

We have received a telegram from Messrs. Hesketh and Richmond, requesting us to state that they were not retained to appear in the City of London drainage case...

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

(Per Anglo-Australian Telegraph Press Agency.)

AN ACCIDENT happened on the Moanatairi tramway yesterday, at the No. 7 section. A truck loaded with Old Whau quartz was coming down when the chain attached to the traction wire broke...

Bachelor's Pantoscope of a tour through America will open for exhibition at the Thames at the Academy of Music this evening. The panorama has been specially painted to the order of those enterprising gentlemen Messrs. Bachelor and Logan...

It will be seen by our advertising columns that a sermon on the sad death of John Parrish in the Pumping Association shaft, will be preached by the Rev. James Hill to-morrow evening in the Presbyterian Church.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Court of Directors of the Auckland Land and Waterworks Company, held on Wednesday evening at St. George's Hall...

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SOUTHERN TELEGRAMS.

(Per Anglo-Australian Telegraph Press Agency.)

THE FOLLOWING is the classification of trades of the immigrants per ship 'James Wistart,' Capt. Groundwater, which left London for Auckland on the 19th March...

THE FOLLOWING is a classification of trades of the immigrants per ship 'Queen of Nations,' daily expected in Auckland from Belfast...

Our Auckland correspondent refers to land purchased from the natives, as carried on in that province. We are told by a gentleman recently from that province that one of the most active land speculators and agents, Mr. Briscoe...

MINING MATTERS.

(Per Anglo-Australian Telegraph Press Agency.)

TOOKEY-LOWE'S TRIBUTE.—The crushing for Lowe and party, which was completed yesterday at the Manukau battery, did not yield quite so well as was expected...

ALBERTA.—A retorting took place at the company's battery yesterday, in order to free silver to be used again, and the result of the retorting was 150ozs gold. The final retorting for the company will take place at the end of the month...

ALL NATIONS.—Retorting for the All Nations Company took place yesterday at the old battery of the Kurauai after about a fortnight's run with six head of stamps...

LONG DRIVE TRIBUTE.—Retorting for the Long Drive tribute also took place at the Kurauai battery yesterday, after about a fortnight's run with the same force...

WATCHMAN TRIBUTE.—A crushing for Long and party, tributaries of the Watchman, who are working the old Virginia City ground, is now going on at the Prince Alfred battery...

ALBION (POVERTY TRIBUTE).—The crushing for North and party, tributaries of the Poverty and Charleston mine, at the Prince Alfred battery was completed yesterday...

OLD WHAU.—The manager reports that there is no change in the mine since the previous day. The show of gold is quite as good as it was then, and a parcel of specimens come to hand, small in quantity...

SOUTHERN TELEGRAMS.

(Per Anglo-Australian Telegraph Press Agency.)

CHESHAMBOURG, Friday. In the Provincial Council yesterday Mr Andrews moved, "That the time has arrived when cremation, or burning of human bodies, in order to prevent pollution of the ground and streams which results from burying such bodies, and that a sum be placed on the estimates for the purpose of establishing the most approved system of cremation..."

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—The Chamber of Commerce has adopted a memorial to the Hon. Julius Vogel, protesting against the pamphlet issued by Dr. Featherston, comparing Auckland unfavourably with other provinces. The Star to-night, in alluding to the alleged depression in the Whau and City of London stock, says:—"When persons who, from the position they occupy, should uphold the interests of shareholders, make use of their influence and information for the purpose of 'bulling' or 'bearing' stock, while they buy and sell, deserve to be held up to the execration of all honest men..."

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RESIDENT MAGISTRATE'S COURT.

(Yesterday.)

JUDGMENT STAMONS.—Macdonald and Miller v. Young, claim £24. Defendant was examined, and was ordered to pay within a month.

JUDGMENTS FOR PLAINTIFFS.—Murphy Brothers v. J. B. Wooderson, £3 11s 1d; defendant was ordered to pay at the rate of 5s per week...

JUDGMENTS FOR PLAINTIFFS.—Murphy Brothers v. H. Baker, £1 8s 0d; Do. v. J. Whelan, £4 14s 7d; Do. v. R. Smith v. J. Diamond, £26 10s 3d.

MURPHY BROTHERS v. ELIZA BROWN.—Claim £2 2s 7d. Defendant deposed that she was the wife of John Brown, who took formerly considerable interest in public matters on the Thames...

ALEXANDER BINNIE v. VULCAN G.M.C.—Claim £33, for wages. Mr Macdonald for plaintiff.—Plaintiff deposed that he was employed as mine manager of the Vulcan G.M.C. ground at £3 per week...

E. K. TYLER v. DANIEL MCGALEY.—Claim £30, for damages. Mr Macdonald for plaintiff.—Defendant said he did not owe a copper...

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SUPREME COURT.—IN BANCO.

(Yesterday.)

APPEAL.—Kioridan v. The Tokata Gold Mining Company. This was an appeal from a decision of the Warden's Court at Coromandel...

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CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the THAMES ADVERTISER.

Sir,—Seeing of late the number of accidents from falling away off stages in shafts, I have often wondered that the mine managers have never asked for a preventive. I know nothing of the fixing or flushing of shafts, I beg to say before starting, but I think if we (as we) can save life through a few preventors, surely our mine managers may try the same...

REWARDS FOR THE 'P.C.E.' SERVICES. Pollett says the captain and owners of the 'P.C.E.' received £1,000 for their part in the matter. He further says that the crew were promised £10 a-piece by Kochofort. About this he also tells two stories. On the one hand stating that he did not get his money, and again that he went ashore with the captain, and following Kochofort up obtained it in French money, for which he only obtained £8 when exchanged...

CAPTAIN LAW'S STATEMENT. The Captain of the 'P.C.E.' states with regard to Pollett's account of the affair that Pollett was shipped at Noumea as assistant to the steward. That he had previously been looked up in gaol at Noumea for vagrancy. That the Governor of this island was away from Noumea ten days previous to the escape, but arrived the day after the 'P.C.E.' had left. He also says that there were two gunboats and a frigate lying between the shore and his vessel, and he cannot understand how the boat containing the three escaping prisoners could have passed the sentries at the Peninsula, where Kochofort and two of his companions were confined, and have also got past the gunboats and frigate unless there was complicity on the part of the French, as it was customary to challenge all boats...

THE ESCAPE OF KOCHOFORT. We give the following further details respecting the escape of Kochofort:—REGULATIONS REGARDING THE COMPLICITY OF THE COMMUNIST AUTHORITIES. Regarding the way in which the escaped Communists managed to elude their keepers and the extent of the complicity of the authorities at New Caledonia our informant had not, of course, the opportunity for noting facts which he possessed in relation to the proceedings on board. He freely expresses his own opinion on the subject, but as it is a narration of what is testified to form observation we prefer to give such statements concerning matters of fact as Pollett is in a position to supply, leaving readers to draw their own conclusions. He states that on the day preceding the departure of the 'P.C.E.', the Governor of the Settlement gave the prisoners permission to go out in a boat, and that the Governor subsequently left Noumea for another part of the island, taking the gunboats on the station with him. In the meantime the barque sailed. The same night, however, the Governor must have been reported missing and the vessel they had gone in being suspected. But no steamer was sent in pursuit, although from the fact that, as before stated, the barque was still within sight of the island, it is extremely probable she would have been overhauled. Although the vessel could not have been forcibly stopped, permission might have been asked to search her. Our informant states that he has since heard from a person who left New Caledonia subsequent to the departure of the 'P.C.E.', that the idea of pursuit was abandoned by the authorities on the pretext the barque had too good a start. Another matter which seems unaccountable is the fact that the prisoners should have been on board before midnight, and the barque not sail until eight o'clock on the following morning, and yet that they were not missed, or if missing, that no search was instituted. During the passage Kochofort stated that his escape had already cost him a large sum of money, but he, of course, did not vouchsafe the most remote clue as to who the recipients of his bounty were. These statements are just given as we have received them, and our readers must draw what deductions they choose on this subject, which is now being rightly inquired into by a French General despatched to New Caledonia for the purpose. It is at least certain that escape from the penal settlement has been deemed almost impossible; and in reply to correspondence from the English Government on the subject when New Caledonia was chosen as the place of banishment for Communist prisoners, who were deemed a source of danger to the Australian colonies, the French Government maintained the strength of the position—a boast which has assuredly not been borne out in the present instance.

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