

# The Colonial Observer.

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

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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.

### THE CASE OF PORT PHILLIP — A GREAT CRISIS FOR NEW SOUTH WALES!

In the speeches of certain of the honourable members for Port Phillip on the 13th instant, on the motion of Mr. Robinson, the member for Melbourne, for an Financial Justice to that District, certain announcements were made, particularly by Mr. Boyd and Dr. Nicholson, on the part of the general constituency of the district, which seemed to take the House generally, and especially that honourable and learned member for Sydney, with extreme surprise. It was announced therefore that if the liberal members of the Legislative Council should continue to pursue the course they had hitherto pursued towards Port Phillip, notwithstanding the valuable support they had uniformly received from the members for that District—putting their *veto* upon every measure upon which the entire population of Port Phillip had set their hearts—the people of Port Phillip would be compelled, in justice to themselves, and from the paramount regard they ought to have for their own interests in all such matters, to try whether they would not be better in the hands of the Government altogether; for we trust it will appear pretty clear to the reader, from the sequel of this article, that they can scarcely be worse than they actually are in those of the Liberals.

Of the three great measures on which the entire population of the District of Port Phillip have set their hearts, the first and greatest is the entire separation of that District from New South Wales, and its erection into a separate and independent colony. No doubt such a measure could not be effected by the Legislative Council; but if recommended by that body it would unquestionably be granted by the authorities at home. What then is the state of matters in regard to this measure in the Legislative Council? Why, when it was brought forward in the course of the present session, on the motion of the Rev. Dr. Lang, and zealously advocated by all the other Port Phillip members, the only vote it obtained from members not representing that district was that of Mr. Lowe, who was then about to retire in disgust from the Council as a crown nominee, and who perhaps expected to get in for Port Phillip on the next vacancy, or at the next General Election. Not only did all the

Government officers and members oppose the measure, but all the liberal members opposed it also, notwithstanding the uniform and valuable support they had received in all their measures of reform from the Port Phillip members!

It is quite evident therefore that if the people of Port Phillip have little to expect from the Government in reference to this great measure, they have just as little, and perhaps still less, to expect from the Liberal members. They have nothing to hope for from the latter in return for their uniform support: they may get something from the former; and they have an unquestionable right in such circumstances to take the matter into their serious consideration. No doubt it is very generous, disinterested, and patriotic for the Port Phillip people to assist the liberal members of the Middle District in carrying their measures of reform: but what do they get by it? Do they even get thanks? No! The very measure on which they have universally set their hearts, and in comparison with which they regard all others as insignificant, does not even receive one liberal vote besides those of their own members! In such circumstances have they not a clear right, and is it not their bounden duty, to look to themselves, and to consider whether they can possibly be worse than they are even in the hands of Sir George Gipps, arbitrary and despotic although he is in his principles and practice? Their six votes would give His Excellency a clear standing majority in the House; and surely Sir George would do something handsome for the Port Phillip people, in the way of recommending separation, in return for such a *quietus* to the Liberals during the remaining portion of his administration.

The arguments for the separation of Port Phillip were detailed at such length and with such force in the Debate on the subject in the Legislative Council on the 20th of August last, of which a full report was given at the time in this journal, that we shall not repeat them here; especially as our readers will find in another column a copy of a Petition on the subject to Her Majesty the Queen, upon which the six members for Port Phillip have unanimously agreed. On the reasoning contained in that Petition we are quite satisfied to rest the whole case. The argument put forth, by Mr. Windeyer, on behalf of the anti-Separationists, viz., that Port Phillip is in every respect a mere district of the Colony, exactly like those of Hunter's River, Bathurst, and Argyle, may doubtless be worthy of a special pleader; but it is surely unworthy of a moment's serious consideration.

Port Phillip, with its splendid harbour commanding the whole Southern coast from Cape Howe to the boundary of South Australia, is as evidently formed by nature to be a separate and distinct community from that of New South Wales—whose splendid harbour of Port Jackson commands in like manner the whole of the Eastern coast from Cape Howe to the northern limits of the Colony—as it is from those of Van Dieman's Land, Southern Australia, or Swan River. The idea of

binding the two together into one Colony is absurd; and although it may be very true that the addition of Port Phillip to this Colony is calculated to give its Legislature a much greater weight with the Home Government than it would otherwise have, what is such an argument or consideration to the people of Port Phillip? Situated and circumstanced as they are, have they not as good a right to all the benefits and advantages unquestionably resulting from the condition of a separate and independent Colony as we have? And is it any compensation to them for the want of these benefits and advantages to be told that they are serving the important purpose of a make-weight to New South Wales, and are helping to render that great Colony more powerful and influential at home?

The second great measure on which the Port Phillipians had set their heart was the establishment of a General System of Education. There was not one solitary petition in favour of a Denominational System from that part of the colony; and the inhabitants of Port Phillip generally, having been extremely ill-treated under the Denominational System in times past, were extremely desirous that a comprehensive system, to include all classes and denominations, should be adopted for that district. And to whom are they indebted for the refusal of such a system, and for the indefinite perpetuation of the existing system of pitiful inefficiency? Why, in great measure, to one of the leading liberals of the colony—to the honourable and learned member for Durham! It was chiefly, if not entirely, to that honorable member's influence and efforts that his Excellency was indebted for the majority he obtained in the Committee of Supply for continuing the Denominational System, agreeably to the arbitrary principles of his Message, and in the teeth of the resolutions of the Council. What then, we ask, have the people of Port Phillip to expect from the liberal members, or what reason have they to attach themselves to their peculiar interests in the Legislative Council?

The third of the three great measures to which we have adverted, as being transcendently interesting and important in the estimation of the people of Port Phillip, is the measure of financial justice demanded in their name and on their behalf by the honorable member for Melbourne, viz., that the whole of the Ordinary Revenue of Port Phillip shall be expended within the District. Nothing can possibly be more accordant with equity and justice than this; but with the exception of the Port Phillip members—and one of them too was unavoidably absent—not a single member of the House, Government officer, nominee, or liberal, voted for it. On the contrary they all strenuously opposed it on the notorious pretence that Port Phillip is in no respect differently situated or circumstanced from the districts of Hunter's River, Bathurst, or Argyle, respectively; thereby justifying, or rather vainly attempting to justify, the abstraction of £19,000 a year from the future Revenue of Port Phillip. We refer our readers for a refutation of this notable fallacy, urged in

excuse for this most unwarrantable procedure, the petition to the Queen already referred to.

In these circumstances it is quite evident that Port Phillip has nothing to expect from the present Council. Nineteen thousand per annum of her proper revenue is to be abstracted from the District under the authority of the liberal majority in that Council! The very idea of the separation of Port Phillip is scouted by that majority, and one of its leading members even makes common cause with the Obstruction in refusing her the boon of a General System of Education! In such circumstances it is possible that Port Phillip can be worse off under the absolute rule and authority of Sir George Gipps than under the present Legislative Council? We think not, to tell the plain truth in the matter; and the Port Phillipians are precisely of the same opinion, and have accordingly made up their minds, in the event of a dissolution, to leave the nomination of their six members to His Excellency the Governor; who will thus have a standing majority in the House and be able thereafter to carry whatever measures he thinks proper.

This, we must inform our readers, is no suggestion of ours. It took us as much by surprise, when we first heard of it, as it did Mr. Wentworth or the Council; and we confess we were very doubtful at first both of its justice and of its propriety. But on looking at the matter calmly and deliberately, we could not help thinking that the Port Phillipians were in the right after all. This is the best card in their hand—the one that will enable them to win the game, and no mistake—and we have forced them to play it in self-defence. The Port Phillip people will thus be enabled to render the present Legislative Council a tenfold greater nuisance to this part of the Colony than the last, and they will virtually compel the people of New South Wales Proper to rise up as one man to demand Separation in order to get rid of them, bag and baggage.

Of course the present Port Phillip members, being all men of liberal principles and views, who look only to the real interests of their constituents, and who are sincerely of opinion that their separation from this colony is a measure of indispensable necessity to their social and political advancement, could not be parties to any such measure. But we have no hesitation in adding that if their constituents were determined on such a measure, they would not stand in the way. No doubt most of the Port Phillip members could, in such an event, easily get in again for electoral districts in this part of the colony, if they either wished it, or might think it worth their while, with such a Government majority in the future Council as his Excellency would then command. But the probability is that most of them would not think it worth their while to hold seats in such a House. In such circumstances they would probably conclude with the poet, that

The post of honour is a private station,  
and would wait patiently for Separation and better times.

REPRESENTATION OF CAMDEN.

As the honourable and learned member for Camden is expected shortly to leave Sydney for Port Phillip, where he has been appointed to the vacant seat on the Judicial Bench, rival candidates are already canvassing the County for the seat that will thereby be thrown vacant in the Legislative Council; Mr. William Macarthur being up on the interest of his family and connexions in the county, and Mr. A. Osborne, of Ilawarra, a brother of Dr. Osborne's, who voluntarily retired after announcing himself a candidate at the last General Election, on that of his. Now, although we have no objections to Mr. W. Macarthur personally, and rather suppose we should agree with him on most points as to the best interests of the Colony, we cannot forget how his family have hitherto presumed to treat the County of Camden. Last election his brother and himself assigned it over to Mr. Roger Therry, and this time they are going to keep it for one of themselves! Now they have only to succeed in this object—a conspiracy, as it appears to us, against the freedom and independence of the County, this attempt to convert it into a mere appanage of their family—and to follow up that success by a similar attempt when the present Council shall have been dissolved, to exclude the entire constituency of Camden from their proper weight and influence in future in the Legislature of the Colony. Let the free and independent Electors of Camden therefore ponder over this peculiar aspect of their case. Let them bear in mind that their county was disposed of last time by private contract, by the Macarthur family, without the consent of a large portion of the constituency and that it is therefore their unquestionable interest, as we apprehend it is also their bounden duty, to dispose of it this time themselves by giving their votes and influence for Mr. Alick Osborne. By the way there are several pairs of "old boots" we should like much to see out of the Legislative Council at its next meeting, as they are evidently "past mending," and scarcely creditable even for such a presence; and the "souls" being completely gone and the upper leather perfectly worthless. We confess, however, we are not sufficiently acquainted with the signs of the times to know whether we are to anticipate a dissolution, but we wish it much for several reasons; and as for the next Governor,

O! but he's lang o' comin'!

DRAFT OF A PETITION TO THE QUEEN FOR THE SEPARATION OF PORT PHILLIP, FROM THE SIX MEMBERS FOR THE DISTRICT. TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN.

We, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the undersigned members of the Legislative Council of New South Wales, representing the entire district of Port Phillip, beg leave to approach your Majesty with the assurance of our cordial attachment to your Majesty's Royal Person and Government.

We humbly solicit permission to represent to your Majesty that, in our deliberate opinion, the District of Port Phillip, which at present constitutes the Southern portion of the Colony of New South Wales, is peculiarly fitted—as well from its superabundant characteristics, as from the amount, respectability, and intelligence of its population, from its entire isolation from all other Colonial communities, and from the comparatively high state of general advancement which it has so speedily attained—for being separate and independent Colony.

We beg therefore to submit to your Majesty that the superficial extent of the District of Port Phillip is 139,500 Square miles, while that of the undermentioned British Colonies is as follows:—

New Brunswick	27,704 Sq. miles.
Nova Scotia & Cape Breton	18,742 ditto.
Prince Edward's Island	2,131 ditto.
Newfoundland	36,000 ditto.
United Colonies of B. Guiana	10,000 ditto.
Jamaica, the largest of the West India Colonies	14,000 ditto.
Trinidad	2,400 ditto.
Van Dieman's Land	24,000 ditto.

Occupying, as it does, the South eastern angle of this vast continental island, the District of Port Phillip extends upwards of five hundred miles along the Great Southern Ocean, from Cape Howe to the Eastern boundary of Southern Australia, having the extensive harbour or inland sea, from which it derives its name and its peculiar commercial capabilities, as its natural outlet, and the town of Melbourne, its natural and proper capital, both nearly equidistant from its eastern and western extremities; while the Colony of New South Wales proper commands the whole line of the Eastern coast along the Pacific Ocean, having the magnificent harbour of Port Jackson as its natural outlet, and the City of Sydney its natural and proper capital; the entire trade and commerce of the Southern portion of the Colony necessarily concentrating itself in and around the inlet of Port Phillip, while that of the Northern portion, or Middle District, is necessarily concentrated in and around Port Jackson. The commercial relations of Port Phillip are therefore with London, not with any other portion of the Colony of New South Wales; and these relations are managed through the town of Melbourne, not through the City and port of Sydney. In this peculiarity of its geographical position, Your Majesty will doubtless recognize the essential difference of the case of Port Phillip, as regards New South Wales, from that of Upper Canada, which had no port of its own for Transatlantic commerce, as regards the Lower Province of that Colony.

From these physical characteristics of the District your Majesty will perceive that the colonists of Port Phillip are entirely isolated from those of the Middle or Sydney District of New South Wales—as much so as they are from those of Van Dieman's Land or Southern Australia. The community of Port Phillip, we beg leave to add, already comprises upwards of Twenty five thousand souls, and is possessed of Two millions of sheep, one hundred and forty thousand horned cattle and five thousand horses, besides a very large amount of other valuable property in vessels, buildings and cultivated land; the Ordinary Revenue of the district for the year 1843 having amounted to £61,343 14s. 8d., while the Imports for that year amounted to £183,321, and the Exports to £27,672.

In such circumstances as this extraordinary development of the natural resources of the District implies, we humbly submit to your Majesty whether the District of Port Phillip is not fully and fairly entitled to the rank and position of a separate and independent Colony, and whether the compulsory union of that District with New South Wales proper, from the capital of which its own commercial capital and natural outlet is six hundred miles distant is not as unreasonable in itself, as it is unjust to the inhabitants of Port Phillip and opposed to the whole tenour and practice of British colonization. For we beg to remind Your Majesty, that Port Phillip was originally settled, not from New South Wales, but from Van Dieman's Land; the whole Southern coast of this vast island having lain waste and unoccupied for nearly half a century after the original settlement of New South Wales; and we humbly submit that it is accordant with the uniform practice of your Majesty's predecessors, whenever separate and distinct colonial communities capable of self government have in any instance been formed within the nominal limits of any particular Colonial Territory, to erect such communities into separate and independent colonies, although of much more limited extent and far less favourably circumstanced for the purpose, than that of Port Phillip. In accordance with this principle the ancient Colony of Virginia had two separate portions of its original territory cut off from it at two different periods to form the colonies of Maryland to the northward and of Carolina to the southward; and although the colonists of Virginia petitioned the government of King Charles the First against the separation of Maryland from their territory, it was nevertheless effected. In accordance with this principle also the colony of Carolina was itself subsequently divided into the two separate colonies of North and South Carolina; of which the latter was at a still later period subdivided by the establishment of the colony of Georgia within its original limits.

But we would humbly beg to refer your Majesty to a much more recent and still more apposite precedent for the measure we have taken the liberty to recommend for Port Phillip, in the separation of Van Dieman's Land from the Colony of New South Wales in the year 1825; for although the island of Van Dieman's Land is separated from the territory of New South Wales by Bass' Straits, its two principal ports of Hobart Town and Launceston are virtually nearer Sydney than Port Phillip; and in the year 1825, when Van Dieman's Land was separated from New South Wales and erected into a distinct and independent Colony, the population and resources, the revenue and trade of that island were all inconsiderable and insignificant in comparison with those of Port Phillip at the present moment, as your Majesty will perceive from the following comparison of their respective Statistics:—

PORT PHILLIP IN 1843.

Population (including 5,938 convicts)	25,000
Ordinary Revenue	£61,343 14 8
Expenditure	£ 54,352 0 0
Imports	£183,321 0 0
Exports	£27,672 0 0
Sheep	2,000,000
Cattle	140,000
Horses	5,000

VAN DIEMAN'S LAND IN 1824.

Population (including 5,938 convicts)	12,643
Ordinary Revenue	£ 6,886 1 9
Expenditure	£22,120 10 11
Imports	£62,000 0 0
Exports	£14,500 0 0
Sheep	53,691
Cattle	84,176
Horses	2,085

If it should be urged, in reply to these statements, that the comparatively recent union of the Colonies of Upper and Lower Canada, as well as those of Demerara and Berbice respectively, indicates a totally different policy on the part of the Imperial Government in the present day, we humbly beg to submit to your Majesty that the union of the Canadas was a case entirely sui generis; the union of these provinces having become indispensably necessary as a measure of state policy wisely intended to neutralize the great political evils arising from the presence of a large colonial population of foreign origin in Lower Canada. And as to the union of the Colonies of Demerara and Berbice, as the coast line of these united colonies does not exceed two hundred miles altogether, it would have been implicit in the extreme to have continued to maintain two separate colonial establishments within the comparatively narrow limits of British Guiana.

We humbly beg, moreover, to submit to your Majesty that the necessity for the erection of Port Phillip into a separate colony, altogether independent of New South Wales, has already been virtually acknowledged by the Imperial Government; Port Phillip having all along had a Superintendent, a Resident Judge, and various other offices and establishments to be found in no other subordinate district of the colony. And while this subordinate, inefficient, and unsatisfactory government costs the inhabitants £41748 0s. 3d. per annum for a population of 25,000, the government of the neighbouring colony of South Australia, with a population precisely similar in its origin and pursuits, costs the inhabitants only £25,000 per annum for a population of 18,000; thereby demonstrating that it is not true, as is commonly alleged by those who are opposed to the separation of Port Phillip from New South Wales, that the government of that district, as a separate and independent colony, would necessarily be much more expensive than it is at present.

But the great practical grievance of which the inhabitants of Port Phillip universally, and, in our opinion, justly complain, as the result of the compulsory union of that district with the Colony of New South Wales, is the annual abstraction of a large portion of the proper revenue of the district, and its appropriation, under the authority of the Legislative Council, for purposes and objects in which the inhabitants of Port Phillip can have no interest, no concern; thereby retarding indefinitely the general advancement of the district, and the progressive development of its vast resources. For we beg to remind your Majesty that Port Phillip has not only never cost either the mother country or New South Wales one farthing for its establishment or support, but a surplus of £176,000 of its land revenue, over and above the payment of the whole amount of immigration into Port Phillip, has gone into the general revenue of the Colony, and been appropriated for the encouragement and support of immigration into New South Wales proper; while the estimated Ordinary Revenue of the District for the year 1845 exceeds the estimated expenditure for that year by no smaller amount than £19,000 or thereabout. It will thus appear to your Majesty that although a Representative System of Government has in so far been conceded to the Colony of New South Wales, that concession, as far as the inhabitants of Port Phillip are concerned, is a mere mockery and delusion; the only service which the six members for that district can, under existing circumstances, render to their constituents, in a financial point of view, being to assist in legalizing the annual and unwarrantable abstraction of £19,000 per annum of their proper Revenue, under the authority of the General Legislature. In such circumstances your Majesty will not be surprised at the strenuous opposition which all the other members of the Legislative Council, save one, have hitherto exhibited towards the separation of Port Phillip; for so long as it is the interest of five-sixths of the members of that body to retain Port Phillip in a state of vassalage and dependence under New South Wales, it is hopeless to expect either financial justice for that District from the General Legislature or a recommendation of its erection into a separate and independent colony.

But your Majesty will, doubtless, perceive that the case of Port Phillip is one really deserving of your Majesty's immediate interference in behalf of the inhabitants of that district on another and still higher ground, even when we add that although Port Phillip is allowed to return six representative members to the Council of the Colony, not one of the six members actually returned is a resident in the District; for although the twenty-five thousand inhabitants of Port Phillip, being almost exclusively recently arrived immigrants from the mother country or from Van Dieman's Land and New South Wales, and many of them men of superior intelligence and education, undoubtedly comprise a much larger number of fit and proper persons to represent the District than any other District of an equal amount of population in the Colony, it has been found impracticable to obtain the services of a single resident proprietor or inhabitant of the District for the purpose; men of the requisite intelligence and ability being

either unable or unwilling to absent themselves from their families and establishments for five months successively every year to attend the meetings of a Colonial Legislature at the distance of six or eight hundred miles from their usual places of residence. Highly therefore as we appreciate individually the honour of representing the constituency of a district whose rapid and general advancement in civilization is unprecedented in the history of your Majesty's vast empire, we cannot consent to continue to hold this honourable position without protesting against the injustice that is thus done to our constituents, who, if they had a Domestic Legislature, would unquestionably be able to find among themselves many men of superior intelligence, equally able to manage their affairs with any of us, and far better acquainted with the circumstances and wants of the District than we, who are all resident in Sydney, can possibly be. Nor is this the only evil to which our constituents are subjected from the great distance of Port Phillip, and especially of the western portion of that District, from the seat of Government; for as gentlemen of the requisite standing in society in that portion of the territory cannot be expected to attend the meetings of the Select Committees of the Legislative Council to give evidence in regard to its actual circumstances and more pressing wants, the business of legislation, as far as the interests of the District are concerned, is conducted in great measure in the dark.

On these grounds we humbly pray that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to take the case of our constituents into your Majesty's favourable consideration, and to order that the requisite steps may be taken for effecting the entire separation of the District of Port Phillip from New South Wales, and for its erection into a separate and independent colony.

Reiterating the assurance of our cordial attachment to your Majesty's Royal Person and Government,

We have the honour to be, With profound veneration, Your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, Sydney, New South Wales, 24th Dec., 1844.

PUSEYISM AND POPERY.

(From the "Morning Chronicle," August 14.)

Attention has been directed by a contemporary to an elaborate work on the Puseyite theology, recently published by the Rev. W. G. Ward, a fellow of Balliol College, Oxford. It might have been expected that this production would, before now, have attracted the notice of some ecclesiastical authority; but there is as yet no appearance that it has done so. It will be a matter of interest, if not of surprise, to our readers to learn how far a minister of our Protestant Church can depart from Protestantism in his writings with impunity.

The work to which we refer is entitled, "The Ideal of a Christian Church," and contains the substance of a series of articles which appeared in the *British Critic* (a periodical since defunct), and started many even of the Puseyite party by their uncompromising assertion, not of Anglo-Catholic, but of Roman Catholic opinions. The articles in question were remarkably able and eloquent, and were evidently written by a man too much in earnest to be deterred from speaking out by any fear of the odium which he was sure to provoke. Those articles are now avowed, every obnoxious opinion in them is re-stated, every strong expression is repeated, and the whole system, regarded as true by the author, is exhibited distinctly to the public. That system is neither more nor less, so far as a layman can judge, than the Roman Catholic system in its integrity.

The delineation given of "the ideal of a Christian Church" is simply a description of the Roman Catholic system, Avicular confession, penances, intercession of saints, belief in the doctrine of purgatory monastic establishments, and all other points peculiar to the Roman Catholic system, are to be found in the "ideal" which the English Church is to be made to resemble, and the development of the "ideal" involves the most pointed and unqualified condemnation of tenets supposed to be distinctive of Protestantism. The principle of private judgment is declared to lead necessarily to Atheism, and even Atheism is represented as morally superior to the Lutheran doctrine of justification by faith. The "sinfulness" of the Reformation is a phrase not strong enough to express the author's detestation of that great movement, and the position of the English Church he considers "wholly indefensible by external historical ecclesiastical arguments." Under these circumstances, Mr. Ward's proposed allegiance to the Church of which he is a minister, rests upon the single consideration of what he calls the "sacredness of hereditary religion." The religious instructors of the child have a right, he thinks, to the faith and respect of

the adult, until the latter has become clearly convinced that his spiritual safety requires him to enter a new connection. Mr. Ward sees in his own church instances of such high spiritual attainment that he could not, with a safe conscience abandon a connection under which he knows these results to be possible: but if others have a strong conviction that the Roman Catholic system can alone supply their religious wants, he would have them by all means embrace it. He sees no difficulty or objection to remaining behind himself with the intention of helping to make the Anglican Church as Roman as possible.

That we do not unfairly represent Mr. Ward's views, will sufficiently appear from a passage in which he refers to a former publication. Three years ago, he says, he published the opinion that the Thirty-nine Articles were "not directed against those who retained the old doctrines, so that they were willing to join in a protest against the shameful corruptions in existence, and also to give up the Pope;" and then he continues, "Three years have passed since I said plainly that in subscribing the Articles, I RENOUNCE NO ONE ROMAN DOCTRINE; yet I retain my fellowship, which I hold on the tenure of subscription, and have received no ecclesiastical censure in any shape. It may be said, indeed, that individual bishops have spoken against those opinions, but where does the institution of our Church give individual bishops any power of authoritatively declaring Church of England doctrine?"

This seems to us rather an awkward fact for the authorities of the Church of England. How Mr. Ward reconciles his own mind to the subscription of the Thirty-nine Articles we do not profess to understand; but he declares himself able to subscribe them with sincerity, without renouncing any one Roman doctrine. Is it true, then, that a clergyman who publicly professes to hold all the Roman doctrines, can hold a preferment, if he can bring himself to subscribe? May he write and preach what he pleases upon that single condition? If this be the case, it is desirable to have the fact generally known. If the theology of Exeter Hall and of Maynooth can both exist in the national church, it might be worth considering whether its creeds and formularies could not be so modified as to allow some of the Dissenters to share its advantages. It is rather absurd that the Thirty-nine Articles should be stringent only in excluding Protestants, and should form no obstacle to Roman Catholics remaining in the church.

We do not wonder that the Archbishop of Dublin should desire to revive the Convocation, as a means of settling the present differences. The existence of these differences amongst men who have agreed in a very minute profession of faith, is an anomaly which does not leave the most favourable impressions with respect to the sincerity of the professors. Whether a Convocation would be able to apply an effectual remedy to the mischief is a question to which the answer is by no means clear; but it is clear enough that, for the credit of the church, some remedy ought to be found.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

(From the Times, Aug. 7.)

HOUSE OF COMMONS, AUGUST 6, 1844.

Captain Bernal, who had given notice of a motion for a return of all instructions given to Lord Heytesbury respecting the future disposal of Church patronage with reference to the Education Board, began his speech by reading the letter addressed by Sir R. Peel to Lord De Grey at the outset of that nobleman's lieutenancy, and then read a list of the clergymen whom Lord De Grey had promoted, and whom the hon. member characterized as being generally adverse to the system of national education in Ireland. No Minister was ever more obliged than Sir R. Peel to the education system; it had done more to prevent a rebellion in Ireland than all the military preparations of last year and all the right hon. baronet's army of occupation; and he called upon the right hon. baronet, therefore, to give a pledge that nothing should be done by Lord Heytesbury's Government which could injure the educational principle in Ireland.

Sir R. Peel said, that what he had promised was, that he would never press upon Lord De Grey the promotion of any clergyman upon mere political grounds; and he had kept his

word. He believed that in fact the Irish Government had been wholly influenced in their clerical appointments by the professional fitness of the candidates; although, undoubtedly, there were some of them who much to his regret, had taken a strong part against national education. He was, happy, however, to find that the objections to the system were gradually wearing away, and that the numbers of the schools, and of the children taught in them, were rapidly increasing. At one time there seemed to have been a very general notion that the Scriptures were interdicted in those schools; he was happy to have this opportunity of contradicting that mistake, which was totally without foundation. He repeated what he had before declared, that it was the intention of Government to give their warm and cordial support to the National system; a distinct proof of which they had afforded already, in refusing to comply with the desire of their own friends, that a separate establishment should be voted for the children of the Established Church. As to the papers now moved for, none such were in existence. He had conversed with Lord Heytesbury, and imparted his own views to him; but he would tell the House that he had not made it a *sine qua non* in the promotion of Irish clergymen that they should be partisans of the National system. To have required this would have been to enlist the pride of individuals against the very object which the Government had at heart; and no consideration should ever induce him, to take so unwise a course.

Mr. Wyse considered this debate as not without its use, since it had drawn forth declarations from Sir R. Peel which would clear misapprehension, and advance education and good feeling.

Lord Ebrington wished that Sir R. Peel had made these declarations while he was in Opposition. They might have done much good in discouraging the violence of his supporters.

Mr. Derby recommended that the clergy, whatever might be their individual opinions of the system, should do their best to improve the education given in the schools; but he thought it would be monstrous to make a clergyman's conscientious objection to the National system a bar to his promotion in the Church.

Mr. Sheil said, that what he complained of was, not the theory of the Government, but the inconsistency of their practice with that theory. By appointing those only who were adverse to the National system, the Government set the Church in array against the people. He knew, indeed, that the Church was a sort of perquisite of the Lord-Lieutenant, uncontrolled by the Home Department; but here was a question not merely of political but of religious importance; and some favour ought therefore to be shown to the friends of the National system, which embraced all religions.

Lord Elliot bore testimony to the zeal and diligence of Lord De Grey in the selection of candidates for clerical promotion. Unfortunately, a large proportion of the ablest and most useful of the Protestant clergy were averse to the National system; and it would therefore be difficult, even were it expedient, which he thought it was not, to establish an exclusion of all by whom that system was not supported.

Mr. M. J. O'Connell objected in a particular manner to one of Lord De Grey's episcopal appointments. He did not wish that there should be an express rule excluding all opponents of the National system; but he did wish that there should not be a practice excluding all supporters of it.

Captain Bernal briefly replied. He did not wish a rule laid down excluding the opponents of the system, but he did wish to see some of its supporters promoted. He begged to withdraw his motion.

DISRUPTION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN STATE CHURCH IN CANADA.

(From the Colonial Gazette of Aug. 17.)

Kingston papers of the 11th instant show that the minority of the Synod who voted against Dr. Cook's Resolutions seceded under protest, and formed a new body under the name of the "Presbyterian Church of Canada." The Rev. Mr. Storkie, the Moderator of the regular Synod, was one of those who withdrew from that body, and the Rev. Mr. Rintoul, secretary. The Rev. Dr. Cook was appointed Moderator of the Synod of the Church of Scotland, and a committee was appointed to draw up a reply to the protest of the minority, to report to the next meeting at Montreal, and then the Synod adjourned. — *Quebec Gazette*, July 15, 1844.

COMMISSION OF THE FREE CHURCH.

(From the Scotsman, August 17.)

On Wednesday forenoon a stated meeting of the Commission of the General Assembly of the Free Church was held in the New College, George-street—Dr. Black of Aberdeen, Moderator.

NEW CHARGES.

It was intimated that twenty applications for new charges had been forwarded to the committee appointed by last Assembly to carry out the views of that court, in reference to the sanctioning of charges. It was agreed to remit these applications to the committee, to state whether any and what number of them were of a nature which warranted a departure from the principle, that the General Assembly shall be the only court having the power to sanction charges—to report at a future diet.

REPORT OF THE COLONIAL COMMITTEE.

Mr. Sym laid the report of the committee on the table. The committee recommended that two of the most eminent ministers should immediately be sent out to British North America for six months, for the purpose of organizing the Church in that part of the world, and for instructing theological students; and that two Gaelic ministers, and at least six preachers, should also be sent out.

Dr. Burns of Paisley, at some length, addressed the Commission on the favourable field which presented itself to the Free Church in Canada and Nova Scotia, and assured them that the desire for ministers of the Free Church was universal.

Dr. Cunningham then proposed resolutions approving of the recommendations contained in the report, and moved that the thanks of the Commission be conveyed to Dr. Burns.

The resolutions having been agreed to, and a small committee appointed to fix upon two ministers to proceed to America, the Moderator conveyed the thanks of the Commission to Dr. Burns.

The Commission then adjourned till seven o'clock.

EVENING SEDERUNT.

The Commission met in the evening in the hall at Tanfield, which was about half filled.

Mr. Sym intimated, that the colonial committee had since last diet received a communication from Nova Scotia, in consequence of the terms of which it would be necessary to send out to America three instead of two ministers, as agreed to in the forenoon. The committee had also since resolved to recommend that Mr. Begg, Mr. Guthrie, and Mr. McFarlane of Paisley, should be solicited to go out on the important errand of the Church; and he hoped that these gentlemen would be prevailed on to devote their services in so good a cause.

Mr. McFarlane of Renfrew then read a report by the committee on the state of religion, which occupied upwards of two hours in reading, and the conclusion of which Dr. Burns and Dr. Candlish successively spoke in favour of the report, which was unanimously agreed to.

The Commission adjourned shortly after 11 o'clock, till the 11th of September.

THE EMPEROR OF MOROCCO.

Considerable public attention is at the present moment drawn towards this potentate, who has become embroiled with the French in consequence of his delay to punish as traitors those chiefs who, without his permission, have improperly attacked the French on the frontiers. For this the French have demanded satisfaction.

It will not be uninteresting to our readers therefore, to glance at the personal character of the Emperor, or Sultan, as he is styled by travellers, upon whose conduct in this affair probably rests, in some degree, the peace of Europe.

Muley Abderraham, then, the Emperor is between fifty and sixty years of age, robust, and of active habit, but of brutal and cruel character, whilst he possesses a more despotic power than any other even of Mahometan potentates. He is not even held in check by a mufti, an ulama, or even a council or divan. He is supposed to possess a divine character and to be superior to all law.

Yet this monarch must pay respect to long established usages and institutions; must not invade the domestic privacy of any of his subjects; and must even give public audience four times a week to administer justice to all who may appeal to him from the cadi, or local governor. On these occasions he appears on horseback, in a superb state, in an open interior court of the palace. He is mounted on a snow white steed, which with arched crest and measured steps, is moving majestically under his Sheereefian burden. The colour of the horse is supposed to indicate his Sublime Highness's humour; for white is the symbol of peace and good will; black, that of hatred and war; chestnut, that of displeasure, &c. The bridle and head trappings are superb, being of green silk richly embroidered in gold, wherein is portrayed the sacred emblem of Solomon's seal; and in the hollow of the

neck is a small pouch of scarlet leather, wherein is held a portion of the earth of the holy Dreeer's tomb; and by its side, in strange conjunction, the polished tooth of some enormous boar, an infallible remedy against the evil eye. The saddle, which reposes on a housing of orange damask, is quilted in green, having a pommel and girths of the stoutest silk interwoven with gold thread. The ample stirrups are of massive gold beautifully chased.

The Sultan's simple dress forms a striking contrast with the richness of his horse-furniture. He wears a caftan of white korsemyere, embroidered with pale blue silk, fastened by a plain silver buckle. A muslin turban with the silk tuft of royalty, crowns his imperial head; and over this hangs gracefully, in full broad folds, a transparent haik of the finest fabric of Fas. His legs are equipped in boots of white Morocco leather, curiously worked in devices with silk thread. Above his head is borne a very large umbrella, which is in Morocco to this day the ensign of royalty, and still continues to be in various nations of the East. The suitors prostrate themselves on the ground.

The Sultan's favourite mode of gaining the objects of his ambition is by poison. It appears that he poisoned Solyman Abderrahman, his predecessor and cousin; and a letter from Tangier, published in the *Algerie*, states, that since the accession of the present Emperor to the throne of Morocco, he has before his eyes the crime by which he ascended it. The fear of poison incessantly presents itself to his imagination. No one can approach him except his son; he alone is permitted to serve him, and he must first taste each dish. Sidi Mohammed, the Sultan's eldest son, was, for some time the guardian of his father, but it is now his youngest son, Monly Ali, who fills that office. These two sons are born of the same mother, an Englishwoman, called in the language of the country Rahmouna. Sidi Mohammed, the presumptive heir to the throne, is a man of about 36 years of age. His blue eyes and fair hair betray his semi-Britannic origin. He replaces his father on all important occasions. It is said that he commanded the Morocquin troops at the battle of Lalla Magrania on the 30th of May. He had for a long time maintained a direct communication with Abd-el Kader, whom he encouraged in his resistance to the French. The Morocquins assert that but for him the Emir would have made his submission several years since. Every time that a letter arrived in Abd-el Kader's camp from the Prince of Morocco it gave rise to great rejoicings.

Port Phillip.

We have received our files of Port Phillip papers up to the 13th instant. The following are extracts:—

THE NEW GAOL.—Information having been received that the New Gaol would be proclaimed in the *Sydney Government Gazette* of Friday last, as a "gaol prison and house of correction" steps will be taken to occupy the new building without delay; it is expected that it will be taken possession of in the course of the present week.—*P. P. Patriot*.

HORSES.—On Friday last, Mr. J. B. Kirk sold at the Cattle Yards fifty-four horses and mares, many of which were unbroken, at the following prices:—Twenty-five mares, with foals, from twelve to seventeen guineas; Colts, eight to twelve guineas. Several hacks were disposed of at the same time, and realized from ten to fourteen guineas. Mr. Kirk states that good hacks are in great demand.—*P. P. Herald*.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY.—A private meeting of English gentlemen was held yesterday, at the office of Mr. Williams, the Barrister, to enter into arrangements for calling a public meeting of Englishmen for the formation of a society to be called the St. George's Society. There were present on the occasion—The Mayor, Messrs. Curr, Williams, Hull, Westby, and Dr. Campbell. The first banquet of the Society will take place on St. George's Day, 23rd April.—*Ibid*.

SCOTTISH NATIONAL FESTIVAL.—A meeting will be held on Friday evening, for the purpose of making the necessary preliminary arrangements, for the forthcoming festival in honor of Scotia's favorite poet, Robert Burns. The Rev.

Dr. Lane, M.C., is expected by the first trip of the *Shamrock*, steamer, in the ensuing month, and should he arrive it is the intention of the stewards to invite that gentleman to the banquet.—*Ibid.*

**BLACK SPAREB.—**As a half-civilized black was riding on Mr. Forster's dray, on the Keilor road, near Mr. Watson's station, on Thursday afternoon, he was attacked by several of his sable brethren, one of whose spears entered his back and protruded the abdomen. The wounded man is not expected to live, and the mounted police at the time we went to press last night were in close search of the assassins.—*Ibid.*

**THE "LANCASTER ADVERTISER."**—This journal, the oldest established in the town, is ceased to be published, in consequence of the proprietor, Mr. Jolly, meeting with numerous disappointments. We regret sincerely the necessity which has driven Mr. Jolly into the Insolvent Court, and have no doubt that he will satisfactorily explain his affairs. Messrs. Button and Waddell, Mr. James Aikenhead, and Mr. Henry Dowling, (the proprietors of the Examiner,) have taken charge of the establishment, and, we believe, with the sanction of the Provisional Assignee of Mr. Jolly's estate, to attempt the resuscitation of the journal.—*Corwall Chronicle*, Nov. 23. [Mr. Jolly was for a long time printer of the *Gazette* when that paper was edited by Mr. Arden.—*Ed. P. H.*]

**GAS-LIGHT.**—We have great pleasure in stating in addition to the gratification which the introduction of every improvement whether in art generally or any distinct branch of mechanics to a young country from an old, that those who give a preference to gas over candle-night can in this town have their wishes in this respect fully gratified. A Mr. South, residing at New Town, who was long employed in gas manufactories in England, and perfectly competent to conduct the whole process of gas-making, has lately taken himself to the manufactory of portable gas, which we hear he will soon be prepared to furnish in such quantities as may be required. The fitting up of gas lights in shops, public-houses, &c., would by no means be attended with a heavy expense; indeed, not exceeding a few pounds in any case, except where the houses or establishments may be large, and when the superiority of the light produced from gas over candles is considered, not to mention anything of the economy attending the measure, the light thus reflected from a hot wing exceeding in brilliancy that produced by a dozen of candles, and the charge Mr. South proposes to make being only three farthings an hour; we have no hesitation in recommending Mr. South to the notice of the public, whose ingenuity, who's thus modestly rewarding himself, nor would the new mode of lighting shops, &c., prove an injury to those now so laudably engaged in candle-making, as it would be some time ere it would supplant their trade, and the London market presenting such a favourable field for the exportation of our colonial tallow, their enterprise might profitably be directed to other sources, and they would no doubt not grumble much at sustaining a temporary inconvenience to usher in and generalize a great and obviously public good. Mr. South lighted our office with this gas a few evenings since, which enables us to speak positively, from personal inspection, of his ability to introduce this "new light" into the Province with perfect effect.—*Ibid.*

**THE HARVEST.**—The continuation of warm weather during the last ten days has had a beneficial effect upon the crops. The hay harvest is now pretty general throughout the district. The crop is exceedingly heavy, and the quality not inferior to that received from our neighbours—the Vandemonians. The growers are now offering oat hay at 40s. per ton, wheat, in favoured localities, is beginning to be slightly tinged with that beautiful golden tint so cheering to the heart of the anxious farmer. In some places we have seen it nearly seven feet high—the straw being proportionally strong and the ears as full and plump as any grown in Europe. The large quantity of land devoted to the growth of this grain, and the extraordinary heaviness of the crop induce us to believe we shall not require to import

much Barley and oats are fast advancing to maturity, and should the weather prove fine for ten days more, reaping of these crops will become general. We have seen a sample of the former grain in the neighbourhood of the Moonee Moonee Ponds, termed English barley, which for quality and weight is fully equal to that cultivated in Britain. Our farmers have not, at present, devoted much to the cultivation of Maize, but the little now growing appears to be getting on well, and from what we can learn it will thrive here even better than in the Middle District—our soil being far better adapted for the purpose. The Potato crop promises to be a bountiful one, and should we have a continuance of fine weather, with an intervening shower of rain it would render it much service. Every description of vegetables appears plentiful in our market and of first-rate quality. The late showders have much improved our pasturage in the neighbourhood of Melbourne—the grass appears to grow rapidly and within our memory we have not before witnessed that spring-like appearance which it at present presents, and never was the feed for cattle so plentiful as at present. For the information of our farmers who might be induced to export grain to Britain, we quote the duty imposed on grain from British possessions:—Wheat, 4s.; Barley, 6s.; Oats, 2s. per quarter. The last quotations from the *Mark Lane Express* were:—Wheat, 54s. 9d. Barley, 34s. 1d.; Oats, 22s. 2d. per quarter.—*Ibid.*

**THE CHURCH.**—The Episcopal Church of this district has received a recruit in the person of the Rev. Mr. Dodd, who arrived by the *Royal George*. We have not yet heard where the Rev. gentleman is to officiate.—*Gazette.*

**Legislative Council.**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18.**  
Mr. Robinson presented a petition from Mr. Le Somet, one of the Assistant Protectors of aborigines in the district of Port Phillip, praying the Council to cause enquiry to be made into all the circumstances of his case. Petition read and received.  
Mr. Cowper moved that an address be presented to his Excellency requesting him to place on the estimates a further sum of £200 for the education of the humber classes, according to the existing regulations.  
Mr. Robinson moved an amendment, the previous question, which was seconded by Mr. Blaud, and after a brief discussion carried without a division.  
The Attorney General's motion for leave to bring in a Bill to facilitate appeals from the Supreme Court was postponed until Thursday.  
The third reading of the Melbourne Incorporation Act Amendment Bill was also postponed until Thursday.  
Mr. Windeyer brought up the report of the select committee on the Country Courts of Requests Bill, which was read.  
The Melbourne Corporation Act Suspension Bill was read a third time and passed, and ordered to be presented to the Governor by the Speaker and the Colonial Treasurer.  
The house then went into a committee of supply, and the following sums were voted:—To defray the expenses of the Sydney police for 1845, £7227 17s. 1d.; to defray the expense of the Sydney police from the 2nd of August to the 31st December, 1844, £2000; to defray the expenses of the police for the town of Melbourne from the 2d of August to 31st of December, 1844 £500; towards the support of schools in the district of Port Phillip during the present year, in addition to the sum already appropriated, £30-0; towards the support of schools in the district of Port Phillip during the year 1845, in addition to the sum already voted, £300; for the repair of bridges between Newcastle and Maitland, £50; for the erection of a lock-up at Geelong, £100.  
The house then resumed; and afterwards went into committee on the Circular Quay Wharfage Bill.  
The Colonial Secretary having proposed the first enacting clause, it was opposed by Mr. Lamb, and supported by Mr. Walker and Mr. Blaud.  
Mr. Witdeyer moved an amendment, the effect of which was to fix a duty to be paid to the government on all goods landed, leaving all other charges to be settled by the parties themselves.  
Mr. Lord seconded this amendment, which was opposed by Mr. Lamb, Mr. Blaud, Mr. Walker, and the Colonial Secretary, and on a division was lost by a majority of 4.  
After some further discussion the clause, as moved by the Colonial Secretary, was adopted.  
The remainder of the bill was then gone through, and the house having resumed, the bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a fourth time on Friday.  
The house then went into committee on the estimates of expenditure for 1845, and Sir Thomas Mitchell and Mr. Lewis, the colonial accountant, were called in and examined with reference to the Cook's River Dam; both o-

whom suggested that many improvements might be made in the work. After this evidence had been taken the sum of £300 was voted towards the repair of the dam.  
The Council then resumed, and afterwards went into committee on the Bank of Australia Shares bill, which received several amendments, and was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time on Friday.  
The Council then adjourned.

**THURSDAY.**

The Speaker took the chair at the usual hour.  
The Sergeant at Arms having announced a message from his Excellency the Governor, the Private Secretary was introduced, and presented the same (relative to the Estimates for 1845) which was read by the Speaker, and ordered to be printed.  
Mr. Wentworth then brought forward the resolutions relative to the report of the select committee appointed to enquire into and report upon all grievances not connected with the lands of the territory, of which he had previously given notice. The hon. member said the report was a very imperfect one, inasmuch as many grievances existed which were not mentioned in it. The principal subjects alluded to in the report were the schedules, so novel and unconstitutional, attached to the act; the constitution of the District Councils; and the police and gaols; upon all of which the universal opinion of the country was against the feeble opposition of the opposite benches. He also adverted to the grievance of having all offices of trust and honor in the colony conferred on persons in the United Kingdom, instead of being given to colonists. He pleaded guilty to the charge of having originated the new constitutional form of government, which at no distant period he hoped to see in operation, and he then saw the evils, as he did now, of having two councils in operation in the colony together, by being divided into representatives of the people and nominees of the crown. He thought the crown ought not to vote in the granting of supplies. Another grievance was the want of a responsible government. His friend the Colonial Secretary admitted he was under no responsibility to that house; yet he seemed to think that such a state of things was more conducive to good government than the constitutional form recommended in the report. The matters for legislation in that house were principally of a domestic and local nature, with which Great Britain had nothing to do, and therefore there was no necessity for the appointment of nominees of the crown to watch the interests of the government. He reprobated the practice of the Governor putting his veto on bills which had been solemnly deliberated upon and passed by the Council. What had been the conduct of this imperial office as he had been styled by his hon. friend opposite? Why, instead of finding him an impartial arbitrator between the Council and the mother country, every suggestion and every despatch contained evidence of his determination to do everything adverse to the well-being of this country and the enrichment of the mother country. All this proved that the deliberations of the house should be perfectly free and untrammelled on matters of local legislation, and its decisions final and paramount to all other authority. In no single instance had the executive yielded to the voice of the majority of the people in that house. Under this state of things he thought it quite time for them to look about for the means of obtaining a remedy for these evils in a responsible government, but such men as he had been achieved with in other countries. Then, if a colonial treasurer could be found to pay £70,000 for immigration and debentures, they would have the power of impeachment, which the executive government at present treated as a joke. The hon. gentleman concluded by moving the resolutions, omitting the last section of the 2d resolution.  
The Colonial Secretary said he had intended to have gone through the whole of the resolutions *seriatim*, and to have given his reasons for dissenting from almost the whole of them; but he thought he would consult his public duties better by giving an almost silent vote, or at least he would content himself with recording his dissent from the whole of them.  
Dr. Lang seconded the resolutions, and spoke at considerable length in their support, advocating the right of the colonists to govern themselves by a responsible elective assembly, independently of all executive control.  
The Attorney-General could not allow these resolutions to pass without recording his total dissent from them, inasmuch as the fact of his having been the only member of the government appointed to the committee, his silence might be construed into an assent to their recommendations.  
Mr. Berry supported the resolutions.  
Mr. Wentworth replied, and a division took place, when there were  
Ayes..... 16  
Noes..... 11  
Majority for the motion..... 5  
Addresses to the Queen and both houses of parliament, presented by the general grievance committee, were adopted, upon the motion of Mr. Wentworth. "He first was ordered to be presented to his Excellency the Governor by the Speaker, Mr. Wentworth, and Mr. Witdeyer, for the purpose of being forwarded to Her Majesty. The address to the house of lords was ordered to be forwarded to Lord Polworth, and that to the house of Commons to the honorable Mr. Scott.  
The appropriation bill was read a second time, and considered in committee.  
The estimates bill was withdrawn.

Mr. Foster moved that the house go into committee on the interest bill.  
Mr. Robinson moved that the bill be deferred for three months.  
This amendment was lost by a majority of three. The house then went into committee, and the first clause was being discussed, when it was discovered that there was not a quorum present, and an adjournment took place.  
**FRIDAY.**  
Upon the motion of the Attorney-General, the correspondence of the committee of the Legislative Council with the Hon. F. Scott, was ordered to be printed.  
The name of Mr. Boyd was added to the Corresponding Committee, on the motion of Dr. N. Chisolm.  
The Circular Quay Wharf Bill was read a third time and passed.  
The Appropriation Bill was read a third time and passed.  
The Interest Bill was considered in Committee, and the bill filled up with "eight per cent" as the maximum interest to be allowed in future.  
The Colonial Secretary moved an adjournment. He would propose to sit at twelve o'clock on Saturday, and, if possible, to adjourn at six—meeting again at twelve on Monday, and also adjourning at six. After this it would be necessary to adjourn for a week, in order that his Excellency the Governor might have an opportunity of considering the various bills, which had been passed. Council adjourned.

**AWFUL AND DISTRESSING OCCURRENCE.**

On Thursday last, a most melancholy and terrible catastrophe, which has awakened much excitement throughout the City, occurred in Hunter-street, near George-street. A Mr. Joseph Meyrick, well known in this city, and formerly, we believe, a surgeon in the navy, a gentleman esteemed by all his friends for his many amiable qualities, was walking down the street, when a young man, named Lucius O'Brien, a respectable station in life, deliberately walked up to him, and seizing him by the bosom of the shirt, took a pistol from his pocket, and placing it close to the head of the unfortunate gentleman, discharged it. The ball passed through the hat, slightly grazing the head, but with no more serious effect. Mr. Meyrick then disengaged himself from the grasp of his assailant, and in some yards Mr. O'Brien stood for a second or two, and gazed at him apparently waiting to see if he would fall. He then pursued him, and on coming close to him, drew another pistol and immediately fired, when shocking to relate the ball entered the back and passed into the chest close by the blade bone, inflicting a mortal wound. Several parties of the highest respectability witnessed the whole transaction, but it was too sudden in its occurrence to permit of their interference. A medical gentleman who was passing succeeded in laying hold of Dr. Meyrick before he fell, and supported him into the house of Mr. Mappin, Currier, of Hunter-street, opposite whose door the fatal act was perpetrated. Several medical gentlemen were almost immediately in attendance, but it was at once evident that human skill could not avail. Immediately on being conducted into the house, the sufferer drew from his pocket certain notes and bills, which he died should be given to his nephew, and subsequently evincing much anxiety about the disposal of his property, a memorandum of a will was drawn up to which he affixed his mark. Shortly afterwards Mr. Frank O'Brien the eldest brother of the young man who fired the pistols, having heard of the occurrence repaired to Mr. O'Brien and some slight previous acquaintance with Dr. Meyrick, and on seeing him indignately snatched his side, and taking his hand, asked him earnestly if he had had any quarrel with his brother? The reply was, "Oh God, no! I never saw the young man before, nor do I know that he ever saw me." This he repeated to other parties. After lingering for an hour the unfortunate gentleman expired. Almost immediately after the act, the young man Lucius O'Brien was seized, and a policeman coming up, he was taken into custody and conveyed to the receiving watch-house. He did not indeed make any effort to escape, and his manner and deportment though singular, were settled and determined. On his arrival at the watch-house he was placed in a cell, and lay down, when he appeared to suffer from the effect of exhaustion. On being visited shortly afterwards by his brother, he admitted having taken poison, when medical assistance was obtained; the stomach pumped, but the trace of poison was not then, we believe, discovered. Subsequently it was found that the stomach had discharged previously a large quantity of arsenic; the dose taken having been too great. After the operation of the stomach pump he sunk into a state of helpless apathy, physical and mental, and at about five o'clock in the afternoon he was removed to Dr. Kingdon's.

An Inquest was held on the following yesterday morning, at 9 o'clock, when the body of the gentleman was sworn:—Messrs. J. J. Cohen, David Newton, John Laighton Drew, John Cochran, A. J. Cohen, Jacob Charles Cohen, J. George Raphael, Henry Thomas, James Chapman, Thomas Agars, James Ewen, Abraham Davy, Robert Hore, George Thornton, James Ironside, John Dully, and James Harden. The Coroner in selecting the Jurors, requested any gentleman who could not attend on Tuesday morning, would express himself to that effect, as formal notice which he had received from the gaol, he found that the Surgeon of that establishment had forbidden the removal of the accused, on the ground that in



Select Poetry.

THE UNION BANK COLUMNS.

"Oh it is excellent to have a giant's strength, But it is tyrannous to use it like a giant's."

Measure for Measure.

(From the Port Phillip Gazette.)

Kind friends, for pity sake draw near, And hear our aljert cry;

We like the highly favoured few, Alas for earthly pride;

Save proud Directors! who betrayed Our weakness? Whence the blow?

But late in twain, like beauty ranged, Tell us we ask in tears;

True you have taste, and judgment too, 'Tis no one can deny;

Giants in strength, at your first birth, The Hercules was shown;

Better, far better, in the bed, The rocky bed to lie,

For us no kind Insolvent Court, Proffers its friendly aid,

But broken bankrupts as we are, Neglected and despised,

Pass on, pass on, and heed us not, Walk in thy favoured few;

But trust not to their friendly smile, There is no safety there;

I. O. U.

EXTRAORDINARY TRIAL OF THE RT. HON. SIR JAMES GRAHAM, FOR A MISDEMEANOUR.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT, Aug. 2, 1844.

In consequence of the loud public disapprobation expressed generally throughout the country of the conduct of the Home Secretary...

The Court was crowded to suffocation; many persons of rank and distinction in the political world were present; and among several old ladies who were accommodated with seats on the Bench...

At ten o'clock, the Lord Chief Justice (Denman) took his seat on the Bench, and immediately afterwards the prisoner was brought in, in the custody of two officers of the Court...

After the names of the jury had been called over, and each had answered to his name, the usual oath was administered, after which Mr. Hobbs opened the pleadings, and Mr. Dobbs stated the case...

paper, on parchment, or on plain, white-brown, with or without envelopes, dated or undated, post-paid or otherwise, stamped or unstamped, at the General Post-office, or any other office...

The Learned Gentleman having stated his case, several clerks at the Post-office were called in to prove that they had received orders from the prisoner at this bar to open certain private letters at the General Post-office, which accordingly they did...

The case for the prosecution having closed, Mr. Tomkins, in defence, insisted that the prisoner was justified by official usage, in what he had done. He had every reason to believe that the correspondence which he had caused to be opened, was of a highly seditious and treasonable character...

On the conclusion of the Learned Gentleman's speech, the prisoner was called on to state what he had to say in defence, on which he observed, laying his hand on his heart, that his conscience was pure, and acquitted him of all blame.

At the mention of the word "conscience" a loud laugh rung through the Court, and was echoed by the crowd in the street, on which the venerable Judge exclaimed, with evident emotion, that if such indecent conduct were repeated, he should give orders for the Court to be cleared.

Witnesses were then called to character.—Sir Robert Peel, who was the first witness examined, stated that he had known the prisoner at the bar for many years, and believed him to be a thoroughly honest man—that is to say, as honest as a man could reasonably be expected to be, who was a member of a Conservative Cabinet.

Mr. Hobbs.—I fear that's not saying much for him, Sir Robert.

Sir Robert Peel, with considerable embarrassment.—Perhaps not, but we are all the creatures of circumstances.

Lord John Russell examined.—Had known the prisoner at the bar for a very considerable period, and while he acted with him as a Minister, he always found him attentive to his official duties. He was also exceedingly sober and well-behaved.

Cross-examined by Mr. Hobbs.—Has your Lordship found no reason lately to alter your opinion of him? Take time for consideration, Remember you are on your oath!

Lord John Russell.—I am so sorry to say I have. Since he quitted our service, and put on the Tamworth livery, he has acted towards us in the rudest manner possible; and I have no hesitation in declaring it as my fixed belief, that he will betray whoever trusts him.

Sir Robert Peel with warmth.—He will not betray me, for I never trusted him; but I beg leave most respectfully to add, that I think him a perfectly honest man, for if I were to order him to swear Black was white, he would do so, and if that is not exemplary conduct in a servant, I do not know what is.

The evidence to character having been dismissed, the Learned Judge summed up the facts of the case, when the jury, without quitting the box, found the prisoner guilty. His Lordship then proceeded to pass sentence in the following terms:—"Prisoner at the bar, it is now my painful duty to pass upon you the sentence of the law for a crime which strikes at the root of all public and private morality. It is not my intention to add to the poignancy of your feelings by any lengthened remarks on the inhumanity of your conduct, but I would just venture to remind you that what is morally wrong can never be politically right."

Sir Robert Peel, with emphasis.—"I beg most respectfully to dispute the action of the Learned Judge. There's my Income-tax, for instance, which, though morally wrong, as all parties admit, is, nevertheless, politically right, inasmuch as it keeps me in place, and returns five millions to the Exchequer."

The Lord Chief Justice.—"If the Right Honourable persists in this indecorous interruption, I shall be under the painful necessity of committing him for contempt of Court."

The Venerable Judge then sentenced the prisoner to a month's imprisonment, with hard labour, in his own Penitentiary at Kingston.

A Voice from the Crowd.—If the whole Cabinet were sentenced to a month's imprisonment, with hard labour, it would be no more than they deserve.

The prisoner heard the sentence unmoved, and was immediately taken away in the custody of two officers of the Court, in order to have his head shaved, and dressed in the usual prison costume. The sentence appeared to give unmingled satisfaction to the whole Court, and the "oldest inhabitant" was heard to say, that he never remembered to have witnessed such an exhibition of popular extasy.

FEMALE CURIOSITY.

A naval officer who some time ago came to reside in Edinburgh, having previously engaged a large mansion on a short lease, dispatched his butler to receive his furniture and have his house put in order.

The butler engaged a young woman residing in the neighbourhood to clean out the rooms and arrange part of the furniture; and he assisted her himself to carry up a large chest of rather singular appearance. This giant chest his master had purchased as a curiosity; but unlike that described in the song of the *Mistletoe Bough*, it did not shut, but opened with a spring attached to the lock; which being touched, the lid flew open, and a tall brave Highlandman, in full costume, stood erect, and struck at his right arm, in which was a wooden sword. The gentleman purchased it as a curious piece of mechanism, and was wont to amuse his children with it.

"That's a heavy chest," said the woman as they placed it on the floor. "Yes," answered the butler, who was a wag of the first water, "there's something heavy in it, certainly; but there's something mysterious about it also; for, although the key hangs at the end of it, not one of us is allowed to open it."

"Did you ever see the inside of it?" replied she, walking round it.

"Never," said he. "It's as much as any of our places is worth even to speak about it." So saying the knight of the cork-crew looked first at the woman, then at the chest, then on the floor; and then retired slowly down stairs, whistling, to work on the ground flat.

The girl proceeded to put things to rights in the room; but every time she passed the chest she thought it looked more odd. "Really, that name is woman!" She rapped on the lid with her knuckles—it had a curious hollow sound—very! And none of the servants had dared to open it! What on earth does it contain? Well, it was none of her business; she went diligently to work for five minutes, at the end of which time she found herself standing, with her arms akimbo, gazing on the chest. "It can do no harm to look into it," thought she; so she quietly took the key from the nail, and applied it to the lock. Of course she heard footsteps on the stairs—as every one will do when afraid of detection in the commission of some act they wish to keep secret. Again she regained confidence, and returned to the chest; she stooped, and turned the key. Up flew the lid; and the wooden Highlandman, in kit and phillibegs, rang on his legs with more than human agility, and fetched the petrified girl a sharp kick across the shoulders with the flat of his *Andrea Ferrara*.

A prolonged shriek, ending in a moan of despair, issued as the poor woman had sought to get away. The butler heard the shout, and guessed at once the cause. Holding both his sides with laughter, he ascended the stairs, and watched the issue of the transaction through the key hole of the door of an adjoining room. In the course of a few minutes the woman rose on her elbow, looking wildly around the room, till her eyes caught the Highlandman brooding over her. Seeing nothing but destruction awaiting her, two springs took her to the door; down stairs she went, followed by the butler (who saw matters were becoming serious, as if she were warring, taking a flight of steps at every jump, and roving for aid, under the misleading impression, that not the butler, but the Highlandman was at her heels, nor did she either slacken her pace, or look over her shoulder, till she found herself standing in the house of a lady in the neighbourhood, into which she at once ran, on seeing the door open.

The poor woman did not recover from the fright for several days; but has ever since had a greater antipathy to a large chest than a mad dog; nor has she displayed any undue inclination to meddle with matters that do not concern her. As for a Highlandman, she positively refused to be any eligible offer of marriage, two months ago, to a handsome "kiltie," who never for a moment doubted that he would carry her heart by storm by appearing in full costume.

AN ACCOMPLISHED THIEF.

(From the Bombay Courier.)

Some clever frauds committed some months back on two principal merchants of Bombay are at present under investigation by the Police. It appears that in the month of March last, a Marwarry named Shah Hemma Munran, the defendant arrived in Bombay and gave out that he was the Goomashia, (head clerk) of a well known native merchant of Mulligaum, named Peiry Caichundt, at whose particular request he had come to Bombay to purchase pearls to the extent of 20,000 rupees, and accordingly got brokers to recommend him to some pearl merchants; he was directed to one Deokuram Tharamut of whom he purchased pearls to the value of 6467 rupees; these he broker, one Jairam Nanjee, tied in a bag, and took to his own house, where he said he would keep the pearls till the defendant paid for them; the defendant appeared very well satisfied with the arrangement and went away. The next day he returned and said he wished to examine the pearls before paying for them, which he would do in a few days, as he was momentarily expecting a Hoondee for a large sum—the bundle of pearls was given to him

and he was half an hour occupied in examining it, and at last declared he was perfectly satisfied, but to avoid leaving the trouble of re-examining them he would seal up the bundle with his own seal, and for that purpose took his station at a window, the real motive for this will soon be seen, some sealing wax and a light were shortly brought to him, the broker recommended him to go into a corner to seal the bundle as it was blowing too fresh at the window for the light to live this being just what his customer wanted, he readily coincided with him and took his station in a corner, where he appeared to be carefully sealing up the bundle, but which was afterwards found not to have been the case, as he had taken that opportunity of substituting a ready sealed bundle of false pearls for the real ones, however he was not then detected, all passed on, and he returned, as the broker thought, the same bundle that had been given him. He then informed the broker that on his way down to Bombay, he was obliged to leave a servant who had broken his leg, at Punwell, whom he wished to see, and would therefore go there for a few days, in the meanwhile the Hoondee would arrive from his master, after which he would return and pay for the pearls—the unsuspecting broker expressed regret at the accident his servant had met with, and recommended him to go as quickly as possible; however the villain, not satisfied with the large booty he had already got, had the temerity, in the name of his alleged master, to ask for a valuable gold chain which the broker had for sale, and requested it to be entered in the books of the firm against his name: the broker immediately gave him the chain, which was of the value of 425 rupees, which the prisoner carefully put into his pocket, and then took his leave, and walked away never to return. Time passed on, and the customer not appearing, the broker went to the Bazaar to make enquiries, when, to his astonishment, he heard a report that his late customer was an imposter, and had decamped from Bombay, after defrauding a pearl merchant of pearls to the extent of 6000 rupees. Jairam returned to his shop, congratulating himself on only losing 400 rupees when a brother tradesman had lost 6000, and thought of immediately returning the pearls, which he feared he was so early losing, but his astonishment may be conceived when on opening the bundle he found it to contain false pearls.

The name of the other person defrauded is Narratun Narrudass, who was tricked almost in the same way as his fellow sufferer, and in the mean time while the deprecator got off scot free with his booty, which amounted in all to 11,951 rupees.

The sufferers sent their agents to Surat and other places to make search for the prisoner, and at length a few days ago succeeded in apprehending him at Surat without any of his ill gotten gains, which there is no doubt he has concealed in some secure place.

THE NELSON MONUMENT.—It was stated on Monday night in the House of Commons, by Sir R. Peel, in reply to Mr. Wye, that an offer had been made by an eminent artist to complete the Nelson Monument, which offer the Government had rejected. Most of our contemporaries in their report of the following morning, stated that the artist who made this offer was named Parsons, and that he stipulated to receive £5 000. This statement is wholly erroneous. The artist who made this offer was Mr. Patrick Park, the sculptor. The offer was made to the Nelson Committee, and not to the Government, and Mr. Park, with a public spiritedness and generosity seldom equalled, offered to complete the monument on his own responsibility, and at his own cost, rather than any further difficulty should occur in the matter, or that the committee should be holders of the liberality of a foreign potentate for the means of completing a national testament to a British hero.—London Paper, July 25.

WOOL DRAYS.—A quantity of wool arrived in Sydney on Monday last, to be shipped on board the *Gardland Gouse*, for Liverpool, and to all outward appearance, the bales were quite dry; the Captain, however, was not satisfied, and had one of them opened, when, to the astonishment of the by standers, the centre was completely saturated with water, and steaming. Now, but for the precaution of the Captain, this very wool might have been stowed, and the ship sent to sea without further thought, until the cargo (as in the case of the *Despatch*, and other vessels) heated throughout, would, in all probability, have destroyed the lives of those on board, as well as the vessel. We trust this notice will have the effect of causing some supervision, on the part of the Government, of all wools, prior to shipment.—Homesteady Courier.



