

It is satisfactory to find that at the instance of Mr Ferguson, the resolution of the Waikato County Council keeping back all subsidies and other funds possible for the purpose of maintaining the road from Hamilton to Piko, as part of the main road to Te Aroha, in case of heavy traffic in winter, has been rescinded.

Colonel Nelson, of Parnell, died at his residence on Saturday evening. Colonel Nelson served in India in 1857. Shortly after the termination of the war, Colonel Nelson with his family came to New Zealand, to which his rank as full Colonel was forwarded after him. In the early days of the Waikato war Colonel Nelson's services were again called into requisition, and he was appointed Colonel of the first regiment of Militia, a post which he held for some time, and afterwards returned to private life. He took little active part in politics, but in the more limited sphere of the duties of a citizen he was more forward. He was elected first Mayor of the Borough of Parnell, and at the time of his death was Chairman of the Bench of Magistrates, composing the Auckland Court of Petty Sessions. He leaves to mourn their loss a wife, and large family all grown up to man and woman's estate. Two of his daughters (Mrs E. H. Power and Mrs Still) are married, and one unmarried daughter remains at home with her bereaved mother.

Some interests, begins to be manifested in the races to take place on St. Patrick's Day—the 17th inst. Any one whose early rambles take them into the suburbs cannot fail to observe the assiduity displayed in training operations, both for the flat and hurdle races. All our local horses are credited with being in first-rate "form," and as the entries also comprise several Auckland, Waikato, and Otago horses, of established reputation as "goers," the meeting promises to be, from a sporting point of view, a very successful one.

The following is the state of the sick at the Thames Goldfield Hospital for the week ending 12th March, 1881.—Remained 15, admitted 2, discharged 3, died 0, remaining 14. The diseases are—zymotic 2, constitutional 1, local 6, development 0, violent 5, out-patients 32.

The *Antarctic* concludes an ordinary notice of the late Miss Florence Colville, as follows:—"Let us think of her as a beautiful woman and a brilliant actress, and if, at a period when she was still beautiful and brilliant, there fell upon her a dark shadow, let us not seek to look into the darkness, but remember only the sunshine in which she once moved. We may temper our regrets with the recollection that while the sunshine was upon her, she used her rare talents with a devotion to her art that earned everyone's praise. Let us watch the flowers that are planted on her grave with the tears of pity and forgiveness."

The *Maoris* have subscribed £3000 to cover the costs of the Waitangi Treaty Hall, and to defray the cost of sending delegates to England to lay before the Queen the grievances which are to be discussed at the approaching meeting.

The Roman Catholics are in earnest about erecting a church and establishing themselves on a firm basis at Paeroa, as it will be seen that tenders are invited for the erection of the contemplated new structure.

An excursion to Coromandel is organised for next Friday, when the *Rotomahana* will leave the Thames at an early hour, returning on Saturday afternoon. The Borough, County, and Hospital representatives will proceed by this trip.

Dr Payne, accompanied by Mr Austin, rode the journey from Paeroa, in 24 hours yesterday morning. This is considered very good work.

The tenders for the enlargement of the Primitive Methodist Church have been signed, the contract having been taken by Messrs Boyers and Chappell, at £200.

Early yesterday morning (says the *Herald*) Captain Mahon, of the Victoria Company, Captain Payne, of the A. Battery of Artillery, and a number of men of their respective corps went out to Onehanga in outfit in a "break" to receive and welcome the Auckland and Thames representatives on their return by the s.s. *Wanaka* from the Nelson meeting. On reaching Onehanga, it was found that the steamer had not arrived. She shortly afterwards turned up however, being nicely decorated with flags as she approached the wharf in honour of the carbine champion and his fellow representatives. Capt. Mahon and Capt. Payne went on board and welcomed the representatives. After a short stay, the Thames men took the train for town, while most of the Auckland representatives returned by the "break."

CABLE MESSAGES.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL.)

DIABOLICAL MURDER OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

ARREST OF THE ASSASSIN.

St. Petersburg, March 13.

The Czar of Russia was murdered to-day by the explosion of a bomb.

LATER.

St. Petersburg, March 15.

The following are the particulars of the assassination of the Czar, who, accompanied by his suite, was witnessed a parade of troops in the city to-day, when a bomb was suddenly thrown from among the spectators, and fell close to where he was standing. It exploded, but did no harm to his Majesty. A second bomb was almost simultaneously thrown, and this shattered his legs and otherwise mortally wounded him. He was at once conveyed to a house near at hand, but His Majesty died within two hours from the loss of blood, though every effort was made by the doctors, who were at once in attendance, to stop the flow of blood. Great consternation was caused on the parade ground when the bombs were thrown, and when the effect of their explosion was seen. Several persons, including some members of the Czar's suite, were killed, and many others severely wounded.

The assassin was arrested at the scene of the outrage before he had time to escape.

LONDON, March 12.

In the House of Commons to-day, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone made a statement regarding the position of affairs in the Transvaal. He announced that with a view to bringing about a complete cessation of hostilities, and a permanent settlement of the difficulty, Peace Commissioners would be appointed in the Transvaal to undertake the negotiations with the Boers.

CAPE TOWN, March 12.

The news to hand from the Orange Free States announces that the population is at the present much excited over the state of affairs in the Transvaal.

THE COERCION BILL—ARRANGEMENTS TO ENFORCE ITS PROVISIONS.

LONDON, March 2.

In anticipation of the Irish Coercion Bill immediately becoming law, Mr Forster and the officials at Dublin are engaged taking preliminary steps for the enforcement of the provisions of the measure. Lists have been obtained of the most prominent promoters of the agitation and outrages. Much discontent is expressed at the delay of the Government in bringing forward their measure for the reform of the Irish land system.

It is now asserted that the Land Bill will not be submitted to Parliament for another month.

GOVERNMENT CENSURED FOR INACTIVITY.

The dilatory policy of the Government is severely criticised by the Radical Press, but it is generally believed the delay is due to a division of opinion in the Cabinet upon including principals in the measures.

SYMPATHY WITH THE BOERS.

In the United States and on the Continent a strong feeling of sympathy is expressed with the Boers.

The Continental press condemns the annexation of the Transvaal as arbitrary and uncalculated, and describes the Boers as a brave people, fighting for liberty.

PLAGUE AT MESOPOTAMIA.

Intelligence from Baghdad states that a plague has broken out in the district of Mesopotamia, proving most fatal amongst the population, who are dying by hundreds.

Great alarm is felt that the disease may spread to other countries, and assistance is urgently asked for.

RAVAGES OF SMALL POX AT HONOLULU.

Intelligence has been received, via San Francisco, that small pox has broken out at the Sandwich Islands, committing great ravages among the natives of Honolulu, where especially the mortality is excessive.

EARTHQUAKE IN SWITZERLAND.

A smart shock of earthquake was experienced at Berne, Switzerland, causing much consternation amongst the inhabitants.

THE IRISH LAND LEAGUE.

March 6.

The officials and members of the Irish Land League continue to prosecute an active agitation for the amendment of the land laws.

MONSTER MEETING OF THE LEAGUE.

TODAY, Sunday.

Monster meetings of the League and its adherents have been held, and passed off without any disturbance of the peace.

GENERAL ROBERTS SAILS FOR THE CAPE.

March 5.

General Roberts has sailed for the Cape to assume the command of the British operations in the Transvaal, Cape Town.

Spencer Childers, son of the Minister of War, has been appointed aide-de-camp to General Roberts.

A LAND LEAGUE FOR NEW ZEALAND.

Wales, one of the members of the Land League, who was amongst those recently prosecuted for sedition, has left Ireland for New Zealand. It is assumed that the object of his visit is to make arrangements in the Australian colonies for the collection of subscriptions on behalf of the Land League.

CONSTITUTIONAL STRUGGLES IN GERMANY.

Constitutional struggles in Germany between the Chancellor, Prince Bismarck, and the Reichstag, are exciting much interest, and several animated debates in the Chamber, in which the policy pursued by Bismarck has been severely handled by many deputies.

ALPINE CLUB EXCURSION TO NEW ZEALAND.

Proposals have been mooted for the Alpine Club to visit New Zealand for the purpose of exploring the fine mountainous scenery of the colony. The idea has been favorably received among members, and it is anticipated that a considerable number will visit New Zealand shortly.

THE AMERICAN WINTER.

The severe weather in the United States and Canada still holds out. The snow storms are so heavy and continuous that on the Union Pacific and other lines of the North west, communication has been interrupted for more than a week. There has been an absolute block of traffic, and gangs of men have been employed to clear the line from snow drifts.

THE HAWAIIAN KING.

The King of Hawaii, David Kalakaua, is now on a visit to England. He is fifty years of age, and was chosen King about seven years ago.

HANLAN IN CANADA.

March 6.

Hanlan, the champion sculler of the world, has arrived at Toronto in Canada, and met with a most enthusiastic reception. In reply to an address of welcome and congratulation, Hanlan spoke highly of both Trickett and Laycock. He has announced his intention of retiring from aquatic.

IRON FAILURES.

The Darlington Iron Company has failed.

METROPOLITAN LOAN.

The Metropolitan Board of Works have issued a two million and a half 3 per cent. loan at a minimum of 90.

AUSTRALIAN.

SYDNEY, Monday.

The Schooner *Leslie* has arrived from the Solomon Islands, and reports that the master was murdered there by natives, and that a rumor was current when she left that Captain Laurie, of the schooner *Black Hawk*, had also been murdered.

News from the Mount Brown diggings states that the water there is exhausted, and the population has shifted six miles. One man has perished from exhaustion while proceeding to the field, and it is feared great loss of life will take place unless rain falls.

Arrived: The Union Company's *To Anau* from Wellington, and the Pacific mail steamer *City of Sydney* from San Francisco, via Auckland.

Mr William Foster, late Agent-General for New South Wales in London, returned here to-day per *P* and *O* steamer *Bokhara*. He met with a warm reception, and was presented by the Committee with a congratulatory address.

RECEPTION OF THE CARBINE CHAMPION.

The Thames district has for years been noted as the head-centre of that British institution—the Volunteer force. Not only has the district become popular for the discipline and enthusiasm of its citizen soldiers, but since a proportion of the force has been armed with fair and serviceable weapons (notably the Navals and Engineers, whose carbines are the newest and best arm in the district), they have signally distinguished themselves at the Colonial Wimbledon. Captain Wildman's blue jackets have three successive years won and borne away from Nelson the Champion Belt for carbine shots. Petty Officer Armstrong, the successful winner for 1881, has long been distinguished as an experienced and cool sharpshooter, both with the rifle and carbine. Although the Thames riflemen have not been equally successful with their fortunate Naval comrades, yet, taking all circumstances into consideration, they have acquitted themselves with credit. It must be remembered that the Thames riflemen possess inferior weapons, the rifles with which the far-famed Thames Scottish are armed having passed through many hands. The field force of the Armed Constabulary used them in the first instance. On the policemen being armed with superior weapons, the Thames Scottish received their old ones, and still continue to do their best with them. It was not until a week or nine days previous to leaving for Nelson, that the rifle competitors of our district were supplied with the "Hokitika" rifles for the Association meeting. The wonder, therefore, is that our riflemen have been able to hold their own so well with unfamiliar weapons in their grasp.

The advertised parade yesterday ordered by the officer commanding the district to receive the Carbine Champion and other representatives, met with that hearty response with which our men invariably distinguish themselves, where the credit of the Thames force and district at large is concerned. The parade fell in at about half-past 4 p.m., opposite the Naval Hall. All the corps of the field were well represented, especially the Naval Brigade and the Scottish Battalion. Proceeded by their bands, the several corps, under Major Murray in command, marched off in files from the right, proceeding down to the end of the Goods' Wharf, where the Champion was taken from the *Rotomahana* and carried shoulder high to a carriage in waiting, in which were seated the Mayor and County Chairman. The procession then commenced a triumphal progress through the streets of the Borough in the following order:—Carriage drawn by four horses containing the Champion, the Mayor of Thames, the County Chairman, and Capt. Wildman, T.M.B. (the latter had accompanied and returned with his men from Nelson); Naval Band, under Bandmaster Bachelior; Naval Brigade, 40 file, under Lieuts. Lawless and Burton, Engineer Band, under Bandmaster O'Sullivan; Hauraki Engineers, 20 rank and file, under Captain Small and Lieutenant Leydon; Thames Scottish Band, under Bandmaster Hunter; Thames Scottish, 40 rank and file, under Captain Watson, Lieutenants Johnston, Coney, and Perry, staff officers, Captain and Adjutant Schofield, and Quarter-master Symington; Thames Rifle Rangers, under Lieutenant McFarland; Naval Cadets, under Lieutenant Ross. At the Bank Corner a halt was made, when

Major Murray mounted the carriage and announced that the Mayor and County Chairman had very kindly come forward to welcome the carbine champion and other representatives who had so gallantly maintained the honour of the Thames at the Nelson contest. These gentlemen, in the name of the Borough and County, would say a few words, but before he called upon them, he thanked the representatives most heartily for having kept up the credit of the district. (Cheers.)

The Mayor said, as representing the inhabitants of the Borough, it was his privilege to return their heartiest thanks to Champion Armstrong and the other representatives for the admirable manner in which they had maintained the credit of the district, and once more brought the carbine belt to the Thames. He referred to the former successes of Petty Officer Armstrong, and expressed his joy as now having taken the highest honours in the carbine match. He said the honours were more creditable to Petty Officer Armstrong because only three years ago he abandoned the rifle for the carbine, having been second in the Wanganui competition for the rifle championship. A year after he commenced carbine firing he almost gained the prize which he had brought back with him to-day. The Mayor said he would take that opportunity of expressing regret that Government did not render the Volunteer force as much encouragement as it ought to; but he hoped they would yet see their way to treat them more liberally. He did not think there was any reason to fear an invasion from any foreign foe or any nihilist rising in their midst, like the Czar of Russia had to contend with, who at last, if the latest reports were correct, had been annihilated; but there was a native element they had to be prepared to resist if necessary, hence he believed Government should be careful to keep their Volunteer forces well equipped; and he agreed with Major Harris, who had made a most sensible observation when he said he was willing to fight, but he should like Government to find the clothes the bullets were to be put through. (Cheers.)

In the name of the citizens of Thames, he thanked the representatives for their successful efforts to keep up the reputation of the district.

The County Chairman said he could only endorse the remarks which had fallen from the Mayor. He felt a special interest in welcoming the champion (Petty Officer Armstrong), for he had always displayed great abilities as a Volunteer, and was an honest and steady shot. He deserved the honour. All the Volunteers, too, had done their best, and brought credit to the district. He concluded by calling for three cheers for the champion, three for the other representatives, and three for Captain Wildman, which were heartily responded to.

Major Murray then called for three cheers for the Champion and Representatives, and another three for the gallant Captain, who, he said, had gone at his own expense to Nelson, looked after, and brought back his men victoriously. The cheers having been given,

Captain Wildman thanked the Volunteers and public for the flattering reception he and his "charge" had received

SONG OF TRIUMPH.

"Tune—'A Day of Victory.'"

Once more to try their mettle,
Resolved the Belt to keep,
With captain in full fettle,
Our boys sailed o'er the deep;
The time so quickly flew,
As Nelson here in view,
Said he, my gallant men,
The Belt you'll win again
Back to the Thames you'll take it, oh!

The bright blue sky above us,
The sun though scorching hot,
Our men, intent on winning,
Into position got;
Foemen worthy of their steel
Only increased their zeal.
All tried their best,
But above the rest
Were the telling shots of Armstrong, oh!

With carbines from all quarters,
Their utmost skill did try;
Wellington very near it,
Wanganui with a tie;
But our vet's steady aim,
In Match Seven won the game.
Each shot did twang,
Victory it sang
As it hit the bull's-eye, oh!

Thus proudly Captain Wildman
Unto his men did say—
Three successive years, brave boys,
You've borne the Belt away,
His cap he upwards threw,
His sword he flourish'd too,
Shout, shout, Huzzah!
Hip, hip, hurrah!
Three loud cheers for Armstrong, oh!

Not long ago young Frearson
Was only a cadet,
Now he's won the District Belt
And more will he do yet,
He is made of British pluck,
Courageous as a buck.
With heart and soul
He'll reach the goal,
Champion of New Zealand, oh!

Armstrong is now our hero—
May he next year be the same,
Or Gordon, or else Thomas,
That honour wear again;
For Fortune, we are told,
Favours the brave and bold.
But never, I say,
Must the Belt go away
From our Gallant Navals, oh!

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE HOSPITAL COMMITTEE.

In response to a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Hospital Committee, by the Town Clerk, a special meeting of the Committee was held at the Salvation Hotel, yesterday, for the purpose of discussing the advisability of sending a deputation to Coromandel on Friday to discuss with the authorities of Coromandel their present position as regards charitable aid, and to devise a scheme for the better support of the hospitals and charitable institutions. There were present—Messrs Elphinstone (in the chair), Hume, Aitken, McIlhiney, McGowan, Mulligan, Mennie, Ronshaw, and the Revs. Lush, Laishley, Neil and O'Reilly.

The Chairman, having read the letter received from the Town Clerk, said as there was to be a conference of local governing bodies held in Coromandel in a few days' time, it was advisable that the question of charitable aid and the position those bodies stood in relation with the Government should be discussed, so that some expression of opinion might be elicited from others interested in the same manner, and also in order that some pressure might be brought to bear on the Government in their arrangement of the Charitable Aids Bill. He thought the conference could only be productive of good.

The Rev. W. Lush inquired what was the real object of the proposed conference.

The Chairman replied that the relations of the Borough having become somewhat altered in the matter of charitable aid, they would soon stand in a new position and the idea of this conference was to gain an expression of opinion with the surrounding governing bodies as to what stand they proposed taking in the future.

Mr McGowan said that Government having some time back made certain promises to the support of the Hospital and charitable aid generally, had failed to come up to those promises, and now the Borough had thrown the support of the institution back on the hands of the Government to be dealt with by them. He thought the object of the conference, therefore, was to give some definite expression of opinion which might tend to regulate the scheme proposed in the new bill about to be introduced.

In reply to the Rev. Mr Lush, the Chairman said he believed there would be some representatives from Piko in his view that it would be wise to send a deputation, so as to ventilate their opinion on the question of charitable aid.

The question of ways and means then arose, and it was questioned whether, in the event of agreeing to send a deputation, the committee had power to vote the expenses.

Mr McIlhiney and others concurred that the funds could not be applied to that purpose.

The Rev. Mr Lush said that part of the difficulty was easily got over. If agreeable to the other members of the committee a subscription could be easily raised amongst themselves.

The Chairman replied that he quite approved of the suggestion, and would be willing to give a subscription for the purpose.

Mr Mennie said, after all, he did not see what was the object in going to Coromandel.

Rev. Mr Lush: Because Coromandel will not come to us. We are invited.

The Chairman: That is one of the best reasons.

Mr Hume: Coromandel people, I believe, instituted the conference.

Mr Aitken: I thought I might be represented at the conference. By such an interview their ideas would become enlarged upon the question at issue.

The Chairman then asked what had been done by the committee appointed at their last meeting to bring up a report on charitable aid.

It having been explained that they had not yet completed their undertaking, Mr McIlhiney proposed, and Mr Mulligan seconded, "That the letter be referred to the Charitable Aid Committee to choose one or two of their number to attend the conference."

Mr Ronshaw remarked that the proposal was a very easy way of this committee shuffling out of the business. For his own part he was not persuaded of the necessity of the step.

Mr Mennie contended that if the conference was to be attended, one representative was certainly not sufficient. One might not fully represent the views of the committee.

The Chairman replied that every member of the committee was quite cognizant of their peculiar position at the present time. What they desired was to find out how best to efficiently maintain the hospital at the least possible expense to the inhabitants of the Borough.

Mr Mulligan remarked that there ought to be no difficulty about having a delegate at the conference, as the Hospital Committee was well represented at the Borough Council.

Mr McIlhiney: Which it ought not to be (laughter).

Mr Mennie having stated that if it was decided to be represented to let a sufficient number go.

Mr McGowan remarked that it was yet probable that another invitation would be sent them from the Borough Council to discuss the question of charitable aid.

The Chairman: Then are we to understand that no notice should be taken of this letter.

Mr McGowan replied that he had no recollection of the letter being authorised by the Borough Council; but he would not go so far as to recommend that no notice be taken of it. He was not one of the Borough party going to Coromandel.

The resolution was carried, and the sub-committee then discussed the question, but adjourned until this morning.

BUSH ACCIDENTS.

The Chairman called attention to the large number of persons who had been removed from the *Patna* bush to the Thames Hospital when suffering from accidents. He not only pointed out the barbarity of bringing poor fellows so far with their legs or arms broken, or their bodies otherwise mutilated, but that the directors of the Sash and Door Company evinced quite a callous disposition, and on no occasion had any of them troubled to enquire after them whether they were dead or alive, but left them to the mercy of the Hospital Committee to either cure or bury them. There were more accidents from Tairua than any other outlying district, and yet that Company, who were reaping large dividends, did not in any way contribute towards the Hospital attendance of the unfortunate men in their employ. He brought this matter forward with the view of endeavouring to get them to assist the funds of the institution to which they did not hesitate to send the suffering. With the exception of a contribution once of £5, he did not think the Company had ever aided them.

The Rev. Mr Lush suggested that the Secretary should make out a list of patients treated from Tairua, and send the company in a bill.

Mr Ronshaw said that this could not be done, as the company were not the actual employers, much of their bush work being let by contract.

Rev. Mr Lush: Then let us shame them into it. Our application might result in getting a substantial subscription from them. As long as they get no reminder why should they interfere?

The Chairman said it was only by making the state of things as public as possible they could soften the hearts of the directors. If they would not contribute voluntarily he should like to get the law to be made reach them.

Mr McGowan: Then let the grievance be brought up at the conference.

Mr Honiss (Secretary) said the non-contributing of the Sash and Door Company was not for the want of reminding. Mr Monk, when applied to, had ridiculed the idea of the Thames Hospital being of any use to their men, maintaining that all the cases went to Auckland. Since then there had been even a greater number of accidents.

The Secretary, having been requested to make out a list of cases treated in the hospital, to be submitted to the next meeting, the matter dropped.

ALEXANDER II, THE LATE CZAR OF RUSSIA.

ALEXANDER II, the late Emperor of Russia, was surnamed *Nicholasewitch*, as the eldest son of the late Emperor Nicholas. His mother was a sister of Frederick William IV, King of Prussia. On the death of his father, which took place on March 2nd, 1855, he became autocrat of all the Russias, and immediately issued a proclamation intimating his resolution to pursue the policy of Nicholas, and, if possible, to bring the war, which was then raging in the Crimea, between the united forces of Turkey, England, France, and Sardinia, and those of his own dominions, to a successful termination. In this, however, he was doomed to disappointment; for on the 8th September, 1855, the allies obtained possession of Sebastopol, the stronghold of the Crimea, which was the precursor to a suspension of hostilities. Peace was concluded in the same year; since which time Alexander has steadily devoted himself to the administration of the internal policy of his extensive dominions, to the development of arts and manufactures, and the gradual abolition of serfdom, a task which even the energy of his father recoiled from undertaking. He was born in 1818.

MINING MATTERS.

MOANATAHARA.—The mine manager reports as follows:—Point Russell Creek level: The crosscut north has been extended 36 feet this fortnight, making the total distance driven 88 feet. Two small stringers have been intersected within the last few feet, but nothing of importance has been met with. The country is still good for leaders. Twelve feet more driving will complete the present contract, and we shall then start and crosscut south with four men. Nonpareil: In another week the adit level will be abreast of the shaft, and a short crosscut will then be put in to connect with it. The old level has all fallen in, causing much trouble to get through. The surface drive in the Kuranui creek has been extended 54 feet this fortnight, and is now up to solid ground in the face. A winze has been started here to connect with the hot stopes below for the purpose of ventilation. 80-feet level: The south crosscut in Morning Star section has been extended 27 feet, and we are now driving on the leader previously intersected and reported upon; small patches of gold are obtained here. We shall shortly drive upon it eastward, and also start stoping. In stoping upon branches of No. 3 reef, the leaders are small, and have not lately produced the usual quantity of picked stone. The general crushing is still poor, but showing for a slight improvement on last return, and on the whole our mine is looking encouraging.—ROBERT COVER.

KURANUI HILL.—Pearce and party, tributaries in the Poverty section of this mine, have completed a crushing of 10 tons of general dirt, and some picked stone, for the excellent yield of 68 ozs. 10dwts gold, LeManquis and party, of the Long Drive section, crushed 40 tons for the payable return of 63ozs. gold.

HAPPY CREEK.—A crushing of 23 loads of stuff for Hearn and party produced 27ozs. 12dwts. gold.

GURU.—The drives on No. 5 lode and Gilmore's leader having been connected, and good ventilation being secured, stoping has been commenced upon the latter body of quartz, and a quantity of good quartz comes to hand.—The tributaries, Clarke and party, put through about 250 pounds of picked stone at the *Albion* battery, for a return of 17ozs. gold.

OLD GOLDMINE CREEK.—The mine manager, Mr Chapman, forwarded the following telegram to the company's office in Auckland yesterday:—"A few pounds of good picked stone to hand to-day. Reef about five feet thick, and improving in quality."

CURT TAYLOR.—Messrs Clark and Stevens, tributaries in the *Cur* mine, crushed 240 pounds of stone at the *Albion* battery for a yield of 17ozs. metal gold.

NEW WHAT G.M.C.—The mine manager reports as follows:—Since my last general report I have had six men driving from the top of the rise on the hanging wall leader. They have driven 25 feet to the eastward and westward of the rise, and for the whole of the 30 feet driven the leader has averaged 12 inches in thickness, showing strong colours of gold well breaking down the leader. I have also had two men cutting through, the portion of the main lode that was left standing on the hanging wall on the 160 level. They cut into the hanging wall in four different places, but found no quartz worth sending to the battery.—CHAS. H. WILSON.

COROMANDEL.

SATURDAY.

There is very little to report in reference to the Tiki districts. Scarcely any interests have changed hands during the week. Speculators appear to be quite satisfied of the increasing value of the field; but until the claims are formed into companies and worked energetically, capitalists will not venture on investments except to a very limited extent. There seems to be no difficulty in discovering rich quartz, several important finds being reported. The Maoris are said to be on very good gold. Steady and persevering work is wanted, and if the present show continues, capitalists will soon be found ready to help. Already we hear of one gentleman, who represents a great deal of English capital, having expressed his readiness to put up batteries, tramways, and any mining works required on shares, provided he is thoroughly satisfied of the show on a personal inspection.

The members of the Thames County Council will pay an official visit to Coromandel this week, to confer with the Coromandel County Council on the important question of the construction of the road between the two places, and other business of great importance to both districts.

Mr Lloyd was on Thursday busily engaged surveying the new township or business sites in proximity to Fraser's Mill. It will be remembered that the Warden recommended that two acres should be surveyed off, such area to comprise the site of the mill property, and the Warden would take steps to have this reserved from the goldfield, in order to protect the interests of the mill proprietors.—Mail.

THE TIKI.

A Maori reserve having been found to contain good gold-bearing quartz, Mr C. F. Mitchell and a party have gone to the Tiki to prospect on behalf of the natives. Some Europeans visited the ground, with the intention of prospecting, but were driven off by the natives.

You can be measured for Trousers for 17s. 6d., or Trousers and Vest 28s. 6d., at CAONAN'S (late Cosgrave and Co.) Plenty of Tweeds to select from.—ADVT.]