





SHIP NEWS.

ARRIVALS.

From Dublin, on Wednesday evening last, having sailed the 27th of April, the ship Westmoreland, Captain Brigstock, with 212 male prisoners and 6 children, under the superintendence of Dr. McCure, R.N. The guard consists of Captain Holden, Ensign Rainbold, and 32 rank and file of the 51st Regiment. Passengers, 7 free settlers, 6 soldiers' wives, and 5 children.

From New Zealand, same day, having sailed the 2nd instant, the schooner Success, Captain Leathart, with black oil, &c. From same port same day, having sailed the 1st instant, the schooner Dublin Packet, Captain Wells, with black oil and bone.

DEPARTURES.

For New Zealand, on Wednesday, the brig Martha, Captain Hay, with sundries. For Port Phillip, yesterday, the schooner Paw-Paw, Captain Dixon, with sundries. Passengers, W. R. Steele, Esq., R. Jamieson, Esq., Ensign Munday, Mrs. Munday, Mr. C. Gourley, Mr. Gordon, Mrs. Hill and child, Mrs. Larkins, Mr. John Rose, Mrs. Rose and four children.

PROJECTED DEPARTURES.

The Pero, for South Australia, the Marian Watson, for Hobart Town, and the Helvellyn, for Valparaiso, this day.

The following vessels are about sailing from this port.—The Magistrate and Janet, for Java, Prudy, for Batavia, Helvellyn, Valparaiso, Pero, for Port Adelaide, Utica, for Society Islands, William and Bee, for Launceston, Marian Watson, for Hobart Town, Lady Hayes, for China, H. M. S. Alligator and Britomart, for Port Essington, Orontes, for Ditto, Orwell, for China, Isabella, North-west Coast, Integrity and Drumrore, for Calcutta, City of London, Lord Lyndoch and Lady Kennedy, for India, British Sovereign, for West Indies, Mincera, for New Zealand, Denmark Hill, for Port Phillip.

A report obtained circulation through the town on Thursday, that the steamer King William IV, and a schooner were wrecked off Newcastle, which, like a number of similar stories, was found to be totally untrue. She had been compelled to lie up for Port Stephens, having, after leaving Newcastle, been struck with a sea, which carried away her jibboom, boat, and done other damage, drowned a fine bull that was on her deck and a lot of pigs. She came up yesterday, and went her usual trip again in the evening.

The ship Florentia is laid on, and will load with all possible despatch for London.

A deputation of gentlemen waited on Sir Gordon Bremer, on board Her Majesty's ship Alligator, on Thursday, with an address previous to his leaving the Colony for Port Essington, where he is about establishing the new Colony, which is a trading point of view will be of much advantage to our mercantile community.

Messrs. Duke and Co., we understand, are about to equip the ship Roslyn Castle out again for the sperm whale fishery. Their splendid whaling ship British Sovereign, has been thoroughly equipped for a two years' cruise in the South Seas, on the whaling speculation, under the command of Captain Spurling, late of the Sisters.

The brig Mic Mac is getting refitted for the whaling grounds.

The Magistrate fell foul of the Westmoreland in dropping out into the stream yesterday, and did a little damage to both vessels, but not of any particular consequence so as to detain the former vessel.

The Despatch has made a very favorable passage from London to this Colony. When off the Heads she fell in with the late southerly gale which drove her past the port. Mr. T. Street has returned to the Colony in her, he having purchased her in London, with several other vessels, which may be shortly expected.

By the Dublin Packet and Success schooners, which have come up from the whaling stations at New Zealand, we hear that the gangs on that coast had been generally pretty successful. Those at the Bluff had done best, having up to the date of the Success's leaving, procured 150 tons of oil. The whaling lads at these Heads are brightening up a bit since the late damp weather, which has made them pull rather long faces, it putting aside all chance of getting a whale, but the present weather is very favorable.

Ships in Harbour.

Table with columns: NAME, TON, MASTERS, AGENTS, REMARKS. Lists various ships like Alligator, Bee, British Sovereign, etc.

COLONIAL ECONOMY.

THE ESTIMATES.

In times like the present when the scarcity of money in this Colony is so prevalently felt by the community at large, we should not expect to hear of any prodigious waste of our colonial revenues, but that our expenditure should be moderated, to meet our finances. By the Estimates laid before the Legislative Council, we are concerned to find, that the Estimates for 1839 will exceed those of 1838 by the overwhelming sum of £78,871. In the surveyor's department alone, the expenses exceed those of the last year by upwards of £6000, exclusive of the roads, bridges, and streets, which would add £25,970 more, leaving a further excess of £2693, and making together £10,693. The Estimates, therefore, will amount to an alarming sum of money, making the grand total of £321,911 for the service of the year 1839—exclusive of Port Phillip & the Aborigines.

SYDNEY MARKET.

Friday, August 24, 1838.

The Market still continues dull, and with but a very little prospect of any alteration, except it be to make another rise. The following are the retail prices of garden and other produce.

VEGETABLES.—Potatoes, (Derwent), 8s to 10s ditto (Colonial), 6s to 8s per cwt.; cabbages, 1d to 6d each; cauliflowers, 3d to 10d ditto; carrots and Turnips, 3d per bunch; asparagus, 6d per bundle of 25 stems; celery, 3d to 4d per head.

FRUIT.—Oranges (Seville and others), 6d to 1s per dozen; ditto (Mandarin), 10s to 12s ditto; Lemons, 3d to 4d ditto; Loquats, 1s per quart.

POULTRY.—Fowls, 4s to 5s 6d per pair; ducks, 5s to 7s ditto; geese, 10s to 12s ditto; Turkeys, 16s to 20s ditto; Eggs, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per dozen.

DAIRY.—Butter (fresh), 3s to 4s per lb.; ditto salt, 2s 6d to 3s ditto; Cheese, 1s to 1s 2d ditto.

SUNDRIES.—Beef (by carcase), 4s; ditto (retail), 5s; Mutton (by carcase), 3s 4d; ditto (retail), 4s to 5d; Pork (fresh), 8s; ditto (salt), 6d to 8d; Veal, 9d; Bacon, 1s to 1s 2d; Ham, 10d; Lard, 1s.

FLOUR.—First, 26s per cwt.—Second, 20s do.; Ration, 16s ditto.

WHEAT.—Colonial, 6s 4d to 7s 6d per bushel; Van Diemen's Land, 7s to 8s ditto; Maize, 2s 6d to 3s ditto; Bran, 1s 4d ditto.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A lengthy communication from a Parramatta Correspondent upon the "Harbouring and Supplying Clauses" of the Police Act, is under consideration, and will in all probability appear in our next publication.

Commercial Journal.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1838.

"Knowledge is power." Lord Bacon.

English Arrival.

The Despatch came into Port yesterday, from London the 5th of May, bringing but a very small mail. From the late hour at which the mail was distributed, we were unable to glean any thing from the English publications that might be of interest.

It will be our study in our next number to lay before our patrons such intelligence as may be thought important. Amongst the passengers by this ship will be found the name of Mr. Street, late of the firm of Grose and Street, of this metropolis. She also brings two Wesleyan Missionaries and their wives.

unknown to us. The job of fasting five new sinecurists upon us, merely to provide them with lucrative situations, is clearly manifest; but we should have supposed, that some more feasible appointments might have been created and better suited to his public, than so open and glaring an imposition upon our colonial purse, as the nominal cognomen of five Protectors of a cannibal race. All the world knows that ministers of state have poor relations and friends—high functionaries have large families;—sons that must be provided for; while the pockets of the public are literally turned inside out for their support in Government offices. In like manner we find a number of gentlemen employed as Commissioners of crown lands; because the public are better able to keep them than they can keep themselves.

To return.—The next items are— Mr. George Langhorne, Missionary .. 150 Salary of Schoolmaster .. 40 Provisions and Clothing (we suppose for the Blacks) .. 40 For the Mr. Threlkeld and four convict servants .. 186 In aid of Missionary Society at Wellington Valley .. 500 German Mission at Moreton Bay .. 500 Which, with £1500, the salaries of Protectors amount to the sum of .. £3236

And all this for the purpose of bringing the aboriginal natives into a state of Christianity, under the strict scrutiny of their five Protectors. Really this is a most singular and singularly unaccountable mode of proceeding. Now, respecting the Schoolmaster.—Pray what can be expected from the labours of a Schoolmaster at £40 a year, as far as instructing a race of black fellows may go? If, by any possibility, can bring one of the whole race to read, or even to be taught the first rudiments of reading, we should adjudge his labours much under-paid at £40. It is to do less (which we think the most probable), why the best way would be to add a grant of land, and a few head of cattle to his £40, and let him set himself down comfortably, and attend to his own affairs, instead of endeavouring in vain to attain an utter impossibility, namely—that of the instruction of these degenerate savages.

Leaving Port Phillip and the Aborigines, we next proceed to the pensions—£2208; and the mounted police nearly £20,000 more. And for our comfort, be it spoken, that this is the first time that the latter charge is to be borne by the Colony. In the Crown Solicitor's office, we find an article clerk, at a salary of £100; and this is the first time in our lives that we ever heard of an article clerk in a public office, receiving a salary of £100 per annum; but in this Colony we may easily solve the reason, as the young gentleman is no less a personage than the nephew of a high law officer, attached to the Crown—and whose father has also been lately provided for through the same great influence.

It would further request, that for the guidance of the Agent in this country, and for the satisfaction of parties who may contemplate Emigration to New South Wales, you will forward to me on the 1st January, and 1st June, in each year, Returns of the rates of Wages in the Colony, of average Prices, and of the demand for Labour, as far as it can be ascertained, in the form which was sent to you in my Despatch of 29th July, 1838.

The punctual transmission of this information may be of essential service to the encouragement of Emigration, as well as valuable in regulating its extent and direction.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant. "GLENELG."

FRANCIS FORBES.

To LORD GLENELG, &c. &c.

EMIGRATION.

Despatch from the Right honorable Lord Glenelg to Sir Richard Bourke, K. C. B. notifying the appointment of Thomas Frederic Elliot, Esquire, as Agent-General for Emigration, and requesting that Returns of the Rates of Wages in the Colony, of average Prices, and of the demand for Labour, may be transmitted to him half-yearly.

No. 305. Downing street, 29th April, 1837.

Sir,

In reference to my Despatch of the 23rd March last, containing an explanation of the arrangements which I had felt it my duty to recommend, with a view to the more systematic and efficient promotion of Emigration to the Australian Colonies, I have the honor to inform you, that the appointment which I then had in contemplation has since been made, and that I have nominated to the office of Agent-General for Emigration, Mr. Thomas Frederic Elliot, the Gentleman who filled the situation of Secretary to the Emigration Commission in 1831. I have already, in the Despatch above referred to, acquainted you with the nature of the Financial Statements, which, at the commencement of every year, I should wish to receive from you, with respect to Emigration.

I would further request, that for the guidance of the Agent in this country, and for the satisfaction of parties who may contemplate Emigration to New South Wales, you will forward to me on the 1st January, and 1st June, in each year, Returns of the rates of Wages in the Colony, of average Prices, and of the demand for Labour, as far as it can be ascertained, in the form which was sent to you in my Despatch of 29th July, 1838.

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FRANCIS FORBES.

To LORD GLENELG, &c. &c.

PENSION TO SIR FRANCIS FORBES.

"Despatch from the Right Honorable Lord Glenelg to Sir Richard Bourke, K. C. B., recommending a grant to Sir Francis Forbes, of a retired Allowance of £700 per annum."

No. 328. Downing Street, 12th June, 1837.

Sir,

I regret to acquaint you, that Sir Francis Forbes has been compelled, from the increasing decline of his health, to retire from his office of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New South Wales.

On receiving a representation from him to that effect, a copy of which is enclosed, I submitted his resignation to the King, who has been graciously pleased to accept it. You are so well aware of the highly valuable services which Sir Francis Forbes has rendered to the Colony under your Government, that it appears to me unnecessary to advert to them at any length on the present occasion; but I cannot omit to record, generally, my sense of the able and zealous manner in which he has carried into effect the important objects contemplated by His Majesty's Charter of Justice for New South Wales, and especially in the Institution of the Supreme Court of the Colony in the year 1823, of which he was the first Chief Justice.

By the minute of His Excellency the Governor, the Estimates for Port Phillip have been made separately from all other accounts; and the expenditure for that settlement alone amounts to £19,991, without saying one word of another £1210 for expenses of missionaries and schoolmasters for their labours, in endeavouring to effect the conversion of the aborigines to Christianity. But in this estimate there does not appear any mention of revenues, or ways and means to pay this vast expenditure, or even a shilling of it. Independently of all the foregoing calculations, there is another large sum required under the head of aborigines, amounting to £4296 more. The first items being— 1 Principal Protector of Aborigines. £ 500 4 Assistants .. 1000 Who, and what these protectors are, or what they are to do for this money, we have yet to learn; or what protection the blacks may require at the hands of these Protectors; is at present

therefore, feel it due to your Lordship to make this candid avowal, before I solicit an extension of leave of absence, from which I do not anticipate any salutary result to myself, and which cannot but be attended with inconvenience to the Local Government, I would, therefore, venture to hope, that your Lordship will be pleased to permit me to retire upon some allowance as a Pension, according to the length of my services in the Supreme Court of New South Wales.

The present time may not be deemed the fittest to bring my public services under the notice of your Lordship; but I must trust to your Lordship's indulgence for permission to state, that the Supreme Court was instituted in October, 1823, by His Majesty's Charter, in pursuance of the Act of Parliament, and that I was appointed the first Chief Justice, for the purpose of forming the Court—providing it with Rules of Practice, suited to the circumstances of its institution—and of carrying the other provisions of the Act of Parliament, and Royal Charter, into operation. How far I have performed the very difficult and responsible office confided to me, I must leave to the judgment of others to determine; but I may be allowed to take credit to myself for having spared no mental exertion, or bodily fatigue, in the discharge of my duty, and to state that my health has been lost in the public service. With such claims to consideration, I venture to submit my case to your Lordship, and should your Lordship deem it proper to be entertained, to express hope, that as no scale has been established for retiring Allowances to Judges in the Colonies, that my Pension may be regulated, as nearly as your Lordship may think equitable, in accordance with the retiring Allowances of His Majesty's Judges in the East Indies.

In the mean time, until I shall be honored with your Lordship's decision, I have to request that your Lordship will grant me a short extension of leave of absence from my office.

I have, &c. &c. FRANCIS FORBES.

To LORD GLENELG, &c. &c.

ROBBERY.

When the Darling Mills are set to work, which is to take place at the commencement of the ensuing month, we expect to hear no more complaints from the settlers in the district of Parramatta about extra expense and ruinous delays in getting wheat ground.

An old sinner, named Isabella Simpson, whose face resembled more of a pine-apple, than the countenance of anything human, was charged by a constable with being drunk and noisy in the pelling rain a few nights ago, and belaboring an old pal with unmerciful mercy. She said that she was hearing that the man to be tried with the rain and a nobler. Ordered to dry herself for six hours in the public stocks.

CRUISING CHARGE OF ROBBERY.—On Tuesday a man named John Gannon, preferred a charge against a youth named William Johnson, for stealing under the following circumstances:—"Gannon stated to the Bench, that he rented a house of defendant's mother, and was desired by her son (the prisoner) to quit, which he refused to do. In consequence, the opportunity was watched when he should go abroad, and on his return he found a pallock had been placed upon the gate so that he could not enter; and he was therefore compelled to seek another habitation. On this account the prisoner William Johnson, was apprehended on a charge of robbery. And certainly, a very strange charge, observed the Bench, who instantly discharged the young man."

At the March assizes at Liverpool, three men and one woman were respectively tried and convicted of bigamy and sentenced—two of the men to six months imprisonment and hard labour, and the other to two months imprisonment, and the same. The woman was not sentenced.

"AUSTLLEN BANK"—AGAIN.—Another of Wright's notes with the above deceitful title, was exhibited at the Police-office the other day, having been passed by an old man to a dealer in Elizabeth-street, who was given into custody. The Bench remanded the man to give time to the prosecutor to enquire of Wright, if he would pay the demand. This extraordinary man was stated, had removed his office to Parramatta. Two more of these notes were presented at a public-house in the same neighbourhood by two men in company, but on the prosecutor taking the prisoner to the house to see if the landlady could identify him, she stated she could not.

ESCAPE OF PRISONERS.—Six men were relieved the other day from their chains at Goat Island, and forwarded to the gaol at Parramatta, from whence they have since escaped. It is supposed their object in making their escape is to get back to their former habitation, as it appears that the work off the chain at Parramatta is more laborious than the work on the chain at Goat Island.

BLOCKING STREETS WITH WOOD.—A contemporary, like ourselves, has noticed an account in an English paper of the want of room with oblong blocks of wood, which has been found to answer exceedingly well; and in a dusty town like ours, where wood is to be procured next to almost nothing, we trust the experiment will be made;—for it will be far less trouble to repair streets of blocks than streets of Macadamised stone. If properly laid down—being raised gradually to the centre—it would settle down like one massive arch—supported or shouldered by the curb-stones. As economy and the general welfare of our metropolis seems to be the study of our Governor, we trust no time will be lost to lay down a few rods of blocks by way of experiment; and if it should be found to answer, to continue it throughout Sydney.

REASON FOR BEING DRUNK.—An old fisherman was charged the other day with being unable to stand, through the effects of the deceitful spirit—which for the time being, had assumed the shape of sundry glasses of rum. On his being asked the abrupt question "were you drunk?" he replied, "Yes, your Worship, I was drunk; but how could I help it, for my clothes were heavy wet with the rain on that memorable day—when the heavens, in answer to the prayers of the good, shed moisture on the parched ground; and the rain that should make cold, to prevent it, I took rum, and not of late being accustomed to the 'stuff,' it with the weight of my wet clothes added, overcame me." "That's no excuse," said the Bench, "you must pay 5s. or go to the stocks." He went to the stocks, being unable to pay.

IMPORTANT QUERIES IN CONNECTION WITH A RECENT MURDER AT PORT MACQUARIE.—Is it true, that the Bench of Magistrates at Port Macquarie, have lately fined an industrious settler at Rollins' Plains for tendering wine to the carpenter, who was building his house? and is it true, that scenes of riot, drunkenness and debauchery, take place weekly (with impunity) under the very eye of a Police Magistrate?—In front of his house?—on the premises of the Superintendent of Convicts, in consequence of liquor being served out in payment of wages to convict servants and mechanics?—Is it also true, that a convict, the quasi tenant of the above house, lately inclosed an allotment of ground, where he placed a convict servant in charge of pigs and poultry? And is it true, that the poor wretch was murdered by another convict, who came at night to steal the poultry,—this latter convict being also let out as hut keeper to other convicts residing at the Brickfields?

If this be true, no wonder such convict discipline should lead to murder!

NARROW ESCAPE FROM DROWNING.—A lady, who arrived by the steamer Experiment from Parramatta on Tuesday evening last, narrowly escaped being drowned under the following circumstances:—It appears the steamer anchored on the north side of the Commercial Wharf, where there is no light, having previously struck her bows with great violence, so as to cause all on board to stagger. The lady, after she had reached the shore, on account of the almost total darkness, slipped into the water, and, but for the interference into the liquid element, she must have plunged into a watery grave. No further compassion was taken of the lady's sufferings, save the assistance rendered by her brother in conducting her to her residence, in that dripping and cold state. An invitation from the captain for the lady to return to the steamer, till dry clothes could be procured, certainly would have done no harm.

The splendid collection of Engravings recently exhibited by Mr. Hebblewhite, we are informed will be disposed of by ticket, in the long room, on Wednesday evening next, 29th instant, at 7 o'clock precisely, the list being complete, with the exception of a very few numbers.