WASHINGTON LETTER.

The American Farmer's Chances In New Zealand Peculiar Land Laws The Maoris Despoiled.

[Special Correspondence.]

If any American farmer is thinking of trying to improve his condition by emigration to New Zealand, let him take warning by a report which Consul Connolly has sent to the state department. The consul says he has received requests for information from American farmers based on reports that the New Zealand government was encouraging farm colonists. But he says: "If a man has money, he can find better land, more accessible to market and much richer and more easily cultivated in the United States than he can here. Most of the land in this country is covered with timber and a dense undergrowth. To cut and burn the bush and sow the land in grass costs not less than £3 to £3 10s. (about $17.50) per acre. This does not by any means include grubbing out the stumps, which are in most instances allowed to remain for a few years till they are pretty well decayed when, if the land is required for agricultural purposes, they are taken out but if not so required they are generally permitted to remain.

A Home In the Forest.

"Every practical man, and especially every farmer, who has undertaken to build himself a home in the forest will readily realize what a prolonged and desperate struggle it is; nor need he be told that it is no easier to do so in New Zealand than it is in our own country.

"While the conditions upon which land may be obtained are undoubtedly favorable a man should have sufficient means to enable him to live while he is clearing and grassing his land, and then he should have enough left to stock what he has cleared, as, otherwise, his labor is lost. If a man has sufficient means to enable him to do all this, he can find better and more profitable employment for it in the United States.

"In addition to the drawbacks already mentioned there is the want of a local market, which he cannot avail himself of to any extent here, and by the time he has sent his products to England which is fully 16,000 miles away, there is very little return for his time and labor, in consequence of the great distance, freight, insurance and commissions and other leakages of various kinds. Add the discomfort and serious inconvenience of bad roads, for in the north of the North island of New Zealand it would be difficult in the winter season to find worse roads in any country in the world. The reason of this is that the country referred to consists largely of yellow clay and pumice, and that, for 100 miles at a stretch, there is little or no good road material.

Few Taxes at First.

"But notwithstanding these sometimes hard and uninviting conditions if a small farmer should happen to get hold of a piece of good land—a thing which it is very difficult to do at times—he is as happy as most men of his class anywhere in the world. The conditions of life are not so desperately hard as they are in many of the countries of the old world. The climate is comparatively mild and temperate, there being no great extremes of heat or cold except in the southern portion of the Middle island, where sometimes there is considerable frost and snow in winter. These conditions are largely enhanced by reason of the fact that no man pays any taxes to the state (customs duties excepted) until he is worth over $2,500. Neither does he pay anything for education or for any other purpose in the way of taxes to the state, but he is not, of course, exempt from taxation for local purposes, such as highway improvements in the country, and, if in the city, if he be a property holder, he has, of course, to contribute toward the maintenance of the city government.

"It is an undoubted fact that it has been the aim of the government for many years past to relieve as much as possible the congestion in the large cities by affording every possible facility toward placing men on the vacant lands of the country. This accounts for the numerous systems under which land may be taken up. The whole aim has been to encourage the occupation of the land."

First Vested In the Maoris.

The condition of land ownership in New Zealand is an interesting study. By treaty with the British government all the lands of the colony were vested in the Maoris (natives) and could not be alienated except by their consent. But early in the history of the colony the Pakeha (European), with his usual earth hunger, began to manifest his superior intelligence over the poor, unsophisticated Maori by acquiring large areas of the very best land in the colony for almost nothing. Thus this scheme of despoiling the natives of their birthright continued until the most fertile and easily developed lands had been largely acquired both by individuals and companies—sometimes in blocks of 100,000 acres and over. It is charged against the church missionaries that they were as great sinners in the acquisition of valuable lands as were the laymen.

The distinguishing feature of the present land system involves the principle of state ownership of the soil, with a perpetual tenancy in the occupier. Most of the crown lands are now disposed of for terms of 999 years. The rentals are based on the assessed value of the land at the time of disposal, without increase or recurring valuations. The values placed on the crown lands are, as a rule, low. The limit that a selector may hold is so fixed as to encourage the class of small farmers, and up to that limit the amount he may select is left entirely to himself. The act defines the amount of land any one may select at 640 acres of first class or 2,000 acres of second class land, inclusive of any land he may already hold. The government has also encouraged settlement in some cases by advancing money for the cultivation of rented lands.

CARL SCHOFIELD.

WOMAN AND FASHION.

Latest In Fur Tippets—New Styled Corset Covers—Women as Florists. Of Interest to Women.

Furs and fur trimmed garments will be worn for some time to come, although spring goods are to be seen in the shop windows. The present is a good time to buy furs, prices being cut always after the 1st of January. One must, however, be a judge of what is likely to prove acceptable another season so as not to be left with an old style on their hands. Among the newest of fur tippets and likely to prove popular is one having mantelet fronts in sable or chinchilla. It is confined at the waist with a Byzantine clasp. A short circular cap with drooping flap tabs form spaulets and is lined with quilted and flowered satin. The fluted collar is filled in with soft plaitings of ivory colored lace.

THE LATEST FUR TIPPET.

Although it is claimed that capes are being slowly superseded by jackets, they are still worn in large numbers, being easily slipped on and off. Very full sable and mink capes, with a frill of fur at the hem and square turndown collar at the neck, find a generous patronage.

The fashion is to have a large sable muff, but everybody cannot fall in with this necessity, seeing that a single one often represents a small fortune. The pouch shaped muff is in again, made of black Persian lamb and lined with a very light tone of satin, visible at either end in a rather prominent frill. Muffs made entirely of ermine have found no appreciation, but a good many black velvet ones are trimmed with straps of ermine and lined with bright cerise velvet, and seal muffs are trimmed with bands of ermine and ermine heads, a gathered frill of ermine edging the light green satin lining. Feathers and fur are blended together this year both in trimmings and in muffs, and pheasant plumage and ostrich feathers both look well combined either with the favorite chinchilla or broad tail. Tibet is a good, useful, warm fur, and is very often employed for muffs when the mantles are trimmed with large tibet collars and borders.

Corset Covers.

Numbered with quite new things are corset covers without sleeves; also woven covers which clasp the body tightly without wrinkle or crease. Daintiest of all are the fine lawn corset covers, which receive their enrichment in fine lace and insertions. Some of these are in the form of the popular bolero jacket. Others falling below the waist line are shaped in with tiny tucks, insertion and lace and have no seams except under the arms.

DAINTY CORSET COVERS.

Women Florists.

"Many women make a success of growing flowers for the market, but because some have been successful it does not necessarily follow that all who go into the business will be. There must be adaptation to the business, a love of it and a knowledge of its requirements that can only be gained by personal work among plants," writes a florist in The Ladies' Home Journal. He adds: "I would not advise any woman to attempt a livelihood by floriculture until she had made sure that she had ability as a florist, and this she can only decide after an apprenticeship to some practical florist. Flower growing for the market is a business that must be studied and mastered precisely as any other business. The woman—or man—who thinks it one that can be made successful without any previous knowledge or training is almost sure to fail, for such a belief implies lack of practical business qualities, which are the first requisite to success."

Of Interest to Women.

Visiting books bound in leather are enriched with gold or silver mountings.

The demand for gem jewelry is still great.

A fad borrowed from the French is that of uncanny 5 o'clock teas under phosphorescent light.

HUMOR OF THE HOUR.

Little Clarence (with a rising inflection)—Pa?

Mr. Callipers (sternly)—There, my son; that will do for tonight. I do not know why the Scriptures should say that it rains alike on the just and on the unjust when in reality the unjust usually have the just's umbrellas in times of need; nor why Krokonole is called Krokonole; nor how, if a camel is cursed with seven stomachs, he can tell to an absolute certainty which one of them it is that aches; nor how many Italys of America there are in America; nor whether I should have preferred to kiss Harriet Beecher Stowe or the pope's toe; nor why it is that the less a man knows the more he is apt to think he knows; nor why the prettier and daintier a girl is the more likely her father is to look like a baboon, nor anything of that kind nor of any other kind or character that could by the most remote chance or possibility be of any interest, use or satisfaction to you, either now or at any time in the near or remote future. I haven't the time, knowledge, inclination nor patience to answer any more of your foolish questions, and if you do not stop asking them off you go to bed by the shortest trail. Understand?

"Of course I do, pa. But I wasn't going to ask any more questions. I was only going to tell you something."

"Well, out with it."

"Why, pa, I was going to say that I have studied the matter over and looked at it from every point of view that I can think of, without being able to discover any good and sufficient reason why hired girls should be called 'help.'"—New York Sunday Journal.

A Fable Up to Date.

Once there was a wise man who lived in a small town. His neighbors declared that he was a wonder, and he went about shedding information right and left like a normal school. No such brilliant man had ever stopped over in that town before, and his fame spread daily.

Finally he concluded that he was wasting his life in the small town, and he resolved to move. "I will go to a large city," he said, "where brains are marketable. In the country one might as well be a clod. In a large town I will be appreciated, and I will knock the eyes out of all observers."

So he bought a ticket, packed his paper grip, donned his linen duster and left the home where his wisdom was unquestioned. Two weeks later he returned. "When I reached Boston," he confided to a friend, "I found that I skimmed no milk at all. There were 8,000,000 men there and almost as many parrots who knew more than I did, and one of the parrots tried to sell me a gold brick."

Moral.—An oasis is valued only because of the surrounding desert.—Truth.

A New Language.

In the course of Mark Twain's visit to Egypt he engaged two Arab guides and set out for the pyramids. He was familiar enough with Arabic, he thought, to understand and be understood with perfect ease.

To his consternation, he found that he could not comprehend a word that either of the guides uttered. At the pyramids he met a friend, to whom he made known his dilemma. It was very mysterious, Twain thought.

"Why, the explanation is simple enough," said the friend.

"Please enlighten me, then," said Twain.

"Why, you should have hired younger men. These old fellows have lost their teeth, and of course they don't speak Arabic. They speak gum Arabic."—Saturday Review.

Saving.

An Irishman required a stove for his kitchen, and, having heard that a certain man had invented one that saved half the coal of an ordinary stove, he immediately purchased two of them. On his wife discovering this she angrily demanded the cause of such extravagance. The Irishman replied, "D'ye not see, me honey, that if one stove saves half the coal, sure, then, begorrah, it'll be two stoves that'll save the whole of it."—Scottish Nights.

Competition Crushers.

"Bah!" said Asbury Peppers. "Weyler isn't half the butcher you fellows make him out to be."

"I'd like to know how you know so much," said the patriotic boarder in wrath.

"Because, if he were, Armour and the rest would have either smashed him or taken him into the trust long ago."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Where They Differed.

"Theory and practice are different things," said the professor.

"Yes, indeed," assented the medical student. "I pay for theory, and I will be paid for practice."—Brooklyn Life.

No Occasion For Alarm.

Mosely Wraggs—Thish yer paper says they've found microbes in soap. Wot is a microbe?

Tuffold Knutt—Derned if I know. Wot's soap?—Chicago Tribune.

Wings.

"Good canvasback ducks," said Rivers, "are quoted, I see, at $3 apiece. How true it is that riches have wings!"—Chicago Tribune.

No Room for Doubt.

Proof, yes overwhelming proof can be furnished of the excellent curative qualities of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. "I caught a cold which led to a cough and pain in the chest. (pneumonia?) I bought Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup, and after taking one bottle of it, the cough began to disappear; when I finished taking the second bottle I was cured. Gustav Thurmaster, 49 Hickory St., Cleveland, O." Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup costs but 25 cents. Take only Bull's.

CURRENT MISCELLANY.

The second quarter of the century was remarkable for the great efforts made by men and by societies of men to better the condition of their fellows. Robert Owen preaching communism and founding his communistic city in the western states, in the Wabash valley, Rappahannock, the disciple of Fourier, covering the free states with his phalanxes in the early forties; the American Bible society sending the word of God into 1,000,000 homes; the great temperance crusade rescuing 600,000 drunkards and leading the way to prohibition, to high license, to local option; the outburst of humanitarianism which reformed the penal codes, which abolished imprisonment for debt, which turned the jails from brothels and seminaries of crime to reformatories and covered the land with homes, asylums, lodging houses, houses of correction, penitentiaries and institutions for the reform of juvenile delinquents; the abolition societies battling nobly in the cause of the slave; Sylvester Graham preaching his reformed diet of bran bread and water; Mrs. Bloomer struggling for dress reform and illustrating it with the garment that still bears her name—these are but a few of the innumerable manifestations of the efforts for social betterment.—John B. McMaster in Atlantic.

How an Emperor Rode to the Chase.

The emperor himself is carried upon four elephants in a fine chamber made of timber, lined inside with plates of beaten gold and outside with lions' skins, for he always travels in this way on his fowling expeditions, because he is troubled with gout. He always keeps beside him a dozen of his choicest gerfalcons and is attended by several of his barons, who ride on horseback alongside. And sometimes, as they may be going along, and the emperor from his chamber is holding discourse with the barons, one of the latter shall exclaim: "Sire! Look out for the cranes!" Then the emperor instantly has the top of his chamber thrown open, and, having marked the cranes, he flies one of his gerfalcons, whichever he pleases, and often the quarry is struck within his view, so that he has the most exquisite sport and diversion that, as he sits in his chamber or lies on his bed, and all the barons with him get the enjoyment of it likewise. So it is not without reason I tell you that I do not believe there ever existed in the world or ever will exist a man with such sport and enjoyment as he has, or with such rare opportunities.—"The True Story of Marco Polo," by Noah Brooks, in St. Nicholas.

The British Army.

In plain English, we need a larger army than we have got at present. That this should be so cannot be regarded with any astonishment. Since 1880 we have not only added Burma to India and greatly enlarged our frontiers to the north and west, but we have occupied Egypt, have doubled the area of our possessions in South Africa, have made a new empire on the east coast and another on the Niger and have greatly extended our responsibilities in the far eastern archipelago. But, though we have slightly increased the numbers of our army in these years, we have not done so in anything like the proper proportion. We have increased the empire by the area of three or four of the great European states, and we have added enough troops to garrison a couple of islands. Such economy is the merest folly. No farmer takes on a new farm of large size and only increases his staff by a boy and a donkey cart. If he does and expects the men and horses who could only just manage the plowing before to plow the new ground also, he ends by ruining his business.—London Spectator.

Old Age In England.

A book on the subject of old age, published in England some time ago, furnishes some interesting information concerning centenarians. Of the 52 mentioned, 36 were females. Eleven of these were single, 5 were married and 36 widowed. Three only were in affluent circumstances, 28 were comfortable and 10 poor. Nine were fat, 18 in average condition and 20 thin. Thirty-six had good appetites, 10 moderate and 2 bad. Fifteen were total abstainers, 24 drank a little, 6 were moderates and 1 drank whatever he could get. There were 7 hard smokers, 4 being women. The average time of going to bed was 9 o'clock, and 7 were bedridden. Twenty-four had no teeth and only 4 had artificial teeth.

A Jack Rabbit "Spread."

The people of Neche celebrate their birthdays by having jack rabbit spreads. They go in for good, big dishes up there. When a jack rabbit is feeling right, he can spread over 160 acres and come back and do it again while you are getting a shell into your gun. Then the big, swift dog that has been sleeping by the kitchen stove all winter chases him five times around a haystack and doesn't even catch sight of him, looking as foolish as a pail of milk. When a hunter shoots at a jack rabbit on the run, he generally hits a snow bank that isn't doing anybody any harm and isn't good to eat either. Yes, a jack rabbit spread is large and mealy and hard to follow.—Grafton (N. D.) Record.

A Story of Sir B. W. Richardson.

One of the best known stories in connection with the late Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson's advocacy of temperance tells how he had been on a visit to one of the three or four small towns in England which have no public house. Although there were 4,000 people there the doctor was nearly starving. One day a young medical man came to Sir Benjamin for advice as to taking the practice, and Sir Benjamin, placing his hands on the young doctor's shoulders, said: "Take my advice and don't. Those wretched teetotalers not only shirk accidents, but when wounded heal so fast that there is neither pleasure nor profit after the first dressing."—Westminster Gazette.

DIOCESAN NEWS.

What Our Friends in the Surrounding Parishes are Doing.

From Our Special Correspondents.

Macedon.

St. Patrick's church in this place was the scene of a pretty, yet simple wedding on Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 20th, when Miss Julia Marguerite Doyle and Mr. Daniel Nolan were united in marriage by Rev. M. A. F. Holmes. The bride, who is one of Macedon's most esteemed young ladies, was beautifully attired in dark green serge, with pearl and lace trimmings. Her two bridesmaids, Misses Ella Nolan and Nellie Curran, were becomingly attired in cream, with pink silk trimmings. The groom's attendant's were Messrs. Michael Dillon and William Doyle. After the ceremony, which was witnessed by a large assemblage of friends, a supper was served at the home of the bride. A host of friends congratulated the happy couple, among them the JOURNAL.

Lima.

Mrs. Patrick Slattery of Lima died last Thursday at her home in this place, aged 87 years. Mrs. Slattery is survived by a husband and three sons, William of this place, John, of Rochester, and Michael, who is in Wisconsin. The funeral took place Saturday morning and was quite largely attended.

Mr. and Mrs. John McGrath are rejoicing over the arrival of a 12-pound boy.

The annual financial statement for St. Rose's church in this place was read last Sunday. The statement shows the church to be in an unusually good condition financially, about $1,200 having been paid on the school house debt, leaving a balance to be paid of $5,250.

The dramatic entertainment which was to have been held in Brandon hall last Saturday was unavoidably postponed on account of the illness of one of the performers.

Jerry Brennan, who has been clerking in Beadle's store for several years, has given up his position and moved to East Bloomfield, where he and his brother will start a grocery store.

Sister M. Edmund of Rochester was in town last week to attend the funeral of her grandmother, Mrs. P. Slattery.

Sodus Point.

A team owned by John Van Tassel of Sodus and driven by Eve Barker, was struck by the morning passenger from Sodus Point while crossing the tracks at Sodus Center. The driver and one horse escaped, but the other horse was so seriously injured that it had to be shot.

Edmund Hill, superintendent of the E. R. Parsons malting company, is very ill at his home.

John Kiley of Rochester was in town this week on business.

Wian Hill was called home on account of the illness of his father.

Fifteen hundred tons of ice were shipped from here last week for the railroad company, and contracts have been drawn for 1,000 tons for the Newark Ice company.

A big snow storm struck here Saturday night and continued all day Sunday, making traveling impossible on country roads.

Mrs. S. Newport died at the home of her daughter on the 23d inst.—Mrs. Newport moved to Sodus Point with a family years ago as their slave, and has since made it her home. Her age was not known, but from what she has told herself she must have been over 100.

Caledonia.

The C. R. & B. A. will hold their third reception at their rooms on the evening of Feb. 4th.

Mrs. L. J. Campbell will have an operation performed this week for the removal of a cancer. Drs. Menzie and Townsend will perform the operation.

James Miller of Fredonia was the guest of Mathew Martin the fore part of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Campbell attended the Toomay-Francis wedding at Batavia, Wednesday.

It is rumored that Richard Pullyblank, jr., has rented the Caledonia House for the coming season.

Miss Mary Carr of LeRoy was the guest of Mrs. Richard Keenan last week.

Penn Yan.

C. Wiser of Rochester was in town Saturday.

A festival for the benefit of St. Michael's church will be held some time during the month of February.

The people of Penn Yan are contemplating the construction of an electric road from Penn Yan to Branchport. The necessary amount has been nearly raised, and it is to be hoped that the project will go through.

The Yates County court, which has been in session since January 27th, has disposed of a large number of criminal cases, being one of the longest terms of this court ever held in Yates county.

The electric apparatus for lighting the town clock was put in on Thursday last, and the electric current will be turned off in the morning and on at night by the clock itself.

Misses Bessie and Agatha Kelly took part in an entertainment given at the installation of officers of W. H. Long post on Tuesday evening.

King's Ferry.

Miss Ella Gleason of Scipio visited T. McCormick and family Sunday.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. James West, Monday, Jan. 18, a son.

Misses Annamae Murray and Ella McDonald visited Lake Ridge Thursday.

Mrs. G. H. Mitchell and Mrs. F. A. Dudley were in Ithaca last week.

Mrs. N. E. Reynolds gave a social Friday evening.

A number from this place attended the social party at Scipioville.

Dr. F. A. Dudley has returned from Albany.

Mrs. Mary Birmingham is dangerously ill.

Wonders Never Cease.

No one need suffer the tortures of rheumatism, because that modern liniment, Salvation Oil, positively cures it. "I was a great sufferer from sciatic rheumatism, and the best of doctors attended me without relief. I commenced using Salvation Oil, and two bottles helped me wonderfully. It certainly has worked wonders with me. Mrs. E. J. Phelps, Box 28, Enfield, Conn." Salvation Oil is for sale by all dealers for 25 cts. Take no substitute.

Scrofula

Makes life misery to [illegible] people. It manifests itself in different ways, like pulns, eruptions, running sores, boils, salt rheum, blotches, pimples and other eruptions. Scarcely if a man is wholly free from it. In some form. It often transmits the last vestige of scrofulous poison to be eradicated by Hood's Sarsaparilla, the [illegible]

One True Blood Purifier.

Thousands of voluntary testimonials tell of suffering from scrofula, often inherited and most tenacious, positively, perfectly and permanently cured by

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W. J. MORSE, Manufacturing Optician, announces the removal of his office from [illegible] Main Street to the 4th floor of Powers building, Rochester, N. Y. Examination Free.

For The Holidays

YOU need something in the way of [illegible] nice CHERRY to serve the BAKED [illegible] or A little nice BRANDY for the Plum Pudding, or maybe you like the [illegible] well as for yourself, and enjoy the company of your neighbors for an evening [illegible] and in that event a little wine CALIFORNIA WINE served, adds much to the [illegible] tion and costs but a trifle, be it [illegible] $1.00 and $1.25 per gallon. For [illegible] in the line of

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