

ing last. There was a very fair attendance of the members, and several new ones were elected. A full attendance is requested for next meeting, on account of special business that is to be transacted.

It is much to be regretted that the state of the atmosphere yesterday was not more favorable to the observation of the expected transit of Vulcan by Messrs Ross and Skey. The well-known ability of these gentlemen led us to hope for the happiest results.

In the case of Pearson *versus* the City Corporation, judgment has been given in favor of the plaintiff. This verdict, no doubt, will be hailed with satisfaction by all those who followed the course of the inquiry, especially if they happen to be interested in the welfare of children. We fear, however, that the Corporation of Dunedin is not likely to gain in reputation for humanity wherever the report of the case is perused. If it be found necessary for the preservation of the public health that Bumbledom be intruded into the homes of citizens, we, for our part, would prefer that some shorter measure should be introduced, by which, at least, *euthanasia* might be promoted. At all events, the community at large owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Pearson, whether they acknowledge it or not. We rejoice in the purposed abolishment of the Fever Hospital, because we believe it to have been the occasion of more harm than good.

COMMERCIAL.

MR. HENRY DRIVER (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company) reports for the week ending March 21, as follows:—

Fat Cattle.—150 head were yarded at the market to-day, about one-half being of good to prime quality, the remainder only medium. Best pens of bullocks brought from £13 10s to £15; do cows, from £7 10s to £11, or equal to about 27s 6d to 30s per 100lbs for prime descriptions.

Fat Calves.—20 were penned, which sold readily at from 25s to 55s each.

Fat Sheep.—3000 of all descriptions came forward. Prices may be quoted at about the same as last week. Cross-breeds brought from 8s 3d to 11s 6d, and a few very prime pens 12s 9d; merinos from 6s to 8s 9d—or 2½d for former, and 2d for latter.

Fat Lambs.—200 were penned, and found buyers at 5s 6d to 9s.

Store Cattle.—There is still a fair demand, but a very few lots have changed hands.

Store Sheep.—A good inquiry continues for young sheep, with few offering. We have sold 4000 of all descriptions during the week, at the following rates:—Merino wethers, two, four, and six-tooth, 5s 6d; do full-mouthed, 3s; merino ewes, two, four, and six tooth, 6s 6d to 7s; do full-mouthed, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; cross-breeds, four-tooth and over, 7s to 7s 6d; do, two-tooth, 6s to 6s 6d.

County Sales.—On Tuesday, 20th inst., we held a large clearing sale of stock, &c., at Mr. F. Roberts' Kuriwao estate, Clinton. There was a large attendance of buyers and almost every lot offered was sold at satisfactory prices. Cattle brought from £4 10s to £10; sheep, up to 8s; horses from £15 to £50.

Sheepskins were in good demand at previous rates. Full-wool merinos, 4s 9d; shearings, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; pelts, 10d; lambs, 1s 2d to 2s 2d; station skins, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

Hides.—We sold 150, principally light and inferior, at 6s to 12s 9d; medium, 13s 9d to 15s 9d; heavy good condition, 21s 6d—equal to 4d per lb.

Tallow.—Fair to good brought 28s 6d; no shipping lots offered.

Grain.—Wheat: Millers are buying cautiously, supplies being more than immediate wants. The price has declined fully 3d for the choicest milling 5s 3d being the highest price paid; 4s 9d to 5s for fair to good sound wheat; inferior, nominal. Oats are inquired for, but not many offering; 2s 4d for good new feed; 2s 7d to 2s 9d for fine old samples. Barley: A good fair quantity of malting has been sold during the week, principally of last season's growth, which, if fine, is preferred to the new. Fine samples, 4s 9d to 5s; medium, 4s to 4s 6d; milling, 2s 9d to 3s.

MR. SKENE reports for the week ending March 21, 1877:—The demand for workpeople is quiet but healthy, and all useful steady people can get work, more especially if suited for country employment. There will be new life in all departments immediately after the race holidays. Hotel people are in large request; so are females in every line. Couples are very much sought for, but, if possible, without children. Fortunately, a great many settlers have built cottages for people with families, and so solve the difficulty, to the benefit of all concerned. Carpenters are busy. The iron trade is still very slack. Tailors are a little brisker, but not so busy as usual for the season. Storemen, clerks, and town-bred men without trades, are worst off. Wages—Countr. 15s to £80; ploughmen, £52 to £60; shepherds, £60; dairymen, £65, 20s, and 25s; boys, 10s to 15s; carpenters, 10s, 12s, and 13s; house girls, 10s, 12s, and 15s; hotel girls, 12s, 15s, and up to 30s; bushmen, 8s and 9s; ordinary labor, 7s, 8s, and 9s; waiters, barmen, cooks, groom, &c., 25s to 50s; storemen and clerks, 30s, 50s, and 60s; miners, 9s and 10s; cooks and bakers for stations, £55 to £60.

MR. A. MERCER reports as follows for the week ending March 21, 1877, retail prices only:—Fresh butter, in ½ and 1lb points, 1s 3d to 1s 5d; fresh butter, in lumps, 1s 2d; powdered and salt butter, 1s 2d; fresh butter is still very plentiful, and several of the shops are salting down. Salt butter, in kegs, 1s 1d per lb; cheese of the best quality, 1s; English and American cheese, 1s 4d; s'd and rolled bacon, 10d to 11d; C Ionial hams, 1s 2d; English hams, 1s 6d; eggs, although not very plentiful, are retailing at 1s 9d per dozen.

MR. M. C. FLEMING reports (wholesale prices) for the week ending March 21, 1877, as follows:—Oats (feed), per bushel, 2s 3d; milling, 2s 6d. Wheat (chicks), 3s 6d to 4s. Barley, malting, 4s to 4s 6d; feed, 2s 6d to 3s. Pollard, scarce. Bran, 2s 5s, bags included. Flour, large bags, £15; small, £15 10s. Oatmeal, £12. Potatoes, new, 4s per cwt. Hay, new, £3 15s; old hay, £4 per ton. Chaff, £4 10s per ton. Straw, £2 per ton.

MR. J. VEZEY reports for the week ending March 21, 1877, retail:—Roast beef, 6d to 8d per lb; boiling do., 4d to 5d per lb; stewing do., 4d to 6d per lb; steak, 6d to 9d per lb; mutton, 3d to 6d per lb; veal, 4d to 8d per lb; pork, 6d to 8d per lb; lamb, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per quarter.

THE BULGARIAN ATROCITIES OUTDONE IN SCOTLAND.

If we look to the astounding baseness no less than the cold-blooded, heartless barbarity of the "massacre of Glencoe," it must be admitted that some of Mr. Macandrew's countrymen have been a shade worse than even Turkish miscreants of the worst type. True, a period of some 180 years has elapsed since that base, brutal, and bloody deed, under William III. of blessed memory, took place. But no length of time can ever remove those feelings of horror, pity, and indignation with which the massacre of Glencoe must be associated. It has stamped on the character of the Orange usurper, who ordered "the military execution" of Macdonald and his clan, a mark of eternal infamy. The baseness of Lord Stair, Captain Campbell, and Lieutenant Lindsay, shown by the part they took in it, is such as base Scotchmen only could be guilty of, for when a Scotchman is bad he is bad indeed—*Corruptio optima pessima*. The history of the Scotch "Reformation," so-called, abounds with proofs of this.

The following account of the massacre of Macdonald and his clan by Christian [Bashi-Bazouks is from the 'Encyclopedia Britannica':—"The warrant (for the military execution of the Macdonalds) was signed and counter-signed by the King's own hand. The Secretary, Lord Stair, urged the officers who commanded in the Highlands to execute their orders with the utmost rigor. Captain Campbell, being uncle to young Macdonald's wife, was received by the father with all manner of friendship and hospitality. Till the first of the month the troops lived in the utmost harmony with the people, and on the very night of the massacre the officers passed the evening at cards in Macdonald's house. In the night, Lieutenant Lindsay with a party of soldiers called in a friendly manner at Macdonald's door, and was instantly admitted. Macdonald, while rising to receive his guest, was shot dead through the back with two bullets. His wife had already dressed, but *she was stripped naked by the soldiers, who tore the rings off her fingers with their teeth*. The slaughter now became general; neither age nor infirmity was spared."

I need not go on with the description of the horrors of the scene. They are too revolting and degrading to human nature, and too closely resemble the recent Bulgarian atrocities to require me to do so. The next time Mr. Macandrew or any of the Scotch humanitarians in Dunedin make a speech about Bulgarian atrocities, it is to be hoped they will not speak of them as "unparalleled," but think of the massacre of Glencoe and Cromwell's butcheries in Ireland.

Cromwell and William of Orange were celebrated men, and possessed of great talents. They did some commendable acts from questionable or evil motives, and greatly added to the fame and material prosperity of England. Great in a proper sense of the word they cannot be called. They were bold, bad men. They were traitors and tyrants, or usurpers and the leaders of traitors and fanatics. They converted the chivalrous army of England into a band of sanguinary and sordid executioners. They sanctified the un-Christian principle of revolt against authority like their great predecessor, Lucifer, and thereby paved the way for endless wars. Yet the good Macandrew, and such as he regard the two characters with feelings of admiration a little "on this side idolatry." We judge of men's principles by the company they frequent, or the characters they admire.

Judge Mr. Macandrew and his adherents by this standard, and it is not much the Catholics of Otago have to expect from their sense of justice or liberality. But happily all Protestants are not alike, and some, perhaps a majority of them, now repudiate in their hearts those principles which Cromwell and William of Orange shed so much blood to uphold. It is high time they did.

Trace to their source those wars which have deluged England and the continent of Europe with blood for the past three centuries, and you will find they spring from that "sacred right of insurrection," which "reformers," falsely so-called, teach so constantly. The subjects of the Sultan are now putting that right into practice, and England may suffer by their doing so. She taught them the fatal lesson. True Catholics alone can reconcile obedience, with a zeal for liberty and political progress. Moral and not brute force is their grand weapon.

England and Russia, the leaders of the two great "revolted" churches in modern Christendom, cannot well hope to promote permanent peace in the world, because without obedience no peace can exist; obedience enforced not by pike and gun, but by a spiritual authority. Until a Catholic spirit enter into the Governments of England and Russia, and the other leading governments of Europe; until they submit obediently to the spiritual authority of the Vicar of Christ, no permanent peace can be expected to arise out of the present Eastern policy, but rather further and more bitter animosities, leading to other wars sooner or later.

Auckland.

OBSERVER.

THE constant cures which we hear of as being effected in cases of severe Rheumatism and Gout, since the introduction of Ghollah's great Indian Cures into New Zealand, lead us to believe that the Proprietor must be realising a large sale for these medicines. Judging from the testimonials which we have seen, and which appear to have come from all parts of New Zealand, their curative properties seem to be extraordinary.