

# The Colonial Observer.

OR, JOURNAL OF POLITICS, COMMERCE, AGRICULTURE, LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND RELIGION, FOR THE COLONY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

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Vol. II.

## COLONIAL POLITICS.

### THE PRESENT CRISIS.

THAT the Colony is at present passing through an extraordinary crisis must be evident to all. Public confidence has been everywhere shaken; property of all kinds has experienced the most unlooked-for depreciation, and the number of bankruptcies that have already occurred, and the number more that are still anticipated, have served to produce general distrust throughout the community, and to spread a deep gloom over the face of society. Gentlemen of the Croaker family are daily telling us that the Colony is ruined, that it will never hold up its head again, that property will never recover its proper value, that we must all go down hill together, and that no change of a favourable character will ever again come over the spirit of our Colonial dream.

Now we do not by any means participate in these gloomy anticipations. We have seen the Colony in a similar condition once before—in the years 1829 and 1830, at which period precisely the same language was used by every member of the Croaker family as at present—and as the Colony recovered from that period of extreme depression, we are quite confident it will do so again, and a better order of things arise out of the existing chaos than many anticipate. And what, we ask, is there to prevent such a consummation now any more than there was twelve or thirteen years ago? The revival and the extraordinary prosperity that ensued from 1833 till 1840 inclusive was as little expected by the prophets—"the foretellers of bad things," as Homer calls them—of 1830 as the future revival we confidently anticipate is expected by the "seers" of 1843. Doubtless, the prosperity of the past period of revival was in a great degree imaginary. It was not health but unnatural excitement that characterised the period we allude to. Its symptoms were not those of vigorous action but of decided insanity. Whether it was mania in general, or monomania, we are not learned enough in the language of nosology to determine; but certain it is, and of verity, that comparatively few only escaped the infection, as general debt and disastrously frequent insolvency now sufficiently prove.

But what are all this debt and disaster to the elements of general prosperity which the Colony still exhibits in such rich and varied abundance? Fortunately we have not been able to mortgage our fine climate, otherwise it would have gone long ago, and some other at least a hundred per cent. worse been gotten in exchange. We have not been able to barter away the acknowledged fertility of a large portion of that part of our virgin-soil which is peculiarly fitted for the purposes of cultivation. The interminable pastures of the untrodden wilderness around us and beyond are still capable of affording pasture in abundance to countless flocks of sheep and herds of

cattle, and ten thousand other sources of subsistence for the industrious in other countries are here still unthought of and untried. The Colony still remains as broad and as long as ever, and its vast resources are still inviting the industry of man. All the calamity we have to lament is, that the real wealth which its property still unquestionably implies is at present rapidly changing hands. The rich in their own imaginations are becoming poor; the landlord is becoming a tenant; and the two extremes of society are daily approximating to each other, with the implied understanding that they are in future to pursue the *via media* of industry and economy.

And what real cause of lamentation is there in all this, more than that a vast number of people have got themselves into debt, and must do the best they can to get out of it? There is no mystery in this. It is doubtless a lamentable spectacle to see people who, if they had only been content with the moderate, or rather the large, income which patient industry and frugality would unquestionably have afforded them in this Colony, in times past, would have lived in the uninterrupted enjoyment of prosperity, but have literally been doing almost nothing but speculating most enormously, and living, perhaps, most extravagantly—it is lamentable to see such people suddenly reduced to comparative indigence, to the want almost of the necessaries of life. But such has been the history of man in all countries, in all ages. For although philosophers tell us that "reason is that faculty which distinguishes man from his fellow-creatures the brutes," innumerable specimens of those "stubborn things" called "facts," would almost lead us to believe that man is the only irrational animal that walks the earth. For whoever heard of a horse or dog, a bullock or sheep running itself into debt, without the least prospect of being able to pay, and being put in gaol or sold off to pay its creditor? These are not the freaks of the inferior animals, as we call them, but of that really irrational animal man, who being unfortunately constituted

Lord of himself, that heritage of woe, has all along been exhibiting his lamentable inability to manage his patrimony by one act of folly after another—ever and anon getting himself into another and another well, and making the most desperate efforts to get out of them!

Of the remedies that have been proposed for this unfortunate state of things, we greatly fear that most of them are altogether empirical in their character and that they will be found so in the end. There is the Solvent Debtor's Bill, an Emollient to be applied externally to the affected part for two years, but without professing to carry off a single scruple of the suppurating matter that has produced the sore on the surface, and that is still festering underneath. There is the Lien on Wool Bill, a gilded pill for those who choose to take it, which we understand

very few will. And there is the Anti-Usury Bill, which is a sort of amputating process, consisting however, (for that is the peculiar beauty of the measure,) not in the amputation of any part of the diseased subject, the debtor, but in that of the whole half of the body of the healthy subject, the creditor! Then, there is the Government Bank (anticipated) Bill, a sort of Aerial Machine, of which our best wish is that we hope it may fly, though we greatly doubt it. And finally, there is the Debenture Bill, which, like the Lien on Wool Bill, depends so entirely on the gullibility of those who may choose to take it, that we fear there is not gilding enough in the Colony to make it go down.

What then is to be done in the present crisis? Why, with the very best wishes for the relief of the numerous parties who are now suffering through their own past mismanagement, we fear greatly that there is nothing to be hoped for in the way of real or permanent relief from any one of all the various specifics that have been proposed. There is nothing for us but the cauterizing process, to burn out all the rest of the "proud flesh" that remains in our colonial system; nothing but the amputating knife to cut off the diseased limbs; nothing but a certain specific number (but as we are not of the Faculty we cannot tell how many) of additional doses of that drastic medicine, Burton's Purge, to clear out the whole interior of the Colony, though it should leave nothing but skin and bones behind. And we are decidedly of opinion that the sooner we get to this state, the better will it be for us all. There will still be the land, the improvements, the houses, the ships, the sheep, the cattle, the horses, and the goods and other chattels of all kinds. These are *fixtures*, as far as the Colony is concerned—they cannot be removed, whatever be the issue of the ten thousand law-suits and processes that are at present occupying the attention of the Courts of Law. The only real difference will be that they will stand in other people's names. Mr. A. will have to transfer his right to Mr. B. by due course of law, and while Mr. A. will have to profit in future by the sad experience of the past, Mr. B. having disposable funds, which the former owner had not, will be able to turn it to advantage. It is absurd to talk of the *colony* being ruined. Individuals, we grant, may and will be ruined—in great numbers, and through their own folly and mismanagement; but until we can barter away our climate, and annihilate our soil, and burn our houses and ships, and boil sheep, cattle, and horses, altogether in one vast cauldron, and empty out the tallow into the harbour, the colony cannot be ruined. It must and will "GO A-HEAD."

### THE INSOLVENT LAW.—ITS USE AND ABUSE.

TO MR. JUSTICE BURTON, ONE OF THE JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT, SYDNEY.

SIR—Six months ago I addressed to your Honor three letters on the subject of our Insolvent Law, which appeared in the columns of the *Herald* newspaper last March and April.

No doubt these letters are overlaid by the numerous manuscripts that come before you judicially, and, if they were read at the time, may since then have entirely escaped your recollection; therefore it is that I renew this correspondence by quotations from the letter now referred to.

I said then, and there are multitudes in this colony who will now join in my opinion, that "The Insolvent Law, as it now stands, is erroneous on general principles; it has done, and is doing, a great and grievous injury to the community, and unless speedily arrested in its progress, will involve in one common devastating calamity our whole colony!!"

I said then, "To prevent the existing Insolvent Act from working out almost universal desolation to this colony, an act ought speedily to pass abolishing altogether imprisonment for debt."

"When a motion is made in the Legislative Council for the number of persons who have become insolvent, and whose estates have been sequestrated

under the Insolvent Act, the amount of debts, per their schedules, and the amount of dividends, it will be seen that the average dividend does not reach two-pence in the pound; consequently, that the sequestrated property of the colony may be estimated only as one result wreck!"

"Four-fifths of the persons whose estates are sequestrated under the Insolvent Act, are driven to that destructive alternative, not because the majority of the creditors are unwilling to give the debtor an extended period of time, in which to pay, or accept of such composition as a frank and honest disclosure of his affairs may dictate as right; but because the debtor is driven from his home, or dragged to gaol, and then the creditors have no one with whom to negotiate, and the debtor, to avoid such alternative is no longer a reasonable person, but in desperation abandons his affairs, casting them to the winds, or what is the same thing—to the Insolvent Court."

"Abolish imprisonment for debt, and the race of desolation now running will be arrested. The creditor and the debtor will be both benefited, and the community generally will receive an almost instantaneous support, and ultimately complete recovery from the commercial distress now raging."

"It is a grave question to moot—what will the Banks and Bankers of Sydney do in the face of the present working of the Insolvent Act, with two millions, six hundred and twenty thousand pounds due to them on personal security, according to their own quarterly official statement? Will they ever get the two millions, or will they even ever get the odd money?"

"You, Sir, as the father of this measure—all, and especially the Government, must look to it, and promptly too, or the consuming conflagration will become inextinguishable!"

Such, Sir, was the language I held on the subject six months ago; such opinions and sentiments I have reason to know, were at that time startling, and but barely admissible amongst mercantile men, even for discussion. Men of character, credit, and property, could not at first bring their minds to look with serious attention at the dangers by which they were surrounded, or suffer themselves to ascertain or contemplate the dreadful precipice on which they stood; but the last few months has gone on from day to day disclosing such wide and disastrous ruin throughout all the vital interests of the colony, that there is not the possibility or wish longer, to dissemble with, or conceal our lamentable position.

Let us not, however, despair. Let us look for a remedy. The law, which is the protection of our property and of our persons, which extends to Britons security and confidence, has, in this particular instance, proved our scourge—our destructive scourge!

The Insolvent Act is erroneous on general principles: this community is essentially different from the old countries of Europe;—there, a very extensive section of society are neither debtor nor creditor—that is to say, they neither owe money, nor is money due to them—but no such class of persons exists here. Here—every one, (isolated exceptions do not disturb the assertion,) either owes money, or has money due to him; which, if he cannot pay or receive, unbalances his standing in society. Hence, when one breaks down (by the Insolvent Law) his fall brings down another, and so, like a house built of cards, the one resting on the other, all in their turn break down together. Those who try to stem the torrent, to keep their property together, to arrange with their creditors and avoid sequestration, are overtaken by the herald of the common law—the Sheriff, and off they go to gaol—and thus goes on the work of destruction!

But abolish imprisonment for debt, and the Insolvent Law with some amendments and modifications, will no longer be such a scourge as it has hitherto proved, but a blessing and great boon to our colony, and the list of sequestrations will rapidly diminish.

I may take the liberty of addressing you again on this topic, so universally interesting, as to come home almost to every one in the colony.—With very great respect, I have the honour to remain, Sir, your most obedient servant, JULIUS C. ESAR.

September 15, 1843.

ACADEMICAL DEGREES.—It is melancholy to think that the following paragraph extracted from an English paper is justified by its truth. Academical honours are sunk to a low ebb when they become articles of merchandise; but we know of one particular instance in which the degradation was carried still further by the mendicant scheme of a subscription list being resorted to in order to procure for a certain clergyman a handle of this sort to his name. We were not aware, however, that the demand in this country for academical honours could have sensibly affected the English market till we met with the passage annexed.—OXFORD COLLEGE EXCHANGE.—In consequence of the late numerous demands from Australia, for collegiate honours, prices were high, and the asses' bench was booking up!!!

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1843.

The house met at three o'clock.

Dr. Nicholson presented a petition from Mr. Francis Kemble, a director and shareholder of the Australasian Sugar Company, praying that the company might be placed on an equal footing with the English refiners by an abatement or return of the duty paid on their raw material. He then moved that the petition be received.

Dr. Lang seconded the motion. He considered that the community were highly indebted to the Company for having introduced the manufacture of an article of such general consumption, and placing the same within the reach of all classes; as he was of opinion the use of sugar was conducive to health, and peculiarly serviceable in preventing cutaneous disease.

The petition was ordered to be received.

Dr. Nicholson rose to move that an address be presented to his Excellency the Governor, praying that he will be pleased to order the following returns to be laid on the table of this house. (1.) A return of the amount of fees received during the years 1842 and 1843, by the Chief Commissioner of Insolvent Estates at Sydney, and by the Commissioners of Insolvent Estates at Melbourne, Bathurst and Maitland respectively, specifying the number and amount of salary of the clerks employed by each Commissioner, together with a statement of the amount of expenses incident to each of the offices of Chief Commissioner and Commissioners of Insolvent Estates, and defrayed by them. (2.) A return of the amount of fees received respectively, by the members of the Court of Commissioners appointed for examining and reporting upon claims to grants of land. He (Dr. Nicholson) had brought forward this motion in order that the house might be put in possession of the information required thereby, before the estimates came under consideration; as it was a very prevalent opinion, that the officers referred to in the motion, were deriving considerable emolument from the fees of their respective offices, which they received in lieu of salary—a system which, he believed, was universally admitted to be detrimental, particularly where the amount of such fees were of any importance.

Mr. Wentworth seconded the motion, which was carried.

The Colonial Treasurer and Collector of customs were appointed to present the address to his Excellency.

The Colonial Treasurer laid on the table a portion (Nos. 5, 6, and 7) of the returns moved for the preceding day by Mr. Wentworth; the remainder (Nos. 1 to 5) would be laid on the table as soon as they were obtained from the several departments.

Dr. Lang moved that the petition presented by him yesterday, for enquiry into the circumstances connected with the erection of a Scots Church in Sydney, be printed.—Carried.

The Collector of Customs said, that having ascertained, since he introduced his notice of motion on Tuesday, that the information which he had received relative to the intentions of the Auction Company, and under which he had then acted, was incorrect; he would now move for leave to withdraw that notice.

The Auditor-General seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

Mr. Windeyer would have opposed the withdrawal, had not the question been so speedily decided. The notice of motion, which was in itself somewhat extraordinary, stood on the records of the house, and ought not to have been withdrawn, until some reasons had been given for introducing it.

The house went into committee on the Postage Act Amendment Bill.

Mr. Elwin, having taken his seat as chairman, stated that the bill had been previously gone through, but that leave had been obtained for the committee to sit again, to consider four clauses which were proposed to be introduced; one by the hon. and learned member for Durham, one by the Attorney General, one by the hon. and learned member for Camden, and one by the hon. and learned member for Sydney. He then read the first clause of the bill as last amended in committee.

Mr. Windeyer observed, that as the clause just read, only provided for the punishment of negligent detention of letters, and as that part of the former act which re-

ferred to the wilful detention had been repealed, he was prepared to introduce a clause providing against such wilful detention, which clause would very properly form the second in the bill. The former part of the clause was taken verbatim, from the first clause of the act, with the exception of the word "wilful," which had been introduced, and the latter portion was framed from part of the imperial act, which provided punishment for persons detaining or opening letters. That act applied to persons employed in the post office; but he (Mr. Windeyer) had, in the clause he had prepared, confined its application to masters of vessels, or other persons on board entrusted with letters. Such persons would be, by the proposed clause, considered guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on being convicted, would be liable to fine or imprisonment, or both, at the discretion of the court, before which the offending parties should be tried; and in order to meet the circumstances of the colony, he had provided that such cases might be tried at the Supreme Court, or Court of Quarter Sessions, whichever should be first sitting after the committal of any person for such misdemeanor, in order that the captain of any vessel so offending should not be detained for three or four months, as might otherwise be the case. He then moved that the clause should be adopted as the second clause of the bill.

The Collector of Customs suggested the propriety of introducing a few words, which would render parties making away with letters liable to the same punishment; as it might happen, that the captain of a vessel, or other person having charge of the mail bag, who had unintentionally incurred the fine of £100 for neglect, might, in order to avoid the payment, throw the mail overboard, or otherwise make away with it.

Mr. Windeyer saw no objection to the introduction proposed by the Collector of Customs.

The motion was then carried.

Mr. Wentworth moved that a proviso should be appended to the 4th clause to the following effect: namely, that so much of the existing Post Office Bill as extended the privilege of franking to the heads of the several departments whose expenditure was defrayed from the Military Chest, should be repealed.

The Colonial Treasurer expressed his surprise that the hon. and learned member should have proposed such a proviso, to which he (the Colonial Treasurer) certainly should object.

Dr. Lang was of the same opinion as the Colonial Treasurer with regard to the object of the hon. and learned member for Sydney. He did think the sixth resolution which he proposed bringing forward, would, if assented to, fully meet that object; it was to the following effect: namely, "that it is the opinion of this council that the privilege of franking should be abolished; and that the postage of the various departments of public service should be chargeable on their departments, respectively, in such manner as to his Excellency and the Executive Council may seem fit." But he (Dr. Lang) was of opinion, that the members of that council could not with propriety determine on his proposed resolutions, until they had before them a particular account of the expenditure and revenue of the Post Office Establishment. He, however, thought the proposal of the Colonial Treasurer should be assented to, and he trusted the hon. and learned member would withdraw his proviso.

Mr. Wentworth said, that if he thought the resolutions about to be moved by the hon. and rev. member for Port Phillip, would not be sufficient to drop, he should feel disposed to accede to the proposition; but he greatly feared that if that act were once passed, the resolutions would ultimately prove a nullity; it would even be better to keep the bill in the back ground till the resolutions had been discussed and disposed of, as he considered it an unwise step to pass an act with a claw in it, merely on the contingency of subsequently bringing forward a remedy for the defect. He could not see on what grounds the hon. and rev. member could oppose a clause identically in unison with his own resolutions.

Mr. Hamilton had much pleasure in supporting the amendment of the Colonial Treasurer, although he would rather the proposal of the hon. and learned member for Sydney, had met with a decisive negative.

Mr. Windeyer was of opinion it would be better if those members who were opposed to the motion of the hon. and learned member for Sydney, were at once to give a direct negative thereto, as the question might then be grappled with.

Mr. Murray agreed with the hon. Member for Cassilis, that it would be better to give a decided negative to the question at once, than to resort to half measures.

Mr. Foster thought the step was rather an

ungracious one, and that it would be rather unwise for that house to appear too captious in their proceedings, and to resist a trifling charge merely because they had a right; besides the conveyance of various letters to the several departments did not cost the country any thing.

Mr. Walker thought that it was not a question whether the expense sought to be got rid of, was in itself trivial, but whether it was founded on justice that the colony should bear it.

Mr. Sutor said that the charges inflicted on the Colonial Government by these privileges, were not so trivial as might perhaps be imagined; for he had ascertained that during the last year, upwards of 100,000 francs had passed through the Post Office, many of which were of a very large size; but calculating each of them at one shilling the amount would be £5,000.

Mr. Walker said in a few words, which were inaudible in the gallery.

Mr. Panton said he should not only support the proposition of the hon. and learned member for Sydney, but would suggest that all arrears of postage should be paid by the several departments that had enjoyed the privilege of franking.

Dr. Lang said he did not see why the reform which had been effected in Van Dieman's Land should not take place here; the system of franking had been abolished there for some years past.

After some further discussion, the question of the amendment was put, and a division of the house took place, when there appeared,

For the amendment	14
Against	8
Majority in favour of the amendment	6

The house then resumed. Adjourned.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The news from the Cape, via Hobart Town, extend to the 15th July. It will be seen from the following extracts from the *South African Advertiser*, that a cloud had again come over the bright prospects opened up by the extension of British authority to the territory of Port Natal. The exploits of a daring bandit, named Tola, are attracting a large share of public notice; but no doubts were entertained of his early apprehension. An account of a melancholy series of shipwreck, in the adjacent seas, will be found in the usual column for shipping intelligence. There is reason to fear the worst in regard to the fate of the *Emu*, from London to this port with immigrants, referred to in that paragraph.

The sum of this week's intelligence from the frontier is—that a man named Tola, a Caffer, having with some address and perseverance, collected round him a considerable number of bad characters, has been driven at last from petty thefts and robberies to a sort of open war, and is now surrounded in the bush by the colonial troops and the forces of the Caffer tribes. It does not appear that he is or has been countenanced in any degree by the Chiefs with whom the colony is at peace or connected by treaty. And it seems probable that the numerous depredations of this freebooter are the same depredations that have caused so much reproach to be heaped on the Caffer Chiefs and people generally for some months back. If so, his punishment and destruction, which is spoken of as certain, will be followed by renewed tranquility on the frontier.

We have information from Natal to the 17th ult. Everything was then quiet, but some excitement had been occasioned by the return to the port of the Dutch vessel the *Bractia*, having on board the supercargo Smellekamp. Major Smith, as Commandant of the Port, and Representative of the British Government, had gone on board, but not finding any thing which could warrant his detaining her, he had merely ordered her to quit the harbour, which she had done, but was hovering on the coast at no great distance from the mouth of the port. It is said that the Dutch emigrants had sent to enquire of Major Smith on what ground he had interfered with the accredited agent of the King of Holland?—an enquiry which we may suppose was very easily answered. Since the foregoing was in type we have received additional information. The main points are, that Smellekamp and the master of the vessel, Reus—were immediately taken into custody on landing; by Major Smith—that the ship's papers were examined by him—from which it appeared that they had sailed direct from Rotterdam, had been out 90 days—and had on board, as passengers, a Dutch minister and about 15 other passengers, who purposed to settle in the country. Smellekamp and the rest pretended to be ignorant of the disapprobation which had been expressed at their former proceedings by the Dutch Government, as

well as unconscious of having acted wrong or infringed any known law. Major Smith refused to allow them to hold any intercourse with the emigrant farmers—notwithstanding a deputation of the *Volkraad* waited upon him, and requested to know the ground of his interference? These persons brought an official letter from the *Raad*, but as the deputation declined in an unequivocal manner to avow themselves British subjects, Major Smith refused to receive it. After the departure of the *Bractia*, it is said that the farmers went off to her from the mouth of the Umslanga River. It was the intention of the newcomers, it is said, to set up at once a "Prince of Orange Hotel," and to publish a Dutch Magazine. There is a rumour among the farmers on the border, that the Prince of Orange himself had arrived in this vessel!!—*S. A. Advertiser*, June 17.

The post this week brings nothing new from the frontier in an official shape. The troops continue to act in conjunction with the Caffer Chiefs in driving the robber Tola from ravine to rock, with a certainty of destroying him very shortly. This tameless Tartar has slipped through the lines of his pursuers, from the neighbourhood of the Keiskamma, and is now among the woody precipices that skirt the banks of the Kie. It is said that he has killed his horses, not being able to feed or act with them in his present position; and that disdaining surrender, or hopeless of pardon, he has manifested every open sign of a resolution to die hard. That his doom is sealed and well deserved, appears to be the universal opinion on both sides of the border.—*Ibid*, June 24.

From Natal private letters state that her Majesty's Commissioner, the Hon. Henry Cloete, had been rather dryly received at *Pietermaritzburg*, the capital of the emigrant Boers; but as government has issued no official notice on the subject, the reports in circulation must only be taken in the gross. The following is from the *Frontier Times*:—"The *Conch* and *Mazepa*, just arrived at Port Elizabeth, from Port Natal, bring intelligence that the Boers have refused to receive her Majesty's commissioner. They have requested and obtained until the 1st of August, to consider of his proposals. Mr. Cloete went to Pietermaritzburg on his arrival at Natal, and fixed a day to meet the Boers. But, as we are informed, none but women made their appearance, and to these he proceeded to read his documents and his Excellency's proclamation, amid incessant noise and uproar. Had it not been, says the letter from which we are quoting, for one old woman who called out lustily to her companions to give him a hearing, he would not have been heard at all. After this some of the Boers crowded around the house of Mr. Hartman, where Mr. Cloete lodged, and demanded insolently to see him, and when Mr. Hartman remonstrated with them for their rudeness, they valiantly thrashed him. Mr. Cloete, under these circumstances, returned to Natal, and a royal salute was to be fired on the 4th instant, and formal possession taken of the country. Mr. Cloete finding matters hopeless, as we understand, will return to Cape Town almost immediately. From Colesberg we hear that a large body of men, estimated at 1500, are ready to proceed from the neighbourhood of the Orange River to Natal." The accounts we have heard this week of the state of matters beyond the northern boundary are extremely satisfactory. Some of the Boers are said to have sworn never to submit to British authority. Mr. Oerlip, native of Germany, formerly Missionary at Bethany, has taken refuge within the colony, having, it is stated, received timely warning from a friend of the hostile intentions of the Boers. Mr. John Bertram, whose parents reside in Graham's Town, is stated to have been seized by them on suspicion of being a spy, and sent a prisoner to Pietermaritzburg. The Boers are preparing a commando for the purpose, they say, of attacking Panda. Prinsloo, one of the outlaws, it is said, has been exciting these insurrectionary movements, and Smellekamp is reported to have succeeded in getting amongst them for purposes of mischief. Rumours of the most ridiculous kind seem to have been spread and credited—among others, that of four or five Dutch frigates being off the coast ready to land their crews to aid the Government in treating with the most unqualified contempt. The Boers have likewise, it is said, threatened to impose a fine upon all their countrymen, who shall refuse to proceed to Pietermaritzburg, and one man, we hear, has already been fined. Travelling beyond the border, either for pasture or profit, is considered unsafe.—*Ibid*, July 15.

SHEEP-BOILING AT WINDERMERE, NEAR MAITLAND
MR. WENTWORTH, having engaged a competent superintendent to boil down his own surplus sheep...

Slaughtering, skinning, cutting up, and boiling sheep, rendering tallow and knurney fat separately, packing the tallow and boiled fat in the sheep skins...

The proprietor of the steamer 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...

Such of the hind legs as may be required for the use of the establishment will be allowed for at 4d. per lb.

CHEAP FUEL. REDUCED PRICES. THE GAS COMPANY are selling Coke and Breeze at the following reduced prices:—

Delivered at the Works, twenty shillings per chaldron. Delivered at the purchaser's door, any where within the city boundaries, twenty-three shillings and sixpence per chaldron.

BREEZE, or SMALL COKE. Delivered at the Works, six shillings per chaldron, or in quantity per bushel.

TO THE MUSICAL PUBLIC.

MR. MARSH begs to announce his having received by the Florentia one of ERARD'S magnificent GRAND PIANOFORTES; also, two more of their very splendid HARPS, which, together with his other valuable assortment of Pianofortes and Harps, are unequalled in this or any other colony.

To parties purchasing, a most liberal allowance will be made for cash, and they may feel confident of having an instrument of a very superior description to those generally offered here for sale.

With the same arrival, he has a large quantity of the newest and most popular Music of every description, amongst which is "Auber's new Grand Opera, Les Diamans de la Couronne," arranged in various ways, and all the new compositions of Thalberg, Dohler, Chopin, Hertz, Czerny, &c., &c.

MRS. HORDERN begs to acquaint the Ladies that she has just received a splendid assortment of Stays, from one of the best London houses; also a great variety of Tuscan and Dunstable Bonnets.

THE undersigned begs, on the occasion of his leaving town for a few days, to be permitted to return his grateful thanks to his numerous friends and the public for the honor of their remembrance and most kind inquiries and attentions during his late illness.

AUSTRALASIAN COLONIAL AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE AND ANNUITY COMPANY, 126, Bishopsgate-street, corner of Cornhill; and George-street, Sydney.

DIRECTORS. Edward Barnard, Esq. C. E. Mangles, Esq. H. Buckle, Esq. J. B. Montefiore, Esq. John H. Capper, Esq. J. H. Ravenshaw, Esq. G. Colquhoun, jun., Esq. William Walker, Esq.

Bank of Australasia—for Sydney, Maitland, Port Phillip, Adelaide, and Launceston

AGENTS AND MEDICAL REFEREES. MAITLAND—Joseph Chambers, Esq., agent; David Sloane, Esq., medical referee.

YASS—Joseph Ellis, Esq., medical referee. GOULBURN—Robert Marsden Cartwright, Esq., medical referee. BATHURST—Richard Machattie, Esq., medical referee.

ADVANTAGES OF THE INSTITUTION. An ample subscribed capital in England, and ample funds to pay losses within the colony.

On extra premiums for one voyage to Europe and back, or for voyages in approved vessels to, or residence in any part of Australasia, in approved situations.

Table with columns: Age, One Year, 7 Years, Life. Rows for ages 25, 30, 35, 40, 45.

Two thirds of the annual premium on policies for the whole of life may be paid, and the one-third may remain as a debt against the policy, at five per cent compound interest, or may be paid off at the pleasure of the assurer.

Thus a man aged thirty would have to pay only £20 5s 10d annually, to secure £1000, payable at his death; and of this one-third, or £333 6s 8d may remain, leaving the net payment only £13 10s 7d.

By order of the Directors, THOMAS WALKER, Actuary.

DOMESTIC GOODS.

A. MITCHELL begs to inform the public that he has just opened the following—

- 1 Bale white counterpanes
1 " white quilts
2 " super calicoes
2 " " longcloths
2 " extra stout shirting
2 " yard wide sheeting
2 " two yard "
2 " unbleached "
2 " two yard wide "
1 " hucknabck and glass linens
1 " Welch hannels
1 " Lancashire "
2 " West of England cloths and cassimeres
1 case Chintz printed furnitures
1 " colored cambric lining
1 " brown hollands
2 " undressed "
2 " white and coloured rolled jacobetes
1 " " plain jacobnet muslins
1 " check "
1 " toilet covers, plain and fringed
4 " dark and light prints
1 " white muselins and cantons
1 " drab "
2 " cotton hosiery
1 " white jeans and India dimities
1 " crib quilts and white stays
Waterloo House, King-street.

BUILDING GROUND.—The undersigned offers for Sale, by private contract, an Allotment of Ground, in Marsden-street, Parramatta, containing fifty feet frontage by 172 feet depth; it is near Eldon House (Mrs. MacGillivray's Seminary.)

CITY MUSEUM.

J. W. ROACH, Taxidermist, Collector, and preserver of Specimens of Natural History, begs leave to announce that he has fitted up a part of his spacious premises, No. 4, Hunter-street, as a Museum containing specimens in every branch of Natural History, comparative Anatomy, and Curiosities of all descriptions.

The want of such a Repository has long been felt by the scientific and curious; and J. W. R. trusts that his Collection, to which he respectfully invites the attention of the Public will meet the approbation of all who are engaged in the interesting and pleasing study of the most beautiful and perfect works of the Creator.

Open to the public every Monday and Friday from 11 o'clock, a.m., until 5 o'clock, p.m. Admission, 0s. 6d. Children under twelve years of age, 3d. Cards of admission to be had on the premises.

J. W. R. has also an Aviary, containing living specimens of some of the rarest and most beautiful birds. Collections supplied to order. Specimens set up, and arranged in the best style, on moderate terms.

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 £3. 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 ninety 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— 2 year old ..... 7 st. 0 lb. 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 3lbs.

All decisions of the stewards to be final. Horses to be entered for the first day's races at Mr. Buchanan's, Caledonian 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 evenings, previous, between 7 and 10.

No person allowed to enter a horse for Town Plate, Inkeeper's, 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 Guise, Esq. CLERK OF THE COURSE.—Mr. White. TREASURER AND SECRETARY.—J. Sinclair.

THE COACHING STALLION "PRINCE ALBERT," STANDS this season at Butterburra, district of Mudgee, the station of Mr. Charles Purcell; got by George the Fourth out of a thoroughbred mare—dam by Cameron—grand-dam by Hector—and is allowed by competent judges to be equal to any imported horse. He is of a beautiful bay, with black points—stands sixteen and a half hands high. Terms.—For one mare £3 3s., and 5s. groomage; and for two mares and upwards, £3, and 5s. groomage. Good and secure paddocks for the reception of mares, but without responsibility. Payments to be made on the 1st of January, 1844.

J. FOKRESTER. CHRONOMETER, WATCH, AND CLOCK MAKER. (From Segesimundt Reitzers; St. James' Square, London.)

BEGS to return his grateful acknowledgments to his friends and the public, for the liberal patronage with which they have favoured him during the five years he has carried on business in this City, and to inform them that the business in all its branches continues to be conducted as heretofore.

At No. 45, GEORGE-STREET, OPPOSITE THE NEW CATHEDRAL, Where all orders will be punctually executed, at the most moderate charges.

SELLING OFF.

J. RICKARDS begs respectfully to call the attention of the ladies and the public at large to the great bargains to be met with at his establishment, in Silk and Woollen Linen Drapery, and Hoisery, the whole of which are the very best goods, imported from first-rate manufacturers. The following is subjoined as a list of the prices:— Stout black Gros de Naples, only 2s. 3d. per yard. Extra ditto ditto, or coloured, 2s. 6d. to 3s. The best Spinfields decapees, 4s. to 4s. 6d. Rich-bone and striped ditto, 2s. 9d. per yard (worth 5s. 6d.). Extra rich brocaded French silks, suitable for dinner and evening dresses, 5s. 6d., usual price; 8s. 6d. per yard. Extra stout black or coloured satinets, reduced from 7s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. Black or coloured satins, for dresses, 3s. a yard. Best French (equal to what is sold about town at 7s. 6d. to 9s.) at 5s. to 6s.

With the above-named goods J. R. will offer a large lot of rich watered Oriental striped Gros de Naples, in every variety of colour, at 2s. 3d. instead of 4s. 6d.

In linen drapery will be found some decided bargains. Long cloths, 4d. a yard; extra fine, 6d. to 7d.; and Horrocks's superfine, much under the manufacturer's prices; linen l'Oyleys, 3s. a dozen; fish napkins, 12s.; table napkins, 15s. a dozen; and all sizes in table cloths at equally low prices; huckabacks, 7d. a yard; glass cloths, 10d. to 7d.; fine three-quarter ducaees, 8d.; fine Irish linens, 2s., manufacturer's price, 2s. 9d.; toilet covers, 15s. each; Bengal ditto, 15s. the half-dozen; lawns, China grass cloths, 10d. a yard; extra fine, equal to cambric, 1s. 6d.; embroidered cambric handkerchiefs at 4s. 6d. a dozen; jacobnet, check, and buck muslins, from 9d. a yard; with a quantity of rich French and British mousseline de laine dresses, the sacrifice on which has been very great.

The Hosiery and Glove Department require particular mention, J. R. having always imported none but the very best makes. Ladies' fine cotton hose, 6s. the half dozen; ditto extra stout, two-thread, double heel, at 9s.; silk hose, 3s. per pair; extra stout, and warranted all silk, 5s.; white silk gloves, 1s. 3d. per pair; extra stout and every variety of colour, 1s. 6d.; treble black lace gloves, 9d. per pair; stout cordonet, 1s. 6d.; black lace mitts, 7d. per pair; children's white and coloured silk gloves, all sizes.

In the Shawl and Fancy Department there has been the greatest reduction, being full 50 per cent. under the London prices. Rich velvet shawls, 11s. 6d. to 11. 12s. 6d.; French satin shawls, 7s. 6d. each; 9-4 rich embroidered silk shawls, suitable for the spring, 30s., worth four guineas.

Baby linen and wearing apparel.—As J. R. has had immense demand, he has still some beautiful goods, in addition to a fresh case he has opened.

Ladies desirous of purchasing would find it advantageous to lay in a large stock from the above, as every article can be depended upon, (such another opportunity will seldom, if ever, occur, as it is a bona fide sale) and shortly really good articles will not be met with in the town, as most of the trade have declined importing any more.

Observe, George-street, two doors south of the Post Office.

TO LET. A FARM of between two and three thousand acres, on the Great Southern Road, forty miles distant from Sydney, and only six miles from Campbelltown, with a never failing supply of water. It is well adapted for a Dairy station, or a Run for Cattle from the interior, waiting market. The Agricultural part is fenced, and divided into Paddock, and will be let either with or without the Grazing portion. For further particulars apply, if by letter, post paid, to J. M. at the Observer Office.

PORT PHILIP PATRIOT.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND ADVERTISEMENTS for the above talented and influential Journal, conducted by ALBERT KERR, of Melbourne; as also notices in payment of the same are received at this office. The quarterly subscription is 10s. cash, and 13s. credit. A few copies of Kerr's Melbourne Almanack on hand.

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. The Examiner is now published twice a week on the evenings of Wednesdays and Saturdays 10s. cash, and 13s. credit, per quarter.

NEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Considerable number of the Presbyterian inhabitants of Sydney and immediate neighbourhood have invited the Rev. George Anderson, A. M., to officiate among them...

A meeting will be held at an early date, to organize a committee and choose office-bearers. The Collection will be made at the door. 6, Hunter-street, Sept. 15, 1843.

IN THE INSOLVENT ESTATE OF MICHAEL JOSUA.

(Under Act of Council, Victoria, No. 17.) BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES. MR. SAMUEL LYONS will sell by auction...

The whole of the Stock-in-trade of the above-named insolvent, consisting of hosiery, trimmings, handkerchiefs, pieces and print dresses, mousseline de laine dresses, &c., rugs, regatta and white shirts, drawers, &c., and a variety of other merchandise.

ELIGIBLE AND VALUABLE PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF SYDNEY.

IN THE INSOLVENT ESTATE OF MR. TIMOTHY MAHER, LATE OF BRICKFIELD-HILL. (Under Act of Council, 5 Vic., No. 17.) BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.

MR. SAMUEL LYONS is instructed to sell by auction, at his Mart, corner of George-street and Charlotte-place, on MONDAY, the 18th instant, at eleven o'clock precisely...

The attention of capitalists and others is particularly called to the sale of the above valuable property, which is situated in one of the most thriving parts of the City of Sydney.

TO BUILDERS, MASONS, AND OTHERS. MR. SAMUEL LYONS will sell by auction, at Campbell's Wharf, on TUESDAY, the 10th instant, at eleven o'clock...

Twenty six slate chimney-pieces. Three tomb slabs. About three thousand five hundred tiles, from 8 x 8 inches to 13 x 12 inches.

IN THE INSOLVENT ESTATE OF R. AND T. COVENEY. (Under Act of Council, 5 Victoria, No. 17.) BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.

MR. SAMUEL LYONS will sell by auction, at his Mart, corner of George-street and Charlotte-place, on MONDAY, the 18th instant, at Ten o'clock.

IN THE INSOLVENT ESTATE OF GEORGE LE BRETON. BY ORDER OF TRUSTEES, D. JOHNS AND CO.

W. H. CHAPMAN is instructed to sell, at his City Sale Rooms, George-street, on MONDAY, the 13th instant, to commence at eleven o'clock precisely.

NOTICE.

WANTED by the Undersigned, from twelve to twenty single men as shepherds, hutkeepers, and labourers, to whom (if suitable for those occupations) he will give from Twelve to Sixteen Pounds Sterling per year...

IRON FOR SALE, at the Stores of the undersigned, ex Ephrasti, and other recent arrivals.

English cheese, truckle, double Gloucester, and Cheshire, in fine order. Irish salt pork, first quality. Dried butter ditto.

Ironmongery, a general assortment. Britannia metal goods, Dixon's Sheep Shears, Sorby's Cutlery, all kinds. Nails, assorted. Saws, files, and edge tools.

Drugs and apothecaries' ware, a general assortment. Sir James Murray's thul mineral. Schweppe's soda water and lemonade. Glauber salts.

Blankets, 8-4, 9-4, 10-4, and 11-4. Grey calicoes, very stout, 44, 52, 73, and 82 inches. Hosiery, Osnaburghs. Merinos, British, black and coloured.

CHINA in pure white, gilt and plain patterns. Breakfast, tea, and coffee services. Dessert services.

IRONSTONE table and toilet services, with fancy stone jugs, in great variety. EARTHENWARE, all the kinds in general use.

King-street, Commercial Wharf. R. M. ROBEY.

IN THE SUPREME COURT. Sheriff's Office, Sydney, September 15, 1843. Fisher v. Isaac. Cowan v. Same.

THIS DAY, the 16th instant, at noon, at the residence of the defendant, Kissing Point, the Sheriff will cause to be sold a quantity of Household Furniture, &c., unless this Execution is previously satisfied.

IN THE SUPREME COURT. Sheriff's Office, Sydney, September 14, 1843. Willis v. Peterson. O'Reilly v. Same.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 20th instant, at noon, at the shop of defendant, George-street, Sydney, the Sheriff will cause to be sold a quantity of oils, paints, &c.; also, household furniture, unless these executions are previously satisfied.

IN THE SUPREME COURT. Sheriff's Office, Sydney, September 11, 1843. Gros v. Grove. Others v. Same.

ON THURSDAY, the 21st instant, at noon, on the premises, the Sheriff will cause to be sold, all the right, title, interest, and estate of the above defendant, in and to all those premises, situated in George-street, Sydney, lately in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Waldorf, unless these executions are previously satisfied.

IN THE SUPREME COURT. Sheriff's Office, Sydney, September 11, 1843. Dillon v. Lewis. Others v. Same.

ON TUESDAY, the 19th instant, at noon, at the residence of defendant, Darlinghurst, the Sheriff will cause to be sold, a quantity of Household Furniture, &c., unless these executions are previously satisfied.

IN THE SUPREME COURT. Sheriff's Office, Sydney, September 9, 1843. Maca'thur v. Manning.

ON MONDAY, the 18th instant, at noon, at the London Tavern, Sydney, the Sheriff will cause to be sold, all the right, title, interest, and estate of defendant, in and to one-eighth share of the Maitland, one-thirtieth share of the Sophia Jane, and one-third share of the William the Fourth steamers...

IN THE SUPREME COURT. Sheriff's Office, Sydney, September 14, 1843. Duguid v. Hughes and Hosking. Others v. Same.

ON MONDAY, the 18th instant, at noon, on the premises, Sussex-street, the Sheriff will cause to be sold, all the right, title, interest, and estate of the above defendant, in and to an Allotment of Land having a frontage to Sussex-street of about 80 feet...

IN THE SUPREME COURT. Sheriff's Office, Sydney, September 13, 1843. Chisholm v. Breanan. Isler v. Same.

ON TUESDAY next, the 19th instant, at the Market-place, Parramatta, the Sheriff will cause to be sold about three hundred thousand bricks, now at Prospect, where they will be delivered to the purchaser, unless these executions are previously satisfied.

Notice is hereby given that Prizes of £50 and £30 will be awarded by the City Council, for the best, and second best Plans and specifications of a NEW TOWN HALL, proposed to be erected on the ground called the Old Buying Ground...

Competitors will receive all necessary information from the City Surveyor, at his office, on every lawful day, between the hours of eleven o'clock, a.m., and one o'clock, p.m. Corruptors are required to attach a motto to their plans, enclose their names and designations under a sealed cover, endorsed with the same motto, and send the whole to the Town Clerk's Office...

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE. ARRIVALS. SEPTEMBER 13. The brig Sir Archibald Campbell, 205 tons, Captain Barclay, from Calcutta, via Singapore, having left the former 14th May...

DEPARTURES. SEPTEMBER 13. The barque Clarkstone, Captain Stewart, for the South Sea Fishery, with whaling stores, &c. The brig William, Captain Thom, for Launceston, with sundries.

ARRIVALS. SEPTEMBER 13. The brig Caroline, Captain Leslie, for Hobart Town, with sundries. Passengers—Mr. Lee, Mr. Diley, Mr. Charles Jones, Mrs. Pullham, and Mr. Henry Answorth.

DEPARTURES. SEPTEMBER 13. The barque Regina, Captain Ferguson, for London, via Port Phillip, with sundries. Passengers Mrs. Ferguson, the Lord Bishop of Australia, and Mr. Robinson.

ARRIVALS. SEPTEMBER 13. The steamer Shamrock, for Moreton Bay, with goods and passengers.

DEPARTURES. SEPTEMBER 13. The brig Sir John Byng, Captain Tallan, for Hobart Town, with sundries.

ARRIVALS. SEPTEMBER 13. The brig Louisa, Captain Tucker, for Hobart Town, with sundries. Passengers—Messrs. Price,

Seal, Rourke, Munday, Fenwick, Kinghorne, Fisher, Unsworth, and Cole, Mr. and Mrs. Newton and child, Miss Maume.

The brig Tallyho, Captain Pockley, for Port Phillip, with sundries. Passengers—Messrs. C. Thomas, C. D. Thomas, J. D. Dalgleish; steeage, Miss Moore.

SHIPWRECKS AT THE CAPE. Captain Carter of the Regular, 650 tons, with a cargo of iron, copper, steel, and twenty-two cases containing a very large sum in gold and silver, reports that he left London on the 22nd February, bound to Bombay...

The following are the names of the persons saved at sea by the Cleopatre:—Mr. and Mrs. Boyce, Mrs. Drury, M. M. Davidson and Springlet, passengers, W. Carter, Captain H. Salt, J. Henry, and Th. Julien, officers, and J. Dolkey, boatswain, J. Smith, carpenter, J. Aloxine, sailmaker, Willis, Miller, Dover, Stanley Edgeley, Beer, Ainbridge, Ayre, Littledale, Whitney, M'Kenley, M'Kie, Jackson, Dyer, and Roberts, seamen. N. Fermaney, steward, a cook, W. Edwards, W. Rendell, Harrison, Ch. Dales, and J. Brotherton apprentices.

Another French vessel, his Majesty's brig Colibri, Captain Orvel, was not less fortunate, although the danger was not so great, she has brought into this port the crew of the English ship, Queen Victoria, wrecked on the island of Rodrigues.

Captain Black of the ill-fated vessel reports, that the Queen Victoria, 715 tons, with a cargo laden with cotton and sundries, had left Bombay the 11th March, bound to Liverpool, and that she was wrecked on the morning of the 7th April, on the S. W. reefs of the above mentioned Island. The first officer, M. James Parle and M. Robert Planket, a passenger, and 3 seamen were drowned in endeavouring to save themselves by swimming to the shore. The others who escaped remained on that island for 35 days, when the Colibri arrived for the purpose of delivering a medal to one of the residents who some time back had saved the crew of a French ship, The brig received them on board, and took them to the island of Fourbon, and from thence, by order of the Governor, to the Mauritius.

It would appear that the sales of cotton which have been found some days ago on our shores, carried by currents, had formed a part of the cargo of the Queen Victoria.

The third shipwreck is the brig Thomas Rickinson, cast on shore to windward of Pourde l'Or. This vessel, commanded by Captain Thomas Newby, had left London on the 7th January. All hands were saved by the exertions of the inhabitants of this district, as well as a case containing 7,000 pounds sterling in gold.

The American ship Montgomery reports of having exchanged goods on the 20th April, in lat. 32.40 S. and long 22, 0 W., with the Ema from London to Sydney with immigrants on board.

NEW INSOLVENTS. No. 930. Thomas M'Court of Enmain: debts, £55 9s.; assets, nil. Discharged from debtors' prison. 931. Charles Cable Warby of Easthurst: debts, £2016; assets—landed property, £1959 (mortgaged); personal property, £10; outstanding debts, £42 2s.; balance deficiency, £4 18s. Discharged from Parramatta gaol.

932. Jeremiah Morris of Greendale, settler: debts, £74 13s. 1d.; assets—personal property, £3 11s.; outstanding debts, £8 4s. 3d.; balance deficiency, £63 2s. 10d.

933. Daniel Egan of Hunter-street, Sydney, merchant: debts, £8153; assets—landed property, £780; personal property, £135; outstanding debts, £1530; balance deficiency, £2433. ARDEN'S SYDNEY MAGAZINE has been somewhat delayed in its publication. We are requested to say, from the difficulty the illustrator has found in completing his share of the work. The sketch has been ready on the stone for some time, but owing to the difficulty of working out the impressions, and the scrupulous care of both the Editor and Illustrator not to issue inferior copies, the subscribers have had some time to wait.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL—FRIDAY.

Dr. Nicholson moved for returns of all fees received by the Commissioners of Insolvent Estates, and by the Commissioners of the Court of Claims.

Mr. Wentworth moved the second reading of the bill for regulating the rate of interest.

Dr. Bland seconded the motion: Mr. Foster moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

Mr. Murray seconded the motion. Dr. Lang spoke in favour of the amendment, and Dr. Bland in favour of the original motion.

The debate was adjourned till Wednesday next.

## PORT PHILLIP.

A proclamation appears in yesterday's *Gazette*, subdividing the Port Phillip district into four, for the purposes of the crown land commissioners act.

**CROWN LANDS.**—A sale of crown lands is notified by proclamation in yesterday's *Gazette*, to take place at the Colonial Treasury, on Wednesday, the 11th October next. The lands advertised consist of 16 suburban lots in the parish of Gosforth, and county of Northumberland; one special country lot in the parish of Bullerwick, county of Durham; and 13 country lots in the parish of Wilmott, county of Gloucester. The upset price of the suburban lots varies from 30s. to £2.—that of the special country lot, £3, and that of the country lots, £1 per acre. The special country lot has a cottage erected on it.

**FEMALE SERVANTS.**—It appearing that in some instances of female prisoners given in charge of the police by their employers to be returned to the factory at Parramatta, the police have taken possession of such money as the prisoners held, with a view to the same being handed over to the use of the Benevolent Asylum, His Excellency the Governor directs it to be made known that money earned by convict women placed in private service, under the regulations of 23rd February last, as published in the *Government Gazette*, is to be considered their own; and is not to be taken from them by the police, except in cases where it might be taken from them if they were free. —*Government Gazette*.

## FATAL ACCIDENT IN THE HARBOUR.

On Wednesday afternoon, during a sailing match in the harbour, one of the boats, the *Breeze*, was caught by a sudden squall, and immediately went down. Of four persons who were on board at the time, we regret to say, two were drowned, namely, Mr. Batten, a broker and commission agent, and Mr. Curtis, one of the chief clerks in the Union Bank. Both gentlemen were highly respected, and their premature death has inflicted much grief in a numerous circle. Mr. Curtis had been but a short time married. An inquest was holden yesterday, at the Blue Bell, Erskine-street, on the body of Mr. Richard Batten, and a verdict of "accidentally drowned" returned, the jury at the same time recording a vote of censure on the crew of the pilot boat, who were within a short distance of the *Breeze* when the accident happened, but who made not the slightest effort to afford any assistance to the unfortunate men.

**FIRE.**—Between twelve and one o'clock Tuesday morning, as Inspector Higgins was passing at the corner of Pitt and Bathurst-streets, his attention was attracted to the premises occupied as a druggist shop, by Mr. D. R. Shearer, by the upper portion of the premises appearing to be on fire. An alarm was immediately given, and an entrance effected, when it was found that a quantity of materials of the most inflammable description had ignited, and in a few minutes longer it is highly probable the whole premises would have been one mass of burning ruins, as independent of a number of cans of turpentine, oil, and other liquids adapted for burning, there were several casks of pitch, resin, inflammable gums, together with a very considerable quantity of cotton, tow, surgeon's lint, &c., steeped in turpentine, with a due proportion of sky rockets; soon after the fire had been got under, on an examination of the premises it appeared that the fire had commenced in the lower part of the house, and that there was a complete train of communication between it and the upper portion of the building, by means of a quantity of lint, cotton, and tow, all of which was well saturated with a glutinous composition, if Venice turpentine. The house and property were insured in the Mutual Fire Association, whose engines were promptly on the spot and ready for work, the stock to the amount of £1000. An investigation is taking place.—*Herald*.

## JAMAICA—IMMIGRATION.

It appears that the expenses of the island, on account of immigration, have amounted, during the year ending September 30, 1842, to no less than 30,995l. sterling, while the number of immigrants introduced has been only 1,799, so that the immigrants

have cost upwards of 17l. sterling per head. If we deduct, however, 2,164l. paid on account of last year's immigrants, 4,900l. for the purchase and equipment of two brigs, and 2,300l. on account of immigrant villages, there remains 21,623l. actually disbursed for the expenses of immigrants arriving during the year, being at the rate of 12l. 8s. sterling per head. Of the immigrants above mentioned, 582 were from Sierra Leone, 404 from St. Helena, 368 from the Bahamas, 18 from the United States, and 10 from Canada.—*Anti-Slavery Reporter*.

## SOUTHERN AUSTRALIA.

**THE ADELAIDE CORPORATION.**—Yesterday, several members of the council chosen in 1841, met in consequence of the Town Clerk's summons, but a quorum did not attend. A discussion, however, ensued on the state of the question relative to the Corporation, and Mr. Spence read the following statement, which he had prepared on the subject:—"I beg leave to state that this meeting has been called in consequence of an opinion prevailing among the creditors of the Corporation that you have it in your power to expedite their payment, by setting the machinery in motion for another election. I had prepared, for Counsel, a short statement of the facts of the case, but have not been able to procure a written opinion for want of the necessary fee. I believe, however, that I can state pretty accurately the opinions of our three leading barristers on the subject. The Advocate-General is of opinion that the Corporation is defunct, and that it can only be revived by a legislative enactment. In regard to which the Government are in daily expectation of receiving instructions from England. Mr. Fisher is understood to concur in effect with the opinion of the Advocate-General, but to differ from him in regard to the validity of his own resignation as Mayor. Mr. Mann agrees with the Advocate-General in regard to the illegality of Mr. Fisher's resignation, but is of opinion that the Council possesses the power of doing all necessary acts to continue the existence of the Corporation, provided Mr. Fisher resumes the chair. Such being the conflicting legal opinions in reference to this, it remains for the meeting to consider whether it would be of any use to proceed to the nomination of any auditor of accounts and Returning Officer, with a view to another election; or whether it would not be more prudent to wait for the decision of the Home Government, which must ultimately decide the matter, and control any proceedings that may now be adopted. I trust, under the circumstances, it will not be considered that I have exceeded the line of my duty in calling this meeting, which, I may add, was done before I was aware of the Advocate-General's opinion." Several parties stated that they considered that no act of forfeiture had yet taken place, but that if the present period of nominating a returning officer was neglected, an act of forfeiture would be committed, and the Corporation must then undoubtedly become extinct. They considered it was important that an attempt should be made to save this institution to the citizens; and with that view they should endeavour to collect a quorum upon another day, when it might be considered what steps should be taken. It was accordingly agreed that another meeting should be held on Monday first. —*Southern Australian*.

A later number of the same paper says, the Town Council is at length defunct. The adjourned meeting which was to have been held last Monday, did not take place, but there has been a scramble for the goods and chattels. The messenger in possession (holding possession to be nine points of the law) has removed the Council's furniture as his security for arrears of charge in keeping possession; and the Town Clerk retains a town acre land order for arrears of salary, leaving sundry creditors in the lurch.

**THE NORTHERN EXPLORING PARTY.**—Intelligence from the Surveyor-General, dated 31° 29' E., has been received in town, from which it appears that the party, notwithstanding their endeavours to avoid it, have unfortunately fallen into the same trap, in the bend of Lake Torrens, as Mr. Eyre's party did when endeavouring to pe-

netrate the northern interior. The Surveyor-General and party have undergone great hardships, but Capt. Frome is determined to turn the eastern end of Lake Torrens, and penetrate at least one hundred miles to the north of it. For this purpose the Surveyor-General, accompanied by J. Henderson, Esq., have struck off due East, in order to get round the Lake, taking with them a single dray, carrying fourteen days' provisions—dampers and water only. To facilitate the object in view, Mr. Henderson most laudably drives the dray himself, so that no useless hands are a burden to the expedition. We sincerely hope the strenuous efforts of this enterprising party will ultimately be crowned with the most complete success.

A later number of the *Southern Australian* contains some further particulars of the progress of the party. It appears that Captain Frome had succeeded in penetrating so far north as S. lat., 30° 20' nearly. But his farther progress was interrupted by a dreary, sandy waste, covered by pieces of drift timber, which was quite dry, but where the waters of Lake Torrens had evidently been. Captain Frome reports that he had steered a course of N.E., from a point 50 miles due east of Mount Brown, expecting that that course would enable him to turn the south-eastern point of Lake Torrens but found that Mr. Eyre (who had not been able to take observations, but only calculated his distance) had placed Mount Searle and the eastern side of the Lake about thirty or forty miles too far to the west. Captain Frome had consequently become involved in the interior of the Horse-shoe, and the nature of the country prevented his attempting to cross over the dry bed of the Lake where he had struck it. He was therefore obliged to retrace his steps for eighty miles southward. His letter is dated at "Pasmoro River" in lat. 31° 29' S. and 139° 30' E., whence he intended to strike off due east, for a fortnight, probably one hundred and twenty miles journey, which would bring him within the line of Major Mitchell's discoveries at Mount Lyell and Mount Daubeny, near the Darling. Captain Frome will probably come down that river, connect the discoveries of Major Mitchell and Capt. Sturt, and return by the Murray. Although the weather had been rather dry, the Captain had, in every part of the country visited by him, found plenty of water and grass for the horses. He had, however, been so unfortunate as to lose his sketch-book (which contained some sketches of very beautiful scenes) and his drawing material, which were accidentally destroyed by fire.

On Sunday night last our metropolitan district was visited by one of those hurricanes which are of periodical occurrence here; but which, on the late occasion was attended with a violence unprecedented within the recollection of the oldest colonist. The gale had attained an alarming height previous to the conclusion of the evening service at the various places of worship; but the hour of midnight passed before the intensity of the storm was fully felt. Happily the damage sustained in the city and neighbourhood was trifling. At the port the gale is described as having been appalling, and considerable fears were at one time entertained for the safety of the property and shipping; but even in that locality the actual amount of injury has been comparatively small; and the occurrence has tended to confirm the established character of our principal port as a safe and commodious harbour. A few lighters and other small craft were dispersed and slightly damaged; and the western or exposed end of the government wharf sustained a repetition of injury and partial demolition. As morning dawned it was observed that the *Emma* had changed her position considerably, at the North Arm Anchorage, and our respected port officer, Captain Lipson, evinced his usual alacrity by at once putting off with his ready boat's crew to afford any assistance that might be required. On Monday the brig was seen to get underweigh and proceed on her voyage, without any further occasion of delay.—*Observer*.

We have another addition to make to the already numerous list of our colonial manufactures, and one which, we guess, will give

the London exporters and Adelaide merchants the blues, although it will no doubt be hailed by our thrifty housewives and economical landresses; we mean the manufacture of stoue blue, which is being retailed at English prices. The specimen which has been shown us is equal to any that has been produced in England or elsewhere. It is prepared by a medical gentleman, and is finding its way into the druggists' and grocers' shops. Colonial enterprise has now secured for our washerwomen three of the cardinal points of their craft, namely—soap, starch, and blue—a fourth, crystal soda, is alone wanting (with a due proportion of elbow grease), to enable them successfully to compete with sister-colonies or mother-country.—*Ibid*.

One of the most interesting and exciting scenes ever beheld at Encounter Bay occurred on the 19th ult. Several boats were lying on their oars awaiting the rising of a monstrous whale, when suddenly the water heaved beneath one of the boats, she threw up her flukes, reft the boat in pieces, and tossed the men, gearing, and fragments in the air. As they descended, some found themselves riding on the whale's back, whilst others were effectually soused. What is astonishing is, that the men were all picked up uninjured. The day was stormy, and the game escaped. Several boats have been stove in and shattered this season, yet none of the hands have sustained serious hurt.—*Ibid*.

We are informed on the authority of the gentlemen recently arrived from the Portland Bay side, that from the confines of the colony on the east to Rivoli Bay and the Lake, the country is a succession of splendid sheep runs, and that especially in the neighbourhood of Mount Gambier, the Portland Bay settlers are rapidly taking up the finest country. We should like much to see some of our own enterprising settlers arm themselves with a squatting license, and teach the intruders that South Australia is not New South Wales. We are strongly of opinion that the country eastward of the Murray has been neglected. If the settlers of Portland Bay procure licenses from Adelaide, and take up the choice spot, none can say they may, and in that case they would be justly entitled to the reward for their enterprise.

A meeting of the Church of Scotland Society, chiefly composed of Members of the Church of Scotland resident in Adelaide, was held on Monday evening last, at their Chapel in Hindley-street, to consider of the best Method of raising a stipend for their Minister, the Rev. R. Haining, in consequence of the intimated discontinuance of a large portion of his salary from home. The Rev. Mr. Haining was sent out by the General Assembly, with an allowance from their Colonial fund for two years. The subsequent circumstances of the colony having warranted the belief that the church would be unequal to the support of its minister after the expiration of the period stated, memorials were severally transmitted from the minister and people praying for an extension of the term of allowance. But it appears that by the *Elizabeth Buchham*, an answer to Mr. Haining's memorial was received, which does not afford any grounds for hoping that the memorial of the church, when received, will be attended with better success.

**RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION AND EDUCATION.**—In our last we mentioned that the members and friends of the Scottish Church in Adelaide have made a movement for the purpose of obtaining government aid in reference to the above important objects. We have since heard that the leaders of the Wesleyan Methodist Society, at a meeting held the same evening, resolved to memorialise government upon the subject. We have since been informed that the members of the Church of England are also about to exert themselves in the good cause. From the terms of His Excellency's address on the opening of the Legislative Council, it seems certain that he is favourable to some measure for the promotion of religion and education, and it is so manifestly the duty of all, who have the interests of the community and religion at heart, to further such an object, that we are surprised no effort has hitherto been made to strengthen the hands of government in so excellent a work.

LITERATURE.

*The New South Wales Monthly Magazine*, No 9. Reading, King-street.

It is gratifying to observe that the improvement in the character of our periodical literature, which we had occasion to mark on the last appearance of this Magazine, is in the present number more than sustained. In the outset of its career, the *New South Wales Monthly* was a general receptacle of slops—of every variety of trash, of which nobody of any pretensions to literary taste could tolerate the perusal. Number after number appeared without furnishing a single vigorous sentiment, or displaying the least capability of original thought. Our periodical, however, we are glad to say, has fallen at last under other auspices, and its literature has assumed another and a healthier tone. Its articles are the emanations of cultivated, energetic, and well-directed minds, and possess an originality and vivacity of which our periodical literature has hitherto been altogether deficient. We cannot, therefore, as the patrons of colonial literature, fail to recommend the undertaking with all earnestness to public patronage and support.

In our notice of the last number, we offered some strictures on a passage relating to Scotch Banking and Agriculture, the belief in the superiority of which to English, the writer had incidentally alluded to as a vulgar error. Those strictures form the subject of the opening article. The writer, who, we alleged, had never been in Scotland, and had acquired his opinions of men and things in that country from a questionable source, as the majority of Englishmen do, undertakes to show the contrary, and we must say, succeeds to our satisfaction; although on reading the following passage, our Scottish readers will be disposed to regard our author as not placed in the most favourable circumstances for forming a sound estimate of their national character:—

"The writer," he thrice visited that delightful country, and from the Tweed to the Bay of Cromarty, not forgetting the interior Highlands, and back westward to Glasgow, not omitting the adjacent isles, few Englishmen know it better. He has visited its principal towns, for the express purpose of examining into its mercantile operations, and he has had some opportunity of forming an opinion, inasmuch as he must, in the course of his connection with Scotland, have received between two and three millions sterling from her merchants. And many have been the good thousands of pounds of value, which he has sent in to the best shops in the principal towns." (Edinburgh and Aberdeen especially—Perth and Dundee are somewhat better, and the smaller northern towns as good as the English) for which he has received only trumpery dividends not worth naming; although 'the Bank,' and the 'Maiden Aunt,' and the 'Uncle, the mill-stone,' who had given 'Bonds of caution,' and 'a' his ain folk, had been protected together by the Insolvent from loss; and 'the writer himself recovered £1,000 interest, and full costs from one of the powerful Joint Stock Banks, by proving that the Manager had allowed a letter to be written to a certain party as highly trustworthy, which was true when it was written, to remain at his London Bankers, for the purpose of reference, after he had desisted his customer to remove his account from the Bank, and had called upon the signers of his 'Bonds of Caution,' to redeem them, and the party himself, then declining fast into insolvency, to 'lift,' (Anglice, take up) several overdue acceptances—a large amount of goods was obtained from London, converted into cash on good bills at great loss—the acceptances were 'lifted'—the failure immediately took place, and 2s. 6d. in the pound was offered—the English creditors generally accepted it, from a dread of 'Scotch loss'; but the writer, from personal observations, less under the influence of national prejudices, brought the matter into the Scotch Courts, in 1833 (the case is well known, and created great sensation at the time), and although daily beset by peers, and county members, and lords of high degree, by Scotch bank directors, and India directors, and assailed by every kind of influence to induce him to abandon the Quixotic attempt to contend with 'a Scotch bank,' he persevered, for the sake of example. The mixture of law and equity in the forms of the Court, gave him advantages in eliciting the truth, which he could not have obtained in an English Court of Law, and he succeeded."

It strikes us on reading this passage, that if the Scotch law affords such advantages to the prosecutor, it is inconceivable that systematic insolvency with a view to better one's circumstances, can be practicable in that country. If English gudgeons will accept of compositions of 2s. 6d. in the pound, when they can so easily make a better of it, they are decidedly more to be blamed than pitted. But even the cases of this kind that do occur, are the rare exceptions, and not the rule in the mercantile operations of that country. In some of the eastern parts of Scotland, where the retailers are supplied chiefly from England, such a thing as fraudulent insolvency may occasionally occur, and the insolvent may again recover his credit and become a flourishing man; but in the great mercantile emporium of the west and the district thence supplied, such a thing is almost unheard of. Nor are even real insolvencies, as has often been alleged, of more frequent occurrence there than in other parts of the world. To estimate the ratio of insol-

venty by the proportion to the whole population is manifestly absurd. The estimate ought to embrace simply the comparative proportions in different countries, between the number of insolventies and the number of the population engaged in trade. Taking this as the basis of the estimate, we assert that the number of insolventies in Scotland is smaller than in any other commercial country in the world; for there is no other country in which so large a proportion of the gross population are engaged in mercantile pursuits. Trade is the grand reservoir, into which every rank of life, from the highest grade of aristocracy to the humble cotter, pours its tributary stream. There is no landed aristocracy there of the description to be found in England, and there is no pauperism. The general ambition to engage in mercantile pursuits goes far to prevent both. The walks of trade are consequently crowded with eager and numerous competitors; but the profits, notwithstanding, in consequence of the greater individual activity to which competition prompts, and the greater ingenuity and skill which it calls into action—are not less considerable in proportion to the extent of the transactions than they are in England; so that our author—although he has discovered so far a reason for the alleged comparative frequency of insolventies in Scotland in the number of its population engaged in trade—is again in error, in supposing that competition renders trade unprofitable, and that insolvency is the result.

Our author complains of misrepresentation—in our alleging that he had said in express terms, that the bubble banks of England, of which upwards of 100 became bankrupt in a few months in the commercial crisis of 1823, were in no respect inferior to the joint stock banks of Scotland, many of which have stood the test of a century, and not more than five or six of which have become insolvent during that time. We should be very sorry indeed, to be guilty of any misrepresentation of the kind. The author of the article said, that the alleged superiority was a vulgar error, and that both had served the same object—the creation of capital. We cannot yet see, that our inference was at all illegitimate. The "Apology," contains next, a dissertation on the comparative merits of English and Scotch Agriculture, well worth insertion.

"In the first place, we admit at once that the land in Scotland produces much more per English acre than the land in England, and that a higher class of persons are engaged in agricultural pursuits in Scotland than, upon the average, in England, and we have been too much amongst Scotch farmers, not to concede to them most cheerfully 'intelligence, ingenuity, and skill.' And now, to soil and circumstances. Scotland is by centuries a younger farming country than England. Her lairds had souls above corn-growing and marketing, and a few parks about the mansion to supply the family, and a few more in the glen for the dependants, were frequently all that were under the plough in large estates. Their mode of living was plain and simple, and with abundance of fish and game, their wants were few and easily satisfied. They were excellent judges of cattle, but (according to Scott) not always able to distinguish the 'Brand;' and during the first half of the eighteenth century, they thought so much, and so intensely of the means whereby they might wrest from the crown of Hanover the British Crown, which they believed belonged of right to their own line of kings, that they had no time nor inclination for the arts of peace. But the war prices of produce commencing in 1792, awakened them to a perception of the enormous capabilities of their country. A border of cultivation was formed from the Tweed to the Ness, and northward in the county of Ross. The soil of the lands selected along this line is vastly superior to that of England, whose few rich and Scotch-like spots—the vale of Taunton, in Somersetshire—the alluvial Looe of Ely, in Cambridgeshire—a few lands in Kent and Essex, on the shores of the Thames and Medway—and others which we need not name, do not altogether contain so much fine land as is to be seen between the Tweed and Edinburgh. Much wind, which brings the land into working order as soon as ploughed—much rain, which makes turnips and artificial grasses certain crops, and which secure a heavy yield of corn, but, we admit, makes its harvesting precarious—stone walls, which protect the land, instead of hedges and trees, which exhaust it, and interfere with the crops—a general undulation of surface, which affords every facility for draining—abundance of stone for making drains, which, when so made, last for a century—general proximity to the coast and water carriage, so that various manures can be easily obtained—some of the advantages of soil and circumstances "circumstances" remains. But the most important of them, for nineteenth years, which allows for three clear rotations of crop, and one year over; so that the farmer can afford to do all which appears to be requisite to call forth the full power of production—the next tenant, if there be change, does the same, and thus a perpetual course of improvement goes on. But it may be said this only includes the Scotch lairds in the claim to superior intelligence. Why do not the English lairds do the same? Simply because the English landed proprietors generally live much within their incomes, and have other objects than rental, and they are the sports of the field—to which they are intensely addicted—and influence in the election of members of parliament—and it is hardly credible at low great a price they purchase them. In the memorable contest between the present Earl Fitz-

william and Mr. Lascelles, for Yorkshire, the Fitzwilliam tenantry in the Holderness district, all men of substance, chose to vote against their landlord's son, and for the Tory candidate. The old Earl very properly said "that he had one scale of rents for his friends, and another for the independent public," and raised his Holderness rents £10,000 per annum, but that the advance was not exorbitant was proved by the fact, that not a man gave up his farm. The game, is another important circumstance; although since it has been saleable by law, and that barbarous relic of feudalism called "qualification" abolished, it is less prejudicially operative than formerly. We remember the admission of a landlord, that his game cost him in damage to his own crops, and in abatement of rent, and allowances to tenants, £4000 per annum. But he added that he could afford it, and that in the close acquaintance with his tenants and with all the peculiarities of his property, and in the opportunity of obliging friends, and other indirect advantages, he possessed great countervailing advantages. Perhaps he was right; but 8000 pounds' worth of corn must have been carried to market, charges being always equal to value, to pay £400 net, and but for the game, his land would have produced it. All this electioneering and game preserving tends to give to the country the incalculable advantage of a class of resident gentry, but it is easily prejudicial to farming. The great properties of England are farmed chiefly by tenants at will. Some leases for seven years, and (by non-resident landlords) for fourteen, are given; but the average tenure throughout England is not such as to enable the tenant to enter upon expensive improvements—he has not time to recover back his capital."

This is all so far good, but it all goes to establish our position that Scotch agriculture is superior to English. We can't understand the term agriculture, if we are to exclude from its signification the system of leasing. That particular is as much a part of agriculture as a system, as the mode of ploughing or of rearing cattle. Our author is still astray in his apology, in alleging that the Scotch have the advantage in respect of draining, from the unevenness of the surface, and the possession of material. The Scotch, in many cases, drain without material altogether, by means of the mole plough; and nothing but a *dead level* is considered a barrier to the process. A steep drain soon closes up, from the quantity of sand and mud carried down by the water; and where material is used, clay tiles are preferred, which could as easily be procured in the agricultural districts of England as in Scotland. If the same degree of industry, ingenuity, and skill, were called into play. The writer next introduces what he evidently considers an unanswerable argument, in the form of a question—Why does not the Scotch farmer go to England, like the Scotch doctor and the Scotch lawyer and the Scotch merchant? We can answer the question, however; and the nineteenth years' lease forms a part of that answer. The agricultural portion of the Scotch population is the only portion not of a migratory disposition. In early life, if the farmer's son has not entered on more active and speculative pursuits, he settles down. Before the expiration of his lease, his farm is endeared to him above every other spot of earth, as the scene of the happiest moments of his life. The renewal of his lease is therefore the great object of his anxiety, and that object is generally attained.

Now for the ploughing department. Our author proceeds—

"The Scotch farmer ploughs with two horses. The Englishman ploughs with four, and a boy to drive them—therefore the Scotch farmer is twice as clever as the English, and a boy over." "And although the Englishman should be observed to use pair-of-horse Scotch ploughs upon parts of his land, and the old English 'Strike-over' with four horses upon others, it is not supposed that he has good reason for retaining the latter, but that he is half instructed only in modern farming, and that his prejudices are wearing away by degrees. Scotch lands, we have last heard, had fallen from 8l. to 10l. per Scotch acre, or 4l. or 5l., say to 8l. 10s. per English acre. But in Kent, Essex, (excepting as before mentioned) Hertfordshire, and Surrey, within from fifteen to thirty miles of London's great market, farms are to be had at from 10s. to 16s. per acre; the average rental of England does not exceed 20s; yet no Scotchmen adventure to the farms. Oh, it is your poor rats which deter them. Not so; for wages, and voluntary contribution, which it is always understood cannot be withheld, are equal to wages and poor's rate in England; and 'since we must scry our courage to the sticking place'—English labour is better than Scotch at their respective prices; your Scotchman is too observant, and too intelligent for a labourer; he has always something to say, so long as any man is within sound of his voice—the duller Englishman says nothing, but works on. It is not the climate or mode of living in England that the Scotchman object to. To their honour be it spoken, very many of the most eminent physicians and surgeons in England have been, and are Scotch; and names rush upon our grateful recollection, not less honored for private virtues, and unbounded benevolence, than for medical skill. The leading members of our bar are many of them Scotch, and the judges were at one time almost exclusively Scotch. A large proportion of our leading merchants, bankers, directors of the bank, the East India, and other public companies, are Scotch. We find our northern brethren everywhere but on our farms. They will go to United America for cotton, rice, or tobacco farms; to British America, for corn farms, to the East Indies, (where in some islands they constitute the majority,) for sugar and coffee farms, to the East Indies, for indigo, cotton, and sugar farms—

they come to the antipodes for wool farms; but their farmers cannot find rest for the sole of their foot upon English farms."

We have already indicated an explanation of the difficulty quite satisfactory to our own minds, and we have no doubt it will be equally satisfactory to that of the author of the "Apology." He possesses national prejudices, as every man does to a greater or less extent, and we must say, we do not admire that sort of cosmopolitanism which would eradicate them altogether. But the writer appears in a much more engaging light in his "Apology" than in his former article on joint-stock banking. No one can read the concluding passage of the article without acquitting him of "nationalism" in the offensive sense of that term, and so far verdict must go for the defendant. We subjoin the passage referred to.

"The first outbreak of that love of romantic scenery which belongs to young and ardent minds, was with us, in Scotland—the first truly excellent shooting and fishing was in Scotland—the first insight into rural economy, in Newland. We were indeed, sufficiently familiar with the villas, and well stocked manors of the wealthy citizens who like to play at country squiring, from Friday or Saturday until Tuesday, in the suburban counties; and not unsuccessful in bagging their game; but Scotland, its lairds, its farmers, its shepherds, its ploughmen, were all new to us, and the unctuous originality of character which belongs to the Scotch, had not then been stamped out of them, as in the present day. As to the high nobility and rich lairds, they are alike throughout the three kingdoms. We saw their princely castles and broad domains, but our opportunities of mixing with them were not numerous, and we rarely availed ourselves of those we had; but the lairds of from £500 to £1500 a year—the half-pay soldiers—factotum of his noble cousin—the intelligent occupier of a large farm, with whom we have followed the plough, and listened to his explanation of his course of husbandry—these were our delight. We took it as high compliment, that after, perhaps, the second day, the port and claret appeared no more after dinner, but in their place the broad flat-bottomed silver kettle of hot water—the whiskey and the sugar—and then we believed our worthy hosts, when the assured us that if we were content with trout, and salmon, mutton, game, oat cake, and tuddy, the longer we stayed, the more did we oblige them. And such mutton! equal to venison! and such butter! and such whiskey! We venturously agreed with the sagacious Frenchman, who, on his return to Paris, from the disastrous campaign of Charles Edward, wrote of Scotland that 'as to estates, it was well enough, mais pour le *vis à vis* du pays'—our apples, our verrie excellent.' To be sure they teased us, when instead of attending to our path, and the working of the dogs, we were gazing with delight on the ever-varying tints of light and shade which lit across the rich blue mountain tops, and stepped, gun and all, through the green carpet which covers the deceitful bog, and were pulled out, covered with black mud, or lost our chance of bagging an extra brace of parmagins, whilst we paused to muse over some tonely cairn stone. Nor shall we ever forget the boisterous mirth which we excited, in Inverness-shire, by persisting after three days of incessant rain, and which at the time was coming down in torrents, in going out to shoot. We had not courage to avow our object, but it was soon guessed. We had seen the fall of Foyers, but not in full power, and we were determined to witness his foaming and glorious wrath. Our host kindly offered that his cook should make the great kettle in the kitchen fire boiler, and that we should have as good a waterfall without getting wet, and then we might finish our rubber at backgammon, but would do. We persevered, and rude as was the pelting of the storm, had we walked in from Edinburgh we should have felt that we were amply rewarded. We quitted the roof of our kind and honourous host, for a tent in the wildest nook of the Grampians. We have, impeded by the rising of the burns, stayed for days together in small farm houses—We have eaten haggis, prepared in her best manner by the farmer's wife, for the welcome, but involuntary, and unexpected visitor—we have shared his botchy with the shepherd, and eaten 'parried' from his only dish. In short, we have seen something of Scotland, and of some of the highest nobles of the north, (our patron in our first tour), so the shepherd in his botchy, we met only with the most cordial welcome, and the most frank and unaffected hospitality—our recollections are of pleasure enjoyed, and of kindnesses received—our feelings those only of friendship and gratitude—and we have friends amongst the resident merchants of Scotland, whom we esteem as men of the highest probity and honour; but what we stated in our former Essay is true, notwithstanding. And so ends our "Apology."

The remaining articles of the Magazine, some of which afford a more extended notice than our limits will allow, are "The winds, their influence," &c.; "The last time I was under fire, a tale of the army;" "On steam power instead of sails," by Mr. J. Curry; "Legislative honey moon;" "Reminiscences of Italy;" "View of Sydney;" "Local Intelligence," &c., &c. We hope our monthly contemporary will persevere in the career of improvement on which he has now entered, and prove a credit to our Colonial press. The engraving accompanying the present number is a very well executed view of the City, from the South Head Road.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to confer the appointment of Colonial Chaplain upon the Rev. James Farrell, in the room of the Rev. Charles Beaumont Howard, deceased.—*Southwest Australian.*

CITY COUNCIL.—Sept. 13.

The Council met at the usual hour. Alderman Broughton in the chair. Mr. Macdermot presented a petition from a number of wharfingers, timber-merchants, and others interested in a warehouse, property in Sydney.

The petition was read at length and received. A letter from the Colonial Secretary, promising to furnish without delay the information requested relative to the duties of the Police Magistrates of Sydney and the distribution of the Police Force, was read by the Town Clerk.

Alderman Wilshire rose, pursuant to notice, to move, "That whereas the sum of £2,100 has been collected by assessment of the inhabitants of the City of Sydney, and paid over to the Treasurer by the credit of the City Fund, and whereas by the 4th clause of the 6th Victoria, No. 5, of the Act of the Governor and Legislative Council, the raising of such sum entitled the Corporation to the payment of the like sum out of the general revenue of the colony, it be therefore ordered, that the Town Clerk do write to his Excellency the Governor for a warrant, or order in writing, for the payment so to be made out of the general revenue."

The motion was carried without opposition. Alderman Flood moved, pursuant to notice, "That all advertisements relating to the Corporation be for the future, unless otherwise altered, inserted in the New South Wales Government Gazette only."

Alderman Flood moved, pursuant to notice, "That the City Surveyor be instructed by a by-law to vacate the streets in Phillip and Cook Streets."

Alderman Flood moved, a Memorial for presentation to the Legislative Council, praying to reduce the franchise from £25 to £15.

Mr. Macdermot moved as an amendment, "That the whole Council should resolve itself into a Committee, for the purpose of framing the Memorial as proposed by the worthy Alderman," which was carried.

The Council at its rising adjourned until Wednesday next at three o'clock.

BERRIMA ASSIZES.—SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9.

(Before Sir James Douglas, Chief Justice.) Patrick Dwyer was then placed at the bar, charged with the wilful murder of Michael Pogery, at the Tumut River, on the 23rd May last. The offence was also laid as a manslaughter.

The Jury found the prisoner guilty of manslaughter, and he was sentenced, to six months' imprisonment in Berrima Gaol.

Henry Mackay was then placed at the bar, charged with assaulting Marian Gribb, alias Betty Mackay, at Murrumbidgee, on the 1st May, 1842, the girl being at the time under eleven years of age.

The Jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment, and that during eleven of those months to be placed in solitary confinement in the second week of each month, and that in the last week of your imprisonment you be kept in like solitary confinement, and then discharged.

Martin Beech and Lucretia Dunkley, convicted of the murder of Henry Dunkley, were brought up, and his Honor passed sentence of death upon them in the following words:—"That you, Martin Beech, and you, Lucretia Dunkley, be severally taken thence to the prison from whence you came this morning, and that from thence you be taken to a place of public execution, on such day as his Excellency the Governor shall appoint, and that you be then and there severally hanged by the neck until your bodies be dead—and may God Almighty have mercy on your miserable souls!"

Both the prisoners blimpantly remarked, that they had not had a fair trial, and neither showed any signs of contrition—except that the female prisoner leaned her head on the rail of the dock while receiving sentence, and appeared to shake a little during the most touching parts of his Honor's address. Beech, on retiring, said he hoped he would have a fairer trial in the next world than he had had in this.

Edward Moyer Smith, convicted of uttering a forgery, was next placed in the dock, where he appeared with white kid gloves, and waved his hand gracefully as he handed a paper for the perusal of the Judge.

His Honor told the prisoner that the letters he had handed to him ought to have been more clearly the amount of his guilt and folly, by showing that he had enjoyed the confidence and esteem of his employers, and had therefore the less excuse for the course of crime he had entered upon, notwithstanding his opportunities of filling a respectable station in life. It was lamentable to see a young man like him, who manifested by his language and manners a liberal education and superior capacity, thus recklessly plunging for the second time into a guilty career, after the sentence of seven years' transportation, which he had received as the punishment of his former crime, had just been expiated. The very circumstance of the white kid gloves, with which he had the audacity to appear at the bar, showed that he was a hardened man. His Honor concluded by awarding him the sentence of transportation for life. As he left the dock, the prisoner tossed his head contemptuously.

Charles Cartwright, convicted of a similar offence to that of Smith, was next placed at the bar, and received sentence to the same effect.

Thomas Coyle, for cattle stealing, was sentenced to two years' labour on the roads; and John Haig, for the same offence, was sentenced to transportation for ten years.

Joshua King, also convicted of cattle stealing, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment in Berrima gaol.

A number of prisoners were then brought up, and received notice of postponement of their trials respectively, till the next Quarter Sessions, and a few were discharged on account of the imprisonment they had already undergone being deemed sufficient atonement for their offences.

THE WEDDING EVE.

The morning of the 27th of November, 1802, had been even more gloomy than is usual at that period of the year. The grey, watery sky was furrowed by heavy black clouds, that a cold west wind drove onwards like so many sombre fleeting banners. At times a faint sunbeam piercing the darkness smiled momentarily upon the windows of an inn situated upon the road leading from Brussels to Terveruren.

Among others temporarily sojourning beneath the sign of the Red Cross were two persons evidently awaiting the arrival of some conveyance. One of them was a man whose age half a century might encompass; respectable in appearance, but impatient in disposition, judging by his restless manner of enduring the present delay. He strode backwards and forwards across the red tiled floor, where no sound but heavy foot steps was heard save the monotonous tick-tack from a large wooden clock hanging at one end of the room. The stranger had continued this exercise for some time in perfect silence with the noise of the pendulum; at length he looked impatiently towards the horizon, approached the window, tapped with his fingers a quick march upon its panes, glanced at the clock, and then resumed his walk.

Suddenly the noise of an approaching vehicle was heard, and our traveller again springing to the window, from which he turned disappointed at beholding a miller's cart pass by instead of the conveyance he awaited.

"Really, Margaret!" he exclaimed, addressing his companion, a young woman who appeared absorbed in deep reverie; really we are very unfortunate. The Terveruren diligence ought to have passed at least two hours ago. The waiter must have been deceived; this delay is very unfortunate, considering it is now dark by four o'clock.

"Suppose, father, we proceed on foot," replied the young girl, "some conveyance may pass us on the road, and if not, we shall gain upon the distance between here and our home."

"My child," said the father, "you suggest what I myself should not have proposed; to-day's journey has been fatiguing; but when a young girl makes her wedding purchases, she thinks lightly of fatigue." "Oh yes, I have indeed trespassed too much on your goodness," said Margaret, looking feebly at her father, "you must indeed be tired, so let us wait here longer."

"Wait here! I'd sooner walk every inch of our road than pass another half-hour in this dismal hole, where I have already counted a dozen times the tiles upon the floor."

"Let us on then, father," said the young girl, smilingly; and wrapping her mantle around her, she followed her father, who was already settling with the host. "Good day, Mr. Aubrey; and a pleasant journey to you," said the latter, as he accompanied the traveller to the door of the inn.

A few words will be sufficient to acquaint the reader who and what Mr. Aubrey was. A solicitor by profession, after having passed twenty years in diligently pursuing his avocation at Brussels, he had retired to a small estate at Terveruren, a pretty village situated about three leagues from the capital. There he devoted himself entirely to the education of his only child, whom he was about to give in marriage to one so adored, but who did not possess, in the opinion of the father, all the qualities he desired to find in a son-in-law.

Albert Degreef, the son of a rich timber merchant, who perished upon the scaffold during the social troubles of 1793, was the man Mr. Aubrey was about to accept as a son-in-law. Margaret had seen him for the first time at one of those village balls where Cupid so often acts as master of the ceremonies. It is easy to conceive the rapid progress made in the heart of a young girl who had only dreamed of love by one gifted with so silvery and persuading a tongue as Albert's. His fortune, too, was said to be considerable; and, independent of this advantage he possessed others in his personal appearance. Graceful in stature, yet at the same time robust; with eyes of great expression, and long dark tresses, in which Margaret delighted to plunge her fair white hands; all these advantages had favoured the suit of Albert, who, on the morrow of the day we have described, was to become the husband of a woman who adored him.

Thus it was, the whole morning had been employed by Margaret in completing the necessary arrangements for her wedding, and, perhaps, in occasionally revealing to her father the deepest cares of her heart—the colour of a dress, or the position of a flower.

Carefully wrapped in their mantles, the travellers quickly ascended the steep road leading from the inn, and arrived at the summit of the hill, they halted a few moments to gaze upon the surrounding prospect. Before them the road was left, and lonely; behind them the village they had just quitted, where a group of peasants were hastening, who had saluted them in passing with the customary "God protect you on your road."

Mr. Aubrey began to feel uneasy; the roads were not safe, and frequently some outrage or other bore witness to the ferocity of a band of ruffians infesting the surrounding country, and evading the efforts of the government to capture them. The security with which these brigands made their attacks almost implied that some mysterious power directed them. So long as the soldiery remained on the watch the inhabitants of the various villages slept tranquilly; but the departure of the military was followed by pillage, torture, and incendiarism.

Thus it was not without a secret feeling of inquietude Mr. Aubrey saw the daylight rapidly departing, while hitherto no vehicle had overtaken him, and his child.

The sky became more and more clouded; strong gusts of wind rattled through the forest of Linthout,

that skirted both sides of the road. The black clouds flew more rapidly along the sky, and in their flight seemed to bend the lofty tops of the beech trees, which quivered like reeds.

The father and daughter both felt a vague indefinite kind of dread at their position. The former looked frequently behind him, in the hope of discovering some approaching vehicle, and betrayed an uneasiness that he feared to perceive his daughter sharing. Meanwhile the rain descended heavily, and it was necessary to decide what course was best to be taken.

"Suppose, Margaret, we make for the farm of my friend Van der Vueren, and there we can remain sheltered until some conveyance passes that will take us to Terveruren."

"Willingly, dear father," replied Margaret, "for I am already fearful."

"Fearful!—and of what, child? Are you not with your father, and am not I armed?" "What I fear, I cannot explain; but these tall dark trees around us seem to foretell evil. Let us hasten, my father, and pass the night at the farm, for there only shall I feel safe."

M. Aubrey quickened his pace, holding his daughter closely under his arm, who seemed every moment to become more alarmed. In a short time they were safely sheltered beneath the roof of Le Roi, who spared no pains to make his guests comfortable during their stay.

The farm was destined to be the scene of the events we are about to relate exists even at the present day; but since the period of which we write, several habitations occupied its former solitude, a solitude destined to be so fatally interrupted.

The front of the building, which was of brick, faced the main road, and the back opened upon the forest. The left side contained only a single window, placed rather above the level of the first floor, opposite to which stood a huge pile of logs, reaching in height to within about ten feet of the window-sill. The building had been solidly constructed to resist the perils to which its lonely situation exposed it. The doors were massive, and strongly clamped, while the lower windows were protected by stout iron bars firmly fixed in the masonry.

Comfortably seated beneath the vast chimney settle Mr. Aubrey and his daughter had determined on passing the remainder of the night under the hospitable roof of Le Roi. Supper was served, of which Margaret scarcely partook; she appeared absorbed by some musing reverie, when she only replied occasionally to answer the questions of the young girls respecting her wedding-dress. Le Roi and Mr. Aubrey smoked their pipes with the gravity of Indian chiefs, and talked of war, of crops, and of ruffians infesting the neighbourhood.

"Master," said one of the servants, "Peter, the herdsmen, told me to-night they had burnt out a farmer at Forest deep."

"'Tis not to be wondered at," observed Le Roi, "a house built in the middle of the forest, two miles from any neighbour."

"But it seems to me," said Mr. Aubrey, "you are rather lonely here."

"Oh, we're very different," replied Le Roi, with a tone implying confidence of the security of his position. "The house is strong enough; three men always sleep in it, and besides, our guns are kept loaded with dogs, which serve for man as well as beast."

"But still it would perhaps be dangerous to attempt an open defence in this lonely situation," said Mr. Aubrey. "In a village one stands a chance of succour; but here, before assistance could be procured, you might be killed ten times over."

"Think you, then, there is danger here, dear father?" asked Margaret, who seemed aroused from her melancholy as though her father's words had echoed within her very soul.

"Not at all, my child; we merely speak on general supposition, without any preference to our actual situation. But tell me now, suppose Albert calls at Terveruren to-night, will not our absence alarm him?"

"Think not of that," said Le Roi; "better far he should feel uneasy than for you to risk being devoured by wolves. But come, friend Aubrey, another glass of Burgundy to the health of the betrothed; and let us at the same time drink the wine with the respect its age deserves."

The toast was scarcely finished ere the clock struck nine, and the servants came to receive the orders of their master for the morrow's labour; having bade Mr. Aubrey and his daughter good-night, they retired to rest.

"I know, too well, the customs of a farm-house, friend Le Roi, not to submit to them," said Mr. Aubrey. "You must be up and about at day-break to-morrow, so show us your chambers, and let us be called early."

The worthy farmer immediately conducted Mr. Aubrey to the apartment prepared for him. It was a large room, to which was attached a smaller one, containing the window we have already described as facing the pile of logs. Within this closet a bed had been arranged for Margaret, who, without divesting herself of her attire, was soon wrapped in the sleep that reigned throughout the house. At midnight she was awakened by the clock striking, and greatly refreshed by her first sleep, contemplated with delight the joy which the future promised, and she was freed from its heavy aqueous clouds, and its clearness foretold a bright morrow. Margaret arose, and gazed from the window of her chamber towards the main road. The wind from the forest again reached her ear, but this time faint and gentle as a dream, all else seemed silence and solitude. Below the rising ground on which the farm stood, a large stream slept placidly beneath the light of the pale cold moon. Both sides of the forest cast upon the road to Terveruren a sombre line of shadows that seemed to become animated from time to time by the blowing of the night wind. Margaret quitted this trifling scene, and longing for the coming day, hastened to her bed again. She had scarcely reclined five minutes upon her pillow, when she heard a confused murmur, like that of several persons speaking in an uncertain tone. She raised herself up to the height to catch the sound, but a violent gust of wind broke unannouncingly through the forest trees. Margaret left some danger was approaching, and breathed to

heaven a prayer that it might be averted. Suddenly the voices sounded louder and more distinct; as it were from beneath the window of her chamber. Again she listened, with intense anxiety, convinced that several men were conversing, but could not catch a single word. Breathless with anxiety she wondered what object the men could have about the farm at such an hour, especially as they feared to reveal their presence. Suddenly a loud knocking at the door of the farm aroused her from her reflections.

"What do you want? who are you?" demanded the firm voice of the farmer.

"Open, and you will see," was the reply.

"I open my doors only to those I know, and not to ruffians like you, whose faces are masked or blackened. If you want money I will give it you; but if you seek to enter here by force you may perhaps repent it."

"Come, now; let's have fewer words and more to the purpose. Will you open or not?"

"No."

"Bring the ram, then!" exclaimed the same voice.

Four men immediately advanced, bearing a long heavy beam, towards the door. During the short time this party had occupied, Mr. Aubrey had aroused the men servants, who quickly joined their master, each armed with a double-barrelled gun.

Scarcely had they stationed themselves when a heavy blow from the ram, directed against the door, shook the house from top to bottom. The farmer and his servants stole noiselessly to the windows. The robbers were again advancing the beam to bear upon the door, when three well-directed shots brought as many of the assailants to the ground, who rolled in the dust and yelled with rage and pain.

The bandits were dismayed, for they had not reckoned upon such determined opposition. Nevertheless, they took courage at the voice of their chief, who, armed with an iron crow-bar, directed the attack regardless of the murderous fire the besieged again poured forth.

The attack became of a sudden suspended, and quitting their ponderous implement, the brigands turned their attention to their wounded comrades, whom they had placed in an empty waggon. Silence was again established, and the inmates of the farm heard but the retreating footsteps, and the groans of the wounded, which were borne away on the calm night air.

The danger appeared over, and Mr. Aubrey, in whom the animated scene had aroused some latent energy, directed his steps towards his daughter's chamber to calm her fears, when he found the door closed on the inside. At first, attributing this precaution to alarm the attack might have occasioned, he was about to call her, when the sound of a window broken with violence greatly alarmed him. A more horrible scene than he imagined was passing within Margaret's chamber.

Despairing of gaining possession by force of a house so well defended, the chief of the band had sought means of taking the farm by surprise. His attention was called to the log pile near the window of the chamber where Margaret, half dead with fear, anxiously awaited the issue of the attack. The vigorous bandit quickly reached the summit of the pile, which a few feet only separated from the level of the window. Firmly planting his dagger between the bricks of the wall, and placing his foot upon it, he sprang forward, and at one bound gained the window. Confident of success, he turned round and beckoned to his comrades to follow him. A score of men with blackened faces, and armed with deadly weapons, stepped forward to join their leader.

Not a sound was to be heard; Margaret had become less agitated, and was kneeling in prayer, when she was startled by a loud noise at the window, and a horrible countenance presented itself to her eyes.

She uttered a shriek of terror, and, animated by a sudden impulse of strength and courage, sprang towards the intruder. A desperate struggle ensued. The young girl seized the ruffian by his long black tresses, and with a tenfold strength, arising from frenzy, forced him from his hold. He fell, and the whole weight of his body was suspended within the grasp which Margaret maintained of his hair.

The bandits perceiving the peril in which their chief was placed, shouted loud imprecations at the girl, without being able to render their leader any assistance. The strength of both was now exhausted, and the bandit fell heavily and apparently lifeless to the ground.

At sight of this the ruffians decamped from the stack crying out with despair, quickly saved themselves by flight.

When the farmer and Mr. Aubrey entered the chamber of Margaret, after having burst open the door, they found her pale, breathless, and trembling upon her bed, and grasping firmly the black locks of the bandit in her hands. Upon seeking him he had just recovered from the stupor occasioned by his fall. His eye gleamed terribly, and his weakly menacing voice cried faintly, "Give them no quarter—do the house!"

Mr. Aubrey started back with terror at the sound of this voice, but approaching the litter upon which the servants had placed the wounded man, he recognised in the chief of the ruffians, Albert Degreef, his future son-in-law—the affianced of his child.

The numerous crimes committed by this band demanded prompt punishment, and three days after the attack upon the farm, the scaffold was prepared at Brussels for Albert Degreef and ten of his accomplices. He died full of courage and audacity.

A melancholy circumstance terminated the existence of Margaret. From the moment the brigand had been released from her grasp, she became plunged in a deep melancholy, from which she was not aroused until the head of her lover rolled upon the scaffold.

"I know him well," said she. "I had so often caressed those locks, I could not be mistaken. He will seek me to-night; the wedding feast is prepared; the guests will all be heedless; and they tell me his ten comrades will join us."

She died that evening bereft of reason, and with an angelic smile upon her lips.

PRICE CURRENT.

IMPORTED MERCHANDISE.

Table with columns for goods (Ale, Brandy, etc.) and prices in £ s. d. format.

SPIRITS.

Table listing spirits such as Brandy, Rum, and Scotch Whisky with prices.

WINES.

Table listing various wines like Sherry, Port, and Champagne with prices.

TEAS.

Table listing different types of tea such as Hyson, Gunpowder, and Pekoe.

SUGARS.

Table listing refined sugar and other sugar products.

COFFEE.

Table listing coffee beans from Manila and Java.

TOBACCO.

Table listing American, Brazil, and Havana tobacco.

FRUITS.

Table listing various fruits like Currants, Raisins, and Apples.

PROVISIONS.

Table listing meat and other provisions like Mess Pork, Beef, and Mutton.

GRAIN.

Table listing various types of grain such as Wheat, Barley, and Rice.

SOAP, OIL, AND CANDLES.

Table listing soap, oil, and candle products.

METALS, AMMUNITION AND SUNDRIES.

Table listing metals, ammunition, and sundry goods.

PAINTS.

Table listing different types of paint.

ROPE.

Table listing various types of rope.

SUNDRIES.

Table listing sundry goods like Stockholm Tar, American ditto, etc.

COLONIAL MERCHANDISE.

BREAD, FLOUR, AND GRAIN.

Table listing bread, flour, and grain products.

PROVISIONS.

Table listing provisions like Canterbury Sugars, Lumps, etc.

LIVE STOCK.

Table listing live stock such as Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs.

EXPORTS.

Table listing export goods like Wool, Oil, and Cedar.

AUSTRALIAN AUCTION COMPANY.

Notice of a special meeting of the Australian Auction Company.

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AUSTRALIAN AUCTION COMPANY.

Notice of a meeting of the Australian Auction Company.

ARDEN'S SYDNEY MAGAZINE.

Edited by George Arden, illustrated by J. S. Ford.

Number 4, being the number for September, of 'Arden's Sydney Magazine.'

Contents: The New Colonial Constitution, Aerial Machine, Review of the Colonial Markets, etc.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE.

Sydney, 7th September, 1843.

Settlers and other Employers of Labourers in the interior, who may be desirous of engaging suitable persons...

AUSTRALIAN FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Members and the Public are informed that their Spring Show will take place on WEDNESDAY, the 20th instant...

1. That all persons presenting articles for competition must produce their tickets...

2. No member will be admitted to the show as such, unless he has paid his annual subscription...

3. The doors to be open from twelve o'clock on noon, until two o'clock p.m. for the admission of members...

4. That with all articles presented by members for competition, it is required that a correct list of the same shall be delivered to the Secretary...

5. The charge for non-subscribers' tickets will be one shilling for each person...

6. No person will be admitted unless respectably dressed.

7. Members and visitors may receive tickets on application to the Treasurer...

8. All articles intended for exhibition must be in the show-room at latest by eight o'clock a.m. on the day of the show...

9. Permission will not be given for the removal of any of the articles exhibited, before nine o'clock a.m. on the day subsequent to the show.

10. It is particularly requested that no person will touch the articles exhibited, or the cards attached thereto...

11. Members who have not paid their subscriptions are requested to pay them to Mr. J. Rickards...

The privilege of membership is the introduction of their families or ladies at any time during the exhibition.

Richard Hipkiss, Secretary.

ILLAWARRA.

TO LET, the Five Island Estate, near Wollongong, for two or three years.

A mixed herd of cattle, including excellent Milch Cows, may be had at a low valuation with the Farm...

Terms moderate. For particulars apply to Mr. G. Rattray, Bathurst-street West, Sydney, September 4, 1843.

NOTICE.

FOUR SHILLINGS per ton reduction in the price of Coal. It having been clearly ascertained that the remarkably thick seam of Coal at the Ebenezer Coal Works can be worked for centuries without the aid of expensive machinery...

WILLIAM B. ALLEN will exchange one pound of his best colonial soap for one pound of good render's tallow...

NOTICE OF REMOVAL. J. FIELDING, Pastrycook and Confectioner, in returning thanks to his numerous friends and patrons for past favours, begs to inform them and the public generally...

Which was opened on Monday last, the 4th of September, with a varied and well selected stock of bottled fruits, jams, jellies, and marmalades...

J. F. in calling the attention of the public to his REFRESHMENT ROOMS, (to which there is a private entrance from the Theatre), begs to assure them that in this department the convenience and comfort of his customers will receive the greatest attention.

he has secured the services of a first rate cook, and will have soups of every kind, steaks, chops, &c., from eleven o'clock, and hot joints from one to three o'clock, daily.

Tea, coffee, and chocolate, at all hours. Tea cakes, muffins, and crumpets, fresh every day. Bride and Christening cakes always on hand...

Medicines of every kind. Jellies, creams, blanchmanges, custards, &c. Routs, dinners, balls, and suppers, furnished in the best style of art, and on the most reasonable terms.

In conclusion, J. Fielding hopes, by punctuality in the execution of orders he may be honored with, together with civility, attention, and moderate charges, to receive a continuance of the patronage hitherto bestowed on him, and begs to assure his friends that no execution on his part shall be wanting to merit the same.

APARTMENTS to LET in the most central part of Pitt-street, near the Theatre, consisting of four spacious rooms and detached kitchen: excellent water on the premises.

NOW that there is no longer any necessity for the public paying, these hard times, extraordinary prices for TEA and SUGAR. The monopoly of office, like all other monopolies, is found to be based on injustice and selfishness.

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 free 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.

Colonial produce taken in barter, and settlers in dealing will be most liberally treated with.

TO STAND AT GLENLOGAN, Warwick, the imported Cleveland Stallion, PERFECT.

Perfect is a neat and compact horse, stands 15 hands 2 inches high, of a rich bay colour, black points, rising five years old.

TERMS—Mares to be allowed to run one month with the horse in a secure paddock, but without responsibility. Charge, £3 3s. each mare, to be paid on removal.

Glenlogan, August 17, 1843.

ROBT. BARR.

Printed and Published at the OBSERVER'S Printing Office, College-street, (formerly called Jamison-street), for the Proprietor, by ROBT. BARR.

Sydney, September 4, 1843.

Saturday, Sept. 16, 1843.