

THE PHONOGRAPH.

Not many weeks have passed since we were startled by the announcement that we could converse audibly with each other, although hundreds of miles apart, by means of so many miles of wire with a little electro magnet at each end, yet we are on the point of realising some of the many advantages promised by the telephone. Another wonder is now promised us—an invention, purely mechanical in its nature, by means of which words spoken by the human voice can be so repeated, stored up and reproduced at will over and over again, hundreds, it may be thousands, of times. What will be thought of a piece of mechanism by means of which a message of any length can be spoken on to a plate of metal, that plate sent by post to any part of the world, and the message absolutely repeated in the very voice of the sender purely by mechanical agency? What, too, shall be said of a mere machine by means of which the old familiar voice of one who is no longer with us on earth can be heard speaking to us in the very tones and measures to which our ears were once accustomed?

The highly ingenious apparatus by which the wonder is effected is the invention of Mr Thomas A. Edison, of Manlow-park, New Jersey, U.S.A., the electrical adviser to the Western Union Telegraph Company. Mr Edison is well known in the States, and scarcely less so in England, for several valuable practical applications of electric science, among Mr Edison's other inventions being an exceedingly well-arranged telephone. To the present invention Mr Edison has given the name of the Phonograph, and it depends for its action upon certain well known laws in acoustics.

The Phonograph is composed of three parts mainly—namely, a receiving, a recording, and a transmitting apparatus. The receiving apparatus consists of a curved tube, one end of which is fitted with a mouthpiece for the convenience of speaking into it. The other end is about two inches in diameter, and is closed in with a disc or diaphragm of exceedingly thin metal, capable of being thrust slightly outward or vibrated upon a gentle pressure being applied to it from within the tube. To the centre of this diaphragm—which forms a right angle to the horizon—is fixed a small blunt steel pin, which, of course, partakes of the vibratory motion of the diaphragm. This arrangement is carried on a table and is fitted with a set screw by means of which it can be adjusted relatively to the second part of the apparatus—the recorder. This is a brass cylinder, about four inches in length and four inches in diameter, cut with a continuous V groove from one end to the other, so that in effect it represents a large screw. Measuring along this cylinder from one end to the other there are 10 of these grooves to the inch, or about 40 in the whole length. The total length of this continuous groove or screw thread, is about 42 feet—that is to say, that would be the length of the groove if it were stretched out in a straight line. This cylinder is mounted on a horizontal axis or shaft, carried in bearings at either end, and having its circumferential face presented to the steel point of the receiving apparatus. The shaft is prolonged for four inches or so beyond the ends of the cylinder, and one of the prolongations is cut with a screw bearing. This end terminates in a handle, and as this is turned round the cylinder is not only revolved, but by means of the screw spindle is caused to travel its whole length in front of the steel point, either backward or forward.

We now see that if the pointer be set in the groove in the cylinder at its commencement and the handle turned, the groove would be traversed over the point from the beginning to the end, or, conversely, the point would always be presented to the groove. A voice speaking in the receiver would produce waves of sound which would cause the point to enter to greater or less depths into this groove, according to the degree of intensity given to the pressure upon the diaphragm set up by the vibrations of the sound produced. This, of course, of itself would mean nothing; but in order to arrest and preserve these sound-pressures, a sheet of tin-foil is interposed, the foil being inelastic and well adapted for receiving impressions. This sheet is placed around the cylinder and its edges lightly fastened together by mouth-glue, forming an endless band, and held on the cylinder at the edges by the india-rubber rings. If a person now speaks into the receiving tube and the handle of the cylinder be turned, it will be seen that the vibrations of the pointer will be impressed upon that portion of the tin-foil over the hollow groove and retained by it. These impressions will be more or less deeply marked according to the modulations and inflexions of the speaker's voice. We have now a message verbally imprinted upon a strip of metal. Sound has, in fact, been converted into visible form, and we have now to translate that message by re-converting it into sound. We are about, in effect, to hear our own voice speaking from a machine the words of which have just fallen from our lips. To do this we require the third portion of Mr Edison's apparatus—the transmitter.

This consists of what may be called a conical metal drum, having its larger end open, the smaller end, which is about 2 1/2 in. in diameter, being covered with paper. This is stretched tight as is the parchment of a drum-head. Just in front of this paper diaphragm is a light, flat steel spring, held in a vertical position and terminating in a blunt steel point projecting from it, and corresponding with that on the diaphragm of the receiver. The spring is connected with the paper diaphragm of the transmitter by means of a silken thread, which is placed just sufficiently in tension to cause the outer face of the diaphragm to assume a slightly convex form. This apparatus is placed on the opposite side of the cylinder to the receiver. Having set the latter apparatus back from the cylinder, and having, by turning the handle in a reverse direction, set the cylinder back to what we may term the zero point, the transmitting apparatus is advanced towards the cylinder by means of a set screw until the steel point rests without absolute pressure in the first indentation made by the point of the receiver. If now the handle be turned at the same speed as it was when the message was being recorded, the steel point will follow the line of impression and will vibrate in periods corresponding to the impressions previously produced on the foil by the point of the receiving apparatus. Vibrations of the requisite number and depth being thus communicated to the paper diaphragm there will be produced precisely the same

sounds that in the first instance were required to produce the impressions formed on the tin-foil. Thus the words of the speaker will be heard issuing from the conical drum in his own voice, tinged, however, with a slight metallic or mechanical tone. If the cylinder be revolved more slowly than when the message was being recorded, the voice assumes a bass tone; if more quickly, the message is given with a childish treble. These variations occur according as the vibrations are more or less frequent.

Such is the apparatus, and it promises to be one of the most remarkable of the recent marvels of science. The machine we have described is the first Mr Edison has made, but he is now constructing one to be set in motion by clock-work, the cylinder being 16 inches long. In the present machine, for recording a long message, as soon as one strip of the tin foil is filled, it is removed and replaced by others until the communication has been completed. In using the machine for the purpose of correspondence the metal strips are removed from the cylinder and sent to the person with whom the speaker desires to correspond, and who must possess a machine similar to that used by the sender. The person receiving the strips places them in turn on the cylinder of his apparatus, applies the transmitter, and puts the cylinder in motion, when he hears his friend's voice speaking to him from the indicated metal. And he can repeat the contents of the message as often as he pleases until he has worn the metal through. The sender can make an indefinite number of copies of his communication by taking a plaster of Paris cast of the original strip and rubbing off impressions from it on a clean sheet of foil. It will thus be seen, as we stated at the commencement of this article, that the voices of those who have left us, can be heard for ever or for a season only, as either talking with us if we so desire it.

The invention has been so recently and so quickly developed into existence by Mr Edison that he himself can hardly say what its practical value is or will prove to be. Numerous applications suggest themselves, but beyond those to which we have alluded, it is difficult to say with precision how they would work out in practice. In cases of depositions it might be of the highest importance to have oral evidence mechanically reproduced in a court of justice. Authors, too, may perhaps be saved the trouble of writing their compositions.—The Times.

PARAGRAPH FOR LADIES.—For the small outlay of two pounds ten you may obtain a washing machine, wringer, and mangle; for four pounds, a lock-stitch sewing machine; and for one pound five, a perambulator; total, £7 15s.—to save fingers, hands, and arms from unnecessary toil; to save time and money, and make life a pleasure instead of a weariness.—J. GRIFFS, Pollen street.

Volunteer Notices. NO. 2 HAURAKIS.

THE Company will PARADE in Plain Clothes, with ARMS and ACCOUTREMENTS, at 7.30 sharp TO-MORROW (Tuesday) EVENING. A Special Meeting of the Corps after dismissal. W. J. BARLOW, Lieutenant. 2235

NOTICE. JOHN TOWNSEND, BUTCHER, (LATE OF OWEN STREET).

BEGS to inform his old Customers and the Public generally, that he has purchased the business lately carried on by Mr. Bloor, at the Corner of Mary and Pollen streets, and took possession of same on Saturday, the 16th, and intends to carry on same on the premises for the next eight days. AFTER WHICH, HIS NEW PREMISES, ADJOINING MR VEALE'S WHOLESALE STORE, POLLEN STREET, Will be ready for occupation.

Only Meat of the Finest Quality supplied. JOHN TOWNSEND, BUTCHER, 2212 MARY STREET.

NOTICE. WESLEYAN BAZAAR.

DONORS and Workers are respectfully requested to send their Gifts and Work to Messrs Dunn, Heldt, Richards, Joynt, Hetherington, Meacham, and Coeks, at the latest, March 20th, 1878. GEORGE FRENCH, Hon. Secretary. 2226

LAWLESS (late G. WALLER), wholesale and retail Tobacconist, next Bank of New Zealand, Brown street, Grahams-town. CROCKET, FOOTBALL, and BILLIARD ROOM REQUISITES Always in Stock. 1262

OASTWISE CUSTOMS ENTRIES (Forms) ON SALE at the EVENING STAR Office. AW FORMS of every description at the EVENING STAR Office.

Auctions TO-MORROW (TUESDAY), At 11 o'clock. UNDER DISTRRAINT FOR RENT. FURNITURE AND EFFECTS OF THE COACH AND HORSES HOTEL, SHORTLAND. JAMES CRAIG

Has received instructions to sell by auction To-morrow (Tuesday), under distrait for rent, All the FURNITURE and EFFECTS of the Coach and Horses Hotel, Pollen street, Shortland. 2237

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20. At 11 o'clock. POST OFFICE STORE AND BAKERY. JOHN LEYDON

Has received instructions from Messrs McGHEE and SPOONER to sell, on the above date, The POST OFFICE STORE and Bakery (with splendid Brick Oven), in which there is an splendid business to be done.

Full particulars in future issue; and all particulars may be had from the Auctioneer. 2211

Meetings LODGE SIR WALTER SCOTT, No. 533, S.C.

THE usual MONTHLY MEETING of the Lodge is unavoidably POSTPONED until TUESDAY, the 25th inst. T. L. MURRAY, R.W.M. 2234

I. O. O. F., M.U., A.D. LOYAL WAIKATO LODGE, No. 5444.

THE FINANCIAL MEETING of the above Lodge will be held at the Odd Fellows' Hall, Richmond street, on TUESDAY next, the 19th instant, at 7.30 o'clock p.m. Business—Payment of Dues. CHARLES ABIEB, Secretary. 2059

WANTED TO PURCHASE—Waikato Lands. Parishes—Bantapu or Pukekura. H. E. CAMPBELL, Solicitor, Grahams-town. 2059

WANTED.—WANTED. Thames Residents visiting Auckland often want Accommodation; for the future try the FORESTERS' ARMS, ALBERT STREET. Can be seen from the Wharf, a little to the right of the Town Clock. The Hotel has 23 good Beds, both double and single; and the Table is second to none in the City. Beds, 1s; Meals, 1s; Board and Residence, £1 per week. Passengers arriving by the Night Boat admitted any hour by knocking at the front door. H. PHILLIPS, PROPRIETOR, Formerly of the Golden Age Hotel, Brown street. 1946

IMPORTANT TO LEGAL MANAGERS, MINE MANAGERS, AND TRIBUTERS.

WANTED KNOWN. JUST PRINTED, and now on SALE at the EVENING STAR OFFICE, Albert street Grahams-town, TRIBUTERS' AGREEMENT FORMS. All Tributars should POSSESS a COPY of the AGREEMENT under which their Tribute is held, and they can now do so at a merely NOMINAL COST.

WANTED KNOWN—Proxy Forms for Mining Companies may be obtained at the STAR Office.

Tenders THAMES HARBOUR BOARD.

TENDERS for the SUPPLY of the following Articles, in such quantities and at such times as they may be required by the Thames Harbour Board, will be received at the Office of the Board up to 4 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, the 20th instant:—

Devon's Kerosene—per gal. Best White and Red Lead—per lb. Black and Blue Paint—per lb. Stockholm Tar—per gal. Europe Rope Manila do Coir do Rail Dogs Mooring Chains Spike, Ewbank and Wire Nails Reg Bolts. The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. F. O. DEAN, Secretary to the Board. Thames, 18th March, 1878. 2208

CARDS, Circulars (on note or letter paper) or bronze, in a style hitherto to be unobtainable on the Thames, at the EVENING STAR Office.

Amusements THEATRE ROYAL. THURSDAY, MARCH 21st, 1878. COMPLIMENTARY BENEFIT TO MR T. A. BELL BY MEMBERS OF THE THAMES CRICKETERS' AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB AND OTHERS. The Ticket of Leave Man! Dress Circle, 3s; Stalls, 2s; Pit, 1s. 2188

Calls PIAKO GOLD MINING COMPANY (LIMITED). NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS. ALL SHARES upon which the second CALL of 1s per Share, due on the 13th instant, and not paid on the 26th inst., will be placed in Solicitors' hands for recovery of same. By order. F. A. WHITE, Manager. Auckland, March 18th, 1878. 2218

WAITEKURI GOLDMINING AND QUARTZ-CRUSHING COMPANY (LIMITED). A CALL (the 6th) of Sixpence (6s) per Share on the Capital of the Company has this day been made by the Directors, payable to the Manager at the Company's Office, in Albert and Davy streets, Grahams-town, on WEDNESDAY, the 10th day of April, 1878. D. G. MACDONNELL, Manager. Thames, 14th March, 1878. 2209

KURANUI HILL UNITED GOLD-MINING COMPANY (LIMITED). NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS. AT a Meeting of the Directors held this day, a CALL of ONE SHILLING per share was made on the Capital of the Company, payable to the Secretary, at the Office of the Company, Shortland street, Auckland, on MONDAY, the 25th day of March, 1878. CHARLES TOTTELL, Secretary. Auckland, 27th February, 1878. 2155

Business Notices Leaving the Thames. J. TURNER, Military and General Tailor, Pollen street, intending to LEAVE the Thames at an early date, will OFFER HIS STOCK OF Superior Cloths and Tweeds, Of Home and Colonial Manufacture, At such PRICES as must secure a SPEEDY CLEARANCE.

Gentlemen desiring a First-class Outfit, at a nominal cost, will find this a most favorable opportunity. N.B.—Come Early and Secure CHOICE PATTERNS. J.T., in taking leave of his numerous Customers, tenders his warmest thanks for the liberal patronage accorded him whilst he has been in business on the Thames.

MUSICAL TREAT! POSITIVELY FOR ONE WEEK ONLY. H. CUCKSEY, INSTRUMENT AND MUSIC SELLER, of Auckland, has ARRIVED at GRAHAMSTOWN, and will OPEN TO-DAY at OWEN STREET, Grahams-town, opposite Allway's Eating House, and will CLOSE on FRIDAY, March 23rd.

H. C. has brought a well-selected and Choice Stock of Music, Musical Instruments, and requires of the finest qualities, and he intends offering them at the very lowest remunerative prices, as he is finally giving up business in Auckland, and leaving for England. Harmonium in walnut, £18. Piano in walnut, by Bord, £35. Be in time for the Bargains. Come at once. No responsible offer refused. 2232

New Books! New Books! JUST RECEIVED AT J. H. JEFFERSON'S, BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER, POLLEN STREET. New Volumes—Sunday at Home, Leisure Hour, Chatterbox, &c., &c. *A few more Bargains left in surplus Library Books, &c. 1964

PRINTING. CARDS, CIRCULARS, CHEQUE-BOOKS, BILL-HEADS, POSTERS, HANDBILLS, THEATRICAL WORK, &c., &c., &c. In any Color required, On the shortest notice, and in the most modern style.

EVENING STAR OFFICE, GRAHAMSTOWN.

NEWEST designs in type on hand, and constant additions being made at the EVENING STAR Office.

Clothing, Etc. Ex 'Iron Queen.' Just Opened AT J. MARSHALL'S, ALBERT STREET AND POLLEN STREET, Ex 'Iron Queen,' FROM LONDON: 36 PACKAGES OF DRAPERY.

These Goods were purchased in the English Market—without being ordered—owing to their being desperately cheap, and as J. M. has received advices of 56 Cases more, per "Seattler," with an EXTREMELY SMALL PROFIT! To make room for the next Shipment.

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Groceries, etc. W. DEEBLE. BEGS to inform the Public of the Thames that, being in a position to IMPORT GOODS and GENERAL PRODUCE, he is able to SELL CHEAPER than heretofore. CASH PRICE LIST. PRODUCE. Best Fresh Butter (Taranaki and Auckland), 1s per lb. Paste Butter, 8d per lb. ARRIVED EX HELENA. Choice Canterbury Cheese, not to be equalled on the Thames, Cheap Bacon, 9d per lb by the Side Ham, 1s per lb (best quality) Wood's Best Flour, 9s per 50lb bag Sharps, 13s per 150lb sack Wheatmeal, 10s per 100lb sack Bran, 7s per sack at the store, delivered 7s 6d Potatoes, 5s per sack Wheat and Maize HIGHEST PRICE GIVEN FOR THAMES EGGS AND BUTTER, Or from Ohinemuri Farmers, AT W. DEEBLE'S, ROLLESTON STREET, THAMES.

B. MCGARRIGLE WISHES to call the attention of his Friends and the Public to his WELL-ASSORTED STOCK OF PROVISIONS, And hopes by civility to merit a share of their patronage. Note the address— B. MCGARRIGLE, Next to Mr JEFFERSON'S, Bookeller, POLLEN STREET.

NOTICES. THAMES STEAM BISCUIT MANUFACTORY MENNIE & DEY

DESIRE to call the attention of the Public and especially the Storekeepers of the Thames district, to the Large Stock of FLOUR, BISCUITS, CONFECTIONERY, FANCY GOODS, AND FRUITS Which they have on hand, and to arrive suitable for Christmas Trade, which will be sold at the Lowest possible Price as they wish to effect a Speedy Clearance. Our Stock of Flour comprises Adelaide, Auckland, and best Southern Brands, in sacks and 50lb bags, at Mill prices, for Cash. IN BISCUITS We have a large and varied assortment (as per price list to be had on application). The ever increasing demand for MENNIE and DEY'S Biscuits, both for local use and for export, is sufficient guarantee of their unrivalled quality. We have prepared specially for 'Xmas trade, Pic-nic Parties, &c. 2lb tins of Dessert Biscuits, including Macaroons, Ratties, Oreo-nutts, Savoy, &c. Wholesale price 30s per dozen, and People's Mixed at 25s per dozen. IN FANCY GOODS EX HERO AND FAMENOTH, WE HAVE Crosses and Blackwell's Game "Pat's" Pork and Ham "Veal and Ham" "Savory Pies" "Ham and Chicken, &c Stewing French Prunes, Muscatels, Almonds, Licorice, Gipsy Nuts, Horsebound Candy, Pink Jubilee, Black Currant Lozenges Cough "Musk" "Extra Min's" London Mixtures Turkish Delight, Aniseed Balls, Somebody's Luggage, Fancy Boxes suitable for 'Xmas presents. Holly Wreaths and Sprays, Motto and Fancy Gelatine Flags, and Wedding Cake Ornaments in great variety.

THE BEST PLACE TO GET CHRISTMAS CAKES AND PIERD SHORTBREAD IS AT Mennie and Dey's, QUEEN STREET. 1785

JOHN BRIGHT, PARAWAI, DESIRES to call the attention of his Customers and General Public to his NEW COLLECTION OF VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SEEDS, Selected for Autumn Sowing. 201

To Gum Diggers. JAMES MCGOWAN is a Purchaser of well-scraped KAURI GUM at highest market price.

Seeds! Seeds!! Seeds!!! NEW SEEDS of this Season, 1878, can now be Supplied in Varieties too numerous to name. Choice Pot Plants, Also, Dessert Fruits of Splendid Quality. H. SHILLWELL, 2021 Parawai Nursery, Thames.

RECEIPT BOOKS of all kinds, on one mental script letter at the EVENING STAR Office.

BILL-HEADS, Invoices, &c., on ruled or plain paper, of every size and quality, executed with despatch at the EVENING STAR Office.

Applications for Government Payment and Company Debts—Printed and sold at the EVENING STAR Office.

Applications for Residencies—Printed and sold at the EVENING STAR Office.

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Business Notices J. E. HANSEN'S ADVERTISEMENT. BEST FRESH BUTTER on the Thames from Oheungha, Tunaiki, and Hikutaia, always on Sale. WANTED EVERYBODY TO TRY OUR TEAS. Unsurpassed for Strength and Flavor. Competition challenged, defeated, and defeated in this Article. Wanted, a Good Supply of Electric Light thrown on the shady doings of the County Council. Song of County Councillors and Satellites from Chairman B. to Messenger K. "We're done very well; We've done very well; Every man has his price." The PRICES of J. E. HANSEN are as follows FOR CASH: "Crown" Brand and Beyer's Best Flour, 9s 6d per 50lbs; Canterbury do, 7s; Canterbury Hams, best brand, 1s per lb; Fine Cheese, 8d; Teas, from 2s to 3s 6d per lb; Salmon, Oysters, Lobsters, 1s each; Venison in time, Holloway's Pills and Ointment, Cook's Pills, Swedenborg's Soothing Powder, 1s 3d; Chloride Lime, 1s; Carbolic Soap, 9d; Tricopherous, 1s 6d; Swiss Milk, 1s; Preserved Meats, 2lb, 1s 8d; 4lb, 2s 8d; 6lb, 3s 3d; Preserved Ginger, 5s 6d per jar. Also on Sale—Maize, Oats, Wheat, Pollard, Bran, Chaff, and Potatoes. A Good Assortment of Groceries, Glass ware, Tinware, at Lowest Prices.

NOTICE.—Having just suffered considerable losses, principally caused by the extravagant, unscrupulous, and unprincipled conduct of a late Government Agent, the Undersigned is compelled to request his Customers to PAY UP THEIR ACCOUNTS, and beg also to inform them that he cannot IN FUTURE ALLOW ANY ACCOUNTS TO RUN longer than ONE MONTH. All not paid at expiration of that time must be CLOSED, as long credit is unremunerative and not likely to improve the position of a man in business. Undersigned considers that, whatever others may do, he is bound by honor to meet his engagements, and always pay 20s in the £.

J. E. HANSEN, GROCER, POLLEN STREET, SHORTLAND

GOOD SADDLE HORSES can be had at any time, either FOR SALE or HIRE. Terms on application. Private Carriages for Hire, at 4s per hour. Goods REMOVED by EXPRESS from all parts with the greatest care. W. B. BAKER, POLLEN STREET, SHORTLAND (Opposite M. H. Ainslie's). 2177

V. KIESANOWSKI, TAILOR, (NEXT BENDIGO HOTEL), POLLEN STREET, SHORTLAND.

ALL KINDS OF WORK executed on the shortest notice, on the most reasonable terms. 1447

COUTTS' GUARANTEED ACETIC ACID IS an External, Safe and Valuable Remedy for Neuralgia, Bronchitis, Asthma, and Rheumatism, Spinal, Liver and Heart Disease; also, for Kidney and Stomach Complaints, Constipation, Piles, and Dropsy. It is a Sure and Permanent Cure (where no organ is destroyed) for Gout, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lumbago, Sprains, and Contusions, and is powerful in allaying fever, and a most valuable disinfectant. It is cheap, and easily applied. Having been long in general use at Home, and in the Australian Colonies, many thousands have had ample proof of its value, and use no other remedy. Many on the Thames have already benefited by its use, and testify to its value, and will kindly allow reference to be made to them: The "Acid Cure," a pamphlet of directions for use, forwarded by post on receipt of a penny stamp. The Genuine Acid is in large bottles only, each labelled and sealed with Messrs F. Coutts and Sons' Trade Mark, Registered. Agent for the Thames—C. M. A. C. K. A. Y. BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER, Near Junction Hotel, Pollen street.

WATER ENGINES! A. & G. PRICE ARE PREPARED TO SUPPLY WATER ENGINES, OF ANY SIZE OR POWER. Sundry Sizes ready for delivery. Estimates of Hydraulic Machinery of any description to be had on application AT FOUNDRY, GEHAMSTOWN. 1118

Lands and Houses TO THOSE IN SEARCH OF A DELIGHTFUL RESIDENCE. FOR SALE, by Private Contract, a Superior finished Four-Roomed DWELLING HOUSE, situated in Terrace street, Block 27. The allotments (3) comprise a frontage of 90 feet. There is a never-failing well of good water on the premises; also out-house and fowl-houses with fowl-runs separately fenced. The grounds are planted with some of the finest fruit-bearing trees, ornamental trees, flowers, &c. For inspection, terms, &c., apply in first instance of this paper.

VOUCHERS for Government Payment and Company Debts—Printed and sold at the EVENING STAR Office.

Applications for Residencies—Printed and sold at the EVENING STAR Office.

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