A good deal of uneasine's was felt on Saturday by the friends of Mr H. R. Jones on account of a rumour to the effect that he was seriously ill in Auckland. Mr Hewitt tele graphed to Mr Jones on Faturday, and received a reply to the effect that his illness was nothing serious, and that he would, no doubt, be al. right in a few days.

It will be seen from our advertising columns that the telegraph and post offices for the Ohinemuri district are to be erected at Paeros and tenders for the work are to be sent to the office of the Colonial Architect in Wellington on or before the 30th inst. Specifications and plans may be seen at the Public Works Office,

The Bight Rev Dr Cowie, Bishop of Auck land, preached at St. George's Church at both services yesterday to large congregations. In His Lordship chose for his text a portion of the 6th verse of the 9th chapter of Acts of the Apostles, the words being, "Lord what wilt Thou have me to do?" and preached an eloquent and exhaustive discourse. At the c'o.e of the service the Rev V. Lush announced that on Thursday next a Masonic service would be held in St. George's Church (on the occasion of the inauguration of the Corinthian Lodge, R.C.), at which the Rev Mr Nelson would preach, and that on Sunday next the Rev Mr Nelson would preach morning and evening. In the evening his Lordship held a confirmation service, at which 34 candidates who had been previously prepared by the Rev V. Lush, took upon themselves the promises made for them at their baptism by their godfathers and god-

The cricket match which was to have been played at Parawai on Saturday had to be postponed on account of the rain-storm which prevailed throughout the day.

According to announcement Mdlle Franzini, the celebrated bicyclist, supported by a dramatic company, appeared at the Thames on Saturday night, not at the Theater Royal, the stage of that building not being found to be suitable, but at the Academy of Music. There was a pretty good attendance. The lady bioyelist is, no doubt, the great attraction of the show, and it must be at once admitted that her performance is graceful, clever, and wonderful. The bicycle used is of the ordinary description, except that the wheels are tired with indiarubher bands, so as to prevent rattle or noise. The lady at first appeared in ordinary riding costume. The stage was spread with a number of flowerpots, through which she rode, executing the most graceful curves, and showing not only excellent balancing powers, but an ability to guide her "steed" at will. We need hardly say that she rides on one side, and therefore only uses one foot with which to propel the lever. The subsequent part of her performance was, however, still more striking. In this she appeared in a tight dress. A number of bottles were placed on the stage in five rows, about 24 feet apart. and in each was a burning torch. She rode through these, executing, as before, very graceful mancuvres, and making the most extraor-dicary turns. Subsequently the saddle was removed, and the lady rode with one foot on the monting step and the other propelling the machine. She then jumped on the narrow bar from which the saddle had been removed, and, balancing herself on one knee, rode round the stage amidst loud cheers. The enterlainment commenced with the farce of "Cut off with a Shilling," in which Miss Polly Leake made her re-appearance at the Thames after an absence of several years. She played with the utmost vivacity, and subsequently sang and danced. Mr Hoyle also contributed several songs, and the entertainment was brought to a conclusion by a very clever

trapeze performance by Mr Anderson, The opening services in connection with the new Congregational Church, Mary street, were con inued yesterday. In the morning the Rev J. Hill preached, and in the evening the Rev J. T. Hinton. Liberal collections were taken up at the close of each service on behalf of the building fund.

The anniversary services in connection with the Wesleyan Sunday school, Shortland, were preached yesterday by the Rev R. S. Bunu, before large congregations. In the afternoon the rev. gentleman delivered an address to parents and scholars, and at each service congregation. To-morrow evening the anuiversary soirce will be held in the church, when addresses will be delivered by various ministers, and some musical selections rendered by the

We understand that Sir George Grey, M.H.R. for the Thames, and the Hon. F. Whitaker, Attorney-General, are amongst the guests expected to take part in the inaugural f the Corinthian Lodge of Freemasons to be held in the Academy of Music on Thurs

The New Zealand Gazette to hand on Satur day publishes the returns of vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards at the various ports in New Zealand for the quarter ended on the 30th September last. The port of on the 30th September last. Thames is given as follows :- Entered inwards nil; cleared outwards 2, tonnage 197. an increase there must bave been since these returns were compiled if the figures quoted by 'Inquirer" in our last were correct when he stated that a speaker at Rowe's banquet an nounced the arrivals at the port of Thames as 250 per month. No wonder "Inquirer" was staggered, and anxious to know how such a

Ira D. Sankey took the trouble to contradict the shameful report that a quarrel had arisen between himself and Mr Moody over money matters in Chicago. Dr Hepworth was given as the authority for the statement, and the doctor writes in contradiction, as follows:—"Saratoga Springs, August 10, 1876. To the Editor of Freeman's Journal. Dear Sir,-My attention has just been called to an article which appeared in your paper of July 22, in which I am made the authority for statements derogaam made the authority for statements deroga-tory to the character of my very dear friends Messrs Moody and Sankey. The article in question purports to have as its basis a letter published in the Cincinnati Enquirer from its correspondent in New York, whose letter is dated June 29. I do not for a moment suppose that you would give currency to asserti you knew that they were born of a fevered and hostile imagination, nor would I notice the article but for my fear that it is likely to do in jury to men whom both hemisheres have learned to love and respect. Allow me to say that the assertions made have not even the shadow of truth to commend them. I have never even dreamed of the possibility of a quarrel between the two great evangelists, and therefore could not, under any circumstances, have been the authority for such a statement. Allow me, through your columns, to deny that I have ever given rise to any rumour that would afflict the two men whom I love and revere beyond all others. Will you be kind enough to put this denial in its most imperative form, and oblige-Yours sincerely, GEO. H. HEPWOLTH."

Perhaps no better idea can be formed of the present state of commerce than by referring to a speech made in Auckland last week by Mr J. M. Clark, at the Agricultural Show dinner, in response to the toast of "The commercial s.' He considered the existing depres sion to be due to three or four causes-1st diminution in the production of gold. 2nd. Depreciation of the value of flax, gum, and 3rd. The decrease in the expenditure upon public works. 4th. Over-trading; that is people had attempted to push a large trade in a little country. In 1875 New Zealance imported nearly as much in value as New South Wales and, with half the population she doubled the comparative proportion of he imports. The result had lead to the preser state of things. But this will rectify itself in time. The value of wool is improving, and the prospects of gum and other branches of trade becoming more fair, and we may look for ward to belter prospects

The Charleston Herald notes that the amount of gold forwarded by excert last week from the Bank of New Zealaud, Charleston, to Westport mounted to 1,000 ounces. This quantity was amounted to 1,000 ounces. This quantity is collected during a period of about fire weeks, and as it only represents the gold sold at one out of the two local banking establishments, uch results speaks well for the payableness of the claims throughout this district, as, without taking into consideration the gold purchased during the same period by the Bank of New South Western South State Stat South Wales, it represents the the miners to be each steadily earning the sum of £2 12s per

ments have been made upon those used at the

Wanganui competition in the early part of this year. Whitening the sights of rifles will be

illowed, and competitors may use a waterproof

sheet, a great coat not folded up, but laid flat,

as a protection from the ground, but no elbow-rests or mats will be allowed. All firings for

choice of representatives or for Governmen

prizes must be under the immediate super

vision of the officer commanding the district; and for any deviation of this rule special appli-cation must be made to the Acting Order

Secretary for Defence. No person, except the

commanding or squad officer, will be permitted

to speak to a competitor after he has taken his

place at the firing point, or to afford him any

information which may be calculated to assist

or confirm his judgment as to firing. Any

violation of this rule will at once render the

scores of the competitor and offender liable

to be disallowed. Any position will be allowed

that can be assumed on a flat surface. The

olonial carbine representatives will be the

highest aggregate scorers in the two firings at ranges 200, 250, 300, and 400 yards. Seven

ing to the following scale:—Auckland and Wainku, 2; Waikato, 1; Taranaki, Patea, and

Wanganui, 1; Rangitikei and Wellington, 1;

Napier, Poverty Bay, and Opotiki, 1; Thames 1; Nelson, 1; Canterbury, 1; Oamaru and Southland, 1; Dunedin, 2; and Armed Con-

will be the highest aggregate score s in the two firings at ranges 200, 400, 500, and 600

yards; seven shots at each range; a period

of three days being allowed between each

firing, according to the following scale:-

epresentative the carbine or rifle issued

for use at the colonial meeting .- N.Z Times.

The Timaru Herald, referring to the refusal

of the House to vote Sir Julius Vogel's extra

expenses on his English mission, says:-"We

should like to see Sir Julius Vegel's face when

he receives a letter from Major Atkinson, telling

him that the House refused to allow him bis

£2,750. With all his faults Sir Julius was a

firm frient, and stood manfully by those who

acted with him; and we are sure that the ac-tion of the Ministry in this matter will seem

very mean in his eyes."

more congenial employment,

-for being absent from his duty two hours.

deflections of the pump handle.

ing impaired by standing; that but a small

quantity of water is required; that the gas can

be made at the fire; and that it can be used

for other purposes by removing the chemicals

The effect of the engine on fire is said to b

suffication and not inundation. It is intended more especially for the protection of facto-

ries, warehouses, dwellings, steam and other

Men keep a better account of their money

ships, &c.

than their time.

stabulary, 1.

The colonial rifle representatives

wcek.

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS. (FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.) The rules and regulations for the prize firing 1877, were issued from the Defence Office on Saturday. Some few alterations and improve-

AUCKLAND, Saturday Arrived: The ship 'City of Auckland, from London, 96 days out. She brings 73 passengers-all well. There were two births, but no deaths. Had fine weather, and altogether a very prosperous voyage The passengers presented Captain Ralls with an address and a purse of sovereigns The 'Conflict,' gunboat, has arrived from the New Hebrides, after a quick run

CABLE MESSAGES

(REUTER'S SPECIAL TO PRESS AGENCY.

It is rumoured that Newminster has

been poisoned by antimony.

MELBOUBNE, November 11.

of 11 days. Lieut Carey is the commander. She stays here a fortnight. Sixteen boxes, supposed to contain tobacco, were opened on the wharf yestorday, and found to contain sand. They formed part of the cargo of the schooner Florinda,' from Melbourne, and were consigned to order. It is generally sup-

posed to be a swindle. C. L. Eatham, a flax dresser at Queen's Redoubt, was struck dead by lightning at 15 minutes past 10 o'clock this morning. He had just left the mill and gone into a field. He leaves a wife and six

shots at each range, a period of at least three days being allowed between each firing, accordchildren. Buckland's cattle fair was poorly attended in consequence of the bad weather.

Coromandel, Saturday. The Royal Oak mine manager reports having on hand 123lbs of specimens and 35 tons of general stuff, and will crush on Monday next .-- The Union Beach have 390lbs of specimens on hand .- The Tokatea battery will not resume work till the end of the week.

SOUTHERN TELEGRAMS.

(PRR PRESS AGENCY.)

CHRISTCHURCH, Saturday.

firing, according to the nollowing sequer-Auckland, 3; Waiukn, 2; Taranaki and Wanganui, 1; Rangitikei, 1; Wellington, 2; Masterton and Tauranga, 1; Thames, 3; Nel-son, 1; Marlborough, 2; Canterbury, 2; Oamaru, 1; Dunedin, 3; Southland, 1; Westland, 1; Armed Constabulary, 3 The firing for the colonial prizes will take place at Hokitika in the month of February, on days At a meeting of delegates of the Jockey Club, held this evening, it was hereafter to be named by the Government, and resolved first that the Victorian rules rethe competitions with weapons to be specially lating to weights and ages ahould be supplied to competitors for that purpose. As soon as the firing for choice of representatives has been concluded, new Snider carbines and adopted by the whole of the New Zealand Jockey Clubs, and that the latter be requested to agree to this, and that all short rifles will be issued to those Volunteers horses must run in bona fide owners and Armed Constabulary who are either Government or extra representatives. Represennames under a penalty of disqualification tatives will take with them to Hokitika the unless they be registered according to weapons before mentioned, and they will be required to return them into store at the termina-Jockey Club rules; third, that it be desirable to have a New Zealand Jockey tion of the competition. Representatives will be held personally responsible for the safe custody of all arms and camp equipage issued to them for use at the colonial meeting, and Club, which shall frame rules and make scale of weights to be used by all the clubs running under its rules, and that such club be a final tribunal to decide are required to deliver them up in good order any question referred to it by a local before the camp is struck. Any damage or loss will have to be made good by them. Repreclub; fourth, that the New Zealand sentatives are specially enjoined not to tamper Jockey Club shall consist of not more with the carbines or rifles issued to them for than three members from each local club, the colonial firing. Any representative who and that at least one steward at every may be found to have done so will be at once meeting running under the New Zealand disqualified from further competition, and any Club rules must be a member of the previous score made by him at the colonial club, and that the club shall, as far' as meeting disallowed; and on no account is any possible, at the beginning of the year, fix representative to exchange with any other

the dates of all meetings in the colony. NEW PLYMOUTH, Saturday. At a meeting held last night, at which Harrington and Kelly were present, it was resolved that, as the Zew Zealand Titanic Steel and Iron Company have failed in the due performance of the terms and conditions of the lease granted to them, it is desirable that the Government be at once urged to demand the payment of the penalties, and, if not paid, to cancel the lease. That copies of the resolution passed be forwarded to Wellington.

Some of the residents of Waitaki, on the other side of Blukeskin, had their curiosity excited recently, says the Otago Guardian, by THE REV. J. HILL'S LECTURES. the appearance of a couple of decent-looking special bymrs were sung by the large gathering able bodied young fellows driving a periparent | The Rev J. Hill delivered the fifth of of scholars, who were accommodated on a knife and scissor grinding machine along the gallery erected for the occasion in front of the mainroad of the little township. As the area nium" at St. James's Church last evenand physique of the weary travellers indicated ing. The church, as usual, was crowded that they did not belong to the itinerant fraternity, inquiries were set on foot as to the cause of their having adopted the cutlery-sharpento excess. The subject of this special lecture was, "Was Napoleon III. the ing business. It was then accertained tha Antichrist?" Having chosen as his text Rev. 17, 8, Mr Hill explained that they were the forerunners of a disappointed band of fortune lunners from the Kumera it is generally supposed by theologians and they had secured the grinding apparatus that the beast is the same person or as a means of earning an honest passage overland. power as the Man of Sin spoken of by They had done a fair business at some of the Paul in second Thessalonians, and the stations, but the fatigue of the road had evi-Autichrist spoken of by John in his dently told upon them, for they looked severely jaded. The returned diggers were making their way to Dunedin with a view of disposing Epistles. He said the whole subject of the Anti-Ohrist would be considered in his next lecture; but that he wished of their machine, and securing, if possible meanwhile to clear out of the way a be-That master tradesmen make something out lief in regard to the beast, namely, that of their apprentices was notably illustrated toit was a representation of Napoleon III. Resident Magistrate's Court (says a He then alluded to the opinion of the recent Wellington contemporary), when a sadler in this city, named Evans, prosecuted one of Futurists, that all the prophecies in Revelation are to take place in the his apprentices-a lad of nearly 19 years of age future, and all in the course of seven years, immediately before the Milappeared that the employer had given the youth permission to attend a funeral a fortnight ago, lennium that at the beginning of the seven the Antichrist will make a covenon condition that he would make up on some future day for loss of time. This, up to the present time, the accused had not done, but exant with the Jews by which they will re-commence their sacrifices; but in ressed his willingness to do so next. Saturday three and a half years will break the In the course of his examination, the employe covenant, bring terrible calamities upon stated that the hours of duty were from 8 a.m. the Jews, and establish his kingdom in to 6 p.m., and that this apprentice, who was the world. This person many have supgetting more than the other apprentices on acposed was Napoleon III. The changes count of his being one of the smartest hands on through which the idea had passed were the premises, received 12s per week, or equal to threepence per hour. His Worship, in deliverdescribed. First, it had been supposed that Napoleon I. was Antichrist; but ing judgment, said he supposed, according to the section of the Act under which the youth when he d'ed it was said another Nawas charged he must order him to make up his poleon would appear. When the nephew, time or find security for giving pecuniary satisfaction for the time lost, viz., 3d per hour. The generous employer objected to this, as he said Louis Napoleon, established the Empire in 1852, it was said-this is he. When he died in 1873, it was said he the lad's labour was worth more to him now, would rise from the dead; but and he was entitled to some consideration fo when he did not, it was said that some his loss of time in teaching him his trade. His demon, by means of Spiritualism, would Worship ordered the youth to pay one shilling, or fill in the time lost. appear and profess to be Napoleon. This is the present aspect of the theory. The The Sydney Echo reports that on the after noon of the 23rd utt, in the presence of a belief rests on two grounds. First, on expressions in Daniel supposed to refer large company, among whom were the mayor and sidermen of the city of Sydney, and a number of gentlemen connected with the to the Antichrist, such as "vile person, 'king of fierce countenance," standing dark sentences;" but these, he mercantile and shipping interests, besides contended, referred to Antiochus Epilarge array of firemen, a trial took place of a new chemical fire engine, imported by the phanes, a conqueror, who 170 years before Christ brought terrible sufferings firm of T. J. Brown and Co. The tests of the on the Jews. Second, on the names of new engine, which is very small and portable, and almost looks like a hand pump mounted eb on an oblong box, were looked upon as Napoleon. It was explained how, in the Hebrow, Greek, and Latin languages. highly satisfactory. On some three occasion letters have a numerical value, and how a large bonfire formed of tar barrels, to which it was attempted to be shown that in oil was added, was extinguished while in full blaze, almost instantaneously, and by very few deflections of the pump handle. The water several names of Napoleon the letters make up the number 666, which is the number of the beast. It was shown how was thrown on the fire by a hose held by Mr. W. Camb, attached to which was a quarter o the spelling of these names was changed in order to make out the number, and of an inch nozzle. The water is forced into receptacle containing the chemicals, and the also how other names, such a Nero's Mahomet's, and Luther's, gave the re npregnated water only evinces an extinguish ing virtue when it comes in contact with th quisite number. The opinion that the It is claimed for the engine that it is word Napoleon is the same as Apollyon simple in construction, that it may be worked he said was not correct. Apollyon is by any member of a household; that it is from a Greek word, meaning to destroy; ready for use any time, the charge not becom

Napoleon is from two words, meaning the

that there will be any such seven years be

Futurists contend that the last seven shall not be fulfilled till the end of this dispensation. He gave what he considered the true interpretation, and showed that the whole of the seventy-sevens of years had been accomplished at the time of the Messiah. The theory, he said, he would next bring to the test of reason; and he said that the details of the seven years were given with such certainty and minuteness that it was a strong proof they would never take place; and the same might be said of the absurdity involved in the theory. The idea of a demon spirit at the head of a great army, obtain ing complete control over men in every quarter of the world, getting them to receive his mark in their hands or foreheads, and to worship him, was too absurd to be entertained. He said that many, among whom were several clergymen, who had written on the subject, had believed that Napoleon was Antichrist, and their number and position entitled the opinion to a fair examination; but when the idea of a resurrection or a demon representation was entertained and published, it came to be a matter with which not only the Bible, but reason and intelligence had to do. Reason also teaches that a theory that is so pliable, and has necessi tated so great and frequent changes, cannot be correct; and that, instead of presumption and condemnation of others, numility and confession of error became all those who had been compelled to make these changes. He then gave a short account of the Emperorship of Napoleon, and showed that, instead of his memory being covered with infamy, he was worthy of a high place among the monarchs of France. Mr Hill concluded by saying that in these days Christianity needs on ts side all the intelligence it can muster Scientific discovery, historical research, and severe logic are in many quarters turned against it; and most strange is it that some who progress to be its friends will persist in loading Christianity with absurdity and folly. If the advice to reject the traditions of men and be guided by the Bible alone were not only given, but taken by those who give it, it would be better for Christianity and the world Strange notions would then die out. But gladly seized are these opinions, for their novel and startling character, and by re-printing are spread, to the dishonour of Christianity, the injury of true religion, and the disturbing of men's minds. Contempt is a powerful feeling to be awakened against any system, and most anxiously should everything be avoided that is fitted to bring it on Christianity. Above all things, let our interpretation of the Bible

our worship, and our religion be based on intelligence and common sense. It was announced that the subject of the sixth lecture, which is to be delivered next Sunday week, would be-" What is the Scriptural doctrine regarding the Antichrist and the Battle of Arma-

VOLUNTEER PRIZE FIRING.

THE new rifle range situated on the point

geddon P''

of land between the Kauwacranga and Thames rivers, opposite Shortland, which has recently been finished, was formally opened on | Saturday | by a competitive sweepstake match, in which all the Volunteers had the privilege of competing. The range itself is in most respects a suitable one, although it can only be reached by boating, but it has the advantage of being for the most part on solid land, there being only 200 yards of staging at the end next the targets and man-tlets, but it has the same disadvantage as the old rifle range in having no back ground, so that if a bullet misses the target the marksman has no chance of seeing what has become of it. The range is, however, the best available, and it has been laid out to the best advantage by Mr A. Aitken, engineer. The mounds constructed at the various firing points are large wooden boxes filled with sand, is also showing up well, and there is or to those used at the old range. As we have stated, the opening match was for a sweepstake, for which there were 63 entries, but the marksmen were pecially unfortunate in the weather hich prevailed. The morning squad specially had to fire amidst a downpou f rain such as is seldom experienced a the Thames, but, notwithstanding the weather, 60 of those who had entered ompeted, and it is creditable alike to eir enthusiasm and skill that, taken all round, very fair shooting was made and that so few backed out. The bes shooting was made by the morning squad though frequent stoppages had to take place in consequence of the paint being ashed off the targets and their becoming ractically invisible during the heavies the downpour. The ranges were 300 00, and 500 yards, five shots at each the morning squad the highest score 19 points, was made by seaman J. A. Fordon, T.N.B., and the next highes Volunteer Armstrong, No. 2 H.R.V no scored 47 points. - Up to the 500 rds range the chances were all in favou Volunteer Armstrong taking highes position, for he shot splendidly, but h was unfortunate at the last range, mission shot by having to fire when the targe was invisible, and so he had to contention which second position. The nex ghest was Volunteer McLean, T.S.V h 43 points, and Volunteer Hohepat f the Native Company) made a similar ore. The highest score made in the ternoon was by Volunteer R. Long R.R. Those are, therefore, the winners the five prizes into which the sweep takes were divided. We may add that or the morning squad, Sergeant-majo Frant marked at the right target, and ergeant Clery at the left. In the after oon Major Cooper relieved Sergeant major Grant, who was himself a com The following are the principal scores

O. Gordon, TNB, 1st prize, £2 1s 31 ...

Ol. Armstrong, No 2 HRV, 2nd prize, £1 1s 4d ...

ol. McLean, TSV, 3rd prize, £1 7s 6d ...

ol. Long, TRR, 4th prize, £1 8s 4d ...

ol. Hohepa Tol, NV, 5th prize, 13s 10d ...

the Resources No 2 HRV ut. Brownlew, No 2 HRV Hawk, TRR ... Gale, TiV Corbett, TSV man Comer, TNB gt. Major Grant, Staff Clarke, TSV rpl. Mears, TRR ... l, Hennelly, No. 2 HRV

It is suspected that fashiouable ladies in Paris commence to indulge in arsenic cating, in order to make them 'beautiful for ever. Or Boillett advocates its use as a stomaci stimulant, and an aid in respiration. In parts lion of the thicket. Mr Hill then examined of Austria people use arsenic like tobacco; they the question which he said lay behind all crunch it and suck it like a bonben, till their this, viz., Is there any reason for believing bedies, like that of Mithridates, become inured to the poison. Arsenic imparts an agrecable fore the millennium, and any such wicked fulness to the figure, and a youthful, animated expression. It makes horses more vigorous, conperson? He said that the belief was founded on the famous prophecy of the fers on them shining coats, and produces fear seventy weeks or seventy-sevens of years ing mouths; oxen, sheep, and pigs, when slightly dosed with arsonic, acquire an excellent appetite in Daniel. Sixty-nine of the sevens were I fulfilled at the time of the Messiab, but improved digestion, and hence fatten rapidly.

MINING MATTERS.

MOANATATABI.-The usual for inightly retorting for the Moanataiari Company took place on Saturday, and the returned proved to be a good payable one of 241ozs 10dwts gold. The quantity crushed was only 460 tons, and the average is, therefore, considerably over half an ounce to the ton; and this, we need hardly say leaves a handsome margin of profit. Up to the present, the upper levels are the only sources of supply; but these are far from being exhausted, particularly the Eureka section, from which the greater quantity of the quartz crushed during the last few months has been derived. In the meantime, however, every expedition possible is being used to develop the new low level. The crosscuts from the bottom of the shaft are well advanced, und it will not be long before one at least of the large reefs of the mine is in hand and the winze sunk on it communicated with. The company's battery has, as usual, been kept fully employed; and, besides the stuff public crushing stuff has been put through, producing 1,120ozs gold, thus making the total return from the battery for the fortnight 830 tons crushed for 1.361ozs 10dwts.

ALBURNIA TRIBUTE .- A small parcel of 76lbs of stone was crushed on Saturday at the Moanataiari battery, from which a very handsome yield of 4lozs 4dwts gold was derived.

LITTLE LIZZIE.—The shareholders of the Little Lizzie claim, Karaka, finished up another specimen crushing on Saturday. The parcel consisted of 52lbs of stone, and the result, after melting at the Bank of Australasia, amounted to the handsome total of 26ozs 7dwts 12grs gold. This was the result of a fortnight's operation, exclusive of course of the general crushing stuff which has accumu-

CITY OF MANCHESTER. -The shareholders of the City of Manchester claim (a portion of the old Moa), Karaka, will crush a considerable parcel this week at Greenville's Coulabah battery. A recent crushing from this mine yielded a very handsome return, and it is anticipated that another good yield will result from the crushing which is now about being commenced.

CITY OF LONDON .- Johns and party, tributers of a section of the upper works of the City of London mine, obtained a very handsome remunerative return of 1150zs 13dwts melted gold from a crushing which was completed for them on Saturday st the Bright Smile Company's small battery. The manager, Mr Hicks, is opening up the reef in the bottom level as speedily as possible. It continues to improve in appearance, and gold is of frequent occurrence. Probably in the course of a week he may find himself in a position to start crushing, although it can hardly be expected that until lode is more fully opened up anything like permanent crushing can be car-

ried on OLD WHAU TRIBUTE .- Cook and party, the tributers of a section of the Old Whau Company's mine, whose recent crushings have been remarkably rich, are evidently on the eve of obtaining another very handsome return. Their section shows gold freely, and on Saturday they lodged a fine parcel of 80lbs of rich specimens at the Bank of New Zealand for safe keeping. It is expected that the quantity will be very materially increased

before the crushing takes place. QUEEN OF THE MAY. - We are pleased to learn that the prospects of the Queen of the May mine centinus in a most satisfactory state, and this is evidenced in the most positive manner by the class of reef which is being carried down in the winze. The latter is now down upwards of 30 feet, and some stone showing very nice gold came to hand from it on Saturday afternoon. The company's crushing every prospect of a handsome return as the result of the fortnight's crushing, which will be completed on Friday. The main shaft is down about 45 feet below the present level, and is going through an excellent class of country. It is intended to open out a fresh level, with backs of about 70 feet, and it is hoped that the requisite depth will be attained in the course of about three weeks.

TOOKEY TRIBUTE. - Muir and party. tributers of a section of the Tookey mine finished a crushing of 6 tons of stuff at the Prince Alfred battery, but only obtained a moderate yield of 3ozs gold as the result.

THE OHINEMURI GOLDFIELD.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

PARROA, November 11. A terrific thunderstorm passed over

this district to-day. It was preluded by a heavy downpour of rain. I never recollect having seen flashes of lightning following in such quick succession. The rain cloud was so dense for a time that it caused a deep gloom, as though the sun had set. No harm was done by the persons were struck and knocked down. Mr Jackson, blacksmith, of Paeroa, was walking along the road when the storm came on, and he received a shock, which felt as though somebody had struck bim in the face, causing him at the same time to spring up and then fell to the ground. Kate Watson and her husband (To Watene) were standing near the slaughter yard, the latter having a tomahawk in his hand, when both were knocked down, and I am informed that the electric current forced the tomahawk from Te Watene's hand. -Mr Broomhall went down to the Thames to-day. He has been up to look at the Aroha district, accompanied by Mr J. W. Guilding. Mr James Mco'tay also went down to attend the rative ne ing at Parawai .- A native wom n, named Tihore, who was closely related to Tinipoaka and Te Kereihi, died at Te Koma'a on Thursday, and a great taugi was held today, when a considerable number of pigs were converted - into pork. The coffin was made by Mr Everitt, of Paeroa, and was taken down by Komata Creek. A large boat was there in readiness to receive it, and Tiniponka and a number of other natives superintended the transhipments. When the business was successfully completed the steamer moved on, and the natives gave three parting cheers, which struck me as being rather a peculiar proceeding on their part, considering the object of their mission.—The first mail for Waitekauri was received to-day. The bag was addressed to Mr Thomas Snodgrass, postmaster, and doubtless contained all the necessary forms, &c., required for the offlice, which will be a great convenience to the miners. Mr David Snodgrass has undertaken to convey the mails daily to and from Paerca. I also hear that the Government have decided to ask for tenders without delay for the erection of a combined post and telegraph office at trict, especially in the shooting season, and this yoar have become testotallors, and this yoar have become testotallors, and this yoar have become testotallors, and this yoar have planted very extensively.

Head, have become testotallors, and this yoar have planted very extensively.

A young chief called Howara Tipa died fover every obstacle with which time, prejudice, and over every obstacle with which time, prejudice, and over every obstacle with which time, prejudice, and to ever yobstacle with which time, prejudice, and to ever yobstacle with which time, prejudice, and the fine throws have become testotallors, and this winder which thousands have succumbed.

Hollowary Fills.—This medicine has triumbed every obstacle with which time, prejudice, and to every obstacle with which time, prejudice, and the stands forth victorious as the most reliable remedy to respect to the dead resemble those in vogue in Ireland in the olden days; in deed, having been present myself at an Irish wake, I was much struck with the system days common at the chauge of seasons. When the air gover every obstacle with which time, prejudice, and to every obstacle with which time, prejudice, and to every obstacle with which time, prejudice, and the stands forth victorious as the most reliable very constant with the constant of the stands forth victorious as the most reliable very obstacle with which time, prejudice, and the stands forth victorious as the most reliable very obstacle with which time, prejudice, and tower stands forth victorious as the most reliable very every obstacl mission.-The first mail for Waitekauri

Paeroa, so that we may reasonably expect | birds being very plentiful, and the sail up to be independent of the pigeons by the end of the current year.—A number of enjoyable. notices re the education rate have been sent up here by Mr Lusk, intimating that if the amounts due are not paid before the 16th instant, summonses will be

issued. WAITEKAURI, Nov. 10th. There is little to report from this place for, with the exception of four or five claims mining is at a stand-still. We have had nearly a week of "temperance" weather, in consequence of which the creeks are deep and the roads are deeper, especially those parts of the road where there are side cuttings. The middle of the cuttings get cut into a reservoir by the horses' feet, so that it takes a long spell of fine weather to make them fit for foot passengers. I hope the Government or the County, which ever of them has the most money, wil not let the summer pass without corduroying some of the worst spots.

Our male portion of the population has lost a number of members this last week, the Kumara being the attraction, but this has been counterbalanced by the arrival crushed from their mine, 370 tons of of a number of females amongst us, to join their husbands. WAITERAURI COMPANY .- There is not

much change in this mine, since the last report. The manager has been employed timbering up and constructing fresh passes, and hoppers. Good stone still continues to be got from No. 1 winze, the reef improving as it is sunk upon. In the low level going south good progress is being made, and the reef seems to improve as it approaches the shot of gold, towards which it is being driven. The crushing at the battery is shaping as usual, the full force being at work, as, owing to the late rains, there is more water then they have any use for. The new fluming will be finished in another day or two, so that they can turn on the water when required. Welcome. - There is nothing exciting

from this mine. The new cross lode to the west of the main reef, looks first-class, and has increased in size, gold being frequently seen in the stone. There is no telling when there will be a likelihood of getting a tramway to the battery. PERSEVERANCE.—This company finished widening their tunnel, and in doing

so, got some nice quartz stringers in a sort blue sandstone formation, in which gold can be plainly seen. They have driven through about 14 feet of it, and they think that if there was cheap crushing available, the whole lot would pay. SHANNON AND FERGUS .- The contrac-

tors are making good progress with the low level tunnel, being at present in blue ground, which works fairly.

Bank of England.—The contractors

in this company's ground expect to finish their contract in a short time, but think that they will strike the reef before doing so.

YOUNG NEW ZEALAND .- I hear with regret that the manager of this company's ground, Mr Ronald MacDonald, has re signed, being about to leave the district for a time. I hope where ever he goes he will be fortunate, as I know he bears the good wishes of every man in this district who has had the pleasure of his acquaintance. "We could have better spared a better man." There have been some nice patches of golden stone broken out this week, and there can be no doubt that this company has a pile claim, but if some better means of getting the quartz to the mill is not adopted it will be some time before they can realise on their invest-

> A VISIT TO THE PIAKO DISTRICT.

ment.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT). THE Piako district, although so close to

can be seen but one immense swamp, which appears to extend to the Thames River on the east and to the hills on the west. This swamp, at certain seasons of the year, would carry a large number of caltle, there being plenty of rough feed, such as toi-toi; at other seasons the whole country is inundated, when, of course, it would be necessary to drive the stock to the high ground. Some native cattle and horses which I have seen appeared to thrive well on the swamp feed. There is a small settlement at Kerupahi, about 10 miles from the mouth of the river. At this place, which was once of considerable importance, there is some good land consisting of a long low range of hills extending nearly to the Thames River and comprising in all some hundreds of acres. Some thirty years ago this land was sold to a European; the Government afterwards be came the owners, but have never taken possession; in fact, I have been informed that they handed it back to the natives. The settlement commonly known as Tarapipipi's is on the banks of the river higher up, and it is here that the really lightning in the neighbourhood of good land commences, of which there is a Paeroa, but at Mackaytown three very large tract extending from the good land commences, of which there is Archa Mountain on the east to the Weikato on the west, and including the Piako Swamp, about which so much has been said during the sitting of the late Parliament in lington. A large portion of these fine lands have been secured for the Government by Mr James Mackay, Lands Purchase Commissioner, and the surveys in some instances completed, so that it is to be hoped that the people will soon have an opportunity of settling on the land, which should be offered to colonists for occupation on easy terms, instead of making a present of the best land to new chums, as was the case at Katikati. Tho natives, although still calling themselves Hauhaus, are so only in name, and no fear need be entertained of any native troubles in the future, nor inded has there been much cause for alarm for many years past, but the Native Department owe their very existence to being able to induce people to believe that another war is imminent, and that they alone can avert it. The natives of this district at one time were great producers, and shipped very large quantities of maize, potatoes, oats, kauri gum, &c., to Auckland; of late years, however, owing prin cipally to the ease with which they enabled to obtain money by the sale of lands, they became very lazy and dissolute; they seem now to be inclined to turn over a new leaf; a great many of

them, with the chief Tarapipipi at their

head, have become testotallers, and this

and down the river in fine weather is vary

THE KUMARA RUSH.

THE following letter, received from men well known in Balclutha and district. who recently left for the Kumara rush, will be read with interest in this quarter. Those who are acquainted with the writers will not doubt their veracity, and their warning may prove a timely one to some who contemplate leaving for Kumara:-Kumara, October 18, 1876.

Dear Friend,-According to promise

we now write you to give a true account of the diggings. We can assure you that they are anything but good for all comers. There are thousands of men from all quarters of the globe seeking employment, but none is to be had at present, In the good old days of the Otago gold-fields the cry was, "Wait till the river goes down," here it is "Wait till the race is in;" and in the meantime till the grass grows the horse starves. By the look of the country, we believe there is plenty of gold in the ground, but it is the job to get it out. As for the main lead, all the claims that are of any value are taken up. The ground for shallow sinking is also all occupied, as well as the payable terrace claims. These latter are of two classesthose that can be wrought by a tunnel, and those requiring a shaft. The latter will cost 80 per cent. more than the former, owing to machinery and motive power required. Tunnel claims only require water, and the tunnel can be driven while waiting for water. The prospects on this rush are on an average I grain to 11 grain to the dish-that is, the best of them, but it must be remembered that out of three lodes of washdirt there are two of boulders, with no gold in them, so that brings the productiveness of the whole down to half a grain to the dish. This is the true state of the golden claims at the Kumara. Employment of no kind is to be had by the miner. The only class of men who get work here on wages is carpenters, who are required to erect houses, and an odd man to clear away the trees for the site. Out of every 100 men seeking employment there are only five on an average employed. Of course the odd men are only required for a few days till the timber is cleared away. Please tell all diggers who think of coming here that they had better wait where they are a little longer. You can rely upon the account we give as being the correct one. Please show this letter to our old friends and mates at the bridge, and tell them not to come as yet .- We are, &c., JAMES GREY, THOMAS SHIELDS, J. GORMLAY, JNO. NETHERWAY .- Clutha Leader.

JUDGE READING OF ILLINOIS ON THE LEGALITY OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

THE jury having found three saloon keepers of Morris guilty of selling intoxicating liquors to minors, Judge Reading, in pronouncing sentence, said : -"The jury having found you guilty of

selling intoxicating liquors to a minor, it remains for the Court to pronounce the sentence of the law. The penalty for this offence, fixed by the legislature, indicates that it considered the crime to be of a serious character. By the law you may sell to men and to women, if they will buy. You have given your hond, and paid your license to sell to thom, and no one has a right to molest you in your legal business. No matter what the consequences may be, no matter what poverty and destitution are produced by your selling according to law, you have paid your money for this privilege, and you are licensed to pursue your calling. You may fit up your law-ful place of business in the most enticing us, is a terra incognito to most people. One of our worthy M.H.R.s has made a marine survey of it, so he stated in the and captivating form; you may furnish it House, but beyond the statement he did not enlighten us or his colleagues on the subject. From the month of the river for subject. From the mouth of the river for vou may use all your arts to induce visitors; a distance of from 35 to 40 miles nothing you may skilfully arrange and expose to view your choicest wines and most captivating beverages; you may then induce thirst by all contrivances to produce a raging appetite to the full-because it is lawful; you have paid for it; you have a license.

"You may allow boys, almost children, to frequent your saloon; they may witness the apparent satisfaction with which their seniors quaff the sparkling glass; you may be schooling and training them for the period of twenty-one when they too can participate; for all this is lawful. You may hold the cup to their very lips, but you must not let them drink -that is unlawful. But while you have all these privileges for the money which you pay, this poor privilege of selling to children is denied you. Here parents have the right to assert a little claim. Here the parent has the right to say, "Leave my son to me until the law gives you the right to destroy him. Do not anticipate that terrible moment when I can assert for him no further rights of protection. That will be soon enough for me, for his mother, for his sister, for his friends, and for the community, to see him take the road to death. Give him to us in his childhood at least. Let us have a few years of his youth in which we may enjoy his innocence, to repay us in some small degree for the care and love we have lavished upon him. This is something you, who now stand a prisoner at the bar, have not pail for; this is not embraced in your license You have your bond to use to its full extent; but in thus taking your ' pound of flish you draw the blood, and that which is nearest the heart. The law in its wisdom does not permit this, and you must obey the law. By the verdict of the jury you have been found guilty of transgressing the law. Its extreme penalty is thirty days in the county jail and \$100 fine; its lowest, ten days' imprisonment and \$20 fine. " For this offence the Court sentences

you to ten days' imprisonment in the county jail, and that you pay a fine of \$75 and costs; and that you stand committed until the fine and costs of this prosecution are paid - Chicago Tribune.

The London season (says a private le'ter) has been a short one. There have been great complaints on all sides—such as houses unlet, mon unemployed, 1,000 horses idle in the stables of the livery men, 500 coachmen unhired, and so on ; all, I believe, very true The comparative dullness has been attributed by ne ple generally to losses in the Turkish and Egyptian In some few, perhaps many cases, t is fuuds. may be a true statement of the causes, but in very many, the secret lies in the high prices of everything and in the extragances of society,

under which thousands have succumbed.