

# The Weekly Register

OF POLITICS, FACTS, AND GENERAL LITERATURE.

"BE JUST AND FEAR NOT."

VOL. I.

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1843.

No. 1.

## To Correspondents.

H. PARKES.—*Many thanks to our old correspondent. When we regain also our HALLORAN, and our HARPUR, and one or two other old friends that "we daurna name," we shall feel at home again.*

## THE POLITICAL REGISTER.

"It is of great importance in a State—not only to guard Society against the oppression of its rulers, but to guard one part of Society against the injustice of the other part. Justice is the end of Government.—It is the end of civil Society."—HAMILTON.

## OUR RESURREXION.

AFTER having undergone a political martyrdom, and having had our fabled deeds recorded in apocryphal *Chronicles*, we rise again like the phoenix—somewhat emaciated in form, it will be perceived, as becomes our altered position and the state of the times—but unaltered in spirit, and firm as ever in our determination to contribute of such good sense, moderate acquirements, and honesty of purpose as God has imparted to us, to support the rights, and advance the position and interests of the people of our adopted country.

It may with truth be said, that in no country, and at no period since the invention of printing, has there appeared a greater necessity for a periodical conducted with spirit and principle, in the popular cause, than there does appear to exist in the Colony of New South Wales at this moment. The only journals of character now existing upon any basis that offers to be permanent, boast of their "moderate conservatism;" a term which according to our interpretation, means just as much oppression of the *many* by the *few*, as the spirit of the age will bear. Unfortunately, indeed, at present we seem to be all oppressed alike. The real or fictitious capitalist groans under the weight of his own unsuccessful and often extravagant speculations, and all classes of society seem to be more or less involved in the general distress. But in the meantime property is speedily changing its possessors, and new social and political interests are gradually arising out of the general confusion. A newly constituted legislature is about to assemble to exercise its wisdom in altering and amending our laws; a few months more may bring us—for better or worse—a new governor; in a word we are on the very point of an almost entire change in our social and political state.

In this critical position, it must appear obvious to all thinking colonists of liberal principles, and some of the recent elections offer an illustration of the assertion, that unless the people are fully represented in the periodical press, as well as in the councils of the country, their rights will in the conflict of factions and interests be greatly endangered, if not entirely set at naught. Even now, men are talking seriously of involving our young nation in debt, in order that money, or its representative in debetress or other financial inventions, may be once more within the reach of our gambling and gold-thirsty speculators; and we are credibly informed that each of our leading Pitts or Solons goes into the legislature fully charged with some monstrous scheme of this kind! Having pledged a great portion of the appropriated lands of the colony—as they had perhaps some legal right to do—to English money-lenders and Colonial Burdekins, they would now pledge the pockets of the people and of their posterity, to enable the present race of gamblers to resume their hazardous operations at the public expense. Nor is this the only evil to be apprehended. Already has the cloven-foot shewed itself among the *most patriotic* of our members. We see people who lately were held up to us as the very models of political excellence, the determined foes of official extravagance, hunting greedily after place and pension.—"Demosthenes" himself, having attained the object of his ambition, wishes to pocket the peoples' money, and to recline a woosack!

It is to be hoped that among our legislators there may be found several who possess both the will and the ability to do justice to their constituents, but it is not to be denied, that while some of them are devoid of high intellectual gifts or acquirements, there are others who, with whatever pretensions, entertain deep designs against the rights of the great body of their fellow-colonists, which they would skilfully cloak under the specious cover of a patriotic opposition to government. It is not in the nature of things that a conservative journal should go out of its way to unmask such designs, or expose such pretences. A liberal journal is therefore wanted for this and similar purposes, and one is now offered to the public, which shall at least be vigilant in its observation, and honest and fearless in its censures; whether these shall be merited by the government or the opposi-

tion. The battle which from the beginning of the world has been fought between the *few* and the *many*, will have to be fought here too, and the first sessions of our new Council will probably exhibit "the first blast of the trumpet." We this day hoist our little flag for the contest. In doing so, we adopt the sentiment and advice of the extraordinary man, whose opinions were for many years put forth under the same title which we have assumed. "Here, young man of sense and spirit," says Cobbett, "here is the point on which you are to take your stand. *There are always men enough to plead the cause of the rich; enough and enough to echo the woes of the fallen great; but be it your part to shew compassion for those who labour, and to maintain their rights.*"

In adopting this advice, to the letter, we are not to be expected to pursue our career in the spirit of a blind-partizanship. While we defend, we shall take leave to counsel, and perhaps sometimes to remonstrate, claiming that freedom for ourselves that we demand for others. Judging from the reports of the recent elections, of the extraordinary coalitions, and the numerous instances of broken faith exhibited before the public, we fear it must be admitted that there is a deplorable want of moral and political principle prevalent among us. To this species of public vice we shall not cease to apply the lash of our severest censure, until the vice itself, and all who are addicted to it, hide themselves in obscurity. By this determination we stood and *fell* on a recent occasion, and by it we are ready to stand or fall now; the public, however, and not a small faction, being on this occasion our constituents and judges. We cannot resume our editorial pen without acknowledging the polite and gentlemanlike notices of our retirement given by our contemporaries, who have in like manner most handsomely offered to facilitate in every way our present undertaking. Such a spirit is not more gratifying to us than it is creditable to the present conductors of the Sydney press, who with that generous feeling which we entirely reciprocate distinguish between the individual and the cause which he conscientiously espouses. We may have yet occasion, as before, to deal hard blows at their "moderate conservatism," but we trust to wield the lance of a true knight—*sans peur, mais sans reproche*.

We have now to claim the indulgence of



our readers in favour of our first number. Small and imperfect as it may appear, it has not been produced without much difficulty, and we can only assure our readers, that if the expressions of confidence, on which we have hazarded the undertaking, shall be borne out by the support extended to us, the public shall have no cause to complain of our zeal or industry in providing for their advocacy and entertainment.

### THE ADVANTAGES OF "NECESSITY."

"Where is this straw, my fellow?  
The art of our necessities is strange,  
That can make vile things precious"  
SHAKESPEARE.

IN reviewing the state of the Colony during the last five years, and pondering upon the causes and remedies of our present distress, one observation has given us no slight satisfaction, namely, that we are becoming much more economical in our habits and expenditure, much more industrious in our different avocations, and much more ingenious in our useful inventions. And we have come to the conclusion, that this very change in our character is in reality the remedy of which we were in search. Some years ago, we were a Colony of idlers. Those in hired service, were of course obliged to labour, and those under the lash were perhaps made to sweat, but the generality of the middle and higher classes wasted their lives in idleness and extravagance, or, what was worse, in those gambling speculations which have brought on most severe punishments. In this respect, at least, necessity has produced a most marked and favourable change. Coaches are being changed into carts and wheelbarrows, and trappings and gewgaws are at a discount. Those who before neither worked nor thought, but impiously spurned the sentence passed at the beginning upon all Adam's children are compelled to do one or both, and if many are still unemployed, it is because unhappily they can get nothing to do. The result is already visible. Canterbury sugar, Colonial Tweeds, and other articles of Colonial manufacture are constantly appearing to replace imported articles; farmers are turning their attention to Vine growing—wine of surprisingly good quality has recently been made. We lately saw a sample of Fisher's manufacture of last year, which wants only age to be excellent, and proves beyond any doubt the capability of our soil for that highly important description of produce. Recent experiments prove that a market for surplus fat sheep may be established, sufficiently profitable to remunerate the producer, by boiling down the carcase to extract the tallow, and curing the hind quarters. This discovery, which in better times would probably have never been thought of, is owing to the perseverance of Mr. H. O'Brien, who not content with having satisfied himself with the experiment, continued in defiance of much, but not disinterested opposition to press the matter upon the attention of his fellow stockholders until the process has become pretty general. Boiling establishments are being erected on the Parramatta-road, at Newtown, on the Hunter River, and elsewhere, and persons experienced in the tallow trade, after having examined the tallow produced, have given it, as their opinion, that it will command a high price in the London market. It is

calculated that a thousand tons of tallow per annum may be exported, in which case the boiling system will form an important era in our commercial history.

From these facts, to which might doubtless be added, others that have escaped our observation, we conclude, that amid all the embarrassment by which we are surrounded, the Colony is progressing, and that a gradual return of better times may be shortly looked for.

We must take care that this incipient prosperity be not blighted by any wild schemes of finance which may occupy the imaginations of our maiden legislators; to borrow money, being in our opinion, the very worst method of getting out of debt, to say nothing of "the interest thereon since due and till paid."

### DISTRICT COUNCILS.

HIS Excellency the Governor has issued Charters establishing the District Councils of Maitland and Windsor, in terms of the Act of Parliament, for the Government of this Colony. The Warden for the Maitland District is E. C. Close, Esq., and the Councillors are George Wyndham, John Eales, Andrew Lang, William Innes, William Francis Gordon, and Emanuel Hungerford, Esqrs.

This district embraces the "northern portion of the county of Northumberland, and a southern portion of the county of Durham: bounded on the north-east by the Hunter to Morpeth, thence across the River, and by the right bank of the Paterson River to the northern boundary of T. Nowlan's land; on the north by the northern boundary of T. Nowlan's land, and across Government reserve to Lamb's Valley, and to the Hunter at the eastern boundary of Gaggin's land, and thence by the right bank of the Hunter to the entrance of Black Creek; on the west by Black Creek to the Maitland Road, thence by a line bearing southwesterly to Broken Back Mountain; on the south from thence by the crest of the Broken Back Mountain to the Sugar Loaf Range at the source of Wallis's Creek; on the east by the Sugar Loaf Range and a line bearing northeasterly to William Spark's grant, thence crossing the Hunter; by the right bank of this River to the confluence of William's River, being the commencement of the north-east boundary aforesaid."

The Warden of the Windsor District is William Cox, Esq., and the Councillors are J. A. Betts, Robert Fitzgerald, Francis Beddek, Charles Tompson, Thomas Tebbutt, and Thomas Arndell, Esqrs.

This district embraces "a north-western portion of the county of Cumberland, and the north-eastern portion of the county of Cook, and a southern portion of the county of Hunter; bounded on the north by Hawkesbury to Wiseman's Ferry, thence upon the valley of Webb's Creek, and by the dividing range to the confluence of the Wollim Creek with the Colo River and the Wollonganby to its two sources, thence by a line bearing south to King George's Mount, and from thence by a line bearing south-easterly to Grose's River to its confluence with the Hawkesbury, thence by a line bearing south-easterly to Rickaby's Creek, at the crossing of the Richmond Road, and by this road to Eastern Creek; on the east by Eastern Creek to its confluence with Breakfast Creek, thence

by a line bearing east to the Windsor Road, and by this road to its junction with the Pitt Town Road, from thence by a line bearing north-easterly to William Sutor's grant of 50 acres to the North Road, and by this road to the south-west angle of the parish of Frederick, thence by a line bearing north-easterly to the Hawkesbury aforesaid."

### THE SPEAKERSHIP.

THERE are three candidates in the field for this appointment; Mr. Alexander M'Leay, Mr. Hamilton, and Mr. W. C. Wentworth. Of the first we must say that his known habits of order and regularity—habits so necessary for the office—go far to balance against his old school politics to which we have the most decided dislike. Of Mr. Hamilton we know nothing, but by report; which speaks of him very highly. With regard to Mr. Wentworth, whom our fellow citizens had sent into Council to be their chief orator and advocate,—since he came out in his new character of a place-seeker, many of his most ardent admirers have "given him up," and we who beforehand understood him better than his constituents appear to have done, have little to say in favour of his peculiar fitness for the office to which he aspires. Before our next publication, the collective wisdom of the Colony will have given their decision as to the merits of the candidates,—a decision which will, in some degree, enable us to judge of the character which their subsequent deliberations will most probably assume.

### THEATRICAL REGISTER.

We had determined to give weekly critical reports of the performances at the Victoria, and for that purpose, we despatched a gentleman of taste, on Thursday evening, to witness the performance of Sheil's "Evyadne" and report thereon; but although he presented a card, addressed by us to the manager, he was refused admission by that person, or by some one representing him. It is hardly necessary to add, that until these Thespians do themselves the honor of conforming to the universally established rules of civil society, we shall not deign to notice them further.

### City Council.

The City Council met on Thursday, the Mayor in the chair. Alderman Broughton presented the report of the Paving Committee, respecting certain repairs in Sussex-street, which was received. A report was also received relative to certain proposed repairs in Parramatta-street; after which, Alderman Broughton presented the report of the Police Committee.

Mr. Macdermott moved that the report be re-committed, and that the names of Messrs. Hunt, Taylor, and Mardermott, be added to the Committee; he did this for several reasons, one of which was, that as the report conveyed a censure upon his Worship the Mayor, and the Magistrates generally, and as there was but one member of the Council connected with the report, besides the worthy Alderman, he was desirous of removing the weight of responsibility from him.

Alderman Broughton hoped the Council would appoint some other Alderman in his

place, as it was not fair that he should be required again to go over the ground over which he had already travelled. If he had been charged with neglecting his duty, then he might justly be censured; but he did not conceive that he should be blamed for doing too much.

Mr. Taylor thought Alderman Broughton had committed an error in not requiring further assistance from the Council; and was of opinion that the report could not be considered legal, as it was simply the report of one member of the Council.

Alderman Broughton said, that the preparing of the report must necessarily rest with the Chairman of the Committee, as he alone was authorised to communicate with the Police authorities, and to obtain from them the necessary documents.

Mr. Holden and Alderman Wilshire were of opinion, that no advantage could be derived from committing the report.

It was eventually determined that the report could not be received.

Alderman Allen stated that the Subordinate Officers' Committee had determined to postpone the nomination of assistants to the Town Clerk, until that officer should be appointed.

Mr. Macdermott gave notice of motion, that weekly warrants be issued to pay the men employed in the repair of the streets, under the direction of the City Surveyor.

The Acting Town Clerk stated, that there were eight candidates for the office of Town Clerk, viz:—Messrs. J. H. Baillie, E. S. Hall, W. Hustler, John Lowry, James McEachern, Robert Mudie, J. H. Purcell, and John Rae.

Mr. Holden moved that Alderman Mitchell and Mr. Hill be appointed scrutineers, and the several candidates balloted *seriatim*.—The following was the result of the ballot:—

Mr. Rae .....	16
Mr. Hustler.....	14
Mr. Hall .....	10
Mr. McEachern .....	9
Mr. Baillie .....	6
Mr. Mudie .....	1
Mr. Lowry .....	0
Mr. Purcell .....	0

Mr. Rae was therefore declared duly elected.

Some conversation took place as to the By-laws, and the election of a City Solicitor, after which the Council adjourned till Friday.

FRIDAY, JULY 28.

The Council met this day at two o'clock, the Mayor in the chair.

Alderman Allen reported that the Subordinate Officers' Committee had received 62 applications for the office of messenger to the Council Chamber, from which number they had selected six eligible persons, who were then balloted for, Councillors Macdermott and Egan acting as scrutineers, when the following was the result:—

Patrick Barron.....	6
Joseph Russell .....	5
Matthew Delaney .....	4
Thomas Abrahams .....	3
Alexander McLeod .....	2
Peter Threlfall .....	1

The Mayor there declared Patrick Barron to be duly elected.

Some discussion then occurred as to the election of a City Solicitor, the candidates for the office being Messrs. Nichols, Owen,

and Pott. Mr. Poole was held disqualified on account of his being an assessor. On the motion of Mr. Macdermott, the salary was fixed, after some discussion, at 100*l* per annum. Alderman Allen recommended that it should be 200*l*; and Messrs. Alderman Wilshire and Councillor Neale having been appointed scrutineers, a ballot took place, of which the following is the result:—

Mr. Nichols .....	15
Mr. Owen .....	8
Mr. Pott .....	4

Mr. Macdermott moved, that the amount due for salaries up to the 31st instant, be paid, and that the sum due to the Sydney Bank as arrears of interest, be also paid.—Carried.

The Council having resolved itself into a Committee on the bye-laws, the Acting Town Clerk read the first clause, "That the Market shall be open for the sale of goods on every lawful day."

Mr. Macdermott said, an act of the legislature had legalised the sale of perishable articles on the Sabbath, and he should oppose any alteration in that law. If the clause were permitted and enforced, it would be quite impossible for the poor man to obtain butchers' meat on the Sabbath, as in this hot climate during the summer months the meat could not be kept from Saturday: he therefore moved that the words "and on the Sabbath till nine o'clock in the forenoon" be added.

Alderman Allen regretted that it should be necessary in a professedly Christian country, to enact laws for the proper observance of the Sabbath. As regarded the hot dinner of the poor man, he need not be deprived of it by the enactment proposed, for he (Alderman A.) had never purchased his butcher's meat on the Sabbath, and did not think it had been spoiled above twice in the whole course of his life.

Alderman Wilshire seconded the motion, as he thought no compulsory laws would make the people religious.

Messrs. Hunt, Peacock, Neale, and Taylor spoke warmly against the motion, as a "violation of the Sabbath," and Alderman Flood and Messrs. Little and Holden forcibly supported it; and on the motion being put, it was carried by a majority of two.

The Council adjourned till Monday.

Domestic Intelligence.

SYDNEY BANKING COMPANY.—A special general meeting of the proprietors of the Sydney Banking Company was held on Monday, at the banking-house, George-street, for the purpose of rescinding a resolution passed by the proprietors at their meeting of the 19th July, with reference to the appointment of a committee for certain purposes. Or in the event of the resolution above-mentioned being confirmed, to receive the resignation of the directors, and then to make such arrangements for carrying on the business of the bank as might be considered expedient. About one hundred shareholders were present. Mr. George Miller, Chairman, pointed out to the meeting in general terms the difficult position in which the directors had been placed by the conduct of Messrs. Lord and Cockburn, and at the same time stated, that when Mr. Miles' offer of 6*s* 8*d*. in the pound was made, that the directors treated it with that scorn

and contempt which it deserved, and that they had only ultimately agreed to accept the same for the purpose of saving the company's property as much as possible from being depreciated. Mr. Lamb, explained, that while on the one hand there was no intention whatever, by means of the proceedings of the 19th, to cast any reflections on the directory of the bank, who, he thought, had acted as far as they could for the general benefit of the proprietors, yet he did not see how the meeting could rescind any resolutions which had been legitimately adopted, nor could he find, in the deed of settlement, any clause by which the directors were at liberty to resign. So far as he was concerned, all he aimed at by the resolutions in question, was to mark his sense of the improper conduct of Mr. Miles in overdrawing his account to such an extent, and then refunding only 6*s*. 8*d*. in the pound. The directors had done what they could, and it was now the intention of himself, and he believed of most of those who had supported the resolution, to do what they could in order to recover the balance. For that purpose they would apply first to Mr. Miles, then to the Governor, and failing him, they could then lay their complaint before the Secretary of State. Several other shareholders having briefly addressed the meeting, and disclaimed any intention of reflecting on directors, the chairman expressed himself satisfied with the explanations which had been given, and intimated that he and the other directors would continue to discharge their duty as they had done.

APPOINTMENTS.—His Excellency the Governor has appointed William Mitchell Boyd, Esq., of Beards Plains, New England, and Andrew Wauchope, Esq., of Moredun, New England, magistrates of the territory and its dependencies.

INQUEST.—An inquest was held on Wednesday last, at Walker's public-house, corner of King and Kent-streets, before Captain Innes, on the body of Sarah Glynn, aged nine days. After hearing the evidence of Mr. Surgeon Rutter, the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against the midwife who attended the mother of the deceased, for whose apprehension the acting coroner issued his warrant.

"ARISTIDES."—An inquiry is at present going on before the Convicts' Police Court; relative to a prisoner named Ireland, an expirer from Norfolk Island, who has been detected as the writer of a long series of letters in the *Australasian Chronicle*, with the signature of "Aristides." Some portions of the correspondence were found concealed in the shirt of one of the prisoners at Cockatoo Island. The *Chronicle* appears to be at some loss for writers of late.

APPOINTMENT.—His Excellency the Governor has appointed Charles Mallard, Esq., of Sydney, a justice of the peace in and for the city of Sydney, as well as for the adjoining county of Cumberland.

CARCOAR.—His Excellency the Governor has appointed Mr. Charles Caldwell to be clerk of Petty Sessions at Carcoar, in the room of Mr. Stillingfleet Locker, resigned.

LIBEL CASE.—*Dun v. Baillie*—The police court dismissed the case, as Mr. Dun had failed in proving that he was injured by the publication, and because he had failed to prove that the defendant was the registered proprietor of the *Colonial Observer*.

The number of Supreme Court summonses issued this year exceeds five thousand five hundred.

**NEW INSOLVENTS.**—Horatio Tozer, chemist, Port Macquarie—debts, £4182 3s. 1d.; assets, landed property, £2205 0s. 6d.; personal property, £918 10s. 5d.; outstanding debts £401 17s. 11d.; balance deficiency, £656 14s. 9d. Robert Warrell, Port Phillip, debts, £595; assets, £133 17s.; balance deficiency, £461 3s. On Monday, The following schedule was filed—Henry Francis Thompson, farmer and grazier, Southern district, near Broulee, debts, £606 18s.; assets, personal property, £404 5s.; outstanding debts, £10; balance deficiency, £192 13s. On Tuesday, the following schedule was filed, viz.—Joseph Walford, merchant, George-street, Sydney, debts, £21,041 11s. 10d.; assets, landed property, £7200; personal, £3610; outstanding debts, £5380 9s. 3d.; balance deficiency, £4851 2s. 7d. William Carter, ship chandler, Bridge-street, Sydney, debts, £300 18s. 1d.; assets, personal property, £9; outstanding debts, £4 9s. 6d.; balance deficiency, £287 8s. 7d.; brought up on *habeas corpus*, examined before one of the judges of the Supreme Court, and ordered to be discharged. Robert Glasgow Dunlop, and John Ross, merchants, Macquarie-place, Sydney; debts, £11,916 19s. 2d.; assets, personal property, £8000; outstanding debts, £3239 17s. 3d.; balance deficiency, £677 1s. 11d. James Walsh, gentlemen, Bathurst, debts, £275 14s.; assets, personal property, £92; outstanding debts, £30 12s.; balance deficiency, £153 2s. 0d.—Joseph William Threlkeld, grazier, Barraba Plains, district of Liverpool Plains. Debts, £6800 2s. 9d. Assets—personal property, £2600; outstanding debts, £1214 6s. 0d. Balance deficiency, £1985 16d. 9d.—John Walker, corn-factor, York-street, Sydney Debts, £225 12s. Assets—personal property, £148; outstanding debts, £44 9s. Balance deficiency, £33 13s. 6d.—John and James Walker, corn-factors, York-street, Sydney. Debts, 2598 11s. 7d. Assets—landed property, 70 1/2; personal property, 505 12s. 6d.; outstanding debts, 540 3s. 9d. Balance deficiency, independent of bad debts, 1482 15s. 1d.—William Forbes, of Sydney, and James Aiken, jun., absent from the Colony, trading as the firm of Forbes & Co., merchants, Sydney. Debts, 5972 1/2. Assets—landed property, 350; personal property, 610 1/2; outstanding debts, 647. Balance deficiency, 4365 1/2.—Louisa Seymore, dressmaker, Sydney. Debts, 15 9s. Assets—personal property, wearing apparel, 5 1/2. Balance deficiency, 10 1/2 9s.

#### Police Court.

**ILLEGAL DISTILLATION.**—On Saturday, 22nd July, Mr. George Evans, rectifier, was brought before Alderman Broughton and Mr. Windeyer, on a charge of working an illicit still. Mr. Nichols appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Foster for the defence. Captain H. H. Brown, Inspector, deposed that he went on the 6th of July to the defendant's premises, and found a still with spirits running from the tail-pipe. On directing the cock to be turned, he found the still contained some red wine. The defendant afterwards acknowledged that the still contained a cask of Cooper's spirits, and a cask

of sour claret, and directed him to the yard where he found several more casks of claret. The defendant told him that no spirit was obtained from the claret, but only flavour. The spirits seized were twenty-two degrees over proof. Mr. Inspector Castles gave similar evidence, adding that he tried the claret and obtained 12 1/2 per cent., spirits from it. Dr. Nathan was examined as to the difference between distilling and rectifying, the former process he described to be the procuring of spirit from wash, wine, and similar substances, and the latter the fortifying and improving of spirit by repeated distillation. Evidence to the same effect was given by Mr. Michael Darcey, Mr. F. Lowe, and Mr. R. Cooper. The last witness stated that he never knew wine used in England for compounding, it being too expensive, but he had no doubt it would be preferable to Japan earth, the drug commonly used for flavouring spirits. For the defence Mr. T. C. Potts, distiller, deposed that it was the practice for rectifiers and distillers in London to collect sour wine and wine- lees for the purpose of giving a flavour to their spirits, and that this was done openly before the customs officers. Mr. Charles Abercrombie deposed, that being a wine-merchant in England, he had been in the habit of supplying low wines to respectable rectifiers and compounders, to be used for rectifying and compounding their spirits. Several other witnesses were examined, and the court after weighing all the evidence gave its opinion, that this was not a process of distillation, but of rectification, and therefore dismissed the information.

**LIBEL CASE.**—On Wednesday, the case of *Dun v. Baillie*, was called on at the Police Court before Captain Innes, when the following affidavit was read:—“City of Sydney to wit: William Dun, of Paterson's Plains, at present in Sydney, maketh oath and saith, that he is the person alluded to in an article published in the *Colonial Observer*, newspaper, dated 1st July, 1843, under the head of Durham Election; deponent saith that the matters alleged in the said article against him, are false and scandalous, and prays a summons against John H. Baillie, the printer and publisher of the said newspaper, a copy of which is hereunto annexed; and deponent charges the said John H. Baillie, with printing and publishing the same.—William Dun sworn, Police Office, Sydney, 22d July, 1843, before Thomas Broughton, J. P.” After this document had been read, Captain Innes remarked, that it was certainly one of the most extraordinary affidavits which had ever been produced before him, and enquired where it had been drawn? Mr. Nichols, who appeared for the defendant, stated that he was of the same opinion as his worship, respecting the matter set forth in the affidavit, which he believed had been drawn in the police office, and which like many others was an evidence of the bad working of that system by which persons could get such documents drawn for them at the public expense. In such cases as the present, he thought the least that complainants could do was to employ professional men to draw their affidavits.—Captain Innes said, he did not think he would be warranted in dismissing the case. Mr. Nichols replied, that there were only two ways of disposing of it—either to go on or dismiss, and if the complaint felt aggrieved, he could again come before the court with a proper affidavit. The case was then dismissed.

#### LOVE OF LIBERTY.

Earth's guardian minds in every age have hymn'd  
Thy praise, O Liberty, in words of fire;  
Enkindling, as thy genius will'd desire  
Of thine immortal honours all undim'd  
In their unroused compatriots. Death begrimm'd  
By Bigotry's devices,—living pyre,  
Slow waste of life in dungeons, rackings dire,  
May crush the goodly-form'd and lusty limb'd,  
But touch not *love of liberty*. So well  
Art thou beloved of all who once feel free!  
What other cause had nerved the patriot Tell?  
Made the three hundred of Thermopylæ?  
And oh, may *love of thee* for ever dwell  
In the bold Briton's heart, though poorest he!

H. PARKES.

#### H O M E.

Sweet home! how lavish of his harp's sweet tones  
Is the young poet, when he sings of thee!  
And ever sweeter grows his minstrelsy,  
As Time more distant leaves the loving ones,  
Whose voices bless'd his first sweet home. His bones  
Should moulder 'neath the same old churchyard tree,  
Which shaded childhood's earliest reverie,  
Though live his fame earth's remotest zones.  
Sweet home! how must the victor's mind o'er-wrought  
Droop o'er thy loss, when the red fight is ended;  
And he who seeks and finds what few had sought,  
In untrack'd wilds, for thee still pine unfriended!  
Sweetest of all life's sweets, which gold ne'er bought,  
How wisely round the poor thy charms are ofttest blen'd!

H. PARKES.

#### New Zealand.

An intelligent correspondent of the *Herald* writes as follows, from Auckland—

“We are yet favoured with a continuation of fine weather, for this advanced season of the year, but our political and commercial horizon continues in the same overclouded state. Agriculture is certainly going a-head in the country lands of the several settlements, and the favouritism hitherto shewn towards town allotments, is decreasing in favour of country farms.

The Land Claims Commission yet drags “its slow length along,” and probably the Commissioners will enjoy their situation for some years to come. Many of the colonists have entered into new arrangements with the native chiefs, viz. :—that of leasing lands for a period of ninety-nine years (beyond which period, the lessees it would appear do not aspire to enjoy them) at an annual rent, and as the British Government has vouchsafed a wholesale naturalization to the New Zealanders, we opine that the local government cannot disturb such arrangements. We have heard that in one or two cases co-partnerships between the Europeans and the lords of the soil have taken place, the land of the latter, being rated as an equivalent to the stock, &c., of the former. Doubtless Tamui, Manuwhiri, Jackson and Co., will become as liquid in pronunciation, as Jebbadee, Jedeboey, Johnson and Co.,—or a Hong Kong firm of Tszyung, Paouyang, Thompson and Co.; the produce of the stock to be equally divided. That such mutual compacts between the two peoples will continue to take place can cause no surprise, as long as the lucid £1 per acre act continues (comet-like) to surprise us.

No tidings have yet reached us of the appointment of our future Governor, a subject of no little importance to us, as assuredly on the selection depends in a great degree the future prosperity of this colony.

When things are at the worst they sometimes mend.

H. M. Store-ship *Tortoise*, Wood, sailed for London on the 16th instant, laden with a fine selection of masts, spars, &c., for our naval dock yards. The much respected widow and family of our late Governor took passage in her. We believe it is the intention of Mrs. Hobson to return and settle among us. A meeting was convened previously to her de-