

ELECTROPLATE.—Mr A. T. Oliver, jeweller, of Buckley street, has just completed some very handsome examples of electro-plating in gold and silver. Chains, brooches, earrings and ornaments of the commonest white metal have been transferred into jewellery of seemingly the most costly description. The plating is heavy, and in the case of table ware, of proved durability.

AN UNPLEASANT ACCIDENT.—On Friday afternoon, the 13th inst., Constable Hargreaves was informed that a man named John Taylor was lying on a vacant lot in Cowper street seemingly dead drunk and bleeding from a severe cut in the left hand. Taylor was found very much as described, and the wound seemed so bad that he was taken to the Melbourne Hospital and treated. He subsequently informed the constable that he had cut himself with a chisel. Although a vein between the thumb and first finger had been lacerated, Taylor is now quite out of danger.

CREDIT TO YARRAVILLE.—Mr Palmer, M.A., L.L.B., writes:—"In your last Saturday's paper some mistake was made about the scholarship won by J. Street, of the Yarraville State School. The scholarship was one offered by us to State School scholars for competition; we offered two in all. The first was won by Effie Stilwell, of Hawthorn, and the second by J. Street. The boy was never in our college before, but now joins on the strength of this scholarship. There is great credit due to the Yarraville teachers, for many of those who won Government Scholarships were competitors for ours, the girl Stilwell having gained the highest place in the colony in December. There were twenty-seven candidates." We wish Master Street every success.

DEFENCES.—The conference of military commandants of the colonies has decided to recommend, as all sensible men would, the adoption of the Khaki colored uniform, with felt hat, for the entire Australian infantry. It is to be hoped that their recommendations will go further and sweep away, not only the scarlet and blue coats of the men, but also the gold lace, braid, cocked hats, plumes, gold handled swords, sabretaches and other tomfoolery of the officers. It is absurd that in a

foolery of the officers. It is absurd that in a really democratic community like ours the pomp and circumstance of Imperial trappings should be continued for citizen soldiers, and in this we may well take a lesson from the United States, where even a general is only distinguished from a soldier by an eagle embroidered in gold on the band of his cap or hat. The intercolonial conference further advises that the peace footing of the rank and file should be 12,000 men in 24 battalions of 500 each, of which Victoria and New South Wales should furnish 8 each, South Australia and Queensland 4 each. In addition to these, field artillery is suggested, four batteries and two regiments of mounted infantry each for the principal colonies and half that number for the others.

GOOD TEETH.—Mr E. W. Derner, dentist, of Buckley and Hopkins streets, Footscray, has recently obtained several American improvements in apparatus for the manufacturing of artificial teeth. This gentleman is preparing a pamphlet on the teeth, which will contain advice on their preservation and proper care.

NOTICE.—**T. H. JAMES and Co.**, have Removed to the corner of Buckley and Bute streets, where they will continue to sell **TOBACCO** to the trade at **FACTORY PRICES** with **DISCOUNT** for **CASH**. **CIGARS**, all brands, Pipes and General Stock. Note the address, Corner of Buckley and Bute Streets, Footscray.

FATHER AND SON.—Mr James Hall had a lively five minutes in the Footscray court on Thursday morning with an old man named Riley, who was proceeding against his son to recover £10 alleged to be due for work done. "My son," said the gentleman, "took the bread factory in Belgravia occupied by Mr Ford. I was telegraphed for, being a baker, and in answer to the telegram I came." "From where," asked Mr Hall. "From where, Not from Ireland!" "Don't be impertinent," said the Mayor. "Very well, your worships." "You say," said Mr Hall, "there was no agreement for wages. Did you not often get two shillings for yeast, and spend 1s 6d in

two shillings for yeast, and spend 1s 6d in beer? And so forth." The whole case resolved itself into the fact that Riley Junior had frequently kept his father for long periods, and as the bread-baking enterprise had not been very successful, he considered that his parent should not have asked for money. The bench took the same view of the case and dismissed it.

CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE METROPOLITAN BOARD.—Mr Styles of Williamstown has been elected by the local council as its representative on the Metropolitan Board of Works. This is as it should be, in recognition of his undoubted talent in carrying out of similar works at Adelaide and elsewhere. We learn that Mr Styles intends nominating for the chairmanship of the Board, and we heartily hope that the combined wisdom of the Board will recognise that to appoint a gentleman with not only colonial experience, but with the practical ability to test the relative schemes upon which the great work may be established of the future sanitation of Greater Melbourne is to be accomplished, is of the most vital importance to the success of the vast design. There are several schemes besides that of Mr Mansergh which are deserving of the fullest consideration, and we are not of those who think that nothing less than freshly imported talent is competent to deal with our social requirements. In fact we take the opposite view, and contend that the men who helped practically to make the colony, and who are as wise as the full reports of recent improvements in science can make them are as much and more qualified to lay out our future progress as the highest certificated professor from the old country can be. Instead of all the plums in science, art, engineering, railway management, health professorships, church preferment and other things being set apart solely for the imported articles from England or elsewhere, we would use the experience and tried material which has grown up amongst us, and borne the heat and burden of the day already. Mr Styles is a man who has made his mark in the colonies for such works as the Metropolitan Board of Works has to construct, and has shown his ability. It is to be hoped that he will be successful in his attempt for the chairmanship at the Metropolitan Board of Works, so that the parrot-ery need not be repeated. "we must go to

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portant Board of Works, so that the
cry need not be repeated, "we must go to
England or America for talent." Let us give
the colonial article a fair show.

A SAD END.—Mr W. M. Clark, M.L.A., has just received news of the sudden death of his eldest brother, Instructor J. Clark, of the 3rd Volunteer Battalion, Gordon Highlanders, Peterhead, Scotland, through accidental poisoning. During the heat of the Crimean war the deceased joined the 79th Cameron Highlanders, being then under seventeen years of age. When peace was declared he returned to his home on leave, but was suddenly recalled and ordered to China owing to the outbreak of hostilities there. On arriving at the Cape news of the Indian Mutiny had preceded them, and Sir George Gray, then Governor, after consulting with Brigadier Adrian Hope, the officer in command, and uncle of our present Governor, sent the troops part in the capture of Lucknow, Delhi and other fierce battles, and after years of active service was seriously wounded in a storming party and invalided home, lame and almost blind. On regaining his sight and health he returned to India with a detachment, and after sixteen years service was appointed Instructor to the Reserve in Aberdeenshire. Only last month Mr Clark received a letter stating his intention of coming to Victoria when his term expired this year and he retired on full pay. From the local papers we learn that Instructor Clark accidentally swallowed some blue vitriol in mistake for sauce, and after suffering terrible agony for three days expired. He is spoken of as having served with the local companies of volunteers since 1872, his career throughout being marked with "fidelity, intelligence and zeal." In addition to the Volunteers, the Artillery, Naval Reserve and Boys' Brigade attended his funeral, which was accompanied with military honors. It seems a sarcasm of fate that a man who had fought so many battles and served a life-time should perish when he had all but won a well-deserved rest to "shoulder his crutch and tell how fields were won."