

the Victoria, £330; and the London and Liverpool about £1,000.

About £13,000 has been subscribed towards the Indian Famine Fund, in which the Marquis has assisted. The Government will frank all remittances sent by cable.

WELLINGTON, THURSDAY.

The new Government land bill is not yet published, but it is said that it enacts that all Crown lands must be submitted to auction at certain upset prices.

Mr. Larnach, the Treasurer, is better. It is stated that despatches from the Secretary of State confer the title of Honorable on ex-Judges Chapman and Gresson.

FINANCES OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

ADELAIDE, TUESDAY.

Mr. Boncut, in introducing supplementary estimates to the amount of £162,988, made an able speech of two hours' duration on the finances of the country. He said the credit balance of Mr. Ross, his predecessor, was £31,000, but with the supplementary estimates for £192,000 and £112,000, for which the late Government were responsible, he found a deficiency staring him in the face of £150,000. In proceeding to examine the supplementary estimates, he made the disclosure that his predecessors had expended moneys far in excess of the sum they had set down; that they had made no provision for railway surveys which they knew would have to be made; that they had not provided for a £4,000 indent for stationary ordered in August; and that they had struck out an amount for land survey parties, without calling in the parties. Turning to ways and means, he said that, looking at the harvest, which he thought would average 10 bushels per acre, he expected £10,000 increase from customs and slight increases from railways and other sources, but a deficiency of £40,000 on the land sales. This would leave him with a debit balance of £168,365, and he proposed to meet this by following the lead of Mr. Ross, and absorbing the unexpended balances.

On the motion of Mr. Ross the debate was adjourned till Thursday.

SOUTH SEA ISLAND OUTRAGES.

SYDNEY, TUESDAY.

A letter from the Rev. Thomas Neilson, resident missionary at Tanna, to the Presbyterian mission to the heathen, gives a further account of the execution of a Tanna youth for complicity in the murder of a man named Easterbrook, at Sulphur Island. Easterbrook was shot, apparently, by a native named Tabungo for interference with his wife. Lieutenant Caffin, of H.M.S. Beagle, seized and held a number of natives as hostages pending the capture of the murderer. Eight natives were killed trying to capture Tabungo, but he escaped. His younger brother, who took part in the outrage, was seized, and after a full inquiry was hanged at the yardarm of the Beagle. At the suggestion of Mr. Neilson, Lieutenant Caffin desisted from further attempts to take the murderer, considering the probability of the natives punishing the culprit themselves.

THE MURRAY, MURRUMBIDGEE, OVENS, AND GOULBURN RIVERS.

Nov. 30.				
	Bar.	Ther.	Above Normal.	Wind and Weather.
S.A.M.				
Beechworth	23.15	70	-	Calm; clear, very fine.
Ben's ls.				N.E.; light; clear.
Brewarrina	22.40	68	5 8	N.E.; fine.
Castlemaine	22.44	70	7 2	Calm; fine.
Cockburn				N.W.; fine, warm.
Geelong	22.50	70	3 0	Calm; fine.
Mildura				Fine, hot.
Murrumbidgee				Fine.
Wagga	22.52	73	1 6	Calm; fine.
Albury				Calm; fine.
Moama				Calm; fine.
Moulamein				Calm; fine.
Swan Hill				Calm; fine.
Balmuccia				Calm; fine.
Hay				Calm; fine.
Denilquin	22.700	74.1		Calm; fine.
Wagga			2 0	Calm; fine, warm.
5.40 P.M.				
Wagga			2 0	Very hot, stormy.
6 P.M.				
Albury				Calm; fine, cloudy.
Euston				S.W.
Gundagai			2 0	N.W.; cloudy.

* Very low † Low ‡ Summer level § Slightly falling ¶ Stationary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PICTURE DISTRIBUTION ADVERTISEMENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AUSTRALASIAN.

Sir,—Seeing the following advertisement in your issue of October 6—"Given away for three shillings, to pay cost of packing, transmission, &c., a case containing three samples of mezz-tint oleographs, equal, if not superior, to the finest oil paintings, and value for £2."—I regret that I was induced, like many others in this neighbourhood, to send the required three shillings, with an humble apology for having to send the National Art Co. of Melbourne, New South Wales postage stamps instead of the required post-office order. Sir, in return I received, not the elegant and sumptuous works of art advertised, but three miserable arrangements, seven by five inches, that would puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer to find a name for. One was supposed to represent a rose blooming in a dilapidated stable bucket, the second was a rose and lily cut short at the stalk, the third was a hybrid between a Maltese cross and Chinese puzzle, which seemed to have got entangled with a strip of printed calico. As a work of art, they are not equal to the coloured labels on a tobacco case. They were not packed in a case or box, but merely covered with some wrapping paper, and tied with a string, and they are not commercial value for sixpence, including the price of transmission, which is twopenny. I sincerely regret that distance prevents me from placing the matter in the hands of the police. But trusting the above will prevent others from being gulled by the numerous premium gifts whose advertisements are now flooding the up-country papers, and apologising for trespassing on your valuable space.—I am, &c., A VICTIMISED BUSSMAN, Walarungy, November 10.

GENERAL NEWS.

ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.

(BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.)

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ALBANY, VIA EUCLA, WEDNESDAY.

The R.M.S. Siam arrived at half-past 6 last night, and sailed at half-past 4 to-day. She left Galie on the 16th inst.

Passengers for Albany—Messrs. W. D. Moore, J. G. Thompson, and Compton.

For Adelaide—Mr. Welby and Dr. Grosgean, J. Williams, Mrs. Parsons and child.

For Melbourne—Miss Osham and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Alderson and infant, Miss Taylor, Sergeant Browning, Corporal Riley, and family, Corporal Hiffrom and family, Lady Murphy and three daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton, Mr. and Mrs. Bray, Miss Fexton, Miss Hellocks, Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild, Mr. and Mrs. Cox, Mr. J. Salmon, Messrs. Balfour, Leonard, Mayrick, Heaton, Newton, Carr, Cox, Mee, Parnsey, Hammond, Jines, Power, Lindsey, Poole, Murphy, Boys, Horwood, Rolland, J. Clarke and servant, Bray, Anderson, Hyslop, J. Clarke, F. and W. Clarke and servant.

For Sydney—Miss Montegretti, Mr. and Mrs. Hosborne, Mr. and Mrs. Meeson, Mr. and Mrs. Seavern, infant and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Lake, Messrs. Danlin, Datis, Marin, Hay, Abbott, Hurricks, Lombs, and Stubbs.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

THE WAR IN THE EAST.

LONDON, Oct. 26.

General Todleben undertook the direction of the siege operations before Plevna on 1st October, as chief of the staff of Prince Charles. The bombardment commenced on the 7th, and was renewed on the 23rd inst., when shells fell into the interior of the town.

Although the allies have 110,000 men before Plevna, and 640 cannon, General Gourko is securing the country to the westward with 10,000 cavalry.

Several convoys have entered Plevna from Sophia, the road between the two places being kept open by Cheketa Pasha, who has also erected several redoubts commanding the route.

The Russians report that General Gourko captured Dubnik, near Plevna, on the 24th, with several guns, 3,500 prisoners, and had entrenched himself.

The Russian Imperial Guard is arriving, but the greater part has been sent to Plevna and the remainder to the Jantra.

There are contradictory accounts as to the condition of Plevna. The Russians allege that the Turks are in a disastrous state, and that Osman's forces are short of provisions, ammunition, and clothing. The correspondents of the Standard and Daily Telegraph, who visited Plevna, assert that the garrison is amply supplied. Hussein Pasha, with 30 battalions of Bashi-Bazouks, has been ordered to advance to Plevna.

Reouf Pasha resumed the command at Schipka on 1st October. There is much rain and snow in the Balkans, impeding operations. Occasionally there is a cannonade and heavy firing. On the 24th one Russian battery was silenced and an ammunition store blown up. Mehmet Ali, finding the Russians reinforced and that they looked strongly posted near Biela, withdrew quietly at midnight on the 25th September from his advanced positions on the Banak Lom, retreating to the railway line between Kastchuk and Rasgrad.

Suleiman Pasha succeeded Mehmet Ali on 1st October, and it was expected that he would assume the offensive, but he is concentrating his army with the view of enabling him to repel any attack of the Czar's witch or General Zimmerman, whose forces have approached Silistria, and Suleiman is leaving Kastchuk and Silistria to their own resources to withstand attack.

The Egyptian troops remain inactive, and they have been sent to garrison Varna, to be replaced by troops from thence.

There has been but little fighting during the month. On the Montenegrin frontier the Turks are about to assume the offensive with a large force, of which Mehmet Ali is reputed to have the command.

Ismael Pasha struck his camp in the Russian territory on receiving the news of Mukhtar Pasha's defeat on October 15. He retreated, and was followed by General Tergu sakhoff, with whom he had several engagements, keeping the Russians off Zedikan, which he reached on the 23rd, and where he expected to effect a junction with Mukhtar Pasha. The latter passed through Kara, and is now strongly posted in an entrenched camp at Zwin. His army was weakened before the battle on the 15th, by sending his best troops to Europe, to be replaced by Corso and Kurds; the latter were seized by panic. The Turkish loss was exaggerated by the Russians.

Rachid Pasha rallied at Hayyoman; his right wing was reported to have been captured. He has entrenched himself, and will rejoin Mukhtar Pasha.

The Russians are again bombarding Kara, and attacked Fort Zabolmay on the 19th, but were repulsed. Mukhtar Pasha advanced to Soghandagh, and had frequent encounters, but the snow is interfering with the movements.

The Turks have completely withdrawn from the Circassian coast, and all Circassians who desired to be removed have been shipped to Trebizond.

Russian papers complain of the incapacity

THE YEOMAN.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTES TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Correspondents will greatly oblige us by observing the rule requiring the real name and address of the writer to accompany each letter. Non-compliance with this rule, even on the part of known correspondents, occasions a great amount of trouble, and often delays the publication of their letters.

"D. O. W."—It is evident that the managers of the affair did not understand the duties of their position. Growers will not send valuable exhibits to be made away with. In the absence of a printed copy of the regulations, we can form no opinion upon the question of responsibility, but it will, perhaps, be better to put up with the first loss than to embark in legal proceedings.

"Caps."—The old method of introducing a feather dipped in turpentine as an effectual cure for gapes in chickens, but camphor pills appear safer, and, if the following be true, equally useful:—"We have learned to just at gapes by making free use of camphor. We give to a chicken in a very bad state a pill the size of a small garden pea. As soon as we see symptoms of gapes we give the bird water to drink which is strongly impregnated with camphor, thus giving to the chickens that which was a favourite medicine with our great grandmothers, 'camphor juice.' The treatment seems to explain itself. The gapes or 'gaping' is caused by the presence of small red worms in the windpipe. No medicine can reach them unless it does so by vapour. An hour after the chicken has swallowed the pill it smelt of camphor. Camphor is a very strong remedy, and the worms die."

"Breaker" (Diby).—Do you refer to medical treatment, or to general management?

"A Subscriber" (Rupanyup) asks "How much weight will a stack of new sheafed wheat hay lose in a month?" That will depend upon its condition when put together, the size of the stack, and the character of the weather in the interval.

"Professor Bradshaw."—You are, of course, aware that Smilax Glycyphylla differs from Smilax Sarsaparilla, the source of the true sarsaparilla.

"Buffalo."—The water would hold no grease in suspension; it could easily, therefore, be poured off the grease when cold, but it would be likely to contain in uncertain quantity salt, which might not suit delicate plants. To vegetables and fruit trees the water would probably do no harm.

"Riverina."—Multiply the top length by the bottom width, and the top width by the bottom length, and to their sum add twice the top area, and twice the bottom. Multiply the whole by the depth, and divide by 8.

"Denis Donohoe" (Hay).—The quantity of excavation involved in the formation of your tank was 2,084 cube yards.

"W. H. A." (Denilquin).—The quantity of excavation involved in the formation of your tanks was as follows:—No. 1, 2,704 cube yards; No. 2, 2,514 cube yards; No. 3, 2,584 cube yards; and No. 4, 2,150 cube yards.

LAND SALES.

Crown land sales in fee-simple will be held at the undermentioned places and dates, namely:—

	No. of "Gazette" of 1877.
Avoca—Friday, December 29	116
Bairnsdale—Tuesday, December 11	111
Ballarat—Friday, December 28	115
Beechworth—Monday, December 3	109
Castlemaine—Friday, December 7	109
Crowlick—Wednesday, December 19	114
Daylesford—Friday, December 21	109
Funcky—Thursday, December 20	111
Echuca—Monday, December 17	114
Geelong—Tuesday, December 18	114
Heathcote—Tuesday, December 11	111
Horsesham—Tuesday, December 4	109
Melbourne—Tuesday, December 11	111
Melbourne—Friday, December 28	115
Rocheater—Tuesday, December 11	111
Sandhurst—Thursday, December 27	116
Seymour—Thursday, December 29	114
Smythesdale—Tuesday, December 11	111
St. Arnaud—Tuesday, December 4	109
St. Arnaud—Tuesday, December 11	111
Wagarratta—Friday, December 28	116
Warranbool—Friday, December 28	116
Weddern—Friday, December 28	116

FORTHCOMING AGRICULTURAL SHOWS.

The secretaries of the various Agricultural Societies are requested to forward to the Editor of the Yeoman a list of the dates upon which their respective exhibitions will be held, and copies of the prize schedules as soon as published.

Dec. 13.—Kilmore Agricultural Society.

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Feb. 2.—Corowa Pastoral and Agricultural Society.

March 4.—Mount Alexander and Upper Loddon Society, at Castlemaine.

March 7.—Bacchus Marsh, Ballan, & Co. Society, at Myrion.

March 15.—West Bourke Society, at Lane's-field-road station.

March 20.—Glenlyon, Franklin, and Daylesford.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE OORN TRADE.

The market for breadstuffs, as far as prices are concerned, has not exhibited any noteworthy change. From Saturday forward quotations for flour have ranged from £11 15s. to £11 12s. 6d., and on Tuesday £11 10s. was accepted at auction for a parcel. To-day, at auction, £11 10s. was offered and refused. Privately, however, that figure is quoted for large lines, and £11 12s. 6d. to £11 15s. for smaller ones. 250 tons were sold to-day in one line, and 50 tons in smaller parcels. We learn also that 500 tons flour are going home to England by the Thomas Stephens. Wheat has been very firm at 5s. 7d. A sample of new wheat has been shown us, which was sold at Sandhurst last week at 4s. 9½d., to be delivered on Monday. The wheat, though hard, dry, and fit for milling, is small in the grain or yet not perfectly developed, and it can scarcely be looked upon as a fair criterion of this season's produce. We allude to the circumstance, however, more on account of the novelty of so early an appearance of new wheat in the market than to give any opinion as to the quality of this year's crop. To-day at auction 5s. 7d. was realised, and privately 300 bags and 300 bags were sold at same price, while up to 5s. 8d. was asked for other parcels. For a fair sample of new 5s. 7d. was asked, but 3d. under that figure was offered. Up to Tuesday oats realised firm at 4s. 8d. for good feeding to 4s. 10d. for prime milling, but on that day a decidedly easier feeling was shown. At auction, Tasmanian were sold as low as 4s. 3d. The sudden reaction can only be accounted for by the unexpected arrival from New Zealand and Tasmania of some large parcels. To-day oats have been very slow. Sales of feeding have been made at 4s. 2½d. to 4s. 3d., whilst milling are quoted at 4s. 5d. to 4s. 6d. Advice from Christchurch have been received to 19th November. Crop prospects are reported as very poor. Oats and barley are suffering very much for want of rain. There was more activity in the market. A good local inquiry was experienced for oats at up to 3s. 6d. Wheat was quoted at 5s. 6d. Maine has been sold at 6s., but Sydney instructions prohibit sales being made even at that price. Feeding barley realised to-

ENGLISH NEWS.

German workmen have been imported into Wolverhampton to supply the places of the men now on strike.

The Thames has overflowed its banks at Battersea, Vauxhall, and Lambeth, causing great destruction of property.

Obituary.—Earl of Gormans, Captain H. Creed, Major Rutherford, and Lady Pollen.

PERFECTIO.—MRS. S. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR RESTORER. NEVER FAILS TO RESTORE GRAY HAIR TO ITS YOUTHFUL COLOUR, IMPROVING THE NEW HAIR, GROWTH, AND OBTAINING BEAUTY. Its action is speedy and thorough, quickly banishing greyness, and value is above all others. A singular proof. It is not a dye. It never proves itself the nature of a hair restorer of the hair. (The genuine only in ink wrappers.) Sold wholesale by F. W. G. Gorman, and Co., Melbourne, and retail of all chemists and druggists throughout the colonies.—(ADVT.)

IRRIGATION.

Whenever a drought occurs in Australia the subject of water supply naturally occupies in men's minds a prominent position. Residents in country districts take an especial interest in mechanical appliances for raising water, and become favourably disposed towards irrigation schemes generally. Their great want, indeed, leads them to assent formally and almost without question to any scheme for providing water which is plausibly put before them. At the late National Show at Melbourne, the various mechanical inventions for raising water excited a larger measure of interest than any other description of mechanism, for though grain-growers crowded around the self-binding reaper, all classes of country visitors anxiously inquired into the merits of pulcometers, Turbine, Victoria, and Empire windmills, aboriginal and centrifugal pumps, hydraulic rams, and water-lifters. On no previous occasion was the public want of water so fully recognised by mechanics, or the efforts of the latter to meet that want so gratefully appreciated. And yet comparatively few of the inquirers after means of raising water had in view anything more than to obtain supplies for their stock and for domestic use. It was not that they were indifferent to irrigation, but that Australian experience had not led them to regard such methods of obtaining water as likely to afford the large supplies which irrigation would demand. Whether they have concluded rightly or not will probably be solved at no distant date. Irrigation operations, as we learn from the Express, are now being carried on at Mr. Jeremiah Ryan's farm, Bacchus Marsh, where Mr. G. Wood is, by means of his portable threshing engine and a centrifugal pump, throwing "a large stream" from the Lederberg over Mr. Ryan's pasture land. Mr. Wood, it is said, proposes to give farmers possessing creek frontages the opportunity of irrigating their lands by such means, and in order to arrive at an understanding with such landowners, he has proposed to meet and discuss with them the bearings of the matter. The issue of the Express in which appears the record of this spirited and self-supporting movement contains also an editorial calling upon the Government, or rather upon Mr. Berry, to exercise his professional good intentions to the country districts "at once, and largely, in providing them with water supply for irrigation and other purposes," and submitting the special claims of Bacchus Marsh to be the point of commencement:—"Every little incident of history connected with the place, past, present, and future, points to the desirability and even simple justice of carrying out in Bacchus Marsh the first scheme of irrigation undertaken by the Government of Victoria." No explanation being given as to the nature of the incidents referred to, the force of the above quotation cannot be estimated. Irrigation has long been a favourite theme at the Marsh. The locality enjoys a never-failing supply of water, and thus possesses the first essential to the success of a scheme having irrigation for its object. On the other hand, there are a great many places which, as yet, have no permanent supply of water for domestic uses or for stock, and which, therefore, may, with greater show of justice, prefer claims for Government help. The country has not yet recognised as one of the duties of the Government the task of providing water for irrigation. The matter is not one to be lightly undertaken. Although, as our contemporary states, the future prosperity of the colony will very largely depend "upon the success of means to combat the ill effects of the droughts which so frequently prevail," it does not follow that the expenditure of a certain sum of Government money in the Bacchus Marsh district, upon works for irrigation purposes, would go far towards solving the general question, how droughts are to be combated. Were every district as well furnished with water as the Marsh, it would probably be quite safe to commence there and pursue the work of constructing similar works in every other district in succession. Unfortunately the question of irrigation cannot be settled in any such manner. The conditions differ widely in the several districts, so that no one plan would be of service. It is not regarding the power of irrigation to produce supplies of green feed during a drought that information is needed, all that has been determined ago in countries embracing a wide variation of climate. Irrigation is employed in Britain to grow grasses in cold weather; the first spring crop is fit for use in March and April. It is employed, on the contrary, to grow rice in the tropics, and crops generally throughout India, China, and other portions of Asia; while in Europe, Lombardy has become famous for the excellence of its irrigation system. But in every instance an abundant and perennial supply of water has been available; in this colony, on the contrary, there are large districts devoid of water, and the question to be considered is, How are the districts to be supplied with water which most badly need it, and through or near which run no permanent streams? The example of Mr. Wood, in showing what personal enterprise can do, is deserving of substantial recognition, and if it should lead to the general adoption of irrigation in the district, the result will be permanently more beneficial to the residents than any expenditure of state money on works for similar purposes.

SEASONABLE HINTS FOR THE FARM.

It should hardly be necessary to suggest to country residents the expediency of safely securing the results of the season's labours. Just after the last harvest we had to record the loss by fire of several homesteads and stacks adjacent thereto, whose owners had adopted no precautions to prevent the spread of bush fires to their stacks, and had

THE TORRES STRAITS MAIL.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

SYDNEY, THURSDAY.

The steamer Bowen, with the Torres Straits mails, arrived at Goktown yesterday. Her dates are—Hong Kong, November 9; Singapore, 15; Somerset 20.

THE RUSSO-TURKISH WAR.

Much sickness, owing to the increasing scarcity of supplies is reported as existing in the Russian camp.

General Todleben has resolved to make a vigorous attempt to capture Plevna before the winter sets in. General Gourko commands the cavalry.

Suleiman Pasha being determined to strike an effective blow has concentrated three army corps between Rutschuk and Rasgrad, menacing the Lower Lom and Simnitsa bridge, the most vital point of the Russian communication on the Danube.

The whole of the Imperial Guard are at the front, under the command of the Czar-ewitch.

Neither the Russian nor the Roumanian troops have their winter clothing. The cold and wet are causing great mortality. The following is the estimate of deaths that occurred during 20 days:—The lines before Plevna 2,500 Russians and 1,500 Roumanians; in the army of the Serewitch, 4,700; at Tirnova and Schipka, 9,000; in the Dobrudscha 3,000—in all, 13,700.

The Russian arm in Bulgaria, all told, numbers 230,000.

Russia has declared she has no idea of entertaining any peace mediation.