumbartonsh're, Scotland.

	E TABLE. Sun.		TIDE.	
July.—Aug.	Rises		Morn.	Even.
26-Monday	7. 7	5. 4	0.20	0.35
27–Tuesday 🏋	7. 6		1. 4	1 43
28-Wednesday	7.5	5. 6	2.31	3.21
29-Thursday	7.4	5. 7	3 56	4.32
30-Friday	7. 3	5.8	5. 2	5. 33
1-Saturday	7. 3	5. 9		6.19
1-Sunday	7. 3	5. 9	6.43	7. 7

THE

Evening Star.

PUBLISHED DAILY AT FOUR O'CLOCK P.M.

MONDAY, JULY 26, 1875.

Our Wellington correspondent repeats the rumour which has been reiterated so often of late, that Mr Stafford is likely to assume the leadership of the Government at the end of the session. It will be remembered that this has been said before. and denied. The rumour seems to gain strength at the present time from the friendly attitude Mr Stafford has assumed towards the Government; but when we consider the remarks of the Minister of Justice. Mr C. C. Bowen, during the progress of the debate on the Address in Reply, we can scarcely believe that any understanding has been arrived at of the nature indicated by our correspondent, and asserted with so much confidence by other correspondents, and even writers in the Southern press. With reference to fundamental question on which the Government would stand or fall they would columns are full of interest, not only in latitude 39 38 south.

the Ministry as to the House. We are bound to believe, therefore, that no undercoalition Ministry. The Evening Post stated that such was the case-certainly before Mr Bowen's statement was made -and that Major Atkinson and Mr Bowen were induced to join the Ministry at the an old colleague of Mr Stafford's and the Stafford's joining the Government, cannot several writers and correspondents, we support and sympathy, and he may yet of furthering his own political views.

before Parliament explaining the way in which the four million loan was negociated, and the relations which have existed between Sir Julius Vogel and the Crown agents. The latter seem to have set themselves in direct antagonism to the ex-Premier, disapproving of the course adopted by the latter in placing the loan in the hands of Messrs Rothschild. The correspondence published is in some res- paper? pects personal in character—indeed acrimonious; but Sir Julius would appear to have the best of the argument. It is way of negociating the loan, were actua- tion. ted more by self interest than by a desire to benefit the Colony. As the loan was arranged for without the assistance of these gentlemen they lost their quarter per cent. premium on the transaction, besides other little pickings to be gathered from a big loan of four millions. There are numerous little incidents referred to in the correspondence which conduce to this opinion regarding the Crown Agents, and which also suggest that Dr Featherstone has been little more than a tool in their hands as far as matters affecting the credit of the Colony are concerned. One important letter to the Government, purporting to come from Messrs Julyan, Sargeant and Featherstone, was found to have had the latter's name appended to it without even his knowledge; notwithstanding he admitted that much, he had taken no means to express dissent with the terms of the letter, although it criticised the action of the then Premier, Colonial Treasurer and accredited agent of the Government. There seem to be no grounds for the opposition of the gentlemen who have hitherto manipulated the New Zealand loans to Mr Vogel's course of proceeding but a petty jealousy. If they had had the disposal of the four million loan they would have placed it in the market gradually. But it seems more than probable that if such a course had been pursued the Colony's securities would have depreciated materially, and it is doubtful if in the end a better price would have been secured than that which was obtained for the full amount; while there will be no delay in obtaining the money, as three millions were sold at once, and remainder within twelve months. It would appear that taking into consideration all things the loan has been not so badly placed. What with the discount on the sale, commission paid to Messrs Rothschild and other charges, and the term over which repayment is extended, the cost of the loan will be a little over five per cent. per annum.

Institute are invited to attend this evening to hear the annual report and elect officers, &c. We believe that although as compared with the kindred Institute at Auckland, which is almost in a state of collapse, the Thames Committee will be able to show favourably there are certainly some things which might with advantage be attended to, and which we hope the meeting will not fail to urge upon the incoming officers. As regards the papers, notwithstanding the many papers both local and foreign of which the reading room can boast, there is not one whereby any just notion can be formed of how affairs are at home," or which makes occurrence. Consider what London papers are taken in. Putting aside those such as Punch, which is taken for its fun, and the "Illustrated" in which the interest is almost entirely centred in its pictures, and such papers as the Engineer, and others of that type, which speak only of what may be called class matters, we have only the Saturday Review (or Reviler), more a collection of essays on general affairs; Public Opinion, which professes to give the curtailed opinions of all the leading papers, but frequently gives the germ of none; and a sensation paper of police reports and pseudo recitals of horrors, real or imaginary, entitled Lloyd's Weekly News. These are the materials, with slight accounts of matters of interest at home, and we sincerely hope that the committee in this respect will make some change for the better. The Mail, an epitome of the Times, published thrice a week, might be supplied for about three shillings and 6d a month, postage paid; or the Standard, month, postage paid; or the Standard, off Waitara, abandoned by the crew. or Hour, or some other good daily paper at Her hull had sustained no damage, but about the same price. The Field also would be a really valuable addition to the readers of the Institute, and this might Mr Stafford's statement that, on any | be obtained at a cost of two shillings and sixpence a month or thereabouts. Its

THE subscribers to the Thames Mechanics'

have his loyal and cordial support, Mr to the reader of sporting tenden Bowen said it was as great a surprise to cies, but it affords also much valuable information on agriculture and outdoor subjects generally. If the funds at the standing had been come to regarding a disposal of the Committee are not sufficient to enable them to undertake the additional expense, some of the present papers and magazines might be given up. We should certainly suggest the suppression of Lloyd's as the first step, and suggestion of Mr Stafford—the one being | from what we can see, the Athenaum is not much read; the two together would other a personal friend. That there is a suffice to pay for, at any rate, one daily possibility, or even probability of Mr paper, and the readers could well afford to give up one or more magazines to enable be denied; but that any definite arrange- the Field to be supplied; the Quarterly ment had been come to as stated by and Westminster are both taken in, and one (we should suggest the latter) might should feel disposed to discredit. Mr easily be dispensed with. The sum saved, Stafford has given an earnest of his active and the least stupid of the shilling magazines also being given up, would give more go further and accept office as a means than the amount required, and a want much felt be remedied, with scarcely anyone being annoyed. Another thing we would draw attention to is the fact that A LONG correspondence has been laid old papers are allowed to accumulate in such masses as to be a great nuisance-we mean the Auckland papers. These from their number are practically useless, should anyone wish to refer to them beyond the last month's issue, and would, if referred to, prove a source of immense trouble to the librarian. Would it not be much better if they were disposed of as waste

THERE was to have been a public meeting at Ohinemuri on Saturday to e nsider the question of agricultural difficult to disabuse one's mind of the im leares, but, we are informed, there was precsion that Messrs Julyan and Sargeant, no meeting, a sufficient number of persons in their opposition to Sir Julius Vogel's interested not answering to the invita-

> THE Taranaki News is "glad to see the growing feeling in English speaking communities that where a woman has suffered a serious injury from a man that the law does not or cannot redress, that she may take the law into her own hands." Several instances are then given in which women have taken the law into their own hands and afterwards been acquitted by juries; but, strange to say, in each case the grievances under which the injured females labored were such as could have been redressed by the law.

> WE learn that Mr F. C. Dean has intimated his intention of giving two handsome prizes for competition by the children attending the Waiotahi Creek School at the next Christmas examination. The first prize will be £5's worth of books to the best student history; the second, books of the value of £1 10s to the best in geography. The latter prize will be confined to pupils in the junior division of the school. Considerable emulation will probably be induced by the announcement of these two valuable prizes.

THE Rev. V. Lush gave notice yesterday morning that the collection to be made on Sunday morning next will be devoted to the support of what is known as the Home Mission Fund. We find by the report ending June 30, 1875, that nine clergymen have been maintained either wholly or in part out of this fund, and that in addition three and twenty places have been visited by clergymen expenses the Home Mission Fund defrayed. Unfortunately, though the demand for clergymen becomes greater as the country is opened up, the fund shows a falling off of £47 18s 8d from the amount subscribed in the previous year, and the standing committee will be totally unable to increase their sphere of work, even if they are not obliged in some instances to curtail it, unless their appeals for aid are more liberally responded to. It is the Messrs Rothschild guarantee the lalso a matter of local as well as general interest to us, as the services of one clergyman are required exclusively for the Tairns and Ohinemuri districts, whose expenses for the greater part must come out of this We hope the appeal made on Sunday next will be cordially responded

> THE following occurs in a letter from the Dunedin correspondent of the New Zealand Times :--" We have had a Church of England bazaar for the last few days, on a very novel principle. It is in aid of the organ fund of the new church of St. Matthew. A large number of really nice-looking girls stand behind the various stalls, all dressed alike, and with a distinguishing "mob cap," of a very pretty pattern; but the feature of the bazaar is, that no one is importuned to buy this article or that. You can buy anything you like, or leave it alone. The result has been a large audience nightly, and when the bazaar closed, over £700 had been received in four nights. This should be an example to all church people desirous of holding bazaars throughout the colonies."

THERE were two cases heard in the Resident Magistrate's Court on Friday, in which judgment was reserved till today to give time to the parties to prepare for appeals. This morning by arrangement come to between the learned counsel for the parties to the different suits, and mention of events of interest of almost daily with the consent of the Resident Magistrate, judgments were again deferred, but His Worship said he would give his decisions in the cases on Wednesday, 28th instant.

TELEGRAMS.

PER PRESS AGENCY.

AUCKLAND.

Arrived: Lutterworth, from London, after a voyage of 103 days. She has thirty passengers—all well. No Government immigrants. A passenger named Stevens died during the voyage.

On Sunday, the 20th June, a fire was discovered on board the Lutterworth in additions, from which to obtain true the cabin, caused by a defective plate in the stove. After a quarter of an hour's exertion it was extinguished. There were forty tons of powder aboard.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Saturday. The cutter Hero has been picked up her mast had snapped off, and was in the water, with the mainsail by the side. The sail had two reefs in it. It is supposed that the crew have been picked no by some vessel passing. The ship's papers show that she was, on the 20th, LYTTELTON

This day. Arrived: Ship Oriana, from London, 115 days out. Passengers all well and landed.

PORT CHALMERS.

This day. Arrived: Ship Aldegrove, from Glas ow, with 3421 statute adults. All the children had measles, but no deaths occurred from that disease, though nineteen died from diarrhea. She has gone into quarantine.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Saturday. A petition is getting numerously signed here, asking the Mayor to call a public meeting for the purpose of eliciting an opinion as to the policy of the Govern-ment in proposing to abolish provincial institutions, and especially with regard to forcing on the abolition without affording the people of the colony an opportunity of exercising their right to vote upon so important an organic change as the Constitution of the colony.

The result of the examination for the University scholarships was made known this afternoon. The following are the successful candidates :- W. H. Barnicoat, Nelson College, scholarship in classics C. Brandon, Wellington College, scholarphysical science; E. N. ship in Brown, Christchurch College, Christchurch scholarship in classics; G. H. Ballard, Nelson College, scholarship in mathematics; C. M. Edgar, Auckland College, two scholarships in physical science; J. H. Harkness, Nelson College, scholarship in classics W. H. Herbert, Christ College, Christchurch, scholarship in classics and a scholarship in mathematics; H. B. Kirk, Wellington, two scholarships in physical science; W. V. Milton, Christ College, Christchurch, scholarship in classics : R. H. Reid, Auckland College, scholarship in mathematics; F. A. Thompson. Nelson College, scholarship in ma thematics; J. W. Twentyman, Christ College, Christchurch, scholarship in classics and scholarship in mathematics; J. P. White, Nelson College, scholarship in mathematics; K. Webb, Wellington College, scholarship in mathematics; E. Webb. Wellington College, scholarship in physical science. The following lose the schelarship they now hold, through not having made the 2000 marks required for the continued tenure of the scholarships -J. H Barnicoat, Nelson College, 1846 marks: K. M. Edgar, Auckland College, 1646; J. H. Harkness, Nelson College, 1607; C. Lowe, Otago University, 1619 W. V. Milton, Christ College, church, 1897; R. H. Rattray, Auckland College. H. Salomon, University of Otago, retains his scholarship as he made

DUNEDIN.

2413 marks.

Saturday. A smart shock of earthquake occurred vesterday at the Taieri, at twenty minutes At an inquiry re the Flaxman fire, the

ury returned a verdict that there was nothing to show how the fire originated.

FROM CORRESPONDENTS.

WELLINGTON.

Saturday. Mr Stafford is likely to accept the leadership of the Government after the

The present Ministry will carry their measures despite the Opposition.

The effect of the debate last night was

to strengthen the hands of the Govern-The Evening Post warns Sir George

Grey that persistence in opposition will entail political ruin.

Our Volunteers.

CHURCH PARADE, &c.

THE monthly Church Parade of the hames Naval Brigade took place yester day morning. There was an excellent muster, with band, and the blue jackets were accompanied by the Parawai Native olunteer Company, who seem to take ith their comrades belonging to other orps. The parade assembled at the Vaval Brigade Hall, and before proceed g to church, Major Cooper presented Marksmen's badges to members of e Brigade and to members of the Native ontingent. He remarked that the Narals possessed more marksmen than any other company (19), and the Maories were second. Lieutenant Bennett received three stars with his badge, as bein he highest marksman in the district Besides Lieutenant Bennett the following eceived badges :- P. O.'s G. A. Brown and J. A. Gordon, Seamen Geo. Clarke bykes, Armstrong, Grundy and Nelson hese were all Representatives at the these were all Representatives at the Colonial Prize Firing for 1875. There were besides—Seamen W. Fagg, W. H. Potts, Geo. Wallace, Hori Matene, V. Savage, R. McVay, G. W. Henderson, and Bandsman J. Hope. Three members entitled to badges were not present. We un erstand that about twenty-five members f the corps went to Auckland on Satur ay night to attend the funeral of their e comrade, Seaman Stone, an old an ghly esteemed member of the Brigade t is probable that the whole Brigade would have gone had the notice been given earlier. The number of badges presented to the Native corps was eleven, he lieutenant and sub-lieutenant being mongst the recipients.

FINANCE MEETING. There was a meeting of the Naval Clothing and Finance Committee held last Saturday evening to open tenders for blue uniform for the men, when M Price's tender was finally accepted. Wobserve that this Corps has built a she for their guns at a cost, we believe, c

Our Mining Reporter.

QUEEN OF BEAUTY.

The output of stone from this mine has vielded above the average this fortnight, the company's two mills being nearly equal in their results; Bull's mill on the Karaka working 22 head of stamps contributing 406 ounces, while their own mill at the foot of the Waiotahi creek working 20 head, but of greater weight, gave 404 ozs 10 dwts-total 8102 ounces retorted, which on melting proved 798 ounces. The stone is obtained from No. 1 and 2 reefs, worked from stopes above the low level the quantity requisite is easily obtained, as the crushing dire is from 14 to 15 feet wide, and towards the

City of London boundary the foot-wall is ask the natives to take less for their land i miners' rights obtained before the proper not touched, but will be taken down as required. The cross-lode is not worked, at present. Preparations are in hand for delivery of stone from a large block left in the 150 feet level. The manager, Mr Wilson, has suspended sinking the main shaft for the present. Filling in the stopes as they are worked out is promptly executed by means of passes from the surface.

BRIGHT SMILE.

Retorting for this company took place on Saturday at their old battery, where 12 head of stampers have been running for the past fortnight, the return has been the satisfactory yield of 142 ounces retorted gold. Henceforth this mill will be open to public crushings, the company's stuff going to their new mill. which is working in perfect order since the opening on Thursday last. The battery has been placed under the charge of Mr John Somerville.

ALBION:

Crushing for this company has been carried on at the Prince Alfred battery with 5 head of stampers for the past two weeks, and has now been stopped, owing to the difficulty of working in the stopes; this will be remedied in a few days; ventilation being secured, stone will be broken out and the milling resumed. The present cleaning up yielded 79 ozs retorted gold, which on melting produced 77 ozs 10 dwts.

GOLDEN CALF.

The manager reports that the reef worked on is looking well, and about 14 feet in thickness. The stuff being crushed is wholly from it. Gold is showing through the face from hanging wall to footwall, and is distributed through it. The crushing at the battery is showing up equal to the last-namely, 2 ounces to the

QUEEN OF THE MAY

The usual fortnight's cleaning up at the Una battery, where 15 head stampers have been employed has resulted in the favorable yield of 256 ounces of gold. This is an excellent return, and will no doubt be accepted as encouraging by the shareholders.

ALBURNIA.

The contractors working in the new drive, from the same level as the Whau adit, are in good country, and progressing favourably. This will penetrate under the workings in the Carpenters portion of the company's ground, and will afford 80 feet backs when completed.

CITY OF LONDON. Retorting for this company will not take place till to-morrow.

MINING COMPANIES MEETINGS.

KARANGAHAKE COMPANIES.

At a meeting of delegates from the All Nations, Prospectors and Mazeppa companies, Ohinemuri, held on Saturday evening at the Governor Bowen Hotel, Mr J. M. Macdonald in the chair, the subject of amalgamation was discussed and favorably entertained, but pending an offer from certain gentlemen to erect a 40 stamper mill on property, such offer to be deposited within 14 days, the meeting adjourned.

OHINEMURI AGRICULTURAL LEASES.

A deputation consisting of the Mayor, Messrs Wilson, Carpenter, Wallautt, Brown, Allom, Hennelly, Rowe, Payne, Porter, Bullock and others, met his Worship the Warden and Mr Tole at the Warden's office this morning, to suggest improvements in the Agricultural Lease Regulations.

His Worship read the telegram he had received from the Superintendent requesting him to confer with Mr Tole on the subject, and his answer thereto.

The Mayor said he was induced to send the telegram he had with reference to the leases owing to the shortness of the time still remaining. He would have liked to have had a public meeting at which Mr Tole might have been present, but as Mr Tole was under the necessity of going away to-day they had come there to see if anything could be done.

In reply to Mr Carpenter Captain Fraser said that the regulations only referred to Ohinemuri, and could not be brought to an end by a six months' notice on either side.

Mr Rowe said it was an absurdity to pay half-a-crown an acre rent for land to the Natives, the sum was far too large; and the miners by taking the leases were only doing themselves an injury and caciting the cupidity of the Natives by giving more than the land was really worth. They did not want leasehold land but freehold land. Mr Porter also thought the sum far

too large for the rent of land, considering that land just as good could be purchased outright in some cases for 5 shillings an acre. This he knew of a fact himself; he also thought that the amount of land allowed to be taken up was too small in many cases, and that th better plan would be to allow larger tracts of land to be taken up as the distance from the township increased. It would be obviously unfair to allow 200 acres to be taken up close to Mackaytown, 50 was quite enough, as the distance from the town increased so might the extent of land taken up increased. He quoted the case of leases of land at Otago, where the freehold reverted to the lessee after he had paid half-a-crown a year rent for seven years. if he had improved the land. And also Nelson, where he himself had had a hand in the regulations.

The Warden considered that the

Ohinemuri regulations were more liberal than those of Nelson and Otago-copies of which he handed in:

that there were really only two pieces of good land. Mr Rowe said he did not object to the

quantity—that might be remedied after, out the rent was too much, he thought that one shilling a week was sufficient, and in the event of the Government he coming the lessor the lessee should have the option of buying the land without competition. Mr Tole was sure that the Superin

tendent wished most liberal terms to be offered to lessees when the land was

than they asked for their own.

Mr Rowe said that if the natives got a shilling an acre for their land it was more bought the land, a shilling an acre rent would pay a very large interest on the

sum they would pay for it

Mr Porter said that if the freehold of the land were subsequently acquired by the Government, the price at which it ought to be sold to the lessee should be the same as the price of the adjoining block. This Mr Rowe contended was unfair,

as some land would be of more value than the land adjacent, and some less which would give to some an unfair advantage. The Mayor thought that Mr Porter's

should be set aside for miners in small allotments, and outside the radius larger areas might be taken up. The Warden pointed out the changeable character of goldfields and that what was the township of a goldfield to-day might

an was a good one and that land within

radius of a mile or a mile and a half

not be one to-morrow. After some discussion, with a view of getting something done Mr Tole stated that the fees for surveyors had been made to guard against surveyors' charges, that he thought the fees very low, but was quite agreeable to the clause in relation to them being struck out.

Mr Rowe then made a definite motion that the area allowed be as in the regulations for 6 months, and that the term of lease be the same, viz., 21 years; that the lessee pay one shilling per annum an acre for the first seven years, one and sixpence for the next seven years, and two shillings for the succeeding and final seven years; and at the end of six months the Government Officer or Warden should; if the 50-acre blocks were taken up, report the same with a view of get ting the area allowed enlarged. He said that in his country the occupations of miner and agriculturist were often combined, and might be so here.

Mr Wallnutt supported Mr Rowe, and quoted from his experience in what he stated.

Mr Brown did not agree with Mr Rowe. He thought that those who wished land on which to settle, were those who wished to give up mining and retire.

Mr Porter said that it was all very well to combine the occupations of settle and miner in England, but here the farms required to be made first which would take the whole of the settler's time without mining. Mr Payne was never appealed to as a

probable settler, and he stated that if he acquired land he should give up mining. Mr Tole asked if 50 acres would not be sufficient for purely agricultural pur-poses, of course if the land was only suited for pasture more might be added. He reminded them that the area of Ohinemuri was limited, and that the

Superintendent wished to benefit as many s possible. Mr Porter thought fifty acres too little, and Mr Brown also supported the proposal of 200 acres being allowed, as he thought those who took the land wished

to give up mining. The Warden thought that at any rate for the present fifty acres was enough, that anything which tended to delay the lands being occupied was unadvisable, and therefore, as the 3rd of August was so near, they had better leave the question of 50 acres for the time. that he and Mr Tole quite agreed that the rent should be reduced, either to a shilling an acre or in accordance with the sliding scale proposed by Mr Rowe, and that the scale of fees to be charged should be struck out. He thought that in 7 years it was almost certain that something would be done whereby the freeholds would be acquired

with the leaseholds. Mr Tole acquiesced with the Warden, and the deputation then withdrew.

RESIDENT MAGISTRATE'S COURT

THIS DAY. (Before W. Fraser Esq., R.M.).

DRUNKENNESS. Thomas Kelly was charged with having

been drunk and incapable in Shortland on Saturday night. Defendant pleaded guilty, and said it was the first time he had been before a magistrate for drunkenness, and hoped he would be let off as he wanted to get back o Tairua. In answer to the Bench, de-

The Bench said he could go this time. CIVIL SIDE.

DEFERRED JUDGMENTS.

endant said he had been a soldier.

In the cases of Morrow v. Sprague and Bennett v. Cassin, in which judgments were reserved, his Worship said the solicitors had agreed to a further adjournment, and he would therefore adjourn the cases till Wednesday, 28th

The Court adjourned.

Correspondence.

These columns are open to all correspondence of public interest, but we do not held ourselves responsible for the opinions of writers. Correspondence must in all croses to authenlicated by the relindre and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

UMPING OF THE PROSPECTORS' CLAIM, KARANGAHAKE, OHI-NEMURI.

Sir, What is the cause of this proceeding? Who originated it, and why was it sought to be done? These are questions which easily strike a person's mind on reading of the reports having reference to the above proceedings, and to a casual observer no doubt are difficult to answer, but to any person who knows. not only the construction of the Warden's Court, but also its tendencies, they are easily enough accounted for. It appears the lawsuit initiated in this case was settled out of Court by some intrigue. Mr Brown thought that 50 acres was too little, but the Warden reminded him by intrigue, or some other not very creditable means? If so, it is a pity that the whole case was not placed in proper form before the Court, so that the public would become acquainted with the whole case from the beginning to the end of it. However, as far as I can ascertain, there were two reasons upon which it was sought to jump the ground. First, it was alleged that the five men's ground taken up by the Prospectors, and afterwards amalgamated with the ten which they had been awarded, had not been properly so amalgamated. Secondly, it was asserted that the said five men's ground The Warden said that they couldn't had been marked out and held under

issue of them from the Warden's Office. Technically I don't want to find fault with those proceedings; besides in them I than it was worth, and if the Government am in no way whatever interested, except in the relation they bear towards the Warden's Department on this goldfield. Then for that end I wish to know, if a miner or miners desire to amalgamate two or more claims, and for that purpose placed before the constituted authorities in the Warden's Office such "forms" or documents as are requisite for that purpose (that is to the best of his or their ability). is it the duty or part thereof of such officer to see that the wish of the applicant is fully and legally carried into effect, or is the said officer justified in knowingly allowing some technicality to exist therein, which may afterwards come under the notice of some other official in the department, who, being interested in mining affairs, takes advantage not only of it, but also of his position to institute legal proceedings against those whose titles are affected ?

> On the second reason herein mentioned I scarcely know what remarks to make that would be pertinent enough to the importance of the subject. It appears the case stands thus: there has been what is is called "a miners' right enquiry" about certain "rights" which had been issued. When this affair has been fully investigated, the decision of the Commissioner as to whether they were legally or illegally issued will be made known. The enquiry has ended, but such decision, if. any, has not been made public; but mark, nevertheless-solely on the ground that such rights were illegally issued or obtained, the five men's ground referred to was sought to be jumped. Where was this information obtained P-I ask, point out, where? It must he assumed that an afterthought on this point decided those who initiated the proceedings to hush the matter up as the wisest course to pursue. But it is to be hoped that in dealing with goldfields matters, His Honor the Superintendent will not lose sight of such incidents, as only thereby will he be able to keep public servants on the goldfields within the bounds of their official duties.—I am, &c., A MINER P.S.—Please insert this in your liberal ournal, and you will much favor many

THE PRINCE AND THE MASONS The Pall Mall Gazette of April 27th

mining friends.]

July 20th, 1875.

says:—" As long as English Freemasonry is under the special patronage of royalty, and reckons among its chief officials noblemen, lords lieutenants, clergymen, and the elite of the licensed victuallers, botel and tavern-keepers, so long will it continue to exist in this country as a wide-spread benefit society, providing, under aristo-cratic patronage, for the necessities of its poorer members, comparatively powerless r political purposes, and offering in its official lodge meetings a plausible excuse welcome to many a bourgeois husband for an occasional social and convivial evening, when, with a comfortable sense of having done their duty, the brethren proceed from labour to refreshment. Continental Freemasonry, as appears from a Masonic record of the list century, has always been of a very different character. In France, before the first Revolution, the lodges were hot beds of socialism. Between 1733 and 1780 German Freemasonry became enveloped in a cloud of mysticism, and 'signs' were not sufficient for them without wonders.' Ultimately, some lodges, both in Germany and Bavaria, were suppressed by the civil power. With this state of things abroad, English Masons professed themselves thoroughly disgusted; while, on the other hand, French and German brethren united in ridiculing English Masonry as a homespun affair, and as not being, in fact, Freemasonry at all. A question, more immediately interesting to ontsiders than any research into past dic records, is the practical one of What will they do when the Albert Hall is closed to the whole world without? What are the fearful rites and ceremonies which even his Royal ... Highness the Prince of Wales must observe? Will any brother reporters be admitted? And, if so, how much will they be permitted to tell us?' In answer to the last of these enquiries it may be of some nterest, to the ladies at all events, to learn that the nearest approach to a reporter authorised by the Masonic brethren themselves to record their doings, is a brother holding the degree of 'Intimate Secretary, obtained by curiosity. This privileged individual is named Joabert, so called after an eminent lord-in-waiting at the Court of King Soloman, and highly in favor of that sagacious but Mormonitical monarch, who, so goes the tradition, peeped in the door of the chamber where solomon the Wise, and Hiram, King of Tyre, were seated in Council. Joabert's nquisitive eye was seen twinkling through a chink in the door by the sharp-sighted Hiram, who, being a short-tempered person, was for slaying him there and then. Solomon, however interceded for his life. and made himself responsible for the zeal and discretion of his servant Joabert: who, having thus made himself acquainted with so much of their Masonic secrets, was thenceforward permitted

to be present at their meetings in his newly created official capacity of Intimate Secretary, without a salary, it is true, but decore with a pretty bright red ribbon, and a beautiful sword to protect himself against any villain who should dare to surprise him into a confession of such mysteries as he might be compelled to witness. Should somebody pick Joa-(To the Editor of the Evening Star) bert's pocket of his private memorandumbook on Wednesday next, the non Masonic world might yet be informed of the secret rites performed at the installation of the illustrious Grand Master. But for the too curious Joabert himself, his mouth is sealed by an unpleasant penalty attached to his oath of inviolable obligation, which is (to name the least among a few cheery punishments) "to have the heart torn in pieces, and the whole (of his previously mangled remains) thrown to he wild beasts of the forest. Taking these circumstances into consideration, we are not likely to hear much from the 'Intimate Secretary, Joabert. Had the real original Joabert been a gentleman of the late Charles C. F. Greville type, the secrets of Freemasonry would long ago been published to the world at large in three volumes, under the title of 'The Joabert Memoirs; a journal of the reigns of King Solomon the First, and King Hiram, of Tyre; by the late Joabert, Intimate Secre. tary to those Sovereigns. Mr Henry Reeve, Registrar of the Privy Council; is welcome to the idea. Perhaps he may be able to catch the Josbert of the present

day, whoever that distinguished individual

may be, as he quits the Masonic Council.

Chamber in the Albert-Hall."