

election on the education question. The 'Lyttleton Times' views this action on the part of Catholics as "an assault upon our laws and institutions." And the 'Australasian' declares it to be "an insolent attempt of a priesthood to intrude on what is beyond all question the province of the State."

This is very strange indeed. Every one in the community, Catholics excepted, may, even laudably, use "all moral and legal means" to resist an obnoxious law. OLIVER CROMWELL is a saint in these worthies' eyes, though a rebel and a regicide. The traitors who sold their country and betrayed their King unto the hand of Dutch WILLIAM are also saints in their eyes, though instead of using all moral and legal means, they employed such only as were both immoral and illegal. The 'Lyttleton Times' does not, of course, regard either CROMWELL or WILLIAM OF ORANGE as guilty of "an assault upon our laws and institutions;" but Catholics are, because they propose to use strictly legal and constitutional means to prevent a truculent majority, bounded on by a Godless Press, from trampling on their consciences and plundering their pockets. The Press may, it appears, very properly use means not always either moral or legal in resisting laws; but it is treason for Catholics to dare even think as freemen.

The 'Australasian' pronounces the course proposed in the circular of the Canterbury Catholics, as to resistance to the school rate, as "an insolent attempt of the priesthood to intrude on what is beyond all question the province of the State." In the above extract the 'Australasian' has made two mistakes. First, there is no evidence to show that the Church circular is other than what it purports to be,—a document drawn up by a Committee composed exclusively of laymen. Why then lug in the priesthood? The 'Australasian' no doubt knows the reason, and so too, probably, do some of the candidates for seats in the next Victorian Parliament.

The 'Australasian' says "that the organization of the Roman Catholic Church is being used at the present day for the purpose of forwarding a world-wide conspiracy against liberal progress and civil society." We recognise in this the cant of the sects. It is the language of the Inner Lodges; and, to borrow an expression from the elegant and veracious Victorian print, an "insolent" falsehood.

We hope that the din, hypocrisy, and falsehood of the 'Australasian,' and the bigoted, tyrannical views of the 'Lyttleton Times' will not deter Catholics from persevering in the most determined opposition to Godless schools; and from employing "all legal and constitutional means" to resist all tyrannical laws, and above all, such laws as compel them to pay money to help to destroy their Faith, and Christian society. In the minds of the men who originated it, secular education has for its sole object the destruction of Christianity, and in the first place as an indispensable means to that end, the destruction of the Catholic Church.

WEEKLY EPITOME.

THE 'Post' asks:—"Shall we ever have a satisfactory and punctual San Francisco mail service? It would seem not, and that the congratulations indulged in by the Government on the establishment of the new service are decidedly premature." It then goes on to say that the delays will almost make the new service as bad as Webb's line.

THE Greymouth 'Star' "has reason to believe that a notice of motion for a call of the Council to rescind the very foolish vote of permitting the Speaker to join in debates will be tabled shortly." The 'Star' also says:—"Should the intended attempt to upset the ridiculous resolution relating to the Speaker's debating privileges in the Provincial Council be unsuccessful, it is proposed, we understand, to bring the matter before the Assembly, in its next session, and ask for a slight amendment in the Province of Westland Act, whereby the general principles of the regulations of other deliberative bodies will be enforced."

THE enquiry is still going on at Auckland with reference to the stranding of the Anazi, barque. Captain Holman stated positively that he was not drunk, but he did not deny having taken drink on the night of the accident. Thomas Holt, a passenger, believed that the captain was intoxicated. A number of witnesses stated that they were positive that Captain Holman was drunk on the night of the accident. Edward Farrel, seaman, deposed that he saw the captain strike at the first officer and second mate with a knuckle-duster. Farrel did not consider the captain properly drunk, as he did not lie down, but managed to keep his feet. Daniel Primrose stated that the captain was under the influence of liquor during the night of the accident.

MR MACKAY, C.E., reports that the Para Para Company's iron field is the most extensive of its kind he has ever seen, even in Great Britain.

MR BLUNDELL, late proprietor of the 'Evening Post,' was entertained at a dinner by a number of his friends, at Wellington, prior to his departure for America and Europe per R.M.S.S. Mongol.

MAURICE DRUMMOND, the defaulting bank manager from Melbourne, attempted to escape from Wellington Gaol on the 13th inst. He secreted himself in the gaol yard and was discovered. Drummond is now on the Alhambra en route for Melbourne. The detective in

charge of him has stated it is a fact that Drummond, though a Bank Manager, received a salary of only £2 10s a week.

SULLIVAN has been removed to the Mount Eden Gaol, awaiting a favourable chance for shipping him away.

THE Queensland Government has requested the Governments of the other colonies to stop emigration to the Palmer River for the present.

Tuesday was St. Patrick's Day, and the Banks, Public Offices, and Insurance offices were closed. There was very little done in the way of celebrating the anniversary of the birthday of the Patron Saint of Ireland, if we except one or two displays of bunting and the dinner of the Hibernian Australian Catholic Benefit Society, held at St. Joseph's schoolroom in the evening.

ANOTHER accident at a thrashing mill, which resulted fatally, occurred on an afternoon last week to a young man named Eason, near Balcutha. He was employed feeding the machine, when by some means he slipped in among the moving gear, and before the engine could be stopped, one of his legs and the lower part of his body were so dreadfully torn that he only lived a short while afterwards.

The esteemed Magistrate and District Judge of Dunedin must surely be a sensitive patriot, to judge from the shock he received by a little affair some days ago, which might have cast a stigma on his country. A disreputable woman, enjoying a wide notoriety, was charged with harbouring thieves, and Sergeant Bovan, in giving evidence, was asked to state her nationality. He replied, "Scotland," to which His Worship, with a blush, as though the shade of Scott was lingering over him, involuntarily sighed "Oh dear!"

A DELIGHTED inhabitant of Lawrence writes:—"It is not every town in Otago can boast of having two live Bishops and two Judges in their borders, and we are proud to be able to do so at present."

THE 'Bruce Herald' remarks:—"Mr Lumb, the revenue officer, appears to have caught a Tartar in his first attempt up country at obtaining a conviction for sly grog selling. In Hilgendorf's case, a severe attack appears to have been made upon Lumb, which it is reasonable to suppose would be the foundation for another charge. Rumor has it that 'it has been squared,' whatever that may mean, and that the law will not be vindicated. If so, what will the Government say to it?"

THE runs in the Wakatipu district, numbering twenty-three in all, and covering an area of about 200,000 acres, which were some days ago put up to auction at Queenstown by the Provincial Government, realised a total annual rental of £7325, or nearly 9d per acre.

At Grahamstown, St. Patrick's Day was observed as a general holiday. The Hibernian Society marched to the Catholic Chapel to hear a sermon. The members of the Society wore a green regalia.

A DR BRUCE BARCLAY has lately been perpetrating some wholesale swindling, and obtaining money by false pretences throughout Otago. It is rumored that he does not hold a medical diploma, and that he has let in Mr Raymond, the chemist, and Mr Sampson, hatter for tidy sums.

THE Break o' Day G.M. Co., Lyell, have just completed crushing 145 tons quartz. The yield is 1177 ounces of gold.

AT A LATE meeting of the Otago Waste Lands Board an application was read from Mr William St. Paul Gellibrand to purchase a piece of bush land in the Hawkesbury district. It appeared that Mr Gellibrand owned already some 700 or 800 acres of bush in that district, and that if the bid applied for were sold the settlers would have none whatever. The Board did not seem to favor the idea that one individual should gobble up all the bush in one district, and refused the application.

THE PATEA land sale, on the 13th instant, was a great success. The best rural sections brought £5 to £6 15s per acre. Wairoa town sections realised from £5 to £10 per acre. Kakarama suburban sections fetched from £7 15s to £15 10s per acre.

MR MCINTOSH, of the firm of Grave and McIntosh, Oamaru, charged with forging an instrument of lease, has been, after two days' trial at that place, committed. Bail was accepted for £500.

Two of the Union crew, with coxswain, and an equal number of Messrs Burt's employees, were engaged in a pulling match a few days ago, but before half the course had been gone over, one of the former became excited, and leapt into the water. A little swimming about put a new sensation into him, and he hastily returned to the boat and made for home.

THE Club Hotel, land and premises, in High street, have been sold to Messrs Butterworth Brothers, who intend to build an addition to their present establishment, in order to meet their growing business.

THE tender of Messrs M'Kenzie Brothers for the Deborah Bay contract of the Dunedin and Moeraki Railway has been accepted. Messrs M'Kenzie were the sub-contractors for the Caversham Tunnel, and carried out that work in a most satisfactory manner, so that good progress with the Deborah Bay Tunnel may be expected from them.

THE Provincial Government are calling for tenders for the erection of ten double timber cottages for immigration purposes. These are to be erected at Kensington. Tenders for the building of a number of others will shortly be called for. The cottages are intended for the accommodation of immigrants, and they will have the privilege of purchasing them on easy terms, when they find themselves able to do so.

A FIERCE gale was experienced on Saturday at the Thames; one hundred feet of the shore end of the Tararu Wharf being carried away.

ANOTHER "Heathen Chinee," as childlike and bland of aspect as he of the cards at 'Frisco, has fallen upon evil times, and into the hands of the Police. Sam Q'in is his name, alias Sam Queen, alias On Say, alias Pon Huk, alias Sing Nam, alias Flash Jimmy. Latterly he has been pursuing a sad course of iniquity, and has obtained much property by false representation, and was about to transfer himself and his belongings to the free land of America, when the Police interfered and arrested him.

THE return boat race in which employes of Burke's and