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TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS:

Those parties who are indebted to the Proprietors of the "Colonial Observer" are requested to take notice, that they will be waited on by Mr. E. FERRIS, (who alone is our authorised Collector,) for payment of their several accounts, whose receipt will be considered a valid discharge, and no other person is authorised to receive any sums due to the establishment.

Our Country friends will have the goodness to forward the amount of their respective accounts, with as little delay as possible, to this Office, or some of our Country Agents.

Mr. R. Stubbs having ceased to be connected with this Paper, all communications are requested to be addressed to the undersigned.

BARR AND KITCHEN.

Colonial Politics.

COLONIAL PROSPECTS AND RESOURCES.

THERE is nothing so interesting in the present aspect of affairs in the European world as the recent application of the American or "Go ahead" maxim to the science and practice of Agriculture. A complete revolution has been wrought in this most important of all the arts or sciences during the last few years; and from recent discoveries on the one hand, and the application of scientific principles to the practical details of the art on the other, the European earth promises to yield an increase, for the rapidly increasing millions of her population, such as has never been realized in any country since the "golden age" of the poets, since the fabled "Saturnian reign." The increased productiveness of the soil for example, arising from mere surface draining in many parts of Scotland, and from the draining of permanent marsh land in the Fenny districts of England would be incredible to a mere Colonial farmer. And the valuable discoveries of the great German agricultural chemist Liebig, who seems all at once to have elevated agriculture into a science presenting as rich and promising a field for future researches as any other in the long list of the *ologies*, conjoined with the vast enterprise of a company in Holland which has undertaken to convert no inconsiderable portion of the salt sea itself into smiling meadows and fields of yellow grain, by pumping out the Haarlemmer Zee, or Sea of Haarlem, demonstrate that the continent is as wide awake on the subject of agricultural improvement and increased productiveness as the agriculturists of Great Britain.

The recent and successful application of the new Peruvian manure Guano in England is perhaps one of the most interesting facts in the history of modern agriculture. Guano is a substance somewhat resembling in appearance the stuff called "Irish Blackguard," and is found in great abundance on certain solitary isles or rocks off the coast of Peru. It is the excrement of the sea birds that have frequented these islands from time immemorial: and whether the use of the wonderfully fertilizing manure which it forms was known to the South American Indians or not, it is certain that it has been long used with the most astonishing results by the Spanish Colonists of that extensive region; from whom the

practice has recently been introduced into Great Britain: by some of our enterprising countrymen who have been residing in that country. For grass or grain crops the guano is sown broadcast in apparently infinitesimal doses over the fields to be subject to its fertilizing influence; but for turnips or other drill-crops, it is deposited along with the seed in the drills. And so wonderful are its effects in imparting a perfectly incredible fertility to the soil, and so vast a demand has all at once sprung up for it in the Home market that upwards of five hundred sail of British shipping are at this moment employed in conveying this valuable manure to Great Britain. Guano islands have also been discovered on the west coast of Africa as well as on that of South America, and the precious deposit is found covering the whole surface of the islands to a depth in some instances of upwards of thirty feet! It was one of the labours of the Grecian Hercules nearly three thousand years ago to cleanse out the stable of a certain ancient monarch by burning a river into it, and sweeping the vast accumulation of valuable manure into the sea: but we are somewhat wiser it seems in our generation than the Grecian demigod; for here are five hundred English Herculeses employed in carrying off a far larger accumulation of a similar kind—an accumulation that had been forming long before the real Hercules was born—not with the view of emptying it into the sea, but to fertilize a distant isle of the ocean far beyond the uttermost limits of ancient Grecian navigation, to provide food for the teeming population of that far-famed isle.

In regard to our Colonial prospects, we are not yet arrived at so advanced a stage in the social progress as to render it necessary to import guano—for there is no question as to there being plenty of it on hundreds of the rocky islets of the vast Pacific—to fertilize our virgin soil; but it is high time that we were looking about us to see what we can raise from that soil to afford permanent and profitable employment for our own increasing population, and to supply us with suitable exports for foreign markets. For as only a very small portion comparatively of our entire population will be required to produce food for the rest, we must devise some way of employing the rest profitably for themselves, and advantageously for the public, as we have no domestic manufactures to speak of. Now it appears to us that there are various articles of produce for which our soil and climate are remarkably well adapted, and the raising of which would not only afford remunerating employment to a large proportion of our Colonial population, but create valuable articles in exchange for British manufactures.

Supposing then that we had a sufficient proportion of our population employed in raising grain and other articles of farm and dairy produce, and that all our sheep and cattle stations were adequately manned, so as to carry on with the requisite efficiency the wool gathering and boiling down processes of the Colony, the culture of the vine and of tobacco would form a highly remunerating employment to a considerable

portion of our labouring population. Our climate and soil are both well adapted for the culture of the vine, and although our good friends the Teetotalists of all classes may shrink back with affected horror at the idea, we are confident that the inhabitants of this Colony will never become a comparatively temperate community till we become a vine growing and wine-drinking instead of a spirit-importing and rum-guzzling Colony. In the Rhenish provinces of Germany, in the vine-growing departments of France, in Italy and in Sicily, where a light wine, manufactured on the spot, forms the common beverage of the country, the people are all temperate compared with ourselves; and when the present race of imported drunkards of genuine British manufacture shall have died off, as they will ere long in the ordinary course of nature, and the Colony come to be inhabited by an exclusively native population, accustomed to the moderate use of a light wine of domestic growth and manufacture, we are confident that the beastly and degrading drunkenness which now deforms it will gradually disappear, and the Colonists acquire the character of a sober and temperate community. Had this country been colonized by French or Southern German immigrants, it would have been a wine growing country long ago.

The climate and indigenous vegetation of this colony are both, it seems, admirably adapted for the rearing of bees and the manufacture of honey. In the cold, bleak climate of Scotland this is generally a very precarious branch of industry, and it is consequently pursued only to a very limited extent. But the facility and comparative profitableness of the employment in this Colony are perfectly astonishing. We have known an instance of a single hive throwing off fifteen swarms, besides two that were lost, in about ten months: and each of these swarms when colonized in due form will produce on an average about thirty pounds of honey and three or four pounds of wax; the little industrious creatures foraging all the while entirely for themselves. The smallest amount of labour is sufficient for the superintendence of a large Colony or rather series of Colonies of bees, and the native trees and shrubs in every part of the Territory are rich in those saccharine juices that supply the bee with the raw material for its valuable manufacture. We see no reason therefore why every cottage in the bush should not have its regular establishment of Beehives around it, and honey and bees' wax be produced in large quantities not only for home consumption, but for exportation. How easily, at all events, might not this interesting and profitable branch of industry be grafted upon every sheep and cattle station in the Colony, thereby relieving the dull monotony of the Shepherd's life, and materially increasing both his innocent pleasures and his gains! There are regions in Europe in which the management of bees forms the principal employment of the inhabitants, the Bee-farmer removing at certain seasons with his whole establishment to the *moors*, as we should say, to allow his diminutive

flocks and herds to browse upon the wild flowers around. This, in all likelihood would not be necessary here, and the pursuit would therefore be the more easy and the more remunerative.

The cultivation of the cotton plant has recently been strongly recommended by a respectable Colonist in the columns of one of our cotemporaries; and as that most important article of produce is raised to a great extent in South Carolina in the United States, of which the climate and soil are pretty similar to those of the District of Hunter's River (the latitude of Charleston, the Port of South Carolina, being precisely the same as that of Newcastle here, although in opposite hemispheres) we see no reason why cotton should not be as extensively produced in our northern settlements as it is in that part of the United States. The cotton bales on the wharf at Charleston reminded us very strongly of the wool-bales here; and as cotton, which is now the staple production of the Southern States of America, is only of very recent introduction, as an article of produce in that country, there is no reason whatever why the same wonderful results as have been realized from its cultivation in America should not also be realized here. No doubt we want the slave-labour of that country, but our incomparably superior climate is far more than sufficient to compensate for any disadvantages arising from that circumstance, if there is any at all. For our own part we should be most happy to see British Colonists setting themselves vigorously towards the production of an article of such indispensable necessity for our manufacturing population at home, by means of free labour in this Colony, of which the soil and climate are so favourable for its growth, and thereby rendering it unnecessary for the British manufacturer to purchase the commodity from the masters of slaves. In fact Great Britain has it fully in her power to deal a heavier blow than has ever been dealt as yet against the whole infernal system of slavery in the United States, simply by extending Colonization to the Northward in this Territory. Let her by all means therefore form a Penal Colony, with this view as far as the labour of the convicts is concerned, to the northward of Moreton Bay. We shall supply them with provisions, and the produce of the labour of the Convicts may do much to pay the whole cost of the establishment.

We had intended to have made a few observations on the capabilities of this Colony for the production of silk, and on the peculiar adaptation of the labour required in that important branch of industry to the circumstances of a large portion of our Colonial population; but having already exceeded our limits we must defer the consideration of this part of our general subject for a future opportunity.

MORE STILLS—On Wednesday week, Capt. Watson went to a house in Jamison street, and seized two stills. A woman was in the house, who said the stills belonged to a man named Webb. On Thursday, the same officer, accompanied by Mr. Cassels, went to the house of Lawrence Carrole, in Bourke-street, Surry Hills, where they seized two more stills, one of 50 and one of 15 gallons. They also made a descent upon Mr. Jones's printing office, in Bridge-street, but after rummaging amongst the type and presses for a considerable time, they walked off without making any discovery.

PUBLIC MEETING ON EDUCATION AT JERRY'S PLAINS.

A meeting was held at Alcorn's Inn, Jerry's Plains, on the 6th inst. according to notification to take into consideration—first, the propriety of petitioning the Governor and Legislative Council for the establishment at that place of a school under the General System of Education as adopted by the Legislative Council. Secondly, to petition the Governor and Legislative Council for the establishment of a Court of Petty Sessions at Jerry's Plains. It had been considered desirable for the convenience of the inhabitants of that very distinct and important locality to be discussed on the same day. The meeting having assembled, James Robertson, Esq., of Plashett, was unanimously called to the chair.

After reading the advertisement calling the meeting, the Chairman said that if any gentleman had a resolution to move, now was the time to do so, upon which Mr. John Robertson rose and said—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen—A resolution in favour of the General System of Education, as adopted by the Legislative Council, having been placed in my hands; to propose for your adoption, it becomes my duty to offer a few remarks in its support. You are doubtless all aware that a select committee of the Legislative Council brought up a report to that body on the subject of education, decidedly in favour of the system known as that of Lord Stanley; you are also aware, gentlemen, that during the period between the committee so bringing the report up and the day appointed for the Council to decide as to whether it would adopt it, a vast number of petitions for and against it were presented: the latter, however, being by far the most numerous. It was opposed on all hands by a great majority of the clergy of the colony, who it would appear from their statements, either did not clearly understand the system, or did not fairly represent it. Gentlemen, it is a system (I believe the only one yet tried) by which all denominations of christians can conscientiously send their children to one general school, no surrender of principle being asked from any; in proof of which, if you will allow me, I will read a short extract from the speech of Roger Therry, Esq., delivered in the Legislative Council, during the late debate upon National Education. The hon. gentleman said, when speaking of Lord Stanley's system, that "No surrender on the part of any class of Christians was required; as it was shown by the evidence of the Rev. Dr. Carlisle, a Presbyterian minister, that the Extract Lessons were prepared, in the first instance, by himself; they were then submitted to the revision of the Archbishop of Dublin, and Dr. Murray; after which, proofs were sent to the Board, for their approval, previous to their being printed." It appearing, however, during the debate, that the opposers of Lord Stanley's System had partially misapprehended the nature of the several denominations assembling at the schools at particular times, for the purpose of undertaking the religious instruction of the pupils, an amendment was proposed by W. C. Wentworth, Esq., which was adopted by the council, and which I will now read:—

1. That this Council having taken into consideration the Report of the Select Committee appointed to inquire into, and to report upon the state of Education in this colony, and to devise the means of placing the education of youth upon a basis suited to the wants and wishes of the community—Resolved, that it is advisable to introduce Lord Stanley's System of National Education into this Colony, with the modification—that instead of the clergy and members of the several denominations being allowed to impart religious instruction in the schools, the children be allowed to be absent from school one day in each week, exclusive of Sunday, for the purpose of receiving such instruction elsewhere; but that all Denominational Schools now in existence, having school-rooms already built, which have been or shall be, within the next twelve months, conveyed in trust for the purposes of the school, and having now, or which shall have within the next twelve months, an average attendance of fifty scholars, shall be entitled to aid from the Board.
2. That in order to introduce this system, his Excellency the Governor be requested to appoint a board of persons, favourable to the introduction of Lord Stanley's National System of Education, and belonging to the different denominations; this board to be invested with a very wide discretion, as to the arrangements necessary for carrying the system into effect; and all funds to be henceforth applied to the purpose of education, to be administered by them.
3. The leading principle by which the Board of Education shall be guided, is to afford the same facilities for education to all classes of professing christians, without any attempt to interfere with the peculiar religious opinions of any, or to countenance proselytism.
4. That the Board be incorporated.
5. That an Address be presented to his Excellency the Governor, transmitting the above Resolutions, and praying that he will be pleased to take them into his favourable consideration, and carry them into effect.

This, then, gentlemen, is the conclusion that our talented and efficient representatives in the Legislative Council have come to. Before moving the resolution now in my hand, I am desirous of making a few observations relative to the petitions which I have alluded to as having been presented to the Council against

Lord Stanley's System of Education. They were for the most part got up by the clergy—than whom for such a purpose a more efficient machinery could not possibly be made use of, possessing as they do abundance of spare time to devote to the collection of signatures, and being as they are, located in almost every district of the colony. Gentlemen, there are strange reports afloat, attributing almost positive misrepresentation to certain rev. gentlemen, in order to obtain signatures to these petitions, and if we may judge of the assertions made use of by them, whilst canvassing for support, and by those made by some of them at a meeting held in Sydney, Bishop Broughton being in the chair, subsequently to the decision of the Council, there can be but little doubt these reports are not wholly groundless. I will, with your permission, gentlemen, read an extract or two from some of the speeches which I have alluded to. I find the Rev. Mr. Walsh saying, when speaking of the system adopted, that "No sacred lesson that when repeated pointed to the evil of some flagrant family sin—conveying an unintended but stern rebuke—nothing of all this, or of the hundred ways in which the same principle of Christian training might be illustrated. No; these were luxuries which the State was not to pay for. People were ignorant—they wanted knowledge—this the State would give them—religion was an old wife's tale, fit for parsons and old women." Before passing to another extract, I will observe that when the rev. gentleman made use of the words "these were luxuries which the State was not to pay for." I think he must have been labouring under an hallucination. The Council have merely transferred the greater portion of the duty of religious instruction to the clergy, who will continue to receive for performing it stipends amply sufficient for their support; and in doing so I think the Council have done the country a service, for at the same time that it provides the children with efficient religious instruction, it provides the clergy with a much more beneficial employment than hawking petitions about the country for any purpose. But to return to the assertions made at the meeting before referred to, I find in the speech of the Rev. Mr. Spooner "The people knew that the scriptures would not be fully taught in the proposed system of education; they had heard that the proposed system was a semi infidel system, and they believed it." Now, gentlemen, in order to give you an opportunity of judging whether the system is as it is represented anti-religious and infidel, I cannot do better than read an extract from the speech of the Rev. Dr. Lang in the Legislature on the subject:—"The principle on which it was founded was to give religious instruction without teaching those matters on which there were controversies—to teach the children those fundamental truths which form the groundwork of Christianity, which were agreed to by Christians of all churches, and which maintained the great facts and principles of revealed religion as recognised by all. But here he must observe, that one or two witnesses before the Select Committee almost disputed that there were such great fundamental principles on which all Christians were agreed. In fact, some of the replies were so singular on that head, that it had been deemed wise by the parties giving them to leave them out of the printed Report. He had asked a reverend gentleman, "whether there were not certain great principles of revealed religion recognised by all, and which served as a basis for their common faith?" The answer was, "that he was not prepared to say there were such principles; he would not say that one truth or doctrine was more important than another." Passing, however, from this point, he would revert to the charge of irreligion and infidelity which had been so recklessly brought against Lord Stanley's System. He asserted, in the most unqualified terms, that the system was founded on the principles of the doctrine of Christ, and in proof of this assertion, he would read a few such Scriptural extracts as were among the lessons appropriated for the schools. The hon. and rev. member then read the following passages:—

Hear, O Israel, the Lord, thy God is one Lord.
God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him, must worship him in spirit and in truth.
There is none righteous; no, not one.
All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.
The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
It is appointed unto all men once to die, but after death the judgment.
God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
God spared not his own Son, but freely delivered him up to the death for us all.
Thou shalt love the Lord, thy God, with all thy soul, with all thy heart, with all thy strength, and with all thy mind. This is the first Commandment; and the second is like unto it. Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two Commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.
Whosoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them.
He hath shewn thee, O man, what is good, and what doth the Lord, thy God, require of thee but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.
Pure religion and undefiled, before God, even

the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and the widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Such were the principles embodied in the books which were read in the schools established under Lord Stanley's System! And yet persons could be found who denounced it as an infidel system, and unblushingly uttered so false, so wicked a calumny. It would be seen that these extracts were taken both from the Protestant and Catholic Testaments, but there could not be a shadow of a shade of difference detected in the meaning, whether the extract was from one version or the other; and surely to Protestants, who themselves used two versions of the Psalms, this could be no serious objection (Hear.) Now referring to the fundamental truths set forth in the passages he had read, and comparing them with the catalogue of names in the first Book of Chronicles, could any one attempt to persuade him that the truths of the one were not of infinitely more importance than the truths of the other. (Hear.) The hon. and rev. member then recounted the circumstances which had led to the establishment of the Martinie System in India, where a General Martin having made a princely bequest to be devoted to education according to the principles of the Christian Religion, the Bishop of Calcutta had claimed for the Church of England the right of appropriating the money. This right had been successfully resisted, and at length Bishop Wilson, although with apparently great reluctance consented to engage with the Vicar General of the Church of Rome, and the Senior Presbyterian Minister, in framing a scheme of religious instruction, which should embody the fundamental principles recognised by the five Christian Churches, namely, the English, Scotch, Roman, Greek, and Armenian, and which should at the same time exclude all points which were in controversy between them. A code of regulations was prepared by them, and from it he (Dr. L.) would read the following passages:—

The following are the main truths held in common, on which the public religious instruction should in your Committee's opinion, proceed.

- 1st. The Being of God; his unity and perfections.
- 2nd. The Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, a revelation inspired by the Holy Ghost.
- 3rd. The Mystery of the adorable Trinity
- 4th. The Deity, Incarnation, Atonement and Intercession of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
- 5th. The fall and corruption of man; his accountableness and guilt.
- 6th. Salvation through grace, by the meritorious sacrifice and redemption of Christ
- 7th. The personality and Deity of the Holy Spirit, and his operations and grace in the sanctification of man.
- 8th. The indispensable obligation of repentance towards God, faith in Christ, and continual prayer for the grace of the Holy Spirit.
- 9th. The moral duties which every Christian is bound to perform towards God, his neighbour, and himself, as they are summed up in the ten commandments, and enlarged upon in other parts of the Holy Scriptures, all based on the doctrines above specified, and enforced as their proper fruits."

These were among the regulations set forth in that general system, and I ask, gentlemen, whether the rev. doctor, is it not a vile calumny to call such a system an "infidel system" (applause) Again, gentlemen, at that meeting and on all other occasions the enemies of the General System have laid great stress upon the fact of so large a number of persons, viz., 25,000, having signed the petitions against it. Now as I happen to know something of one or two of these petitions, I will proceed to shew you the real amount of their value. One of them, that of the Rev. Mr. Cameron, of Singleton, was sent round for signatures by the Chief Constable of Patrick's Plains, who made use of extraordinary misrepresentations to effect that object—one case of which was that of waiting on a Mr. Ward, who is here present, and who at the time the Chief Constable thought was a Protestant, therefore, in order to recommend it told him that it "was a petition against Catholic government." (Mr. Ward here stated that Mr. R.'s assertion was perfectly correct.) Of course, as Mr. Ward happened to be a Catholic, this description did not cause it a very favourable reception from him. Now as Mr. Chief Constable recommended it to his Protestant hearers as being against Catholic government, no doubt he recommended it to his Catholic hearers as being against Protestant government. Another case of, I believe, the same petition, occurred to a man, a Scotch Presbyterian, named McLeod, on the estate of John Smith, Esq., of Birnam Wood. The petition was offered to him to attach his signature, but before doing so, the "canny Scot" enquired what this system of Lord Stanley's was that the clergy were so bitterly opposing; and what think you, gentlemen, was the description given to it on this occasion? why that it was one by which he would be compelled to send his children to a school where they would be taught by Catholic teachers. Yes, that the teachers must necessarily be Catholics, and that the Legislative Council would certainly introduce it if every exertion was not made against it, and upon this false representation McLeod was induced to attach his name to the petition, in which course he was followed by his son or sons. I am sorry I

cannot say which of the two petitions, whether that of Patrick's or Jerry's Plains, received McLeod's name in this way, but certain it is, that one or other of them did so receive it. By the by, it may not be out of place here to say that a very large portion of the persons who signed the Jerry's Plains petition signed the Patrick's Plains petition also, it having been sent to Jerry's Plains for that purpose; and I have no doubt that the Jerry's Plains petition in its turn visited Patrick's Plains for the same object. Now if this system has been extensively adopted in the 25,000 districts, it is not difficult to account for the 25,000 signatures. But, gentlemen, lest there should be any still doubtful as to the real value of these petitions, I will mention the case of the one got up by the Rev. Mr. Cooper, of this place, against the General System of Education. It was, gentlemen, actually and positively signed by some 60 persons before it was written. But, gentlemen, the cream of the thing is that subsequently to the petition of that rev. gentleman being written out, he has avowed that he does not clearly know what Lord Stanley's system is—truly this is the blind leading the blind. Gentlemen, in making these assertions I am truly glad to see that the rev. gentleman is now in the verandah of this house, and that his eldest son is here taking notes of my address to you; I am glad I say, because if I have stated anything that is incorrect, they will have an opportunity of replying to my observations. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, the system has had to contend with the most strenuous opposition from the clergy of every religious body. On this question we find the rival Churches of Rome and England for the first time fighting in the same ranks; indeed from the course pursued by the clergy I begin to think that they must have had a congress meeting, at which I can fancy some such dialogue as the following taking place between the two bishops, and the Moderator—Bishop Polding—I tell you what it is, Broughton, we have been abusing each other so long that the people begin to see from our own arguments intended as attacks upon each other, that we have no right to the patronage and power at present in our hands over the educational establishments which receive aid from the public revenue. Bishop Broughton—Indeed Polding, I believe you are right, we have not acted wisely. The Moderator—Then why not all set to work, and try to keep it among us, and for the future be contented to divide the spoil. Bishop Broughton—Yes, we must do so. The laymen begin to see what they might have seen years ago—namely, that whatever claim we may have to superintend and rule over the religious education of the children of the colony, we can have no possible right to arrogate to ourselves the control of secular education. Still I think if we all put together we may have it our own way yet.—Gentlemen, a great deal has been said about the majority which carried Mr. Wentworth's amendment being simply one. I should not have said anything upon the subject of the subject, had it not at the meeting of the bishop and clergy before alluded to, been made the groundwork of attacking and taunting the members of the Legislative Council who composed that majority. Now, gentlemen, from the ranks of the minority I can select a sufficient number of gentlemen who expressed themselves decidedly favourable to the general system, to make the majority 16 to a minority of 9, and why did they not vote in accordance with their opinions publicly expressed? simply, gentlemen, on account of these petitions, a sample of which I have laid before you, which, had the truth been known at the time, would not have had the slightest weight. (Mr. R. here read extracts from the speeches of R. Windyfer, John Smith, and Charles Nicholson, Esqs., in support of his assertions.) But, gentlemen, were there no other objection to the Denominational System than the extra expense necessary to carry it out, it would be a fatal one. Were that system adopted it would be necessary if all the children were to be provided with education, to establish no less than three schools in this small community, whereas, if the General System were adopted one would be ample. If I mistake not, the grant for 1845 for education is but £7000. It therefore is particularly desirable that the most should be got out of it, and the way to do that is, in my opinion, to establish one general school in each locality. Another great objection to the Denominational System is, that by it it seldom occurs that efficient schoolmasters are appointed—it appears that the only attainment considered necessary by the clergy is a sufficient quantum of subserviency to them. In conclusion I will say to you gentlemen who signed the petition against a General System, do not fancy that because you did so sign it that you cannot now ask for it with anything like consistency—this you can safely; for at the time the petition was placed in your hands, the question was one undecided by the Legislative Council. The General System has now become the law of the land, and you will only be asking for a fair share of the advantages to be derived from it; besides consistency, if carried too far, becomes obstinacy, and if you are inconsistent at least you are so in good company, for it is not many years since Dr. Lang, and Messrs. Saunders, Ross, and Hetherington opposed it as you have done, and since assumed conspicuous places in its support, (the opinions of the latter gentleman have changed within a very short time, I think not more than one month), therefore, when you see such men as these, whose peculiar duty it is to acquaint themselves with everything connected with education, come forward and say, we were wrong, we did not understand the system, it had been misrepresented to us, surely you will not be too stiff-necked to go and do likewise. (Applause.)

At the conclusion of Mr. Robertson's address, of which we give only a meagre outline, it having occupied nearly two hours in its delivery, that gentleman proposed the following resolution:—"That a school, under the General System as adopted by the Legislative Council, is the only one applicable to the circumstances of Jerry's Plains."

Andrew Doyle, Esq., rising to second the resolution of Mr. Robertson, said he did so with much pleasure.

James Cooper, Esq., then coming forward, the Chairman said that he hoped the meeting would give that gentleman as patient a hearing as it had given Mr. Robertson.

Mr. Cooper then said—Gentlemen, it may perhaps be considered presumption in me rising as I now do, a perfect stranger, to address you. But although not known to more than half a dozen persons in the room, he could not sit quiet and hear statements made affecting his father's character as a clergyman. It had not been his intention when he came to that meeting to take any part in its proceedings, but when he heard his father charged with misrepresenting the prayer of a petition, in order to obtain signatures thereto, he felt it his duty to say, that he was quite sure that his father never could have done so, and he thought the Chairman ought not to have allowed Mr. Robertson to make such assertions, that before it was written 60 names had been placed to the petition which his father had prepared, without offering some sort of proof of their being correct. Mr. Robertson said that one of the persons from whom he had received the information was Dr. Jenkins, who he was happy to see was now present, and who no doubt would explain the matter.

Dr. Jenkins said he did not deny that Mr. C., immediately on his return from Sydney, did present him with a paper, on which were several signatures, intended to be appended to a petition to the Legislative Council. The Rev. Gentleman said that he had made a rough sketch of a petition, but had not had time to make a fair copy, as he had just returned from Pitt Town, where he had been seeing his eldest son, who was seriously ill. He assured him that his prayer would be simply to request assistance for the school he had already established at Jerry's Plains. He first demurred signing his name, but on Mr. Cooper's giving him his pledge that that which he had stated should be the subject of the Petition, he without further hesitation did so, having every confidence in Mr. C. as a minister of the gospel, that he would not be deceived; and he was happy to state to the meeting, that notwithstanding whatever they may have been told to the contrary, the Petition forwarded by the Rev. Mr. Cooper, and to which the signatures alluded to were affixed, did only breathe the prayer he had stated.

Mr. Cooper resumed—Gentlemen, when Mr. Robertson commenced his very voluminous speech he promised to make his hearers acquainted with Lord Stanley's System, and although he (Mr. Cooper) would admit that he was as ignorant of that system as his father had acknowledged himself to be, he was sorry to say he was no better acquainted with it now than he had been when he came to the meeting. He (Mr. C.) would appeal to the chairman if it were not too much for Mr. R. to say that the petitions of 25,000 persons were no better than waste paper. The Chairman here said that he did not understand Mr. R. to say that the whole of the petitions were alike, but merely showed that they were liable to suspicion, from the facts he had stated, and was going on to offer his own opinions when Mr. Cooper said that he thought the Chairman's duty simply was to keep order and not to discuss the question. The Chairman said that, having been appealed to by Mr. Cooper he had only done as Mr. C. desired him—further, that he thought that Mr. C. should bring something before the meeting as an amendment.

Mr. John Robertson then rose and said, that he trusted the Chairman would allow Mr. Cooper to go on in his own way. He (Mr. R.) thought that every latitude ought to be given, in order that Mr. Cooper might if possible satisfactorily dispose of the question which he (Mr. R.) had felt it his duty, however disagreeable, to lay before the meeting; and for his part he should be only too glad if Mr. Cooper succeeded.

Mr. Cooper resumed. He thought also that Mr. R. had no right to say that the schoolmasters under the Denominational System were inefficient without being prepared to prove the assertion. His father had been accused of bad faith in misrepresenting the prayer of the petition. Now he did not think that if a dozen persons could be found who would say that the petition was not what they were led to expect it would be—(a voice—"half a dozen to many")—in the whole matter he (Mr. C.) did not consider his father had been treated with proper respect. For his own part he did not stand there as the champion of any sect. He was a member of the Church of England, but he was opposed to all intolerance, and he admired every man who followed up the convictions of his conscience.

Mr. Harpur rose and said that a great deal had been said about the manner of obtaining signatures to petitions; some facts had come to light certainly reflecting no great credit on the parties concerned in their part of the business. But the petitions themselves were introduced in as much mystery as ever. Two petitions had gone to Jerry's Plains, and no one appeared to know what they were about. He could inform them about one which he had been allowed to read by the party into whose hands it had fallen. That which he had seen abused the Catholics, and called them nicknames, such as Romanists—a name which every member of his church felt to im-

ply contempt, and yet strange to say, the names of Catholics had been obtained to this document so culminating their religion, and abusing themselves. He must say that those persons could not know what they had signed—that their signatures, at least, had been obtained by false representations. With regard to the other petition, which it appeared had been signed upon trust, he shrewdly suspected that the object of that was to solicit Government aid to the present Denominational School of the Church of England, on the ground that some children of Catholic parents were attending it. If so, he affirmed that no Catholic would send his child to that school, if he for a moment supposed that the circumstance would be laid hold of to secure its permanent establishment to the exclusion of more liberal institutions; far less give the sanction of his name to a petition which was grounded on such a representation. But there were many Catholics who did not send their children there—and he for one thought that the first adherents to the Catholic religion could conscientiously avail himself of Mr. Cooper's school. In conclusion, he said that whatever might be his opinion with regard to the system elsewhere, he perfectly agreed with the motion of Mr. Robinson—that the General System alone was applicable to Jerry's Plains.

Mr. Jenkins said—It was not his intention on entering the room to take any part in the discussion of the subject before the meeting, but he felt called upon to occupy their attention a short time. He considered that the object of the meeting, and that only for which it was convened, was simply to consider whether a school on the general system was or was not most applicable to the wants of this district. It was not for the meeting to discuss which system would be most advantageous to the colony in general, but which best suited the wants of the children of the inhabitants here. Understanding as he did that assistance from the Government could only be obtained for Denominational schools where the children numbered fifty, however, much he might wish it were otherwise, he was convinced, taking the circumstances of the parents into consideration, that a school on the General System was the only one now applicable to our community. He should therefore support the resolution.

Mr. Chorley, Episcopalian schoolmaster, rose and said—that he did not understand the charges brought against the petitions by Mr. Robertson, but he could assure the meeting that the situation of schoolmaster was not a very enviable situation. He then went into an elaborate account of the profits of the school, wherein he shewed that there was a sum approaching to five pounds sterling due to him, and which, Mr. Cooper's letter, which induced him to come from Sydney, promised would be made up by subscriptions. Mr. Chorley concluded a somewhat lengthy address by again assuring the meeting that the situation of schoolmaster at Jerry's Plains was not an enviable situation.

Mr. John Robertson rose to reply. He had been accused of attacking the character of Mr. Cooper, Sen. This he had no intention of doing: his object was to attack the system, not the men. He thought it extremely unseemly for the clergy to go about with petitions as had been proved to be the case in every district in the colony. It was converting the clergy into a political machine, which, if left alone, would ride roughshod over the liberties of the people. He had never accused Mr. Cooper of breaking faith with the persons who signed the blank form, he had almost called it a petition: his object was merely to show that Mr. Cooper was entrusted to sign a petition against Lord Stanley's System by some 60 persons, none of whom it appeared knew anything about that system. And to make the thing still more absurd, even Mr. Cooper himself was at the time equally unacquainted with it. It had been attempted by Dr. Jenkins to make it appear that the petition alluded to was not against Lord Stanley's System; but if so he would like to know why Dr. did not say so in direct terms, and not go about the bush as he had done. Or why if all was right with regard to these matters did not Mr. Cooper come in and say so; if anything that he Mr. R. had stated was incorrect, it would be the easiest thing in the world for Mr. Cooper to come in and say so. But no, nothing had been said on the subject by any one who could say "I have seen the petition, its prayer is * * * Gentlemen, nothing but positive proof will ever make me believe that the names on that petition are not counted among the much venerated 25,000. Mr. Cooper says that I failed in my promise to shew you what Lord Stanley's system really is. Gentlemen, none are so dull as he who won't understand: I think the extract alone from the able speech of the Rev. Dr. Lang was sufficient for that purpose. He then stated that I have no right to say that the schoolmasters under the Denominational system are inefficient. After Mr. Chorley's address to you, I am quite sure that it is perfectly unnecessary for me to say one word on that subject. Dr. Jenkins and Mr. Cooper had alluded to the school as one permanently established, and so also had Mr. Harpur; he would say that it was merely temporarily so. He remembered when the meeting took place at the church on the subject. Mr. Cooper moved a resolution to the effect, "That the meeting pledge itself to pay the expenses of a schoolmaster and mistress from Sydney," upon which he Mr. John R. moved an amendment to the effect, "that the meeting are opposed to Mr.

Cooper's causing persons as schoolmasters and schoolmistresses to be brought from Sydney, but that that gentleman be empowered to hire persons in the neighbourhood to fill those situations with a salary of £52 per annum for a limited time, so that should the Legislative Council introduce a General System of education, so far as this school is concerned, nothing should prevent it." This was at the meeting, seconded by Mr. Andrew Doyle, and carried by acclamation, so that Mr. Cooper had no right now to lay any claim for the school to be considered an established one. But gentlemen, if it were otherwise it would be highly illiberal, unjust, aye, even dishonest, to ask for this school the support of the State. We all know that there cannot be two schools here, and we also know that the Roman Catholic portion of the community cannot conscientiously send their children to a school under the government of a Church of England minister. Knowing this, gentlemen, and that it will of necessity prohibit the education of the children of our Catholic neighbours, I ask which of you will be found when this meeting is called upon to give its decision to hold up his hand for any thing so thoroughly selfish. Gentlemen, from those of my Catholic neighbours my own religious opinions are wide as the poles asunder, still I am of opinion that in matters connected with the expenditure of public money they have never been fairly treated. You have now an opportunity of showing your sense of justice towards them, and I am sure you will do so; that there will not be of this large meeting one single individual opposed to the resolution which I have laid before you.

The Chairman then put the resolution, and was announcing that it was carried by acclamation, when Mr. Chorley, parish clerk, stated that he was opposed to it, which remark was received by the meeting with immoderate laughter and cheers. When quiet was restored, the Chairman said the resolution was carried.

We have omitted to mention that during Mr. Robertson's reply to Mr. Cooper's speech, Mr. R. said "that a case had just been told him of the manner of obtaining the name of Mr. Owen Hynds to the petition, Rev. Mr. Cooper, and Mr. Copp it appeared entered Mr. Hynds's house, he being from home, and asked Mrs. Hynds if Mr. Hynds would allow his name to be put to the petition. Mrs. Hynds said she did not know anything about it, upon which Mr. Copp in the presence of Mr. Cooper wrote Hynds's name to it."

PORT PHILLIP.

By the arrival of the steamer *Shawrook*, we have received files of Port Phillip papers to the 6th November. The annual election of councillors to fill up the vacancies occasioned by the retirement of one councillor in each ward, had terminated. The successful candidates were Messrs. Fawcner, Johnstone, Stephen, and Beaver. The election of Mayor took place on Saturday last. Mr. Moor, solicitor, was elected to the office, his opponent, Alderman Kerr, having retired from the contest. The Corporation of Melbourne was in difficulties, being in debt to about £38. We subjoin the following extracts:—

The good town of Melbourne was somewhat disturbed from its propriety on Monday morning by the intelligence of warrants having been issued by the Police Bench who it was alleged were about to fight a duel. It seems that Mr. Quarry, the solicitor, had succeeded in detecting an improper correspondence which was being carried on under assumed names between his wife (from whom he is now living apart) and a Mr. Hodgson, formerly an over-the-way neighbour of Mrs. Quarry, at Collingwood. The proofs were so clear from the similarity of the handwriting, and from the fact of the fair one's letters being addressed to the care of a friend of Hodgson's, that no doubt existed as to his being the actual culprit, but when the challenge was given, though he professed his readiness to meet the injured husband, Hodgson denied most positively that he was the party concerned, and finally, on the plea that he had not given cause for offence to Mr. Quarry, he refused to meet him. The fact of a meeting being intended, had, however, spunked out, the solicitor to whom Mr. Hodgson went to have him will draw up, in anticipation of a fatal termination to the rencontre, leaving it his duty to apprise the police of what was in contemplation. Mr. Quarry was apprehended and held to bail on Tuesday, his opponent has not yet been taken, but we should imagine the search for him has not been very strict, seeing there can be no very strong fears entertained of his being likely to commit a breach of Her Majesty's peace.—*Patriot*.

THE LATE OUTRAGE.—Circumstances arising out of the discovery by Mr. Quarry of the correspondence which led to the late contemplated duel having given rise to a suspicion that Mr. Hodgson, the party challenged, was concerned in the late outrage at Richmond, in which Mr. Willmett so nearly lost his life, a private examination of Mr. Marsden, clerk at Mr. James Graham's, who is it seems, a friend of Mr. Hodgson's and a resident in the same house with him, took place at the police office on Thursday, which so far confirmed the suspicions entertained that warrants were issued for the apprehension of Mr. Hodgson, and a man named Alexander Gow, who is in Mr.

H's service, and is supposed to have been the person by whom Mr. Willmett was wounded. Mr. Hodgson has not been found, but on Saturday the man Gow was placed at the bar of the police office charged with the above offence. Mr. Willmett deposed that on the Saturday preceding the attack upon him he saw the prisoner upon his premises, at which time he was armed, and used towards him threatening and insulting language; he followed the prisoner some distance towards Melbourne. The bench remanded the prisoner for further evidence.—*Ibid*.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

By the arrival of the Tamar, at Port Phillip, South Australian news to the 20th October had been received. The massacre of a party of whites was the principal topic; it will be remembered that His Excellency started on a journey of discovery, but he returned to Adelaide, on discovering that the catastrophe had not taken place within the boundaries of South Australia, but in New South Wales. Capt. Stewart and Mr. Eyre are both near the spot, and being magistrates will act with vigor.

There seems little question that the unfortunate individuals so inhumanly massacred composed Mr. Inman's party. The Register says:—

"Our former conjectures as to Mr. Inman's party having proved the victims in this case, have been confirmed by subsequent reports, and some particulars are now added as to the manner in which the massacre took place."

For some days, the natives had been induced to visit the whites by small presents of rice and sugar, but on some ground or other, the whites at length quarrelled with them, and several of the natives were shot. Enraged at this, they watched their opportunity, and surprised the party in the night, throwing over them one of the large nets used for fishing in the Murray, and then rushed on them and waddied them to death on the spot. One of the party only, the natives say, broke through the net, but this man, who, it is supposed, had been acting as a guard, in his flight into the bush received three spear wounds, and has not been seen, or heard of since. The probability, therefore, is, that he, like his fellows, has perished, and that all we shall ever know of this disastrous occurrence must rest upon native testimony.

"Such is our information on the matter, but a contemporary, we observe, supposes the unfortunate party to have been an 'off shoot from some of the stations in New South Wales,' probably driven from their stations by an inundation of the Macquarie marshes. On what ground this conjecture—for it is only a conjecture—is hazarded, we are not informed, but it is certainly at variance with all the accounts that have reached us."

STRANGE STORY.—From information which has been collected by the police, during their recent expedition, we are enabled to furnish our readers with the following particulars of a murder which took place at Yanakilla, about ten or twelve years ago. It appears that a young man of the name of Meredith, son of a wealthy settler of Van Diemen's Land, had deeply offended his father by his follies and extravagances. In consequence of the quarrel, it is said that the young man seized and made off with a schooner belonging to his father. This vessel he sold at some port, where he had got the price in dollars. He then bought a fine ten-oared sailing-boat, and about seventeen years ago, arrived at Kangaroo Island, accompanied by an old man of war's man named Jacobs, who is now on the island, and an American black named Bathurst. The party settled at Western River, where they resided several years, and got a subsistence by contrabanding and by selling. In the course of their expeditions to the neighbouring coasts, they had taken a woman ('Sal') from Port Lincoln, and two lads from Encounter Bay, who acted as their servants. Meredith, we should mention, had latterly become very religious, and was constantly reading his Bible. On one occasion he suddenly determined, very much against Jacobs's advice, to visit the main land. He was accompanied by Sal, and the two native lads. It appears that one of these lads had fallen in love with Sal, and, as a means of getting her, determined to murder his master. The boat put in at Yanakilla Bay, and one day, as his master was sitting on deck, reading his Bible, the native got behind him, and killed him with a tomahawk. This tomahawk was afterwards found by Capt. Martin, with part of the hair and blood still upon it, but it is now lost. About three months afterwards, Jacobs, having found means of communicating with the other islanders, came over with Warland (the Governor), Nat Thomas, and Walker, to search for his master. They landed at Rapid Bay. In approaching, they saw a number of natives on the rocks, who ran off. They were then hailed by Sal, who was also on the rocks, and who immediately came on board. She informed them of the murder, and that she had refused the addresses of the young man; that she had been several times in danger of her life from the young man, and from the other natives, who wished to kill her, to prevent her telling the white man of the murder. She also told that the Encounter Bay blacks had taken Meredith's boat; that it was manned by them, and under the command of one of them (now called Encounter Bay Bob), who intended to go over to the island and murder all the whites. This intelligence terrified them much, and they state that for months after-

wards they lay at night with their arms loaded, and imagined every noise to be the landing of the blacks. It should be observed that then, as now, they were settled at different points of the island. They were afterwards relieved from their fears by hearing that the boat had been wrecked at Encounter Bay. It is said that Meredith "planted" his dollars at Western River, and that the blacks got a few of them which he took with him to the main land. Those "planted" at Western River have never been found. Sal was one of the companions of the prisoners recently captured and is now in jail. She says that she knows the spot where the skeleton of Meredith is. The native who committed the murder is well known at Encounter Bay, and instructions for his apprehension were sent down a few days ago; he is probably by this time in custody. It is stated, with what truth we know not, that an estate worth £4000, and £500 in money, are held by the Chancery Court of Van Diemen's Land, until proof of Mr. Meredith's death is given, and that the property will then belong to the sisters. It is remarkable that this story should not have been before investigated. It may be that the parties who have now given the information, thought it would be of no use, as a native's evidence would not be taken. We believe Sal speaks English uncommonly well, but are not aware whether she acknowledges the obligation of an oath. If she does not, this will probably be the first case in which the efficacy of the Act for allowing native testimony will be tried. The old adage says that "murder will out," and of its truth the present seems to be another most striking exemplification.—*Southern Australian.*

Country News.

GRASSHOPPERS OF THE NAMI, BARWIN, AND LIVERPOOL PLAINS.—We regret much to hear that the rich promise of grass through the summer in the extensive districts beyond the Liverpool Range has been suddenly destroyed by the appearance of immense and increasing swarms or rather host of grasshoppers. They were seen in considerable quantity some weeks ago, and when the heavy rains fell about a month ago it was hoped that they would be all destroyed; but though many young lambs were killed by the rains, and the plains were covered with water, the grasshoppers did not seem at all lessened in numbers, but on the contrary have kept on increasing. They commenced, it seems, on the Liverpool Plains, near Mr. Eales's, and Mr. Loder's stations, and have from thence proceeded half-way down the Namoi; and just recently news has come down that a distinct series of armies has appeared on the lower Barwin and marched up its course, and across from the Big River. It is reported also that a division have come down the Goulburn, a branch of the Upper Hunter, and that some have been seen nearly as low down as Jerry's Plains. Two years ago the same districts were devastated by this scourge, which left only the patches of wild carrot of the all verdant covering of the plains. On that occasion their appearance and disappearance was equally sudden and unaccountable, the only partial explanation of the latter occurring in the case of a large mountain water-hole, which was found so choked up with their dead bodies that a bridge was formed across it, by which a man and a horse actually went over. These grasshoppers are described as from half an inch to an inch and a half long, and flying occasionally in flocks so thick as literally to impede the sight across a valley.—*Maitland Mercury.*

THE BUSHRANGER WILSON.—This notorious bushranger, familiarly known about the Liverpool Range as "Wightman's tailor," has lately commenced his depredations again. About ten days ago a young man travelling on Liverpool Plains was called to remain the night at a station he had called at, for fear of bushrangers, but expressing an belief that there were none about, he went on to the well-known Round Waterhole, near the stations of Mr. Loder and Mr. Eales, to camp for the night. He had hardly made himself comfortable before Wilson baited him up, and took his horse and a few other things from him. Since then Wilson is reported to have taken two more horses from travellers. We have been told Wilson has been out nearly three years, and that for at least two years out of that period he has been within thirty miles of the Commissioner's station. His beat has generally been about the Liverpool Range, and some short distance on Liverpool Plains.—*Ibid.*

SINGLETON.—On Friday last the following sudden death occurred. An elderly man, named Tibbs, many years in the service of the eminent engineer, Mr. Busby, and his wife, in that of Mr. B's son-in-law, Mr. Kelman, of Kirton, while in the act of cutting up a sheep in the store, fell down in an apoplectic fit. When found by Mr. Busby, who accidentally passed the store, life was not extinct, and the proper means in such cases were adopted to save if possible the life of the "faithful steward," but death took place in less than an hour. From the time he was found till he died not a word passed his lips; and whenbled the blood oozed out very sluggishly, and of a very dark color. Those who knew the man were sent him as a thin, spare person, and very unlike one who was likely to die of apoplexy.—*Ibid.*

DUNGOO.—We have the appearance of an abundant wheat harvest, but reaping will be rather late this season. Maize and tobacco are on the stand for want of rain, which has threatened very much the last two days, but it

is feared will blow off again without falling. Grass is also very scarce, and our water holes are all dried up, although the late rains seem to have been general with the exception of this district.—*Ibid.*

TRAVELS OF A LETTER.—In November, 1843, a letter containing two £2 notes was forwarded by a resident in Maitland to Mr. S., O'Connell-street, Sydney, but in directing the letter, instead of Sydney, "London" was substituted by accident, and the letter was posted without observing the mistake. Time passed on, and nothing was heard by the writer of the letter or its enclosures, and various charitable constructions were drawn as to who had got the money. On Thursday morning last the missing letter and the £4 was restored to its owner all safe, having returned from England after a year's absence. The outside was literally covered with notes and hieroglyphics, in the following style, "Try Mr. S., 20, Lemon-street"—Opened by him without observing direction, not for him.—"Try Mr. S., 127, Baggott street"—Not for him.—"Try Mr. S., 123, Parliament-street"—"Not known in Parliament-street."—"Try Dublin"—"Not known in Marlborough-street."—"Try Dublin"—"Not known" &c., &c. It had apparently passed through 16 postmen's hands, there being that number of numbered initials in a column, and had gone on a fruitless errand to several English provincial towns, besides Dublin and London. At length the post office people seem to have given it up in despair, and therefore to have sent it back, with the necessary vouchers for signing a receipt, to the right owner.—*Ibid.*

City Council.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18.

All the members present, with the exception of Councillor Brown, whom business had obliged to go to the Hunter River.

REPORT.

Alderman Maedermott brought up the Report of the Special Committee, on all matters relative to the departments of the City and District Surveyors, which had been submitted to them. Report read and received.

PETITIONS.

Councillor Holden presented a petition from Charles Gray, of York-street, praying that he might be relieved from the payment of double rates of a house in Sussex street. Also, a petition from the inhabitants of Brisbane Ward, praying an abatement of the nuisance and annoyance to which they are subjected by hackney-coachmen. Petition read and received.

Councillor Thurlow presented a petition from the inhabitants of Phillip Ward and Pymont, praying that the steps at the landing place in the former Ward might be repaired, for the accommodation of passengers by passage boats to and from Pymont and Sydney. Petition read and received.

Councillor Neale presented a petition from Ann Wilks, praying for time to be allowed her rates.

REPORTS.

The Town Clerk then brought under the notice of the Council the following reports received since their last meeting, viz:—A letter from the City Surveyor, recommending that three houses, in Lower George-street, should be pulled down, to prevent their falling from their dilapidated and insecure condition, and endangering the lives of the citizens; also, a reply to an application made by the City Surveyor to the City Solicitor, requesting him to proceed against the proprietors, under a certain clause of the Corporation Act, as for the removal of a nuisance, in which the latter officer gives it as his opinion, that, owing to the defective construction of the clause, it could not be made to apply in such a case.

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES. On the motion of Mr. Alderman Wilshire, the whole Council went into Committee for the appointment of members of the Standing Committee for the ensuing year, which were constituted as follows:—

Finance Committee.—The Mayor, Alderman Broughton, and Councillors Agars, Sillitoe, and Holt.

Board of Works, or Improvement Committee.—Aldermen Flood and Hill, Councillors Brown, Little, Jenkins, and Neale.

Market Committee.—Alderman Broughton, and Councillors Driver, Holden, Henderson, and Pawley.

Water Committee.—Alderman Maedermott, and Councillors Smeadme, Fisher, Cowlishaw, Josephson, and Mr. Wilkie.

SALARY OF THE MAYOR.

Councillor Henderson moved that no salary be voted by the Council for the Mayor for the ensuing year.

Alderman Maedermott rose to oppose the motion on the simple grounds that no reason could be given either by the mover or seconder of the resolution, to support it, or induce them to depart from an old-established custom in all corporate bodies which they had already adopted. With regard to the salary, he felt himself at liberty to state, in justice to the present Mayor, that he was perfectly indifferent as to whether any was voted or not, as he would have felt himself had been elected to that office. Perhaps it might be as well to dispense with convivial and hospitable entertainments, where so well calculated to cement and reconcile different parties, and diffuse a spirit of benevolence and good will towards each other among the citizens; but they could not expect that any Mayor, be he ever so wealthy (and none of them were too rich) would put his hands into his own pockets and

draw his purse-strings, in addition to devoting the whole of his time to the public service, for the purpose of accomplishing these desirable ends. He would, with his brother Aldermen, decline to vote on the question.

Councillor Fisher opposed the motion, and said that there was ample room for useful expenditure in charitable donations to distressed persons, who suffered daily from accidents on sea and land, fires, and such calamities. The Lord Mayor of London was expected to be foremost in promoting subscriptions for similar purposes, and always headed subscription lists with a handsome donation; and he had no doubt the great bulk of the salary of the present Mayor would be appropriated to similar charitable and benevolent purposes, for which it could not be placed in better hands than the present Mayor, who had promised, no later than this morning, that whatever allowance might be made during his Mayoralty, should be so appropriated fairly and impartially among the charitable institutions of the city, without giving an undue preference to any one in particular (loud cheers).

Alderman Wilshire opposed the motion. Councillor Holden supported the motion, on the ground that the sum proposed to be given to the Mayor, would be better appropriated in effecting the drainage and other improvements in the city.

Alderman Broughton opposed the resolution. Councillor Fredale moved as an amendment to the original motion, that a sum of £600 a year be fixed for the salary of the Mayor, being the same as it was last year.

Alderman Wilshire seconded the amendment. Councillor Thurlow supported the amendment, and opposed the original motion.

Councillor Coyle moved, as a further amendment, that the sum should be fixed at £500 a year; but as no one could be found to second him, it fell to the ground.

Alderman Flood was, as yet, undecided as to how he should vote until he heard some of the arguments on both sides.

Councillor Jenkins opposed the amendment, and spoke in favor of the original motion.

Alderman Flood moved as a further amendment, that the Mayor, being the first Magistrate of the city, should have a salary of £400 a year, being £100 more than the second Magistrate, who had but £300.

Councillor Coyle seconded the motion. Alderman Wilshire said it would be no saving after all, for he assured them that his Mayoralty cost him £600 besides the £600 he received as a salary (loud cheer).

Councillor Holden said, in reply, he could see no force in the arguments which had been used against the original motion.

Alderman Maedermott repudiated the principle that would give to wealth the precedence over intellectual superiority, and place an ignorant, vulgar, indecent, and illiterate man of wealth (if such should happen to be elected a Councillor) in the civic chair, simply because he could afford to spend £1000 a year.

Councillor Josephson spoke in favor of the first amendment, for £600 a year.

Councillor Henderson declined replying; and the Council divided as follows:—

For the original motion, for no salary, 9
Against the original motion, and for the amendment for £600 a year, 11

Majority against the original motion, 2

POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE.

Councillor Henderson obtained leave to postpone his motion for the abolition of the offices of City and District Surveyor at the termination of the present year, and the appointment of other officers to perform their duties.

DISTRESS WARRANTS.

Distress Warrants were ordered to be issued against sixty individuals for payment of rates. The Council adjourned till to-morrow, at 3 p.m.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

November 15—Shamrock, steamer, Gilmore, from Port Phillip the 7th, Launceston the 11th, Twofold Bay the 13th, and Broulee the 14th instant, with sundries.

November 15—William the Fourth, steamer, 53 tons, Wiseman, from the Clarence River the 13th instant, with wool, &c.

November 15—M itland, 103 tons, Parsous from Port Macquarie the 14th instant, with wool and maize.

November 15—Mary, barque, 364 tons, McDonald, from a whaling voyage, with 1830 barrels sperm oil, out 37 months.

November 16—Jane, schooner, 42 tons, Capt. Steele, from Moreton Bay the 7th instant, with cedar.

DEPARTURES.

November 14—Bee, brig, Captain Unthank, for Wellington, New Zealand.

November 16—William, brig, Capt. Thom, for Launceston.

November 17—Waterlily, schooner, Captain Hoyle, for Hobart Town.

November 18—Sarah, brig, Captain Espinasse, for Hongkong.

November 18—Elizabeth, barque, Captain Jones, for the South Sea Islands.

MARRIAGE.

On Tuesday, the 12th instant, at St. Lawrence's Church, Sydney, by the Rev. W. H. Walsh, A.M., Mr. Henry Ginn, architect, to Jane, daughter of the late W. Balmain, Esq., of H.M. Medical Staff, and niece of W. Cubitt, Esq., of London.

PRICES OF SHARES.

BANKS—		
N. S. W.	£10 to £100 pd.	45 to £50 p. c.
Commercial . .	£5 to £50 pd.	80 p. c.
Australasian . .	£40 paid.	£40 nominal
Union	£25 paid col.	£22
Sydney	£4 to £10 pd.	20 p. c. for 40 p. c. remg.
COMPANIES—		
Union Assur. . .	£6 paid.	20s for £4 remaining.
Gen. Assur. . .	£7 paid.	£5 10s. to £6
Alliance As. . .	£4 paid.	30s. for £2 remaining.
Gas Light . . .	£6 paid.	£5 to £5 5s.
H. R. Ste. Nav. .	£4 paid.	£7

N. B.—These prices include the dividends from the last payment.

W. BARTON, Share Broker, &c. 391, George-street

SYDNEY FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. DIRECTORS, Messrs. T. W. SMART, Chairman. C. KAMR, Deputy Chairman. THOMAS AGARS. THOMAS ASPHALL. THOMAS HOLT, Jun. W. R. SCOTT.

THE liabilities in this Company are limited to four times the amount of annual premiums paid.

A division of the profits (after they amount to £10,000) will be made from time to time amongst the members.

Forms of application for Insurance, and the scale of premiums, may be had at the office.

Also, Copies of the Deed of Settlement, price one shilling.

Office hours, 10 to 4 daily. E. HANCOCK, Secretary. 486, George-street.

BANK SHARES.

THE undersigned has generally for sale and is ready to purchase for cash, bank and other shares at market value.

MONEY, to any amount, on the security of productive estates and of bank shares, at reduced interest.

W. BARTON, Share Broker, &c. 391, George-street.

"CRISPIN ARMS" INN, Clarence-street, OPPOSITE BARRACK LANE.

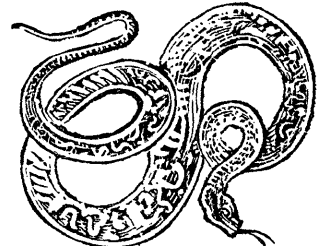
HENRY WINEBERG begs to acquaint his friends and the public in general that he has commenced business in the above well-known establishment, as a Licensed Victualler, and trusts by the strictest attention to his customers to merit their patronage; and supports he can assure them that the whole of his stock has been selected with the greatest care, from the choicest samples, and which, to meet the depression of the time, he is determined to sell at the following unprecedentedly low prices.

Rum Jamaica	0 2½
Brandy Martell's	0 5
Gin, pure Holland	0 5
Whiskey, Irish and Scotch	0 5
Porter London	0 2½
Ale, Burton and other English	0 2½
Ale and Porter	0 1½
Cape Wine (per quart)	0 10
Ale and Porter, Dunbar's (per bottle)	1 0

Always on hand a large quantity of cordials, foreign wines, and liquors, at equally low prices. Good accommodation for country friends. Also, an eight-stall stable, spacious yard, &c., with dry storage, for any description of property. Sydney, November 7.

CONVEYANCE OF WOOL FROM MANTEROO.

ONE SHILLING AND SIXPENCE per Hundred will be the freight from Boyd Pown to Sydney, this Season.



THE Exhibition of the Ouring Outing, or Wild Man of the Woods, Two Anakondas, &c., &c., will be continued at No. 611, Lower George street, for a few days longer, previous to the departure of the Proprietor, at the REDUCED CHARGE OF SIXPENCE. As these are the greatest Curiosities which have ever been exhibited in the Colony, the opportunity now offered of beholding them, should not be lost.

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.
 INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.
 NOTICE is hereby given that Bills on the Court of Directors, London, at Thirty days sight will be issued at 3½ per cent. discount
CHARLES FALCONER,
 Manager.
 Sydney, 14th November, 1844.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE UNDERWRITERS.
PERCUSSION-LOCK GUNS.
EX "DUBLIN."

M. R. SAMUEL LYONS will sell by auction, at his Mart, corner of George-street and Charlotte-place, on **THIS DAY, the 21st INSTANT,** At Eleven o'clock precisely, **JGR in diamond—17, 18, 19—Three cases single-barrelled percussion-lock guns, damaged by sea water.** Terms at sale.

1216 HEAD OF CATTLE, AND 2500 SHEEP, WITH RIGHT OF STATION.

M. R. SAMUEL LYONS will sell by auction, at his Mart, corner of George-street and Charlotte-place, on

TUESDAY, 17th DECEMBER NEXT, At Eleven o'clock precisely, **2500 sheep, more or less, running at Crazier's Creek, Byrton's Plains, in charge of Mr. Henry Wilks, with right of station.** These sheep are known to be of superior breed, and were warranted sound in March last, and there is no doubt of their being so now.

716 head of cattle, at last muster, more or less, under charge of the same person.

ALSO, **500 head, more or less, of well-bred cattle, running in the same district, under the charge of Mr. J. B. Isbell.** Terms at sale.

EXTRAORDINARY FREEHOLD RENTAL. 17 HOUSES,

IN THE HEART OF BRISBANE WARD, Near the "Crispin Arms," **CLARENCE STREET,** Running all the way back **TO KENT STREET.**

PRODUCING MORE THAN £300 PER ANNUM, Payable on demand, £6 1s. 6d. every week.

M. R. STUBBS is instructed by the proprietor to sell by public auction, *On the Premises,*

ON **FRIDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER, 1844,** Sale to commence at 12 o'clock.

THE WHOLE of the above most unexceptionable right, title, and interest, in and to all the Freehold Estate, Houses, Shops, Tenements, Premises, AND RENTS!

Consisting of—
SEVENTEEN FREEHOLD HOUSES, In support of the value of which as a guide for the capitalist to go by, the following roll of tenants is annexed, which taken as weekly payments may be looked upon as a "minimum rental." The absurd "panic" of the day should be rather a reason for investing capital out in good certain return, by rental, than keeping it back upon the prospect of banking profits, which "never can happen again"

RENTS RECEIVABLE.
 IN CLARENCE STREET.
 House and shop, Mr. Hayes, at 15s. per week, No. 1.
 House, Mr. Hayes, at 15s. per week, No. 2.
 House, cabinet-maker, Mr. Dennett, at 15s. per week, No. 3.
 House, Mr. F. Pitthouse, at 12s. per week, No. 4.

IN KENT STREET.
 1. Let to Mrs. Brown, at 8s.
 2. " Messrs. Jackson 4s. 6d.
 3. " Morrison 4s. 6d.
 4. " M'Pherson 4s. 6d.
 5. " Ketter 4s. 6d.
 6. " Donoran 4s. 6d.
 7. " Parrott 4s. 6d.
 8. " Jamison 5s.
 9. " " 5s.
 10. " Hayes 5s.
 11. " Gordon 5s.
 12. " Fanning 5s.
 13. " Tate 5s.

TO THE CAPITALIST.
 Taking this rental as money borrowed on good security, at 10 per cent. only, it is worth £3000 cash; on the other hand, taking it at 5 per cent. the banking scale to which it is fast declining, or a lower interest, **THIS PROPERTY IS WORTH UPON SHEW OF COMMON CALCULATION**

£6000! AT LEAST!!
 AND WILL BE SOLD BONA FIDE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, AT THE TIME AND PLACE ABOVE STATED.
TERMS:—Twenty five per cent. cash deposit, and the residue at three and six months.
TITLE:—First-rate—Grant from the crown.

UNION BANK OF AUSTRALIA.
 NOTICE is hereby given, that Bills at Thirty days sight on the Board of Directors of this Bank in London, will be issued at 3½ per cent. discount.
C. ROBERTSON,
 Pro Manager.
 Sydney, 15th November, 1844.

GOOD Colonial Bills of any amount or date discounted.
CHARLES BEILBY,
 476, George-street.
FOR LONDON.

To sail in the latter end of December, for passengers only, the whole of the cargo being engaged.



THE NEW BARQUE Lanchester.
 George G. Purchase, Commander, has superior accommodation for Passengers.

Application to be made to **BOYD AND CO., or J. T. ARMITAGE AND CO.**

To the Independent Electors of the County of Camden.

GENTLEMEN—In the event of a vacancy occurring in the Legislative Council of this Colony by the anticipated retirement of Mr. Roger Therry, I beg respectfully to announce my intention of offering myself to your notice as a candidate for the honour of representing you in that Assembly.

To the few amongst you, to whom I am not personally known, I feel it more especially my duty to state, that my principles are those of "Progressive Conservatism," or in other words to preserve what is valuable in our laws and institutions, and at the same time to adopt such modifications and improvements as the lapse of time, and the progress of knowledge, may render expedient and necessary.

I shall, as soon as possible after the official announcement of the vacancy, have the honour of personally paying my respects to you.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen, most respectfully,
 Your obedient servant,
ALICK OSBORNE.

Dapto, November 7.
IN THE SUPREME COURT.
 Sheriff's Office, Sydney,
 November 15th, 1844.
DUGUID V. MOUNTFORD.

ON SATURDAY, the 3rd instant, at noon, at *Cross's Inn, Windsor*, the Sheriff will cause to be sold all the right, title, interest, and estate, of the above defendant, in and to all that parcel of Land, containing by estimation fifty acres, more or less, situate in the county of Cumberland, parish of Nelson, colony of New South Wales, bounded on the west by a line south twenty degrees west, thirty-six chains fifty links; on the south by a line east twenty degrees south, eighteen chains; on the east and north by Cattai Creek—which was granted by deed 19th October, 1831, to John Mackenzie.

Also, all that parcel of Land, containing by admeasurement sixty acres, more or less, in the district of Nelson, county of Cumberland, bounded on the north by a line west twenty degrees north, six'y-five chains, commencing at Carol's south east corner; on the west by a line south twenty degrees west, twelve chains; on the south by a line east twenty degrees south, sixty-one chains fifty links; and on the east by a chain of ponds; being the land promised to William Forester, and called Belvidere;—unless this execution is previous'y satisfied.

CORNELIUS PROUT,
 Under Sheriff.

IN THE SUPREME COURT.
 Sheriff's Office, Sydney, November 13, 1844.
 Norton v. Cooper, junior, and Newman.

ON THURSDAY, the 21st instant, at noon, at the London Tavern, (Sydney), the Sheriff will cause to be sold all the right, title, interest, and estate, of the above defendant, in and to nine Houses at Chippendale, fronting Waterloo-street.

Also, All that parcel of Land, containing by admeasurement six acres, three rods, and twenty perches, more or less, situate at Balaunnam, near Sydney aforesaid, bounded on the north west by a road leading from Sydney to Cook's River; on the south-east by property of Mr. James Cobb, deceased; on the north-east by the road to Newtown, and on the south-west by the land of the late Thomas Bodenham, deceased. And also, all that piece or parcel of Land, containing by admeasurement, four acres, three rods, and twenty-five perches, more or less, situate at Balaunnam aforesaid, bounded on the north by other property of the said Joseph Wallford, commencing at the main road from Sydney to Cook's River, being a line of fence bearing east nine degrees south eleven chains fifteen links; on the east by a line of fence bearing south six degrees, thirty five minutes west four chains twenty seven links; on the south by a line of fence bearing west nine degrees north twelve chains fifty-four links to the main road, and on the west by the said main road, four chains forty two links to the commencing point, together, &c., unless these executions are previously satisfied.

CORNELIUS PROUT,
 Under Sheriff.

To the Electors of Port Phillip.

GENTLEMEN—Having in my letter of the 12th ultimo, endeavoured to give expression to my acknowledgments for the honour conferred upon me by my unanimous return as a representative of your District in the Legislative Council, it now becomes my duty to inform you, that from circumstances which you could not have anticipated, that body has assumed its sittings without my being enabled to take my seat.

Nearly two months have thus elapsed, during which many questions of great importance to Port Phillip have been before the council, and the vote and functions of one of your members have been placed in abeyance, by an occurrence for which I hold the Executive responsible, and against which it was the first duty of that Executive to have provided.

Will it be believed in Downing-street—for already it is a subject of ridicule in the streets of Sydney, that six weeks have passed away, during which, owing to a pitiful and mis-directed economy, and the absence of common precaution on the part of those whose duty it is to look to such matters, all regulated intercourse by land, between this, and the most important district of the colony, has been suspended, and public and private interests exposed to an amount of inconvenience and injury that must have been attended with the most disastrous consequences, but for the existence of the communication by steam under an arrangement of my own. And to encourage which you so liberally taxed yourselves with 1s. extra postage—not one farthing of which has been paid by the Government up to this day.

In the ordinary course of mercantile transactions, if a bill of exchange is forwarded, a duplicate, and frequently a triplicate, is despatched by a different conveyance; yet that common caution which actuates men in commercial affairs, it appears in your case was considered extra-official, for I ask, was it not the obvious duty of the functionaries on the spot, on hearing of the loss of the mail containing the Writ, to have forwarded by the Shamrock, steamer, then about to sail, the best secondary evidence of the fact of my election that was available, but no—this would have exhibited a violence of zeal scarcely to be expected under the circumstances; and the electoral privileges of the district were deemed matter of too trivial importance to suggest the necessity of any extraordinary proceeding. Nor can I learn, although the Shamrock has made several trips since the election, that any such secondary evidence even yet has been heard of.

Whilst, however, I animadvert, as I feel it my duty to do, upon the conduct of those, to whose neglect I cannot but consider my exclusion from the council ascribable, I would remind you that the same which is matter of accident to-day, may be rendered subservient to design to-morrow. I confess that I can entertain but little hope of reform under present circumstances; and would, therefore, regard the transaction to which I have called your attention, as another cogent illustration of the imperative necessity of separation, which should operate as an additional stimulus to still more vigorous and unceasing exertions on our part until that paramount and vital object is achieved.

You will have already heard no doubt that the question of my election has been referred by the Executive to the Legislative Council, and a select committee appointed to hear evidence of the fact. I cannot conceal from you, however, that I consider this proceeding a solemn absurdity, devised at the eleventh hour; and the more so when I recollect that on a late occasion, when the presence of two official nominees of the Crown was considered essential in the Council—mere technical objections were not allowed to prevail, and the suggestion of your reverend and able member was gladly seized to leap over the gate, which could not be legitimately opened.

There is another point to which, from a careful review of the proceedings of the late session, I feel it my duty briefly to advert, namely—the necessity for better combination and application of the strength which the Port Phillip members possess in the council, and the advantage likely to result from a different course of tactics than those they have hitherto pursued. During the course of the session, I observed that whilst on most occasions they assisted by speech and vote the objects of other Representatives respecting particular districts, no reciprocal or corresponding support was exhibited when questions relating to Port Phillip came under discussion, and your members have frequently led to fight their own battle, without the aid or sympathy of those upon whose assistance they ought to have counted. From some experience, therefore, of the manner in which Parliamentary majorities are worked out in the mother country, I am of opinion that the members for Port Phillip should in future husband their strength in order to render that strength effectual, and by a well directed course of action, I feel assured that they would soon attain a formidable position in the Council, and be enabled to effect an amount of practical good for the district, which they could not hope to accomplish otherwise.

I have already informed you with that candour which was due to you, that it would be

out of my power to devote much of my time the business of the Council, and in announcing to you, therefore, that it is my intention at a distant period to proceed to China for a short time, it will be for you to consider whether you should continue the trust which you have done me the honor already to confide in me. I must explain, however, that the object of my voyage is one which, if successful, cannot fail ultimately to prove most beneficial to Port Phillip in its commercial, pastoral, and general interests, being for the purpose of endeavouring to introduce amongst the Chinese your staple commodity, Wool—and opening a market with that nation, whose people are no less remarkable for their industry than their ingenuity.

In this enterprise I am greatly encouraged by accounts from some of the northern parts of China, to which, some time ago, I sent samples of Australian wool, and where, although it may not be immediately adopted as an article of manufacture, it is still highly approved of, and regarded by the Chinese as preferable to cotton as wadding for winter clothing. Indeed, when I consider the vast population of China, the nature of its climate, and the applicability of our wool to all the domestic wants of its inhabitants, I feel confident that ere long we may look to that country as an additional mart for the sale of our produce, in exchange for which if we were only to obtain their teas, an incalculable benefit would result from our being enabled to retain that circulating medium which has been often so fatally withdrawn for foreign objects, at the sacrifice of our commercial prosperity.

After my return from China my departure for England cannot be long postponed, and should I still occupy the honorable position in which you have placed me, it will then be for you to determine how far my services might be advantageous to the district as its representative in London, and whether my instrumentality might not be more efficaciously employed there, in obtaining relief from those grievances of which you complain, than in vain appeals through the legislature to an obdurate Executive. You have already had experience that there is little hope of redress from the local authorities, and must feel convinced that it is from the home government alone our remonstrances are likely to meet with a satisfactory response—viewing also the magnitude of the all absorbing question of Separation, and the necessity of properly demonstrating to His Majesty's Government the expediency and justice of that measure, I feel assured that if personal advocacy of one having the interest of the District sincerely at heart, would I productive of the best results, and with the co-operation of our new Parliamentary agent the Honorable Francis Scott, and those members who are already associated with him on behalf of the colony; I should hope that the day of your liberation could not be long delayed.

I feel it my duty to submit these matters to your consideration; and trusting that whatever may be our future relations, you will always consider me the true and devoted friend of your interesting District and its people.

I have the honor to remain,
 Gentleman,
 Your faithful and obedient servant,
B. BOYD.

HARP AND SHAMROCK.

THE undersigned begs to inform his friends and the public in general that he has taken that old established house, known by the sign of the

HARP AND SHAMROCK,
Corner of York and Market streets,
 and is NOW OPEN, with an Entire New Stock, where he hopes, by keeping a really good article, combined with attention and civility, to merit a share of public patronage.
R. LOWATER,
 Harp and Shamrock,
 Corner of York and Market streets
 November 16, 1844.

CROWN AND ANCHOR GEORGE STREET.

(CORNER OF MARKET-STREET.)
THOMAS HAKER perceiving his neighbors so frequently talking about their English SPARKLING CHAMPAGNE ALE, and sometimes venture to say it is TOO GOOD, and although he cannot aspire to this high character, still he does presume to say his **DRY'S COLONIAL ALE** equal to the best Champagne ALE.

T. B. begs respectfully to invite his friends and others interested in the welfare of the Colony to taste and try his famed Colonial ALE. He begs also to return his grateful acknowledgments to the public for the support he has already received at their hands, and trust he will ever merit a continuance of their much esteemed favours.
 12th November, 1844.

TO BE SOLD, by private treaty, 30 acres of LAND at Mangrove Creek, county of Northumberland, one mile from the River Hawkesbury; has water frontage, a run for small herd of cattle, and a great portion of the land is of the richest description, at present let on a clearing lease of three years, from the 5th of June, 1844. Title, purchase from the crown.
 Apply (if by letter post) paid to A. B. at the printer's.

MR. ANDREW BENT.

Many of our readers are aware, that one of our contemporaries recently inserted a very lengthy article respecting Mr. Andrew Bent, late Newspaper Proprietor of Van Diemen's Land, in reference to a pamphlet which he had just completed with his own hands, appealing to the sympathies and benevolence of the public, for relief for himself and destitute family. From what we know of Mr. Bent, we do hope his appeal will not be made in vain; but that it will be the means of affording him something like substantial relief, and thereby enable him to resume some kind of business, for the support of his family. Indeed we cannot but be thinking, that the very names of the distinguished personages in the list of subscribers, which is headed by His Excellency the Governor, Sir George Gipps, all the Honorable the Judges of the Supreme Court, including Mr. Justice Stephen, being no less than five in number; several of the Legislators and Clergy, as well as the Worshipful the Mayor and Aldermen of the Colony, will be considered as a sufficient inducement to the Tasmanians to follow the benevolent example of the Australian community. For it must yet be well remembered, that his past services in Van Diemen's Land, in having always kept in view the furtherance of literature and in advocating the cause of Freedom, point him out as the man to whose call the people there, especially the old Colonists, should respond. He has spent his best days in promoting their welfare and interests, having commenced his public career in that Colony as the Founder of its Press, and has in consequence been designated by his brother Contemporaries as the "Tasmanian Franklin," and is now the Father of the Press in these Colonies—the *Colonial Times*, which he commenced 1816, being still in existence, and now the oldest Journal therein. The present misfortunes of this original Printer in the Southern Hemisphere, may be fairly traced, if not ascribed to the unvaried persecutions he suffered, and the losses he experienced, as a public Journalist, in the sister Colony, and to these considerations, in connection with the present distressed circumstances of his numerous family, sufficient to awaken a feeling of the sincerest sympathy and benevolence in the breasts of all who have any knowledge of him and his affairs, and his wife and children in Van Diemen's Land? Most unquestionably. In the early and dark days of Tasmania, he fought his battles manfully against oppression and injustice. It was in those days of despotism, when no one could write on political subjects without certain injury to his fortune, and at so small risk of personal liberty. It has been said by one of our present Australian Legislators, Dr. Bland, that no man could form an adequate conception of the danger which every man is in fighting the battles of his country in those times. And it has with equal truth been said by a Tasmanian Legislator, Mr. Gregson, that the enemy of the Press in those days could always strike—as he did strike that talented gentleman himself, without showing his hand or his weapon, when it suited him to conceal them! All who ventured to connect themselves with the Free Press of these Colonies in those days of oppression, as Mr. Wentworth not long since justly remarked, "became marked men—not only by those who were connected with the Government, but also by those who had anything to hope from it." This learned and honorable Member of our Legislative Assembly has also said, that the professional losses, as the leading Advocate of the Australian Bar, had been upwards of £5000. Dr. Bland, the other Member for the City of Sydney, has also stated, that he, too, had formerly experienced incarceration for twelve months, for merely writing and publishing an article, in which this accomplished scholar and distinguished Legislator, says, "there was not one line that was not undeniably correct, or one word of a stronger description than what appears daily in the discussion of mere abstract questions." Mr. Bent, (in like manner with the before-mentioned gentleman and Mr. E. S. Hall, of great political notoriety in Wales, who conducted his own spirited Journal, the *Sydney Monitor*) has also suffered greatly in his pocket and person, for his efforts to support that dearest of all rights—the Liberty of the Press. In the same fearless cause of freedom, Mr. Bent suffered by imprisonment and fine four several times, losing thereby fall £5000*

* And another £1000, or thereabouts, just previously to his departure from Van Diemen's Land, owing to his adherence to the political writings of a party of three gentlemen, comprising Messrs. Roderick O'Connor, James Hackett, and T. W. Rowlands; which led to the wanton sacrifice of all his splendid property at a Sheriff's sale, for one third less than what had once been offered and refused for it, £5000; although those gentlemen (as the authors of the publications for which Mr. Bent was imprisoned) were prosecuted, and had paid, as they were bound in honor to pay, the full amount of damages and costs consequent on their own several writings, by which Mr. Bent and his family thus greatly suffered, and to which their present misfortunes, and severe distress, may be fairly traced, if not in a great measure ascribed. The names of the two persons who were the direct cause of this unequalled sacrifice of property, whereby they succeeded in ungratefully turning the mother and her ten children out of house and home, after clapping the father in Gaol, and thus securing the whole of the estate to themselves at their own price, we forbear to mention; because Mr. Bent himself intends to make their "shameful conduct" the subject of an appeal to their own feelings, and in the

The ancient triumph and sufferings of those patriots are on record. Those that are now amongst us, need only refer to the history of the last twenty years, to find that they have each "Done the State some service." We are induced to make these remarks, because we regret to hear that existing circumstances have at length necessitated Mr. Bent to forward nearly one hundred copies of his Pamphlet, for more extended circulation, to Van Diemen's Land, where there can be no doubt his appeal will be spontaneously responded to by a sympathizing and benevolent public—a character proverbial amongst the Tasmanians. We shall admire the generous spirit that will be manifested by them; and doubt not Mr. Bent's appeal to that Colony will meet with the warmest support of its *Benevolent Press*, by its Conductors lending their editorial aid to the Founder of its Press, now that he is in such very great distress. They need only refer to the columns of his own Journal, to find how Mr. Bent used to afford his editorial aid, upon all similar occasions in Van Diemen's Land. They will perceive whole columns of charitable advertisements inserted gratuitously, in his paper of December 9, 1825, while his own name appears in the preceding number, as a very liberal benefactor, with those who testified their public admiration of the courage with which Lieutenant Gunn pursued his object, in endeavouring to exterminate a lawless Banditti of Bushrangers, and their sincere sympathies for the misfortune to which his patriotic exertions had subjected him in the loss of his arm, and that most esteemed gentleman received nearly £400, in subscriptions of £5 and upwards each. The Press and the People of Van Diemen's Land, with a compassionate feeling for the misfortunes and extraordinary sufferings of Mr. Bent, will therefore, it is to be hoped, now reflect if such considerations, and the blessing which has thus been bestowed on him and his large family (for their names and contributions also appear in many of the Annual Reports of the Religious and Charitable Institutions in the Colony, of which they are all natives), will not be worth attending to, in following the example of this old and much-respected fellow Colonist, and his deserving family—deeds that will ensure the approval of their own hearts, and meet a just reward hereafter. We have already said, that it will be recollected, that Mr. Bent was the Printer of the first newspaper in Van Diemen's Land—a Journal now established 32 years. There, he also commenced the first Free Press. His labours, his press, and his family, must yet be well remembered. A benevolent Press, and his friends in that Colony, will no doubt assist him to the utmost of their power, under his "present misfortunes, which." His Honor Mr. Justice Stephen, one of his most liberal benefactors, in a letter to Mr. Bent, says, "I do not really believe are not fairly attributable to any act or omission of your own." Indeed, the testimony of the learned Judge, as to Mr. Bent's reputation, shows the first qualities of a compassionate Judge, and that His Honor, who was recently appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New South Wales, possesses a heart ever ready to execute the duties of a sympathizing mind—such as may be truly styled a man of feeling. For Chief Justice Stephen says, in his letter to Mr. Bent, "I congratulate myself that you have known and felt, that I should not withhold it from you," and as one of this Judge's numerous acts of kindness and humanity to real objects of commiseration (so well known that they have become proverbial in New South Wales), and with usual replete with sentiments of pity, he concludes by saying, "I shall be glad to hear of your better fortune at this time." These circumstances that clearly show, that although Mr. Bent, as a public Journalist, was opposed to Mr. Alfred Stephen, in his official capacity as Attorney-General of Van Diemen's Land for many years, and notwithstanding he felt it his duty to commence criminal proceedings against Mr. Bent, for articles inserted in his Journals, His Honor now evinces by his generous acts towards him, that no ill-feeling lurks in his breast, on account of such occurrences; for he says, "They are now past, and of course forgotten." These noble traits in the character of Chief Justice Stephen, will surely be appreciated by every feeling mind in Van Diemen's Land, where Mr. Bent and his family are well known.

We cannot help repeating, that we shall event of such proving unsuccessful, it will then form one of the grounds of an Appeal to the sympathies and benevolence of the Tasmanian Public; especially as Mr. T. Y. Lowes and Mr. C. J. Stracey, the two leading Auctioneers of the Colony, and Mr. John Dunn, the Managing Director of the Commercial Bank, can bear testimony to the truth of such forced sale and sacrifice of Mr. Bent's property, as being unnecessary, unprovoked, and totally unequalled, for and as existing circumstances subsequently clearly and legally showed. The sufferings of his family on that memorable occasion will, no doubt, if circumstances shall render them necessary to be so published, as they have already been committed to writing, awaken a feeling of compassion in the most savage breast. The ingratitude of those who were the direct cause of such sufferings, and consequently in a great measure of their present distress, cannot now, we imagine, arrest their charity. For humanity alone will tell them, that their aid will meet with the approval of their own hearts, and that anything like substantial relief at their hands will thus be the means of cheerfully suppressing that feeling of necessity which forms one of the grounds of a public appeal, by its notification, for the benefit of the sufferers in their distressed circumstances.

much admire the generous spirit that may be manifested by the Tasmanian public; which we doubt not will, as we have before said, meet with the warmest support of the gentlemen of the Tasmanian Press. For its benevolent Press, like Hope, the medicine of distress, will be soothing to the sorrowful hearts, if not happily the means of considerably increasing the amount of relief, and thus render a benefit to an old and respectable Colonist, and his distressed and interesting family, who deserve well of that public. For he who lends his editorial aid, or advertising columns, to alleviate the wants of the oldest Journalist in the Southern Hemisphere, will be the greatest benefactor. Without looking to the highly flattering tributes of applause, which many of them have themselves bestowed on Mr. Bent's labours, as the Founder of the Tasmanian Press, or at the tributes of respect and regard that have been manifested by them and other writers towards his family upon numerous occasions, as are briefly quoted in his Pamphlet, we are confident we may appeal to the public Journalists in the sister Colony—not only as generous Editors, but in every other situation in life—as Fathers, as Husbands, and as Men—to look kindly on those who have, by their industry and attention, brought up a numerous family in a manner very creditable to them. They have eleven children, who, with one exception, were all born in Van Diemen's Land. "By the creditable manner in which she has brought up a large family of daughters," says one Rev. gentleman, who has known them for 23 years, "Mrs. Bent has approved herself a pattern of domestic order, and good management."

We can only now add in conclusion, that if Mr. Bent's appeal shall be generally read in Van Diemen's Land (and its press will doubt render him every possible assistance to effect that desirable end), we are led to believe, that he will not be considered to have been an useless member of society in that Colony, and that the same will have its desired effect. In giving their donations by editorial assistance, which their generous feelings may prompt them to contribute—and this is undoubtedly one of the best methods of publishing to their fellow-colonists the humanity of their dispositions—we need scarcely remind them of the advantages upon this description of Aims-giving. For, "Benevolence should be cultivated in every noble mind, as there is nothing so conducive to permanent popularity as a proper exhibition of this enchanting sentiment." The columns of a newspaper afford a fine opportunity for the exhibition of charitable examples, whilst the publication of your name in conjunction with ten and sixpence, not only tends to relieve the distressed, and to stimulate the more sluggish sympathies of others, but also to exalt yourself in the opinion of your fellow creatures." We agree with the benevolent writer from whose publication we make this extract, that "Giving aims in private is far from commendable, for every one must be well aware of the social value of example. Who therefore can be justified in hiding his candle under a bushel?" And who therefore amongst the Gentlemen of the Press in Tasmania, as all those in Australia have already done, will not now endeavour to help, and urge others to assist, a Brother Printer in distress; and that one, too, the Father of the Press in these Colonies?

With these sentiments, it is to be hoped, that many will be found in Van Diemen's Land, who will imitate the philanthropy of Chief Justice Stephen. It is such men as extend their compassion to all God's creatures in distress. But as there are some in this, as well as in every other part of the world, whom we frequently see pour forth a torrent of eloquence, in declaring their inability to render a service at a critical moment, and make a reverse of a small donation, by attaching an *if* to their managing promises, we do hope that the feelings of commiseration will be roused upon this particular occasion. For independent of what has been advanced as to his claims upon his Tasmanian fellow-colonists in the hour of his distress, they may be assured that their bounties will not be thrown away, but devoted to a useful end—an end that will record their beneficence to posterity. But Tasmania can nevertheless feelingly weep with the distressed, and be now moved with compassion for the Founder of its Press. Her feelings will be manifested by actions, not by words, in relieving the wants of Mr. Bent, for the support of his family, who, it is generally acknowledged, deserve well of this, and especially of their country. They know, as a celebrated and benevolent writer says, "that there is a charm in benevolence of so powerful a nature, that, while it works upon the sensibility of those on whom it is exercised, gives peace and satisfaction to those who practice it; and relieves them in a great measure from the weight of worldly cares, to which every human being is subject. It expands the heart, frees it from all selfish views, and disposes it to enter into the griefs and joys of others. In short, a benevolent mind is one of the greatest blessings bestowed on man. It leads to a constant discharge of social duties, though ostentation, but for conscience sake. The person who possesses it feels a satisfaction within, that wealth can never purchase. Our lives may be made happy by promoting the happiness of others, whether we be rich, or whether we be poor. A compassionate feeling for the misfortunes of our fellow-creatures, will prompt us to comfort the afflicted—to instruct the ignorant—to correct offenders—and to counsel the ungodly—deeds that will serve as letters of credit, when we reach our destination, and contribute to make us happy in the mansion prepared to receive us at the end of our journey, though we may expect but little benefit from them in this

nether world. Can advantages of a sublimity nature be put in competition with these? Reader, reflect if such considerations be worth attending to; and let not the ingratitude of man arrest thy charity, check thine hospitality, or retard the generous purposes of thy soul. The recording Angel will fly with the register of thy deeds to Heaven, and there thou wilt meet a just reward."

Select Poetry.

RURAL SONNET.

FEBRUARY.

Crowned with the crocus, and the snowdrop while,
And sprigs of acornite of golden hue,
Ere yet the mallard duck had 'a'en his flight
To far-off lands, his wild haunts to pursue,
Lo! February comes, with cold ungenial beams,
Altho' the sun's increasing heartfelt beams,
Wake vegetation from its seeming death
To budding life, with which vast nature teems.
Now from the branches of some far'rite tree
The thrush's mellow song, borne with the gale,
Or blackbird's merry notes, with thrilling glee
In deeper tones re-echoes thro' the vale.
The more we Nature's mysteries explore,
The more we ponder, wonder and adore.

WILLIAM TILLEY.

THE TRAINING OF CHILDREN.

In one of the intervals of relaxation allowed in the Glasgow Training School, two boys, while at play quarrelled with each other, and from words they soon got, as is frequently the case, to blows. The master did not take notice of it particularly at the moment, but, at the proper time, calling the school to order, he formed the boys into a circle, with the two delinquents in the centre, and instituted a sort of trial, in which it was elicited chiefly by the boys' own admissions, that they were very angry—that they struck each other—that the blows were given not with the open hand, but with the clenched fist—that they were aimed at the head and eyes, and that they were intended to hurt. These facts having been established, the master described to them in a plain and simple manner, the structure of the human eye—the care which had been taken by the Great Creator, for the defence of this most beautiful part of his works—how he had enclosed it nearly all around, in a strong bony case or socket, and for its protection in front, had provided it with a delicate membrane, or lid, which by being frequently swept across its surface, preserved it constantly bright and clear, and prevented the smallest speck of dirt or dust from lodging upon it and irritating it; and, for its further protection, he had placed the eye-lashes like a hedge, around and above it, that not even a drop of perspiration might fall upon it. If God, then, had been so careful of the eye, how sinful must it be, and how offensive to Him, that any of his creatures should endeavour to injure that, over which He had shown such a watchful tenderness. He then adverted to the hands, and explained the uses for which the various other members were intended. Then, appealing to the boys what should be done to the offenders? He said—they had souls as well as bodies—if he caned their backs, it would not change their hearts—he feared, if he flogged them, it would make very little improvement in them—they would still have the same bad feeling towards each other; God alone could change their hearts. Something, however must be done—"Boys! what shall we do? I leave it to you." A pause ensued, at the expiration of which, the boys, who had become very serious upon the matter, replied—"Pray for them, Sir." The master agreed that that would be the better way, they all knelt with the exception of the two offenders, who were desired to remain standing; the master offered a short but fervent prayer for the lads, and requested a visitor who was also present, to pray for them. When they arose, he took the two boys, and addressing them individually, said—"Salmon! will you forgive Burton?"—"Y-e-s, Sir." "Burton! will you forgive Salmon?" Hesitating, he replied—"No." "Well," said the master, "I am very sorry to hear you say so, but I cannot help it; I cannot make you forgive him." He then talked with them on the sin and wickedness of indulging a spirit of revenge. The boy seemed to feel it, and the master again said—"and won't you forgive him, Burton?" After a pause, he said—"Yes, I will." "When God forgives us," the master replied, "he makes us know it," and after briefly explaining to them the doctrine of the Witness of the Holy Spirit, he told them, that when reconciliation took place between men, who had been at variance, it was customary for them to signify it by shaking hands together, and invited them to do the same. Salmon held out his hand, but Burton was still backward; but at last he did put it out, and the other shook it heartily. Burton's heart then seemed relieve of a load—a smile passed over his countenance, which was instantly followed by a gush of tears. The other boys were affected with the scene, and a general weeping showed the emotions of the youthful hearts. The master struck up a lively tune—the boys caught it, and joined him in singing of an appropriate hymn which they all knew, and returned to their lessons cheerfully and happy.

THE MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

The miracle of the annihilation of space is at length performed. The *Baltimore Patriot* of Sunday afternoon, May 25th, contains the action at Congress up to the moment of its going to press—received from Washington by Magnetic Telegraph Despatch. The *Patriot* says: Morse's Electro Magnetic Telegraph Despatch now connects between the Capitol at Washington and the Railroad Depot in Pratt, between Charles and Light-streets, Baltimore. The wires were brought in yesterday from the outer depot and attached to the telegraph apparatus in the third story room in the depot warehouse building. The batteries were charged this morning, and the telegraph put in full operation conveying intelligence to and from the Capitol. A large number of gentlemen were present to see the operations of this truly astonishing contrivance. Many admitted to the room had their names sent down, and in less than a second the apparatus in Baltimore was put in operation by the attendant at Washington, and before the lapse of a half a minute the same names were returned plainly written. At half-past 11 o'clock a.m., the question being asked here, "what the news was at Washington?" the answer was almost instantaneously returned, "Van Buren's Stock is rising," meaning of course that his chances were strengthening to receive the nomination on Monday next. The time of day was also inquired for when the response was given from the Capitol—"forty-nine minutes past eleven." At this period it was also asked how many persons were spectators to telegraphic experiments in Washington? the answer, "sixteen." After which a variety of names were sent up from Washington, some with their compliments to their friends here whose names had just been transmitted to them. Several items of private intelligence were also transmitted backward and forward, one of which was an order to the agent here not to pay a certain bill. Here, however, the electric fluid proved too slow, for it has been paid a few minutes before. At half-past 12 o'clock the following was sent to Washington, "ask a reporter in Congress to send a despatch to the *Baltimore Patriot* at 2 p.m."—about a minute the answer came back thus—"It will be attended to." 2 o'clock p.m.—The despatch has arrived, and is as follows:—One o'clock—There has just been made a motion in the House to go into Committee of the whole on the Oregon question. Rejected—yeas, 79; noes, 89. Half-past one—The House is now engaged on private bills. Quarter to two—Mr. Atherton is now speaking in the Senate. So that we are thus enabled to give our readers information from Washington up to 2 o'clock. This is indeed the annihilation of space." The *Clipper* of Saturday contains the following information regarding the construction and working of the Telegraph:—

The wire (perfectly secured against the weather by a covering of rope yarn and tar,) is conducted on the top of posts about twenty feet high, and about 100 yards apart. We understand that the nomination on Monday next will be forwarded to Washington by means of this Telegraph. The following is the Alphabet used:—

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| (a) | (j) | (r) |
| (b) | (k) | (s) |
| (c) | (l) | (t) |
| (d) | (m) | (u) |
| (e) | (n) | (v) |
| (f) | (o) | (w) |
| (g) | (p) | (x) |
| (h) | (q) | (z) |

We have no doubt that the government will deem it expedient to continue this Telegraph to Philadelphia, New York, and Boston, when its utility shall have been fully tested. When understood, the mode of operation is plain and simple.

THE ROSE.

The Guebers believe, that when Abraham was thrown into the fire by Nimrod, the flames turned into a bed of roses. The Turks have an idea that it sprang from the perspiration of Mahomet, and they cause a rose to be sculptured on the monuments of all young women who die unmarried. The mythological writers say that Apollo caused Rodamne, Queen of Corinth, in consequence of her extreme beauty to be turned into a rose. The first rose is said to have been given by the God of Love to Harpocrates, the God of Silence, to engage him to conceal the conduct of his mother Venus, and hence it was made the symbol of silence. A rose was always placed above the heads of the guests in the banqueting hall, to banish restraint, and to denote that nothing said there should be repeated elsewhere; and hence originated the saying, *sub rosa*, when a secret was to be kept. Rhodes is thought to owe its name to the immense quantity of roses which it produces. At Salers, France, there is a curious festival of roses. A young girl is selected from among three of the most distinguished for female virtues; her name is announced from the pulpit: she is afterwards conducted to the church to attend the service. She was formerly accustomed to open the ball at night with the *seigneur*; now a pressed is bestowed upon her, and she is called *La Rosiere*, because she is always adorned with roses.

INFLUENCE OF THE JEWS.—In Mr. Di'raeli's new novel, "*Coningsby*," or the New Generation," we have the following picture of the influence of the Jews in various European nations:—"I resolved to go myself to St. Petersburg. I had on my arrival, an interview with the Russian Minister of Finance, Count Cancrin; I beheld the son of a Lithuanian Jew. The loan was connected with the affairs of Spain: I resolved on repairing to Spain from Russia. I travelled without intermission. I had an audience immediately on my arrival with the Spanish Minister, Senor Mendizabal; I beheld one like myself the son of a Novo Christiano, a Jew of Arragon. In consequence of what transpired at Madrid, I went straight to Paris to consult the President of the French Council. I beheld the son of a French Jew, a hero, an Imperial Marshal, and very properly so, for who is a military if not those who worship the Lord of Hosts? "And is Soult a Hebrew?" "Yes, and several of the French Marshals, and the most famous—Massena, for example; his real name was Manasseh. But to my anecdote. The consequence of our consultation was, that some northern power should be applied to in a friendly and meditative capacity. We fixed on Prussia, and the President of the Council made an application to the Prussian Minister, who attended a few days after our conference. Count Arnim entered the Cabinet, and I beheld a Prussian Jew."

MANEROO.

SHEARING SUPPLIES.

THE Settlers in the District of Maneroo, are informed that they can be furnished with all necessary shearing supplies at the Store, Boyd Town, Twofold Bay, at moderate prices:—

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Tea | M'Manus's Parramatta Drays |
| Sugar | Woolpacks |
| Flour | Sheep Shears |
| Tobacco | Seaming Twine |
| Salt | Boots and Shoes |
| Soap | Blankets and Rugs |
| Soda | Slops of every description |
| Earthenware | Hardware |
| Carbrosive Sublimate | |

N.B.—Sheep, cattle, hides, sheepskins, wool, or tallow, delivered at the township, taken in exchange, the distance from Hibbert's being forty miles, on an excellent road. Every facility for the shipment of wool and produce by regular packets to Sydney.

Union Bank of Australia.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the HALF YEARLY DIVIDEND of Three per Cent. declared on the Shares in this Bank, at the SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF PROPRIETORS, held in London, on the 24th June last, will be payable to the COLONIAL SHAREHOLDERS on and after MONDAY, the 12th instant.

J. C. McLAREN, Inspector.
Sydney, 4th Nov. 1844.

CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY.

A FEW promising young men in various stages of progress, proposing to become candidates for the Christian ministry in the Presbyterian Church in this Colony, unsupported by the State, the Rev. Dr. Lang intends forming one or more classes for their preparatory instruction in the languages and in philosophy, &c., as soon after the first of January next as it may be found practicable to do so. He will be happy in the mean time to receive applications from any young men who may wish to join such classes, whether they intend to offer themselves as candidates for the ministry or not.
Sydney, 6th November, 1844.

Exchange Upon London.

THE Royal Bank of Australia hereby give notice, that they will sell their Drafts or Scotch Bank Acceptances, payable in London.

J. P. ROBINSON, Resident Director.
Office, No. 2, Church Hill.

ROGERS, M'VEY, AND BULLER,

MILLWRIGHTS, ENGINEERS, BOILER MAKERS,

AND SHIPSMITHS,

Near the Gas Works, Kent-street, Sydney

IRON Work for Ships, Engines, Flour Mills, &c., of the largest dimensions. Also, dressing and smutting machines, water wheels, pumps, screw presses, Hydraulic presses, thrashing machines, and steam engines of every description made and repaired on the shortest notice.

R. M'V. and B. beg respectfully to announce to the public that they can furnish the above articles at prices lower than has ever yet been asked in the Colony.

COLONIAL OBSERVER AND General Printing Office, COLLEGE-STREET.

JOB PRINTING, INCLUDING Pamphlets, Catalogues, Circulars, CARDS, LAW FORMS, BILL HEADS, CUSTOM-HOUSE FORMS, &c., &c., &c.

Executed in a neat and expeditious manner, and at moderate prices, by BARR AND KITCHEN at the above Office.

THE Undersigned is prepared to make the highest cash advances upon Wool, Oil, Tallow, or other produce consigned to Mr. Robert Brooks of London.

ROBERT TOWNS, Pitt-street, North.

BONNETS, JUST LANDED.

FIFTEEN CASES of Tuscan and Durable bonnets and hats, of the latest shapes
Two cases of infants' satin bonnets and hats
One case of bonnet and cap ribbons
Five cases of drab moleskins
Twenty cases of prints and longcloths
Two cases of plain and checked muslins
Three cases of ladies' super French stays
One case of silk parasols
One case of gingham ditto

At A. HORDERN'S, 117, King-street, Between Pitt and Castlereagh-streets, N.B.—Country dealers supplied at the lowest possible prices, for cash only.

EARLY CLOSING OF DRAPERS' SHOPS.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Proprietors and Assistant Drapers was held at the School of Arts on Tuesday Evening, October 29, 1844; ACTON SILLITOE, Esq., in the Chair.

The Chairman, in a very eloquent and able manner, opened the business of the Meeting, and concluded by calling upon the Secretary to read the Report.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSISTANT DRAPERS, Oct. 29, 1844.

Gentlemen,—Your Committee, in presenting this Report, respectfully inform you that they have met for the discharge of the duties entrusted to them, on six occasions.

That at their first Committee Meeting, a Memorial was drawn up, and subsequently engrossed upon parchment, of which the following is a copy:—

To the Proprietors of the various Drapery Establishments in the City of Sydney.

Gentlemen,—We, the undersigned Assistant Drapers, respectfully memorialize you upon the subject of closing your several houses of business at an earlier hour than at present.

While your Memorialists take a deep interest in the welfare of their various employers, they cannot help feeling how much it would benefit both themselves and you, if business ceased at Seven o'clock during the Summer months, and at Six o'clock during the Winter months.

Your Memorialists are aware, that many of their employers wish to close at an earlier hour, and are fully convinced that the same amount of business, with the same profit and with less expense, can be transacted as during the present late hours; and, at the same time, that much moral, physical, and intellectual advantage would be reaped by your Memorialists; that employers will be for a time released from the harass of business; and the assistants be better fitted for the duties of the following day.

Your Memorialists, while they request it as a boon to themselves, are thoroughly satisfied that their employers will be equally benefited.

The prayer of your Memorialists therefore is, that you will unanimously agree to close your establishments at seven o'clock during the Summer months, commencing on the 1st September, and at six o'clock during the Winter months, commencing on the 1st March, Saturday evenings excepted.

Your Memorialists, as in duty bound will ever pray, &c., &c., &c.

This Memorial was signed by the Assistant Drapers, eighty seven in number. A Deputation was then appointed to wait upon the various Proprietors, requesting their signatures to a document, agreeing to close their respective houses of business at 7 o'clock during the Summer months, and at 6 o'clock during the Winter months. The following is the agreement proposed:—

We the undersigned Proprietors of the various Drapery Establishments in the City of Sydney, hereby agree in accordance with the prayer of the Memorial addressed to us by the assistant drapers, to close our respective houses of business at 7 o'clock during the Summer months, commencing on the 1st day of Sept., and at 6 o'clock during the Winter months, commencing on the first day of March. Signed this Twelfth day of October, 1844.

This agreement has been signed by the following Twenty-five proprietors:—Messrs. Thomas Perkins, A. Mitchell, Jonathan Thorp, and Co., D. Jones and Co., John Rickards, Melville and Lambert, Robert Bourne and Co., J. Thompson and Son, Christopher Newton, Pillet, Masurin, and Co., Thomas Faux, Isaac Walker, T. Aspinwall, John Cousens, William Coleman, Frederick Hobbs, Moses Joseph, James Wade, William Patten, Joseph Taylor, Thomas Davis, Pite and Preston, C. Appleton and Co., S. Emanuel, and W. A. Dobson.

Four others, viz., W. K. Hall, Sinclair and Murray, Phillip Hart, and Isaac Lory have promised to adhere faithfully to this agreement, although some object to sign, in consequence of a previous one having been broken through.

The total number of Drapery Establishments in the City of Sydney is 36, out of which number only two have given decided refusals, Messrs. Joseph Farmer, and B. S. Haigh.

Your Committee in stating that some have refused to sign the agreement, beg to lay before you the only written objection they have received, feeling assured that you will be thoroughly convinced of the utter fallacy—they are from Mr. Farmer, and read as follows:—

I object to sign any requisition upon the subject in question, viz.,

The closing of my shop at a certain fixed time, for the following reasons:—

First,—Because it being necessary that my returns should be kept up to their present amount, I should be obliged to keep more assistants if the hours of business were curtailed. The present profits will not allow of this additional expense, and therefore in the event of my adopting the plan proposed, I should be obliged to reduce the salaries of the parties now in my employment.

Secondly,—Because the greater part of the trade have cut down the profits of the business to their present small amount, by exposing goods in the streets from first floor windows, by the injurious practice of ticketing, and by other underhand systems, and have thus deprived me (for the reasons stated in my first objection) of the power of complying with your request. I will, however, add, that should the trade be willing to bind themselves to conduct business in an honourable and fair manner, I believe a living profit might be obtained upon a smaller return, and I should then be quite willing to sign an agreement to close my shop at six o'clock every evening.

(Signed) JOSEPH FARMER. Oct. 8th, 1844.

Your Committee, while they report a partial lack of success, cannot help expressing a hope that by continuing to exercise fit and proper measures, those Proprietors who refuse to sign may be induced to do so.

A report of the Financial affairs was also laid before the Meeting.

The following Resolutions were unanimously carried:—

Moved by Mr. Charles Appleton, seconded by Mr. Melville, and supported by the Rev. Mr. McKenny—

13. That the Report now read be adopted, and that an abridged copy be published in the following Sydney papers, viz., *Herald*, *Australian*, *Chronicle*, *Observer*, and *Weekly Register*.

Moved by Mr. Pite, seconded by Mr. Dobson, and supported by Mr. McEachern—

2nd. That this Meeting feel called upon to express their surprise, that although the majority of the principal drapers of this city are decidedly favourable to closing their establishments at certain pre-scribed early hours after the business of the day; yet, in consequence of the dissent of two or three of that body, the desired object of the Memorialists is likely to be frustrated. To obviate such a failure, it is proposed that renewed exertions on the part of the Committee be directed in furtherance of that unanimity which must prevail amongst the proprietors in order to attain their object.

Moved by the Rev. Mr. Threlkeld, and seconded by Mr. J. R. Malony—

3rd. That this Meeting feeling deeply sensible of the vital importance of the question now before them, are determined to use every constitutional means to obtain the object of the Memorialists.

Moved by Mr. Tane, and seconded by Mr. Brett—

4th. That this Meeting feel great pleasure in tendering their sincere thanks to those Proprietors who have kindly acceded to the prayer of the memorial addressed to them by the Assistant Drapers.

Moved by Mr. Wilson, and seconded by Mr. Joseph Taylor—

5th. That the following gentlemen, Messrs. Pite, Appleton, Sillitoe, Melville, and Chisholm, be requested to allow their names to be added to the existing Committee, for the purpose of fully carrying out the object of the Memorial.

Moved by Mr. Simms, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and supported by Mr. Hall—

6th. That the thanks of this meeting be given to those gentlemen unconnected with the trade, and to the gentlemen of the press who have kindly come forward this evening in support of the cause of the assistant drapers.

ACTON SILLITOE, Chairman.

Mr. Sillitoe having left the chair, Mr. Appleton was requested to take the same, when it was moved by the Rev. Dr. Lang, M.C., and seconded by Mr. Pite—

That the thanks of this meeting be presented to Acton Sillitoe, Esq., for his able and impartial conduct in the chair this evening.

