

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE GALE IN AUCKLAND.

AUCKLAND, Monday, 6.40 p.m. The effects of the storm were very numerous in the harbour this morning. To the westward of the wharf, the ketches 'Tiritiri' and 'Speedwell' (latter put in for shelter), cutters 'Diamond' and 'Tesser' were sunk. On the east side, the schooner 'Firefly' was sunk, and much damaged. At Gore-street jetty, the schooner 'Echo' had her bulwarks smashed, and also the cutter 'Waratah,' close by. The cutter 'Three Brothers' was completely stove in at the starboard bow, and sunk. At the wood-wharf the cutter 'Bob Roy' had her port bulwarks battered. The 'Helen,' schooner, had two large holes knocked inside, and her starboard bulwarks are gone. The topsail schooner 'Pearl,' which escaped at Timaru, was very much battered against the wood wharf. She knocked a hole in her starboard side abreast of the fore rigging. The cutter 'South Carolina' and yacht 'Kate' were much damaged. At daylight the cutters 'Severn,' 'Undine,' 'Triad,' and 'Tactar' were all of a heap against the breakwater, where they had dragged down. All were more or less damaged. The 'Glance' cutter, which is said to have started drifting, escaped. The cutter 'Swift' was sunk between the wharf and breakwater. McCabe and Walsh's tramway, used in the construction of the breakwater, was smashed. Kirk, a seaman, was very nearly drowned in trying to save a boat at the wharf. He was fixed underneath a boat, but was rescued by Ireland, the owner of the ketch 'Tiritiri.' The schooner 'Clyde' and cutter 'Start,' which started for the north on Saturday, put back each with mizenmast blown to pieces. The pilot schooner 'Vindex' had a narrow escape. She dragged her anchor, and Mr W. Burgess, with two of the pilot crew, went off, at great peril, and secured her. The cutter dragged down from Mechanics Bay to Judge's Bay. Her dingy was lost. The cutter would have been lost, had it not been for the presence of mind, displayed by the boy on board, who got out a kegs and warp, in an anchor, and brought her up. A brick wall and out-house were blown down in Grafton Road. The zinc roof of a house in Parrell was blown partially off. The single roof of a shed on the North Head was blown into the sea. A tree at Duder's grocery store fell across the Beach Road just after the peepohad gone from the church. The fencing round a part of the Naval reserve was blown down. At Onelungu Gibbons and Rowe's wharves were much damaged, and Mangero bridge was knocked about. Mr Buckland's punt was upset, and thirty-seven pigs were drowned. The cutters 'Maid of Italy,' 'Two Sisters,' and 'Dante' are more or less injured. 50,000 feet timber from Gibbons' mill was stowed along the beach. The men on board the 'Two Sisters' had to swim ashore. No damage was done in the township.

In the Grand Jury charge Judge Gillies said that one prisoner was charged with shooting with intent to do bodily harm. There was no doubt about the shooting or the intent, but the peculiar circumstances of the case was that the prisoner alleged he was justified, that the person he shot at had reduced his wife. His Honor proceeded to say that such a plea was no excuse for a man, some time after the seduction coolly going and purchasing a gun and proceeding to a distance of seven miles for the deliberate purpose of shooting a person against whom he felt aggrieved. That was a matter for the Court to deal with, in the event of conviction. Another case on the calendar was that in which two persons were charged with forcible entry at the Thames. It was quite clear, in law, that a person could not take possession of even his own property by force. He must apply to law. It had been laid down, and there was no doubt, that a landlord who entered with force or threats into his own property, after the tenant's term had expired, was guilty of forcible entry. It was not necessary that force should be actually used, if the means were employed to overawe and terrify by a showing of force, so as to lead the person in possession to believe that violence would be used unless the wishes of the person threatening such force were complied with. In the present case a tenant had received notice to quit, and upon disregarding it, the landlord burst open the door, which was fastened, and tied with a rope. No doubt persons so acting were guilty of forcible entry, notwithstanding that they might consider that the steps they were taking were in the assertion of right.—James Naylor was released from prison to-day by a writ of habeas corpus obtained by Mr Rees on the ground of wrong conviction.—The 'Hawea' and 'Ladybird' arrived to-day in the Mraukau. Both brought several passengers.—Sailed: 'Phoebe' for the South.

WEST AUSTRALIAN ADVICE. The discovery of alluvial gold at Koebourne; two tons yielded 82½ grs. Contributions have been received from England for the 'Gothenburg' fund, which now reaches £9,300. WHEAT, 3s 1d.

SOUTHERN TELEGRAMS.

(PER PRESS AGENCY.)

WELLINGTON, Monday, 7.30 p.m. The new arrangement between the banks came into force to-day, and discounts are now 7 per cent. under 95 days, and 8 per cent. above that period, while the highest rate of interest to be allowed is 5½ per cent. It is expected that this will release a great deal of money which was withdrawn from the ordinary channels of investment so long as the bank gave 7 per cent. for deposits.—The Tribune understands there is not likely to be any opposition to the appointment of Mr O'Rourke as Chairman of Committees of the House of Representatives. It says no doubt the Government will support his appointment.

WANGANUI, Monday, 5.6 p.m. An unusually sharp earthquake occurred early yesterday morning. It was preceded and followed by lesser ones for hours, and occasional noises like distant artillery firing were heard. Direction was N.E. to S.W. Some crockery was shaken off the shelves. No other damage reported.

CHRISTCHURCH, Monday, 5.6 p.m. The ship of Mr Cohen, paraprober, was burglariously entered on Saturday night, but only two or three pounds worth of imitation gold rings were taken. An attempt was made to open an iron

safe, in which all the valuable portion of the stock was kept, but without success.—The Canterbury Jockey Club, at a meeting on Saturday night, endorsed the action of the Auckland Jockey Club in disqualifying Edward Kelly, the jockey, and Alexander Huntley or Barron, the trainer of Maori Weed.—A.G. Howland, Christchurch, has patented an ingenious contrivance, called a "shaft clip," for attaching shafts or poles to vehicles. Its qualities are simplicity, safety, and greater facility in attaching or detaching shafts, and economy.—The criminal session of the Supreme Court was opened this morning. Judge Williams, in his charge to the grand jury, expressed great satisfaction at the new prison regulations. Several cases were heard, but sentence in each was deferred till to-morrow.

DUNEDIN, Monday. The amount of insurance on Flaxman's fire is £8,000, as follows:—Transatlantic, £2,600; Norwich Union, £1,800; Royal, £1,000; Victoria, £1,000; South British, £500; New Zealand, £300; Flaxman's estate—loss, £5,000 and over. One office refused to take another thousand from him last Friday.

AUSTRALIAN TELEGRAMS.

MELBOURNE, June 25.

The first lecture by the Rev. Chas. Clark on the Tower of London after his return was attended by 3,500 people, and it had to be repeated netting 22½ a night. Mr Smyth his agent is arranging for his appearance at Ballarat. Mr Frank Stephen is about to send his lifeboat on a trip to Sydney. Leggat, an old sailor, and his son will proceed in her with a fortnight's provisions. A preliminary trial will be made to-morrow. Letters from King's Island state that efforts to raise the 'Blencathra' are proceeding satisfactorily. Charge against Jim Pong for murder was heard on remand. He pleaded not guilty. Mr Johnson, analytical chemist, gave evidence that human hair and a blood stain with all the properties of human blood had been found on the poker recovered from the shaft. The poker was lost by Mrs Benzelman on the night of her husband's murder. Her child was again examined, but the evidence was conflicting and contradictory. The prisoners Ah Cat and Louisa Benzelman were present. The prisoner Jim Pong was committed for trial at the assizes. The Benchworth coach, between Kaakandah and Wodonga, was capsized and carried a hundred yards down the creek. The driver narrowly escaped drowning. The mails are lost. M'Erwan's estate has been sequestrated. At a meeting creditors the Colonial Bank made an offer to buy or sell the estate at 6s in the £. Thomas Lake and Co. ten merchants, have called a meeting of their creditors. A butcher named David Glennon was fined £10 and five guineas costs for exposing diseased meat in a public market. The Supreme Court granted a rule nisi, calling on an attorney to show cause why he should not be struck off the rolls for appropriating money to his own use. An advance of 15s has taken place on refined sugar. Mauritius advices state that large quantities of rain had fallen, and the cane on the sea-board estates promises to be much better. A labouring man, named Maurice Williams, residing at Emerald Hill, committed suicide through his inability to work. He has a son at Queensland. The tender of Mr James M'Erwan has been accepted for the rails and fastenings of the Deniliquin and Moama railway for £41,000. Flour and wheat are firmer; the latter is selling at 6s. Childrey's tobacco, is to 1s 6½d; maize, 4s 7d to 4s 8d. A young girl named M'Inally was drowned in the Hunter at Maitland. The body was recovered. She was drawing water, and slipped into the river. She rose four times, but no assistance could be given.

ADSLAIDS, June 25th.

West Australian advices report the discovery of alluvial gold at Koebourne; two tons yielded 82½ grs. Contributions have been received from England for the 'Gothenburg' fund, which now reaches £9,300. WHEAT, 3s 1d.

THE STORM OF SUNDAY NIGHT.

At daylight yesterday morning, the storm of the previous night had quite subsided, and the wind, which had blown with almost hurricane force from the north-east, now came in zephyrs from the west. The people of the Thames could therefore look around and estimate the damage which had been done without any fear of an immediate recurrence of the cause of mischief. The wonder in most people's minds seemed to be, that, considering the high tide and the strong wind, the damage had not been greater. People who went to bed in their comfortable tenements, with the wind roaring in their ears, and their houses shaking with the storm, naturally thought that feebler structures, in more exposed positions, would be levelled with the ground. But there was very little damage to house property, and almost all the substantial mischief was noticed in our yesterday's paper.

The vessels in harbour, we may almost say, escaped uninjured. The 'Policeman' dragged her anchors from opposite the Goods wharf till she brought up abreast of the Gas Works. The 'William and Julia' also dragged her anchors for some considerable distance, but suffered no damage. Both these vessels set sail for the Bay of Islands yesterday morning. The master of the 'Mariner,' which came in on Sunday, reports having experienced very bad weather outside. The 'Prince Alfred' dropped off from the wharf; let go an anchor, and paid out chain; she also had a rope attached to the wharf to ease the strain on the anchor. At Shortland the cutter 'Saucy Jack' was cast up amongst the mangroves. The harbour boat, which was on the gridiron, and which was attached by a rope, broke away, the stem having been torn right out of her. She was drifted across Brown-street, and up against the Naval Brigade drill shed.

We quite anticipated that it would be impossible for the Tararu wharf to stand the sea to which it was exposed, and were not surprised to see that two complete breaches had been made in it—one 100 feet, and another of about 40. Captain Best, harbourmaster, telegraphed to the Superintendent informing him of what had taken place, and received instructions to hire a boat for the purpose of keeping the light up in the meantime. Besides the breach in the road wall at the Kurauhi, the wall has been considerably injured close to the engine-shed. The two engines have also been somewhat injured. The damage to the Tararu wharf will probably amount to about £300, and to the engine-shed and engines £100.

The Grahamstown wharf has only the one breach, next the toll-house, and Mr Curtis, with his usual promptitude, had a contract let for repairing it, and men were at work yesterday morning. We understand that it will be ready for traffic to-day. The shops and warehouses in Albert-street have all received some damage to their contents by the water, the largest sufferers being Mr Marshall and Messrs Osborne Brothers. The damage in the case of the latter would have been greater had not the precaution been taken to lift the floor bags from the floor. From the extent of Mr Marshall's premises and the largeness of his stock, damage to a considerable amount has been done. During the height of the flood a bucket was drifted into the door of the ADVANTISSE office, and has not yet been claimed. On the Shortland Beach the trim gardens in front of the houses have been destroyed, and yesterday morning the shrubs and flowers could be seen peeping through the layer of barren sand and shells which the waves had thrown on the garden ground. The sea has greatly encroached at Shortland of late years, owing, we suppose, to the filling up of the foreshore further north. At one place it has come in about 50 feet, and where the grass used to grow plentifully is now covered with sand.

Captain Best, who is weather officer here, received intimation on Saturday evening from the Meteorological Office at Wellington that a storm might be expected within a few hours. Captain Best found that between 8 o'clock on Sunday morning and 8 yesterday morning the instrument indicated that the wind had travelled at the rate of 690 miles in the twenty-four hours. With the two per cent. added for friction this would bring the average up to about 80 miles in the twenty-four hours. Captain Best measured one hour, when the wind was nearly at its strongest, and found that it was blowing at the rate of 52 miles per hour, the rate of a gale being 30 miles per hour.

A large rata tree was blown down across the Moanaitai tramway, opposite the Point Russell claim, and of course smashed the tramway. TAIARUA LITIGATION. LITIGATION respecting the ground of the Tairua Gold Mining Company was not at all concluded by the famous and unexpected settlement come to with Dergin and with the objectors on the score of the pegs. We are, it appears, to have another round in the Warden's Court, and we are afraid, if there is any faith in the plaintiffs, that this time the contest will not stop there, but will have to be fought out to the bitter end in the Supreme Court. We cannot see much chance of an arrangement. The first case comes on in the Warden's Court on the 14th inst. No. 1 is a plaint, Thomas Baird v. J. Neves and G. S. Graham, and it alleges that on the 13th of April the defendants lodged an application for a license in which they alleged that the claim was pegged out on the 10th of April; that in fact they did not mark out on that day; that they did not put in pegs of the size required by the Act; and that the license was obtained by fraud and misrepresentation. No. 2 is a plaint by Baird against Wickham, who had put in an application for a license for the Commonwealth claim, whereas he did not put in a peg at every angle, as required by the Act. This, we understand, because he did not except Dergin's claim from his pegging. No. 3 plaint is by J. S. Kelly against Neves, Macdonald, and Graham, for trespass on plaintiff's claim, the Welcome.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

NATIVE VOLUNTEER CORPS.

The members of this corp competed on Saturday for prizes presented by Captain Taiari. The amount (£12) was so divided that there were five prizes for each range, and one prize for the highest aggregate score. The ranges were 200 and 300 yards at a third class target, and 400, 500 and 600 yards at a second-class target, seven shots at each range. Sergeant Major Grant and Sergeant Clerly superintended the firing, and acted as markers. Owing to the number of shots and competitors, the competition was not concluded on Saturday. We give the scores up to the close of the firing on Saturday:—

Table with 4 columns: Name, 200 yds, 300 yds, 400 yds, 500 yds. Rows include De Hnia, Ngutu, Nabe, Waiatapu, Te Ahitahi, Lieat, Wai Koro, Maitai, Te Pipi, Tuboro, Natanoo, Karewa, Watene, Kawenga, Tea, Macemama, Waters, Henua Raika, Tapara, Te Anawheta, Captain Taiari.

COMPETITION OF NAVAL BRIGADE.

The Naval Brigade competed for Mr McLaren's gold medal on Saturday for the first time. The Scottish Company made some very brilliant shooting last Saturday week, but we find the shooting of the Navals excelled theirs by one point. The prize on Saturday was carried off by Seaman Jno. Clark, a comparatively new shot, with the high score of 53 points, out of 15 shots, at 300, 400, and 600 yards. This medal has to be won four times before it becomes the property of the winner. There was a strong detachment out in the afternoon, when both targets were in use. The competition was under the supervision of the junior Lieutenant, Mr Bennett, and the marking conducted by Sergeants Morris and Kemp, of No. 2 Company. The following are the scores:—Seaman Jno. Clark, 53; Seaman Armstrong, 51; Seaman Jamison, 49; Seaman Geo. Clark, 47; Petty Officer Newdick, 44; Seaman Grundy, 43; Seaman J. Gordon, 42; Seaman Sykes, 42; Seaman Chew, 42; Seaman Nelson, 41.

RE-ARMING OF NAVAL BRIGADE.

We understand that Captain Brassby has advised for the Defence Office that his men are to be armed with Snider carbines forthwith, and to send in all the old rifles now in possession of his men. The carbines are brand new, and will be handy weapons. There will be sword-bayonets and new accoutrements with them, and no doubt the men will have a much smarter appearance than they have with the old Sniders. Some of the men have an objection to the new weapon on account of it excluding them from the competition for the Government Infantry bill, which this company has always made a good appearance at. But when

they find that the Carbine Belt for 1870 will be almost as valuable as the other, the infantry prizes being reduced, and the carbine increased, no doubt they will be quite satisfied.

REPRESENTATION OF THAMES DISTRICT.

A MEETING, called by his Worship the Mayor, was held at the Academy of Music last evening, for the purpose of adopting a petition to be forwarded to the General Assembly, asking for increased representation for the Thames district in the Colonial Parliament.

On the motion of Mr BODIE, his Worship the Mayor was called to the chair. The CHAIRMAN, having read the advertisement calling the meeting, said that he would not detain them long by any remarks he had to make. The question of increased representation had been often before them; it had been advocated by the public press, and petitions had been forwarded to the Assembly on the subject. These petitions had hitherto been sent in vain, but he trusted that this time they would obtain what they asked for. Last year a large petition was sent down signed by about 3,000 persons, and when it was unrolled on the floor of the House of Representatives it surprised the members, as it was one of the largest that had ever been sent there. He believed that the members were now fully aware of the injustice that had been done to the Thames, and seeing that the next session was the last of the present Parliament, he thought if they went the right way to work that this time they would obtain their object. It was thought that as the time was not long, it was better to call a public meeting, and to authorise the petition to be signed by men who occupied representative positions—members of the Provincial Council, of the Highway Boards, and of the Municipal Council, so that time might be saved in forwarding the petition to the Assembly. He would call upon Mr Rowe to move the first resolution.

Mr ROWE read the petition which it was proposed to send to the Assembly, which set forth the population of the district and other particulars. He said he was glad that on this occasion there was no occasion for him to make a speech. Upon this subject they had been, and he believed they still were unanimous, and it required some opposition to get up a little fire to induce a man to make a long speech. It was quite sure there was no necessity for making a long speech. They were acquainted with the position of the district as well as himself, with its prospects, and with its future prospects, and he was sure that every man considered that they had been unfairly treated in the matter of representation, and that although efforts had been previously made, still it was their duty on the present occasion, seeing that Parliament was about to dissolve, and that in all probability there would be a readjustment of the representation, to seek to obtain that amount of representation which they were entitled to. (Hear, and cheers.) He would just give them a few figures to show how they stood in the matter of representation. According to the last census, the Thames district contained 12,230 inhabitants, and the population had risen considerably since—since the petition put the population at 13,000, and he believed it was over rather than under that. The population was 13,000, and they had one representative. (A voice: "No, we have none," and laughter.) Well, he knew they had a considerable amount of flesh and blood in the district. (Laughter.) Taranaki had a population of 5,465, and had three representatives; Wellington, with 29,700, had eight representatives; Marlborough, with 6,145, had two; Westland, with 14,000, had four; and they thought they were not sufficiently represented, and were seeking for more. Taranaki and Marlborough together had 11,610 of a population, and elected five members, while the Thames, with a larger population, sent one. He might also compare their position with other portions of the province of Auckland. He did not know that they would get some of the Auckland members to assist them very much, but he trusted that their sense of duty would override all other considerations. Mr Rowe said that on this point he would read the figures from an article in the THAMES ADVERTISER, where the matter had been put very clearly. After reading the figures, Mr Rowe said they proved clearly that they had not sufficient representation, and were fairly entitled to four members, and he thought if the matter was fairly set before the Parliament, that this would be conceded to them. There was another matter which he wished to allude to. Not only should they seek to have the increase of members in the House of Representatives, but they ought to have some person intimately connected with the Thames in the Legislative Council. He deemed this almost of as much importance as an increase in the House of Representatives. The members of the Legislative Council were nominated, and being comparatively restricted to certain interests, they in fact hindered legislation which was for the benefit of the country. In principle he approved of two Houses of Legislature, and he believed that one should exercise some drag upon the other; but he believed that the Upper House should be elective as well as the Lower—(cheers)—with perhaps a higher qualification both for members and electors. But while the Legislative Council was constituted as it was, it was necessary that the various interests of the country should be represented in it. Their wants would probably never be made known, and their wishes never be carried into execution unless they could exercise such an amount of influence as they were entitled to. They must have men acquainted with their interests, and able to advocate them; men who were independent, who were not merely seeking billets, or to promote their own interests, but who would treat the interests of their constituents as their own interests, and advocate them to the best of their ability. (Cheers.) Mr Rowe then read the resolution he had to propose as follows:—1st. That the petition now read be adopted, and signed by the Mayor and Councillors of the Borough, the members of Provincial Council, the chairmen and members of the Waitohi, Kawaranga, and Parawai District Boards, and the chairman of this meeting. The reason why it was proposed to sign the petition was, that there was a very short time for getting signatures, and what they wanted to show was that the people were still unanimous on the subject, and that the prayer of the former petition should be carried into effect. (Cheers.)

Mr CARPENTER, M.P.C., in seconding the motion, said it was well known that a strong feeling existed amongst the members of the House of Representatives that there should be no increase in the present number. There were now 74 members in

the House of Representatives, 30 representing North Island constituencies and 44 representing South Island constituencies. Up to 1860 the North Island had the largest number of representatives, but as population increased in the South, the Northern members, with generosity that did them credit, endeavoured to do justice to the South. They would remember that the Thames was opened in 1867, but it was not till 1870 that they gave it a representative at all. On the last occasion when a readjustment had been made the Government did not lay their proposals before the House, but had left the matter to a committee, but he thought they ought to insist that the Government should take the matter into their own hands, and let the matter be fairly argued before the House. Mr Carpenter then showed, by taking the total amount of electors and dividing them by the number of members, that we were entitled to at least four if not five members. He then pointed out that in all likelihood we would have a large increase to our population in the immediate future in Tairua and Ohinemuri. When the subject of the representation was last before the House, it was argued, and reasonably too, that Taranaki was over-represented, but Mr Vogel contended that it would not be right to take away one of the members, because they had every probability of the population increasing. The same argument might be used here, and they might ask for members for the population which they expected to have. However, they asked only for the number to which they were entitled, and there could be no doubt in the mind of any reasonable man that they ought to get that number when a readjustment was being made. Every man who lived here was entitled to share in representation of the country, and they ought not to be contented with one member, and with one who was of very little good to them. They must be firm and determined, and must place the matter in the hands of men who were determined to see that justice was done to them.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously. Dr KILGOUR said that the most influential members of the Government must be aware of the tone of feeling which pervaded the Thames, and as it was part of their policy to abolish the provinces, he could not see why they should be opposed to the request of the petition. It appeared to him that as the Legislature had conferred the franchise upon every citizen of New Zealand of the age of twenty-one, who was unimpaired by crime, upon complying with the easy conditions of the Act, it was evident that the Legislature intended to confer equal rights upon all. It was quite obvious that the theory had been invaded and broken through. When they found that this place, with a population of 12,000 or 13,000 sent only one member, and that such places as had been referred to with small populations sent several at members, it must be obvious that we did not enjoy the same electoral rights as the citizens in those other places. Another point which had struck him was the loss which they had sustained here by not having good men and true to represent them in Parliament. (Hear.) Had they possessed two or three honest men who would have worked together for the good of the district, it would not have taken six or seven years to have opened Ohinemuri. If they had had such men in Parliament that district would not, as it was up to the opening of Ohinemuri, been bounded by the Kawaranga stream, which they really were, or that the fertile land in the neighbourhood would have remained unimproved and occupied up to the present time. No doubt the loss which the district had sustained from the want of representation was a most serious one. He had no doubt that the borough would have had the forehorse and other endowments, and that altogether the place would have been in a better and more healthy condition. Dr Kilgour then moved the following resolution:—"That the petition be sent to Charles O'Neill, Esq., M.H.R., for presentation, and that letters be sent to His Honor the Superintendent, the Hon. E. W. Stafford, and other members, favourable to the prayer of the petition, asking their support to it in the House."

Mr BAGWELL, M.P.C., seconded the motion in a short address. Mr SPEIGHT said he supposed it was the proper thing to send the petition to their representative, but if ever any constituency had reason to complain of their representative, it was the Thames. (Cheers.) The members of the House would think that the electors of the Thames did not require additional representation, because the man whom they did send was of no earthly use to them. (Cheers and laughter.) They would think that if the Thames were to send any more than Mr Charles O'Neill, that the House of Representatives was just as well without them. The Government had always found in that gentleman a most useful vote. If they thought they were to blame that they had not had justice before. Had they sent a man in the first instance who would have done justice to them as far as he could in his individual capacity, he would have ensured respect to all the requests from that district. Mr Speight made some severe remarks upon the conduct of Dr Polver, who he said, at present occupied a high position, and who would not dare to come before any constituency. The resolution was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr ROWE, a vote of thanks was passed to the Mayor for calling the meeting.

MINING MATTERS.

CURE GOLD MINING COMPANY.—An interim retorting for the Cure Company took place on Saturday night, but the result, although in every respect a splendid one, did not quite meet the expectations of some of the shareholders. The fact is that the amalgam was poor. This arose from the cause to which we previously alluded, when warning shareholders against calculating upon too high a return on account of the very large quantity of amalgam which was accumulating for the extreme cold of the water of Tararu Creek, which is used on the battery tables, causes the mercury to thicken, and thus the amount of amalgam is greater in proportion to the quantity of gold contained, than is the case in batteries where water of a higher temperature is used. There were nearly 1,700 lbs of amalgam placed in the retort, and the output was 29 lbs of retorted gold. We may add that there was no picked stuff or specimens included in this return. It was merely the amalgam obtained from the plates and berdens, and there was not even a cleaning up of the boxes.—The crushing, up to the time of the retorting, had been 9 days 4 hours' run with 20 head of stampers, so that the average, exclusive of specimen stuff, is a very handsome one. There was a fine

show of gold in the mine yesterday, and a parcel of 35lbs of specimens came to hand from the several faces in the stopes and main drive.

NORTH PACIFIC.—A parcel of 4 tons of stuff has been crushed at the Prince Alfred battery for the shareholders of the North Pacific claim, from which a return of 93oz 12dwts gold was obtained.

CITY OF LONDON.—The additional rope having been procured from Auckland and spliced, work was resumed last evening in the new main level, where the excavation of a chamber had been commenced recently, but the work had to be discontinued on account of the rope not being sufficiently long to reach the bottom. Now, however, there is no further difficulty in the way, and the contractors have started in again. The opening set is already in position, and it is understood that before the opening of the chamber is finished the reef will be to hand. Meanwhile the winze on the No. 4 reef, near the City of York boundary, is being timbered and widened. The reef is a splendid body of stone, the quartz being of a most promising description, and showing a little gold. It is over four feet thick, but how much thicker has not been ascertained. It is, however, likely to prove a valuable reef, and a source of great profit to the company.

CENTRAL ITALY.—The special meeting of shareholders in the Central Italy, which was to have been held yesterday, lapsed for want of a quorum, and thus the shareholders have lost another opportunity of taking steps to have their mine worked. Their interest in the concern cannot be very strong, but perhaps if the Mining Inspector exercises his authority and re-enters the ground for nonfulfillment of conditions in regard to working, the shareholders will regret their lassitude and want of energy.

GOLDEN CALF.—Crushing for the Golden Calf Company will be commenced this morning at the Kurauhi battery with a force of 10 head of stampers. There is a good quantity on hand, and the facility for breaking stone being now much greater than it has been the present crushing will be more extensive than recent ones. The prospects of a good return are satisfactory. There has been a fair show of gold while the stuff was coming to hand, and there is a considerable parcel of picked stuff in the strong-box.

SHOTOREA TRIBUTE.—A crushing for Dabb and tributaries of the Shotore mine, was completed yesterday at the Kurauhi battery, and retorting will take place this forenoon. TAIARUA G.M.C.—The cutter with the trial crushings from the prospectors' claim, Tairua, arrived in the harbour on Sunday, but owing to the gale, she was unable to come ashore until yesterday morning. The quartz was at once discharged and conveyed to the Moanaitai battery, where arrangements had been made for having it crushed with the single stamper. The stuff soon showed amalgam on the plates, and the show continued to become richer, but from the nature of the rock, and the gold which it contains, it may safely be estimated that the largest proportion will be retained in the stamper-box. The appearance of the crushing, therefore, does not so far indicate the worth of the stuff, and it is improbable that much further will be known regarding it until the crushing is completed to-night. The directors of the company held a meeting last night, but the business has not transpired.

MOA.—The tramway connecting the working of this claim with the Colubah battery, Karaka Creek, has been completed, as has also been the shoot, and stuff from the mine is now being carried to the battery. The operations carried on by the tributaries and battery owners have effected quite an alteration in the appearance of this section of the Karaka Creek. It now looks as if there was some vitality left in the district, and as if the owners had full confidence in the payable character of their speculations, instead of wearing the deserted appearance which for a long time characterised the neighbourhood.

BROTHERS CLAIM (TAIRUA).—The following paragraph regarding the Brothers claim (Tairua) has been furnished by a correspondent:—"Work is proceeding vigorously in the above claim. The drive to cut all the fire reefs at about 100 feet from the surface is now in 50 feet, another 50 feet will bring us to No. 1, which has been opened out with such excellent prospects. When No. 1 is cut, by driving 160 feet more the whole of the fire reefs will be intersected, and we shall then be able to judge what is the real value of the claim. No. 4 has been traced on the surface for a distance of 60 feet, with excellent prospects; and No. 5 has been traced over 100 feet, with the same good show in the stone. Blucing has been delayed for a few days, while a new dam is being constructed, but all will be ready for a fresh start this week. The surrounding claims are in full work with good prospects, while new ground is being continually taken up. There is already an amount of good crushing stuff ready for the mill. When are we to have a battery? Good sums have been offered for half-shares in the Brothers lately, but they have been refused; there is no desire to sell. The jumpers have been at their dirty work here as elsewhere on the field."

MEETINGS OF SHAREHOLDERS. GEM G.M.C., TAIARUA.—A meeting of the shareholders in the Gem claim, Tairua, was held last night at the Pacific Hotel. All the shareholders except four were present. On the motion of Mr T. B. Hicks, Mr J. B. Macdonald was called to the chair. He read the advertisement convening the meeting.—On the motion of Mr Wickham, seconded by Mr Bates, the following resolution was put to the meeting:—"That the proprietors of the Gem claim form themselves into a company under the Mining Companies Act, 1872, to be called the Gem Gold Mining Company (Limited) for the purpose of working the Gem claim, Tairua, with a capital of £5,000, in 10,000 shares of 10s each, nil paid up." Mr Hicks thought the capital was too small for such a large number of shares. If machinery was required it would take the whole capital.—Mr Hudson said that if at any time it was required, additional shares could be created.—Mr Scott explained that the example of the Tairua Company was followed.—Mr Hicks moved that the capital be £10,000 in £1 shares.—Mr Kneebone seconded the amendment, which was put to the meeting, and lost on the voices, and the original motion was carried.—Mr Wickham proposed that Mr K. McDonald be appointed secretary to the company, at a salary of £1 per week, with transfer fees, and that the office of the company be at Brown-street, Grahamstown.—Mr Kneebone seconded this motion, which was carried.—The meeting then proceeded to adopt rules. Copies of the rules of the Windfall Company,

which were recommended as being very good rules, were discussed seriatim; several alterations were made. On the motion of Mr Bates, seconded by Mr Miller, Messrs B. Browning, W. C. Wilson, J. H. Pryor, J. Cool, and J. D. Wickham were elected directors without opposition. The rules, after all alterations had been made, were adopted as the rules of the company, and signed by the Chairman.—Mr Hicks proposed that Messrs Macdonald and Miller be the solicitors of the company, Mr Gellion, auditor, and the Bank of New Zealand be bankers to the company, and the motion was carried.—A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.—The shareholders then partook of the Chairman's hospitality, in the shape of good champagne and sandwiches, and success was drunk to the newly-formed company.

STEWART GOLD MINING COMPANY, TAIARUA.—A meeting of the shareholders of the Stewart Gold Mining Company was held at the office of Mr Horsburgh, the legal manager, yesterday, Mr A. G. Horton in the chair. The following gentlemen were appointed provisional directors:—Messrs A. G. Horton, D. Stewart, G. McCaul, R. Workman, and Smith.—The legal manager was instructed to call a general meeting of the shareholders with as little delay as possible.

NATIONAL G.M.C., TAIARUA.—The provisional directors of the National G.M.C., Tairua, held a meeting last evening, Mr D. Maenab in the chair. Mr Scott Hunter was appointed mine manager, with instructions to commence operations at once. He was authorised to procure tools and materials, and employ men, so as to commence work without delay.

SANDHURST G.M.C., TAIARUA.—At a meeting of the directors of the Sandhurst G.M.C., Tairua (Scandinavian claim), Mr Scanlan, after whom the claim was originally named, was appointed mine manager, with instructions to commence immediate operations. These instructions were carried out by the newly-appointed manager at once. He purchased tools and other requisites, and proceeds to Tairua to take charge of the mine, and commence operations to-day.

POLIOR COURT, OHINEMURI.

(Before W. FRASER, Esq., R.M.)

HOBSE AT LAROR.—Henry Smith was charged with committing a breach of section 28, by-law No. 3, Borough of Thames by allowing a horse to wander at large in Richmond-street.—Defendant said that he had paid for the horse, but it had never been in his possession. It had strayed from Nikorima's paddock. Fined 2s 6d and costs.

WARDEN'S COURT, OHINEMURI.

FRIDAY.

(Before W. FRASER, Esq., Warden.)

ROBARTSON AND OTHERS v. WILKINSON AND OTHERS.—No appearance of either party.—This case referred to some supposed surplus ground in the Mapepa G.M.C., and had been repeatedly adjourned.—Case struck out.

ARNOLD v. MACLAY.—Plaint laid to obtain possession of defendant's half-share in the Korngabake Amalgamated claim, on the ground of non-working.—After hearing the evidence of Thomas E. Arnold, the plaintiff, and the statement of Alexander Mackay, the defendant, the Warden said that he would adjourn the further hearing of the case for a fortnight. He hoped they would meantime be able to settle their differences amicably, as it was very unseemly that men who had been mates for years should quarrel and go to law. Of course, if the defendant was indebted to the plaintiff, he ought to pay, as he could not expect to hold a share in a valuable claim for nothing.—Adjourned to the 10th inst.

SMITH v. ROBINSON.—Plaintiff said that it had been settled out of Court.

LEAHY v. MCCONNOR.—No appearance of either party.

HANNAH v. HOGAN.—No appearance of the defendant. Plaintiff laid to obtain possession of a full share in the No. 1 South Amalgamated claim, on the ground of non-working.—J. B. Hannah deposed: I am a miner, and the holder of the mine's right produced. I know Denis Hogan, the defendant. He is the owner of a full share in the No. 1 South Amalgamated. He has failed to properly work his share. He has not fairly represented his share between the 22nd of May and the 21st of June, having been absent 21 days during that time. He always worked himself when he was there, with one exception—a man having worked for him on the 25th May. I wish to be put in possession.—Albert J. Allom deposed that defendant was registered for a full share.—Ordered that the share of Denis Hogan be forfeited, and that an order be given to James Brand Hannah to take possession. The defendant, Denis Hogan, to pay the costs, 25s.

LEAHY v. MCCONNOR.—Mr McConechie applied to have the case of Leahy v. McConechie called on again. He explained that he had come expressly from Shortland, and could not get here in time owing to the steamer being delayed yesterday through stress of weather.—The case was again called, but the plaintiff did not appear.—William McConechie deposed that he had two miners' rights. He had lost one which he took to Waitak