THE MACQUARIE AND THE BARWON, THE BLIGHT AT BATHURST.

A Metrical Tale, comparing the advantages of the two Settlements of Bulliurst and Geelong. Dedi-cated to, and accepted by, His Honor the Superin-tendant.

Intended to have been published in the Melbourne Magazine; but as that work has not appeared, us now offered; as one of a succession of tales, embracing various subjects, to his enterprising townsmen, by

THE HERMIT OF GRELONG.

The drought has buint up Bathurst plains, The river's bed is dry, Mankind and brate weep blood for rain, It comes not to their cry.

Clouds, stories of dust, rise from the plains, Away the whirlwinds fly; The checking oxen, mad with pain, With bleeding rostrils die.

No tree, no green ; no cooling breeze Doth purge the tainted air;
A scalding rheum flows from the eye,
And blindness enters there.

Then famine knock'd at every door, And ruin enter'd in ; All silent grew the rocial hearth, Hush'd merry childhood's din.

Then want and crime went hand in hand, Bushrangers staik'd abroad; They snatch'd the food the starving band Of sufferers could not guard.

They seize their elethes, they seize their steed.
The last left on that farm.
They tear the blankets from the bed
The wedded wife leaves warm.

"And are they gone, those dreadful men!
And can all this be true!"
It is, it is, and by the God
That made me, I'il go too.

They shall not live-I'm ruin'd now-Don't hold a desperate man-The children? nurse them on the ground, And feed them, if you can."

Sicep on, sleep on, my little son! I will not break thy rest: The stars are set, the moon is gone, Grey yet the gloomy east.

Why am I wandering by thy bed ! Sorrow can sometimes sleep; And pillowed is thy sister's head, Whose arms I leave to weep.

She must not feel my throlbing heart Strike, strike against her breas: The mother will not blight that cheek, Her lips so oft have press d.

Children of love I whose day of dawn Was bailed by anxious friends— Children of ease! shall poverty Pervert thy maker's ends.

And must thou perish, wanting food, Warm with the breath of life? Maker of all! thine image good On succour in this strife.

The weight is on my brain;
There is some food for breakfast there,
There is xt I seek in vain.

The throes that brought thee to this earth, Were nought, were nought to this? Existence paid the pangs of birth, The future spoke of bliss-

What my soul suffers, what my fears, That God alone can tell; Who sees a mother's heart, and hears Her prayers, when words would kill.

A doom seems on thy father's line ; That doom bath had its way. From the Fearth Harry's bridal time Down to the present day.

The mother knelt beside her boy, The scalding tears fell fast:
They burnt his brow—the child awoke—
His arms around her cast.

"What is the matter, mother dear!
I thought I he ri you cry—
That burning sun is not up yet—
But oh! I am so dry."

The mother look'd towards the east, Na'vation came from thence;
A small red cloud rose slowly there—
The mind caught up the sense.

" Can this be rain ? and is God there ! Here, in this wilderness ?"
he thought was life—it check'd despair—
The voice that mourned could biess.

A courier came; good aid he brought From a kind and noble friend; 'Twas by her hand the Almighty wrought His wise and biessed end.

The dray was yeked. Of all bereft Save mercy at his hand, The pilgrims felt that God was left, And songht a better land.

Corio! thou art fresh and green. Verdant to gaze upon; Thy silver sand the ocean laves, Thy meadows the Barwon.

Flow on, thou wholesome glittering str. am, Deck'd with Kardinia's flowers; Thy pure source springs from good supreme, Flows from thy God and ours. The white man's teeming herds increase

Bedeck thy native daughters.

The black man makes his 'mla-mia,'
And brings his 'leubra' there:
Sons of the isles! say, wilt thou ever
Kneel in you house of prayer?

Here never may the drought or blight, Deface God's works of love; But nature join with human might In praising him above.

For oh, how good it is to feel
Thankful when moin is breaking,
Instead of dragging through the day
A heart with sorrow achieg.

GIPPS' LAND.

about preparing to start on his return to Gipps Land to resume the survey of the interior of the country, and to measure the different special surveys which have been taken in that locali v. Three assistant surveyors are to be sent from Sydney to Gipps Land to act in cooperation with Mr Townsend, who is to have the charge of the department in that district. The site of the township has been fixed not as originally intended on the site of the Port Albert Company's settlement on the river Albert, but on the west point of the bay into which the Tarra Rivulet flows, that being found from soundings taken on the spot, the only place throughout the Inlet at all adapted for shipping stock. The site is said to be by no means well adapted for a township, but it is the best which could be obtained. The country in the vicinity of the township is described as a useless barren track, covered with dense tea scrubs, intersected here and there with salt water

marshes, and a few fresh swamps, it is doubtful therefore whether the special survey gentlemen will take much by their bargins .- Patriot.

LEGISLATION FOR THE ABORIGINES.

The following important intelligence has come to hand through a very circuitous channel, namely, the "Royal Gazette of British Guiana," of July 10th 1841. The document is a despatch from Lord John Russel to the Governor of Western Australia, relative to the propriety of receiving the evidence of aborigines without the administration of oaths. Lord John Russell, being favorable to the system, forwarded a copy of the despatch to the Governor of British Gulana, that he might frame a similar enactment for that colony. To the best of our knowledge, the document has never before been published in any of the Australian papers :-

Extract of a Despatch (No. 64,) addressed by Lord John Russell to Governor Hutt, Western Australia, dated 30th April, 1841.

The act No. 8, to allow the Aboriginal Natives of Western Australia to give information and evidence in Criminal cases is not only unobjectionable, but is an evident improvement on the former Law, so far as provision is now made for the admission of the evidence of the aborigines without an oath. To exact Oaths of men to whom the sanctions of Religion are unknown, and who do not even recognize the elementary truths on which all Religious belief must depend, is a manifest absurdity. Either the deponent must go through what to himself appears an unmeaning ceremonial, and to others a profanation, or the Courts must be exclude t from receiving all the test mony of the persons as to matter of fact, lying within their direct personal knowledge, and which they may have no motive to conceal or falsify. The escape from the dilemma is obviously to receive their unsworn testimony, leaving the Courts to make any deduction from the weight and credit due to the witness, which the avowed absence in his mind of the religious sauctions of truth may require.

But I think it impossible to measure before-hand, and to prescribe by posi tive rules, the extent of that deduction. This Act determines that the unsworn testimony of a Native is never to be regarded as conclusive, unless it be supported by strong corroborative circumstances. Probably, without any enactment; this rule would be observed by every Court and Jury. It is, in fact, seldom disregarded in this coun try, the simple assertion of a witness, that a crime was committed by the ac cused party, is, in the absence of corroborative circumstances, inconclusive; because it is scarcely possible to suppose the absence of that kind of corroboration, when the statement itself is true. Thus the Act may, in this respect, be said to introduce no real innovation. But though this may be in one sense the fact, yet it does not follow that such will be the practical effect of this kind of legislation. By laying down a general rule for appreciating the evidence of Aberigines, which is not extended to the evidence of other persons, it affords an apology, for such a practicable administration of the Law as may virtually exclude them from the protection of it. To have enacted that the Courts should make, in each case, such an abatement from the value of the evidence, as the want of the oath might seem to the Judge and Jury to require or justify, would have been the more convenient course.

I more decidedly object to the summary jurisdiction of any two Justices of the peace in the case of Aborigines, power of whipping. So great is the difficulty of legislating aright for the protection of savage tribes living in oxta position with a race of civilized men, that it is not without great besitation that I object to any attempt made for that purpose, especially when conceived, as in the present instance, in the spirit of humanity and zeal for their welfare. Yet I must observe that the delegation to Justices of the Paace of summary powers of punish ment over the inferior race from which the Colonists of European descent are to be exempted, is a measure dangerous in its tendency, as well as patry in principle. By thus establishing an inequality in the eye of the law itself between the two classes on the express ground of national origin, we foster prejudices and give a countenance to bad men who unfortunately need no such encouragement. It is wise to sacrifice some immediate convenience with a view to maintain the general principle

of strict legal equality, because in the continued assertion of that principle will be found the best attainable security for maintaining just opinions, and a correct moral sentiment, throughout society at large, on the subject of the rights of the native population.

I observe also that the admissibility of the evidence of the natives without oath having been expressly enacted in reference to Criminal Cases, the consequence inevitably follows, that in all Civil Suits their testimony must be entirely rejected. Whether this was an intentional or an unforeseen consequence of the Law does not appear; but whatever the fact may in that respect be, it is a result to be deprecated. The evidence which is admitted where liberty and life are at stake, should not be excluded when proprietary interests only are in question.

For these reasons, I have thought it my duty to advise Her Majesty to disallow this Act also, and the Queen has been pleased to disallow it accordingly. But you will immediately propose to the Local Legislature the enactment of another Law having for its object to dispense with an Oath in receiving the evidence of any Aboriginal Inhabitants of the province who may be unable to appreciate the nature and the obligation of an Oath, qualifying the rule by such general terms as I have mentioned.

If it be thought necessary to enact any special Law to facilitate the administration of Justice in the case of the Aborigines in other respects, that Law should be detached from the Law of evidence, which, properly, forms a distinct and separate title not to be blended with other topics.

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENTS FOR COLONIES.

From the Australasian Record.

Ir is of the utmost importance to the welfare of a colony, that a good understanding should exist between its inhabitants and its Governor. He is there as the representative of the Sovereign, and as such is entitled to respect; and happy is it both for governor and colonists when their frequent intercourse becomes the means of elevating that respect into esteem. This can scarcely be the case where it becomes the duty of a governor to carry out a policy. dictated to him from home, which is distasteful to the great body of the colonists, and that this too frequently happens is a lamentable fact. Indeed it is almost impossible that it should be otherwise when it is recollected that on entering many of our colonies, an Englishman is deprived of those political rights he enjoys in the mother country, and placed under the govern-ment of some military or naval officer, who is responsible only to the colonial minister in this country. With the recollection of representative and responsible government fresh upon him, he becomes naturally jealous of, and soon restive under, the power over which he has no control. Hence arise angry recriminations between the goversors and the governed; the first becomes more tyrannical as the other displays his dissatisfaction, until at last the wide-spread dissatisfaction ripens

into open rupture.

The inquiry is important, whence arises all the mischief we have described? Simply from the fact, that the institutions of the colony have not been in accordance with the views or wants of the colonists. The remedy for all this evil is REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT. Give to any body of Roglishmen the means of rendering their views known on the various objects of government-give to them the means of controlling the application of the taxes they pay, give to them the emulation that is naturally excited among themselves to obtain the honour involved in being members of the representative chamber-and you lay a firm foundation for general satisfaction and the rapid advance of the colony in all the elements of genuine prosperity. Our statesmen are accustomed, and with reason, to boast of the inestimable privileges enjoyed under a representative governfor our colonists who have no such liberal institutions though the subjects of the same sovereign with ourselves, and who most acutely feel their deprivatien. If the noble lord who has recently been placed at the head of our colonial affairs will apply his inflaence and his energies to the introduction of representative institutions into our important Australian colonies, he will entitle himself to the gratitude of posterity, and achieve for himself an impower and of prosperity are in Australia; with her immense expanse of territory, with her varied and valuable produc-tions, with her genial climate, with her increasing population of free-born Britons, her prospects are most auspicious; she will be the agent of diffusing the language, the arts the religion of England through the southern hemishere; and thus she will exert a mighty inflence upon the future destinies of the

But in order that these prospects may be fulfilled, the public opinion of her inhabitants must be expressed through the medium of representative chambers;

thus the wants, the wishes and the feelings of the colonists will be communicated; and peace order, and confidence will universally prevail. The present welfare and the future prosperity of Australia are in the hands of Lord Stanley, and anxiously do we hope that his measures will be such as to demand our most energetic support.

FOOD OF HORSES.

(From the Morning Adaertiser.)

In the feeding of horses regularity is of great importance. These animals, unlike most others, have naturally a moderate appetite, therefore they require to be fed often, but in small quantities. Yet frequently do we see the direful effects of inattention to this subject. The master leaves his horse to the care of his groom, who from some interested motive, fancies, because he had a good breakfast, he will not hurt should he fast until evening. Then ont of compassion, perhaps, he gives the horse his two feeds, one of which he ought to have bad in the middle of the day. The horse with an anxious eye, and a voracious appetite, no sooner sees the corn put into the manger, than he bolts it down with the greatest eagerness, and when finished is not unfrequently allowed to fill himself up with water. The consequences are, the horse has swallowed the greater part of his corn whole, the moisture it imbibes causes it to swell which brings on the most oxcruciating pains, and often terminates in death. Upon opening the body, the stomach is found distended, its coat stretched so thin, that the cohesion is almost destroyed, and has more the appearance of a mucous and slime, than a stomach. In other cases the stomach is found burst, and the contents spread through the abdo-

To keep a horse in health, it is also necessary that he should have a sufficien cy of nourishment, otherwise he will fall into a weak state, dropsical swellings will appear, the circulation of his blood will become feeble, and in the end, the horse will sink under a complication of diseases.

Attention should also be paid to the nature and quality of the food given to this animal. The horse without laborious exercise, merely running about at his own pleasure, is capable of obtaining a sufficient quantity of grass for maintenance, which being his natural food, there can be no doubt as to its wholesome quality; but for a horse destined, for hard work, grass alone will not enable him to undergo severe fatigue. This is owing to the succulent matter it possesses, which produces fatness, and increases the animal fluids which tend to encumber the horse without producing strength, so that this plainly shows grass is not sufficient. In this colony, the principal fodder for horses is hay, and when ft is really good, is both nutritious and wholesome, though it ought not to be used until nearly a year old, as new hay is very indigestible. Old hay also is equally as injurious, especially if it is mouldy. as it loses its autritive quality, and lays the foundation of coughs and other disorders.

In the stacking of hay there is an excellent practice adopted by some persons, that is, sprinkling each layer with a small quentity helps to preserve the hay, imparts to it a fine flavour, occasions the cattle to drink the more, and inclines them to fatten sooner, besides their being par-

ticularly fond of it. In foreign countries, barley is commonly given to horses, and is said to agree well with them in improving both their wind and spirit. It is certain barley contains a large proportion of nutriment ; but against it the English have always harboured a strong prejudice. Oats amongst us appear to be the most favourite corn for horses, is better they should be mixed with bran, in order to produce that medium, which renders them more wholesome.

French Washerwomen .- Early as it was, the washers by the bridge leading to Bizonas were all at their accuetomed work; for theirs is an occupation which knows no cessation, either for the summer's heat or the winter's cold. They seldom wash in the Gave, or in any stream from melted snow; but this little river, the Ousse, which flows from the nearer hills, and joins the Gave, at the bridge of Pau, is said to be more favourable for their employ ment; and I have seen as many as six and tweney women in one continued line, washing in its waters, besides a great many other groups in different stations on its banks; while the whole village of Dizanos, its fields and hedges, and much of the surrounding plains, were white with the linen blea-

ching in the sun. The great mystery is, how these poor women can continue their operations through the severest winter weather. I have seen them standing barefoot in the water, when the snow was on the ground, and a sharp northeast wind blowing, their aprons and petticoats literally dripping, and no refreshment during the whole day but dry bread, onions, and soor wine. Yet they sat down in groups upon the ground, while they are this pitiful re. past, and chattered and laughed with as much apparent enjoyment as half a dozen English washerwomen over their lengthened tea, with the bright blaze of a kitchen fire sending its comfort to their hearts all the while.

MARKETS.

Trade 64	901 (B)	446	15	Share.		103 7 h	- 6	217	11101	-	111
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	in grease				0	0	6	-	0	41	ti
	lambs'				0	0	9	-		9	- 2

MELBOURNE.

Flour, fine 20s to 23s per 10) lbs; seconds 18s to 20s. Potatoes 9s to 11s per cwt. Bread, per 4 to loaf 1s. Butter 9s per 1b. Beef 41 per 1b. Matton 4d. Tea 13/ to 11/ per chest. Sugar 32/ to 33/ per ton. Hay, 8/ to 9/ per ton. Oats 5: 6d to 6. 61 per bushel.

SYDNEY.

Fine Flour, 21s per 10) lbs. 29s cash. Seconds 18s cash 17s; Thirds 16s, cash 15s.

Bread 5d to 6d per 21b loaf
Colonial Wheat, 6s to 6s 6d per bushel. Maize, 4s to 5s per bushel. Ba ley 3s 6d to 4s per hushel. Outs 5s per bushel. Hay M to 7l 7s per ton
Butter, fresh 2s 9d to 3s per 1b; salt 2s to 2s 6d.
Cheese 8d to 1s per lb; Eggs 1s 6d to 2s per doz.
Beel 4d to 5d per lb; Motton 6d
Spirits in bond—Rum 3s 3d; Arrack 1s 3d to 1s 6d;
Gin 2s to 4s; Brandy 2s 9d to 4s 6d
Mauritius Sugar 28l to 35l per ton
Tea, hysonskin 9l 9s to 1sl 10s per cliest
Tobacco in bond S1 to 1s per 1b.
Powder 1s to 2s 6d per 1b.

HOBART TOWN.

Wheat 8: to 8: 6d per bushel; Oats 6: to 6: 6d;
Maize 5: to 5: 3d; Hay 5t to 8t per ton.
Potatoes 12: to 15: per c xt.
Bread, 4d per 2 lo lost
Fine Flour, per 1: 2 lbs 20: to 22:; seconds 16: to 15:;
thirds 14: to 20:

LAUNCESTON.

Wheat 5s to 6s 6d per bushel; Barley 6s to 7s 61; Oats 4s to 5s 6d Flour, fine 20s to 22s per 180 lbs; seconds 15s to 20s thirds 16s to 18s Beef 6d per 1b ; Mutton 4d

NEW ZEALAND.

Fine Plonr 261 per ton; second 231; third 40! Hay 71 to 101 per ton; Marze 28 62 to 38 62 onshel Bread Is per four-pound loaf. ADELAIDE.

Flour 30s per 100 lbs; Oats 6s to 9s per bushel V D L Potators 16t to 20t per ton Bread 1s to 1s 1d per 41b loaf Tea 19t 10s per curest. Sigar 28t to 38t per 10s Beef 6s per 1b; Matton 4d to 64 SWAN RIVER.

Flour 30f to 35f per ton Mutton is to is 2 i per ib; pork 4d to 5d Ten 8f to 10f per chest button is see to coe per pair; brood marcs 50f to 100f each; Cows 25f to 39f each

Geelong Retail Market Prices.

Bread, per 41b. louf	0		3	to	0	0	0
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Mutton, per to	0	0		-	0	0	**
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sait, per in						0	
Cheese. English, per l's	0	2				0	
- Dutch, per th		1				0	
- Colonial. per th		0	0		0	•	11
Eggs, per dozen		3				3	
Bacon, per tb		- 1		_			4
Potatoes, per cut	0	19				14	0
Tea, per to		6					
Coffee, ground, per th	0	.1	8	_	0	2	0
Sugar, loaf, per th	0					0	10
maist, per lb	0	0	44	-	0	0	6
Milk, per quart	0					0	
Saup, per lb	0					. 43	
Candles, mould, per th	0					0	
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Geolong Price Current.

GRAIN. &c.

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Maize, per bushet	7	0-	0	8
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Barley, per bushet	0	0	0	0
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sec ud 19	0	0 5	25	
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BUILDING MATEI		19.		

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Gin, per gatton	1	0	O	-	1	4	
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