

HOGG AND HUTTON'S ADVERTISEMENT.

PORT WINE, 1834 Vintage, 42 years old; per dozen, 110s.

PORT WINE, 1844 Vintage, 32 years old. A bargain. Per dozen, 75s.

BROWN SHERRY, 10 years. Just received. Rare value Per dozen, 75s.

COLONIAL WINES, 30s. to 35s. per dozen.

LORNE WHISKEY (Genuine), 48s. per dozen.

HOGG AND HUTTON, Octagon.

N O T I C E.

PHOTOGRAPHS and lithographic portraits of the Most Rev. the Lord Bishop of Dunedin may now be had on application to the Lady Superior, Dominican Convent, Dowling-street, Dunedin. These pictures are being disposed of to aid in the erection of the new conventual buildings, and orders for them are, therefore, solicited.

P L O U G H I N G.

APPLICATIONS are invited to 20th November, for Ploughing about 3000 Acres of River-Flat Land (in lots to suit applicants), on the Wantwood Estate.

Horse-feed, farrier work, and stores supplied on the ground.

Further information on the station.

P. K. MCCAUGHAN.

N O T I C E.

WE beg to remind our Subscribers that the continued success of the NEW ZEALAND TABLET depends on the punctuality with which their subscriptions are forwarded to this office. Money Orders may be made payable to Mr. JOHN F. FERRIN, Manager, New ZEALAND TABLET Office, Dunedin.

THE following SUMS have been received as Subscriptions to the TABLET for the week ending November 16, 1876:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. D. Lundon, Greymouth, to December 3, 1876	...	1	5 0
„ Lorrigan, Napier, to December 5, 1876	...	1	15 0
„ P. Barry, Dunedin, to October 3, 1876	...	1	5 0
„ McNamara, Dunedin, to May 1, 1876	...	1	5 0
„ M. Burke, Halkiton, to September 18, 1877	...	1	0 0
„ Poff, Makikihi, to April, 10, 1876	...	1	5 0
„ T. Minogue, Hutt, September 13, 1876	...	0	12 6
„ J. Healy, Arrow, to May 8, 1877	...	0	12 6
Rev. Father Moreau, Arrow, to December 27, 1876	...	1	5 0
„ „ O'Reilly, Auckland, March 13, 1877	...	1	5 0

New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1876.

S E P A R A T I O N.

It seems somewhat late on our part now to make any comments on the Convention held last week in Dunedin, but as we were unavoidably obliged by the occurrence of the Prince of Wales' Birthday to omit all mention of the Assembly alluded to up to the present, we feel it incumbent upon us, notwithstanding our appearing to be somewhat tardy in doing so, to offer a few remarks touching the matter. It is not necessary that we should be very diffuse upon the subject; our opinions respecting Abolition have already been plainly and very fully stated. In the columns of this journal appeared some of the earliest objections that were made to the proposed changes, and we combatted them to the last, believing with Mr. MACANDREW that it would be impossible for any Parliament so grossly to despise the wishes of the people as they have been despised by the Parliament at Wellington.

The changes deprecated have, however, taken place—or rather it is assumed that they have done so, for it seems that there are still some doubts as to the legality of the steps referred to—but it by no means follows that they are to be tamely submitted to, or that the people of Otago are quietly to look on while their interests are being made a prey of by men who have given a sure earnest of their capabilities in the disgraceful *coup d'état* they have so recklessly identified themselves with. It is extremely improbable that this Province may expect anything like fair legislation from the Assembly at Wellington at any time. One dreary session like the last may follow another *ad infinitum*, and no better results so far

as Otago is concerned be obtained than were yielded by that which has just terminated, so that the question naturally arises of what is to be done; and in reply Mr. MACANDREW states that it will be necessary to erect the Province into an independent Colony.

Now this is the opinion not of a mere wily politician, whose object it is to make everything subservient to his own interests; for, although the Superintendent defends himself from such a charge, it is evident that so grave and false an accusation could not be brought against him by any but the most shallow-pated, or those so thoroughly steeped themselves in dishonesty that it would be impossible for them to conceive of any man's acting from patriotic or disinterested motives. The opinion, then, thus given is that of a man who is eminently trustworthy, who is acting as his conscience directs him, and whose convictions are founded on a perfect knowledge of the matter with which he deals, gained by years of intimate acquaintance with the population, the needs and capabilities of Otago; and accordingly the sentiments expressed by him should exercise due weight with all.

But even apart from the fact that the proposition comes from Mr. MACANDREW, we do not see anything startling in the idea of separation; it is nothing new or unheard-of in this hemisphere. The Australian colonies, as was pointed out by the Superintendent, were far less qualified to stand alone when they separated from New South Wales, than is Otago at present, and yet they ascribe their progress and prosperity to their independence. We do not, however, say that we believe such a step would be under any circumstances the best that could be taken for this province. No doubt a better measure might have been decided on were things differently situated from what they now are; but to affirm that because a better might be imagined, though not obtained, we were therefore to be debarred from seizing the best we could lay our hands upon, would be anything but logical or prudent.

The conclusion, therefore, that we arrive at is that the proposal of Mr. MACANDREW is just and most worthy of being entertained, and that all that now remains is to see it carried into effect as speedily and effectually as possible. Great interests are at stake, and it is desirable that their safety should be secured with vigor and determination.

C L E V E R T A C T I C S.

It appears to us a most pregnant fact that the tactics of the various parties opposed to Catholicism in any part of the world are one and the same, so much so, indeed, that instead of naming them various parties as we have done, we should be fully justified in affirming them to form but a single body, united by an identity of guiding principles and a common end. A like spirit animates the staid adherents of puritanism, and the wild maniacs of the commune, and the polished Anglican goes hand in hand with the rough schismatic who inhabits the districts that lie on the verge of European civilization. All these in their different spheres are the enemies of the Church, and all have hit upon a plan eminently calculated, if it may but be carried out successfully, to rob of her children the Mother of Saints.

Scarcely had the ages of violent persecution and a propaganda acting by force come to an end in Ireland, when many so-called religious societies began to spread their emissaries throughout the land with the forlorn hope of sapping the faith of a nation, that centuries of suffering had not been able to overcome. Some of these people were actuated by foolishness only: others combined with this the more reprehensible motive of self-interest; and amongst them were found numbers of all the ranks of society, from the "Scripture reader" whose qualifications embraced only a limited ability to spell out with difficulty the corrupted text of the sacred volume, he was engaged further to mangle, to the Right Rev. Prelate, who added to the dignities of the bench of Bishops the privileges of a British Peer. Wonderful was the waste of money, time, and labor, and alike deplorable and ridiculous the results obtained. Here and there some wretched creature was induced, in fear, and trembling, to make a pretended renunciation of the creed of his fathers in order that he might partake of the "flesh-pots of Egypt," whose tempting vapors proved too strong for his empty stomach; but proselytes, properly so called, there were none. And no man, more plainly than the staff of heretical preachers themselves, came at length to realize the futility of their efforts, so far as the adult population was concerned. It remained then alone for them to direct their attention to the young, and for this pur-