

Edmund Wilson
Church Street
Harrowgate

The General Cemetery.

THE General Cemetery question which was brought forward in the Legislative Council on the 13th instant, has been discussed in another arena, equally noted for talkativeness and trifling. The members of the City Council, do not often stumble upon liberal principles; and it seems fated, that when any of them do go out of the usual course, to advocate enlightened and beneficial measures; that they should be left in the minority. We were agreeably surprised on Monday to find two Aldermen and four Councillors act in concert by agitating for a popular advantage, and advise their coadjutors to petition the Legislative Assembly to place the proposed General Cemetery under the controul of the City Corporation; had they succeeded, they would have gone far towards hastening into oblivion, those heart-burning and malignant sectarian distinctions: which at once afflict, and disgrace the colony.

The objection on the part of Mr. Fisher, against the motion of Aldermen Wilshire and Macdermott; which seemed most to bias the besotted majority, was worthy of a common Councillor:—the remark does not appear in the papers, but he declared that as hitherto the Council had done little or nothing, it was inexpedient for them to undertake such a task, until they had worked through the business on hand. A truly orthodox reasoner is Mr. F.—we've done no good hitherto, and therefore we ought not to begin now, until we have cleared away the accumulated rubbish, that has been generated in the skulls, (not brains) of the Corporate body. As a matter of course the motion failed, and the six members will perhaps comprehend, for the future, that the advancement of a popular benefit is work for some other institution.

We cannot determine whether the conduct of those who would raise difficulties, or permit them to remain, in the way of a project of this nature, is most contemptible or criminal, it savours strongly of both—nothing short of idiocy, detestable hypocrisy, or villainous avarice could enable men to listen unmoved, to the harrowing account of the Spa Fields burial ground, which we extract from a London paper; and will be found in another column, and which will incontestably prove how essential a General Cemetery is to every great city.

It is full time that the attempts to perpetrate sectarian differences should be crushed in the bud—they are totally at variance with the spirit of the day, and the liberal standing of our colonial institutions. The curse of religious distinctions; begotten in tyranny, and reared in vice and pride, received its death blow in the Church Act; and the expiring throes which those bigots, who from either the love of pelf; or the ravings of idiocy, are still making, to prolong its baneful existence; ought and must sooner or later receive its coup de grace by the adoption of Dr. Lang's ideas.

We regret greatly the loss of the motion adverted to, other corporate bodies, in other lands, afford a well tried precedent for the Cemetery being placed, under the controul of the Corporation; but here especially it was much needed; as it would at once take the ground from under the faction, who do the dirty work of a grasping priesthood; whose love of filthy lucre conducts their insatiable cravings, even to the brink of the grave:—to whom the health of the living, the feelings of the bereaved, and the repose of the departed: seem alike indifferent: provided that they may engross in their hands, the profits and the influence, which an exclusive predominance in the Cemetery, would confer upon them.

THE STAR,

And Working Man's Guardian.

No. 79.] AUG. 30, 1845. [1d.

NEW ZEALAND.

The barque British Sovereign, arrived on Wednesday, having left the Bay of Islands on the 6th instant. Her only intelligence is bringing an, apparent, confirmation of the unfitness of the "Stand-off-the-Grass Hero," for the duty he has been employed on, and which he appears to have with great candour and ingenuity acknowledged, by proceeding with the major part of his staff to Auckland, to consult Governor Fitzroy, and being evidently a man fond of extremes, has resolved to shew his love for the climax of absurdity by he—himself, a military man,—going to consult a naval officer on land operations! It is rumoured that the British Sovereign will forthwith return to New Zealand with 300 men: and it is to be hoped that with them will be sent some experienced officer, who will prevent the exertions and courage of our troops being rewarded with mockery and death. Colonel Despard's real would be of infinite consequence—his best field of battle is the George-street Barrack-square, and his enemies the nursemaids and goats.—Shakespeare's advice eminently applies to him—"Let him play the fool no where but in his own house.

There had been, since the last advices no collision between the natives and our troops; who were still encamped at Waimate.

H. M. S. North Star arrived at the Bay, on the 31st ultimo, and relieved H. M. S. Hazard, which then went on to Auckland.

The City Council.

MET on Monday.

Mr. Ryan intimated to the Council that if the Argyle-street cut, was continued at its present width private property would be encroached on, and this cut direct on houses, would subject the Corporation to a cut oblique before the Supreme Court.

The City Solicitor having forwarded the draft of the new Building Act, Alderman Wilshire stating that it was necessary no time should be lost in its presentation to the Legislative Council, and as the Council were always known to be a slow going body moved the suspension of their standing order, and they should at once sit upon it, which being agreed to, the bill was approved of, and a deputation appointed to present it to Mr. Wentworth, who was to introduce it to the Legislative Council.

Alderman Wilshire moved the appointment of a committee to prepare an address to the Legislature praying that the proposed Cemetery should be vested in the Corporation as is the custom in England, France, Scotland, and America: that it should be open to persons of all religious persuasions, and that the fees for the construction of vaults, erection of tomb-stones, and costs of interments, should be payable to the Council, for the benefit of the City.

Alderman M'Dermott seconded the motion, and alluded to the state of the present burial ground, which was perfectly disgraceful, when it was considered the enormous fees that were exacted, 30s. for space occupied by each corpse, as also a fee for opening the ground another for mason work to the surface, another for riling, and in fact so many additional ones, that he should prefer living to dying just now; he wished to see an assimilation of fees and such, only to be exact-

ed, as would pay for the keeping up of the cemetery—and by this being vested in the city, do away with the stain on it, that the body of a pauper could not be admitted, unless some charitable people subscribed to pay for it.

Mr. Fisher opposed the motion, stating that his sense did not allow him to perceive how the corporation could have the ground as it was out of the City bounds.

Alderman M'Dermott shewed under the first clause of the Corporation Act, the council could have power over such a property.

Mr. Fisher then continued that a burying ground out of the city, would not be secure for the dead, and he for one, considering he might be more valuable after death than he was now, should not like his corpse to be stolen.

On a division, the motion was lost by a majority of seven.

The Council then went into Committee to consider the By-law regulating the proceeding for the election of Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors, on which a long discussion arose as to whether, as the Council was not worth an opinion of its own, besides not able to form one, the City Solicitor should be called in and asked his, which being moved was lost—an adjournment being moved and seconded.

Alderman Wilshire said if they did not like his By-laws, he'd never give them any more, and that the Council were regularly burking them.

Mr. Fisher then said that so they ought to be burked.

Great confusion now prevailed, and the Mayor was about half an hour before he could get order, although every body was calling for it, and when this was obtained, the Council began the By-laws again at the beginning, and it was proposed that the whole code should be rejected, with the exception that the election for Mayor, should be in the Town Hall, which as every one hoped to hold that office sooner or later, was unanimously agreed to.

On the motion for rejection being put it was lost, and another long squabble ensued, at the conclusion of which, the rejection of the next clause was put and carried.

An adjournment was then proposed, and it being half-past six, tea and dinner time, carried.

INQUEST.—An inquest was held on Friday, at Drivvor's, Elizabeth-street, on the body of John Seymore, better known as Jack the Painter, whose sudden death we report in another column, when testimony was adduced that the deceased had been during the last six months, scarcely ever sober, and that he was subject to fits which often occurred three or four times in a week, and that shortly after coming on Thursday morning, to the lime-kiln, he was attacked with one, in the paroxysm of which he fell into the water, and on being got out he was seized with a recurrence of them, in one of which he expired. Dr. Silver deposed that death had been occasioned by apoplexy, originating from habits of intemperance, and satisfactorily explained the bruises and contusions appearing about the deceased's head and face, as having been caused by his coming into contact with some logs of wood lying at the Lime-kiln, when struggling about in his fits—the Jury returned a finding of Natural Death.

An inquest was held at Entwistle's, Masonic Hall, York-street, touching the death of Bernard Hill, Bands man of the 99th regiment, then lying dead in the Military Barracks. It appeared that the deceased had been for some time past afflicted with a disease of the heart, for which he was in the habit of taking Morphia, and was observed to take a dose of this medicine on Thursday evening. On the following morning, his mother on going to his bed perceived his legs uncovered, and on further examination found him to be perfectly insensible. The surgeon of the regiment was then called in, and the usual remedies were employed, but without success, as the deceased expired in the course of the afternoon, and a post mortem examination being made, and the contents of the stomach tested, it was at once evident the deceased had taken an over-dose of this powerful drug—and a finding in accordance was returned.

MAULING AND WEDGING.—A man named Wm. Bray was, on Monday, brought before the Police Court, charged with stealing a quantity of quarrying tools, the property of a person named Agnew. It appeared that the prosecutor having purchased about a week ago, several mauls and wedges, from Mr. Stewart, of the Woolpack, on Brickfield-hill, left them there for

the purpose of executing some work he had to perform on the premises, but found on his proceeding thither, to commence it, that some industrious person had been before him, and *wedged* the tools out of the way. A search was then made among the marine store shops, and at the repository of a person named Lockwood, who keeps a general depot, near the Hay-market, for every thing from anchors to decanter stoppers, two of the mauls were found, and he taken into custody, but not fancying the *mauling* he might be subjected to for having stolen property in his possession, stated that he had bought them of one of Mr. Stewart's servants, who turned out to be the prisoner, and who was consequently, on this, his master's and Agnew's testimony committed for trial.

FIVE DOCK STEEPLE CHASE.—The report of these races was kept back last week for the purpose of enquiring into the truth and justness of several complaints which had reached us of a flagrant imposition having been practised, and which has been found to be perfectly well grounded. The complaint is that on the visitors to the races arriving at the paddock where they were held, certain rates were demanded for the admission of carriages, cabs, and saddle horses, which were exceedingly high, and as in none of the advertisements announcing the races, was one word about fees for admission ever mentioned, consequently this taxation on amusement, was, to say the least, most artfully contrived and speciously exacted, and the whole affair bears a very near resemblance to a job, and it becomes reasonable to infer that the object of the races was not to incite such a competition as would tend to improve the breed of colonial stud, but to put money in the pockets of the proprietors of the course, and for whose benefit alone this disgraceful trickery seems to have been practised.—Of the steeple chases, they were lamentable exhibitions, the equestrians, with one or two exceptions, being immeasurably below the ability of the Cockney apprentice sporting, on his borrowed knacker, at an Easter Monday Epping Hunt. The spills were innumerable: pitch and toss was a favorite game, and had not some of the riders possessed heads which were rather harder than the ground, the Parramatta Coroner would have netted a considerable sum. The fact is, the colony is too young yet for such masterly exhibitions of equestrianism as steeple chases, and consequently such English sportsmen as know what sort of thing it is in old England and Ireland did not engage in it, but left it to those insane nobodies who fancying they knew all, yet knew nothing, and had the pleasure of seeing whose gross presumption rewarded by their frequent grovellings in the mud. The following is the account of the heats:—1st day—Harkaway Stakes—3 miles, 9 leaps, Mr. Cooper Turner's Floder. Hurry Skurry Race—3 miles, 9 stiff leaps, Mr. Boyd's Highflyer.—2nd day—Beaten Stakes, won by Mr. Argent's Rodney, and the Hack Stakes by Oily Gammon. The attendance was not very good, owing partly to several parties on arriving at the gate, and finding they had to pay toll, *told off* and returned to town.

SUDDEN DEATH.—On Thursday morning, a well-known character named Jack the Painter, and who is seldom if ever, in a state of sobriety, went to the limekilns, at the bottom of Liverpool-street, and complaining of being cold and unwell, lay himself down in such a manner as to obtain the heat from them. On the lime-burners going to dinner at one o'clock, one of them perceiving him to be asleep, laid something under his head, and on their returning at two o'clock, Jack was discovered to be dead. As there was some marks of violence about the head—an inquest will be held.

THE THEATRE.—On Monday evening Weber's unrivalled Opera of "Der Frieschutz," or rather a vile representation of it, was brought out at the Victoria Theatre. We confess that curiosity, rather than the expectation of seeing anything respectable in the exhibition prevailed upon us to visit the Theatre, feeling by no means sanguine that the capacity of the artists selected were adapted to the peculiar line in which they were cast. The opening scene went off passably, and almost persuaded us to anticipate that the performance would be sustained with greater spirit, than we found in the sequel to be realized. The succeeding scenes, however, flagged miserably,—the actors being contemptibly inefficient in point of those peculiar talents requisite in an opera of this description.—The faults are not so much in the performers, as in the manage-

ment, whose intense stupidity impels them to thrust good actors into parts wholly at variance with the cast in which they are qualified to excite admiration. We cannot but wish that such men as Wyatt were prohibited from interfering with the drama. The selection of this opera evinces the utmost misappreciation of the capabilities of the company: the costumes were ill-suited to the piece, and must have been picked up promiscuously in the wardrobe. Zamell's dress was monstrously outre; we might expect better taste in a barn. The idea of making Weber's fiend, a black bearded, tin faced, melodramatic devil, is abominable. We imagine that an efficient corps of claqueurs were in attendance, for the piece was occasionally applauded notwithstanding its glaring failure, and even ventured again upon the public.—The after Piece, which depended almost wholly upon Griffith, was scarcely worth remark.

INQUEST.—An Inquest was held at Board's public house, corner of Clarence and Market Streets, on the body of a man named Smith, who, it appeared, was another victim to the baneful effects of intemperance. The evidence adduced proved that the deceased commenced drinking on the previous week, and continued doing so until the Sunday, during the whole of which time he had never eaten anything. On Monday he took to his bed, and although the persons with whom he lodged knew he was ill, and wished to get him medical advice, he refused having any, and insisted a Dr. should not be called in, and expired about 4 o'clock on Tuesday morning.

A BEAST.—A free man named Alexander Stark was, on Monday, committed for trial, for a rape committed on a girl of about ten years of age, named Caroline Watson. The evidence, which fully established the offence, was, as its details were of a revolting description, taken in the private room.

Tahiti.

By Sandwich Island Papers, we learn that Pomare still remains at Raitea, awaiting the reply of the manifesto she had sent to the King of the French, the receipt of which will decide her on what step to take. Her relatives and a large number of friendly chiefs were with her.

The natives still continued in arms, and refused to obey French authority, and although there had been no serious outbreak, yet there was some slight stir apparent among them, in consequence of a petty chief, named Tarria, having, after declaring for the French, been afforded a fort and blockhouse.

The French Governor and the Chief Parada having officially announced the termination of the siege on the 12th of May, the Police regulations are less stringent. All crimes are now tried by Court Martial, and five persons supposed to be convicts escaped from this colony, had been found guilty of burglary. The French troops, by means of the batteries, acknowledged Queen's Victoria's birth day.

Provisions were very scarce.

Port Phillip.

The late papers received from this province are principally occupied with a trial before the Supreme Court, between a settler named Sprot, and Captain Pyans, the C. C. L., for Portland, for dispossessing the former of a cattle-run, and removing his stock; the damages were laid at £1000. The case had already occupied the court four days and was likely to last two or three more, and as the decision would settle the point whether the Commissioners are or are not to be perfect Autocrats in their Districts, it was exciting great interest amongst the pastoral gentry.

The first action for Crim Con, ever tried in the province, was likely to shortly come off. The Plaintiff and Defendant were squatters in the Western District, and the former finding out that the latter, besides being a partner in the station, wished to be a *sleeping partner* in such portion of his property as he considered he

alone had a right to, and by way of equivalent, making him an addition to the numerous head of *horned stock*, he removed his better-half to Melbourne, whither the defendant on a plea of "important private business" shortly afterwards proceeded. The husband followed, and on enquiry at the hotel where his partner was staying, got such information as to the visits of a female, as induced him to keep a watch, and finally succeeded in catching the pair of them in a very peculiar situation.

An instance has occurred of a "man of letters" not being a *literary* character; as the Post-man employed to carry the letters from Fiery Creek to Port Fairy, is unable to read; the consequence of which is that he often passes the doors of persons for whom he has letters, and conveys them about 80 miles away.

An inhabitant of Melbourne has lately commenced manufacturing horse hair seating for sofas, &c.. The article manufactured is superior to that produced in England, as the greater portion of that is made of whalebone, whilst this article is woven with horse hair in a black thread web. It is being worked in pieces of 18 to 21 inches wide, and sells rapidly at from 4s. to 7s. a-yard.

Our readers may recollect a case of gross depravity, reported some time since, in the seduction of a child named Ellerby, by the master of a vessel, for which he was committed for trial—but acquitted in consequence of it appearing that the mother was in the habit of living upon her child's prostitution. The following relative to this monster in human shape, appears in the "Patriot":—

HORRIBLE DEPRAVITY.—We were never more disgusted than on Saturday night last, at witnessing, in the vicinity of the Theatre, that wretched woman Ellerby, with her two daughters, one about 13, and the other about 11 years of age, *harboring* them, as it appeared to us.

The amount appearing on the Estimates for 1846, for expenditure in the province during that year, on public works is £12,384 5s.

Portland Bay.

THE ABORIGINES.—Intelligence has reached town of another desperate murder committed by the blacks at a place called Crocker Swamp, in the Portland Bay District, in the early part of last month. The victim in this case was a decent man of the name of William Brown, who was assailed by the treacherous savages when perfectly unconscious of being in their vicinity, and disabled before he had time to take measures in his own defence, though armed with a loaded double-barrelled gun. The body of the deceased was stripped of its clothing, and the gun carried off was found by a companion of the deceased, shortly after the catastrophe occurred, who, on running to give the alarm, found the blacks in the act of driving off the sheep, but being armed only with a carbine, while his late comrade's loaded gun was presented at him by one of the savages, he was under the necessity of keeping his distance until he could obtain assistance. Four hundred sheep were driven off, but a close pursuit being instituted they were all recovered but twelve, as was also the gun which had belonged to the deceased; his murderer who had decked himself out in the unfortunate man's clothes, contrived to make his escape, leaving the gun in the possession of one of the *loubras*.—"Melbourne Courier."

Geelong.

The following *sootable* advertisement appears in the last No. of the "Geelong Advertiser":—

CHIMNEY SWEEP.

WILLIAM M'DONALD, Chimney-sweep has just arrived from Sydney, and is ready to receive orders for the cleaning of Chimneys in a professional manner.

As William M'Donald has arrived here,
He sweeps your Chimneys clean, and not too dear;
Puts out Chimneys when on Fire,
And cleans Smoke-jacks at your desire.

The attention of the public is drawn to the Act of Council, which forbids them to set their chimneys on fire, when their is a professional sweep in the town.

This man, though a sweep, seems to know the truth of the following lines:—

If you wish in the world to rise,
Take in a newspaper and advertiser.

Country News.

MAITLAND.

A fresh candidate had offered himself for the representation of the Northumberland Boroughs, in the person of the late Insolvent Town Clerk, of Sydney, Mr. Charles Henry Chambers. It is almost impossible for the power of Impudence to go farther, and although it is natural to expect to find strange doings in an Attorney, we are even now half inclined to believe it to be a hoax, and that some wag has been endeavouring to supersede nature by art, by making the little man more ridiculous than he even is. If, however, it be true, and the would-be M. C. follows up his idiocy by the downright insanity of going to the Poll, there will be something like a good contest, more particularly if the report be true that a requisition has been forwarded to Mr. Robert Fitzgerald, inviting him to come forward, and he complies with it.

The prisoners of the Crown who distinguished themselves by their exertions at the late fire, have been rewarded by the Government, by recommending the allowance to such of them as held Tickets-of-Leave, of Conditional Pardons; and granting a prisoner attached to the Stockade, a Ticket-of-Leave.

NEWCASTLE.

The Steamers having raised their prices, the coasting vessels were receiving the benefit, as their charge for passage to Sydney is only five shillings.

Private Distillation is rumoured to be carried on to a considerable extent in the District.

The Hooping Cough is very prevalent in the District, but fortunately the disease is of a very mild character.

SINGLETON.

A very daring attempt at burglary was lately made, on the premises of Mr. Lesley, a Chemist and Druggist, in this township, by a discharged servant named Duffy. It appears that this youth having subjected a back window of the house to the Cathartic process, then opened the front doors, so that in the event of being surprised whilst he was purging the premises, he could easily escape, and having contrived to get a bunch of keys out of the pocket of a person who was in charge of the house, while he was asleep in a room adjoining the shop, opened a chest, but making a noise in getting something out of it, the sleeper was awakened, and Duffy seized hold of. A violent struggle ensued, and had not some of the neighbours who had been alarmed promptly arrived, and rendered their aid in securing the burglar, he would have got away. Amongst the articles found packed up for removal, it is worthy of remark, there were no medicines; the thief doubtless, thinking that if he had taken them they would have operated their own punishment.

WINDSOR.

SUDDEN AND MELANCHOLY DEATH.—With sorrow we announce the death of Mr. J. R. Templer, of Denham Park, near Penrith, on Wednesday night, the 13th instant, while returning home from attending a party given by Edward Cox, Esq., of Mulgoa. It is supposed that the deceased, while riding quickly along, came in contact with a branch of a large tree which overhangs the road, about two miles from Penrith, and that, consequently, his death was instantaneous. The horse returned homewards, and the family observing him without his master, immediately went in search, and found him lying on the road quite lifeless.

We understand that three or four individuals have been killed in a similar manner at the same place,—and it is rather surprising that none of their relatives have caused the removal of the fatal branch!—"Hawkesbury Courier."

GOULBURN.

Since our last, the following particulars relative to the escape which it will be at once perceived was most artfully and unfortunately too efficiently contrived, from the new Gaol, of Biddle, the notorious Mail Robber, and a man named Phillips, under committal for stealing sheep-skins from Mr. Bradley, M. C.—have reached us.

It seems that these men were confined in a double cell on the first floor of the building, and at sunrise on the morning of Sunday week, the turnkey's wife happening to pass by the side of it, discovered a large opening in the wall, and on the ground beneath, a large and strong gimblet, an inch and a-quarter mortice iron, a razor, the blade of a pocket knife, and a half-burnt candle, and on the cell door being opened, the gaol-birds were found to have flown either at a late hour on

the previous night, or at an early one of the morning. The mode by which escape had been attained was now visible, the gimblet had been employed to bore two series of holes, on a level with the floor, close to one another, in the strong wood lining of the cell, so that the piece could at once be removed, and the mortice iron was then used to take out the bricks from the wall, which from its thickness, and the smallness of the tool with which they worked, the labour must have been by no means inconsiderable, as although some of the bricks removed by them, and which they drew into the cell to prevent the noise that would have been occasioned by their falling outside, were whole, the greater portion of them were broken, into small pieces. The aperture made, they reached the ground, a depth of about twelve feet, by a rope they had formed out of their blankets.

By what means these tools had been got into the gaol, is at present a mystery; one conjecture is that they were procured through an air hole at the top of the cell, and which runs through the wall, but as this aperture is very small, and the thickness of the wall above two feet, it is not likely they could easily force the inflexible kind of rope they had wove out of the blanket, through it, but it is just feasible that Phillips, the smaller man of the two, got upon Biddle's shoulders, so as to reach the opening, and as it is considerably wider in the inside of the cell, than on the outside of the wall, he was enabled to force himself so far into it as to have the power of thrusting the rope through the grating, to some persons outside, who afforded them the tools used for their flight.

The most cleverly contrived portion of their plan, was getting Chief Constable Hunt, and an active turnkey, out of the way, which was succeeded in by Biddle giving him information as to the haunts of some of the bushrangers, who have been so long levying contributions in the district, and the localities of where large portions of "swag" would be recovered, and on which wild-goose chase, for it is absurd to suppose there was any truth in this information—these two officers started three days before the escape took place; notwithstanding this admirable ruse, the plan was near being frustrated by the intention of removing Phillips to Berrima on the Saturday morning, but this he managed to evade, by acquainting the turnkey who waited on him to inform him that his carriage was ready, that he was dreadfully ill and unable to remove, and referring to Dr Waugh, as a person who had attended him some two years previously, and that gentleman certifying that he had been unwell at the period named, it was resolved to allow him to remain for another day or two.

There has undoubtedly been some gross negligence in the case, for on the cell being closely examined, it was evident the removal of the boards and bricks had been some days labour, and that the gimblet holes were plastered with bread, and the cell bucket had been always placed before where the hole was, to conceal their work on any person entering the cell, and which if the common caution which ought to have been used, had been exercised, this escape would never have occurred.

All Goulburn was naturally in a commotion, and the Police, Mounted and Foot, have been sent out in all directions. The last accounts that have been gathered of these Australian Jack Sheppards, is that Phillips with his brother fugitive, went home to his wife, stopped a short time, and then mounting saddle horses which were in readiness for them, were soon "over the Hills and far away."

This latter fact of the ready saddled horses, proves that the escape was premeditated and planned, but where—*perhaps* in the GAOL?

Legislative Council.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21.

The Bill Consolidating the laws relative to Coin was read a third time and passed.

The Council went into a Committee of supply, and the following Estimates were passed

Establishment of his Excellency the Governor	620	18	9
Legislative Council	3452	5	0
Floating Light at Port Jackson	552	17	6
Light House, South Head	490	16	3
Harbour Department, Newcastle	200	0	0
Ditto, Port Macquarie	196	9	7
Ditto, Moreton Bay	282	2	6
Colonial Storekeeper	804	7	11
Port Master's Department	1467	18	9

The Impounding and Census Bill were read a first time.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22.

Dr Lang presented a petition from John Ray, a carpenter, of Sydney, complaining that evidence he gave before the Public Works Committee of last Session had been omitted in the printed Report, and praying that as the Colonial Architect's department had given great dissatisfaction by not throwing the work to be performed by it open to public competition, the Council would direct such to be in future pursued.

Mr. Robinson presented a petition from a number of ship-owners, and masters, complaining of the inconvenience of the Water Police Bench being at the Police Office in George-street, and praying that it might be removed to the Custom House.

Dr. Lang moved an address to the Governor for a copy of some correspondence that had taken place relative to the falsification of some School Returns at the Paterson, by the minister there, in his voluntary zeal to convict ministers of another religion, of error, and in which he had gone out of his way to place himself in the position of a common Informer.

The Colonial Secretary admitted the case, and that the school-masters who had led to the deception had been dismissed, and as the clergyman had not been actuated by a wilful desire to mislead, but was himself imposed on, wished Dr. L. to withdraw his motion—which was complied with.

Mr. Lewie brought in a bill for regulating the sale and delivery of coals, in the City of Sydney. The bill was on the same principle as the Act in force in London, and in the course of some remarks made on the bill, the beneficial principles of which were unanimously admitted; reference being made to the monopoly in this article enjoyed by the A. A. Company, by virtue of their Charter, and that the Government were bound in good faith to support it, it was maintained that they had no power to grant such a Charter, and that it was altogether unconstitutional.

The Bill was then read a first time.

Dr. Nicholson moved for a Select Committee to enquire and report the best means of promoting Immigration—which was granted.

Bills to amend the Public Accounts, and to amend the Licensing Act, were severally brought in, and read a first time.

The punishment of Death in cases of Forgery Bill, was read a second time.

TUESDAY, AUG. 26.

Mr. Wentworth presented a petition from Captain Russell praying for leave to introduce a bill authorising the erection of a bridge over the Nepean.

Dr. Nicholson and Mr. Robinson presented petitions from Meibourne, praying that a sum of money might be put on the Estimates, for the formation of a Botanic Garden.

Mr. Cowper introduced a bill which was read a first time, for amending the law relative to auctioneers, and the collection of Auction Duties, and the bill was subsequently referred to a select committee.

The petition of the parties engaged in the coasting trade, complaining of certain regulations, pressing with peculiar severity on that body, was taken into consideration. The evils complained of were the payment of certain fees to the Harbour Master's department, for services which were never performed. The heavy amount of the clearance fee, and the regulation that coasters coming into harbour after sunset, must anchor below Pinchgut, by which cargoes of grain were liable to become heated and destroyed, and colliers often lost a trip.

The Colonial Secretary expressed the willingness of the Government to make any alterations that might be desired, and promised to support any bill that might be introduced for such purpose.

Mr. Wentworth produced an account of the expenses and receipts of the Will Watch, coaster, by which it appeared that the profit to the owner was only £6 13s. 4d. a trip, and when it was considered that it was impossible to insure these vessels—it became necessary to lower these objectionable imposts, which were on each trip 15s., in order that the owner might have a fair profit to cover his risk—besides the wear and the tear.

Dr. Lang moved that an address be presented to the Governor, praying that a sum shall be placed on the Estimates for the commencement of a geological survey. The matter was important both for science and general utility, and with respect to the former object, neither the Home or Colonial Government had done anything creditable, and with reference to the latter—the advantages derivable were most important which the Speaker at considerable length entered into, and ad-

verted to the fact that the U. S. Government had voted money for the object now advocated, and disclaimed being actuated by any personal motive in bringing this forward, as he had no friend distinguished in these pursuits, whom he might be suspected of wishing to push forward; he would however, allude to the exertions of one Reverend gentleman, who had eminently distinguished himself in Geological pursuits, (the Reverend Mr. Clarke, of Parramatta). It mattered not who might be appointed to the task, he should not ask their Creed or Communion, but their fitness. The sum he should ask for would only be £500, or £250, and the enquiry might at first comprise only the county of Cumberland.

Mr. Robinson seconded the motion.

Dr. Nicholson considered that Dr. Lang had omitted one important advantage connected with the subject, the adaptation of the country for military purposes.

Dr. Bland considered the survey as most important, as by it many resources now unknown would be developed, and wool now looked upon as the chief export, would, from more valuable ores being discovered, become a third rate.

The Colonial Secretary said it pained him that he could not support the motion, as he must sacrifice his inclinations to his public duty, as immense demands were made on the revenue for repair of the roads and public improvements absolutely required—the money could not be spared for the object in question.

Mr. Windeyer should vote for the Government, as the benefit that might be derived from the discovery of gold or coal mines, would go to enrich the Land Fund, over which the colony had no control.

Mr. Lowe spoke to a similar purport.

Dr. Lang replied—and on a division, the motion was lost by a majority of 15 to 10.

Mr. Murray moved for a select committee to enquire into the best mode of preventing the sale of stolen wool, and other country produce, to traders and merchants; he had no wish to cast any imputation on the Sydney merchants as a body, but the custom that had sprung up of sending persons to a distance, to make purchases on the roads, held out temptations to servants and carriers, from the facility afforded for selling, to act fraudulently, and in two cases, several bales of wool had been stolen, and found their way into a merchant's store who refused to compensate their owner, and it was such facilities as led Lynch to commit murder after murder, as he readily disposed of the property stolen from the drays under the charge of them he murdered.

Mr. Lamb defended the Sydney merchants, and considered a bill might just as well be brought in to prevent the disposal of tea and sugar, stolen from merchants, to people in the country; the laws were already sufficiently stringent, and he was averse to over-legislation.

Mr. Wentworth said the evil was a growing one, and besides the disgraceful plan of agents and scouts being sent out to public houses, who bought wool without asking how it was obtained; a practice had been acquired by means of a wire, of weeding the bales, by which 20 or 30lbs. were abstracted—and thought it would be expedient to prevent wool being sold on the roads, but only at some market overt.

Mr. Robinson suggested that no publican should be allowed to purchase wool.

The Attorney-General gave testimony of the daily increase of the evil.

Dr. Lang said in Virginia, tobacco was only allowed to be sold in one place—which might be done here with wool.

The Committee was then voted.

Mr. Cowper moved for a copy of the correspondence between the Governor and Secretary of State, relating to the propriety of elective seats being held by Government officers.

A long and sharp debate ensued—the Colonial Secretary opposing the production of the papers, as it was private correspondence.

Mr. Wentworth considered if there was nothing objectionable in the letters, there was no reason why they should be withheld.—The motion was carried by a majority of 14 to 9.

Mr. Windeyer moved a vote of censure on the Executive, in taking from the general Revenue of the colony, to pay rewards for discovery of Illicit Distillation a larger sum than was appropriated by the Act of Council; this was a vital infringement on the Constitutional Act, and though the necessity which had led the Government to adopt the course complained of was great, they should have asked for a bill of indemnity, which would have been readily granted.

The Colonial Secretary justified the course pursued, and entered into an explanation of the circumstances, and was willing to make every possible concession to the House, in the hope that the business of the Session would proceed in harmony.

Mr. Robinson considered the Government were justified by precedent in what they had done.

Dr. Lang, Mr. Lowe, Dr. Bland, and Mr. Bowman, spoke in favour of the motion, and the Auditor-General and Colonial Treasurer against it. Mr. Windeyer having replied, and charged Mr. Robinson with being bought by the Government, the vote passed by a majority of 14 to 9.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 27.

Mr. Lowe presented a petition from the Sydney Police Office Clerks, complaining of the City Council having reduced their salaries, and praying that they should be restored to the original amount, and all arrears paid them.

The Council then went into Committee on the Customs Bill.

British Extracts.

The Spa Fields' Burial Ground.

The repeated complaints and representations of the Committee of the Inhabitants of Clerkenwell have at length attracted the attention of the Home Secretary to the existing nuisance and mal-practices that have so long prevailed in the neighbourhood of Exmouth-street, Spa-fields. A communication was made by Sir James Graham, to the Police Commissioner, and Captain Hay, the Assistant Commissioner, who inspected the Spa-fields Burial Ground, accompanied by several respectable householders. The stench arising from decomposed human bodies was declared by Captain Hay to be insufferable, and the committee were directed to forward such information as they could collect, for the guidance of Sir James Graham. A meeting of the Committee took place on Sunday, and the subjoined examination was taken, and forwarded to the Home Office. It appears that the manner in which this extraordinary and revolting work of demolition was first discovered is this:—Reuben Room, a gravedigger at the burial ground, had a child interred some time since, and upon his discharge he insisted on removing the body, asserting that he well-knew after he left that the coffin would be burnt, the body and limbs severed, and deposited elsewhere. Police Constable Henry Webb, G. 106. and Martin, 144, were called in to prevent Room opening the grave, upon which he took the officers to an out-house, where they saw the lids of several coffins being consumed over a fierce fire, and pieces of human flesh (to use the officers' own words) "were attached to the coffins the size of their hands." The following is a copy of part of the written depositions that have been transmitted to Sir James Graham:—

"Reuben Room examined: I was in the employ of Mr. F. Green, as gravedigger, in 1837, and continued in his employ for about six years. Our mode of working the ground was not commencing at one end and working to the other, but digging wherever it was ordered, regardless whether the ground was full or not; for instance, to dig a grave seven feet deep at a particular spot, I have often disturbed and mutilated seven or eight bodies; that is, I have severed heads, arms, and legs, or whatever came in my way, with a crowbar, pickaxe, chopper, and saw. Of the bodies, some were quite fresh and some decomposed. I have had as much as one and a half cwt. of human flesh on what we term the 'beef board,' at the foot of the grave at one time. I have often put a rope round the neck of a corpse to drag it out of the coffin, fastening one end of the rope to a tombstone so as to keep the corpse upright to get at the coffin from underneath, to make room for the flesh of other bodies. The coffins were taken away and burnt with pieces of decomposed flesh adhering thereto. I have taken up half a ton of wood out of one grave, because I had to take two tiers of coffins, some of which were quite fresh, and we used to cut them up for struts, used for shoring up graves. We had as many as 50 or 60 sides of coffins always in use to keep the ground from falling in when digging. We have buried as many as 45 bodies in one day, besides still-borns. I and Tom Smith kept an account one year; we buried 2017 bodies besides still-borns, which are generally enclosed in deal coffins. We have taken them up when they have only been in the ground two days, and used them to light fires with. I have been up to my knees in human flesh by jumping

on the bodies so as to cram them into the least possible space at the bottom of the graves in which fresh bodies were afterwards placed. We covered over the flesh at the bottom by a small layer of mould. I have ruptured myself in dragging a heavy corpse out of the coffin. It was a very heavy one. It slipped from my hold lifting it by the shoulders. It was quite fresh. These occurrences took place every day.

Odd-Fellowship.

(From the Odd Fellows' Quarterly Magazine.)

WHO WOULDN'T BE AN "ODD FELLOW."—A few days since a fishing boat belonging to Aberystwith, was driven by stress of weather to Pwllhelli, a sea port in North Wales, distant 52 miles from the former place. Having neither meat, drink, nor money on board, the boat's crew were at their wits' end how to raise the "ways and means." Luckily, two of them happened to be "Odd Fellows," and they immediately made enquiries whether there was a lodge of that honourable brotherhood in Pwllhelli; and finding there was, they made application to it. The claim was instantly responded to; and it is with infinite gratification we state, that not only the two brother members were carefully and cordially received, but the whole boat's crew were supported for nearly a week at the Lodge's expense, and on their departure money was put into their pockets amply sufficient to defray their expenses home. "Who wouldn't be an Odd Fellow."—*Times*.

ERRATUM.—In the first line of the second verse of "Business of Odd-Fellowship," published in our last week's paper, read THIEF for THEFT.

Parramatta Police.

SATURDAY.

Charles Gibbs, appeared at the suit of one Charlotte Roughley, to shew cause why he should not support a diminutive specimen of humanity she held in her arms, which called him Papa.

As we do not wish to pander to that depraved taste which finds delight in the perusal of such evidence as a female is necessarily constrained to give to establish her case, it is sufficient to state Charlotte "had loved too well, but not wisely," and that the defendant having contrived by means of promising marriage, and by giving such surety of the event as proclamation in the Church affords, contrived to make her Mrs. Gibbs, to fact, though not according to law, but having met with a widow who had some money, he considered a female with cash far preferable to one with the incumbrance of a sweet little cherubim, and accordingly deserted his victim.

Mr. Lyons who appeared as the Gallant Knight, to avenge the wrongs of injured woman, stated himself so convinced of the justness of his suit, that if he did not establish his case, he would keep the infant himself, and certainly a clearer case never came before a Court or a more heartless piece of scoundrelism, was never displayed, than the attempt made by Gibbs, to vilify the poor girl's character, and evade rendering her, now that the gay Lothario had got married, the only reparation he could,—subsistence for the child.

Being bound to believe that Mr. Lambton, who appeared for the defence, merely acted on the instructions he received, which led him to pursue the cross-examination he did, the abhorrent disgust with which the questions put, were generally regarded, must recoil from him to the possessor of the filthy mind which dictated them, and formed a verification of the trite axiom "that man differs more from man than man from beast."

The Court directed Gibbs to pay a maintenance of five shillings per week, and £5 for the expenses of the accouchment, and costs of prosecution.

