The Star.

FIAT LUX.

No. 5072. | ESTABLISHED MAY 14, 1868. | CHRISTCHURCH: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4. 1894. | PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING. | ONE PENNY.

LITERATURE.

A FAMILY ELOPEMENT.

(*St James's Budget.*)

"Your wife does not notice our being together?" asked Miss Hawkins.

"I think not," said Mr Gabbitas; she is talking to that Theosophist. The Theosophist was a slender young man from India, but his hair might have come from the Soudan. Mrs Gabbitas was a lady with intellectual features of a Roman type, and a shallow desire for profundity. She was clearly very much interested in what the Hindoo had to say; so Miss Hawkins turned again to Gabbitas.

"I said, I cannot go on like this," said Gabbitas.

"Speak lower," said Miss Hawkins.

"I cannot go on like this—*dearest*," said Gabbitas, trying to put as much tender passion as possible into a hoarse whisper.

"What can we do?" said Miss Hawkins.

"So much as we dare do—flight," said Gabbitas. "Let us get out of all this into a sunnier clime——"

"Hush! They are coming to ask me to sing," said Miss Hawkins. "Presently. Wait."

Mr Gabbitas yielded her up at this crisis with the best grace he could, and went and propped himself against a wall where he could watch her profile.

"She is awf'ly clever," said the refined young gentleman to the left of him, to his friend.

"And virtuous," said his friend. "But that's a mistake. She really ought to do something just a little—cheerful, you know. People are not going to run after singers just because they sing, you know."

"She knows that," said the refined young gentleman. "She's clever enough. There will be an exploit——"

"Good Heavens!" said Gabbitas under his breath, "Such motives in my sweet little Minnie. I can't stand this." And he hastily sought a vacant piece of wall elsewhere.

"It is sweet to be with you again," he whispered to her presently, with a sense of infinite relief. "And now, dearest, frankly, will you, dare you—come with me? If you knew, dearest, how I have longed for you, how my soul craves—— So" (very loud) "I had a very jolly time indeed."

The latter inane sentence because somebody had loomed up just behind Miss Hawkins's chair.

"Gone now," said Gabbitas. "Tell me, dearest, quickly. Whisper. Dare you?" [*Pause.*]

"For *you*," whispered Miss Hawkins very softly, looking down.

Gabbitas took that as an affirmative. "My darling, my own! The warmth will show. I mean to say—— Do you find the room hot?"

"What disconcerts you now?"

"I caught Mrs Gabbitas's eye just then. I think she wants to go home. That Theosophist has left her."

Now qualified observers state that a man who means to run away from his wife, even if that wife have features Roman rather than beautiful and a tendency to theosophy, suffers considerable twinges of compunction. Gabbitas certainly did. Even if one's marriage is chiefly a success from the mercenary point of view, a habit of mutual consideration grows insensibly out of the necessity of a common life.

"It was a very successful affair, dear," he remarked. "They had some lovely sandwiches, I noticed."

"Yes," said Mrs Gabbitas, turning dreamy eyes upon him. "The sandwiches were lovely, and the decorations were lovely too. And the music. It has been the most lovely evening I can imagine."

"I am glad you liked it so much, dear."

She smiled mysteriously at him. She seemed to be suddenly affected with an unusual tenderness. "*Dear* husband," she said.

"What is up now?" thought Gabbitas. "She is not going to pump me." And he remarked, "Yes, dear."

"You have always been a good husband to me, dear."

"Ra-*ther*," said Gabbitas privately; and aloud, "Always."

"You may kiss me, dear."

Gabbitas did as he was bid, and that was all. After this treat Mrs Gabbitas relapsed into her corner. She did not suspect, then, after all. Gabbitas was greatly relieved. Yet she had never spoken in quite this way before. If she meant to develop sentimentality, a new inducement was added to elopement.

And again and again, and yet again, three times altogether in a fortnight, Mrs Gabbitas returned to this same peculiar soft mood. One or two things she said startled Gabbitas extremely at the time. However, he kept on accumulating his luggage at his chambers nevertheless, for he was a hard man.

"She cannot *know*," he said to himself, following her with his eyes, after one of these conversations. "No; if she knew she would make a shindy. She would certainly make a shindy. I know her disposition. I suppose she has got this new style from some novel. Poor old Mimsie!"

As he went by her door he paused momentarily, for she seemed to be on her knees and weeping by the bed-side. That was through looking out of the corners of his eyes. When he looked straight he saw that she was only packing a dress-basket, and he went on downstairs relieved.

Five days after the last of these remarkable conversations Gabbitas found himself on the Southampton platform of Waterloo Staton with a large pile of boxes, masculine and feminine, in his care, and an exhilarating sense of wrong-doing in his heart. Miss Hawkins mingled timidity and self-possession delightfully.

"This is the end of London and respectability," said Gabbitas.

"And the beginning of life, dear," said Miss Hawkins.

"Here is our luggage," said Gabbitas.

By the side of their heap was a similar one. A little portmanteau in this caught his eye. It seemed familiar. "Is not that mine?" he asked the porter.

"Mrs Da Costa," read the porter on the label; "for Lisbon."

"No, that is not mine," said Gabbitas, "And yet it seemed * * * somehow * * * funny. We should see that our seats have not been taken, I think, now, dear."

At the door of their compartment a man was standing with his back towards thim. He was evidently a foreigner; his hair formed a peculiar frizzy mat, such as no Englishman could or would exhibit. As they approached he turned.

There was a pause of mutual inquiry.

"Mr Jamasji Ganpat!" said Gabbitas.

Mr Ganpat, the eminent theosophist, looked at them stupidly. He seemed scared for a moment. Then his face lit up. He raised his hat. "Mr Gabbitas—with Miss Hawkins!"

Miss Hawkins turned half round to pull a loose thread out of her travelling-rug.

"We are going down to Southampton," said Mr Gabbitas, collecting his resources. "Together. To meet Mrs Gabbitas."

"Indeed!" said Mr Ganpat, and his eye wandered round to the waiting room door. He seemed nervous. "Do you know," he said, "I think I must * * * I had better * * * It is unfortunate. Excuse me." He turned his back suddenly and hurried away.

"It was better to recognize him," said Gabbitas. "How nervous he seems. I wonder if he suspects. Perhaps he is shocked. Hullo!"

Ganpat had not been able to reach the door of the waiting-room in time. It opened. Somebody appeared in a grey travelling-dress—a flaxen-haired lady, with Roman features, smiling sweetly at him.

"Mimsie!" exclaimed Gabbitas, with addenda.

"Mrs Gabbitas!" said Miss Hawkins.

The smile of Mrs Gabbitas died away at the sight of Ganpat's alarmed visage. She sought over his shoulder for the cause.

"Oh, my poor George!" she exclaimed faintly. And then she saw Miss Hawkins. "*You*!"

"Take your seats!" howled the guard; "take your seats, please!"

"I suppose," said Gabbitas, finding curses *sotto voce* no comfort, "under the circumstances we had all better get in together and explain."

And in a minute four singularly depressed and silent people were travelling in a first-class compartment out of Waterloo Station. It was one of those conversations that are difficult to begin. Mrs Gabbitas broke the silence at Vauxhall.

"This is *perfectly* ridiculous," she said abruptly and hotly. "Idiotic! We can't do anything now."

"That, dear, is just what I feel," said Miss Hawkins very slowly and without looking up, making a new kind of sinuous strip.

"It will not be even a romantic scandal," said Mrs Gabbitas, with tears in her voice. "Nothing original. It will be just *funny*. Horrible! *beastly!*"

The meeting lapsed into silence.

"I do not know," said Mr Ganpat with a half laugh. "What. It is funny."

Again meditation reigned.

Beyond Clapham Gabbitas cleared his throat.

"Yes?" said Mrs Gabbitas.

"We have," said Gabbitas, "got into this mess, and we have to get out of it. I and Ganpat might fight——"

"No," said Ganpat. "Ladies present! No fight."

"We might fight," said Gabbitas; "but I do not see exactly what we should be fighting for."

"Precisely," said Ganpat. "Nothing worth fighting for." He smiled reassuringly at Mrs Gabbitas.

"The reputations of the ladies must not suffer," said Gabbitas.

"Again precisely," said Ganpat, becoming animated. "And now you hear *me*. Now I will tell you. What will we do? Here is Mrs Gabbitas and Miss Hawkins. They go—they go with us to Southampton. Quite proper that, eh? Hear me to my final end. Then we part. I and you, Mr Gabbitas, I and you go to Paris. Is not that well? It is an excursion that we have planned. You, my—I mean Madam—you, Madam, go with Miss Hawkins. You go to—go to—"

"Lisbon will be far enough, as the things are labelled."

"Ye-es," said Miss Hawkins, taking her strips and tearing them transversely into squares. "It's sensible. I am sure *I* don't mind. Now,"

"That is admirable. What do *you* say, Gabbitas?"

The eye of Gabbitas rested on Miss Hawkins for a moment. "This is a beastly mess," he said.

Miss Hawkins glanced up, and he fancied she nodded imperceptibly. He turned to Ganpat.

"Very well, that will do."

"We have all been very silly," said Mrs Gabbitas—"idiots, in fact."

"And, as far as I can see," said her husband, "nobody can throw stones."

"Dere is no injured innocents in this carriage at all," said Mr Jamasji Ganpat.

"And now," said Mrs Gabbitas, "everything being settled, let us talk of something else."

"Ringlets," said Miss Hawkins, making her paper scraps into two heaps in her lap; "ringlets, dear, are coming into fashion after all."

A VISIT TO LESLIE HILLS.

[BY WANDERER IN "CANTERBURY TIMES."]

The opportunity of seeing one of the most important cattle fairs in the Canterbury district (though the site is beyond the borders of that province), with the added attraction of a visit to one of the best-known sheep-stations in the famous Amuri district, saw me, in the company of a friend who knew his way about the country, leaving for the north by the early train on Thursday morning. Everybody interested in sheep and cattle knows all about the journey to Culverden, so I will not inflict upon your readers a description of the Weka Pass, or any other striking features of the country we passed through by rail. We had lunch—a good one—at Mr Moffatt's Hotel, opposite the terminus, and then chartered from the enterprising livery-stable keeper introduced to me as Mr Tom Derritt, a well-matched chariot and horse, which I at first regarded with amusement, but for which my respect increased before they brought us safely back to their point of departure.

The weather was lovely, and when we had fairly started and had time to look round us we saw a view that I shall never forget. Beautiful hills, clad in all colours, on every side, with a background of snow-capped ranges standing out against a cloudless sky. One would scarcely believe that such a view could be obtained so near the anything-but-picturesque township of Culverden. We passed through the Culverden Estate and alongside Montrose, where nothing but tussocks, river-bed and wire fences cropped up to vary the scenery, until we came to where a gang of men were excavating the road, and upon inquiry from the overseer (Mr Scanlan) what they intended doing, were informed that irrigation was the order of the day, and that he had undertaken a contract to convey water from the Waiau down the plains, near Rotherham. This will be a great benefit to the people, and I should say from the portions of the work I saw done, it will be a thorough success, and will reflect great credit upon the originators of the idea and the contractors.

Passing through the Leslie Hills boundary gate we crossed over the Waiau, which at this point divides itself into two streams, making a picturesque little island in its centre, which Mr Rutherford has planted with fancy trees, and round which the river runs very deep and swiftly. Two well-built bridges connect the island with either mainland, and over these bridges all have to cross, the river being unfordable at this juncture. Upon being informed that these bridges were erected by Mr Rutherford at his own expense, I was exceedingly surprised, as one would have expected the Road Board or Council to have erected them. This bore out the opinion I had already heard expressed of Mr Rutherford, that he is a wonderfully enterprising man.

Leaving the river-bed we drove along the terrace, which is of a very poor nature, and one would wonder what the sheep live on. All along the Leslie Hills side the land had been skim-ploughed and trees planted. This is what improves the country, and with all the plantations which Mr Duncan Rutherford has on his property, taking up acres, yes even miles of property, and which must have cost him thousands of pounds, he deserves to reap some reward in years to come, and I for one sincerely hope he will.

We arrived at the station and found all hands busy drafting cattle for the fair to be held on the following day, so just made ourselves at home and inspected all the outhouses, farm buildings, stables, improvements, &c. And this is what we saw:—

First, a large stable and loft, with harness-room, all wonderfully clean, and nice sets of harness hung up in their respective places, all bright and clean. One would have thought instead of being in the country you were in the town. This stable is used for all harness horses and hacks used by the family. Passing round to the back we came upon a small yard, facing upon which were three very nice snug loose-boxes. These are for the blood stock, and two of them were occupied, their tenants looking in rare buckle. From here we wandered on to another enclosure which had a corrugated building used as a granary, and one covered with felt for hay. Adjoining this was a splendid cow-house, the timber for which was all grown and worked up on the place, being pinus insignis, gum, &c. It contains six stalls and bails and two loose boxes, the floor being all cemented. Next to this came another yard, on one side three more loose boxes similar to the race-horse boxes, these being used for the draught horses, and on the other side six stalls for the stock horses and general station hacks. Next came the carriage house, where I noticed a splendid Abbott buggy and two waggonettes. Adjoining this is a large implement shed, under whose roof are harrows, drays, ploughs, and every implement required on such an estate. We then wended our way to the woolshed, which is a very substantial building, and has evidently stood many a season. Its sides are built of slabs, with a shingle and corrugated iron roof. There is a board for twelve shearers, and every convenience for the penning of sheep, rolling, classing and pressing of wool; also a large placard with the rules of the shed and stating the intervals allowed for meals and "smoko's." We were rather amused at the number of smoko's, and thought that during the latter spells some tall yarns must be told. Next we inspected the sheep dip and sheep yards, all of which have been properly planned and built.

By this time Mr Rutherford had finished his work and was returning. After handing his horse over to the lad he led the way to the house, to reach which we passed up a short drive, with tasteful little flower gardens on either side, with all the flowers in full bloom. One arch of trellis work, leading to a sweet little conservatory, was covered with roses and creepers, which Mr Rutherford assured us had never shed their leaves all the winter; and, apparently, I should say the snug gully in which the homestead is situated knows no winter, but experiences continual spring. Mrs Rutherford gave us a hearty welcome, and after dinner we spent the evening in talking about the morrow, and discussed the prices of sheep and wool, and every conceivable thing in connection with station and town life, not forgetting the bank amalgamation and the actions of the present Government.

Next morning Mr Rutherford woke us at an early hour, and after breakfast we watched the departure of the cattle, which were despatched for the sale in mobs, each mob in charge of one man. Then jumping into our chariot we made all haste for the river, which we reached just in time to watch the crossing of the cattle. Mr Rutherford took the river just below the mob, while the shepherd kept just above. After much cracking of whips and barking of dogs, the cattle plunged in the river helter skelter, and, of course, made down stream. Then Mr Rutherford would swim up alongside of them, lay the whip on to their backs and heads, and keep punching them up stream until they landed. All the mobs were thus transferred in safety to the opposite bank. There being two streams, it was no small undertaking. Of course all hands were wet through, but what matters that to men who have their hearts in their work. Next we were piloted across, and went on to the township to be ready to receive and pen the cattle, which we did without much difficulty.

As regards the sale, it was much the same as other sales, and had no charm except for those interested. I would like to add, however, that no sale in the colonies is conducted like this sale.—The buyers come by the train, make their purchases, and the latter are put on the trucks free of cost to them and are sent off in the same train as the buyers. This time we had 130 cattle on board, and would have brought the lot only the engine could not bring them over the steep gradients of the Weka Pass.

The trip home in the train was capital fun. Cards were the order of the day in one portion of the train, and a concert was held in another. We all reached home in good spirits, and my friend and myself were well satisfied with our trip and visit to Leslie Hills, and delighted with the kindness shown to us during our short stay.

AGRICULTURE.

THE DEPARTMENTAL REPORT.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

WELLINGTON, Oct. 3.

The report of the Department of Agriculture was laid on the table of the House to-day. It is contained in a volume of octavo size, and extends to two hundred and thirty-six pages. In addition to the report by Mr Ritchie, secretary for agriculture, it embraces reports of local stock inspectors, dairy instructors, pomologists, Government veterinarian, acting biologist, &c. A large space is occupied by the report of Mr Valentine, the chief dairy expert, and by the report of Mr Kirk, acting biologist, the latter report being copiously illustrated.

In his remarks on dairying, Mr Ritchie states that the number of creameries and cheese and butter factories at work this season is 178, an increase of 74 on last season. The condensed milk placed on the market by colonial factories is quite as good, if not superior, to the best imported, and he is sure that the local article only requires to be better known in order to supersede the importations of 64,340lb, valued at £14,219. With the milking machine which he saw in operation at Brookside, Canterbury, Mr Ritchie expresses himself as "very pleased indeed," and he adds, "I am of opinion that, with some slight improvements which will suggest themselves as the machine comes into general use, it will materially assist the development of the industry." Mr Ritchie remarks that the certain development of the dairying industry has led to the price of dairy cows having advanced by 40 per cent over that ruling two or three years ago, and he thinks this rise is likely to be maintained. As to the most suitable breed, he says "we must look for something that will produce beef as well as milk, and I am therefore of opinion that a Shorthorn bull from a good milking strain is the most suitable." He estimates the increase in pigs during last year at fully 30 per cent, a result largely due to the operations of the Intermarine Supply Company, which has opened a factory at Islington, near Christchurch, for the manufacture of mess pork by a patent process, and has other works in the course of erection at Hastings. Everything favours an enormous expansion of this industry. With grain at present prices the return per bushel should be at least half as much more if fed to pigs than if placed on the market. On the subject of rabbits he states that he has made personal inspection during the past year of some of the worst infested districts of the colony, and he reports a marked diminution.

The rabbit inspectors' reports are also of a favourable nature, and they state as a cause of the decrease the excessive rainfall in the spring (which practically destroyed the first litters), together with more united action on the part of land-owners. Much more, however, requires to be done before the pest is reduced to reasonable limits. Mr Ritchie considers that much better results would be obtained if the inspectors had power to compel all owners to poison at the proper seasons. Assistance to settlers in the work of erecting rabbit-proof fencing would be money well spent. The reports show that the "natural enemy" has, in several places, kept the pest in check, and is doing good work in some of the most inaccessible country. The central portion of the Canterbury district is reported to be practically free from rabbits. In South Canterbury he found the pest more or less all over, but especially on what was formerly the Station Peak Run. He condemns the use of traps and dogs in this district, and prefers poisoning, which will be generally resorted to this season. The South Canterbury fence is in excellent repair, and has undoubtedly done good work. Mr Ritchie is informed that there will not be so many rabbit factories in operation during the coming season in Otago, and he is confident that this will eventually be found of benefit. He commends the New Zealand and Australian Land Company for erecting rabbit fences from the present South Canterbury fence, thence to Cattle Creek and the Hakateramea River.

Mr Blackmore, the pomologist for the South Island, reports that the codlin moth has spread through the agency of imported apple cases, and is now to be found in orchards at Akaroa, Oamaru, Waimate and Central Otago.

Mr Sawers, the chief dairy instructor, states in his report that "honourable mention" must be given to Mr Thomas Brydone, the Superintendent of the New Zealand and Australian Land Company, Dunedin, and Mr John Grigg, Longbeach, for their efforts in extending the dairy industry. The labours of Mr G. G. Stead and Mr Murphy, of Christchurch, and others also "call for the highest eulogy." Mr Sawers recommends that three additional competent and practical dairy instructors (making five in all) be obtained, and that the colony be divided into four divisions, with one inspector in charge at each, as follows:—First division, Auckland and the Gisborne section of the Hawke's Bay district; 2, Taranaki and part of Hawke's Bay and Wellington districts; 3, Marlborough, Nelson, Westland and North Canterbury districts, with South Canterbury, Otago and Southland districts. Mr Sawers has also a report on "The Brookside Patent Milker," which invention he thinks well worth the serious and careful attention of all those connected with dairying.

AUCKLAND NEWS.

[PER PRESS ASSOCIATION.]

AUCKLAND, Oct. 3.

The charges of assault and robbery against George Lawson and James Thompson, resulted in the acquittal of Lawson and the committal of Thompson.

The inquiry into the stranding of the schooner Awanui close to Oreti Point, was held before the Collector of Customs. The evidence of Captain Skinner was to the same effect as published. A. Martin and Robert Gregory, super-cargo, also gave evidence, which corroborated the captain's. The evidence will be forwarded to the Marine Department, at Wellington.

School Committee.

The ordinary monthly meeting of the Woolston School Committee was held on Monday evening; present—Messrs J. M. Douglass (chairman), J. Anderson, C. Edkins, T. Manifold, R. S. M'Diarmid, J. Richardson and J. Cleworth (honorary secretary). Correspondence was received from the Board of Education enclosing the inspector's report of the examination of the school, which was, on the whole, very satisfactory. The secretary was instructed to write to the head-master and staff thanking them, on behalf of the committee, for the very satisfactory result of the examination. Mr M'Diarmid reported that matters in connection with the prize fund concert, to take place on Oct. 9, were progressing satisfactorily. Final arrangements for the concert were made. The head-master reported that the average attendance for the past three weeks had been 506, and that the roll number was 576. It was decided to have all the windows that are now stippled cleaned off and re-stippled, and a tender for the work was accepted. The Secretary reported having arranged for Mesdames J. M. Douglass, H. L. Gossett and G. J. Smith to examine the needlework at the school on Wednesday, Oct. 17. The Works Committee was authorised to have certain work attended to. The Finance Committee's report was received, and all accounts recommended were passed for payment. The Secretary reported having written to the Hon W. P. Reeves and Mr W. W. Tanner, M.H.R., requesting them to support any measure that may be introduced into the House with the object of extending the franchise for the election of the Board of Governors of Canterbury College to all School Committees in the Canterbury district, the committee being of the opinion that the management of the institution, endowed as it is by public money, should come under the more direct control of the people.

A RARE CHANCE.—Five hundred cases Himalaya tea, 2s 4d quality, at 1s 8d per lb; a better tea is not to be had, the flavour and quality is superb. Wardell Bros. and Co.—[ADVT.]

Perfect Health

May be secured by all who follow the example of Mrs. Lizzie W. De Yeau, 262 15th St., Brooklyn, N. Y., U.S.A.

"Every Spring, for years, I have had intolerable headaches, and total loss of energy, so that the season which should be welcomed by me was a dread, for, as the warm, pleasant days arrived, they brought

to me lassitude and pain. My druggist had known me from childhood, and advised me to take, early in the Spring, Ayer's Sarsaparilla. I commenced using it and have not had, since then, the first symptom of headache; my appetite is splendid, and I perform my daily duties with a cheerfulness and energy that surprises myself."

Ayer's The Only Sarsaparilla

Admitted at the World's Fair.

Made by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass., U.S.A.

DURYEA'S MAIZENA.

CRICKET.

The opening of the cricket season will take place at Lancaster Park on Saturday, weather permitting, when the usual matches will be played. Afternoon tea will be provided, and visitors will be heartily welcomed.

The following will represent the Lancaster Park Eleven v. the rest of the club, captained by C. Ridley:—De Maus, Cant, Cuff, Fowke, Lafferty, Loughnan, Ridley, Smith, Wallis, Willis and Wilding. Play commences at 2.15 p.m., and all new and intending members are requested to attend. The club bats first.

Teams representing the Addington and St Albans Cricket Clubs will play on the St Albans ground on Saturday, when all members are requested to be present.

Wanted.

Cash advertisements under this head, not exceeding fourteen words will be charged SIXPENCE.

WANTED, V.T.C. Teas, 2s for 1s 8d, 2s 4d for 1s 11d, at Smith's Golden Teapot Stores. 4858

WANTED Known — Men's Shirts, Underclothing, Hosiery, Umbrellas and Bags, t y Beath's. X839

WANTED Known—250 New Kaiapoi Suits, Special Purchase, Boys' and Men's, to go at Mill Prices all this week. Beath. X839

WANTED Known—Taking Stock. Great Reductions Fashionable and Reliable Goods. See circulars. W. McClea and Co., 210, High Street. X537

WANTED Known — Great Reductions in White Calicoes, Sheetings and Shirtings, Blankets and Flannels. W. McClea and Co., 210, High Street. X537

WANTED Known — Another Shipment of Eucalyptus Soap, Platypus Brand, has arrived. Sold everywhere and 9, Cathedral square. 8865

WANTED Known—Great Reductions. Men's All-wool Socks 9d, worth 1s, and 11d, worth 1s 6d; Merino Socks 6d, worth 9d, and 10½d, worth 1s 3d. W. McClea and Co., 210, High Street. X537

WANTED, Sufferers from Headache, Indigestion, &c., to know that Sassafras Pills, Platypus Brand, are a sure cure. Sold everywhere, and the offices, No. 3, Cathedral square. 8865

WANTED Known — Eucalyptus Jujubes, Platypus Brand, Antiseptic and stimulant. All Chemists and Grocers, and 9, Cathedral quare, next Post Office. 8865

WANTED Known—Great Reductions. Men's Kaiapoi All-wool Tweed Suits 21s 6d, worth 32s 6d; Men's Trousers, Kaiapoi, 6s 6d, worth 8s 11d. W. McClea and Co., 210, High Street. X537

WANTED Known—During Sydney depression J. F. Stratz has purchased Watches, Clocks and Jewellery of every description from 5s to 10s in the £, and is selling German Alarms, Nickel, 4s 6d; Pirate do do, 5s 6d; Peep-o'-Day Alarms 6s 6d. £100 reward if not genuine. Sent to any part of New Zealand; postage extra. All other articles equally cheap. J. F. Stratz, 261, High Street, Christchurch X428

Miscellaneous.

A FEW Lovely Designs and Colourings in Royal Axminster Carpets just to hand. J. Ballantyne and Co. X19

A FACT.—Sydney Oranges 4s 6d, Seville Oranges 5s, Sweet Fiji Oranges 5s 6d, Lemons 7s 6d, Good Apples 5s per case. Best marmalade receipt given. Look at the window for retail prices, at Robinson's, Morten's Buildings. X982

ALLIANCE BOX CO., Plain and Fancy Box Manufacturers. Direct importers straw boards, papers, bags, tailors' and drapers' fittings, &c. Boxes for drapers, tailors, cigarette makers, hatters, and others at prices which defy competition. Moray Place, Dunedin. 5515

A CONUNDRUM.—To those requiring a Piano. Can anyone explain why in these times people pay more for a Piano when they can buy from BOWMAN & SON a splendid instrument for £35 or £40, which other firms are selling at £45 and £50; the Pianos are exactly alike; we challenge the trade to show their Pianos alongside of ours. Bowman and Son, 200-206, Hereford Street. X277

BALLANTYNE'S Own Make of Men's, Boys', Youths' and Juvenile Clothing still stands unrivalled. X19

BARGAINS for all at Corrick's Great Boot Sale, 157, Colombo Street. 9948

CHEAP Boots at R. Atkinson's, 231, High Street, White Hart corner. Note—His only address.

FOURPENCE and Fivepence Reduction on V.T.C. Teas, at Smith's Golden Teapot Stores. 4858

GAWNE'S Worcester Sauce. For Fish, Meat or Fowl. The most appetising and cheapest in the market. Ask your Grocer for it. Sold everywhere. 1487

K. ATKINSON, Bootmaker, removed from Cashel Street to 231, High Street, where you will get highest value at lowest cost.

NOTICE of Removal.—R. Atkinson, Bootmaker and Importer, removed to 231, High Street. Note—His only address.

OUR Noted Half-crown (Wearwell) Kid Gloves give great satisfaction. Try them. J. Ballantyne and Co. X19

TAILORING up to Date.—Three Cases English and Scotch Tweeds and Coatings, just opened. Beath and Co. X839

V.T.C. TEAS. Special Reduction. Wholesale Price at Smith's Golden Teapot Stores, 65, Victoria Street. 4858

Business Notices.

Trade "MAIZENA" Mark (DURYEA'S).

PREPARED FROM CHOICEST GRAIN.

HIGHEST AWARDS WHEREVER EXHIBITED.

NEILL & CO., LIMITED,

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J. NANCARROW & SON

STILL take the lead for GOOD QUALITY and CHOICE FRUITS and CONFECTIONERY. Why go elsewhere, when we can supply you with the best quality at cheapest rates.

Ring up TELEPHONE No. 636, and get your orders delivered with despatch.

Shipment of SEVILLE ORANGES to hand.

Please note the address—
216, HIGH STREET
(Late Nelson, Moate and Co.'s Shop).

SMOKE "THE ROYAL COLORS"

AROMATIC PLUG TOBACCO.

WILLIAMS'S
Latest and Best Brand.

Manufactured from choicest Virginia Leaf.

NEILL & CO., LIMITED,
DUNEDIN.
Sole Agents. X1268

Business Notices.

M. S. & CO.,
CHRISTCHURCH.

JUST OPENED UP,

EX RECENT ARRIVALS, DIRECT FROM THE MAKERS,

THE UNDERMENTIONED LINES:—

CRICKETING MATERIAL AND TENNIS WARE — IN GREAT VARIETY BY VERY BEST MAKERS. THE BLADES OF OUR BATS ARE LIGHT IN WEIGHT, ACCURATELY BALANCED, ARE WELL-SEASONED AND WELL-HAMMERED, AND POSSESS PLENTY OF DRIVING POWER.

BICYCLES—SINGER'S "94 MODELE DE LUXE" LIGHT ROADSTERS HAVE THE FOLLOWING UP-TO-DATE IMPROVEMENTS: SINGER'S PATENT DUST-PROOF BALL BEARINGS THROUGHOUT, TANGENT SPOKES, AND VERY LATEST DUNLOP TYRES.

BARTLET'S CELEBRATED FISHING TACKLE, COMPRISING LANDING NETS, FLIES, REELS, RODS, LINES, SNAKE ROD RINGS, MINNOWS, GUT CASTS AND TRACES, AND ALL FISHING REQUISITES.

TAYLOR'S BEST QUALITY BOWLING GREEN BOWLS — THESE HAVE BEEN SPECIALLY SELECTED FOR US, AND ARE MADE FROM THE HEAVIEST AND BEST LIGNUM-VITÆ PROCURABLE, AND ARE TRUE TO BIAS.

TENNIS SETS. CROQUET SETS.

LAWN MOWERS — "NEW EXCELSIOR," WITH GRASS BOX AND ROLLER (Similar to Green's, but about Quarter the Cost.)

NEW MODEL — (FOUR AND FIVE KNIVES, WITH OR WITHOUT GRASS BOX) THE CHEAPEST AND BEST MOWER OF ITS CLASS IMPORTED.

ALSO,

SHEEP SHEARS
AND BEST-SELECTED
TURKEY STONES.

MASON, STRUTHERS & CO.

TEA AT COST PRICE.

WE HAVE SECURED A LIN OF

500 CASES

OF

HIMALAYA TEAS, MOUNTAIN BRAND,

2/4 QUALITY,

WHICH WE ARE PREPARED TO SELL AT COST PRICE,

1/8 PER LB.

WE GUARANTEE THIS TEA TO BE BETTER THAN ANY 2s 4d TEA NOW ON THE MARKET,

And we are determined,

FOR A DRAW, TO CLEAR IT OUT AT 1/8 PER LB.

ONLY 500 CASES 2s 4d TEA AT 1s 8d PER LB, Net Cash, No Discount.
Nothing less if you take a ton.

You can get tea at any price, from 1s per lb upwards, but most of it is rubbish.

THE HIMALAYA TEA AT 1/8

S A FIRST-CLASS TEA, AND FIT FOR THE PALATE OF THE MOST FASTIDIOUS.

WARDELL BROS. & CO

X985

BUY OF THE MANUFACTURER
WEDDING & ENGAGEMENT RINGS
IN DIAMOND, RUBY, SAPPHIRE.
WATCHES 4/- CLEANED & REPAIRED.
R. KENNETT.
CLOCKS WARRANTED 2/6 CLEANED
WE GIVE THE BEST LOND ON WORKMANSHIP AT REASONABLE PRICES
AD APPRENTICES OR IMPROVERS EMPLOYED TO PRACTISE ON A SMALL WORK
183, HIGH ST TWO DOORS FROM BARRETT'S HOTEL.

YOU CAN SAVE MONEY BY PURCHASING YOUR SUPPLIES FROM

AITKEN & ROBERTS,

FURNISHING AND GENERAL IRONMONGERS,

CORNER CASHEL AND COLOMBO STREETS.

FRESH SHIPMENTS RECEIVED EVERY MONTH.

TO-DAY WE ARE OPENING DIRECT FROM THE MAKERS,
OUR CELEBRATED

TROUT FLIES AND FISHING TACKLE OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
GARDEN TOOLS AND LAWN MOWERS, BEST AND CHEAPEST.
LAMPS OF SPECIAL VALUE, LARGE ASSORTMENT.
WIRE NETTING ALL SIZES.
SHEEP NETTING, FENCING WIRE.
SHEEP SHEARS AND ALL STATION REQUISITES.
MANGLES, WASHING MACHINES AND WRINGERS.
CUTLERY, PLATED-WARE, CHASTE DESIGNS

Business Notices.

NOW'S YOUR TIME FOR

DINNER-WARE,
TEA-WARE,
AND
TOILET-WARE.

MESSRS DUNFORD & CO. beg to inform the public generally that being largely overstocked with the above-mentioned lines, are now selling same at

GREAT REDUCTIONS.

MUST SELL TO MAKE ROOM FOR NEW GOODS.

DUNFORD & CO.,

156, Colombo Street, Christchurch.

X527 W. G. WILLIAMS, Manager.

JOHN WALLER & CO.,
TIMBER AND COAL MERCHANTS,
TUAM STREET,
Railway Siding—Windmill road,

ARE prepared to Supply, at LOWEST CURRENT RATES, every description of

BUILDING MATERIALS,

Including—
Red, White and Black Pine
Totara, Kauri and Mottled
Baltic, 9 x 2, 9 x 3, 12 x 3
V.D.L. Timber, 8ft and 6ft Palings
Lysaght's Orb Iron and other brands
Knight Bevan's and Colonial Cement
Kauri Flitches, assorted sizes
Kauri, Red and White Pine Flooring, Lining, Architraves, Moulding, Shelving, Floor Skirting, under cover, ready for immediate use
Doors and Sashes, Builders' ironmongery

COALS AND FIREWOOD.

COUNTRY ORDERS promptly executed and delivered direct from the Siding.

SILKSTONE SOAP
IS THE BEST

ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT AND COMPARE THE SIZE OF A BAR
With one of any other brand
Judge of the difference in favour of yourself.

J. T. BROWN AND SON
TIMBER AND COAL MERCHANTS,
BUILDING MATERIAL IN GREAT VARIETY.

PARTIES intending to Build are invited to inspect our Stocks of
SEASONED TIMBER,
And also to ask for our Prices.

BEST NEWCASTLE,
WESTPORT
BLACK BALL
MALVERN COALS
AND
FIREWOOD,

Best attention given to Deliveries.

OFFICES and YARDS, corner Colombo and Tuam Streets.
WHOLESALE YARDS, St Asaph Street.
P.O. Box 306. Telephone, No. 72. X54

"A CACKLING HEN"

MAY be excused for making an awfully big racket over a mighty little egg; but when she cackles for an hour over a china door-knob it's time to throw a brick at her. There is also some excuse for a merchant cackling a good deal over a GENUINE BARGAIN. But when the so-called bargain turns out to be a DOOR-KNOB BARGAIN it is time somebody threw a brick or a "shoo" at the noisy thing. There's an awful lot of cackling about bargains going on now, but we guess they're all door-knob bargains, so here goes our brick. We'll meet any price, show better quality for the same money, and do better by you than any other firm or "Buck-eye" concern in Christchurch.

NO DOOR-KNOB BARGAIN ABOUT THIS.

A. MILLS,
CORNER HIGH AND LICHFIELD STREETS

CHEAPEST BOOT SHOP IN THE CITY.

ALWAYS A LITTLE UNDER X998

Obtainable from T. H. PAPPS, and all Storekeepers. X1268

ASK YOUR GROCER

FOR

GILLESPIE'S

ESSENCE OF COFFEE.

We allow 2d for Each Empty Bottles

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE SMITHFIELD PROVISION MARKET COMPANY
(Opposite W. Strange and Co., High Street),
WILL OPEN THE ABOVE ESTABLISHMENT
ON
SATURDAY NEXT, 15TH SEPT.,
With a Choice Selection of
FIRST-CLASS PROVISIONS AND OTHER SPECIALTIES.

Reserve your Orders and See Our Display, which will be the Finest Show of Provisions ever seen in New Zealand.

"MOREPORK"
One of our Specialties.

The Celebrated ISLINGTON PORK SAUSAGES to be had here daily.

Watch Saturday's Papers for further particulars.

E. J. DALTON
(Late Provision Dept. of Wardell Bros.)
Manager.

H. J. WOOD
(Late Grocery Dept. of Wardell Bros.),
Assistant Manager.

N.B.—WANTED on and after THURSDAY, 20 first-class DAIRIES OF BUTTER. Highest price given. 6178

HAVE YOU USED THE EXCELSIOR WASHING FLUID. 6873

IF NOT GET IT FROM YOUR GROCER.