
TO-DAY.

Auctions.—

R. Russell, usual weekly horse sale, 2 p.m., firewood plant and business, 11 a.m., saddlery, tents, 3 p.m.

John Hunter and Co., furniture and effects, 2.30 p.m.

M. Farrell and Co., poultry, produce, furniture and sundries, 2 p.m.



The telegraph lines are still in disorder, and practically nothing but "urgent" business is getting through. It is now ten days since the smash occurred, not very creditable to the Department.

At the Supreme Court on Thursday (says the "Townsville Star,") probate in the will of Farquhar Aberdeen, late of Mackay, farmer, deceased, was on the application of Messrs. Roberts, Leu and Barnett (town agents for Mr S. B. Wright), granted to Ellen Sophia Aberdeen, of Mackay, widow. The estate was sworn at under £705.

The following letter (says the Rockhampton "Bulletin") was received by Mr R. R. Dawbarn, Secretary of the

Mr R. R. Dawbarn, Secretary of the Central Queensland Stockowners' Association, from Mr A. F. Matthews, Bowen Meat Works:—"In reply to your circular of the 21st. of December, with some trifling alterations in our works, we can chill or freeze for the Southern markets, and the charge would be about $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. f.o.b."

In the Small Debts Court on Friday, the interpleader case of J. Carroll judgment creditor, v. S. McAvoy, judgment debtor, and T. McAvoy, claimant, was concluded. The whole circumstances were reported on Friday, and after argument by Messrs Cotham and Milford, the solicitors engaged, the Bench decided that the pony and trap belonged to the claimant, and ordered the bailiff to hand over to him the proceeds of the sale. The question of costs was reserved.

A young man named Gustav Thaler had an unpleasant experience on Thursday night. He had visited some relatives, who were prospecting some six miles out of town, and rode out to see them. He left the camp at 4 p.m. to return to town, but missed the track, and was riding about all night in the rain in the hope of striking a road. At daylight young Thaler found himself at the Black Nob, where he accepted Mr Beff Taylor's hospitality and made a good breakfast. As he rode into town he met two con-

he rode into town he met two constables and a tracker, who, with his distracted parents, were just going out in search of him.

The balance sheet of the Townsville Harbor Board for the twelve months ended 31st December, (says the "Townsville Star.") was placed before the Board yesterday afternoon and adopted. Inclusive of a credit balance at the beginning of the year of £174 15s 4d the total receipts were £20,379 16s 11d, made up chiefly of harbor dues, £13,608 8s; eastern breakwater £5,153 (wharfage, etc.), and special leases £979 18s 1d. The expenditure for the same period was £17,507 19s, showing an actual profit on the year's transactions of £2,697 2s 7d. Most of the money on the debit side goes in salaries, wages, supplies, repairs, etc., so that the value of the Board to the business people of Townsville must be recognised. With the dredge plant doubled the outlay for the current year will be heavily increased, and with the near approach of the resumption of operations at the meat works business in Townsville within the next few months should improve considerably.

A true bill has been filed against the man John Gray in connection with the Telemou sheep-stealing case.

Mr. J. T. ... M.P. left for

Tetemon sheep-stealing case.

Mr J. T. Annear, M.P., left for Brisbane on Friday afternoon, and was seen off by about twenty of the representative men of Charters Towers, who gathered on the railway station. Before leaving Mr Annear thanked them for the kindness he always received on the goldfield.

The telegraph wire between Charters Towers and Townsville is used for the telephone service. The business of the telegraph office and telephone exchange can proceed at the same time except when the telephone bells are ringing; this breaks the telegraphic messages. Those who use the telephones assert, however, that a separate wire is necessary for the service.

The first meeting of the new Committee of the Pastoral Association was held at Messrs A. B. Bright and Co.'s office, on Friday evening, when there were present Messrs B. Toll, G. Knapp, A. Ross, J. Mathewson, T. H. Taylor, J. McConkey, G. P. Ellis, M. Brennan and S. Dellow. Mr. W. Tilley was re-elected Secretary, at the same remuneration. Sub-Committees were appointed for revising the various sections of the schedule, and for canvassing the town for donations. The dates for the coming show were fixed at May 26th and 27th, provid-

fixed at May 20th and 27th, providing they fitted in with the Townsville fixture.

In the Police Court on Friday, Margaret Villiers proceeded against her husband, James Villiers, for desertion. Complainant stated she was frightened of her husband, and had to leave him on Friday, 4th. inst., and since then he had turned the three children out of the house. Defendant said he was earning £3/10/- a week, and was willing to contribute to the support of his wife. An order for £3 a fortnight for twelve months was made, and in default of defendant entering into the necessary bond, 12 months' imprisonment.

Lieut. Gordon, of Townsville, who is now helping to "down" the niggers on the Indian frontier, may be in good heart in his work, but he and his comrades would be much invigorated and strengthened could they have daily draughts of the Lion Beer.*

R. Russell will sell at 11 a.m. a valuable firewood plant and business. At 2 p.m. he will submit an unusually good lot of horses, and at 3 p.m. a quantity of good saddlery and tents will be submitted.

John Hunter and Co. have a sale at 2.30 p.m. of a choice lot of household furniture and effects.

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An important sale of produce, poultry, crockery and sundries will be held by M. Farrell and Co. at 2 p.m.
