

not highly remunerative to the wool-growers, are yet so far encouraging, inasmuch as they exhibit a slight improvement on previous sales. The appended prices, which were those obtained for a quantity of wool, per Mary Ridgway, marked GB, and sold by Messrs Simes and Co., appear, from the cursory inspection we have taken, as the most favorable:— 15 bales at 1s 11d, 8 at 1s 10d, 11 at 2s 3d, 14 at 2s, 3 at 2s 1/2d, 10 at 1s 9d, 1 at 1s 7d, 10 at 1s 9d, 3 at 1s 8d, 8 at 1s 8d, 4 at 1s 10d.—Patriot.

CHINA.

We have been favoured by Messrs M. D. Hunter and Co. with a Canton paper of December 11, which, however, contains but little news of importance, no further intelligence of the northern squadron having been received. Trade was dull, but was being carried on at Canton with little interruption. On the 11th December, there were (exclusive of ships of war) sixty-one British, eleven American, one Bremen, one Peruvian, one French, and one Dutch ship in the Chinese waters. Preparations were being made for renewing the war next season with increased vigour. Major-General Lord Saltoun, was expected as second in command to Sir Hugh Gough, with a considerable reinforcement of the land forces, and a line-of-battle ship had arrived in Simon's Bay on her way to China.—Sydney Herald.

REINFORCEMENT FROM ENGLAND.

Major-General Lord Saltoun, G.C.B., is about to proceed, as second in command to Lieutenant-General Sir Hugh Gough, G.C.B. His Lordship, we understand, will probably leave England in a month or five weeks; he takes with him the 98th regiment, now at Dublin, and a company of artillery; and the reinforcement will be increased on its arrival at the Mauritius by the accession of the 50th regiment, at present on duty on that island. This appointment reflects the highest credit on the authorities at the Horse Guards, as Lord Saltoun has been distinguished for his gallantry, and for an intimate knowledge of the duties of his profession. The noble lord served in Sicily in the years 1806 and 1807; in Sir John Moore's campaign, including the battle of Corunna; and with the expedition at Walcheren. He joined the force at Cadiz in 1811, and remained in the Peninsula till the close of the war in 1814. After the return of Bonaparte from Elba, his lordship was again called into active service; and was engaged at Quatre Bras and Waterloo, and on the latter occasion took a leading part in the memorable defence of Boulogne. During the advance of the army on Paris, Lord Saltoun was of the storming party at Peronne; and in 1837, received his Major-General's rank. The entire force that his lordship will carry to China will muster about 1500 men, no unimportant addition to the troops already there. The present government are evidently determined that the character and interests of the country shall no longer continue to be hazarded in a "little war."

SWAN RIVER.

This season has been unusually moist and windy, the forerunner, we suspect, of a heavy winter. The settlers who may be cultivating low lands, should be on their guard, for there is every indication of a flood. Such an event is to be hailed as generally beneficial; but the inexperienced should exercise great caution. "Coming events cast their shadows before." At the time of our present writing, we are visited with continued rain, in the place of the dry scorching heat of summer. This has certainly been one of the most extraordinary seasons we have experienced; and if confidence may be placed in the representations of the natives, assimilates to that of 1828, when Sir James Stirling and Mr. Frazer first traversed this country. It was, we believe, in the month of February they found such verdant fields and finely undulating plains; in the following year the flats were flooded—an event which has not since then occurred.

COAL.—A vein of coal, it is reported, has been found in the neighbourhood of King George's Sound. The report rests upon a private letter received from the Sound, which merely alludes to the circumstance thus briefly:—"Coal has been found in the neighbourhood, and I hope it will be of use." So important an event we might fairly have expected would have been heralded in a more confident tone, accompanied with some particulars. Reasonable doubts are entertained of the fact, from the fact of her Majesty's colonial vessel Champion having sailed from the Sound the day previously to that fixed for the departure of the overland mail, when nothing of the kind had transpired. We earnestly wish the report may prove to be correct, for the inhabitants will not only find that the discovery is "of use," but that it will tend to the rapid advancement of that settlement. The inviting harbour will present fresh inducements to the passer-by, whether steamers or other vessels, and a lucrative traffic will be immediately established. The reward offered by the local government for the discovery of coal, is 2500 acres of land in fee-simple, to be selected in any portion of the colony.

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

PUBLIC WORKS.—We understand that the Lieutenant-Governor, having disposed of the heavy press of business attendant upon a change in the office of colonial secretary, and also of the numerous despatches which have lately reached him (some of them of vital interest to the colony), has ordered the immediate commencement of the erection of a new Government House, and of the College at New Norfolk. His Excellency has also directed that the New Wharf on the north side of the harbour shall be proceeded in without delay, and the Bridge at Bridgewater will be commenced, when the necessary preliminaries can be arranged. Major Kelsall proceeded on Friday last to Tasman's Peninsula, in order to make the necessary arrangements for the construction of a mill, which, it is hoped, will insure to the convicts a supply of wholesome unadulterated flour. The water-works both for this town and Launceston have for some time occupied much of his Excellency's anxious attention, and it is hoped that no obstacles will arise on the part of the contractors to the speedy prosecution of these most important undertakings, which the government is most desirous of forwarding. The wharves at the latter place, we understand will receive the early attention of the Lieutenant-Governor.—H. T. Advertiser.

The case of Tetly v. Sherwin was tried on the 22nd March. The verdict was in favor of the plaintiff, although the Judge inclined strongly to the opposite opinion. We trust the matter is now at rest, and the money will be forthwith paid. It is rumoured that the Directors intend adopting other proceedings to avoid payment, but surely they will not so far impose upon the Company, which they have already saddled with about £700 of expenses, besides an immense loss of business, consequent upon their vexatious tenacity.

MARKET.—It has at length been resolved that a market-place be established in Launceston, and the ground opposite Mr. Henty's originally set aside for that purpose, is under process of being levelled. A "Market Act" will therefore be necessary, which ought to be immediately prepared if the government have any really serious intention of completing this purpose. (Launceston Advertiser.)

MIDDLE DISTRICT.

INSOLVENT COURT.—On Wednesday last the estate of Mr. J. E. Manning was placed under sequestration, for the benefit of his creditors, by Mr. Justice Burton, on the application of Mr. Rogers, one of the creditors; and the chief commissioner was directed to notify in the Government Gazette when meetings of the creditors should be held for proof of debts and appointment of trustees. His Honor stated that at the second meeting the insolvent must appear personally to account for his insolvency, and to answer such questions relating to his trade, dealings, and estate, as his creditors may put to him, and to lodge a true inventory of his estate and effects, and of all debts due to and by him.—Chronicle.

THE GOVERNOR.—His Excellency has left Sydney for Moreton Bay, to inspect the country and to determine upon a site for the township, previous to the land being advertised for public sale. The Governor will return to Sydney early in April; and the Legislative Council has been summoned to meet on the 10th of May, when it is expected that the Municipal Corporation Bill will be brought forward.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.—The following are the prices at present obtained in this district for grain:—Wheat, 5s 6d to 6s 3d; Barley, 4s 6d to 5s; Oats, none; Maize, 3s 6d to 4s 6d.—Hunter River Gazette.

FOUNDRY.—It may not be generally known that there is an iron foundry, as well as a salt manufactory, in full operation, on the north shore at Newcastle. We, in company with several others, yesterday witnessed the process of salt making, and were shown a fine sample the produce of these works. Many articles of farming implements were also cast while we were on the premises, which were exceedingly well done. We would recommend strangers visiting the Hunter to call and examine this establishment while the proprietor is at Newcastle.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Captain William Hougham Tyssen, of her Majesty's 80th regiment of Foot, Assistant-Engineer, and Superintendent of Ironed Ganga, at Tourang Stockade, in the room of Lieutenant Cookson, resigned, to be a Magistrate of the territory.

Coal of an excellent description has been discovered in one of the bays of Sydney harbour, at about seven miles from the town. Some of the veins are only seven inches beneath the surface.

REDUCTION OF THE POLICE FORCE.—We have been informed, that on Saturday morning last, the Superintendent of Police Mr. Miles, received instructions from His Excellency the Governor to reduce the police force of Sydney one-third. At present there are four inspectors, sixteen sergeants, and ninety constables in the Sydney police; but by the proposed arrangement, the force will consist of two inspectors, sixteen sergeants, and

sixty constables. The police will have their work to do, to guard Sydney as it should be guarded, after the reduction.—Sydney Gazette.

PROGRESS OF DISCOVERY.

GULF OF CARPENTARIA. VOYAGE OF THE BEAGLE.

"Passing over the every day occurrences of sailing along the southern and eastern shores of this vast continent, I at once arrive at the Gulf of Carpentaria, and six weeks of highly interesting employment. Exploring two hundred miles of its southern shore, numerous inlets were discovered, and rich tracks of well-watered country, besides two rivers. These were considered of sufficient importance to bear the names of the Albert, and Flinders, the former in honour of his Royal Highness, and the latter as a just tribute to the memory of a man Australia and science owe so much to.

"Albert River takes a S. W. general direction; its entrance is in latitude 17° 35' S., and long. 139° 49' E., and navigable for vessels drawing twelve feet within a few miles of where the water is fresh. The tortuous course of the Albert was traced by the boats upwards of seventy miles, and seven more on foot; many deep watercourses, and other indications of heavy rain noticed on the journey; the appearance of the country was that of a vast plain elevated some fifty feet, with widely-scattered and rather pretty patches of woodland; the soil generally a dark rich mould. Our furthest position placed us within four hundred miles of that mysterious spot the centre of Australia. There the Albert was a narrow rapid stream, flowing from south—probably the drainage of a large swamp or inland sea, and, judging from appearance, one not very far distant.

"What a departure for an exploring party, and what a desirable site for a settlement!—a country cleared by nature, and in a temperature ranging between 52 and 82°—generally below 60 (in July.)

"The natives were neither numerous nor troublesome. They appear to have a singular manner of disposing of their dead; at the upper part of Flinders River a corpse was found lodged in the branches of a tree some twenty feet from the ground; it had three coverings, first one of bark then a net, and outside all a layer of sticks.

"On Sweer's Island we had the good fortune to discover a tree with the investigator's name and date cut on it. It will quite legible, though now thirty-nine years old; this was read with deep interest.

"The tides in the southern part of the gulf are singular, flowing and ebbing twelve hours; it rises at springs twelve feet, when the time of high water is 7h. 30m. P. M. Returning to Booby Island for a chronometric departure, Endeavour Strait was examined, and discovered to be a safe and navigable passage for ships of eighteen feet draught, this to ships passing through Torres Straits, by either outer or inner route, must be considered of vast importance.

"The last week in August and the first week of September were spent at Port Essington. This was a period looked forward to by many with deep interest, and I may say with some anxiety; from the latter we were speedily and happily relieved, by finding the settlement in so flourishing a state—one that will ever reflect the highest credit on the hardy few that have laboured so earnestly in its advancement. Fate appears to have decided that the name of M'Arthur shall be handed down to posterity, as being the chief supporters of our young colonies in both South-eastern and Northern Australia.

"Nature had greatly assisted our young colonists in concealing the devastation of the late hurricane of November, 1839; for the trees were covered with a profusion of foliage that quite hid their shorn limbs; the seasons and nature of the soil were now better understood; arrow-root, sugar cane, sweet potatoes, bananas, pines, melons and variety of others I could mention, were growing luxuriantly in a garden. A team of working bullocks imported from Sydney a year ago, were in good condition, although working almost every day.

"An Englishman with his wife and family were shortly expected from Batavia as settlers, this man was to pay the government £13 a year for a half acre town allotment, which he has to leave on two years' notice or retain permanent possession by paying £25; his object was to trade with the neighbouring islands in a small vessel. Part of the welfare of our young colony may be

justly attributed to the tact and excellent judgment of the late Commandant of Raffles Bay, the unfortunate Captain Barker, who so thoroughly gained the confidence of the natives, from whom the Essingtonians have ever received many proofs of friendship. When the Beagle left Port Essington, the provision store contained nearly twelve months' supply.

"Towards the middle of October, the N. W. coast was reached, after visiting Copang for water and getting soundings to the neighbourhood of the Sahul Shoal. The coast between Roebuck Bay and Turtle Isles, in extent about two hundred miles, affording interesting employment for the remainder of the month, being a part of Australia never seen before; it therefore possessed that degree of interest and excitement experienced on first visiting a new country. It is to be feared that civilized man will never derive much benefit from this portion of Australia, a dreary waste fronted by a very low straight sandy coast, and with apparently nothing to save the greater part of it from the reproach of utter sterility, deserted even by the wandering savage. "Our work terminated at the Amphinome shoals, a truly dangerous mass of sand banks and shoal water, extending eighteen miles seaward from a rather low sandy shore; their extreme is in latitude 19° 42' and longitude 119° 22', and bears South 63° east, twelve miles from Bedou Island.

"The Beagle will proceed immediately to continue her much required survey in Bass's Straits.

"Perhaps it may not be considered out of place mentioning our having witnessed the benefit of Port Essington as a harbour of refuge for shipwrecked seamen in Torres' Straits; a few weeks previous to the Beagle's arrival, the crew of an English barque (the Montreal) lost in Torres' Strait, reached Port Essington in their boats—two small ones; had they been obliged to have gone as far as Timor, some of them probably would have met with a watery grave."

We learn that the Commandant at Port Essington had been made acquainted with Mr. Eyre's contemplated expedition to the northward from the head of St. Vincent's Gulf, and that instructions had been forwarded to keep a good look out, in order to afford him every assistance in case of his having been able to penetrate through the unconquered wilds of the interior. Our readers are, however aware that this enterprising traveller was compelled to relinquish his intention without having performed a fourth part of the journey, having been driven back by the impracticable nature of the country. We learn, that it is the opinion of Captain Stokes, of H. M. S. Beagle, that if ever that mysterious spot, the centre of Australia, is reached at all, it will be by a party starting from the Gulf of Carpentaria, and that the newly discovered river, the Albert, is likely to prove the highway into the interior. The distance between the bottom of the gulf and Adelaide is not more than 900 miles; the river was examined by the Beagle for a distance of 80 miles, and was even then a considerable stream, flowing from exactly the direction the travellers would wish to take in crossing the continent. If this river were followed up, and a depot formed 200 miles inland from the Gulf of Carpentaria, and another at the limits of Mr. Eyre's explorations from the southward, which extended to nearly 300 miles from Adelaide, a party traversing the continent would only have 400 miles to travel on their own resources. The first named depot might be formed without any difficulty, for already nearly half the distance has been explored, and it is most likely that Mr. Eyre could fix upon some spot near the verge of his explorations adapted for the establishment of the other, and thus the starting point would be brought within a reasonable distance of the point of arrival. It is no doubt easier to settle these matters on paper than to go through the labours necessary for their accomplishment, but we do think that a party entering from the northward would have every chance of success.

Some exertions were made to induce Sir Thomas Mitchell to send a party inland from the Gulf of Carpentaria while the Beagle was occupied in surveying its southern shore, and could have afforded protection and assistance; but without success. This however, was before the existence of the Albert River was known, and it is likely that the discovery may induce further explorations in that quarter. We trust that some adventurous traveller will shortly spring up who may be enabled to solve the curious problem of the nature of the interior of this vast continent; there are few geographical

questions of more interest, and none that would confer a greater honor on the discoverer.

MISCELLANEA.

The New Dublin Corporation.—Of the 59 councillors and aldermen returned, 41 are Roman Catholics and 18 are Protestants. Of the former 35 are Repealers, 5 are Liberals, and 1 is a Conservative. Of the Protestants 12 are Conservatives, 4 are repealers, and 2 are Liberals.

WOMAN'S VOICE.—How consoling to the mind oppressed with sorrow is the voice of woman! Like sacred music, it imparts to the soul a feeling of celestial serenity, and as a gentle zephyr refreshes the weary senses with its tones. Riches may avail much in the hour of affliction: the friendship of man may alleviate for a time the bitterness of woe, but the angel-voice of woman is capable of producing a lasting effect on the heart, and communicates a sensation of delicious composure which the mind had never before experienced even in the moments of highest enjoyment.

A miss of the nineteenth century is a strange-looking thing retaining very little of the human form about it.

There is no man so thoroughly miserable as he who is at a loss how to spend his time.

The people of Bath surpass the Athenian sage. He merely chewed the pebbles, but, according to the Morning Herald, "At Bath the Victoria Column is in every body's mouth."

Appear only to be a gentleman, and its shadow will bring upon you contempt; be a gentleman, and its honors will remain even after you are dead.

Rather Cutting.—At the ladies' celebration at Barre, Massachusetts, there were nine hundred of the fairest portions of creation present. Among the toasts were,—"Old bachelors! may they lie alone in a bed of nettles, sit alone on a wooden stool, eat alone on a wooden trencher, and be their own kitchen maids!"

Wines, Spirits, &c.

P. MASON, having on hand a quantity of Wines, Spirits, Porter, Ales, &c. of the very best description, and in possession of the same in quantities of not less than two gallons.

A few respectable gentlemen can be accommodated with comfortable Board and Residence.

Fyans-street, South Corio, }  
April 11, 1841. }

NOTICE.

THIS is to give notice that I will not be answerable for any debts that William Booth may contract, as the partnership has been dissolved.

EDMUND STEEL.  
Corio, 6th April, 1842.

Three Pounds Reward.

STRAYED, a light grey Mare; one of the hind fetlocks white; long tail; white face; a small brand on the right shoulder, almost imperceptible; she went away with two pieces of tarred rope tied together; the property of F. Duvernoy, Wardiallock. Any person giving such information as will lead to the recovery of the mare, will receive the above reward.

On Sale.

AT THE STATIONERY WAREHOUSE.

MANUAL OF HORTICULTURE, by Daniel Bunce, author of 'Hortus Tasmaniensis,' &c.

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Account books                              | Portfolios                     |
| Ledgers                                    | Flutes                         |
| Day books                                  | Flute Instructors              |
| Cash books                                 | Song books                     |
| Letter books                               | Printed Music                  |
| Memorandum books                           | Standard works, cheap editions |
| Copy books                                 | Children's books and pictures  |
| Writing Paper, all kind                    | Maps                           |
| Ink, red and black                         | Atlases, Geographies           |
| Quills                                     | Dictionaries                   |
| Steel Pens, various                        | School books                   |
| Drawing paper                              | Spelling books                 |
| Parchment                                  | Arithmetics                    |
| Gilt and tinted paper                      | Grammars                       |
| Mourning paper                             | Collections                    |
| Blotting paper                             | Testaments                     |
| Cards, plain, colored, emboss'd, enamel'd. | Paper books                    |
| Wax, wafers                                | Psalters                       |
| India rubber                               | Hymns                          |
| Inkstands,                                 | Catholic Prayers               |
| Desk seals                                 | Wedding rings                  |
| Pencils                                    | Printed Forms                  |
| Playing cards                              | Schedules                      |
| Pencil cases                               | Applications                   |
| Pen Knives                                 | Agreements                     |
| Envelopes                                  | Government accounts            |
| Patent leads                               | Ships' Articles                |
| Slates and Pencils                         | Bills of Lading, &c. &c. &c.   |
| Date boxes                                 |                                |