

inches. For the retail trade thin ice is preferred, on account of the diminished waste in cutting up. The total amount bought this year by the different companies engaged in it appears from the following table:

	tone.
Knickerbocker Ice Company,	235,000
New York and Brooklyn,	65,000
Hyler, Winch & Co.	80,000
People's Ice Co.	25,000
Pascoe,	8,000
Total,	303,000

As nearly as can be estimated, this exceeds last year's business about 75,000 tons. Three of the old companies have been merged into the Knickerbocker Company, rendering this mammoth corporation, with a capital of \$900,000, and employing in the retail trade of New York City not less than 200 horses and 125 ice-wagons, besides 14 barges with a capacity of 6,000 tons. The profits last year amounted to \$153,970. Two new companies have been formed, one of which is the New York and Brooklyn, with a capital of \$130,000. The prices for the approaching warm season have not been precisely determined, but so far as concerns the retail trade, they will be something less than last year.—*Am. Paper.*

STRUCK BY A WATERSPOUT.—The following interesting narrative is contained in a letter from Mr. Heaton, an officer of her Majesty's ship *Electra*, son of the Hon. Mrs. Heaton, of Plas Heaton, Denbighshire, and nephew of Lord Henniker, and dated "At Sea, Nov. 22, 1855":—"We left Melbourne on the 12th of last month, and, with our usual fortune, encountered very heavy weather during the whole of our passage to New Zealand, the sea running very high, and washing over us continually. One day an enormous sea broke over us, and the first thing that it carried away was the second gig, completely crumpling her up and smashing her all to bits. It then stove in the gun-room and captain's skylights, and washed everything off the tables in both places, including a bookshelf and a swinging lamp. They were at breakfast in the gun-room at the time, and in a moment officers, tea-cups, lumps of butter, servants, and red herrings were all floundering together on the deck in three feet of water, and it was some minutes before the ship recovered herself from the shock. Eating our meals was a violent gymnastic exercise: and, as to writing, it was out of the question. Ten days of this work brought up the north point of New Zealand, and it took three more to beat down the east coast to Auckland, where we arrived on the 25th ult., after the longest sea-voyage we have made since our first arrival from England. We remained at Auckland for nineteen days. We sailed from Auckland on the 12th of the present month, and have been fighting with head winds ever since, with the exception of two days, when the wind favoured us for a few hours, and, therefore, though we are nine days out, we have only advanced 400 miles, and are still 700 from Sydney. The day before yesterday we encountered a most extraordinary danger—one that few ships have ever witnessed; that is, we were caught in a waterspout. The day had been very squally, and we had been compelled to take in sail several times, and therefore we who were below were not surprised to find the ship heel gradually over; but when she went further, and the deck became almost perpendicular, we could see that something had happened beyond the common order of squalls, and I felt a sort of faint, sick feeling of anticipation and vague dread that almost stifled the prayer that rose to my lips. The suspense was horrid, and the dread of being strangled below by the rush of water, gave me strength, and I climbed over the others and reached the deck. There everything was in confusion, and no one was giving any intelligible orders, and the ship was lying over on her broadside, with all of one side buried in the water, ropes and sails flapping about, and men standing aghast, with despair in their faces. I noticed one man in particular, who was sitting on the deck, seemingly in a state of utter idiocy, with his hands clenched and his face livid, deaf to all that was passing around him. The sight of so much anarchy restored my self-possession, and I began to drive the men to the ropes to haul down the after sails, and after a couple of minutes' work the ship slowly righted. The captain's gig was stove in by the water, and the davits (strong curved pillars of iron, as thick as my leg) had been bent double by the pressure. It seems that a whirling mass of water had been suddenly seen near the ship, and before anything could be done it was upon her, bearing her down and whisking her round and under water, while the whirlwind by which it was, of course, accompanied and caused, pressed her over by the sails and increased the danger. It was indeed a fearful minute; and nothing but God's hand could have saved us, for man was utterly powerless against the tremendous manifestation of our Creator's might. As soon as I could get by myself I returned Him thanks for mercifully sparing myself and my shipmates, and saving us in our hour of extreme peril. This was really a very uncommon adventure, for though ships frequently see waterspouts, it does not happen once in five hundred times that it strikes a vessel."—*Daily Post.*

At Bristol, last week, a man named John Howell, while looking on at the working of a steam saw mill, met his death in a most extraordinary way. A block of birch wood was being trimmed at the circular saw, which latter revolved at about 1,000 revolutions per minute. In the block there were crooks and hollows. The saw having touched one of these, a long strip of wood broke off, and fell on one of the pins of the machine, whence it was thrown against the back of the saw, which again hurled it with terrible force among the spectators outside the works. So rapid was its flight that no one saw it pass, though it was heard rushing through the air like a rocket. Deceased, who stood twenty-seven feet from the saw, was struck at the bottom of the throat, the point of the wood piercing the jugular vein, and causing death in a few minutes.

It is stated that Colonel Rawlinson, who is engaged in prosecuting the discoveries commenced by Layard and Botta, has lately discovered, in a state of perfect preservation, what is believed to be the mummy of Nebuchadnezzar. The relic is for the present preserved in the museum of the East India Company.

News Department.

From Papers by Steamer *America*, April 26.

THE MAYNOOTH DEBATE.

THE debate in the Commons on Mr. Spooner's annual motion for discontinuing the Grant to the Roman Catholic College of Maynooth, produced, as usual, a lively and somewhat angry discussion, and terminated in what must certainly be regarded as a signal defeat of the Government. We propose to glance at a few of those features of the recent debate, which may possess an interest for the general reader.

Amongst these features the speech of Mr. H. Drummond may be taken as one. This gentleman has always an odd way of expressing himself; and his oddity is never more conspicuous than when he is speaking on topics in which controversial points of religion are involved. In the present instance, however, it may be thought that there was not a little of sound sense mixed up with a strange way of giving utterance to it. "I do not think," said he, "that the theological part of the question is that with which this House is competent to deal. The only part of it which is worth our consideration is the moral teaching of the Irish priests. If their teaching is immoral, it is a question whether it is worth our while to pay men for teaching it. The hon. member who has just sat down says, that if the Irish clergy are not educated here they will go abroad to be taught. No doubt. But then we shall not pay for it, and that will make all the difference. Now, it is not what my opinion is, nor what is the opinion of any Protestants, of the doctrines which the Church of Rome has now come under. The question is, what have been the opinions of Catholic States—nay, what have been the opinions of the Popes upon this teaching? For I suppose no gentleman in this House (whatever the priests may say out of it) fancies for a moment that the Popes never alter their opinions. Why, sir, it has been the universal opinion of Europe that these doctrines were incompatible with the well-being of States; and hence the teachers of such doctrines have been turned out of every country on the Continent. And now I am not going to quote Liguori. I have quoted him often before; and I only wish our Roman Catholic members were compelled to be examined in his teaching (a laugh). He is the only writer of whom the Catholic Church has declared, *ex cathedra*, that he never wrote a word of error. What a blessed thing it must be to read six volumes of bad Latin in which there is not a word of error (laughter). Now, I am not going to read a word of Latin, good or bad; but I have got an English book here—a book of instruction used by Roman Catholics, and published a few days ago for one penny—containing some choice *morceaux*. It is entitled, 'What every Christian should know.' Fancy that for a penny (a laugh)! Now, this is one of the things which, according to these Roman Catholic instructions, 'every Christian should know':—'It is a sin to mix something with what you sell.' So I should think. The hon. member for Birmingham (Mr. Scholefield) and others who are members of the Adulteration Committee will agree in that. But what follows? 'Except there is a common custom, and it is necessary for giving a reasonable profit' (laughter). Why, we have heard of rogues and grocers who mixed sand with their sugar; but I never heard that they did it from an abstract love of sand; but only to get a reasonable profit (a laugh). But, again, there is something in this little book about stealing. 'It is a venial sin to steal a little' (a pocket handkerchief, perhaps, might be considered 'little'), 'but it is a mortal sin to steal much. For example, a day's wages from a poor man. Far less will be mortal sin if taken from a poor man than from a rich man. If you steal from different persons and at different times it also makes

a difference. And to steal a little a great many times may be a mortal sin.' Then there is something as to oaths. 'If you call God to witness that what you say is true, it is an oath; but if you do not know what you say is an oath, or do not mean to take an oath, it is not so.' So that the witness may draw the distinction in his own mind as to his intention." "No, no!" exclaimed several Roman Catholic members. "No!" continued Mr. Drummond, "then what does it mean? I have read the words. And will anyone deny that this is what Liguori teaches—anyone who has read him? I am sorry we have lost Mr. Lucas. He was a Roman Catholic who knew what his Church taught, and was not ashamed of it." "Hear, hear!" shouted Mr. Bowyer. "Hear, hear!" rejoined Mr. Drummond. "Does the hon. member mean to say that such are not the doctrines of Liguori? Does he mean that I suppose on the ignorance of the House? He knows how disagreeable it is to read bad Latin to the House—(laughter)—and I will not do it. These are the doctrines of the priests; and, if they were acted upon, it would be impossible to carry on the government of States. But they are not acted on; for there is a principle of truth in all men which tells them that they are not to act upon them to please the priests. And it is upon that I rely—not upon what you call your 'Protestant principles'; as if anyone on earth knew what they were (great laughter)! They merely amount to this—men choosing their own opinions; which comes to this—men having their own way. If that is not a 'Protestant principle' I do not know what it is. And there is nothing in that Protestant principle that can stand against the Papacy, simply because its one aim and end is to bring you under subjection, and it is not any of your Protestant sects that can stand against it. You have nothing to look to but the increase of civilization and education, and the honourable feelings of men. It is to this you have to look, and there is no danger from all the colleges whatever. They are what they have ever been. But the priests are not what they have been. Look at the oaths taken before the House of Lords at the time of Catholic emancipation. Did they not all say that if the Pope presumed to select a bishop not recommended by them they would not obey him? Well, what have we seen lately? Why, the Pope appoints whosoever he pleases. It is a pity, Sir, the Government will not do what I long ago called upon them to do—that is, to do in office what they talked about when out of office (hear). I know well that it is hopeless to expect public men to do so. But the whole question of the two Churches in Ireland must be settled in some way or other ere long. I know not whether it will be by carrying this vote, or in any other way. But I believe that though it may be a triumph to carry it, and do away with the Maynooth Grant, with that grant will go something else you do not want to go."

Mr. Drummond having thus delivered himself, and Lord Palmerston having made a spirited speech in opposition to Mr. Spooner's motion, the next feature of interest that presented itself in the debate was the series of three divisions, which brought it to a close.

Mr. Spooner's first proposition was this:—"That this House do resolve itself into a committee for the purpose of considering the Acts for the endowment of the College of Maynooth, with a view to the withdrawal of any endowment out of the Consolidated Fund, due regard being had to vested rights or interests." Lord Palmerston resisted this proposition with all the weight of his influence as First Minister of the Crown; but when the House came to divide upon it, it was found that the motion was carried by a majority of 26, the number being—For the motion, 159; against it, 133. This result was received with a burst of tremendous cheering, and the House at once went into Committee.

Then, in the midst of much excitement, Mr. Spooner rose and said:—"Sir, I have now to move for leave to bring in a bill for repealing the Acts for the endowment of the College of Maynooth, with a view to the withdrawal of any endowment out of the consolidated Fund, due regard being had to vested rights or interests." This motion was no sooner made than Mr. Hutchings, with the view of defeating it in the most ignominious manner, sprang to his feet, and moved, by way of amendment, that "the Chairman do leave the chair, and report progress." Lord Palmerston intimated his approval of the amendment, and expressed a hope that the "progress" reported by the Chairman would be the "only progress" made in the matter. This observation was received with mingled cries of "Oh!" and shouts of laughter, in the midst of which the House proceeded to the second division, which terminated, like the first, in a triumph to Mr. Spooner, and a defeat of the Government. The motion for leave to bring in the bill was carried by a majority of 22.

As soon as the result of the division had been announced, Mr. J. Macgregor rose to rebuke the Premier for the levity he was displaying on so grave a subject. "I confess," said the hon. member, "I did not expect, or think it possible, that the solemn decision of this House could be treated as a farce by the First Minister of the Crown (great cheering). I shy I did not expect that, after a decision had been come to by a majority of this House, upon a question of this important nature, the noble lord, the First Minister of the Crown, would presume to rise and state that he hoped the progress then made was the only progress that would be made (loud cheers). Sir, I occupy a very humble position in this House; but I will not lose this opportunity of protesting against such a mode as that of dealing with a solemn question—a question, Sir, which is regarded by the people of this country as one of the most vital importance in point of principle (renewed cheers). I hope the private members of this House, those who, like myself, are little accustomed to interfere in its proceedings, will not fall on the next division to express their feeling with regard to this mode of dealing with a public question after it has been decided upon."