

# The Colonial Observer.

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## COLONIAL POLITICS.

### THE ASSESSMENT.

The object of municipal institutions is to invest in the hands of the inhabitants of those cities and towns where they are established the powers of local government, as regards certain objects which the general government of the country cannot be supposed to possess the requisite knowledge for efficiently legislating upon. These objects naturally suggest themselves. The maintenance of a police—the regulation of the interchange of commodities—the erection of public works for local objects—the making and repairing of streets—the prevention of nuisances, are the most prominent of these objects; for all of which, it is self-evident, that local knowledge is such an indispensable requisite, that they can never be carried out but by means of local organisation of one sort or another. The wisdom of our legislature is therefore apparent in the early institution of municipal government, wherever the materials for such government could be obtained. The origin of a great proportion of the municipal corporations of the mother country is lost in a remote antiquity, but the later history of such institutions, and of the legislation in regard to them, furnishes us with abundant ground for admiration, and material for beneficial reflection and research.

We do not mean, however, in the present instance, to enter into the general subject; but to confine our attention to the means by which municipal operations have generally been supported, with a special reference to the present position of our own Corporation.

Blame has been pretty generally attached to the City Council for the manner in which they have exercised their functions. The obvious course for the Council to have adopted, was to enter at once on the work of assessment, with a view to the procuring of the sinews of war. Indeed, the right of the Council to get into debt by opening a credit at a bank, or in any other way whatever, before making an assessment, is open to question. And the exercise of such a right, whether possessed or not, to such an extent as it has been carried, is extremely objectionable. It was necessary that the Council for the purpose of carrying on great public undertakings should have the power of contracting debt; and accordingly that right is secured to them by the Corporation Act, but limited by a given proportion to the amount of assessment. It was also necessary in the first instance that funds should be obtainable from a similar source to maintain the expenditure of the corporation in the outset till the first assessment should be realised. But care should have been taken that the contraction of debt—designed only in the latter instance as a very temporary expedient—should have been to an extent as limited as possible.

We do not think, however, that the blame can be altogether justly attached to the

Council, inexperienced as they necessarily were in first entering on the exercise of their functions. Few of their number have had opportunities of acquiring any knowledge of precedents to guide them as to the manner in which the duties devolving on them under the act should be discharged; and in judging of their official conduct the utmost forbearance ought to be exercised.

Had the act of incorporation specified the manner in which the assessment was in the first instance to be made, so as to leave no doubt of the legality of a certain mode of procedure, the matter would doubtless have been much more advanced than it is. But unfortunately this defect did not suggest itself to the framer of the act, or to the collective wisdom of the late legislature. The act was framed in its general features on the model of the English Corporation Reform Act, which was designed rather to reduce the municipal institutions previously existing to a state of uniformity, and to reform the monstrous abuses that had crept into them, than to prescribe the precise mode in which the powers recognised or conferred were to be carried out. We must therefore go back to an earlier period for information on that important point.

The total want of uniformity that prevailed in the powers and customs of particular corporations in the Mother country, renders reference to the customs and usages of the majority of such institutions altogether useless, as precedents for our guidance. The customs and usages of the corporation of the City of London, however, and the parliamentary enactments affecting those customs and usages, as that corporation is the one on which the greatest share of legislative attention has been bestowed, will always form useful matter for reference.

We find in the English Statute book laws regulating the powers of this corporation and the mode of their exercise, from a very early period in the history of the country: but as these are generally totally inapplicable to the existing state of society,\* we pass on to a later period; and with a view of furnishing some useful hints, extract a few clauses from an act passed in the reign of George the Second—the first authorising the imposition of a police rate; each citizen in turn having formerly been obliged, under the statute of Winchester, either to keep watch and ward in person, or to find a substitute.

"And for the better raising and levying of monies for paying the wages of the said watchmen and Bedels, and other charges incident thereto, be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the mayor, aldermen and commons of the said city, in common council assembled, every year as aforesaid, shall then and there, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to determine and direct what sum and sums of money shall be raised and levied upon each respective ward for answering the purposes aforesaid; and for raising the said several sums of money, to direct the alderman, deputy, and common council men of each and every of the respective wards in the

\* In the reign of Elizabeth a regulation was promulgated, forbidding the exposure of butcher's meat for sale in the markets on any day but Saturday. This of course would not do for our meridian!

said city of London and liberties thereof, or the major part of them, to make an equal rate and assessment upon all and every the person and persons who do or shall inhabit, hold, occupy or enjoy any land, house, shop, warehouse or other tenement, within their respective wards (regard being had in making the said rate, to the abilities of, and likewise to the rent paid by the said several inhabitants and occupiers so to be rated and assessed), and the aldermen, deputy, and common council men of each ward of the said city, or the major part of them, are hereby authorized and required to make such rate and assessment for their respective wards, in such manner and form as shall be so directed by the said council of common council; which said rates or assessments so to be made, and all arrears due upon the same, shall be collected quarterly from the several inhabitants or occupiers, in each of the said several wards, by the several constables for the time being of the several precincts, or by the bedels in each of the said respective wards, as the alderman, deputy and common council men of each ward, or the major part of them, shall direct and appoint; and in case any of the said inhabitants or occupiers shall refuse or neglect to pay the sum so rated or assessed upon him, her, or them, it shall and may be lawful to and for such collector or collectors, by warrant under the hand and seal of the lord mayor of the said city for the time being, or the aldermen of the ward wherein the premises for which such inhabitants or occupiers shall be rated and assessed shall be situate (which warrant the said lord mayor or alderman is hereby authorized and required to grant, upon oath made before him, by the said collector or collectors, of the party or parties so refusing or neglecting to pay), to levy the same by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the party or parties so neglecting or refusing, rendering to him, her, or them, the overplus (if any be) the reasonable charge of making the said distress and sale being first deducted; and for want of such distress, by like warrants to commit the party or parties so neglecting or refusing to one of the said collectors of the said city for the space of one month, or until payment thereof."

There can be no doubt that the late court of appeal held by the council, if not contrary to the act, was at least not contemplated by it, as the only court of appeal recognised by the act is the Quarter Sessions; but it is a singular fact that the council has a sort of precedent in the Court of Appeal, constituted in the City of London under this act, always excepting that in London the decision of the Mayor's Court was final, while that of the City Council of Sydney carries no legal authority whatever. The following clause constitutes the Mayor, and Aldermen, the Court of Appeal from the assessment.

"Provided always and it is hereby declared that in case any person or persons shall think him or herself aggrieved, by any rate and assessment to be made as aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for them respectively, within the space of twenty days after the sum so rated and assessed shall be demanded, to appeal to the court of lord mayor and aldermen, whose decision shall be final and conclusive."

The mode of collection is very minutely prescribed by the act. It is as follows:—

"And be it further enacted by authority aforesaid, that all and every the collector or collectors of the rates and assessments aforesaid, of every ward shall collect the same quarterly, and shall severally enter in some book or books, to be by them respectively kept for that purpose, the several sums which they shall from time to time receive on account of the said rates and assessments, and likewise the names of the persons from whom, and the particular times when they received the same; which book and books they shall at all convenient times produce upon demand, and shew to the deputy or deputies of their respective wards; and they shall pay the money by them respectively received on account of the said rates and assessments into the hands of such deputy, as he or they shall receive the same, and in such manner as that such collector shall never have a sum exceeding five pounds so collected at one time in his or their hands, by the space of five days; and if any of the said collectors shall neglect to make such entries, or shall refuse to produce and shew to the deputy of their respective wards, the book or books hereby directed to be by them respectively kept for the purposes aforesaid, (the same having been demanded of them, or if any of them shall keep or retain in his or their hands more than the said sum of five pounds, longer than five days, in each and every of the said cases, the person or persons so offending shall respectively forfeit the sum of forty shillings for

every such offence; and on payment of every such sum of money into the hands of such deputy of each ward, such collector or collectors shall take a receipt for the same from the said deputy, in which receipt shall be specified and expressed the name of such collector or collectors, the sum paid, and the name of the precinct and ward wherein the money hath been collected; and the respective deputies for the time being shall be obliged, and he and they is and are hereby required to give such receipt without fee or reward; and such receipts shall, by the collector or collectors, be produced to the alderman of the ward at the time he and they shall settle and adjust his and their yearly account and accounts, and shall by the said alderman be taken and allowed as a full and sufficient discharge for all and every such sum and sums of money collectors shall have received and paid such deputies respectively as aforesaid; and the said several collectors shall, within twenty days next after the end of every three months, after their severally taking upon themselves the said office of a collector, produce and deliver to the alderman of the said ward, or such person as he shall appoint to receive the same, the book and books in which they entered the sums by them severally received on account of the said rates; and shall at the same time give and deliver to the said alderman, or such person as he shall appoint to receive the same, a true account in writing of all such persons as shall have neglected or refused to pay the said rates and assessments, to the intent that the same may afterwards be recovered and levied."

The law, as regarded the assessment of a houses subdivided, which promises to be one of the most fertile sources of public nuisance under the provisions of our act, is deserving of attention, as involving a principle which ought to determine all questions relative to such subdivisions; and if that principle is inadmissible under the provisions of the Sydney Corporation Act, the sooner it is amended the better.

"And whereas many houses in several of the wards of the said city are, by the several landlords or owners thereof, let out in lodgings or tenements, to divers tenants, whereby it will be difficult to rate and assess such houses, or to recover such rates and assessments when made; for remedy whereof, be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that from and after the twenty-fifth day of December, which shall be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty-seven, it shall and may be lawful to and for the aldermen of each respective ward, by and with the consent of his deputy and common councilmen, or the major part of them, from time to time, and at all times when they are directed by the lord mayor, aldermen and commons of the said city, in common council assembled, to make any rate and assessment on the inhabitants of their respective wards, to rate and assess the owner or owners of all such houses or tenements as shall be let or occupied by three or more tenants, which rate and assessment shall be paid by one or more of the occupiers of any part or parts of such houses; and in case any occupier or occupiers of any part of such houses or tenements shall refuse to pay the same, then the said rate and assessment shall be levied by distress and sale of the goods of him or her or them so refusing to pay the same, which distress and sale shall be made in like manner as distresses and sales of the goods of other parties neglecting or refusing to pay the rates and assessments imposed and directed to be imposed by virtue of this act, are directed to be made; and such occupier and occupiers of such tenements are hereby required and authorized to pay such sum and sums of money as shall be so rated, imposed or assessed on the owner or owners thereof, in pursuance of this act, and to deduct the same out of the rent thereof; and the landlord or owner or owners thereof are hereby required to allow such deductions and payments upon receipt of the residue of their rents; and every tenant paying such assessment or assessments shall be acquitted and discharged for so much money as the said assessment or assessments shall amount unto, as if the same had been actually paid to such person or persons to whom him or her or their rent should have been due and payable."

The same act also amends an act for the raising of a rate for pavement and sewerage, made in the reign of King Charles the Second, so far as the imposition of a rate on untenanted houses is concerned. The powers conferred are such as defy all evasion, and must have been a very powerful aid to the corporation in carrying out the objects of municipal government. They are in the first place, authorised to make

the assessment, and if there is nothing to distract upon in the meantime, the assessment is to be allowed to accumulate, if unpaid, till the tenement be occupied; when the first tenant is to be pounced on for the accumulated arrears; the tenant having the privilege of reserving the amount from his rent as it fell due. Such a law, however, would be found too arbitrary to be tolerated in our day.

We have thus furnished a few hints which may be of service in the proper quarter. So far as the enactments we have quoted are not repugnant to the act under which our municipal council is constituted, and so far as they do not relate to offices which that act does not recognise, they may be taken as precedents; being the basis of the practice, as regards the particular assessment specified, of the most powerful, and perhaps the best regulated, corporation in the world.

CITY COUNCIL.

MONDAY, JULY 31, 1843.

Present.—The Mayor in the chair; Aldermen Allen, Broughton, Flood, Wiltshire and Mitchell; Councilors Holden, Hunt, Macdermot, Sinimmons, Peacock, Letic, Chapman, Neale, Taylor, D. Jones and Hollishead.

Mr. Holden wished to know whether it was the intention of the council to lay on the water to the houses in the streets where the main pipes had been laid down.

The Mayor replied that the subject had been before discussed in council, but owing to the expense attending it, it was determined for the present to take no steps in the matter.

Alderman Allen said that the late Town Clerk gave his opinion that if the council commenced laying on the water from the mains it would be compelled to lay it on to every house, which could not be done at a less expense than five or six thousand pounds, and in the present state of the city funds it would be ridiculous to contemplate such a thing. A meeting of the water committee would be called during the week, and the subject would then be brought before them.

The Mayor stated, that in consequence of the insolvency of the assessor of Phillip Ward, it became imperative upon them to elect, within fourteen days of the declaration of insolvency, from duly qualified citizens, another assessor to supply the vacancy.

The Town Clerk read from the Government Gazette, the notification of Mr. Wallard's insolvency.

Alderman Broughton moved and Mr. Holden seconded a resolution to the effect, that in consequence of Mr. Joseph Wallard, one of the assessors of Phillip Ward, having taken the benefit of the insolvent act, his office be declared vacant.

Mr. Holden moved that the first clause should stand as follows:—"That the market shall be open for the sale of goods on every lawful day, and that shed letter B be open every Sabbath-day until nine o'clock in the forenoon," and so on.

Alderman Flood seconded the motion, and said, in one of the greatest cities in the world the markets were kept open on Sunday till ten o'clock in the forenoon; and if in the chief city of England that was the case, he saw no reason why they should not do the same in the chief city of New South Wales.

Mr. Taylor said that when it was stated that one of the greatest cities in the world kept open their markets till ten o'clock on the Sabbath, it was right that the council should be informed that the greatest and best of that city were petitioning from year to year in order that the nuisance might be stopped. In the year 1832, when the matter was discussed in the House of Commons, and on the occasion of a large petition being presented, a majority of 107 voted against the markets being shut. In 1833, when Sir Andrew Agnew brought the subject before the House, the majority had dwindled to 3, and he hoped when again brought forward there would be a majority of 107 for it.

It would impress upon the council that they as a body, of Christian men should not by the first act which derived the name of legislation pass a law to desecrate the Sabbath. He had lived in England for seven years in some of its large towns, and he never saw its markets open on the Sabbath, and there was now a strenuous effort making for the purpose of putting a stop to the desecration of that holy day; 230,000 persons had united together for the purpose of securing its better observance.

Mr. Neale would protest most strongly against such an act being passed.

Alderman Mitchell thought at any time, but particularly at such a time as the present, the council should be careful how they made acts repugnant to the laws of God—he should strongly oppose any enactment calculated to desecrate the Sabbath.

Mr. Hunt was credibly informed, that in the markets in the city of London no goods were allowed to be exposed for sale on the Sabbath; and thought that they, as a public body, ought not to countenance any trafficking upon that day.

Mr. Macdermot thought that it was hardly necessary to reply to the speeches that had been made; but as some fresh matter had been brought before the council, he should meet some of the statements with a flat denial, and could bring proof in support of what he should advance. If the greatest and best portion of the community had signed the petition referred to

by Mr. Taylor, and the greatest and best men had supported it in the house, he could not see how it was that it had not been carried. It had been stated that the London markets had been closed—this he denied, but if he was in London he would advocate the closing of the markets, as the same necessity did not exist there as here; the only ground upon which he advocated their being opened was, that it would be detrimental to the great body of the people to close them, and that the local legislature had passed a law, after mature consideration, that the markets should be opened on Sunday.

Alderman Allen found in his Bible a command to "Remember the Sabbath-day to keep it holy."

Alderman Flood thought it would afford a very bad precedent, if the Aldermen were allowed to introduce the Bible into the council.

Alderman Allen thought it could not for a moment be contended that they were observing the Divine command by allowing the markets to be kept open. He would call their attention to "Burns's Justice," in which it is stated that in the good old times of James the First, dancing and other amusements were permitted after the morning service—perhaps this might be approved by some of the council—perhaps it might be the wish of some of them that the citizens should be in the market till nine or ten o'clock in the morning, then to dress themselves, go to church, return home, and in the afternoon have a dance in the market place. This would be the probable result of sanctioning the opening of the market, and of all owing the Sabbath to be a day of business. If they began to profane the Lord's-day, no one could say where the evil would end. The disgrace of allowing the market to be opened at the present time lay with the magistrates of Sydney. He had heard a late Governor praised to the skies, and he (Alderman Allen) for one thing praised him. In a proclamation which he had made, he declared by virtue of his office, from and after the 1st of 1835, the market should be opened on Tuesday and Friday in every week, Good Friday and Christmas Day excepted, and nobody would pretend to say that Sir Richard Bourke thought more of Good Friday or of Christmas Day than the morning. He was not afraid that if the matter were left to his Worship, he would vote for a profanation of the Sabbath—no right-minded man would adopt such a course.

Mr. Macdermot called upon Alderman Allen to retract the words he had used, as he considered them highly personal.

Alderman Allen did not wish to make any personal remark. By the clause in the Local Act to which reference had been made, the magistrates were enjoined to prevent the desecration of the Sabbath, and although butchers' shops and some others were allowed to be opened, there was nothing to warrant the opening of the market. The plea of necessity was exceedingly weak, as the poor might obtain their meat up to half-past eleven o'clock on Saturday night.

Mr. Hollishead said, the Councilors had gone on in their usual strain. The colony had passed the most favourable for money-making, as possessing the finest climate in the world, and now they wanted to show that the people of New South Wales were the greatest sinners in the world. According to the laws of England, the Sunday here did not commence till ten o'clock in the morning, and indeed there was some doubt as to when Sunday really fell, but at the alteration of the style, they had gone all at once ten days a-head, and it was therefore difficult to say which was the right day. The commandment said, "Six days shalt thou labour and do all that thou hast to do," but it stopped there, and did not tell one how to manage if he had not done his work; the Legislature, therefore, provided for the difficulty, and told them if they had not finished they should have their seven days.

Mr. Holden had studiously avoided introducing religious matters into the question: he left the consideration of it as a matter of religion or morality out of the scale altogether, and merely advocated it as a matter of convenience, as he thought the closing the market would be a great inconvenience to the public. He moved that a provision should be added to the second clause, stating, that no bell be rung for opening the market on Sunday.

Mr. Macdermot having seconded the resolution, it was adopted.

When the fifth clause was proposed, Mr. Holden suggested that the present was the proper time to make some reservation respecting the Floral Show.

Mr. Macdermot stated, that as that show was set apart for societies who could occupy their stalls for one day only, there was no occasion for making the provision suggested.

When the sixth clause was read, Mr. Holden proposed to introduce the word "fish," before the word game, but it having been explained that the Corporation had it in contemplation to establish fish markets, the clause was allowed to stand as printed.

Clause ninth was altered so that the penalty should be not less than five shillings nor more than forty shillings, and a provision added to render it lawful for the Clerk of the Market and his assistants to seize such articles as may be exposed for sale, after the owners had been warned to remove the same.

The Mayor stated that it had been proposed that the City Council should meet the New Legislative Council on the first day on which the Governor visited them, and it was arranged that Mayor, Aldermen, and Common-Councilmen meet for that purpose, according to notice, in the City Chambers, and proceed to the Legislative Council Chambers, on the day referred to.

Alderman Wiltshire gave notice of motion—"That looking at the importance which is involved in the minute book, containing a detailed and perfect history of the proceedings of this Corporation, it is expedient that a Committee be formed for the purpose of examining the same, and reporting to this Council how far this has been carried into effect heretofore."

The Council adjourned till three o'clock on Friday.

SUPREME COURT.—IN BANCO.

MONDAY.—(Before their Honors the Three Judges.)

THE QUEEN V. BRITTON.

On a former day, Mr. Foster obtained a rule to

show cause why the writ of extent should not be granted, and the defendant discharged, on the grounds that the writ had been issued without an affidavit of danger; that it had been issued without the fiat of a judge, and that the debt for which it had been issued was not matter of record.

The Solicitor-General and Mr. Broadhurst now showed cause against the rule.

The court reserved its decision.

THE QUEEN V. STEFNEY.

Mr. Broadhurst now appeared on the part of the defendant, to move that the conviction should be quashed, on the ground that upon the conviction a particular offence should be shown, and that in the present instance this had not been done. The convict in merely stating that the defendant had made a true report at the custom house, but not the particular matter upon which the report made was untrue.

The Attorney-General and Mr. Foster contended, that the words of the 89th clause of the act gave complete effect to the conviction in the words which had been used by the magistrates.

The court directed that the defendant be remanded to the custody of the Sheriff on his present sentence. The Sheriff not being in court when it gave its decision, on being made aware of what had taken place, he enquired where the defendant was, and he not answering, the court directed that Henry Danley Stefney be three times called on his recognizances; when not appearing, the court directed that the same be estraited into the hands of the Exchequer Court.

Henry Sheldon and Robert Thomson, whose names appear in the bond, were afterwards called, but not appearing, the court directed that it should be ordered on the bond that they had been called, but did not appear.

EX-PARTE JAMES JOHNSON.

Mr. Michie moved for a rule, calling on the Collector of the Customs to show cause why a mandamus should not issue to compel him to give a clearance to a vessel called the "Nautilus." The case was ordered to stand over.

IN THE INSOLVENCY OF BENJAMIN SINGLETON, THE ELDER.

Mr. Michie applied to the Court on behalf of the Insolvent to make a rule nisi absolute against all the creditors who had been served with notice of the present application, the rule nisi had been originally obtained under the 16th clause of the Insolvent Act, calling on the creditors to show cause why they ought not to pay ratably according to their respective claims certain sums which he had expended or become liable for in his endeavours to realize the said estate. The Commissioner's report was put in and read, by which it appeared that the total expenses incurred had ve considerably exceeded the assets which he had been able to realise.

Mr. Broadhurst opposed the application. After a brief consultation on the bench, the application was granted, but without costs.

MOTION FOR A NEW TRIAL.—PETTINGALE V. M'LEAV.

An action brought to recover the amount of a promissory note, tried before Mr. Justice Stephen, on the 6th July, when a verdict was returned for the plaintiff for the amount claimed. A new trial was now applied for, on the ground that the verdict was against evidence.

The Court granted the application, and directed the costs to abide the result of the new trial.

BETHEL UNION.

A meeting of the friends of this institution was held on Friday evening, at the Hall lately occupied as the City Theatre, in Market-street. The object of the meeting was to determine whether the Society should discontinue their operations, in consequence of the pecuniary difficulties the society has had to encounter, through the withdrawal of the assistance pledged by the London Seamen's Friend Society. From this cause and the lukewarmness of parties here in the support of the institution, it had fallen into debt, to the amount of £91 13s. 4d. Notwithstanding the defection of some members of committee, the heartiest zeal was exhibited at the meeting in support of the institution, and the sum of £63 15s. 6d. was collected and subscribed on the occasion. The following gentlemen were elected a committee for the ensuing year:—The Rev. Dr. Lang, Rev. E. L. Threlkeld, J. H. Williams, Esq., Mr. Alderman Mitchell, Messrs. Crook, Chapman, Dobson, W. Curry, sen., and Dr. Whittell; Mr. Gowland, Secretary, and Mr. Cadell, Treasurer, with power to add to their number. A vote of thanks was given at the close of the meeting to Mr. Alderman Allen, for his conduct in the chair.

SPEECH OF WM. BECKFORD, ESQ., LORD MAYOR OF LONDON.

The following is the speech of Mr. Beckford, to the King, to which we had lately occasion to advert. Mr. B. was twice Mayor of London, in 1763 and 1770. The speech is inscribed on his monument in letters of gold:—

"Most Gracious Sovereign—Will your Majesty be pleased so far to condescend, as to permit the mayor of your loyal city of London, to declare, in your Royal presence, on behalf of his fellow-citizens, how much the bare apprehension of your Majesty's displeasure would at all times affect their minds? The declaration of that displeasure has already filled them

with inexpressible anxiety, and with the deepest affliction. Permit me, sire, to assure your Majesty, that your Majesty has not in all your dominions, any subjects more faithful, or more ready to sacrifice their lives and fortunes, in the maintenance of the honour and dignity of your Crown. We do therefore, with the greatest humility and submission, most earnestly supplicate your Majesty, that you will not dismiss your presence without expressing a more favourable opinion of your faithful citizens, and without some comfort, without some prospect at least of redress. Permit me, sire, to observe, that whoever has already dared, or shall hereafter endeavour, by false insinuations, and suggestions, to alienate your Majesty's affections from your loyal subjects in general, and from your City of London in particular, is an enemy to your Majesty's person and family, a violator of the public peace, and a betrayer of our happy constitution, as it was established at the glorious revolution."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE OBSERVER.

SIR—Presuming Mr. James Macarthur's speech at the late Parramatta dinner to be correctly reported in the Australian of Friday, the 21st instant, and detecting fallacies in it which, if uncontradicted, may produce erroneous impressions throughout the colony—permit me, through the medium of your valuable journal, to unravel the somewhat entangled web of his arguments.

Mr. Macarthur states, that "after his return to the colony in 1833, he was placed in the Legislative Council as a nominee of the crown, and he hoped his friends would allow that in this character, he had repudiated the narrow doctrine—that office under the crown precluded the advocacy of the cause of the people, and that the principles of the Constitution rendered the service of the crown incompatible with that of the people." The tendency of these remarks is obvious, and truly (if Mr. J. Macarthur's words were to be admitted) the colonists had lit a reason for thinking that government which gave them a council, consisting entirely of crown nominees. But can he, who was not in the pay of the crown, attempt to make the people believe that he held, or fancied he held, a government appointment. With regard to "the principles of the constitution rendering the service of the crown incompatible with the service of the people," I have yet to learn either that such is the case, or that any one has so asserted. But Lord John Russell's circular proves the practice; and though evasion to serve a particular end has been, and doubtless will be again resorted to, when a government circular is found to cut two ways, the colonists feel, after that publication, that no government paid officer dare, on any measure, publicly oppose the government, without running the risk of losing his appointment and salary together.

Mr. Macarthur proceeds:—"From this source of error, what millions of folly had sprung, for rigidly viewing the constitution of England, from Magna Charta downwards, he defied any one to show one particle of proof, from which such an absurd doctrine, as that attempted to be laid down, could even be urged by implication. Such anti-English doctrines the good sense of the colonists would laugh to scorn, and he would at once challenge their modern professors of constitutional doctrines, to shew their authorities for such fanciful theories." Mr. Macarthur is fond of the word "doctrine," but I fear misunderstands it. Johnson says, "Doctrine," substantive, 1st—Principles or positions of any sect or master; 2nd—the act of teaching. Now Lord John Russell's circular says not one word of his principles or positions; nor does it attempt to teach Sir George Gipps. It gives him a plain and positive order, and rests as little upon the doctrine of England's Constitution, or Magna Charta, as upon any other cant phrase to which was alluded to.

Mr. Macarthur states "latitude of opinion to be the right of the elector," and the duty of the elector is to choose the best representative. The electors of Cumberland believe that they have chosen the *two best*. Can Mr. Macarthur mean that he wished any requisitionist of Mr. Lawson (who has committed no political error) to vote for Cowper and Macarthur? If, by "latitude of opinion," he means that the victim of his intrigues in Camden—one in whom 504 electors of Cumberland felt more confidence than himself—was to content himself with his (Mr. Macarthur's) leavings only, it will be a long time, indeed, before such wisdom will discover the *longitude*.

I perfectly agree with Mr. Macarthur's sentiments when he says "he should never hesitate to change his opinions, when he thought he ought to change them." How, after such an assertion, he can persevere in using harsh expressions, and imputing unworthy motives to those 504 electors of Cumberland, who thought it right to change their opinions of him. I am at a loss to conceive.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, ANTI-HUMBBUG.

The *Stratheden* was compelled to return to port on Sunday last in consequence of having ran foul of the barque *British Isle*, with which she was going in company through Torres's Straits, the former bound for Madras, with horses, &c., and the latter for Guam, in ballast. They left Sydney on Thursday last. On Friday night, about half-past eight, the weather was thick and very dark; having a foul wind, they were both close hauled, the *Stratheden* on the starboard tack, and the *British Isle* on the starboard, the former going about five knots per hour, and the latter about four; the darkness of the night prevented them from seeing each other until it was too late, when every exertion on both sides was made to prevent the collision; but in vain. The *Stratheden* struck the *British Isle* on the larboard bow, which sprung her foremast, carried away her foremast, and the greater part of her bulwark. The *Stratheden's* bowsprit was entirely carried away, together with her cutwater and catheads. Had the *British Isle* been deeply laden the accident must have proved fatal to one or other; but in consequence of her being so very light, the shock was not so great. Neither of them have received any great injury, with the exception of the above mentioned which can be replaced without going on the slip, or being hove down.

EX ANDOVER, REFLECTOR, AND RACHEL.

NOW LANDING, and for sale by the undersigned, Gent's fine light black stuff hats, fashionable shapes...

COLONIAL MANUFACTURED SILVER-STEEL RAZORS.

T. MAPPIN & CO. respectfully inform settlers, gentlemen travelling, and others, that they are now manufacturing Razors of pure Silver-steel...

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society will be held in the Old Court House, Castlereagh-street, on MONDAY, the 31st instant...

STEAM TO TWOFOLD BAY, LAUNCESTON, AND PORT PHILLIP.

NOTICE.—The "SHAMROCK" Steamship will leave Sydney for Launceston and Port Phillip, on FRIDAY, 4th AUGUST, at 12 o'clock in the morning...

NOTICE.—The Undersigned hereby repeats his former notice to the public, not to give trust or credit to any person whatsoever on his account without his written authority.

THOMAS ADAMS, of Cannal Creek, Darling Downs, in the District of Moreton Bay, at present residing in Jamison-street, in the City of Sydney...

REMOVAL.

MR. AARON, SURGEON ACCOUCHEUR, &c., to Campbell-street, opposite the Cattle Market.

MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE is hereby given, in reference to the Call of £1000, made on the 28th June last, that those parties who do not pay their proportions of the same within fifteen days from this date...

FIVE ISLAND FARM, ILLAWARRA.

THE Trustees of Mr. William Wilson's estate hereby give notice to all parties who have Cattle or Horses running on the Five Island Farm...

EXCHANGE UPON LONDON.

THE Royal Bank of Australia hereby give Notice, that they will dispose of their drafts on London at thirty days' sight, in such sums as may be required.

UNION BANK OF AUSTRALIA.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Bills at 30 days' sight, drawn on the Board of Directors in London, will be issued by this Bank at par.

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Bills at 30 days sight on the Court of Directors, London, will be issued at par.

THE FRIENDS OF John Rae, Esq.

A.M., propose to invite him to a Public Dinner, in the College Hall, Jamison-street, on Thursday next, 3rd August, on the occasion of his election as Town Clerk.

TO COACH BUILDERS.

THE UNDERSIGNED begs leave to acquaint them that he has for sale a few Prime English chaise Hides, well adapted for Hoods of Phaetons, Aprons of Gigs, &c., which he will sell at considerably reduced prices, for cash only.

TO BE LET.

A SUBSTANTIAL brick-built Cottage, containing 2 rooms surrounded with nearly an acre of capital garden ground, well fenced in, &c., &c., situated on the Redfern Estate...

AUSTRALASIAN SUGAR COMPANY.

IN consequence of the increased business, and extended connexion of this Company, the Directors, with a view to afford every facility to Merchants, Grocers, Storekeepers, and other purchasers, have taken large and commodious stores in Bank-court, King-street, East...

TO FLOCK-OWNERS AND OTHERS.

IMMEDIATE preparations, on an extensive scale, will be made forthwith by the undersigned, in or near Sydney, to boil down sheep, and to prepare their fat, wool, and pelts, in a merchantable way, on account of the owners, for the English markets...

FURNISHED BED-ROOM TO LET.

A FURNISHED BED-ROOM to let in the house of a respectable family, where no other lodgers are, in a central and healthy situation.

JOHN FEARNLEY & Co.,

From Peck and Campbell's, GROCERS AND OIL MEN, GENERAL PROVISION AND CORN DEALERS, Lower George-street, Sydney, opposite the site of the Old Jail.

TEA, Sugar, Coffee, and every description of Groceries.

Sugar, Coffee, and every description of Groceries; Soap, Candles, Rice, Barley, Oatmeal, Peas, Hams, Cheese, Preserved Provisions, Pickles, Sauces, Confectionary, Spices, Brushes, Brooms, Stationery, Gunpowder, Shot, Pitch, Tar, Varnish, Oils, Rosin, Paints, Oakum, Cordage, Canvas, and Ironmongery.

IMPORTANT AND ECONOMICAL.

AS this is the season when Coffee is an article of general and really economical consumption, the undersigned consider it a duty they owe the public, particularly those who have not had the pleasure of tasting their delicious Coffee...

GUILDFORD RACES.

THE GUILDFORD ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RACES will take place upon the 19th, 20th, and 22nd days of September next.

Letter-press Printing

EXECUTED WITH NEATNESS, ACCURACY, AND DESPATCH, AND ON MODERATE TERMS, AT THIS OFFICE, COMPRISING BOOK WORK, PAMPHLETS, CATALOGUES, CIRCULARS, ACTIONEERS' BILLS, LAW FORMS, CARDS, BILL HEADS, LABELS, ETC.

THE COLONIAL OBSERVER

IS PUBLISHED TWICE A-WEEK, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and circulated extensively through this and the neighbouring Colonies; also, in Britain, India, and America.

PORT PHILLIP PATRIOT.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND ADVERTISEMENTS for the above talented and influential journal, conducted by Alderman KERR, of Melbourne; as also moneys in payment of the same are received at this office.

LAUNCESTON EXAMINER.

PARTIES desirous of becoming subscribers to this influential Journal may have an opportunity to do so by leaving their addresses at this office. All orders will meet with prompt attention.

FOR SALE.

ONE of the choicest selections of Land in the County of Argyle, distant about 9 miles from Goulburn, consisting of 855 acres, or thereabouts, having a frontage of a mile and a quarter to the Wollondilly River, on the north; and bounded on the east by J. Chisholm's 931 acres; on the south by the Berridale Plains country; and on the west by Capt. Currie's grant of 2000 acres, now the property of J. Chisholm, Esq.

CHEAP FUEL.

THE GAS COMPANY are selling Coke and Breeze at the following reduced prices:—

COKE. Delivered at the Works, twenty shillings per chaldron.

BREEZE, OR SMALL COKE. Delivered at the Works, six shillings per chaldron, or twopenny per bushel.

BEST REFINED SUGAR, 3½d. PER POUND.

AUSTRALASIAN SUGAR COMPANY.

THE undersigned are the present prices of the Company's Goods— Fine Loaves and Tilters, 3½d per lb. Crushed Lump, £32 per ton. Fine Pieces, £21 to £24 per ton. Molasses, £10 per ton. Papering and string extra.

CITY REFRESHMENT ROOMS.

MR. GILL begs to announce to his Patrons and the Public, that at the request of several friends, he has been induced to open a BRANCH REFECTORY, immediately next door to the CITY THEATRE, which will be conducted with the same regard to Comfort and Convenience that distinguishes his house in Pitt-street, and obtains for him so large a share of Public Patronage.

MARKET-STREET.

MR. GILL begs to announce to his Patrons and the Public, that at the request of several friends, he has been induced to open a BRANCH REFECTORY, immediately next door to the CITY THEATRE, which will be conducted with the same regard to Comfort and Convenience that distinguishes his house in Pitt-street, and obtains for him so large a share of Public Patronage.

SHAWLS AND HATS, TO CLOSE CONSIGNMENTS.

MR. SAMUEL LYONS will sell by Auction, at his Mart, corner of George-street and Charlotte-place, THIS DAY, the 2nd instant, at eleven o'clock, A & Co.—One case containing seventy-three shawls

TS & Co. } 8—One case, containing forty-eight S under } Men's Hats and Boxes in dia- } mond, } } 11—One case containing Twelve Men's Hats Thirty-six ditto Paris ditto Terms at sale.

REGATTA SHIRTS.

(On account of whom it may concern.)

MR. SAMUEL LYONS will sell by auction, at his Mart, corner of George-street and Charlotte-place, on WEDNESDAY, the 2nd instant, at Ten o'clock precisely, Ex Rachel, from London,

R. M. & Co. \$—50. One bale containing fifty dozen men's regatta shirts 55. One ditto containing forty dozen ditto. Also, ex Reflector, Withycombe, from London, R. M. & Co. \$—62. One bale containing fifty dozen men's regatta shirts.

HOSEERY.

(On account of whom it may concern, ex Rachel, from London.) MR. SAMUEL LYONS will sell by auction, at his Mart, corner of George-street and Charlotte-place, THIS DAY, the 2nd instant, at ten o'clock, JB, M under. 1—5 Five cases cotton hoseery, slightly damaged. Terms at sale.

SHOE THREAD, AND GROCERS' TWINE.

(On account of whom it may concern, ex Rachel, from London.)

MR. SAMUEL LYONS will sell by auction, at his Mart, corner of George-street and Charlotte-place, THIS DAY, the 2nd instant, at ten o'clock. A B S in diamond \$ outside.

1—One case containing thirteen dozen patent shoe thread, 2 oz. balls 2—One ditto ditto ditto 3—One ditto containing fifteen dozen grocers' twine, 8 oz. balls, coarse 4—One ditto containing fifteen dozen ditto, fine. All more or less damaged by salt water. Terms at sale.

EXCELLENT CITY PROPERTY, ADJOINING THE PREMISES OF MESSRS. R. AND T. COVENEY, MASTER-STREET.

MR. SAMUEL LYONS has received instructions to sell by public auction, on the Ground, in Market-street, on FRIDAY, the 4th instant, at eleven o'clock precisely, Two allotments, situate in Market-street, and adjoining the premises of Messrs. R. and T. Covenev, Wholesale Grocers.

Lot No. 1. Contains sixteen feet three inches frontage to Market-street, with a depth of fifty feet eight inches, on which is erected a small building.

Lot No. 2. Contains sixteen feet six inches frontage to Market-street, with a depth of fifty-one feet eight inches, on which is erected a small building.

The above are at present in the occupation of Mr. Tobin, and Mr. Fitzsimmons. The Auctioneer particularly invites the attention of the public to the above valuable property, which is situated in the best part of the City of Sydney. A plan of the above is on view at the Mart of the Auctioneer, Terms at Sale.

BLANKETS AND TOBACCO.

MR. SAMUEL LYONS will sell by Auction at his Mart, corner of George-street and Charlotte-place, THIS DAY, the 2nd instant, at eleven o'clock, Three bales Blankets Five tierce Tobacco, ex Livingstone Terms at Sale.

SUGAR EX "OSPREY."

MR. SAMUEL LYONS will sell by auction, at his Mart, corner of George-street and Charlotte-place, on TUESDAY, the 8th instant, at Eleven o'clock, M about 1341 bags of Sugar P about 2000 ditto

3341 bags, more or less

In lots to suit the convenience of purchasers. Terms at sale.

HATS, SILVER PLATE, LAMPS, AND LAMP GLASSES.

JUST LANDED.

MR. SAMUEL LYONS will sell by auction, at his Mart, corner of George-street and Charlotte-place, on MONDAY, 7th instant, at eleven o'clock, Twenty-four cases Hats, consisting of—Fine, superfine, and extra fine, qualities One case silver plate One case lamps One case lamp glasses.

Terms at sale.

NEW PIANOFORTES.

MR. MARSH begs to announce that he has now ready for inspection a numerous assortment of Pianofortes, direct from Messrs. Broadwood, consisting of the newest patent horizontal grand, bicords, semi-grand, cottage, and elegant square Pianofortes. As it is improbable that there will be so large a selection of instruments in the colony again for a long period, persons desirous of procuring a really good Pianoforte, should not lose so good an opportunity. Mr. Marsh will also recommence his instructions on the pianoforte, harp, and singing, at his Music Room, Bligh-street.

DOMESTIC GOODS.

A. MITCHELL begs to inform the public that he has just opened the following— 1 Bale white counterpanes 2 " white quilts 2 " super calicoes 2 " longcloths 2 " extra stout sheeting 2 " yard wide sheeting 2 " two yard 2 " unbleached 1 " two yard wide 1 " hunchback and glass linens 1 " Welch flannels 1 " Lancashire 2 " West of England cloths and cassimeres 1 case Chintz printed furnitures 1 " colored cambric lining 1 " brown holland 2 " undressed 2 " white and coloured rolled jaconets 1 " plain jaconet muslins 1 " check 1 " toilet covers, plain and fringed 4 " dark and light prints 1 " white moleskins and cantoons 1 " drab 1 " cotton hoseery 1 " white jeans and India dimites 1 " crib quilts and white stuyes Waterloo House, King-street.

AUSTRALIAN GAS LIGHT COMPANY.

(Under the Act of Council, 8th Wm. IV. and 3rd Victoria.)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the next Annual General Meeting of this Company will be held at the Company's office, Pitt-street, Sydney, on Wednesday, the sixteenth day of August next, at one o'clock in the afternoon, to receive the Report of the Directors; to consider of a dividend for the past half-year; to elect seven Directors in the stead of James Mitchell, Henry Smith, Alexander Brodie Spark, and Thomas Barker, Esquires, who retire by rotation, and of James Tod Goodair, George and William Harvie Christie, Esquires, disqualified; and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought forward in conformity with the Acts and By-Laws.

Candidates for the office of Directors are to give not less than seven clear days' notice in writing to the Secretary. Retiring Directors are eligible for re-election. By order of the Board, R. MANFIELD, Secretary, Company's office, Sydney, July 27.

REMOVAL.

The old established Cutlery Manufactory, removing from 12, Hunter-street, to George-street, opposite the Old Treasury.

T. MAPPIN AND CO. respectfully inform the public, that they intend removing to more commodious premises, lately in the occupation of J. J. Cohen, Jeweller, which they intend opening in a few days with the largest and best selected stock of Cutlery in the colony. Cutlery of every description made on the premises as usual. Surgical Instruments, Trusses, Elastic Laced Stockings made to order in a few hours' notice. T. MAPPIN AND CO., George-street, opposite the Old Treasury. July 29.

LAMONT & CLOUGH,

WIGMAKERS and HAIRCUTTERS, from Ross's celebrated Establishment, Bishopsgate-street, London. Wigs made to order of the finest natural curled hair, £3 10. Hair cut in a style perfectly unique, charge only 6d. Next door to Mr. Aldis, Tobacconist, George-street.

READY MONEY!!!

LIBRARIES and Parcels of BOOKS purchased by C. MAGEE, Pitt-street, north. Bookbinding in all its branches.

NOTICE.

STOLEN or STRAYED from the Station of the undersigned, about the beginning May last, a BAY MARE, with grey hairs on sides; the hoof of off fore foot split—rather lame on this foot; one hind foot white; branded DKR under the mane. When lost she had by her side a dark bay filly foal, about eight months old, not branded. If strayed a reward of Six GUINEAS will be paid by Andrew Black, the owner, to any one who may give such information as may lead to her recovery; if stolen, TEN GUINEAS by Mr. Docker, on conviction of the thief. JOSEPH DOCKER. Owen's River, 26th June, 1843.

IN consequence of the intended alterations to the Lecture Room not being completed as early as anticipated, it has been deemed expedient to postpone the intended dinner to Mr. Rea, until Thursday week, the 10th August. By order of the Committee. Wednesday, August 2, 1843.

MR. CHARLES H. CHAMBERS has removed his office to Pitt-street, three doors from the corner of Pitt-street and King-street, and opposite Mr. Foss, Druggist. Pitt-street, 1st August, 1843.

CUMBERLAND ELECTION.

AT a MEETING held at "The Surveyor General Inn," Berrima, by the independent electors of this district, who supported Mr. Charles Cowper in the late contest for the County of Camden—it was unanimously agreed. "That we electors return our sincere thanks to the 403 Independent Electors of the County of Cumberland, for the handsome manner in which they supported our late candidate, Charles Cowper, Esq., and for the triumphant majority by which they returned him member, as we consider it a far greater victory than had Mr. Cowper been returned for the County of Camden. Signed W. COGHILL, Chairman. Committee Rooms, Berrima, July 13, 1843.

TO BE LET.

THE PREMISES at the corner of Phillip and Hunter-streets, with a shop in full trade. Two years of the lease are unexpired. Apply on the premises, or to JAMES GILLESPIE, Parramatta-street.

SHEEP-BOILING AT WINDERMERE, NEAR MAITLAND.

MR. WENTWORTH, having engaged a competent superintendent to boil and dress his own surplus sheep, is willing to accommodate the settlers in the districts of the Hunter, Wellington, Liverpool Plains, and New England, at the following charges. £ s. d. Slaughtering, skinning, cutting up, and boiling sheep, rendering wool and kidney fat separately, picking the tallow and boiled fat in the sheep skins, in suitable and secure vessels for exportation, marking and lettering those bags so as to distinguish the quality, and putting the same on board the steamer at the Green Hills—at per sheep. . . . . 0 0 9 Washing skins, taking off the whole of the wool, drying and putting it into clean packs, and carrying those bales to the steamer—at per sheep. . . . . 0 0 3

The proprietor of the sheep will have to pay the freight of the wool and tallow to Sydney; or if he should wish it to be paid for him, he must, before boiling the sheep, give notice of such to the superintendent at Windermere, who will take at his option, wool at 1s. per lb., or tallow at 2d. per lb., in payment of all charges: the freight of wool being 7s. per bale to Sydney, and of tallow 1s. per cwt. The goods will be shipped on board the steamer on account and risk of the proprietor. Grass will be provided gratis, and shepherds will receive rations at a moderate charge. And if required by the master, the wages coming to them will be paid, and deducted at the above rates. Such of the hind legs as may be required for the use of the establishment will be allowed for at 3d per lb.

FOR SALE.

A complete file of the Sydney Morning Herald from 1st June, 1842, till 1st August, 1843. Application to be made to Mr. R. Barr, Observer Office.

FOR THE BAY OF ISLANDS AND AUCKLAND.



THE FINE NEW BRIG, TRYPHENA, Thomas Horn, master, intended to sail on the 8th August. For freight or passage apply on board, at Thom's Wharf; to Mr. R. Anderson; or to CHARLES ABERCROMBIE, PARRAMATTA.

THE Undersigned begs to inform the Inhabitants of Parramatta and its vicinity, that they can have work executed in the under-mentioned branch with neatness and despatch, and on the most moderate terms, namely—Tombs, Ledges, and Grave Stones; also Engraving. A Head-stone, now in preparation, may be seen at the residence of the undersigned, as a specimen. —As a specimen of Engraving, see the Methodist Burial Ground. J. W. CURRAN, Mason, Cutter, and Engraver. At Mr. John McCausland's, Brickfield, Parramatta.

The subscribers and others indebted to the Colonial Observer in the country, are respectfully reminded that if the accounts due up to the 1st July last, are not forthwith paid to the undersigned, the parties falling will have themselves to blame for any expense that may be incurred for their speedy recovery. Mr. Henry Thomson, of Goulburn, will call on the parties indebted to the Observer in the district of Yass, Maneroo, and Braidwood, when it is hoped prompt payment will be made. Those of the agents, who have not yet made their returns for the last quarter, will be pleased to forward them without further delay. JOHN H. BAILLIE.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

July 30. The brig Martha, 121 tons, Capt. Free man, from Port Stephens, with coals. 30. The barque Stratheden, Captain Howlett, returned to port, with horses, &c. 30. The barque British Isle, Captain Graham, returned to port, in ballast. August 1. The brig Doree, Captain Walsh, from Adelaide, having left 16th July with merchandise, Passenger—Mrs. Edwards two daughters, and one son, Miss Macnamara, Mr. Levey, Mrs. Walsh, John Wats, Mr. Ingram, Mrs. Crampton, Mrs. Hall, one daughter, and one son, John Allan, and Mrs. Wilson, and daughter.

DEPARTURES.

July 29. The cutter Vixen, Captain Juby, for Lannceston, with fifty tons coals. 30. The brig Caroline, Captain Lesslie, for Hobart Town, with a general cargo. Passengers—Mrs. Osbourne, Mr. Daniel, Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Askey, and Mr. Dean.

VESSEL CLEARED OUT.

The schooner Vanguard, Captain Newton, for Port Nicholson.

THE "CORSAIR" STEAM SHIP.—This splendid vessel, of upwards of 120 horse power, was sold at the Royal Hotel on Saturday last, under a writ by the Court of Vice Admiralty. The whole price realized was £500.

As the Matilda schooner, Captain Graham, was heating out of Cockle Bay, about four o'clock yesterday afternoon, she was suddenly caught by a puff of wind, which capsized and sunk her almost immediately. The crew made their escape by taking to the rigging, and several boats soon came to their assistance. She is a fine schooner, about 50 tons burthen, nearly new, this being only her third trip; she was going to Brisbane Water, in ballast.

When H. M. S. North Star was getting under weigh on Monday morning, about 10 o'clock, to proceed to Port Nicholson, a sudden squall came on and blew her stern-foremast on to Point Macquarie, the foremast, and fifteen top gallant-masts were immediately lowered, and every exertion was made on the part of the officers, the Harbour Master, and Pilot, which was not without avail, as she was off within an hour and a half from the time she first grounded, with little or no injury. The barque Eucraita was also under weigh for London, in tow of the steamer Sophia Jane, when the wind, which had almost increased to a gale, blew her foul of several vessels lying at Walker's Wharf, where she was made secure before doing any damage.

INSOLVENT ESTATES.

NEW INSOLVENTS. No 831. James Smith Norrie of King-street, Sydney, apothecary, &c. debts, £793 6s. 2d.; assets—personal property—£1225; outstanding debts, £432 12s. 1d.; balance deficiency, £273 14s. 1d. No. 832. Thomas Alford of Darling Downs, late storekeeper, debts, £11,019 7s. 6d.; assets—personal property—£27; balance deficiency, £10,992 7s. 6d. The whole of this insolvent's property was assigned to trustees in 1811. No. 833. Quentin Valentine Swift of Swan-street, Morpeth, late an innkeeper; debts, £1112 2s. 5d.; assets—personal property—£13; outstanding debts, £24 19s. 8d.; balance deficiency, £1065 3s. 9d. This insolvent was discharged from New castle gaol. No. 834. Morgan Poor of Seven Hills, Parramatta district, debts, £157 3s.; assets—landed property, £100; personal property, £15; balance deficiency, £42 3s. No. 835. William Tavener of Parramatta road, yeoman; debts, £2915 12s. 1d.; assets—landed property—£1190; personal property, £72 10s.; outstanding debts, £1455 3s. 6d.; balance deficiency, £193 18s. 7d. No. 836. William Henry Moorg of Crown-street, Surry Hills, Sydney, gentleman; debts, £4244 13s. 5d.; assets—landed property—£396; personal property, £1593; outstanding debts, £1969 4s. 8d.; balance deficiency, £110 8s. 9d. No. 837. David Manson of Kent-street, Sydney, shipwright; debts, £269 8s. 9d.; assets—personal property—£35; outstanding debts, £121 2s.; balance deficiency, £112 6s. 9d.

Let those who sigh for Protective Duties and Corn Laws, take the following as a familiar illustration of the blessed effects of the Corn Laws in the Mother Country. It is drawn from Life.

I went into my neighbour's cot, And found the wretched owner there, Bewailing his unhappy lot, In all the madness of despair. His anxious wife, with streaming eyes, Cried—"patience love—we yet shall live—" "Hear, hear (he raved) my children's cries For bread, which I have not to give. "Five helpless lambs around me cling, And tell me that they want some food; I know it—and my heart they wring, For I would give it if I could. "I'd toil from break of morn till night, Blithe as the lark that soars on high; And bless again the coming light, That bade me to my labour hie. "Yet man, proud man, with ample store Of wealth, and all that wealth can give: Robs of a scanty meal, the poor, That he in luxury may live. "The wasted form, the pallid cheeks, The trembling limb, and sunken eye, The utmost wretchedness bespeaks "Th'ieeded not, and we may die. "Oh, bid me not be patient then, My children must and shall be fed; And woe to those unfeeling men, That keep from us 'our daily bread.' C. F. P.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A TRADESMAN'S" remarks on the Insolvent Law, and the iniquitous practice under it, are very just and very well timed. At the same time we should have liked better if our correspondent had suggested a remedy for the evils complained of. The operation of the act has been found in some cases too severe, in others too lenient. The enormous expense connected with the machinery of the insolvent court, which swallows up a very large portion of the assets of every estate that passes through it, is a grievance which some means should be taken to remedy. If a "tradesman" is in the habit of reading the proceedings of the insolvent court, he will see that the ease with which certificates have hitherto been obtained, is an objection which no longer exists. The losses which creditors now universally experience, however, cannot be ascribed to the insolvent act, but to the artificial state of credit which it has exposed and checked. And if it should prevent a recurrence to such a system, it will prove a blessing to the colony.

"VERITAS" should have published his voluminous dissertation on the "Soothing system" in the *Norfolk Island Gazette*. The minute details might have been interesting at the scene of the experiment, but they are so nowhere else. We have of late had sufficient illustration of the beneficial effects of the system of discipline pursued at Norfolk Island. Unless more efficient restraints are imposed than have hitherto been put in requisition, the sooner the farce is brought to an end the better. We shall be obliged by the local news which our correspondent promises, if not given so diffusely as to be inconvenient to our limited space. All editorial correspondence must be post paid, otherwise it will not be received.

Yesterday the Legislative Council met for the first time, in the Council Chambers, Macquarie-street. All the members were present at the opening except Messrs. Jones, Condell, Edden, and Thomson. Messrs. Condell and Edden arrived during the course of the proceedings. A message from the Governor was delivered to the council by the Colonial Secretary, the Colonial Treasurer, and Mr. H. Macarthur, who had been appointed commissioners for administering the oaths to the members. The oaths were then administered accordingly, and the house proceeded to the election of a Speaker.

The Commander of the Forces moved, and Mr. H. Macarthur seconded, the nomination of Mr. M'Leay.

Mr. Therry moved, and Dr. Bland seconded, the nomination of Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Hamilton addressed the council, in a remarkably neat and effective speech, acknowledging the distinguished compliment, and explaining how he had been brought into the field, without any solicitation on his part, by a simultaneous tender of support from a government officer of high standing, and from Mr. Wentworth, both of whom had entreated him to allow himself to be put in nomination.

A long discussion on the comparative merits of the candidates ensued.

Mr. Wentworth remarked that the objection of partisanship which had influenced him in withdrawing from the contest, should have operated with tenfold force against the honourable member for the Northern Counties, Mr. Alexander M'Leay. For that gentleman was more decidedly a partizan than he; and what was worse, a partizan on the wrong side. Mr. M'Leay had been all along opposed to liberal institutions and, had signalled himself by a series of systematic attempts on the liberty of the press. The honourable member went at great length into the history of the political corruption and subservency that had marked the career of Mr. M'Leay, from his first arrival in the colony till his appearance as a candidate for the Speaker's Chair—the pension for services rendered to the Home Government, which, by a piece of the most iniquitous jobbing, was transferred along with himself to the shoulders of the Colonial Treasurer—the salary of £2000. a-year for his services as Colonial Secretary, immensely disproportioned to the duties of the office, and the intellectual qualifications necessary for their discharge—the political malversation of which the government of the day in conjunction with Mr. M'Leay, the Prime Minister of that government, had been guilty in granting to Mr. M., the land at Elizabeth Bay, which had been refused to a former applicant in consequence of its being reserved for a Lunatic Asylum—the iniquitous trammels which Mr. M'Leay had lent his most assiduous efforts to impose on the colonial press (which Sir Thomas Brisbane had just before released from a rigorous censorship) by the enactment of laws of a most tyrannical character, which rendered it punishable

by transportation on a second conviction, to write anything reflecting on the government and their measures—the entire suppression of popular sentiment which the infamous Stamp act, passed during the same administration, but withdrawn after being gazetted in consequence of the late lamented Chief Justice Forbes having refused to certify it, as the law then required, was intended to secure—the disgraceful system of espionage sanctioned by the government of the day—and the complete identification of Mr. M'Leay with the most odious acts of that bad administration—were the principal points of attack. The speech was one of the most withering we ever listened to, and Mr. M'Leay evidently felt its full effect. Mr. Wentworth concluded by expressing a hope that the council would not so far forget their duty, as elect to the chair an octogenarian, already twice superannuated—already loaded with the spoil of the country—the best paid and the best pensioned man, considering the public services he had rendered, in the British dominions; who had obviously no higher object than to super-add to those emoluments he had already received, the salary which it was expected would be attached to the Speakership of the Legislative Council.

Messrs. Foster and Nicholson addressed the Council in favour of the pretensions of Mr. M'Leay. The speech of the former was very forcible, though altogether insufficient to undo the effect of Mr. Wentworth's castigation. That of Dr. Nicholson was absolute twaddle.

Mr. Murray explained what had been stated on behalf of Mr. M'Leay at the preliminary meeting of the members. The substance was that he would do nothing at the suggestion of any one who had been all along his enemy, but he would place himself in the hands of his friends. He would not, however, continue the contest unless he were sure of a decided majority.

Mr. Winder spoke at great length in favour of Mr. Hamilton, between whose qualifications and those of Mr. M'Leay it was ridiculous to draw a comparison. He expressed surprise that Mr. M'Leay should have allowed such charges as those brought against him, to remain unanswered, and insisted that as many of those iniquitous proceedings were likely to form matter for future discussion, it would be putting Mr. M'Leay in a false position, and rendering the duty of the members a very delicate one indeed, should his friends succeed in placing him in the Speaker's chair.

Mr. M'Leay considered himself called on after what had fallen from the member for Durham to allude to the charges that had been made against him. Some of these, such as the employment of spies, &c., he repudiated; but the acts and deeds of the Darling government he admitted his participation in, and justified by alleging some peculiarity in the condition of the Colony at the time.

Mr. Murray again addressed the council, hoping that a discussion so personal in its character would now be brought to a close.

The Rev. Dr. Lang next addressed the council very shortly on the comparative claims of the two candidates. He expressed the greatest regard for Mr. M'Leay as a private individual, and had he pursued the quiet tenor of his way as he had done for some time past, his respect and sympathy should have attended him: but when he put himself forward as a candidate for the highest honour which the country had to bestow, his claim to that distinction was to be tried by his political merits. And though he had known Mr. M'Leay for the last eighteen years, he could not discover anything in his political career to entitle him to such an honour. Much had been said of his scientific acquirements; but the complaint in England was, that he had done absolutely nothing for the cause of science in this colony. In fact the only department of science to which he had devoted his attention, during his residence among us, was one which many honourable members around him had studied with equal zeal and better success. The branch of science he referred to was the natural history of sheep and cattle—how much wool could be got from the one, and how much butter from the other. If the question of the Speakership were to be decided on the score of political merit, he had but one opinion from the first, that the claim of Mr. Wentworth to

that honour was unquestionable. Mr. W.'s best energies and distinguished talents had been devoted to the liberties of his country, and he had honourably earned, if any one had, a claim to that distinction; but when he had shown his patriotism, self-denial, and public virtue—qualities so rare in our age and country—by voluntarily retiring when he found his constituents and others of the public opposed to his putting himself forward on the score of his partisanship, he (Dr. L.) did expect, that Mr. M'Leay would have followed his excellent example; as the same objection applied far more effectually to him than to his rival; for he (Mr. M'Leay) had not only been a partizan, but a partizan on the wrong side. Mr. Wentworth having retired, contrary to his (Dr. L.'s) wishes, they had now to determine between the claims of Mr. Hamilton and Mr. M'Leay. The chief objection that had been alleged against the former was that he was unknown to the council. He did not think the objection a valid one. As for himself, though he had never seen Mr. Hamilton before he appeared this day on the floor of the house, he would have known more of his qualifications for the office of Speaker to this council, than he knew of Mr. M'Leay's, though he had been more or less acquainted with that gentleman for the last 18 years; and it just occurred to him that if the question were to be decided by a comparison of their respective talents as exhibited in the speeches each had made, the council could have no hesitation in giving the preference to Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Therry briefly replied, and added to the many testimonials given in favour of Mr. M'Leay, that that gentleman during the administration of Sir Richard Bourke had been the main instrument in thwarting the system of general education proposed by that enlightened Governor.

Major Wentworth (after some discussion on the point of order in re-opening the discussion after the reply of Mr. Therry) made some remarks on the defect of Mr. M'Leay's articulation, which he remarked, altogether incapacitated him for the duties of the Speakership.

The house divided on the first motion, nominating Mr. M'Leay, when there appeared

Ayes..... 17  
Noes..... 13

Mr. M'Leay consequently took the chair, and after thanking his friends, and attributing personal motives to his opponents, expressed a hope that they should now all be friends.

The Colonial Secretary proposed that the council should meet to-day at twelve o'clock, to accompany the Speaker to Government House, to receive the approval of the Governor.

Mr. Walker submitted that the Governor could disallow, but his approval was unnecessary. The motion of the Colonial Secretary was, however, agreed to.

Mr. Therry gave notice of motion for the appointment of two gentlemen as members of the court for the trial of questions that may have arisen in regard to disputed elections.

And the council adjourned till to-day at twelve o'clock.

We trust the Members of Council will see the propriety of abstaining in future from such unbecoming expressions as were used in yesterday's debate. It may do very well in a Police-office, at the Quarter Sessions, or any such place, to use such language as, "Who in the name of Heaven!" but we would remind the member for Northumberland, that it is altogether beneath the dignity of senatorial discussion. We trust also the Speaker will abstain from such language as "A book which I have not seen for ten years, I'll swear," and "Mr. Wentworth abused me like a fish-wife." Honourable members must remember that the New Council is the Colonial School for the study of Oratory, and they would surely not willingly offer such models as these to their Colonial pupils.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS—QUARTERLY AVERAGE.

COMMERCIAL BANK, JUNE 30.  
LIABILITIES.—Notes in circulation not bearing interest, 44,388l. 13s. 10d. 2-13ths; bills, 2,841l. 0s. 8d. 5-13ths; deposits not bearing interest, 7,106l. 16s. 5d. 4-13ths; and bearing interest, 13,536l. 2s. 2l. 8-13ths. Amount, 185,872l. 13s. 2d. 6-13ths.  
ASSETS.—Coin, 65,674l. 19s. 9d. 5-13ths; landed property, 5,534l. 6s. 4d. 2-13ths; notes and bills of other banks, 1,906l. 15s. 5d. 4-13ths; balances due from other banks, 6,820l. 9s. 1d. 5-13ths; debts, &c. 369,149l.

11s. 6d. 2-13ths. Total, 449,136l. 2s. 2d. 5-13ths.

Paid up capital, 245,475l.; last dividend at 12 per cent., 14,679l. 17s.; reserved profits, 10,118l. 16s. 3d.

SYDNEY BANK, JUNE 30.

LIABILITIES.—Notes in circulation not bearing interest, 16,744l.; deposits bearing interest, 39,201l. 11s. 9d. Total, 55,945l. 11s. 9d.

ASSETS.—Coin, 4,850l. 14s. 7d.; notes and bills of other banks, 494l. 17s. 7d.; debts, &c., 195,357l. 15s. 4d. Total, 200,703l. 7s. 6d.

Paid up capital, 153,809l.; reserved profits, 3,307l. 12s. 11d.

The new boundaries of Bathurst, as proclaimed in yesterday's *Gazette*, are as follows:—Commencing at the north-east corner on the Macquarie River where the northern side of Hope-street joins that river; and bounded northerly by that side of Hope-street bearing south 4½ degrees west to its intersection with the western side of Lambert-street; westerly by the western side of that street, being a line bearing south 4½ degrees east to its intersection with the southern side of Seymour-street; and southerly by the south-eastern side of Seymour-street, being a line bearing north 4½ degrees to Queen Charlotte's Ponds, and then by a line in the same bearing to the Macquarie River; and by that river downwards to the north-east corner as aforesaid.

The provisions of the dog act are extended to the town of Singleton.

ANOTHER COMET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLONIAL OBSERVER.

Kempsey, July 7, 1843.

Sir—On the 24th of last month, my eldest son discovered, about 9 o'clock, A.M., a luminous appearance in the heavens, which, from its shape, he believed to be a New Comet. Upon examination I felt assured his conjecture was well founded, and determined to watch its progress, and as follows is the result of my observation.

In the direction of S.S.W. from my house at an elevation from the horizon of about 30° were two luminous rays, having their origin in a point in the direction of east, but diverging from each other like the legs of an extended compass, forming the sides of a triangle wanting the base. I watched its progress for several hours at intervals, and found it to be travelling from west to east. The day was remarkably clear and cloudless. On the following morning the heavens were obscured by masses of clouds, which prevented its being seen; this was also the case on the 26th. On the 27th, and 28th, which were beautifully clear days, it was again visible in the same spot, at about the same hour of the morning, and has continued to be so on every subsequent day that has been clear and free from clouds. On the 6th, I took its bearings from my house by a very excellent compass, and found the centre or nucleus at 3 o'clock P.M. to be S. 43° E., extreme point of one ray S. 31° E., and of the other to be S. 64° E., and 40° above the horizon. You will please observe, by extreme point I mean as seen clearly with the naked eye, this giving 30° between one extremity and that of the other.

Not having seen in your journal, or heard of any mention of it in any other, I have been induced to trouble you with the foregoing, hoping thereby to draw your attention to so very interesting and remarkable a visitor, following so very closely as it does the comet so recently visible at night.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

E. W. RUDDER.

P.S.—The extreme points of the rays extend as they progress through the heavens, which I conjecture to be caused by the comet travelling in a circle, and the extremities being turned towards us in one direction, and from us in the opposite.

[Here follows a number of Diagrams illustrative of the phenomenon, which we have not the means of presenting to our readers.]

VERY NEIGHBOURLY.—A young Porker had got his head firmly wedged between the bottom rails of a small hand-gate, in the attempt to make a forcible entry in to a farm yard near St. Alban's, and being unable to extricate himself, made known the pain and vexation he was enduring, by the most ear-piercing cries. The farmer's wife ran to his assistance, and by lifting the gate from its hinges, set the unfortunate grunter at liberty. The plough boy, who had been standing the whole of the time with his hands in the breast pockets of his smock frock coolly viewing the violent struggling of the poor animal, on being asked why he had not set one loose? quantly replied—"Why missus he beant hour Og—he belongs to Measter Brown."

THE DANGER OF TURNIP STEALING.

A bumpkin, who turns up from a field had been stealing, "Was conveyed 'fore the Just-ass, and sent off to jail, Under sentence so harsh, that severity dealing, Such offenders might look on his power, and quail. It was said such harsh doings could not be defended, For the punishment was too severe for the deed; "Not at all," said his Worship—and stillly continued, "That the turnips, to good a legs of mutton, would lead, C. F. P."

## THE SPEAKERSHIP.

Many of our readers have, doubtless, often wondered at the extraordinary anomaly apparent in conferring the title of "Speaker" on the only member of the House of Commons who is expected not to speak at all; but a few simple facts, we believe, will solve the mystery. The office of Speaker to the Commons was first created when the Lords and Commons sat together in one house, and the title was then descriptive of the duties of the office. It was only through the Speaker, elected by the Commons, that any matter affecting their interests could be brought under the consideration of the Parliament, of which they formed a component but subordinate part. When it was found expedient at last that the Lords and Commons should form separate houses, it was natural that the presidential duties in the Lower House should devolve on the Speaker, whose office former usage and statute had created. The functions of the Speaker consequently underwent an entire change, but the name of the office, though no longer descriptive of its duties, was retained. We are not aware of any act in the English statute book creating the office, but we have at present before us an act of the Scottish Parliament, framed with that express object, which at the present interesting juncture may not be uninteresting to our readers; and which we therefore transcribe. It is extracted from the edition of the public records published by authority, a copy of which has been forwarded by the Record Commission to the Library of the Australian College.

*Act of the Parliament of Scotland held at Perth in the reign of James the First (of Scotland) 1st March, 1427.*

"Item.—The King with consent of his hail consal generale, has statute and ordanit that the small baronis and fre tenandis need nocht to cum to Parliaments nor general consals, sva that of ilk shirefdome there be sende, chosyn at the hede court of the shirefdom, twa or ma wise men, efter the largenes of the shirefdom; outane the shirefdomis of Clackmanan and of Kinross, of the quhilk one be send of ilk one of thaim. The quhilk sal be callit commissaris of the shire; and be thir commissaris of all the shires sal be chosen a wise and an expert man, callit the common spekar of the parliament; the quhilk sal propose all and sindry nedes and causes pertaining to the commonis in the parliament or general consal; the quhilkis commissaris sal haf full and playn (ample) powere of all the laif of the shirefdom under the witnessing of the shreffis sele with the sele of diverse baronis of the shire to here, treat, and finally determine all causes to be proponit in consale or parliament. The quhilkis commissaris and spekar sal haf thare costage of thaim of ilk shire at aw comperance in the parliament or consal, and of thare rents ilk punde sal be uthers fallowe to the contributione of the said costis. All bischoppis, abbotis, prioris, dukis, erlis, lordis of parliament, and barrentis, the quhilkis the king wil, be rswervit and summond to consals and to Parliaments be his speciale precept."

Many of our readers will find some difficulty in making out the old Scottish dialect, which, however, in our estimation, is remarkably beautiful. We have taken the liberty of supplying all the abbreviations, having no type to represent them. We have also supplied the punctuation, to render the language more easily understood. The act is in many respects interesting, besides that for which it is at present specially quoted: but these we leave it to the ingenuity of our readers to discover. It is a singular fact, that at this early period in our parliamentary history, the expenses of the representatives of the several shires were borne by their constituents.

The overland mail brings intelligence from Port Phillip to the 22nd ult. The revenue cutter *Prince George* had previously sailed, having as passengers the Mayor and Mr. Ebdon. Dr. Thomson was to sail by the *Shamrock*, which was daily expected. The *Rock* judge had made his debut on the bench. One of his first acts was to discharge from custody Mr. J.

B. Were, who had been committed by Mr. Justice Willis for contempt, committed in the form of alleged prevarication in evidence. Several offensive remarks relative to the late judge appeared in the petition, and Mr. Jeffcott showed his judgment by declining to receive it till these were expunged. This conduct had ensured him to some extent, the respect and confidence of the respectable portion of the community. The late election of Mr. Patterson as city treasurer was set aside, on account of his not being of age, and being therefore incapable of entering into the requisite bond. Mr. Richardson was accordingly elected in his stead. Alderman Russell was elected to supply the place of the Mayor, during his absence in Sydney. The corporation was still far in advance of the Sydney one, in carrying out the provisions of the act. A day was actually fixed as the last day of grace for the payment of arrears of rates. A petition from Mr. Cavenagh was under consideration complaining of the determination of the Council to make him the first example of their severity. The resolution was not expected to be adhered to, and Mr. Cavenagh's opposition to the authority of the corporation had almost expended itself. A petition to the Legislative Council had been forwarded by Mr. Ebdon praying for compensation to Mr. Fowler, one of the party who had lately apprehended a number of bushrangers, and who had been severely wounded in the encounter. Letters from Mr. Macarthur, late manager of the bank of Australasia, had been received from Moreton Bay containing the gratifying intelligence of his complete recovery from his late illness. Mr. Arden is coming on to Sydney to establish a monthly political magazine. A meeting had taken place for the purpose of securing the extension of the franchise to the squatters, and in the meantime to secure exemption from taxation by the district councils, until their right to a fair and equitable representation should be conceded. A petition to parliament and another to the local legislature, and also a petition to Sir George Gipps, which will be found below, had been adopted at the meeting, and were in process of signature. It was resolved that the petition to the House of Lords should be forwarded for presentation to Lord Warncliffe, that to the Commons, to Lord Stanley; that the petition to the Legislative Council should be presented by Mr. Ebdon, and that the other members for the province should be requested to support it. A committee was appointed to carry out the object. Mr. Hill, one of the parties in custody on the charge of being concerned in the late murder of the blacks at Port Fairy, had been brought before the Supreme Court on a writ of *habeas corpus*. An application was made for his discharge, on the ground of informality in the warrant of commitment; but the Judge was of opinion that there was sufficient in the deposition to authorise his being remanded, and the application was consequently dismissed. A site for a town at Port Fairy had been selected, and the name of B-laf determined on for the embryo township. The Rev. Mr. Forbes had been lecturing on the recent discovery of the long lost ten tribes of Israel among the mountains of Koordistan, and considerable interest was exhibited in the subject. The lectures are published in the *Port Phillip Patriot*, to which the curious may refer for more ample information than our space can at present afford. Mr. Ebdon had instituted, immediately before the departure of Mr. Justice Willis, an action against that gentleman for false imprisonment—damages were laid at £5000. Our readers will remember, that Mr. Ebdon was one of the parties who accompanied Mr. H. N. Carrington, in personally serving the judge with a writ of *certiorari* from the Sydney judges, when the whole party were committed, either for an assault on the judge in the street, or for aiding and abetting it. The action for false imprisonment we presume will prove as the most of the demonstrations from the same quarter have done, only a bottle of smoke. Mr. Shadforth, son of Colonel Shadforth, accompanied Mr. Jeffcott to the province as his Private Secretary. For further intelligence we must refer our readers to our Colonial Miscellany.

## EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE TO SQUATTERS.—PORT PHILLIP AND IRELAND.

"To the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled. The Petition of the Stockholders of the Port Phillip District of New South Wales.

## "HUMBLY SHEWETH—

"That your petitioners are possessed of a large number of stock, amounting to about 1,600,000 sheep, and 100,000 head of cattle.

"That, in addition to these, there are about 3,400,000 sheep depastured in the other districts of New South Wales, belonging to persons situated similarly with your petitioners.

"That the export of wool this year from Port Phillip alone will amount to about 4,000,000 lbs., and the value of which in London may be taken at £250,000; and that the annual increase in the export of this article is about one-third of the whole.

"That the export of salt beef has commenced, and is likely to prove a valuable source of wealth to the colony.

"That, besides these staple commodities, a very large number of wethers and fat cattle are annually shipped to Van Dieman's Land.

"That the entire of the stock which supplies this export trade is raised by your petitioners on lands that are under licenses to depasture crown lands, commonly known as squatting licenses; and that from the nature of the country, the comparatively high price of crown lands, and other causes (perfectly well known to every one at all conversant with the circumstances of the colony), it is impossible that stock can be profitably reared on purchased lands.

"That a number of persons, amounting to about one-third of the entire population of the district, are employed directly in the care of this stock; and that the principal profits of the merchant and shipowner are derived from the export trade, and the supplying your petitioners and their servants with stores: from which source are also derived the principal profits of the shopkeeper and the mechanic.

"That there is at present no agricultural produce which forms to any extent and article of export; nor is there a prospect of any arising to compete in importance with those alluded to.

"That your petitioners contribute annually in direct taxation towards defraying the public burdens of the colony, a sum which, for the year ending January, 1843, amounted to £12,587, which sum is made up of £6890 for annual licenses, at £10 for each license, and of £5,697 from a poll tax on the stock, at the rate of 1d., by the year, for each sheep, 3d. for each head of cattle, and 6d. for each horse depastured under the license, both of which sums are necessarily on the increase with the increase of stock.

"This Petition further sheweth—

"That, by an Act passed in the last session of Parliament, a Legislative Assembly was created for New South Wales, including the District of Port Phillip; that eighteen of the members who compose this Assembly are to be elective, six of whom are to be elected in, and to represent the District of Port Phillip.

"That the qualification, which it is necessary that such members should possess, is fixed at £2000 worth of freehold estate in land, or £100 per annum issuing out of it; and that of electors, at £200 worth of freehold estate in land, or the occupation of a house worth £20 per annum.

"That by thus fixing on a qualification founded on the possession of landed property the Act leaves totally unrepresented the Pastoral interest, the importance of which may be collected from the statements made above.

"That there is nothing in the position or circumstances of stockholders which can warrant this exclusion, their body being chiefly composed of men of importance, and numbering amongst them several members of the learned professions, and many retired officers of the army and navy, persons in influence and consideration second to none in the district. As a proof of which assertion may be cited the fact, that from amongst them have been selected the greater number of officers who fill the most confidential situations under the crown, and nearly the whole of the territorial magistracy.

"That it is not competent to the Colonial Legislative Assembly to alter the qualification of persons entitled to sit in that assembly, or of those entitled to vote at the election of such persons.

"Your petitioners, therefore, pray that your honourable house will introduce an enactment, either to improve the tenure of your petitioners, so as to give them a qualification, founded on the basis of landed property, or alter the qualification itself, so as to enable persons holding depasturing licenses from the Crown and possessing a certain number of sheep or cattle to sit in the Legislative Council, and to enable those possessing a certain lesser number, to vote at the election of such members, or to take such other steps for the relief of your petitioners in the premises, as to your honourable house may seem meet and right.

"And your petitioners further suggest that the annual poll tax on sheep and cattle would afford an easy mode of ascertaining the qualifications of members and electors.

"Your petitioners might ground their petition on the impolicy of thus leaving unrepresented an interest of such vital importance to the colony, and a body of men entitled to no small consideration from their influence, intelligence, and social position, trusting to the wisdom of your honourable house to remedy a state of things so likely to be fraught with consequences injurious to this colony; but they prefer resting their appeal on higher grounds, and claiming from the justice of a British Parliament a fair participation in the right of representation, so justly dear to every Briton.

"And your petitioners will ever pray."

To the Legislative Council of New South Wales. The Petition of the Stockholders of the Port Phillip District.

## HUMBLY SHEWETH—

"That your petitioners are possessed of a large number of stock, amounting to about 1,600,000 sheep, and 100,000 head of cattle.

That the entire of this stock is raised on lands held under license to depasture crown lands, commonly known as squatting licenses.

That in this way the whole of the Port Phillip district, not immediately in the neighbourhood of the towns of Melbourne, Geelong, and Portland, is, with very trifling exceptions, occupied.

That by an act passed in the last session of the Imperial Parliament, provision was made for the establishment of certain local councils in the different districts into which it is proposed to sub-divide the colony, which councils are to have the power of levying taxes on all property within such districts, which shall be declared liable according to the provisions of the act, for the purpose of making roads, constructing bridges, and other local objects.

That such councils are by their constitution elective, and that the qualifications of the members who are to compose them is fixed at £2000 worth of freehold estate in land, or £100 per annum issuing out of it; and that of persons entitled to vote at the election of such members at £200 worth of freehold estate in land, or the occupation of a house worth £20 per annum.

That the Act of Parliament, by thus fixing the qualification on a basis of landed property, has left totally unrepresented in the district councils the pastoral interest, the importance of which must be well known to your honourable house. And that your petitioners are thus entirely removed from all control over funds to be raised almost exclusively from their property, which is placed at the disposal of a small number of landed proprietors, whose local interests are not necessarily identical with those of your petitioners, and who may be ignorant of their wants.

That by a provision in the Act of Parliament above alluded to, power is given to your honourable house to modify the qualification of persons entitled to sit in the district councils, and of the electors of such persons as to make it more suitable to the circumstances of the colony.

Your petitioners, therefore, trusting that your honourable house will not permit that principle of the British Constitution, which connects together taxation and representation, to be in their case violated, pray that your honourable house will introduce an enactment to alter the qualification so as to enable persons holding depasturing licenses from the crown and possessing a certain number of sheep or cattle to sit in the district councils; and to enable those possessing a certain lesser number to vote at the election of such members, or to take such other steps for the relief of your petitioners in the premises as to your honourable house may seem meet and right.

And that until provision shall be made for the representation of your petitioners in such district councils, your honourable house will not declare the property which your petitioners possess in stock liable to assessment by such district councils.

And your petitioners further suggest that the annual poll tax on sheep and cattle would afford an easy test of the qualification of members and electors. And your petitioners will ever pray.

To His Excellency Sir George Gipps, Knight, Governor and Captain-General of the Territory of New South Wales and its Dependencies. The Petition of the Stockholders of the Port Phillip District.

## HUMBLY SHEWETH—

That by an Act passed in the last session of the Imperial Parliament, provision was made for the establishment of Councils in the different Districts, into which it is by the said Act proposed to subdivide the colony. Which Councils are to have the power of assessing and levying taxes on all property within such Districts, which the Legislative Council or (until a bill shall have passed for that purpose) your Excellency, with the advice of your Executive Council shall declare liable thereto. The sums thus levied to be applied to the making of roads, constructing bridges, and other local objects.

That such councils are in the first instance to be composed of persons nominated by your Excellency, from amongst those duly qualified according to the provisions of the said act.

That the qualification which it is necessary that such persons should possess, is fixed at £2000 worth of freehold estate in land, or £100 a-year issuing out of it.

That no provision is made for representing the property which your petitioners possess in stock, nor does the possession of any amount of it, however great, confer a qualification to sit in such district councils.

Your petitioners therefore suggest that it would be unjust that their property should be taxed by persons who may not in any way represent it, and who may be totally ignorant of their local wants. And your petitioners therefore pray that until provision shall have been made for the representation of your petitioners in the district councils, your Excellency will not declare property in stock liable to assessment by such councils.

## COLONIAL MISCELLANY.

GERALD REVOLVING MURDER.—On the night of Sunday, the 9th instant, a most foul and unnatural murder was perpetrated in the very centre of this town by some blackfellow or blackfellows unknown, upon the body of an old man of the Barrabool tribe, who, covered with disease and wounds had some time ago crawled into the town, and had been charitably supplied with food and firewood by Mr. Lloyd. No other motive appears to have actuated the murderer than the desire of procuring the kidney fat of the victim. We have been informed that not the slightest inquiry into the cause of death was made by the authorities. This is somewhat unaccountable for a government which has displayed so much vigilance and activity in tracing the details of certain outrages upon the aborigines.—*Advertiser*, July 17.

SWAN RIVER.—The cutter *Rover's Bride* arrived on Thursday from Swan River, which port she left on the 31st May.—The brig *Phantom* had touched at Port Leschenault, and discharged twenty tons of flour, which realised £20 per ton.—The ship *Success*, of 622 tons, Captain Dring, arrived from England at the Swan about the middle of May with emigrants.

entering the harbour she took the ground and broke away her rudder irons.—An American whaler was wrecked at Leschenault, and sold as she lay for the benefit of parties concerned for £140. A passenger from Sydney had got ashore at that point, and would be got off after lightning without much difficulty.—*H.M.S. Beagle* sailed from the Swan for England via Mauritius, a few days before the *Rover's* departure.—Provisions were rather high and in demand. Mutton and beef 7d. per lb. The government contract for wheat, for the Swan and the Sound, was taken at from 8s. to 9s. per bushel. Potatoes, 20 to 25 cents, £20 per ton. The *Rover's* *Bride* disposed of the flour she had on board from Sydney at £22 per ton. British goods were plentiful, two vessels having arrived laden with merchandise.—*Cornwall Chronicle*.

**PORT PHILLIP.—DISTRICT COUNCILS.**—In accordance with the unconstitutional power of appointing District Councils having authority to impose taxation, conferred upon the Government by the new Constitution of the Colony, at the first institutions of these Municipal Corporations, His Honor the Superintendent has nominated the following gentlemen members of the District Councils of their respective localities:—**County of Bourke.**—Warden, James Simpson, Esq., J. P.;—Members—Major FitzGerald, J. D. Macpherson, R. N., J. F., Captain McGrath, Thomas Willis, Esq., J. P., V. L. Foster, Esq., Joseph Hawdon, Esq., J. P., D. L. Campbell, Esq., J. P., and Henry Esq.,—**County of Grant.**—Warden, R. G. Esq., J. P.;—Members—N. A. Fenwick, Esq., J. P., David Fisher, Esq.,—**Austin, Esq.**, and the other gentlemen whose names have escaped our memory.—*P. Patriot*.

**STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.**—The half-yearly meeting of the Port Phillip Steam Navigation Company was held in the Lamb Inn, on Monday last, Mr. Cole in the chair, when the report of the Directors detailing the operations of the Company, and showing a clear profit of upwards of £600 was read before the meeting. Messrs. Hutton, Pullar, Langit, Ryrie, and Andrew were then elected Directors of the room of a similar number retiring and resigned, and Mr. Pullar, a trustee, in the room of Mr. Hugh Houston resigned. A dividend of one pound per share on all shares paid up to the full extent of the current calls prior to the 30th June last, was then declared, and several resolutions were made in the amount of the salaries of the different officers.—*Ibid.*

**RISE IN THE PRICE OF SHEEP.**—The unexpectedly cheering prospect of the flock master from the recent discovery of reducing sheep into tallow, has become so apparent that it is with difficulty the butcher can obtain, at advanced prices, sufficient quantities to meet the demand of his customers. One gentleman assures us, after having within the last few weeks advertised twice offering to purchase sheep on cash terms, that he has had not one answer to his application; and as a proof of the sudden rise in the value of sheep confident success of this new speculation by the holders. Mr. McGregor of the Goulburn, we are informed by a gentleman who heard of the circumstance (from his own lips) lately effected a sale, consisting of 200, at 10s. per head all round, plainly showing the present value to be more than double the amount asked only a few weeks back. This is a cheering prospect for the colony.—*P. Patriot*.

**WOOL.**—We have great pleasure in making it known that the number of bales of wool exported this year over the last amounts to 2,747, as the following return derived from the Customs-house will show:—Number of bales exported during the year 1842, 9,976; 1843, 12,723; excess, 2,747. The *Generos* with the last of this season's clip has not yet sailed, so that the excess may be justly assumed at 3000 bales, and it is also but fair to state that the above return does not include the wool exported from Portland, which we have good reason to believe, was a considerable extent.—*Ibid.*

**FATAL ACCIDENTS.**—While the brig *Scout* was lying at the wharf at Launceston, one of her men fell headlong into that mud from which no man was ever known to escape, and was immediately smothered. During the passage of the same vessel from Launceston to Portland Bay, one of the hands employed in stowing the jib, the vessel pitching heavily at the time, was jerked off the boom, and although every effort was made to save him, it was without effect. A minor accident occurred in Hobson's Bay on Saturday last, one of the men falling from the foreyard and breaking his collar bone.—We observe by the Launceston papers that the body of the man who was suffocated in the mud at Launceston, has been recovered.—*Patriot*.

**OFFICIAL COSTUME.**—His Honor Judge Jeffcott has directed, that in future the Sheriff and Register, when in attendance upon the Supreme Court, shall appear in the appropriate costume belonging to their respective offices. The Clerk of the court is also to be dressed and gowned as in Sydney.—*Herald*.

**SALE BY AUCTION.**—Yesterday Mr. McDonnell disposed of Captain Roach's property at Richmond. Lot 1, consisting of a good substantial five room cottage, with front and back verandah, pantries, cellar, servants' room, kitchen and stores, besides a detached three-stall stable, coach house, and large hayloft, the land consisting of two and a half acres, all fenced in, &c. &c., for 1750, to Mr. James Williamson. Lot 2, containing a similar house and ground, but without out-offices, for 1500, to Mr. J. S. Terms—50 per cent. deposit, and the remainder by an approved bill at three months.—*Ibid.*

**SALE OF BOOKS.**—The little library advertised for sale at Messrs. Carfrae and Blund's was disposed of on Wednesday, and the most extravagant prices realized. The Bridgewater Treatise fetched 18s. per volume, and a single copy of McCulloch's *Richmondian* (in boards), the extraordinary price of 2l. 15s. I never saw books fetch such an enormous price before as upon public sale. The auctioneer evidently seemed much gratified at "giving away" these emblems of literature. Previous to the sale the whole lot, including a good substantial book case with cupboards, &c., were offered for 20l. They realised 43l.—*Ibid.*

HOME DESPATCH.

No. 3.  
The general elections are nearly all over, and the fortunate members are living in clover; a few baffled candidates spurt out their spleen in newspaper squibs, to vent their chagrin. For a fortunate chance, the Governor's speech has come by an accident within our reach; so here I send you it, not quite verbatim, but as the sense is preserved, and so is the Latin. Gentlemen, with proud satisfaction I say, I rejoice my heart to meet you to-day; An Elective Assembly, which freedom prize, By Victoria herself, is good for sore eyes! Such a mighty event to occur in our reign is enough to make any governor vain. I receive full assurance of friendly relations From King Stanley and potentates of other nations; A few native tribes are rather unruly, Ill-using the shepherds and stockmen most cruelly, To your wisdom I leave it to take up an order, That folks may live safely who dwell on the border. Our soldiers and tars have taught *Chiney* a lesson, So we may now have plenty of Congou and Hyson. You may send there your salted provisions for prog They are better by far than rats, cats, or dog.

The Land Fund, (from somewhere was heard a deep groan), The Land Fund, (it grieves me to say, is quite gone, And the Revenue also is on the decrease, You will find things indeed, but a rather queer mess, My salary here of five thousand a year, Some people assert costs rather too dear; But I'll show them a sample of what is frugality, Saavier in modo et fortiter in re-ality; For yearly, as long as I am governor here, I mean to return a thousand pounds clear.

The annual estimates will be all laid before ye, Let the treasurer, the best way he can, tell his story. I shall only advert to your youth's education, So important to every one, in every station; You will hear by-and-by some pretty tough yarns, Of College's, Schools, and of teaching the bairns. Do something ye must, so remember I told ye, Else the house you are in will be too hot to hold ye.

The Municipal Bill works splendid we see, All the members of Council so sweetly agree; It is really immense, the good they have done, Though some snarlers maintain they have not yet begun.

Without has arisen a very loud cry, That the government lands are three-fourths too high. This subject will claim early consideration, Which I hope will not last to the end of your session. The present distress is, I hope, transitory, And good fortune return, in brightness and glory; You must go into committee, of ways and means To meet our expense, and keep on his pins The government omnibus. So now good bye, I have spoken so long that I feel rather dry.

This said, he hitched up his breeches And finished his learned speeches.  
ROBIN RUS.

The Mayor's chair, in the City Council Chambers, has been executed, we understand, at the enormous cost of 65l. It would exhibit much more wisdom, in our opinion, were they to direct their exertions to the raising of ways and means, than by such unseemly extravagance in squandering their resources before they are realised.

Mr. Duncan has published the first number of the *Weekly Register*, a professedly liberal newspaper, to be published every Saturday afternoon. The present number hardly bears out the high reputation of Mr. Duncan; but from a first number it would be unfair to pronounce a judgment.

**INQUESTS.**—On Saturday last two inquests were held in the City before Mr. J. R. Brennan, coroner. The first took place in the St. John's Tavern, corner of George and Bridge-streets, on the body of William Dunbar, a seaman belonging to the *Governor Phillip*, who had been complaining for some time. He had been landed for the purpose of being lodged in the hospital, but died before reaching his destination. Mr. Surgeon Jones having certified that death was the result of natural causes, the jury returned a verdict that deceased had died by the visitation of God. The other inquest took place at the Black Dog, public house, on the body of George Moffitt, also a seaman, who had been landed some time before in a bad state of health. Mr. Surgeon Harpur, of King-street, having certified that death had been produced by natural causes, a verdict to that effect was recorded.

The Government Diving Bell has been employed during the last week at the Patent Slip, for the purpose of removing a quantity of old cast iron ways, which prevented the slip from running so free as is necessary, and replacing them with new ones.—*Herald*.

**PORT PHILLIP INSOLVENT.**—Robert Deane, solicitor, (compulsory), upon the petition of Arthur Hogue. Mr. Deane is at present absent from the province.—July 20,

**MUSWELLBROOK.**—Live stock is now very low in price. A good milking cow was sold to-day at the pound for £1 3s.; a quiet heifer brought 14s. 6d.; another cow was sold for 17s.; and a heifer for 10s.; a full grown steer in fair condition, rising two years old, fetched only 6s. There is a great scarcity of silver in this district. Storekeepers, publicans, and others have consequently recently adopted the practice of giving to their customers, by way of change, their promissory notes for small sums, such as 2s. 6d., 3s., 5s., &c. The issues from Merion are promissory notes and orders; bank notes, good cheques, &c., are not to be had. Our issues from Glenie's Creek, (Falbrook), are "Three days after sight, I promise to pay £1," &c., &c. Such a state of things as this cannot surely continue long, and the sooner it improves the better.—*Correspondent of Mercury*.

**JERRY'S PLAINS.**—The wheat crops present a flourishing appearance, and the late rains have greatly facilitated the preparatory ploughings for maize. There is nothing which throws a gloom over the farmer's prospects but the low price of grain, and how to remedy this evil is the question. That the farmer is not sufficiently remunerated is indisputable, yet we believe it is owing in some measure to the scarcity of money, and to the general poverty of the agriculturists, which compels them to make sale of their produce at any price that offers.—There is a rumour afloat here that Liverpool Plains have been flooded, in consequence of eighteen days successive rain, and that the country towards the Namoio and Big River has been all under water. Only those who have seen the immense level plains in that direction can form an adequate conception of the grand and appalling spectacle that must have been presented under such circumstances. It is to be hoped the report is exaggerated, or untrue. A bachelor's ball, at which most of the gentry of the neighbourhood were present, was given by Dr. Jenkins, Captain Scovill, and the bachelors of Jerry's Plains, on Wednesday, the 25th.—*Ibid.*

**THE TOBACCO MANUFACTORY, WEST MAITLAND.**—There are at present fourteen twist-ers in this establishment, and as many steamers, the latter being children from eight to twelve years of age. The tobacco manufactured is of excellent quality, and it is got up in a style much superior to any other colonial manufactured tobacco that we have seen. The quantity manufactured every week is from 1800 lbs. to 2000 lbs.

**THE RIVER HUNTER.**—We have heard a rumour afloat in town this week, though we are not aware upon what foundation it rests, that it is intended shortly to cleanse the river between Maitland and Morpeth. We wish there may be truth in the report, for we know of nothing that would be a more decided advantage to the town, and to the settlers on the banks of the river, and we are really astonished that no combined effort should have been made ere this by the inhabitants to effect something of this kind. If the river could be made navigable, even for cutters and other small crafts, to bring up goods to the very doors of our storekeepers, so as to prevent the breakage and loss upon various articles which must necessarily ensue by their being carted from Morpeth, there can be no question but a great annual saving would be effected, and the trade of the district considerably increased. We at present know of nothing which should prevent the river being made navigable for the steamers all the way up to Maitland. This of course could not be effected without some expense, which in the present depressed state of things it would not be advisable to incur; but as far as the cleansing of the river by removing the weeds and the mud is concerned, we think this might be effected at a comparatively small expense. We have no doubt that if a proper representation of the state of the river, and of the advantages which would arise from its being cleared, were made to his Excellency the Governor, he would comply with a request from the inhabitants for the use of the steam-dredge lately built in Sydney, and which is now in all probability lying idle in the harbour of Port Jackson. Were this obtained, the river could be cleansed at a trifling cost, the circumstances of the settlers on its banks would be much improved, and

additional facilities would be afforded for transit of goods to and from Sydney. We think the subject is one well worthy the consideration of our fellow-townsmen, and we would strongly advise them not to lose sight of it.—*Ibid.*

**NORFOLK ISLAND.**—It is understood two captains, six subalterns, and 150 rank and file of the Royal Marines, are to proceed to New South Wales, to garrison Norfolk Island. It is said that Captain Child, of the Plymouth division, is to have the command of them.—*Morning Chronicle*, Feb. 28.

**GOULBURN RACES.**  
FIRST DAY, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1843.  
**FIRST RACE.**—The Town Plate of seventy sovereigns, for all horses; weight for age; heats twice round; entrance £5. Three entrances or no race; the winner to carry 7lbs. extra for any other race during the meeting.  
**SECOND RACE.**—The Maiden Stakes of thirty sovereigns, for all horses that never won an advertised prize on a public Course; weight for age; heats once round. Entrance £3; three entrances or no race.  
**THIRD RACE.**—A Hack Race of ten sovereigns, for bona fide hacks that never won a prize. Post entrance one pound added.  
SECOND DAY, WEDNESDAY.  
**FIRST RACE.**—Innkeepers' Purse of forty sovereigns for all horses; weight for age; heats twice round. Entrance £4; three entrances or no race.  
**SECOND RACE.**—The Two years old Stakes of twenty pounds, heats once round. Entrance £2; three entrances or no race.  
**THIRD RACE.**—Hurdle Race for twenty sovereigns, for all horses; over nine leaps. Entrance £2; three entrances or no race.  
**THIRD DAY, FRIDAY.**  
**FIRST RACE.**—The Tradesmen's Purse of thirty sovereigns, for all horses; weight for age; heats twice round; entrance £3. Three entrances or no race.  
**SECOND RACE.**—Ladies' Purse of twenty sovereigns, for all horses; weight for age; heats once round; entrance £2. Three entrances or no race.  
**THIRD RACE.**—The Beaten Stakes of twenty pounds, for all horses beat during the meeting, to be handicapped by the stewards or whom they may appoint; heats once round; post entrance.  
**FOURTH RACE.**—Hack Hurdle Race for ten sovereigns, for untrained hacks that never won a prize; over six leaps; post entrance one pound. Three entrances or no race.  
Weights to be carried at the above meeting—

	st.	lb.
2 year old	7	0
3 year old	8	0
4 year old	8	9
5 year old	9	7
6 years and aged	10	0
Mares and geldings allowed	3	lbs.

All decisions of the stewards to be final. Horses to be entered for the first day's races at Mr. Buchanan's, Calendonian Hotel, on the evening previous, between the hours of 7 and 10 P. M. Entrances for the second day's races at Mr. Mandleson's, Goulburn Inn. Third day's races, entrances at Mr. Brodie's, Salutation Inn, on the respective evening previous to the horse for and to. No person allowed to enter a horse for Town Plate, Innkeepers' or Tradesmen's Purse, who is not a subscriber to the amount of Five Sovereigns for other races. Three Guineas, with the exception of the Hack race, for which One Guinea will qualify. All horses to be the bona fide property of the subscribers. No false starts allowed. All applications for booths to be made to the Secretary, and no publican who is not a subscriber to the amount of £10 will be allowed to have a booth on the Course. All dogs found on the Course to be destroyed.

STEWARDS.  
Messrs. Mandleson Meyers, Brodie, Marshden, Judge.—William Gick, Esq., CLERK OF THE COURSE.—Mr. White. TREASURER AND SECRETARY.—J. Sinclair. N.B.—The intervening day is set apart for private matches and other sports.

**MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.**  
WE, the undersigned Directors and Members of the Mutual Insurance Association, being of opinion that in case of fire the pecuniary call upon the Members of the Association would be more than is consistent with its advantages, do request that, at the earliest opportunity allowed by law, the Directors will call a Meeting of the members of the Association, for the purpose of discussing its present prospects, and the propriety of its dissolution. [Here follow sixteen signatures.]

July 26, 1843.  
In conformity with the foregoing regulation, the Directors hereby appoint Monday, the 7th of August next, for the holding of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Members, at the Office of the Association, over Mr. Ellard's Music Warehouse, in George-street, at three o'clock, p.m., precisely.  
By order of the Board,  
E. HANCOCK,  
Actuary.

**BOARD AND LODGING.**  
A FEW respectable young men can be accommodated with Board and Lodging. Terms—from 16s. to 18s. per week, in a central part of Sydney. For address, apply at the office of the "True Sun," King-street West.

JUST RECEIVED,

JAMES EGG.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER,

Opposite the Barrack Gate, George-street, Sydney.

FAMILY SECRETS by Mrs. Ellis, Morrison's Family Prayers, Personal Recollections by Charlotte Elizabeth, Women of England by Mrs. Ellis, Thomson's Seasons by Cunningham, Poems by Eliza Cook, Poems by the Rev. T. Dale, Emma de Lissau, May you Like it, by Taylor, Poetry of Sentiment, Poetry of Flowers, Poetry of Passions, the Laurel, the Lyre, Parley's Annual 1843, Forget Me Not 1843, Friendship's Offering 1843, Drawing Room Scrap Book 1843, Keepsake 1843, English Pearls 1843, Our Wild Flowers, the Christian Souvenir, Coward's Poems 2 vols., Young Islanders by Taylor, Pictorial Bible History, Re-creations for 1843, Conformity by Charlotte Elizabeth, Dangers and Duties by ditto, Porter on the Sugar Cane, Porter's Tropical Agriculturist, Etiquette for the Ladies, Etiquette for the Gentlemen, Ball-room Preceptor, Traditions of Chelsea College, Trollope's America, Life of the Duke of Wellington, Life of Napoleon Buonaparte, Three Courses and a Dessert, Conical Adventures of Beau Ogelvy, Cruikshank's Comic Library, Cruikshank's Odd Volume, the Humourist, Boswell's Life of Johnson, Johnson's Lives of the Poets, Goldsmith's Miscellaneous Works, Literary Scrap Book, the Florist's Museum, Sacred Treasury, Finner's Ports and Harbours of Great Britain 2 vols., Romance of Nature, Lay of the Last Minstrel, Lady of the Lake, Rokeby, Marmion by Scott, Omnia illustrated by Gilbert, Russia by ditto, the Omnibus by Cruikshank, History of London by Fearnside, Ross's Voyage to the Arctic Regions, Comic Almanac, Hood's Whims and Oddities, Manners and Customs of all Nations, Parley's Tales by a Grandfather, Trials and Triumphs, the Convict's Daughter or the Convert's Daughter, Facts and Factions, the Christian Souvenir, English Keepsake, Cabinet Album, Juvenile Forget Me Not, Juvenile Gleaner, Juvenile Casket, Historical Keepsake, the Ruby, the Pearl, the Magnet, Tribute of Affection, the Offering, the Amaranth, the Remembrancer, the Amulet, Youth's Talisman, Juvenile Wreath, Moral Tales for Young Boys' and Girls' Library, Historical Tales, the Cabinet, Comic Almanac for 1843, Wreath of Friendship, the Gem, Friendship's Gift, Children's Library, 6 vols., National Minstrel, Bytherwoods' Conveyancing by Parken and Stewart, 9 vols., Hand's Solicitor's Assistant, Jones's Attorney's Pocket Book, 2 vols., Paley's Law of Principal, Guide to the Quarter Sessions, the Cabinet Lawyer, Park on the Law of Marine Injuries, 2 vols., Chitty's Commercial Lawyer, Tya's Legal Hand Books, Barclay's Universal Dictionary, Russell's History of Modern Europe, 10 vols., Robert Hall's Works, 6 vols., State Trials, 34 vols., London Encyclopaedia, 22 vols., Allison's History of the French Revolution, 10 vols., Confessions of an Elderly Gentleman, by the Countess of Blessington, Chronicle of Crime, or the New Nonescent Calendar, with many plates, 2 vols., Paul Periwinkle, or the Preserving, 40 plates, Humphrey's Clock by Dickens, complete, 3 vols., Midford's History of Greece, 8 vols., Daniel De Foë's Works, 12 vols., Smith's Wealth of Nations, 4 vols., Heman's Works, 7 vols., Letters and Correspondence of Walpole, 5 vols., Correspondence of William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, 2 vols., Turner's Sacred History of the World, 3 vols., Milman's History of Christianity, 3 vols., Ranke's History of the Popes, 3 vols., Burnet's History of the Reformation, by Dr. Mares, 4 vols., Mrs. Trollope's in France, 2 vols., Lord Brougham's Speeches, 4 vols., Maxwell's Life of Wellington, 3 vols., Brenton's Naval History of Great Britain, with plates, 5 vols., Gibbon's Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, 5 vols., Cook's History of Party, from the reign of Charles the Second to the passing of the Reform Bill, 2 vols., Burnet's History of his own Times, Charles O'Malley, 2 vols., Confessions of Harry Lorcquer, Ettrick Shepherd's Tales 6 vols., Lady of the Manor, 7 vols., King's Interest Tables, Nautical Almanacs 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846, Gallerie du Musee, Napoleon embellished with splendid plates, 7 vols.

STATIONERY—Ledgers, Journals, Cash Books, Invoice Books, Day Books, Bill Books, Promissory Note Books, Discharging Books, Cheque Books, Order Books, Money Order Books, Ship's Discharging Books, Cargo Books, Writing, Foolscap, Note, and Coloured Paper, of all descriptions. N.B.—School and Children's Books of all descriptions, at the lowest prices. Sydney, July 19.

THOMPSON'S BATHURST CHEESE. MR. JAMES NOBLE has just received a Ton of this celebrated article, of which he will dispose at a moderate price, to give an opportunity to the lovers of good Cheese to obtain some of it. Mr. N. has also got on hand a quantity of very fine and mellow kips, which he will sell equally cheap, for cash only. Margaret-place, Clarence-street, Sydney, July 24.

DERWENT POTATOES. J. G. WALLER having received the finest sample of Black Derwent Potatoes imported this season, informs Private Families and others, he is selling the same at 10s. t cwt., by the single bag. J. G. W. also respectfully reminds parties, that he has always for sale choice Port, Sherry, and other wines at very moderate prices. Stores in Clarence-street, a few doors from King-street.

WINES, ALE, AND PORTER. CAN be had cheaper at J. G. Waller's Stores in Clarence-street, (between King-street and Barrack-lane) than any other house in New South Wales.

IN THE PRESS, And will be published shortly, in 2 Vols. 94mo. BY A DIRECTOR OF THE SYDNEY BANK, A TREATISE ON BANKING;

IN which will be shewn the most approved method of winding up the affairs of an institution already embarrassed; and an easy method whereby the business at present carried on by the colonial establishments, remaining in a flourishing condition, may be transferred to the English Banks. The first part of the work will be devoted to the consideration of monopolies; and in it will be explained the evils which have arisen, and are likely yet to arise, to the Banks and the Inhabitants of this great country, from the monopoly of tea, sugar, tobacco, potatoes, apples, starch, blue, needles, and thread; and the immediate effect which the suppressing of the four last-named articles will have in raising the charges of washerwomen and sempstresses, already exorbitantly high.

The second part embraces the important subject of Savings' Banks. In it the author elucidates the course of reasoning by which he arrived at the conclusion, that the best way to make people keep their money in these useful establishments, was to invite them to take it out of them. After considerable labour bestowed on this branch of the subject, the author is convinced that the invitation above-mentioned had best be given by one or more competent persons (whose lungs are evidently uninjured) placed in the streets, lanes, or passages, leading to the doors of the Bank, with bells in their hands, which should be rung from time to time as occasion may require. But that it may be safely left to the discretion of the Accountant, Cashier, or other officer, in charge of each and every Bank, to determine whether the person or persons so employed, as aforesaid, shall wear cloaks round their bodies, and hats cocked three-corner-wise on their heads; or whether they shall be clothed in the garb of common bell-men.

In the third part will be found instructions how to choose, tune, and keep penny trumpets, and cat-calls, so as to have them at all times ready for immediate use. The trumpets have been lately brought into play at meetings of Shareholders of Banks, whose shares require to be blown up to a proper height; and the cat-calls have been found efficacious in cases wherein their owners employed them to bring down other shares to a just level. The Author himself has, after much study, overcome the difficulty of using these instruments together, and their united power has on some recent occasions been satisfactorily tested.

At the end of the second volume there will be introduced an Essay on Temper, in which the writer points out, in the clearest and most forcible manner the absolute necessity of avoiding all display of passion or ill-humour at public meetings; especially by those who are called to the chair at such meetings. The work is published in a form to suit the pockets (which are not now worn large) of gentlemen desirous of carrying it with them to yearly, half-yearly, general or special general meetings of Shareholders of Banks, Insurance Companies, Steam Navigation Companies, or others of the flourishing companies which have been formed in this rising colony.

N.B.—Copies will be ready for delivery, at the offices of the Observer, Herald, and Australian newspapers, in about ten days.

NOw that there is no longer any necessity for the public paying, these hard times, extravagant prices for TEA and SUGAR. The monopoly of price, like all other monopolies, is found to be based on injustice and selfishness. Every day's experience tends to show, that the first cost of the finest Teas in China does not warrant the extravagant prices in this colony; large profits must give way, and comparison in value made the test of preference.

JOHN FEARNLEY AND CO., LOWER GEORGE-STREET.

Are positively selling, at a price unprecedentedly low the finest BLACK, GREEN, and MIXED TEA, that can be imported, having been prepared in China expressly to private order. J. F. and Co. strongly recommend their friends and the public to make a trial of these superior Teas, feeling confident they will find it advisable to lay in a good stock. All orders, per post or otherwise, for prompt payment, will receive punctual delivery.

Times being so bad, Fearnley and Co. offer for cash, Sugar, and every article in the Grocery, Provision, and Corn trade, considerably under most shops in Sydney, which they are enabled to do through buying chiefly for cash, long experience and by working in the business themselves, under little or no expense. A trial is urgently solicited from cash customers, who will actually find at Fearnley's, real good articles, genuine as imported, at astonishingly low prices.

Cornial produce taken in barter, and settlers in dealing will be most liberally treated with. Be particular in the address. JOHN FEARNLEY AND CO. Grocery and Provision Store, opposite the site of the Old Gaol, Lower George-street.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Joseph Yeomans, of No. 33, Castlereagh-street, in the City of Sydney, gentleman, who formerly served under articles of clerkship to George Robert Nichols, of Pitt-street, in the said City, gentleman, attorney-at-law, and who has lately served under articles of clerkship to William George Augustus Fitzhugh, of King-street, in the said City, gentleman, attorney-at-law, intends to apply on the last day of the ensuing term to be admitted an Attorney, Solicitor, and Proctor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales.—Dated this seventh day of July, A.D. 1843. JOSEPH YEOMANS.

REDUCED FARES TO PARRAMATTA, PER "COMET." THIS splendid New Steam-boat will start this Evening, at 4 o'clock, P.M., from Thom's Wharf for Parramatta, returning again to Sydney the following morning. She has very superior accommodations, and is currently reported to be the fastest boat on the river. Every attention will be paid to the comfort of the passengers, while due care will be taken of the cargo, at a proportionate reduction, with the fares as under, viz. — Cabin Fare to Parramatta..... s. d. 2 0 Storage ditto, ditto..... 1 0 Cabin ditto to Kissing Point..... 1 6 Storage ditto, ditto..... 1 0 Cabin ditto to Bedlam Point..... 1 0 Storage ditto, ditto..... 0 6

PRO BONO PUBLICO. GREAT REDUCTION. SUGAR! SUGAR!! SUGAR!!! AUSTRALIAN LOAF SUGAR, A superior to damaged or sweated British, now so common in the market, at the reduced price of 3jd. (three pence three farthings) per lb., by the single loaf. Best Colonial Treacle, twopence per lb. Superior Dip Candles, fourpence-halfpenny per lb.; finest Colonial Mould ditto, sevenpence per lb. by the box. Prime English and Colonial Hams, Bacon, and Cheese, &c. &c., together with every other article in the trade, Colonial and British, at unprecedented low prices; at A. DAVY'S Cheap Grocery Establishment. Observe—No. 2, Hunter-street. N.B.—No connection with the shop No. 3, bearing no name.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL. JOHN THOMPSON, House Painter, Glazier, and Paper hanger, Oil and Colourman, &c., begs to inform his friends and the public generally that he has removed his business from Lower George-street to more central and commodious premises, four doors north of Market-street, and opposite the New South Wales Savings' Bank, where he trusts by strict attention to business to merit a continuance of the public patronage which he has hitherto enjoyed. J. T. at the same time informs his friends and the public generally that he has just received an extensive addition to his stock, consisting of oils, colours, varnishes, brushes, window glass all sizes, paper hangings, &c., of the newest patterns and devices, which he offers to the public at the lowest possible prices. N.B.—The trade and country dealers supplied on the most reasonable terms.

AN OPPORTUNITY SELDOM TO BE MET WITH To be Let on Lease for Seven or Ten Years. THOSE very Extensive Premises 101 and 102 George-street, adjoining the Bank of Australasia, where the present proprietor has carried on for the last five years the Hatting and Drapery Business successfully. They are well adapted for an extensive Grocery and Provision Trade, or any business where room and situation is an object. Possession can be given within one month, and the fixtures if required, taken at a valuation. Application to be made to the proprietor on the premises. N.B.—The Stock of Hats and Drapery on hand, Selling-off very cheap; the Trade supplied on all advantageous terms. JOHN COYLE.

TO BUILDERS, MECHANICS, AND WORKMEN. SEVERAL Allotments of Building Land in various parts of the City, and the Suburbs, to be sold on exceedingly easy terms, or in exchange for Labour or building materials. For particulars, apply to Mr. Frederick Hally, Architect and surveyor, York-street.

FROM VAN DIEMEN'S LAND. ON SALE, at the Stores of the Undersigned—Seed Wheat (white Lammas) Seed Oats (white) Ditto (grey) Ditto (brown). ALSO, Prime Hunter's River Maize. All at reduced prices.—Terms—cash. GEORGE RAIFRAY. Bathurst-street West, May 15

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP. NOTICE is hereby given that the partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned as graziers of stock in this colony, under the style of Icely and Co., was this day dissolved by mutual consent. All parties indebted to the late firm are requested to pay the amounts either to Mr. Icely, Lyons' Terrace, Sydney, or to Mr. Rodd, Blackdown, Bathurst.—Dated at Coomberg, Bathurst, this 30th day of June, 1843. THOMAS ICELY. J. SAVERY RODD.

Witness, John Kinchela. NOTICE. ELIZABETH BUBIER, formerly of Crediton, Devonshire, but now of this Country, will please send her address to her niece, Mary Bubier, who has news of importance to communicate from her friends in England. Address—Mrs. Jones, care of the Editor of the Observer. 27th June, 1843.

SHEEP-BOLLING ESTABLISHMENT FIVE DOCK FARM, On the Parramatta Road—Within Six Miles of Sydney. STOCK OWNERS AND OTHERS are respectfully informed, that the following prices will in future be charged at this establishment.— For slaughtering the sheep, preparing and classifying the fat, one shilling per head. For slaughtering, preparing, and classifying, finding castrs, cooping, marking, branding, and making fit for exportation, one shilling and three-pence per head. For salting and curing the hams, finding salt (if not above £5 per ton), three-pence per ham. If wished to be smoked an extra charge will be made. If required, payment will be received for the above charges in tallow or wool, at Sydney market prices, and the tallow, skins, and hams delivered at any wharf in Sydney, without any additional charge. Arrangements have been made with Mr. Newsham to classify and prepare the fat for the London market, and with other competent persons for sorting and preparing the fleeces, and washing the wool if required. All written applications from persons desirous of sending sheep for slaughter to the establishment, will meet with immediate attention on being left at the office of F. Mitchell, George-street. Five Dock Farm, July 1.

NEW BAKING ESTABLISHMENT. MR. ROBERT GILLESPIE begs to inform his friends and the public generally, that he has commenced business in those commodious premises in George-street, opposite the police-office, next to Mr. Andrews, the grocer, where he intends to carry on the bread and biscuit baking in all its branches. From the extensive experience Mr. G. has had in the trade, he trusts he will receive a share of public patronage. CHEAP WINES! CHEAP WINES! AT THE Australian Wine Vaults, nearly opposite the Barrack Gate, George-street. PALE Sherry, 12s. per dozen, a splendid dinner wine. Brown Sherry, 16s. per dozen, excellent. Ditto very superior, 20s. per dozen. Port Wine, 10s. per dozen. Ditto, very superior, English bottled, 20s. per dozen, in cases. Madeira, 16s. per dozen. Cape, £5 3s. per hoghead. Pale Ale, £3 3s. per hoghead. Very superior Cigars, 4s. per thousand. Sydney, May 8, 1843.

B. MOUNTCASTLE begs to inform his friends and the public, that the shop opposite T. and M. Wooley's, George-street, formerly occupied by him, has no connexion whatever with his present establishment, the London and Edinburgh Hat Warehouse, No. 9, George-street, opposite the Commercial Bank. LEATHER FROM the GLENMORE TANNERY Sole Kip } Leather. Calf } Skins. Goat } Kangaroo } All of a superior description, to what is usually Manufactured in this Colony. Apply to CHARLES ABERCROMBIE, George-street. IN THE INSOLVENT ESTATE OF R. AND T. COVENEY. ALL parties indebted to the above Estate are requested to pay the amounts of their accounts to Mr. Robert Covenev, or in his absence to Mr. Stephen Mehan, who are authorised by us to collect and grant acquittances for the same. JOHN GILCHRIST, Provisional WILLIAM FANNING, Trustees. Sydney, June 23, 1843. MR. POLACK has commenced business as Auctioneer, Broker, and Commission Agent in those extensive premises known as the Bank of Australia, on the same terms and conditions that he always adopted, and with so much general satisfaction to those who employed him. Mr. Polack having been honoured by the late Governor, Sir Richard Bourke, the Colonial Treasurer, and other officers of high rank, as also the Merchants and Traders of New South Wales, with the strictest confidence, he hopes that his business habits will insure him a portion of public patronage. Mr. Polack needs no recommendation with respect to capital; he has no engagements on it; the properties and mortgages in favour of him have no incumbrances; he is under no obligation to any of the Banks or Loan Companies; and as the colony now is in a more healthy state than it has been for the last thirteen years, and the decrease of false and fictitious capital has given room to the legitimate men of business, he feels confidence in soliciting a share of the patronage of his old friends and supporters. (A CARD.) MR. J. BACKLER, PORTRAIT AND LANDSCAPE PAINTER, No. 6, Domain Terrace. SYDNEY:—Printed and Published at the OBSERVER Printing Office, College-street, (formerly called Jamison-street.) for the Proprietor, by ROBERT BARR. Wednesday, August 2, 1843.