

COMMERCIAL.

Messrs DRIVER, STEWART and Co. report as follows for the week ending March 4th:—

Fat Cattle.—Only a moderate supply of 65 head were yarded today, and the quality for the most part being very ordinary, we are unable to report any improvement in late prices. Really good quality would have been eagerly sought after. Best bullocks brought from five guineas to £7 12s 6d; cows, £4 to £6. We sold, on account of Messrs Wm. Shand and others, 38 head at above rates, and have placed during the week 30, privately, at market rates.

Fat Sheep.—About 450 of various sorts were penned. Half-breds realised up to 13s; merinos, from 8s to 10s. We sold 200 at the yards, and have placed 700 privately for forward delivery. We are unable to report any improvement on late quotations—say 24d for cross-breds, and 2d for merinos.

Fat Lambs.—Only a few inferior sorts were penned, which brought from 7s 3d to 8s. We have sold 100 privately at 9s.

Store Cattle.—We have no important transactions to report. There is a fair demand for speyed cows and bullocks in good condition, at from £3 to £4 for cows, and £4 to £5 for bullocks.

Store Sheep.—There is still a very active demand for sheep of every description, and large transactions have taken place during the week. We have sold in various lots about 7000 at our quotations. Young merino ewes are much sought after at 6s 6d to 7s; do wethers, 6s; do full-mouthed, 5s 6d; do lambs, 6s to 6s 6d; cross-breds, from 9s to 10s; do lambs, 7s 6d to 8s.

Wool.—Advices from the Home market to hand per Claud Hamilton, at Hokitika, on 20th ult., report the wool market as unchanged. The quantity for offer at the February sales was 16,000 bales. On the opening night 5000 bales were offered—the attendance of both home and foreign buyers being good. Prices ranged same as last series. In this market there has been comparatively little business done during the week. We shall offer a quantity, embracing some choice light clip on Wednesday next.

Sheepskins.—At the usual sale this day there was a good attendance and fair competition, and about 1000 skins were sold at prices fully equal to those of last week. Full woolled skins fetched 4s 9d to 5s 6d; medium, 2s 9d to 4s; pelts, 9d to 1s 9d; lamb skins, 1s 5d to 1s 9d.

Hides.—None offered.

Grain.—The market is active for both wheat and oats, the stocks of old crop of either sort being now all but exhausted. New wheat may be quoted at 4s 7d to 4s 9d. Good old oats are in request, and saleable at fully 4s per bushel. The late fall in the Melbourne market of about 6d per bushel has apparently made no alteration in the market, the stocks on hand being so light, barely equal to immediate requirements.

NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND.

CAPITAL—ONE MILLION, IN 100,000 SHARES OF £10 EACH.
PAID-UP, £50,000.

THIS PURELY LOCAL OFFICE

PRESENTS MANY ADVANTAGES TO THE INSURING PUBLIC.

THE CAPITAL AND PROFITS
ARE RETAINED IN THE COLONY.

THE HEAD OFFICE

And Management being Local, Settlements are made without vexatious delays, or reference to offices at a distance.

RATES AND TERMS

Equal to those offered by any Company in the City.

A HILL JACK,
General Manager,

Offices: Manse-street.

CITY OF DUNEDIN.

CORPORATION BONDS
FOR SALE BY TENDER.

TENDERS will be received at the Town Clerk's Office, Manse street, on or before Wednesday, 8th April, 1874, at 4 p.m., for the whole or any portion of (£10,000) Ten Thousand Pounds Value of Corporation Bonds.

The Bonds are issuable under the authority and provisions of the Otago Municipal Corporations Ordinance, 1865; bear interest at the rate of Six per centum per annum, payable half-yearly at the option of any purchaser, in either London, Melbourne, or Dunedin; and are secured on the City Rates.

The Bonds are for £100 each, and will be redeemable in the year One Thousand Nine Hundred and four.

J. M. MASSEY,
Town Clerk.

25th February, 1874.

OUR Agents and Subscribers are requested to bear in mind that the New Zealand Tablet Co. is regularly called upon to meet the liabilities of the paper, and that consequently it is necessary the amounts due to the company should be settled promptly and regularly. They will therefore confer a favor on the Directors if they will be good enough to forward to the Hon. Secretary the sums now due, with as little delay as possible.

CATHOLIC ART UNION ARROW.

THE following is a List of Winning Numbers in the above Art Union. Holders of the corresponding Tickets will please send them in:—

1477	1925	64	1796	791	1979	921	138	991	356
126	533	925	17	561	133	29	30	590	15
673	713	345	992	307	70	553	1890	36	560
254	898	978	258	62	788	1920	276	48	97
1767	1828	573	623	33	439	326	1832	207	903
905	1480	1825	409	315	1812	757	1857	379	629
436	1948	1929	23	388					

BISHOP MORAN'S APPROVAL.

THE manner in which the NEW ZEALAND TABLET has been hitherto conducted is deserving of approval. I have no doubt the future management will be in accordance with the past, and that this journal will continue to be an excellent Catholic newspaper. Under these circumstances, I can have no hesitation in saying it deserves the generous support of all Catholics in this Colony. I beg to recommend it to them most earnestly.

Given at Dunedin, 15th July, 1873.

† P. MORAN,
Bishop of Dunedin.

New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1874.

THE CONSERVATIVES.

THE latest news from England informs us of the resignation of Mr GLADSTONE, in consequence of the great Conservative re-action which has placed his party in a minority in the British House of Commons. This will be pleasing news to many throughout the world. Not that Mr DISRAELI, who had been entrusted with the task of forming a new Ministry, is more popular or more esteemed than his great rival. As a statesman, orator, scholar, and as a man of integrity, Mr GLADSTONE has no superior. Nevertheless, very many will rejoice that his party has been defeated, and that he no longer leads the old forces as Premier.

The career of each of these statesmen is deserving of attentive study. Both have diverged from the political road on which they started in the race of life. Mr DISRAELI set out as a Radical, and by a dexterous wheel now finds himself leading the Conservative party. Mr GLADSTONE began as a High Tory, a Conservative of the most orthodox principles; he is now far on the road to Radicalism. It is very unlikely that the former has discarded all his Radical principles and leanings, or that the latter has flung aside all his early tenets of Conservatism. Both, it may fairly be presumed, are better than the parties they lead. If, then, the people rejoice at the change of Ministry in England, it is not because Mr GLADSTONE is out and Mr DISRAELI in; but because the Nation has at length come to see the depths of the fearful abyss to which Radicalism was so rapidly conducting it.

The days of Old Toryism are over, to return no more, and the motto of the new Ministry must be conservative yet progressive. On no other principle can it last even through one session. Progress is the word of the day, and an end must be put to all abuses. But whilst nothing can be more certain than this, the late general elections have demonstrated the determination of the nation to conserve whatever deserves conservation. The constitution of the country, the institutions of the nation venerable for age and services, the noble traditions of a thousand years, must not be touched with profane hands. True, abuses must be swept away; but the life of the nation must not be imperilled in the process. The heart of the nation is sound still, and her instincts healthy.

For years people have watched with dismay the steady progress of un-Christian and anti-social principles; with horror and alarm they have seen them—in consequence of the exigencies of a political party—ascend into high places, and become embodied in statesmen otherwise most estimable. The principles which made England what she is as a nation were being flung away one by one, until at last an effort was impudently made to raise up an un-Christian and Godless generation. Patience could endure no longer; respect for the man, the orator, and genius, could be no longer permitted to blind the nation to the dangerous tendencies of the measures of the politician. It became evident that it was no longer safe to trifle with revolutionary principles, or even partially embody them in legislation. The example of the Continental countries taught an instructive lesson. Democracies become tyrannical, republics turned into instruments of cruel oppression.