

THE
NEW SOUTH WALES MAGAZINE;

OR,

JOURNAL OF GENERAL POLITICS, LITERATURE,
SCIENCE, AND THE ARTS.

ADDRESS.

OUR first duty, in introducing the NEW SOUTH WALES MAGAZINE to the public, is to return thanks to our numerous subscribers, encouraged by whose kind promises of support, we are enabled under most favourable auspices to commence our efforts. We shall doubtless be expected in this opening address, to explain to our readers the circumstances under which this Periodical has been brought into existence; as also, to give them some insight into the principles on which it will be conducted, and the objects at which it will principally aim. It was felt to be a crying shame, that a community boasting so much intelligence as New South Wales, should possess no Periodical Literature, beyond that contained in the Newspaper press. "The time must surely now have come," argued the originators of this Magazine, "when this Colony is old enough, and intellectual and prosperous enough to support—and support creditably—any attempt that may be made to wipe off such a reproach. At least, let us make the effort, let us appeal to the public to aid us in our design; and if the experiment fail, at least we shall have done our part." The appeal has been made, and we are bound to acknowledge with much gratitude, and some little pride, that it has met with a noble response. In an incidental reference we have made to the Newspaper press, we would not be supposed as wishing to disparage the influence of this important organ of national communication. Here, in particular, we have much pleasure in bearing our humble testimony to the talent with which our public journals are conducted; and embrace this opportunity of returning thanks to the Editors of those journals, for the courtesy with which they have treated us, since the first announcement of our design. Their names were among the first on our subscription list. So much for any suspicion of rivalry.

In unfolding our principles and plan, it will be our object, not to bind ourselves by many pledges, but, on the other hand, to leave no room for mistake as to our leading views and aims in undertaking

this work. We place first in order among our principles, that our Magazine is not, and shall not be, *controversial*. We invite the assistance of *all*, and promise them that we will give offence, willingly, to *none*. Enough of religious and political truth is held in common by all classes of the community, to enable us to steer clear of any troubled waters. And then there is the wide field of Literature and Science before us, where we may all expatiate in peace and concord. We acknowledge, at certain times and in certain places, the advantages of controversy; truth is thus elicited, principles are thus evolved, which but for this mutual collision of parties might never have received their full development. But here, at least, let us be free from dissention. The fact we have stated, that controversy sometimes elicits truth, is, after all, but another illustration of the great principle, that evil is overruled for good by that All-wise Father of our spirits, whose property it is to make "the wrath of man to praise him." Roses indeed grow on thorns, and honey wears a sting; but it is the part of wisdom to pluck the rose without the pricking of the thorn, to extract the honey without feeling the sting. Our great aim in commencing this work, is to "Advance Australia;" this is our general object, and if we receive but due support (which we fondly promise ourselves we shall,) we trust this object will in some degree be attained. In order to this, we summon to our help all classes of the community. Australia is, we fear, yet but little known. We are anxious to receive and communicate important *statistical* information respecting its condition, resources, and capabilities. We shall be happy thus to throw some light on the important—growingly important subject of Colonial Immigration, in all its branches. We think we may advance our character as an Agricultural and Pastoral country, by the continued collecting and registering of facts, such facts as our country friends alone can supply. Intimately connected as is the welfare of the whole Colony with the development of its internal resources, we on this ground respectfully but earnestly solicit from them such assistance. Will our men of Science help us here? The discoveries of Chemistry, Geology, Meteorology, &c. &c., are all valuable, and for them all Australia presents an ample field. In fact, we are scarcely guilty of an hyperbole when we say, each stone of our streets, each blade of grass on our extensive plains teems with wonders yet undeveloped; but let them be brought to light, and we shall find that Australia is now a complete *terra incognita*, a land whose resources are but half revealed. Be it our's to lay them open. Such materials will always be welcome, as will enable us from time to time to present to our readers correct statistical tables of our population; their social, intellectual, moral, and religious condition. On this point we feel strongly, and trust we shall not appeal in vain to those who are able to grant us the assistance we need.

We shall not fail to bring the subject of Education frequently before our readers. It is time that some one move in this work; we cannot afford to let a large mass of our population continue unedu-

cated much longer. We will ring on the same changes again and again, and will not rest till we find our labours rewarded by the wide-spread blessings of a national Education. It is an anomaly which, were it not attended with fearfully serious consequences would be exquisitely ludicrous, that considerably more money is spent by Her Majesty's liege subjects in smoking and drinking, than in storing their minds and enlarging their intellects. In connexion with this subject, every effort shall be made by which Literature, Science and Art may be advanced among us. It has been determined, should this work receive adequate support, to propose occasional prizes for the best essays on given subjects; or for the best work of art produced in the Colony. The restrictions under which these prizes will be awarded, and the minor details, will be announced in time: but we merely state the fact now, to shew that we are resolved upon drawing forth the talent we know New South Wales possesses, and thus inspire a honourable rivalry, who shall most excel in all that adorns the man, and refines society. Never let us forget, that "the mind's the standard of the man."

Among other means for ameliorating the condition of our community, we shall not fail to give full prominence to the *Temperance* movement, now so generally and vigorously advancing. Under whichever banner the friends of temperance arrange themselves, we shall at all times watch their movements with interest, and assist them with our best aid. Convinced as we are that the cause of Temperance is the cause of domestic order, social peace, national prosperity, moral and religious advancement, we dare not hold back in such a work.

We shall keep our eye on the *Commercial* interests of our community, and at all times recommend, or support when recommended, those means by which wealth may steadily, safely, and honourably flow in upon our shores, and fill our coffers. Commerce being the law by which nations are united, we shall strive to make that tie indissoluble, because fastened by social justice and national honour.

In connexion with the accomplishment of these ends, we shall present a summary of Local and General Intelligence. As best illustrative of our own views, we will take the liberty of quoting from one of our predecessors in the field; we refer to the *Literary News*, published under the able management of W. a'Beckett, Esq., now our respected Solicitor-General. This talented writer says, "With reference to the News department, it will be confined to such as is generally interesting, to the exclusion of all those vulgar themes of gossip, scandal and scurrility, which, however they may gratify the distempered taste and appetite of party, deserve no encouragement from a civilized community, and degrade the individual who condescends to the use of such contemptible weapons, to the level of a reckless hireling or malignant partizan." The advantage we propose to effect, is to present the leading events of the month in a form convenient for immediate reference. Interesting communications will also be continually presented from neighbouring Colonies.

and the mother-country. Extracts will be made from modern Journals and Periodicals, English and Foreign; nor shall we forget the humbler, but honourable exertions of our Tasmanian and South Australian friends. The Australian Muse will sometimes pour forth its sweets in our pages. A gentleman, whose poetical taste has been long known and deservedly admired, has given us kind promises of his valuable help. A pledge of what we shall receive from his pen, graces our present number.

We have thus presented our readers with some view of what they may look for at our hands. We shall endeavour not to disappoint any expectations that we may have raised; but at the same time, gentle Reader, do not anticipate too much. We will strive to please, to instruct, to amuse. We will seek to blend the grave and gay, to suit your varied tastes, and to make you, often as the month returns, ready to receive us as a welcome visitor; but after all, you may be disappointed,—in such case, accept the will and pardon the deed. We return our best thanks to those gentlemen whose contributions adorn our first number, as well as to others who have given us promises of their aid. And now, having made our bow, we say Farewell. We hope our readers have all enjoyed their MERRY CHRISTMAS, and have now much pleasure in wishing them a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

AUSTRALIAN STATISTICS.

No. I.

THE term "statistics" is of somewhat modern date, "adopted to express a more comprehensive view of the various particulars constituting the general and political strength and resources of a country than was usually embraced by writers on political arithmetic. The principal subjects of the science of statistics are—the extent and population of a state; the occupation of the different classes of its inhabitants; the progress of agriculture, of manufactures, and of internal and foreign trade; the income and wealth of the inhabitants; and the proportion drawn from them for the public service by taxation; their health and longevity; the condition of the poor; the state of schools, and other public institutions of utility; with every other subject, the knowledge of which may be useful in ascertaining the moral condition and political strength of a country, its commerce, arts, &c."

The peculiar excellence of this science is, that it deals with *facts*, and with facts only. Abstract principles, philosophical theories, general reasonings, even extended deductions from its own premises, do not come within its province. To investigate sources of authentic information, to discriminate between important and unimportant details, and to classify and arrange the materials so obtained, are alone the proper business of the statistician. He is a collector of *data*; and his professional object is, by means of skilful distribution,

analysis, and combination, to place his data in the most effective points of view, and thereby make them subservient to the elucidation of some leading truth. In relation to the historian, the moralist, the statesman, and the political economist, he is a most useful pioneer. He removes difficulties, dispels delusions, corrects errors, and opens up the clear paths of substantial and macadamized facts. He thus contributes largely to the development of those practical sciences which have an immediate bearing on the improvement of mankind. In modern legislation, especially, statistics are the recognised landmarks—the acknowledged standards of appeal. They are the tests by which theories of law are ascertained to be sound or specious, useful or visionary. As facts are “stubborn things,” so statistics, of which facts are the constituent elements, stand in stubborn and unbending opposition to mere theoretic legislation, and, indeed, to all abstract speculations on subjects connected with the practical affairs of life.

The study of this valuable science has of late years been much promoted in England by two circumstances: the formation of a Statistical Section in the British Association, and the institution of the Statistical Society of London. This Society publishes a quarterly Journal, in which the more important and interesting facts collected by its members are recorded for permanent reference.

From the rapid extension of the Australian colonies, and the unexampled advancement of some of them in wealth and population, it has become desirable that their statistics should be diligently collected, clearly arranged, and published in a connected form. The various facts relating to their physical, moral, and political elements may be supposed, from the peculiarities of these settlements, to possess more than common interest in the eyes of philosophers and statesmen. The attention of our public authorities has for some years past been turned to statistical enquiries; and hence many of the papers published by order of the Legislative Council contain tables drawn out with great skill, and exhibiting much valuable information as to the resources and progress of the Colony. These publications, however, are not within the reach of readers in general. True, many of their contents are transcribed into our newspapers; but newspapers are so seldom bound into volumes, and when bound, are so ponderous and unwieldy, that for purposes of reference they are of all things the most inconvenient. It is to be regretted that in this particular our legislature does not imitate the example of the British Parliament, whose papers are printed, not for the information of members alone, but for the public at large, being sold at moderate prices.

One of the many services which it is hoped this Magazine will render to its readers, will consist of its statistical and historical papers. We shall use our best exertions to make these departments the repositories of correct, ample, and well arranged data; so that, by the help of our index, the inquiring reader may find easy access to those stores of information which are now locked up in the Council Chambers, or scattered over the ephemeral sheets of our newspaper Press.

We begin with a tabular view of our population, revenue, and commerce, during the last sixteen years:—

A TABLE, SHEWING THE POPULATION, REVENUE, IMPORTS, AND EXPORTS OF THE COLONY OF NEW SOUTH WALES, IN THE SIXTEEN YEARS, FROM 1826 TO 1841.

| Years. | Population. | Increase per cent. | Revenue. | Increase per cent. | Imports. | Increase per cent. | Exports. | Increase per cent. |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|----------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | | | £ | | £ | | £ | |
| 1826 | 34,697 | } Average, 3.27 per ann. | 72,221 | — | 360,000 | — | 106,600 | — |
| 1827 | 35,842 | | 79,310 | 9.82 | 362,324 | 0.65 | 76,314 | <i>Dec.</i> |
| 1828 | 36,598 | | 94,862 | 19.61 | 570,000 | 2.12 | 90,050 | 18.00 |
| 1829 | 41,450 | } Average, 13.26 per ann. | 102,785 | 8.35 | 601,004 | 5.44 | 161,716 | 79.58 |
| 1830 | 46,303 | | 104,729 | 1.89 | 420,480 | <i>Dec.</i> | 159,659 | <i>Dec.</i> |
| 1831 | 51,157 | | 121,066 | 15.60 | 490,152 | 16.57 | 324,168 | 103.07 |
| 1832 | 56,009 | } Average, 8.89 per ann. | 135,910 | 12.26 | 604,620 | 23.35 | 384,344 | 18.56 |
| 1833 | 60,861 | | 164,063 | 20.71 | 713,972 | 18.09 | 394,801 | 2.72 |
| 1834 | 66,272 | | 205,536 | 24.57 | 991,990 | 38.94 | 587,640 | 48.84 |
| 1835 | 71,684 | } Average, 7.32 per ann. | 273,745 | 33.19 | 1,114,805 | 12.38 | 682,193 | 16.09 |
| 1836 | 77,096 | | 330,286 | 20.66 | 1,237,406 | 11.00 | 748,624 | 9.74 |
| 1837 | 87,848 | | 354,743 | 7.32 | 1,297,491 | 4.86 | 760,054 | 1.53 |
| 1838 | 98,600 | } Average, 13.95 per ann. | 334,080 | <i>Dec.</i> | 1,579,277 | 21.72 | 802,768 | 5.62 |
| 1839 | 109,352 | | 412,703 | 23.53 | 2,236,371 | 41.61 | 948,776 | 18.19 |
| 1840 | 120,104 | | 653,127 | 58.24 | 3,014,189 | 34.78 | 1,399,692 | 47.53 |
| 1841 | 130,856 | | 493,980 | <i>Dec.</i> | 2,527,988 | <i>Dec.</i> | 1,023,397 | <i>Dec.</i> |
| Increase in the 15 years | 96,159 | 277.16 | 421,759 | 583.98 | 2,167,988 | 602.21 | 916,797 | 860.03 |

The population for the years 1828, 1833, 1836, and 1841, is taken from the census returns; for the others it is estimated from the rates of increase.

The rule with regard to fractions of a pound, in the financial columns, is, that when upwards of ten shillings, the fraction is reckoned as a pound; when ten shillings or under, it is not reckoned at all.

On comparing the last with the first of the sixteen years in the above table, it appears that the population had increased more than three-fold; the revenue nearly seven-fold; the imports more than seven-fold; and the exports more than nine and a half-fold.

The average rates of increase per annum, throughout the entire period, as given by the proportion of the last year to the first, were as follows:—

| | | | |
|------------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| Population | | 18.48 | per cent. |
| Revenue | | 38.93 | “ |
| Imports | | 40.15 | “ |
| Exports | | 57.34 | “ |

A TABLE DISTINGUISHING THE ORDINARY AND LAND REVENUES OF NEW SOUTH WALES, DURING THE ELEVEN YEARS FROM 1831 TO 1841.*

| Years. | ORDINARY REVENUE. | Increase £ cent. | LAND REVENUE. | | | Increase £ cent. |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|---------|---------------------|
| | | | Sales of Land. | Miscellaneous. | Total. | |
| 1831 | £ 117,448 | — | £ 2,597 | £ 1,021 | £ 3,618 | — |
| 1832 | 122,227 | 4.07 | 12,510 | 1,173 | 13,683 | 278.19 |
| 1833 | 137,788 | 12.73 | 24,956 | 1,319 | 26,275 | 92.03 |
| 1834 | 160,719 | 16.65 | 41,844 | 2,973 | 44,817 | 70.57 |
| 1835 | 184,037 | 14.51 | 80,785 | 8,923 | 89,708 | 100.17 |
| 1836 | 197,679 | 7.41 | 126,459 | 6,148 | 132,607 | 47.82 |
| 1837 | 225,799 | 14.22 | 120,427 | 8,517 | 128,944 | Dec. |
| 1838 | 208,350 | Dec. | 116,325 | 9,405 | 125,730 | Dec. |
| 1839 | 240,429 | 15.40 | 152,963 | 19,311 | 172,274 | 37.02 |
| 1840 | 312,469 | 29.96 | 316,626 | 24,032 | 340,658 | 97.74 |
| 1841 | 373,655 | 19.58 | 90,388 | 29,937 | 120,325 | Dec. |
| Increase in 10 years. | 256,207 | 218.15 | 87,791 | 28,916 | 116,707 | 3225.59 |

* The distinction between Ordinary and Land Revenue commences with the year 1831, because in that year Lord Ripon's regulations were introduced, whereby the system of alienating Crown Lands by free grants was substituted by that of selling them.

On comparing the last with the first of the eleven years, it appears that the Ordinary Revenue had increased more than three-fold, and the Land Revenue more than thirty-three-fold. But in the year 1840, compared with 1831, the Land Revenue exhibits the extraordinary increase of more than ninety-four-fold, or upwards of 9,300 per cent.

The rates of increase per annum throughout the whole period, as given by that of the last year over the first, were as follows:—

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Ordinary Revenue . . . | 21.81 per cent. |
| Land Revenue . . . | 322.55 „ |

It will be observed that in one of the eleven years (1840), the Land Revenue exceeded the Ordinary.

R E V I E W.

Voyage autour du Monde par les mers de L'Inde, et de Chine ; exécuté sur la Corvette de l'état *La Favourite*, pendant les années 1830, 1831, et 1832, sous le Commandement de M. LA PLACE, Capitaine de Frégate ; publié par ordre de M. le Vice-Amiral COMTE DE RIGNY, Ministère de la Marine, et des Colonies. Tome IV. Paris : imprimerie Royale, 1835.

THE acquisition of geographical knowledge has in all ages been a pursuit fraught with the deepest interest. In early times, and in the infancy of society, the speculations of philosophy, as to the discovery and settlement of the various regions of the then known world, were tinged by fancy, and often, if not always founded in fiction, became, in a great measure, unworthy of notice, from the large admixture they contained of mythological fable.

The earliest traditions of Pagan nations, referred to a point from whence they migrated identical with that indicated in the Old Testament. The settlement of Cadmus in Greece—of the Carthaginians in Africa—and of the Trojans in Italy, exhibit striking instances of the extension of the human family in the same direction, viz., from the East to the West. The traditions of the early Celtic tribes, the inhabitants of ancient Germany and Scandinavia, alike refer to the same origin, and the researches of modern enquirers in the antiquities of India, show a similar conformity of belief as to the original settlement of mankind. The affinities subsisting between the various languages of the world, which are becoming every day better ascertained, afford one of the most striking confirmations as to the truth of these all pervading traditions, pointing, as they do, to a defined spot, on the surface of the globe, as the cradle of the human race, and showing, that notwithstanding all the diversity of character to which the various tribes of mankind owe their national peculiarities, that we are all alike, children of the same family, and that the relationship is proved, by the concurrent histories, traditional belief, and language of all.

It is true that in assigning the doubtful pedigrees of nations, ancient writers, when at a loss for that traditional evidence which elsewhere guided them, overcame the difficulty by supposing, that some of the earliest occupiers of the earth's surface had sprung directly from the soil whereon they dwelt: that they were *indigeni*, *autocthones*, and *aborigines*,—a fancy which did not fail to receive the embellishments of poetry, but which is now too trifling to merit more than passing notice. The similarity which exists in such remains as are still left amongst us, of what we may conceive to have belonged to the earliest races of mankind, is not less surprising than corroborative of the belief, that the distinctions now prevalent amongst the different races of man, were not equally marked then. Few of our readers are probably unaware, that the oldest monuments existing among the productions of human art, are chiefly remarkable for their solidity, their gigantic proportions, and the degree of permanence with which they have resisted, through a long series of past ages, every means calculated to affect their annihilation, whether natural or artificial. Of this description may be considered the Egyptian Pyramids, the Pelasgic Walls of Greece, the Cyclopean remains of Italy, the Druidical remains of Gaul and Britain, the tumuli of North and South America, and the enormous *Monoliths* (monuments bearing the most striking similitude to those of Egypt) lately discovered in Central America and Mexico; and lastly, but not the least interesting, the curious gigantic carvings seen at Easter Island.* In some of the

* The similarity of structure presented by these varied monuments, would seem to imply at an early era, the existence of some great race, not broken and dissociated as it has since become, by divisions into tribes and nations. The instance to which we have adverted, of remains implying civilization, at some period probably exceedingly remote, found in Easter Island, possesses peculiar interest to us, situated as we are at this remote corner of the globe. Supposing ancient civilization to have extended, from the point we have referred to above, this island would indicate, (so far as our present knowledge goes,) its extreme western limits. Whether some traces of the same early civilization, may not remain still to be detected in the same line, it is impossible to say. We think, however, it would be an object, well worthy of attention to the traveller, to endeavour to determine how far in the opposite direction, through the Islands of the Southern Pacific, any such traces of an early, and by-gone civilization, one probably contemporaneous with that of Easter Island, may not be discoverable. Monuments of the highest antiquity are to be found in Ceylon, and Java. Some doubt has been expressed, as to the age to which, the gigantic carved monuments of Easter Island belong. Any person however who reads Captain Cook's account of them, as they were seen by him during his second voyage, cannot fail to arrive at the same conclusion, that he did, viz. that they are the productions of a race of people possessed of a high advancement in civilization, and arts, such as the present miserable race inhabiting Easter Island, present no traces of whatever. One of the statues observed by Captain Cook, was fifteen feet in length, and six feet broad at the shoulders; another was found to be twenty-seven feet long, and eight feet broad over the chest,—this latter is represented by no means to have been the largest. Gigantic platforms of masonry, appearing to have served as bases for the figures, were also seen on the eastern side of the island; the dimensions above described give a much greater proportionate size to the figures, than is possessed by those found at Copan in Gautimala. La Perouse seems to have been the first, who questioned Cook's statements, relative to Easter Island; he admits however that he was

islands still further to the east and southward, some obscure traces of early art are also discernible. It would, perhaps, be indulging too visionary a speculation, to conceive the likelihood of any such relics being ever discovered in New Holland; we know not, however, the limits of the migrations of the earliest occupants of the globe, and it would be too much to say, that tumuli, or masses of masonry, indicating the existence of early art, may not one day attest the fact, that the dreary solitudes of Australia have been tenanted by some primeval civilised race of men.

Since the commencement of the historic period, the traditions of nations have been a matter of greater, or absolute certainty. The discovery of America, and the occupation of a large portion of it by European nations, has been the most striking and conspicuous event, affecting the distribution of the human family, with which we are acquainted. The perilous and romantic incidents connected with its discovery and conquest, the novelty and grandeur of the wide regions thus brought to light—presenting in a new world features of sublimity far exceeding those of the old—mountains, rivers, and forests, far surpassing in magnitude the most famed hitherto known—birds of the gayest plumage—fruits of the most exquisite flavour—and, lastly, inexhaustible supplies of that metal for which all had sighed, and sought those distant lands—give an interest and a charm to the narrative of American discovery, such as never can be repeated in relation to that of any hitherto unexplored portion of the earth's surface. The influences which American discovery have had on the destinies of the human race, are alike calculated to perpetuate the interest felt in all that relates to it. No sooner had the New World been brought to light, than thronging crowds pressed upon its shores, some with the insatiate thirst of gain, seeking an El Dorado, others searching in the solitude of the desert for that freedom of conscience, the exercise of which was denied to them in the land of their birth, creating a new society, and giving birth to new opinions, new forms of government, and social combinations, such as had never hitherto been witnessed. A new world was formed, a new world was created, and we still regard the spectacle with undiminished interest. These brilliant realizations of all that could gratify the curiosity or cupidity of man, effected in American discovery, served however but still further to stimulate new adventurers in the search of new worlds.

The circuit of the Cape of Good Hope by Bartholomew Dias, and the voyage to India in the same track by Vasco de Gama, were events calculated to keep alive and foster the same adventurous spirit, which had already been pregnant with such mighty consequences. Within 150 years after having discovered America, the Spaniards,

unable to visit those interesting objects himself. Captain La Place seems to have no difficulty, in referring these monuments to some remote period, the relics of art of a race no longer in existence. "*P'aurais vivement désiré, d'y toucher pour voir ses monumens, Cyclopeens, derniers vestiges sans dout, des travaux dun peuple anciennement Englouti par la mer.*" Vol. IV. p. 61.