## INSOLVENT COURT. Wednesday, 10th July.

(Before the Chief Commissioner.) FIRST AND ONLY MEETINGS. Meetings were held in the following estates, but neither the insolvents nor any creditors were present, and the meetings closed :- Wil- Murphy and Alice Graham, charged with liam Bush, of Daylesford, anddler; William W. Walker, Ambierst, miner: Pat. Duffy, Sandhurst, miner: O. C. Hillman, of Sandhurst, agent ; Arthur M'Carter, of East Collingwood, carpenter : F. A. Schaefer, Inglewood, miner; I'at. Henness, of Sand-

In the fellowing meetings the insolvents were present, but no creditors, and the meetings closed :- Jno. M'Carthy, of Melbourne, | Anderson, charged as a disorderly character, carrier; Juo. Greenshields, of Melbourns, was let off with a caution .- John Gibson, joiner; William Henry Williams, of Melbourne, boardinghouse keeper.

In re Fred. Peake, of Melbourne, account-ent: A debt of L371 5s 6d to F. Hutchins was admitted as a claim; and at the request of the assignce, the meeting was adjourned till the 2nd August.

In re A. Kilgour, of Melbourne, accountant: A debt of L115 13a to Mesara, Holmes, White, and Co., and one of L114 to James M'Ewan and Co., were admitted. A claim of W. Bloane was admitted, subject to investigation by the official assignee. Inservent was present. L100, a second meeting was appointed for the

ADJOURNED FIRST AND ONLY MEETING. In re Gustavus Ackermann: Inscircut the meeting closed.

FIRST MEETING. In re Jno. M'Oregor, of Melbourne, commission agent: A number of debts were nddobt being proved, the meeting closed. ADJOURNED SECOND MEETING.

fixed for the 14th August.

appointed for the 13th August. In re Wm. Thorne: Mr. M'Gregor appeared for the insolvent, and wished to put some questions to him, but the Commissioner declined, as the rest of the day had beer set apart for the meeting of Greenlaw. The meeting was consequently adjourned till the following morning. In re . Encus M'Leort: With the consent of application. Mr. Goodman, the official assignee, the meeting closed; four hours being set apart for taking evidence at the third meeting, which was fixed for the 23rd August.

In re Mowbray Kirk: Neither the insolvent nor any creditors were present, and the meeting | generously gave it to the prisoner, who took it

for the opposing creditors, and Mr. Billing for | the prisoner. the insolvent. A number of witnesses were examined, and the meeting then adjourned. The Court then rose.

NEW INSOLVENTS.

Robert Mills, of Hawthorn, hotelkeeper Cause of insolvency: Excessive rent for High bury Born hotel. Debte, L213; assets, Lol 5s; deficiency, L151 15s. Mr. Laing,

Daniel Morrison, of Williamstown, contractor. Causes of insolvency: Loss of an action against the Queen, want of employment, etc. Debte, L1204 44; assets, L35; deficiency, L1169 4s. Mr. Courtney, official assignee. hurst, blacksmith and butcher. Cause of in- lity; that which mainly aided him was solvency: Abscending of his late partner, Geo. Thompson. Dobts, L101 Gs 4d; assets, L13 5: ; delicioney, L88 1: 41. Mr. Courtney,

Official assignee.
William Ellis, of Kynoton, assistant draper. Cause of insolvency: Want of employment. Debts, L63 8, 7d; assets, L3; deficiency, LGO 8s 7d. Mr. Jacomb, official assignee. Thomas Howard, of Englehawk, near Sandhurst, storekeeper. Causes of insolvency: Losses in trade, bad debts, and falling off in business. Debts, L280; assets, L99 5s 8:1; deficiency, L1801 4s 4d. Mr. Shaw, official

James Turner, of Castlemaine, restaurant keeper. Causes of insolvency: Losses by fire in 1861 and stagnation of trade. Debts, L351 10s 3d: assets, LSS 17s Gd; deficiency, L265 12s 91. Mr. Lying, official assignee. John Johnston, of South Yarra, gentleman. Cause of insolvency : Want of employment. Dobts, L274 7s 7d; ussete, L10; deficiency, L261 7s 7d. Mr. Goodman, official assignee. Michael Egan, of Myers Flat, near Sand. hurst, storekeeper. Causes of insolvency Bad debts, etc., losses by quartz mining, and general depression of trade. Debts, L187 17s Gd; ussets, L399 1s 3d; surplus, L211

4s 2d. Mr. Jacomb, official assignee. Richard Howarth, of Big Hill, near Bondigo, Bad debts, etc. Debts, L591 17s 6d; assets, L126 14s 7id; defleienev, L165 2s 10id. Mr. Shaw, official assignce.

NOTICES.—(This Day.)

INSOLVENT COURT. (Before the Chief Commissioner.) Adjourned Second Meeting, at 10 .- Wm. Special Meeting, at 12 .- Walter Miller.

BACK CHEEK ELECTORAL ROLL.-It may no: be amiss to call the attention of the Co incil to a circumstance which has possibly escaped their notice. The electoral roll divided into divisions, of which Back Creek and Amherst form two. Back Creek in fact is very different to Back Creek as expressed by the roll, which does not include Scandinavian crescent, Ballaarat street, nor any other street in its neighbourhood within its boundaries. Assuming that action is not taken to prevent it, the residents of those streets will at the next election have to visit the town of Amherst to record their votes. This is a difficulty which we commend to the immediate attention of the Council; as, after the write are issued, no new polling places can be created, and under existing arrangements the most populous portion of Back Creek will be without a poliing booth. In proof of this, we need but refer our readers to a paragraph which appeared in the North Western Chronicle of about three months back, where was stated the do not, when I see my fellow-creatures perish. Church. Once grant the existence of these manner in which the Creswick Bench of ing bicause they breathe this vitiated air, demons, and it is difficult to assign a limit to collectors. To the Amherst men they gave Amhorst, deeming it but a small place. For Back Creek they appointed Creswick men, believing it to be the best appointment. It so happened that the former was immeasurably superior in a pecuniary point of view to the latter, as the Buck Creek roll testifles, there being but 765 names on it, while the Amherst roll contains 3050 names .- North Western

Chronicle, 9th July. DARING ROBERY .- The following is from the North Western Chronicle of Tuesday last July 9th :- Last night, about nine o'clock, a knock was heard at the door of Mr. Turner's building at his slaughter yard at the end of Kangaroo, and on the door being opened by a man, the sole occupant of the place, he discovered a double barrelled gan presented at him by a man who was partly concoaled and partly blackened. He was told that if he did not keep quiet the intruder would blow his brains out. Two or three other men then entered, and placed him on a sofa, where they tied his hands together. The mecals then left the building, and visited another on the slaughter yard, in which Mr. Turner resides, but who, fulfils the pretensions of magic; it is magic however, happened to be absent. Shortly afterwards the pinioned man heard the rescale depart, and he then managed to free himself and pass outwards to the door of the house they last visited. He there saw that everything inside had been ransacked, and so he hastened down to the police camp to give information of the robbery. We had not heard up to the hour of going to press what amount of property had been stolen. The night before Mr. Turner had a considerable amount of money in his possession. We understand that attempts have been made during the past two or three nights to enter several houses on the Flat. We hope the police will keep a sharp look out for the ruscals who thus employ the night.

## CITY PULICE COURT.

Wednesday, 10th July. (Before the Mayor.)
DRUNKENNESS.-Michael S. O'Keefe, Agnes Lee, William Dye, Maria Penalton, and William Jeffkins were fined be each .- Patrick

habitual drunkenness, were sent to jail for

three months such.

MINOR OFFENCES .- John Carr, drunk in charge of a horse, was fined be .- Thomas Watson, charged with breaking windows, was Newell was fined 10s for indecency.-John Lynch, for plying for hire without a license, was cautioned and discharged .- Margaret charged, on remand, with allowing his horse with gig to run away, and injuring a man, was further remanded for seven days, as the prosecutor was still unable to appear,

ROBBERT FROM THE PERSON .- John Costin. charged with the above offence, was remanded for seven days, as the prosecutor had not been subperned.

STEALING A CLOSE,-George Clarke was charged with stealing a cleak. There were several enece against him, and a number of pawn tickets were found on his person. The Bench remanded the prisoner for seven days. As the funds likely to be realised would exceed | as as to enable the police to fird owners for some of the property represented by the dupli-

STEALING FURSITURE .- Emma Howorth was charged with steading a quantity of housepresent. Mr. M'Oregor appeared for him, and | hold furniture. Henry Adams said that the prisoner had been living with him for the last town to Woodend, and left her in charge. On returning, between twelve and one o'clock, mitted ;—one to William Haggart of L221. he found the house empty, and nothing left. The insolvent was present, and on the above but a few old clothes. He never gave the furniture to the prisoner. He found a portion in a house in Little Lonsdale street, and In re Rob. Hazon : Mr. Edwards appeared | another portion in a nouse at Richmond. for the insolvent. Nothing was done, and the Before he went away the prisoner told him meeting closed; and the third meeting was that when he came back he would find the bird flown, but he only thought that this was In re Jno. Caryll: No business done, and a joke. The Bench remanded the prisoner the meeting closed; and the third meeting until Friday for further evidence. STEALING IN A DWELLING .- Tilly M'Lean

and Ellen Horrigan, the latter a young girl, were charged with stealing in a dwelling. The Mayor declined to go on with the case, but remanded the prisoners until Friday. Mr. II. Stephen applied to have the prisoners admitted to bail. His Worship refused the

STEALING A Dog.-William Kemp was charged with steeling a dog belonging to a man named Morgan. It appeared that the dog-a rather valuable bull terrier-had been found in the street by one William Copp, who up to Kilmore with him. Edward Morgan ADJOURNED CERTIFICATE MEETING. identified the dog as his property, and stated In re James Greenlaw: Mr. Lawes appeared that he had tied it up. The Bench discharged

## MAGIC AND SCIENCE.

Ancient magio was ancient science. To surprise the secrets of Nature, and, by surprising them, to control phenomena and turn them to his purposes, has overswhere been the irrosistible longing of man, placed amid unscen forces with nothing but his wit to aid him. How marvellously his wit has aided him need not be told; but the help came slowly, and the victories were gained only after a succession of defeats. That which mainly thwarted Wm. Craven, of Kangaroo Flat, near Sand- him was impatience, and its offspring, credupatience. From the first sprang magie; from the second, science. Passion is eve -edulous, and when the mind is greatly e ready to believe almost anything whom savours

its desires. The credulity of early ages has also another source. In ignorance of the true order of Nature we find no difficulty in believing that one thing takes place rather than another. What to the cultivated mind scems a physical impossibility, to the uncultivated seems as probable as anything else. It is therefore not only far from incredible, it is highly probable to the savage that the ordinary phenomena of Nature should be the actions of capricious beings, whose caprices may be propitiated. He observes the rain fulling, the seed sprouting, his cattle perishing, his children sickening, all by agencies unseen, which he at once supposes to be spirits resembling, the spirit within him, though mightier : superhuman in power, they are conceived to be human in feeling, because no other conception of power is possible to him. In animating read, may safely be commended to the curious nature, man necessarily animates it with a soul like his own. He therefore cannot help supposing that the varied phenomena which pass before him are acts of arbitrary and capricious volition. Like the potentates of his tribe or nation, these unseen agencies require to be flattered, or intimidated. Incense, sacrifices, ceremonies of homage, prayers and supplications, may captivate their favour. Failing this, there is the resource of incantation, exorcism, amulets, and charms; the aid of some more powerful spirit is invoked, or the secret of some weakness is surprised. Sometimes the malignity of a spirit may be thwarted by the mere invocation of the name of a mightier spirit; and sometimes by the mere employment of a disagreeable object-hely water, or a strong smellbefore which the demon flies. This is the condition of the mind in all half-civilised peoples, and this is the condition which determines

In the slow travail of thought, and by the accumulation of experience, another condition s brought about, and science emerges. Before can emerge, the most important of all changes must have taken place : the phenomena of Nature, at least all the most ordinary phenomena, must have been disengaged from this conception of an arbitrary and capricious powersimilar to human will, and must have been recognised as constant, always succeeding each other with fatal regularity. This once recognised, science can begin slowly to ascertain the order of Nature—the laws of succession and co existence; and having in any case ascertained this order, it can predict with certainty the results which will arrive. If I know that the order of Nature is such that air which has once been breathed becomes imperfectly adapted for a second breathing, and becomes every form of opinion or pretension inconsistent poisonous after a repetition of the process, I with the opinions and pretensions of the adapted for a second breathing, and becomes attempt to propitiate the nexious spirit by supplications, or to intimidate by charms and as you deem them, are not free, but are fatally subject to inexorable law; they cannot act capriciously, they must act inexorably. If. therefore, I can detect these laws—if I can ascertain what is the ineritable order of succession-it will be quite needless to trouble myself about your unseen agencies. . You promise by your art to give me power over these agencies by which I shall be able to bend Nature to my purpose, to harness her to my triumphant chariot. But if I can once discover the inexorable laws, I can do what you only delusively pretend. With each discovery of the actual order of Nature, it has been found that man's power over Nature has become greater. He cannot alter

grown modest. In proportion as regularity in the succession d phenomena became ascertained, the domain f superstition and magic became restricted. When it was seen that the seed sprouted and the rain fell in spite of all incantations, and that the direction of the wind was a surer indication than the medicine-man's formula, cre dulity sought refuge in phenomena less understood. Long after the course of Nature was felt to be beyond the influence of magicians, there was profound belief in their influence over life and death. The phenomena of discase seemed wholly capricious. An invisible enemy healthy warrior; an enraged deity seemed to be storms-that being the readiest mode of destroying tribes. When the epidemic breaks exorcising the demons. Formerly the storm

that order, but he can adapt himself to it.

He cannot change the unchangeable, but he

can predict the inexorable. And science thus

clarter comes, " like night," sits apart from the | was certain to be successful. camp, and for nine days keeps pouring in his | Curious it is to notice what multitudes of dreadful arrows. The soldiers are struck by

explanation which best pleased it. The early priests were necessarily magicians. these demons, either by propitiation or intimi- ninth century we find the Bishop of Aosta exmankind better, nor to make them wiser; their other beasts, because into these bestial forms object was rather to inspire terror, and to pro- the agents of Satan delighted to hide themespecially the effects of certain herbs in stimulating and stupifying the nervous system, so as to produce visious and hallucinations. They learned, also, how the imagination may be impressed by ceremonies, darkness, lugubrious music, and perfumes, so that the semi-debrious | proclaimed that the devil assumed the forms of devotee saw whatever he was told to see.

Hecate, for example, was the personification of the invaterious rave which the moon projects into the darkness of night, and only appeared when the moon reiled her disc. To Heeate were attributed the spectres and phan eight months. On Monday last he went out of | times of darkness, and all over Greece the rites were celebrated by many practices common to sorcery. Thus everything was brought together to appal the imagination, decive the s-nace, and foster sombre conceptions; exorcisms and weird formulas, disgusting philtres, hell-broth made of loathsome objects, such as Shakspeare describes in Macbeth :

Fillet of a fenny anake, In the caulifron boil and bake: Eye of newt, and toe of frig. Wool of hat, and tonges of dog, Adder's fork, and blind-worm's sting, Lisa d's leg, and owiet's wing. Scale of dragon, tooth of wolf Witches minemy; maw, and gulf, Of the ravin'd salt-see shark. And to these he adds, with his terrible energy of expression.

Liver of blaspheming Jow; Finger of birth-strangled babe,

Ditch delivered by a drab. The mind of a cultivated man in these days,

anable to conceive any direct relation between the liver of a blasphe ning Jew, and control of the course of Nature, finds it difficult to believe that minds as powerful as his own, under less favourable influences, could seriously credit such incantations. Yet the history of mankind shows that no amount of failure, no argument, no ridicule, no pricetly warning and exhortation, could detach men from the practices of sorcery. The temptation to penetrate the secrets of Nature was too strong. Nothing could overcome this temptation while the belief in witcheraft lasted. Nothing could conviction that the succession of phenomena was not conricious but inexerable—every single event being rigorously determined by its anteendent, and not to be altered, so long as the antecedent remained the same. No one believes in astrology now, because

ascertained with remarkable precision. Yet how natural was the belief in starry influences! In the serenity of Asiatic skies, the majestic aspects of the stars would naturally attract incresant notice. It is a tendency, observable in children and savages, to suppose that whatever interests them must-also be interested in them. If we look up at the stars, do they not look down upon us? If we follow their course with interest, will they not likewise with interest follow ours? Hence the belief in astral influences. The child upon whose cradle Mars has smiled will be credited with a martial career; the child born under Venus will be under her protection. These are the spon-taneous beliefs. Before they can be discredited men must, by a long process, have learned to check this tendency to suppose a direct relation between events which are simply coincident, and must have learned that the course of the stars and the course of human conduct are in no direct relation to each other. But this is a slow process; and until science has been thus far established, astrology, and all other superstitions, are unassailable.

M. Maury, in a recent treatise on magic and astrology - which, being at once light and learned, agreeable to read and reliable when -proves that no amount of religious reprobation has been able to uproot the belief in, or check the practices of sorcery.

The early Israelites, in common with primitive peoples, had their magic, consulted sorcerers, explained dreams, and believed in talismans. In vain Moses proscribed these superstitions. On their return from captivity they brought with them a number of Babylonian sorceries, together with the belief in angels and demons. By a natural process they came to regard certain formulas written on parchment, and containing the names of celestial spirits, as veritable talismans. Like the Egyptians, they believed that if they summoned demons by their names, these demons were thereby compelled to appear, or to obey

Respecting the gods of other nations, the Jews held two different opinions. One opinion was that these gods were vain idels; the other, that they were agents of Satan; and this was the opinion which finally prevailed. Beelzebub, for example, was originally the god of the Philistines; Astaroth was the lunar goddess of the Phonicians; Lucifer was a god of the Assyrians; and so on. The early Christians adopted this notion, and attributed all the pagan miracles to agents of Satan. In their view the ancient polytheism was but an extensive demonology. "Idolatry," says Eusebius, one of the great authorities among the Fathers, "is the adoration not of good demons, but of bad and perverse demous." The Church became very liberal in its admittance of demons among the agencies of human affairs. Not only did it attribute bad passions and criminal acts to these demons, but it also chose to detect their agency in every form of error and imposture; by which was mount their agency. And who then questioned their existence? Dwelling in noisome retreats, exorcisms. I simply let in the fresh air, know- among the putrid exhalations of rotting graves, ing that the fresh air will restore the droping they were ready at any moment to issue forth sufferers, because such is the order of and walk among men, to tempt the saints and I have learned, O Thauma- | delude the sinners. Not only did they tempt turgus! that your unseen agencies, mighty | men, they sometimes managed to get "possession" of them, entering their bodies, and making them mad. Nay, they entered into houses and pieces of furniture. Exercisms consequently formed a large proportion of the priestly duties. So late as Pope Sixtus V., the Earptian obelisk, which was brought to to Rome, and now adorns the Pinzza del Popolo, was publicly exorcised before it was permitted to stand in a Christian city. There were many formulas of exorcism, but the signof the cross was naturally considered the most officacious, and was generally used in addition to all others. Holy water also had great virtues. "This continual intervention of exorcism," remarks M. Maury, " is attested by the great number of conjurations adopted in the liturgy. It was an incessant litary of anathema against Saton. He was described as a perfidious intriguer, a thief, a serpent, a wild beast, a dragon of hell, a Belial, etc.; and in order not to be forced to repeat always this long list of insults, they were engraved on amulets, which hence acquired the virtue of driving Satan away." What wonderful ideas of causation are implied in the conception! Epidemics, meteors, and prodigies of all kinds were attributed to demons. Plagues, tempests, and hailstorms, by one party believed to be visitations of divine wrath, were by another and larger party believed to be the work of malignant demons; and this opinion was held even by so subtle and remarkable a thinker as Thomas Aguinas. It is to this

out in the Grecian camp. Homer attributes it | was exorcised by the presentation of the cross, ! solely to the rage of Apollo, whose priest has and by aprinkling holy water. As the worst been offended. Down from Olympus the far- storm comes to an end at last, the exorcism

this invisible, but too fatal, enemy. The only | beliefs of the Christians. The neophytes were of his brain. We see this belief naively exhirescue is by appearing Apollo's wrath. Even unable to disengage their minds from all the in our own day, men who would smile at this associations of childhood, from all the prejudices childish fable, found no difficulty in attributing in which they had been reared. Among these the Irish famine to a cause no less childish : were the belief in, and use of, amulets and enthey averred it was a punishment for the chantments. Even Saint Augustin believed "Maynooth grant." In both cases, the cause that demons were to be influenced by certain or order of Nature was unsuspected; and signs, certain stones, certain charms and cereignorant imagination was free to invent the monies; and if Saint Augustin could believe this, we may imagine that less vizorous intellects would be still more credulous. There was All early religions had a strong bias towards universal belief in the evocation of departed were, separated into two distinct entities sorcers; because their pricats, believing that all spirits, upon evidence as cogent as modern the forces of Nature were good and evil demons, Rapping Mediums consider sufficient in 1561, necessarily arrogate to themselves a power over | and with considerably more excuse. In the dation. These men never attempted to make | communicating scrpents, moles, mice, rats, and pagate the superstitions of which they them- selves -- somewhat stupidly, it would seem, selves were dupes. Some secrets they learned, seeing how little fascination these beasts, generally, have for mankind ;-but the demons were never held to be very wise. Saint Bernard, from the same cause, excommunicater! flier, and all the flies in the district shrivelled up at once. In the year 1200, Saint Walthen, of Scotland. a pig, a bull, a black dog, a wolf, and a rat. The black dog and black cat were generally believed to have some secret understanding with the devil; and if owned by a wise man or n blear eyed old woman, the evidence was sufficient.

There is abundant evidence to prove that the spirit of Polytheism and its sorceries sur-Polytheism thinly veiled. In every Neapolitan system which must be reduced to healthy but may be seen the ancient Lares; only they namme the form of the Virgin, before whose image a lamp is kept for ever burning. Such covers these images with a veil, to hide the crime from them.

Sometimes the change from Pagan to Christian has been very slight indeed, as in the case of Aidoneus of Epirus, who has been altered into Saint Donatus, and Dea Pelina, who has has become Santa Felicita. In festivals meant to please the populace, we expect to find the old traditions of worship, and to find the old trees, intermixed with pictures of the Madonia | away demons. purchased at her shrine, and their horses are gay with ribbons of all huce, and frequently with a plume of snowy feathers on their heads. The whole scene as fully realises the idea of a Bacchanalian procession as if we could now

see one emerging from the gates of old Pompeii." M. Maury notices that the processions and prayers of priests and augurs fer the plantations, vines, and public health, have all been consecrated anew. The sign of the cross, the use of holy water, and the Agnus Dei, have replaced the old exorcisms, charms, and talismans. The Hebrew names of God, or the names of the angels, and of Abraham or Solomon, took the place of the names of Pagan deities. If oracles disappeared, the tombs of were interrogated with the same credulity as lind formerly been shown to the oracles. In vain the Church forbade sorcery and witchcraft; it encouraged many kindred superstitions, and did not destroy the source of all superstition. Paternosters were murmured over wounds, in the perfect belief that paternosters were curative, and that wounds did not follow any strictly inexprable course. The relies of saints were (and still are) devoutly believed to have a wonder working powerthe same power as was formerly attributed to charms and talismans. The evil spirits who caused the drought, the sickness, or the wrecks, would shrink away in terror at the sight of the relies. And when the Church encouraged such beliefs us this, how could it expect to warn men from believing in chaplets which had the power of arresting bleeding, or

in any other superstition?
Some of the details collected by M. Maury are curious. Thus he notices that to this day the practice of placing a fee for Charon (passage money across the Styx) is not quite unknown. In some districts the money is placed in the mouth of the corpse. By the inhabitants of the Jura it is placed under the head of the corpse, attached to a little wooden cross. In the Morran it is placed in the hands of the defunct. The statue of Cybele used annually to be plunged into the sacred bath: she is still publicly dipped, only Cybele has become a saint. In Perpignan they solemnly dip the relies of Saint Gulderic in the waters of the Tet, confident by this coremony that they shall secure rain. Rain falls, sure enough; and if it sometimes falls too scantily, or too tardily, this is only attri-buted to meteoric influences by infidels and

Many are the traces of the past which scholars find in the present. The Lupercalian festivals have become our Lenten carnivalrather a dreary festival, it must be owned! The January offerings have become our New Year's gifts—pleasant enough, when they do not assume the shape of dreadfully good "gift books." The salutation of "God bless you," when you succee, is thoroughly classical. No doubt the ingenious device of secur-"luck" to a nowly-married couple, throwing an old shoe after th, departing post chaise, is equally ancient, and impresses the philosophic mind withen lively sense of how men imagine the course of Nature to be determined. The evil eye is not only very ancient, but seems to be universal. The him; they believed also that it was unlucky to

spill the salt. We have already said that the Church, although appropriating many of the rites and ceremonies of Polytheism, energetically repudiated many others; but in vain. The demons which could not be invoked at the altar, were invoked in secret. Magic was called upon to perform what religion refused. The Church fulminated, and assured men that they perilled their souls by commerce with demons; but it did not discredit the agency of the demons, and its menaces were futile. In vain also was the secular arm employed against those whom the fear of hell could not restrain; the superstition was ineradicable, irresistible. Curiosity, the desire of vengeance, the passion for some scoret means of superiority-these motives were stronger than fear, and these motives could only cease to impel men when men ceased to believe in supernatural agency. But against this belief the Church raised no voice. The wisest of men deroutly accepted it. Gregory the Third, in his edict against the use of magic, especially addresses himself to the clergy as well as to the laity; but his edict is against the use of magic, not against the belief in

Magic, no less than science, rosts on the explanation of phenomena. The only difference is that magic seeks its explanation in some analogy drawn from human nature, and science seeks its explanation in some analogy drawn from other phenomens. No preliminary knowledge is required for the former; man instinctively dramatises the events, and interprets them by such motives as sway his own conduct. For the latter explanation it is peocesary that a vast amount of knowledge shall have been accumulated; man must know a great deal belief, M. Maury says, that is due the practice about many phenomena before he can detect of ringing the church bells during violent their laws. Let us see this illustrated in the views held about dreams.

In Egypt, Assyria, Judas, and Greece, there was a regular class of dream-interpreters, men who undertook to explain what was prefigured by dreams. No one doubted that the phenomena were supernatural. Dreams came to a Pagan superstitions passed into the ordinary man; they were not suspected to be the action bited in Homer, who makes Jupiter summon a dream (oneirus) to his presence as he would summon any other personage. He bids the dream descerd to the camp of Agamemnon and appear before that King of Men, to whom he must deliver a most delusive message. The dream departs, and repeats the very words of Jove. Nor is this conception wonderful. If you consider dreams, you will notice as one peculiarity that in them the mind is, as it which hold converse with each other. We are often astonished at the statements and repartees of our double; we are puzzled by its questions; we are angered or flattered by his remarks-and yet these have been our own creation. It is natural to suppose that we have actually been visited during sleep by one of the spirit world; and until the science of psychology had learned to interpret the phenomena of dreams by the phenomena of waking thought, especially of reverie, this supernatural explanation would prevail. The same may be said of insanity. It was ne-

cessarily regarded as supernatural, until science

had shown it to be a disease of the nervous

system. The dreadful aspect, the incoherent language and conduct of madmen, seemed only referable to an evil demon having got "pos-ecssion" of the man; and this belief was of course strengthened by the general tendency of madmen to attribute their actions to some one urging or forcing them. They fancied themselves pursued by fiends, whom they saw in rived long after the official Polytheism was the lurid light of their own distempered imaextinct. Its temples were in ruins, or were ginations. But before science could have asconverted into churches; its idols were broken, | certained even the simplest laws of insunity, or were rebaptised as eaints and angels. Many what an immense accumulation of knowledge a temple of Dians or of Venus is now crowded on particular points was necessary! Instead by worshippers of the Madonna, in very much of believing that a madman is "possessed," the same spirit, and with not a little of the we say he is "diseased;" instead of a demon o'd forms. The traveller in Italy is constantly | within him to be exorcised, we say that there being surprised by some living tradition of is a functional disturbance in his nervous activity once more. We know as certainly that a disease of this nervous system will produce the phenomena of insanity, as images are trunsmitted from goueration to that an inflammation of the mucous memgeneration. They are implored on every occa- brane will produce a catarrh, or that disease of ion, more even than the Saviour. When the the lungs will produce consumption. But what superstitious Neapolitan meditates a crime, he | vast labours of many generations before it could have been ascertained that the nervous system was specially engaged in all mental phenomena, and that insanity was a disease of this system ! It was so much readier an explanation to suppose that a demon had entered the unhappy victim; and this once suggested, it became a become Saint Pelino, and Felicitas Publics, who | question how best to get rid of the demon. Incantation was an easy resort. Among the means of purification many nations seem to have fanold traditions of worship, and to find the old cied that "fumigation" must hold a high rank, divinities under the masks of saints. The feet demons decidedly objecting to stinks. To this tivals of Ceres and Vests, for example, have | day the Samoyedes and Ostinks burn a bit of been slightly changed in the Neapolitan festival | reindeer skin under the nose of the manine. of the Madonns. Marray describes it thus: The patient falls into a sort of stupefaction "Their persons are covered with every variety from which he often revives considerably of ornament; the heads of both men and calmed, the action of a narcotic on his nervous women are crowned with wreaths of flowers and system being mistaken for an action of stinks fruits; in their hands they carry garlands and on the olfactories of the demon. The old poles, like thyrsa, surmounted with branches of superstition of hanging adoriferous plants over fruit or flowers. On their return homewards, the door of the house of one "possessed" their vehicles are decorated with branches of points to the same belief that odours drive

In this rapid survey of a wide subject we hope the reader has been able to see that magic, which was the science of the ancients-and the only science they could have for a long whileis wilful nescience in mederns who have ample means at hand for ascertaining the fundamental fact that the order of nature is not capricious but constant, and is not to be altered by incantations, even by those power-ful incuntations which take place in the most respectable drawing-rooms" somewhat darkened. The ancient thaumaturge was to a great extent his own dupe; if he did practise certain tricks, he had profound belief that there was an art to which he pretended. But the modern thaumaturge is generally an immartyrs and confessors were not silent, and postor; and those who believe in him, and his miracles, ought to be consistent, and believe in all the grossest superstitions of the early ages. For if the order of nature is not constant, as we suppose, there is no assignable limit to the power of magic .- All the Year Round.

> LAND REVENUE OF TASMANIA .-- We are pleased to find, that the land revenue continues o be in a flourishing condition, which will be seen from the fact that the amount realised up to the end of the half year is not less than L45,092 5s 11d, being at the rate of L90,181 11s 10d per annum. L7258 10s was the amount paid during last month, and we believe that the estimated revenue of L86,000 will be more than realised this year .- Hobart Town Advertiser, 6th July.

> LAKE LEARMONTH .- The Engineer of the Government Mining department, Mr. O. Bagge, rivil engineer, has been here for the last ten days, preparing sections and levels for the ntended new water supply channel for Lake Learmonth. His presence here has been hailed by all residents in the district as a sign that at last "there is a good time coming" for Lear-month, and that the place will ere long rank as the first agricultural township in Victoria .-Ballaarat Star, 9th July.

THE MELBOURNE MAIL .- Cobb's coach die not arrive until near dark last evening, and when the driver pulled up at the Commercial. he was perfectly encrusted with mud. There was a lady passenger inside the comb, bound for Belfast, but she appeared too jaded to even venture out. Fergusson, the driver, informs us that yesterday morning the pole of the coach broke, when near Mount Shadwell, and this of course caused the delay. The ronds, ic says, are in a most fearful state. - Warraam bool Examiner, 5th July.

THE DONALD FUND .- Mr. Fletcher, the reasurer, has returned to Berchworth, from is canvas of the Indigo. We understand something over Lio has been collected in Rutherglen and the neighbourhood in aid of the Donald Fund. As an example worthy of imitation we may mention that the prospectors on the Wahgunyah Lead contributed 1.10 to werds the fund .- Orens Constitution, 8th

CHILTERN.-About ten o'clock on Saturday night, the inhabitants of Chiltern were alarmed by the discovery that Rie and Thorpe's stables, at the back of the Star hotel, were on fire. Notwithstanding the heavy rains which have recently fallen, the whole of the buil lings were in a very short space of time burnt to the ground. Most fortunately, beyond the Hobson's Bay Hallway destruction of the stables, very little damage was done. A small quantity of hay was consumed, but fifteen horses and a heavy stock of oats were removed uniplured. Water was plentifully supplied both from the creek and from the Alliance claim, and the most praiseworthy exertions were used by every one to keep the flames under. At one time it anpeared inevitable that the stables in the rear of Mr. Berg's, the tentmaker, would also be consumed, but having been covered with wet blankets, they were fortunately saved. The origin of the fire is quite unknown.—Murray Gazette, 9th July. ANTI-CHINESE IMMIGRATION ASSOCIATION

The following is from the Crewick Ad-

vertiser of Tuesday the 9th instant :- The adjourned meeting of the Anti-Chinese Immigration Association took place at Witcombe's, Bush Inn, Back Creek, Creswick, on Saturday last. Mr. H. Howitt in the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were confirmed. After some preliminary remarks from the chairman, the committee brought up a prospectus, of which we give some of the leading points. The Anti-Chiucse Immigration Association proposes to organise public opinion to impress the Government of the country with a due sense of the magnitude which the Chinese question has assumed, and the necessity for immediate legislation upon it. The Association consider the Chinese to be a great social evil, a scandal to religion, and their admission into this colony a great political mistake. Each member of the Association to pay 6d per month. After the first quarter cards will be issued to each associate, which will admit him free to all deliberations of the Association, which will confine itself in all its operations to strictly legal means, relying firmly on the weight of public opinion for success. When fifty associates are enrolled, a

## STOCK AND SHARE MARKET.

Closing Prices on Wednesday, 10th July. DEBENTUKES.

Amount of Loan,	Dua.	int. payable.	[Loan.	London prices.	Prices, Melbourne,	Busin
82,500	1860 1868 to 1876 1860 1864	April and Oct. Jao, and July Jan, and July Mar. and Sept. April and Oct. Jan, and July	Victorian Governm. Railway, 6 p ct. Victorian Governm. Railway, 6 p ct. Vict. Gov. Water & Sawerage, 6 p ct. St. Kilda & Brighton Railway, 7 p ct. Suburban Railway, 7 per ct. Suburban Railway, 10 per ct. Melb. Gas and Coke Comp., 7 p ct. Melb. Gas and Coke Comp., 7 p ct. Melbourne Corporation. 6 p ct. Victoria Life & General Insurance	100	- 973 - 100 - 1042	111111111111111111111111111111111111111

"Victorian Government Water and S. Weilage -Of those depending Lan, 000 fall due every let January, from 1862 to 1872, excepting in the years 1867 and 1868, when the amounts due are Lafo,000 and \$3,000 respectively.

†Railwars.—Of these Debentures fals.000 fall due in 1868, Lan.000 in 1872, Lan.000 in 1876.

Fund. Div.

Capital. Paid. She Pd.

400,000

Closing Price Business Done

Payable.

1,000,000 1,000,000 750,000 1,000,000	212,500	20	20	Colonizi of Australasia National of Australia New South Wales Victoria	212,500	15	Apr. and Oct. Vay and Nov. Apr. and Oct. Feb. and Ang.	3	7 6 -3 1	0 0	3 9 0 - 3 10	.d.0
				INSURA	NCE COM	(P	ANIES					-
1,000,000 260,000 500,000	40,000	5 5		Australarian Coloniai Meibourne Fire	35,754 11,74 3,99;	to (	Feb. and Aug. lugust. Jan. and July.	184	0d-19s	6.4	14 4 -	٤

200,000 40,000 50 1 Victoria Life & Ganri 25,591 - fuly. The last dividend of the Colonial Insurance Company was paid in August, 1859. Inc last dividend of the Victoria Fire Insurance Company was paid in July, 1860. The dividend of the Victoria Fire Insurance Company is established inclusive of Lat per share bonus.

RAILWAY COMPANIES. 400,000 50 50 Melb. & Hobeon's Bay 23,407 10 June & Dec. 141 0 0-42 0 0 1 227,400 10 10 Melb. 2nd Suburban ... 10,740 — Feb. & Aug. 100—150 100—110
10 10 Melb. and Essendon ... ... Feb. & Aug. 100—150 100—110
114,362 27 25 St. Kilda & Hrighton. 1.188 — Feb. & Aug. ...

he St. Kilds and Brighton Rallway Company has a liability of £38,600 on debentures.

The Melbourne and Mobson's Bay Kallway Company has a liability of £100,000 on debentures.

The Melbourne and Suburban Kallway Company has a liability of £96,600, of which £82,600 is borrowed.

6 Ballagrat ..... 2.014 12 Feb. and Aug. 6 15 0 -7 7 6 1,236 — Jan. and July 3 7 6 -3 12 6 — Jan. and July 4 15 0 -5 4 0 — Jan. and July 4 15 0 -5 4 0 — Jeb. and Aug. 3 15 0 -6 0 0 3 19 0 — 44 Sendigo ...... 12,168 5 Cartlemaine Geelong ...... & Kyneton... 10 Melbourne Gas & Coke 8,000 22,500 12 Jan. and July 200,000 Do. .....

The Melbourne Gas Company has a liability of L50,000 borrowel on debentures. The Collingwood Gas Company's debentures and borrowel capital amounted to L15,500 on 3eth January. The Geolog Gas Company has a liability of L5000 due in 1865.

MISCELLANEOUS. 37,140 4 Bendigo Waterworks 60,000 Feb. and Aug. -35e od Hobson's Bay Rell-3,000 3,000 June and Dec. -41 way Sea Bathing .. 13,050 12.333 50 | 60 Melbourne Exchange 801 - Feb. and Aug. £1210 -£25 0 10,000 30,000 10,000 Melbourne Guaranty. 20 Jan and July. 294 0d-354 0d 15 July. 134 0d-154 0d 6 4 Ovens Waterworks
10 10 Oriental Bathing ...
1 Provident Institute . July.
Jan. and July.
Feb. and Aug. 10 S. Yarra Waterworks.

				IVIDEND MINE	8.				
O pital.	Paid.	3hs	PJ.	Mines.	gato	Divi- deud.	Paid.	Closing prices.	Business done.
4	£	2	Z	Ajax, Castlemaine			1860-61	4. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d
12,000	7,600	2	11	Aibion (Quarta) Steiglitz	25 6d	28 6d	Oct 60		_
7,00	7,000		1	Atlas (Pump. & Crush.), Maldon	24 60	18	Sept. 65	-21 U	-
13,230	13,230		6	Beehive (Quartz), Maidon	£1	58	Oot. 60		
6,000	4,110		1	Capper's Reef (Quartz), Castiemaine	23	19	Sept. 60	2 6	_
10,000	7,200	1	Ι.	Catherine Real (Mining, Crushing) and Drainage), Hendigo Catherine Reel United		30 6d	May 61		
3,50 -	1,800	15		Clunes (Quartz), Clunes	£175	£10	May 61	£230 4265	
20,900	20,000	1	1	Eaglelinwk Association (Quartz). {	48	29	May 61	15 6 -16 6	15 0-17
8,000	15,000	, -	Ι-	i Bennigo		33 9d	Nov. 60	t4 0-20 0	-
1,500	1,500	75	75	Garibaldi (Quartz), Bendigo	£10	£5	April 61	- £30	_
6.440	6,440	230}	330	Hercules (Mining), Handigo	£08	£9	Mar. 61	5601-£750	-
9.000	9.034	١ 1	1	fronbark (Quartz), Bundlero	14 24	7.1	May 60	-10 -	

0 t t . 8 11 5.	1,500 6,440 9,000 41,250 25,000 25,000	36,370 17,325	2301 1 1 1 1 230	2301 229. 218 200	Hercules (Mining), Handigo	Mar. 61 5501—2 May 60 —1 Mar. 60 — Jan. 61 —1 Doc. 60 —2	#30 — 750 — 8 6 — 8 6 — 175 — 12 6 —
5					PROGRESSIVE MINES.		
0	Capital.	Paid.	She	Pa	Mines.	Closing Prices.	Business Done.
8 0	£ 6,000 40,000 30,000	£ 5,300 28,000 14,000	1 5 2	£ 1 3 2	Amherst (Quariz), Amherst	20- 60	2 9 -
1 0	25,000	18,875 80,000	125	125	Bolinda (Quartz), Bolinda Comet, Bendigo (Quartz) Chines Allianos (Quartz), Clunes Collban (Alluvial), Mainsbury	60 - - 15 0 - 630 0 - 653 10	Ξ
c	8,000 40,000	8,000	1	111	Cookman's Reef (Quartz), Turrengower	- 20 0	=
1	15,000 25,600 E4,000	16,254 15,060 17,251 3,427	1	12	Ferron's Reel (Quartz), Castlemaine	14 6 - 15 6	Ξ
	15,000 20,000 20,000	8,985 9,306 12,506	2 1	31.	Fortuna (Quartz), Ca-tlemaine. Glasgow Reef United (Quartz), Bendigo Golden Gully (Quartz), Bendigo Grand Junction (Quartz), Tarrengower	10=	Ē
0	27,000 12,000	9.017	1	11	Independent (Quartz), Bendigo	40- 50	5 0
t	80,000 8,000	:8,000	2	1 2	Johnson's Reef (Quartz), Bendigo Kangaroo Reef (Quartz), Gordou's	23 0 -25 0	=

Lerderderg (Quartz). Blackwood Linscott's Reef (Crushing & Mining), Tarrengower Long Gully Reef and Back Creek (Quartz) Bendigo Maryboro' Mining (Quartz, alluvial and pumping) Mount Korong Lane's Reef (Quartz), Wedderburn Mivor Caledonia (Quartz), Mivor 10,000 40,000 60,000 16,600 27,030 10,120 New Chuin (Quartz), Bendigo ..... New North Cinnes (Quartz), Clunes ..... old ()uartz Hill (Quartz), Castlemaine ........ Parkins' Reel (Quartz), Tarrengower .. ...... Perseverance (Quartz), Tarrengower Prince Albert (Quartz), Taradale. Redun Reef (Quartz), Hendigo.

Sandy Creek, Poverty Reef (Quartz), Tarnagulia... Specimen Gully (Quartz), Castlemaine.

Star Reef (Quartz), Bendigo. St. Arnaud Childe (Quartz), St. Arnaud St. Munzo (Quartz), Bendigo. Farrengower Reform (Quartz), Tarrengower Chird White Hill (Alluvial), Bendigo...

43s Victoria Iteef (Quartz), Rendigo....

8 Wattle Gully (Quartz and Alluvial), Castlemaine...

2 Yarra Yarra Mining (Alluvial), Warr indyte..... CALLS DECLARED.

	Company.	Numberof Call.	Amount per Share.	When made.		neut	Wherefi's	yable.
	Parkin's Reef Bendigo Waterworks Do Redan Reef M'Ivor Caletonia	1011	54 56 14	June Do, July	July July Luz July July	12 Comp 12 Do. 10 Office	onny's Offices, 3 onny's Offices, 3 es, Sandhurst, es, Melbourne.	fuldon, Melbourne.
١			DIVIDEN	DS DE	CLAR	ED.		
	Company.	Amoun	t of Dividen		iares.	payable.	Where	Payable.

June 7 Company's Offices. Flinders at. Ajax Mining ..... Garibaid Quartz ..... ...June 25s per share 18 Agent. Offices, Melbourne. MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK. United Brown's Mining, 13th, Twelve o'clock noon, Company's Offices, 54 Queen-street.

THE KING OF YVETOT.

him as a king little known in history, who, late historian of the sixteenth century, says the to rise and early to bed, slept very well without origin of the kingdom of Yvetot was couany glory, and crowned by Jeanneton with a nightcap, was a good little king. The poet the reign of the Merovingian king, Clotaire the says he made four repasts a day in his thatched First. The following is the story told by palace, travelled through his kingdom on an Gaguin : ass, and fearing no harm, had a dog for his having incurred the wrath of King Clotaire, only guard, and was a good little king. Never " went to foreign parts, where he made war trying to enlarge his kingdom, he proved a against the enemies of the faith." After ten pleasant neighbour, and making pleasure his years of voluntary exile, believing the king's code, was a model potentate : and it was only when he died and was buried that the people wept, saying he was a good little king. Beranger Arriving at Soissons on a Good Friday, and adds that the portrait of this good and worthy hearing that the king was at church, he hastened prince is still preserved as the signboard of a famous inn in his province, where very often the people exclaim while drinking before it :-

Oh! oh! oh! oh! ah! ah! ah! ah! Quel bon petit rol c'etait la !

We learn from Beranger's Memoirs, that he sang his little king, as Chamisso wrote his Peter Schlemihl, or Shadowless Man, as a satire upon the vast and unsolid ambition of the first Bonaparte, who was then (1813) seen tottering towards his fall, after his disastrous Russian campaign.

Yvetot is a little French village containing public meeting will be held, and the officers railway between Paris and Havre. The name the "indubitable authority" of Robert Gaugia about a thousand inhabitants, situated on the

Yvetot is composed of two words: "Yve," or Beranger has immortalised the King of German name, and "tot," the Celtic worll for a Yvetot in one of his best songs. He describes house or dwelling-place. Gaguin, a French temporaneous with that of the French monarchy; that is to say, it was founded in A certain lord of Yvetot, named Gaulthier,

- 126

Where Payable.

wrath to be somewhat appeared, and having obtained a letter from the Pope recommending there, and, throwing himself at his feet, implored his pardon. " But Clotaire, being a savage prince, drawing his sword, ran it through his body." On hearing of this murder, perpetrated in a church on such a day, the Pope threatened the murderer with his spiritual thunders if he did not immediately make some atonoment for his crime. The terrified Clomire, therefore, consented to erect the manor of Yvetot into a kingdom for the benefit of the heirs of his victim. Gaguin adds, that "! finds from an exact and indubitable authority that this extraordinary event took place in the