

YOU WILL FIND IT TO YOUR ADVANTAGE

YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND
IT TO YOUR AD-
VANTAGE TO DEAL WITH
US. WHATEVER YOUR RE-
QUIREMENTS ARE WE CAN
SUPPLY YOU WITH

FURNITURE,

Hardware,

CROCKERY,

TIMBER,

HOUSEHOLD AND FARM RE-

QUIREMENTS.

WE STRIVE TO MAKE A
SATISFIED CUSTOMER OF
YOU AND GIVE PROMPT SER-
VICE AND BEST VALUE.

START WITH US TO-DAY.
CALL ON US OR RING TELE-

PHONES 634-635 or 2.

BROAD, SMALL & CO.

DEE, TYNE, LEVEN STS.

Phone—343. Private Phone—283.

Alex. Peterson,

PLUMBER AND GASFITTER,
45 Tay street,
INVERCARGILL.

MANUFACTURER of Spouting, Down-
pipes, Ridging Tanks, Baths, Hot
and Cold Water Apparatus, etc.

No work too large or too small.

MANUFACTURER OF EXTENSION-
LADDERS, Etc.

SOLE SOUTHLAND AGENT FOR
WIZARD LIGHT SYSTEM.

W. DRAKE, DEE STREET.
(Near Club Hotel).

CHOICEST—

FRUIT, and

CONFECTIONERY

ALWAYS OBTAINABLE.

Everybody's Fruit Confectioner.

The

—PEOPLE'S BOOT SHOP,—

Corner YARROW and McMASTER
STREETS,

EAST INVERCARGILL.

BOOTS AND SHOES

At lowest prices combined with best
possible quality.

Compare my prices with town.

REPAIRS A SPECIALTY.

ALEX. KIDD,

Bootmaker.

LAND SETTLEMENT.

THE MINISTER'S POLICY.

POSITION OF THE SOLDIER.

CROWN AREAS AVAILABLE.

A statement concerning land settlement in special relation to the settlement of soldiers has been made by the Minister for Lands, the Hon. D. H. Guthrie.

"It is generally known," he said, "that the Government has had to slow up on the soldiers' land settlement scheme owing to having spent all but a comparatively small amount of the money authorised by Parliament. It will surprise most people to learn that the Government has spent on the settlement and repatriation of soldiers in New Zealand no less a sum than £19,000,000. Settlement has not absolutely ceased, but, as has been stated, the speed has had to be slackened."

Mr Guthrie made some reference also to the operation of the clauses of the Acts of the past two sessions dealing with aggregation. "What we are coming down to now in the way of land settlement," said Mr Guthrie, "is the settlement of the purchased lands we have on hand, and the Crown lands which we have not been able to bring under settlement, owing to the absence of surveyors and engineers. We have a number of blocks that are already for settlement except for roading. We cannot give them to soldiers until the roading has been done, and we have not been able to get the roading done because of the shortage of the officers I have mentioned, also the lack of public works men."

ABOUT 700,000 ACRES AVAILABLE.

"We have at the present time available for settlement about 700,000 acres. This land will carry from 1200 to 1400 men. The land is of varying descriptions, and will be suitable for all kinds of farming. It is spread over practically the whole of both islands of New Zealand. A large area of bush land is in the north of Auckland, and it is of such a character that it is well worth the attention of the Government and the returned soldier."

"These figures do not take into account any of the so-called pumice lands in the interior of the North Island, for which special provision was made in the legislation of last session. Nothing definite has been done about the settlement of this land. We are now raising the reservations from a large number of blocks of land, with the object of throwing them open for settlement under the homesteaded tenure, which was revived in a more attractive form by the legislation of last session. One great bar to the opening of this land is that a large quantity of it is national endowment land, and it will have to be dealt with by Parliament before we can engage in any large scale on schemes for the development of it."

A CHECK ON AGGREGATION.

Mr Guthrie was emphatic in his statement that the effect of the anti-aggregation clauses of his Acts of 1918 and 1919, had been important. "There has been," said the Minister, "an evident unloading of land from large properties, and there have been but few cases brought to the notice of the Government where there have been increases of areas. In these cases the increases are always arranged so as not to come within the scope of the aggregation clauses. Commonly this is done by the purchases being made in the name of another member of the family. This device, however, will not in all circumstances prove to be a complete escape from the operation of the law. I am convinced, indeed I have evidence, that the cutting up of estates that has been going on recently can be attributed to the effect of the aggregation clauses now on the Statute Book, but it is fair to say that some of the case may be attributed to the high prices now ruling for land. I am glad to say that the experience of the Government has been happy in respect to these offers of land for sale, for we have had land offered to us by large landowners for returned soldiers at prices which in some instances were £10 per acre less than private buyers did subsequently pay for the land. Even at the prices offered the Government had to decide against placing soldiers upon land at such excessively high values."

We cannot command veracity at will; the power of seeing and reporting truly is a form of health that has to be delicately guarded, and as an ancient Rabbi has solemnly said: "The penalty of untruth is untruth."

STORIES FOR ALL MOODS.

THE KIT-CAT CLUB.

The most celebrated of all the clubs of the eighteenth century, the golden age of such associations, was the "Kit-Cat," originally a company of budding wits and poets, afterwards one of the most powerful political coteries of its time. It took its name from the pastrycook, Christopher Catt, whose shop in Shire Lane, near Temple Bar, was the club's first meeting-place.

The club was fathered by Jacob Tonson, the book-seller—"left-legged Jacob," who later, when his fosterling had become a creature of importance, built a room for the meetings of the club at his house at Barn Elms. For the decoration of this room Sir Godfrey Kneller painted portraits of the members, and as the place was not high enough to take a half-length they were drawn on a shorter canvas, thirty-six by twenty-eight inches, just long enough to include a hand; a size ever since known to artists as "Kit-Cat size."

LITERARY TURNPENNIES.

Tonson himself was a man of business ability, with enough literary perception to drive a good bargain with his authors, and not enough conscience to prevent his making a good thing out of it. The 18th century bookseller—who united the callings of bookseller and the modern publisher—was a being much lampooned by the writers, who, rightly or wrongly, considered themselves his victims. Contemporary literature is full of more or less scurrilous portraits of them. One biographer (of later date) comments on Tonson and his kind as "a set of heavy, vulgar, and ignorant traders. Notwithstanding their opportunities of associating with the more enlightened orders of the community, they never seem to have acquired either information or polish. Jacob Tonson was a happy specimen of the literary turnpennies of this day."

The Kit-Cat Club was celebrated for its custom of "toasting" ladies after dinner, the "toast" for the year being elected by ballot. Her name was written—usually enshrined in verse—with a diamond on one of the club's drinking glasses. "The hieroglyphic of the diamond is to show her that her value is imaginary; and that of the glass, to acquaint her that her condition is frail, and depends on the hand which holds her."

BUT NOT HIS PHYSIC.

Sir Godfrey Kneller, the immortalizer of the members of the club, was a man of a certain humour, but excessively vain, and of a gross and rather profane wit. Most of his bons mots are not nowadays quotable, but a milder specimen may amuse.

The servants of Dr. Ratcliffe, his next-door neighbour in Great Queen street, were in the habit of purloining many beautiful flowers from his garden to which he used to devote no inconsiderable portion of his attention. Exasperated at their frequent depredations, he sent a message to the doctor that he must for the future shut up the door into his garden, through which he permitted him to have a passage, on account of the ill-conduct of his domestics. The doctor peevishly rejoined: "Tell him he may do anything with it but paint it." "And I," answered Sir Godfrey, "will take anything from the doctor but his physic."

Kneller was celebrated—to the modern mind unduly so—as a portrait painter, and the extent of his practice may be gauged by the fact that on his death he left 500 pictures unfinished.

One of the most aristocratic of his Kit-Cat sitters was Charles Seymour, Duke of Somerset, known as "the proud Duke" from his haughty manners. Many stories are told of him, his pride and his exclusiveness, some of them very entertaining.

"MY LORD DUKE IS COMING."

"Like a Turkish Bashaw, he made his servants acquainted with his wishes by signs. The country roads through which he travelled were often cleared by avant-couriers before his approach, in order that he might pass without obstruction or observation. 'Get out of the way,' said one of his people to a countryman who was driving a hog along the path by which the Duke was to pass. 'Why?' inquired the boor. 'Because my Lord Duke is coming, and he does not like to be looked at,' rejoined the man. The clown, enraged at the imperious manner in which the mandate was urged, exclaimed, 'But I will see him, and my pig shall see him, too!' and seizing the animal by the ears, he held it up before him until his Grace and retinue were gone by."

Some remarkable anecdotes, illustrative of the intolerable pride of the Duke of

Somerset, are related by various authorities. His second duchess once familiarly tapped him on the shoulder with her fan, and when he turned round with a look of marked displeasure observed, "My first duchess was a Percy, and she never took such a liberty." The two youngest of his daughters were accustomed to stand and watch him alternately while he slept in an afternoon. On one occasion Lady Charlotte, feeling herself fatigued, sat down. The duke waked unexpectedly and expressing his surprise at her disobedience, declared he would remember her want of decorum in his will. He left this daughter £20,000 less than her sister.

SHOOT THE RUBBISH.

He carried his eccentricities into public life. "King George having landed at Greenwich, the Duke of Somerset was nominated one of the new Privy Council, and restored to the situation of Master of the Horse on September 27th, but threw it up on October 25th, with singular marks of indignation. Having commanded his servants to strip off the Royal and put on the family livery, he sent for a common dust-cart, and directed that all the badges of his office should be thrown into it; he then, followed by all his retinue and the aforesaid vehicle, proceeded to the courtyard of St. James's Palace, and after ordering the driver to shoot the rubbish, he stalked back indignantly to Northumberland House, accompanied by the same cavalcade, in precisely the form in which he had left it."

Another illustrious member was John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough, perhaps the most striking of contemporary figures. A more contradictory personality a more notable blend of greatness and pettiness, never trod the stage of politics. Soldier, politician, and courtier, he still made money his one aim in life, and to that craving his conflicting actions may be traced. Spence, on the authority of Pope, speaks of him thus:—

"Inconsistent as the Duke of Marlborough's character may appear, yet it may be accounted for if we gauge his actions by his reigning passion, which was the love of money. He endeavoured, at the same time, to be well with both Hanover and St. Germans; the plain meaning of which was only this, that he wanted to secure the vast riches he had amassed together, whichever should succeed. He was calm in the heat of the battle; and when he was so near being taken prisoner in Flanders he was quite unmoved."

A MEAN PASSION.

"It is true he was like to lose his life in the one, and his liberty in the other; but there was none of his money at stake in either. This mean passion of that great man operated very strongly in him in the very beginning of his life, and continued to the very end of it. One day, as he was looking over some papers in his escritoire with Lord Cadogan, he opened one of his drawers, took out a green purse, and turned some broad pieces out of it. After viewing them for some time with a satisfaction that appeared visibly on his face:—

"Cadogan," said he, 'observe these pieces well! they deserve to be observed; there are just forty of them; 'tis the very first sum I ever got in my life, and I have kept it always unbroken, from that time to this day.' This shows how early and how strongly this passion must have been engrafted upon him; as another little affair, which happened in his last decline at Bath, may serve (among many others) to show how miserably it continued to the end. He was playing there with Dean Jones at piquet for sixpence a game, they played a good while, and the Duke left off when winner of one game."

AND HE WALKED HOME.

"Some time after he desired the Dean to pay him his sixpence; the Dean said he had no silver; the Duke asked it over and over, and at last desired that he would change a guinea to pay it him, because he should want it to pay the chair that carried him home. The Dean, after so much pressing, did at last get change; paid the Duke his sixpence; observed him a little later leave the room, and declares that (after all the bustle he had made for his sixpence) the Duke actually walked home to save the little expense a chair would have put him to."

Full of years and honours, successful in every ambition, he died at seventy-two, leaving an immense fortune.

Before August, 1814, the British Navy possessed 7112 guns of all calibres by October 31, 1818, this total had increased to 14,724.

CHEAP MEAT.

ONLY PRIME QUALITY,
BEEF AND MUTTON.

AT EVERYBODY'S
BUTCHERY.



A. CUNDALL,
Proprietor.

For several years Manager
City Meat Co.

(Kelvin St. one door from Esk St.)

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT
LOVELY FRUIT?

THAT HANDSOME BOX OF SWEETS!

THOSE BEAUTIFUL PALMS AND

ASPIDISTRAS?

WHY AT—

WELSH'S

FRUITERER AND CONFECTIONER,

TAY STREET.

THEY HAVE ALSO CLEANEST AND

BEST OF FOUNTAIN DRINKS.

A. E. HOBBS,

Proprietor

Phone—400.

CONFECTIONERY,

LARGE VARIETY OF ASSORTED
BOXES

At

F. C. Jarvis,

"EXCELLA," DEE STREET

Next Bank N.S.W.

'Phone—1370.

Books to Read.

WITH Winter coming on apace we turn our attention to BOOKS—Books of interest.

Here are some of the latest in the popular bound edition:—

"The Woman's Way," "Lorrie," by Chas. Garvice.

"The Girl who was too Good Looking," "The Wrong Mr Right," by Bertha Ruck.

"The Stepmother," by Annie S. Swan.

"Round the Corner in Gay Street," "The Indifference of Juliet," "Mrs Red Pepper," "The Second Violin," by Grace Richmond.

"Black Rock," by Ralph Connor.

"Red Men and White," "Lady Baltimore," by Owen Wister.

"Eric Brighteyes," "Cleopatra," "Heart of the World," "Swallow," by H. Rider Haggard.

"The Trampled Cross," "The Man Who Rose Again," by Joseph Hocking.

"The Return of Sherlock Holmes," by A. Conan Doyle.

All at 2/6. 3/- posted.

Gardner & Son,

TAY AND KELVIN STREETS,
INVERCARGILL.