

is every probability of the movement spreading rapidly and widely throughout the province. Coleraine has returned a Liberal; County Derry, two Liberals; County Down, one Liberal; and in other places the anti-Liberal and anti-National candidates have been returned by only small majorities. The probability is, that by the time, when it will be necessary to elect a new Parliament, the present Liberal constituencies will have developed into Home Rulers, and that a more national sentiment than prevails at present, will have taken possession of the Conservatives of the North.

In England, twenty-three members pledged to hand over to Irishmen the management of their own affairs have been elected; and amongst the constituencies which have elected these, are some of the most important in the Kingdom: such, for example, as Leeds, Hull, Durham, Chelsea, Bolton, Sheffield, Newcastle, Tynemouth, Stafford, Gateshead, Sunderland, &c., &c.; whilst in Scotland, Dundee has returned two Home Rulers, and Kilmarnock one. In Wales, the large and flourishing town of Cardiff, and the two constituencies of Flint and Merthyr-Tydvil have returned one each. And the merest chance prevented the election of Mr Burt himself for Manchester. His nomination was informal, owing to the name of one of his nominators, though an Englishman of wealth and respectability, not being on the voter's list.

It will be no longer possible for any English Ministry to ignore the Home Rule agitation. No Government can long resist the reasonable demands of ninety members, particularly when sixty of these are pledged to oppose every Ministry that refuses to concede this great measure of justice and restitution. With such an united and determined body of representatives hanging on their outskirts, and harassing every Cabinet, ready in its day of trial to join the opposite party in ousting it, a continuance of injustice is impossible. It appears almost certain, therefore, that before many years, Ireland will see once more her own Parliament sitting in College Green.

### NEWS OF THE WEEK.

In the Provincial Council on the 30th ult., before proceeding to the business of the order-paper, the Provincial Secretary informed the House that the Executive had tendered their resignation to the Superintendent the day previous. The reasons given by Mr Turnbull for the step taken were, that he found his time so taken up with private affairs, as to be unable to devote sufficient attention to the duties of Provincial Secretary and Treasurer; he said also that some differences existed amongst the members of the Executive in regard to the administration of public affairs. It had been the intention of the Government to have tendered their resignation some time since, but the representations of the Secretary of Lands, that such a step would not be fair to the members of the Council, to the Superintendent, and to the country, had influenced his colleagues, as such a step during recess would lead to serious public inconvenience.

PATRICK LONG, who had been found guilty of manslaughter, and remanded for sentence, was brought up on Friday the 1st May. On being asked if he had anything to say before the sentence of the Court should be passed upon him, prisoner, after thanking the jury for their patient hearing of the case, made a long statement, admitting that he had shot McDonald, but denying that it had been done intentionally. He stated that he intended to fire the pistol over the heads of the crowd to cause them to disperse, and that he had not the slightest malice towards deceased. The learned judge after commenting in strong terms upon the reckless use of deadly weapons, sentenced prisoner to five years' penal servitude. This is, in fact, only equal to three years and a half, as good conduct will obtain a remission of four months in each year.

An accident of a somewhat serious nature occurred to a Mrs Clark, who resides at Cosy Dell, on Sunday evening. It appears she was returning from Kaitorai to Maori Hill, and stepping into a blind hole, fell forward, and broke her leg below the knee. As she was alone when the accident occurred, she remained helpless for some time. She is now in the Dunedin Hospital.

The seeds of discord and party spirit so lavishly sown by Mr Barton appears to have taken root and to be already bearing fruit. We notice that at a meeting of the Orange Lodge held on the 2nd inst., Mr Barton's epistle was read and much applauded by the members, and an opinion expressed of the desirability of Orangemen in future recording a block vote. It must, however, in justice be stated that Dr Moran's reply had not been then published, and consequently the resolve was taken from an *ex parte* statement. Admitting that the intention be adhered to, we question very much whether Mr Barton will be the gainer by the transaction.

The efforts of Dr Webster towards forming an Executive have been unsuccessful, and on Monday he informed the Council that he had recommended the Superintendent to send for Mr Reid. His Honor acted on the suggestion, and a motion was carried that the House meet from day to day, so that in the event of success attending Mr Reid's efforts, the business of the province might be proceeded with.

REPORTS from the Manukau Mine, Thames, are of the most promising nature. A ton of stuff, estimated to contain 20zs. to the lb, has been taken out.

We have received from St. Mary's Convent, Wellington, "The New Zealand Evening Hymn," arranged and published by Sister M. C. B. As a May offering it is a graceful tribute to our Blessed Lady, while the words and music tenderly invite her children of the Southern clime to adopt that beautiful practice of hailing at Vespertide the "Star of the Ocean."

THE Supreme Court has been occupied during the week with the hearing of the case Macassey v. Bell, an alleged libel case, in which damages were sought to the extent of £1000. The defendant is the proprietor of the 'Evening Star,' and the action is brought for an article reflecting on Mr Macassey, which appeared in that paper. A strong bar was retained on both sides, Messrs Barton, Haggitt and Stewart appearing for Mr Macassey; and Messrs James Smith and Stout, for the defendant. During the long and tedious hearing, many of the principal men of the town were brought forward by Mr Barton to prove the injurious impression left against Mr Macassey by the perusal of the article in question. The case had not concluded when we went to press.

On the assembling of the Provincial Council on Wednesday afternoon, a message was read from his Honor the Superintendent announcing the acceptance of the resignation of the Executive of which Mr Turnbull had been Provincial Secretary, and the appointment of the following gentlemen as their successors:—Donald Reid, Esq., Provincial Secretary and Secretary of Land and Works; George Turnbull, Esq., Provincial Treasurer; Robert Stout, Esq., Provincial Solicitor; and George Murray Webster, and George Lumsden, Esqs, members of the Executive Council. Mr Reid explained that, as stated by the Superintendent, he had succeeded in forming an Executive, but the Government had not had time to confer together, so as to place him in a position to make a statement as to the policy to be adopted with regard to the important measures to be brought forward during the session. Mr Fish taunted Mr Turnbull with throwing over his late colleague, Mr Bastings, and characterised the coalition of Mr Reid, Dr Webster, and Mr Turnbull, as an unholy alliance. Mr Turnbull, in explanation, stated that he had accepted the office of Treasurer only at the solicitation of a number of members and as the duties were merely of a routine character.

We have to record another fire in the vicinity of Dunedin, being the third within the last fortnight. On this occasion the locality is Caversham, and were it not for the energy displayed by Constable McKinlay, there is little doubt but at least one life would have been sacrificed. It appears that a man named Law, who occupied the cottage in which the fire originated, returned from town under the influence of drink, on Tuesday night, and in carelessly striking a light set fire to the place. The flames quickly spread to an adjoining cottage, which was also totally consumed. Although Constable McKinlay was on the spot a few moments after the alarm has been given, it was with difficulty he succeeded in rescuing Law from the burning building. Both houses were insured, but Law states that, beside his furniture and effects, he has lost £75 in cash. The Crown Hotel was at one time in considerable danger, the gable end being considerably injured.

It appears that we have at last really got rid of the notorious Sullivan. A semi-official announcement appears in a Wellington journal that Sullivan will probably reach England in the course of a few weeks. The 'Independent' justifies the step taken, and says that if newspapers had a juster conception of the case, Sullivan would not have been debarred from going to San Francisco, as the authorities there would have been made acquainted of his coming, as those in England now are. It also adds, that the Government adopted the course after the case had received the highest consideration possible to give it in the Colony.

An inquest was held on the 30th ult., at Scherp's Hotel, Snowburn on the body of Oliver Jackson, who had died suddenly the day previous. It appears that deceased had been turning a winze, when he complained of pain, sat down, and expired immediately. Medical testimony showed that disease of the heart was the cause of death, and a verdict in accordance was returned.

We learn from the Mount Ida Chronicle that the sale at St. Bathans township will not be gazetted until an opportunity is allowed of showing to the Waste Lands Board, the injustice that would be done to the inhabitants, if the upset price of £12 10s. per section be insisted on.

CAPTAIN FRASER, the Police Magistrate at the Thames, who entered a criminal action for libel against the Auckland 'Star,' offered to withdraw the action if the 'Star' would apologise, and pay £50 to the Hospital. To this proposition the 'Star' answers that if Captain Fraser will apologise to the police, and subscribe £50 to the Orphans' Home, it will allow the case to drop.

ALEXANDER McDONALD, who has been often mixed up with Maori disturbances in the Manawatu district, and adopted as a member of a tribe, shot one of the leaders in the Napier Coach, in assertion of his right to some land over which the road runs.

The members of the General Assembly were notified by telegraph from Mr Vogel, that His Excellency the Governor had been advised to summon Parliament for the despatch of business, on the 3rd of July next.

THE Local Land Board at Reefton have accepted the tender of the 'Herald' to publish its announcements at the rate of two pence per inch. This has raised the ire of the rival journal, and it thus remarks on the cut throat tactics of its opponent:—"We have no wish to be a party to a modern representation of the Kilkenny cats; we wish on contemporary joy, and implore somebody to build up a big wall between us and the devil, and a bigger one between us and our contemporary, and put broken bottles on the top of it."

A FIRE, unfortunately attended with loss of life, is reported from Nelson. A cottage, in the occupation of a Mrs Wright, at Wakefield, took fire on the 1st instant, and before assistance could be rendered the unfortunate woman was burnt to death.