

province seems to have felt the effects of the storm in a greater or lesser degree, but its effect seems to have been more serious at Greytown than elsewhere. A telegram from that place on Tuesday says:—"The flood covered Greytown again yesterday, Mr O'Meara's house was carried away altogether, but the family and furniture had been previously removed." Miles of fencing have been destroyed near Masterton, and there has been a great loss of cattle and sheep throughout the district. An attempt was made to carry the Wellington mails through Abbot's creek in a trap, but the mails were lost and the driver nearly drowned. On Wednesday the Commissioner of Police received a telegram from Oamaru stating that a man named John Standish had been lost while attempting to cross the Waireka River with a dray and horses.

THE efforts of Mr J. A. Reardon, towards the establishment of a Branch of the Hibernian Society at Napier, have not been allowed to pass without recognition. From the 'Daily Telegraph,' we learn that Mr Reardon had been entertained at a complimentary dinner by the Association, on Thursday, the 24th ult.

On Tuesday evening, the employees of the Telegraph Department entertained Mr F. J. Bunny at a complimentary supper, prior to his removal from Dunedin. Upwards of thirty gentlemen were present; the chair being occupied by Mr Muir, the vice chair being filled by Mr J. Allan. A number of toasts were proposed and responded to, the principle one, however, being "Our Guest," which was drunk with three times three. The chairman expatiated in most eulogistic terms on the sterling qualities and gentlemanly conduct of Mr Bunny, and bore testimony to his business capacity as an officer. Although every one would be pleased at the change of position which caused Mr Bunny's removal to St. Bathans, still it was a matter of regret that it should compel a severance of that friendly connection which had so long existed. Mr Bunny responded in suitable terms, and expressed his proud satisfaction at being able to say that, while he had made troops of friends, he was not conscious of having created a single enemy—at least, there was not a person whom he deemed as such. The entertainment was prepared by Mr John Haydon, of the Star and Garter, and reflected great credit on his ability as a caterer.

ACCORDING to report, the commercial and literary heads of the 'Guardian' are to be pitted against each other in the contest for the seat rendered vacant in the Provincial Council for Mount Ida, by the resignation of Mr Oliver. A third candidate is also announced in the person of Mr Armstrong.

AT THE departure of the June mail, an opinion was prevalent that the vacant See of Cloyne would be offered to Dr. Crooke. A paragraph in the 'Cork Examiner' states that his lordship received, and accepted, the appointment. Although there is every probability of the statement being correct, the clergy of the diocese have not as yet had any intimation to that effect.

UNDER the heading of "A Deserted Infant," the 'Border Watch' has the following significant, but quietly sarcastic rap at the Victorian system of education and its author, the present Mr Justice Stephen. Mr Stephen held the position of Attorney-General and Minister of Education—in which latter capacity he introduced the Bill—but, when a vacancy occurred in the Supreme Court he followed the example of another Law Minister in a neighboring colony, and appointed himself to fill the vacancy. This is how the 'Watch' mildly refers to the circumstance:—"The other day an infant was found in a street in Melbourne rolled up in a copy of the 'Age,' with a paper beside it on which was written, 'The name of this infant is Free Education; be kind to it, for it will not live long.' The police, on seeing the child, recognised it at once, and declared that they had had a good deal of trouble with it already, and expected a good deal more. Its father, they said was a sailor man named Stephen, who had recently deserted from a ship called the Vicaroy."

THE Lakes correspondent of the 'Dunstan Times' thus chronicles the advent of a third legal luminary at Queenstown:—"You might scarcely credit the fact, but a third real live lawyer has settled down to business in Queenstown. Such an event during a most unparalleled season of commercial depression, and when so many people are leaving the district, looks ominous. We must either be in a state of *transitu* from bad to worse, or from worse to better. Perhaps the old fable is about to be realised, that "when something falls to pieces somebody must make something by picking up the bits." The legal gentleman in question is Mr H. J. Finn, brother to Mr Finn, a distinguished Victorian barrister, and well known on Ballarat and Anglewood, and who, in all probability, will shortly be elevated to the Judicial Bench. Mr Finn once contested the Avoca election, in company with the Hon. the Premier of New Zealand. Mr H. J. Finn comes of a very clever family, and there can be but little doubt but that a large share of the legal business of this district will fall to his share. There should exist an opening for a good mining lawyer."

ON arrival of the barque Oneca at Port Chalmers from New York, the second mate was handed over to the custody of the police, on the charge of causing the death of one of the crew during the voyage. It appears that on the 17th ult. one of the seamen, named John Green, was reported to the master as having been lost overboard, but circumstances have since transpired which go to prove that his death was caused by the mate. One of the crew states that while Green was ascending the rigging the mate struck him violently with an iron belaying pin, when uttering a shriek for mercy he loosed his hold, and fell overboard. The prisoner is detained in irons on board the vessel, the ship being under the American flag, and the crime having been committed in neutral waters; but on arrival of Mr Driver, the American Consul, from Wellington, the case will be proceeded with. Meanwhile the Port police keep watch-and-watch over the prisoner. The deceased was a native of the North of Ireland, and thirty-eight years of age.

THE remains of a man in a frightfully decomposed state were found lying on the beach at Observation Point, on Monday, by some fishermen. Indeed in such a mutilated condition was the body that were it not for the clothing, there is but little doubt the limbs would

not have held together. Although evidently in the water for a considerable time, the clothing, which is of good quality, was in a fair state of preservation. It was at first supposed that the body was that of one of the four men drowned by the upsetting of the boat on the 24th of May last, and which has never since been recovered. It has, however, been recognised as the body of James Smith, who deserted from the ship Corona, on the 30th of June, by swimming ashore. Deceased was a native of Liverpool, twenty-four years of age.

ON Sunday, the 20th ult., the new Catholic Chapel, at the Kanieri, completed a few weeks since, was formally opened with High Mass, the Rev. Father Martin being the celebrant. The attendance was large, the edifice being filled to overflowing. Among those present not a few had come from the Blue Spur, and from Hokitika to do honor to the event. The choir who did duty on the occasion was that of St. Mary's, Hokitika, (says the 'Leader'), and the musical portion of the ceremony entrusted to them was rendered with due effect and solemnity. If we might single out one portion of the choir's performance which struck us as particularly sweet and appropriate, it was the duet, "O Jesu mi," sung as an Offertorium, by the Misses Fitzsimmons. The chapel is dedicated to St. Joseph, but its consecration is necessarily deferred until Bishop Redwood, who is expected in a few weeks from England, has arrived. The dimensions of the building, though not large, are quite adequate to meet the requirements of the district; while the taste, appropriateness, and completeness displayed, more especially in the interior of the structure, reflect much credit on the architect, Mr Thomas Cook, of Gibson's Quay, who, if we are rightly informed, gave his services gratuitously. A fine oil painting, of large size, representing the Holy Family, and said to have been presented by Father Martin, appropriately graces the back of the altar of a chapel dedicated to St. Joseph. This new addition to the places of worship on the Kanieri, while supplying a want much needed, testifies to the confidence that is felt in the stability of that district, as well as to the attention to the spiritual requirements of those who reside in it.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

History makes out that the height of the great Napoleon was only five feet two and seven-tenth inches.

A year and a day is a favorite legal expression, and many acts are ruled by it. If a wounded person does not die in this space, the culprit cannot be tried for murder.

The Carlists have ordered one republican prisoner to be shot for every shell fired by the Government fleet of Bilbao.

A member of the Springfield, Massachusetts, School Committee recently said: "Them teachers ought to be examined; they shan't have no vote of mine, unless they be."

It costs the American people five millions of dollars a year to keep their teeth in order. Not over much, considering the hard words and bad cooking that passes between them.

French statistics show that there are cities of fifteen thousand inhabitants in that country without a physician. The same figures also indicate that the per centum of mortality is lightest where there are fewest doctors.

A Washington telegram of late date says that the Bill for the construction of a canal from the lower Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico, free to all nations, has passed the House of Representatives.

A novel watch has been invented by a Swiss watchmaker at Aargau. The motive power is compressed air.

Louis, the youngest son of the Duke de Montpensier, has died at Baudon. He was seven years of age. The Duke has now one son left and three daughters, the eldest of whom is the Comtesse de Paris.

According to American papers, the 29th of June was the hottest day experienced in New York since 1856, and with that exception for fifty years. On that day the thermometer marked in the shade, 102 degrees.

Earl Russell bids fair to be the oldest author we have ever had. He was eighty-two in August, and he is about to publish his "Recollections and Suggestions of Public Life since 1813," the year he became of age and was returned to Parliament for Tavistock.

The Queen sent a wreath of flowers, immortelle, to be placed on the coffin of the Marquis of Dalhousie. It bore the following inscription:—"A tribute of affectionate regard and friendship from Victoria R." Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold also sent wreaths.

There have been convictions in London of persons indicted for selling preserved green peas adulterated with copperas. The green color of the peas was entirely due to the copperas introduced in the process of preserving. These peas are manufactured in France for English consumption.

A suit of pure silver is to be worn by the King of Burmah on his re-coronation.

A statue of Petrarch was unveiled on the 19th of July, being the five hundredth anniversary of his birthday.

Mr and Mrs S. O'Hall, and Mr and Mrs William Howitt, have recently celebrated their golden wedding respectively. Both ladies were married at the age of 19.

At Wadhurst a French bullet, weighing three quarters of an ounce has been successfully extracted from the hand of James Jenner, aged 80, where it was firmly embedded since the battle of Waterloo.

According to the 'Journal des connaissances Medical,' the number of inhabitants on our globe is 1,300,000,000. Of these 33,000,000 die annually, or 90,000 per day, or 60 per minute. The number of births is not much larger than that of the deaths.

Fomentations from boiled gum leaves is now an established cure for sores in horses. It is found that these applications effect a very speedy and sound cure.

Auckland papers report that many stores in course of erection at Kauru have been abandoned in consequence of the intelligence having come to hand of the withdrawal of the mail service.

Fifty rams were recently sold at Adelaide by auction, averaging £42 each, one fetching as high as £177.