

that press, would not fail to watch over all their proceedings.

Mr. Bradley spoke against the motion.

Mr. Therry was averse to all hole-and-corner proceedings, and whatever might be said to the contrary, he could not regard the discussion of a select committee, with closed doors, any otherwise than as a proceeding of this nature. Whatever discussion was gone into, he should like to see it gone into in the face of the Council, and of the whole country.

Mr. Suttor spoke in favour of the motion, and Mr. Foster against it.

Mr. Hamilton concurred so fully in all that had fallen from the honourable member for Port Phillip in bringing forward the resolution then under discussion, that if the honourable gentleman persisted in his motion, he should feel bound to vote for it: although, as the general feeling of the House, was for a committee of the whole House, rather than adopting the preliminary enquiry of a Select Committee, he should advise the honourable mover to withdraw it. He could scarcely see how it would be possible to hear evidence at the bar of the House with any degree of advantage: for he could look forward to nothing short of confusion when he considered that there would be thirty-six persons to ask questions of the witnesses and that each individual of the whole thirty-six would be probably inclined to put a different construction upon the answer which was received.

Mr. Walker said that it appeared that the feeling of the House was against the appointment of a Committee he should nevertheless, feel it his duty to press the question to a division. It had been conceded that points of difficulty might be referred with advantage to a Select Committee for the purpose of investigation, and he contended that on the present occasion it was their duty to subject the whole of the estimates to a minute enquiry of this description. Arguments had been used having a tendency to make it appear that the investigation of the Committee was intended to supersede all enquiry on the part of the House itself; but he need scarcely say, that such a view of the matter was wholly erroneous—the province of the Select Committee being, to make those minute enquiries, and carry out that searching investigation, which in a Committee of the whole House would be found impracticable. He had been asked whether he had ever made a calculation of the time which would be taken up by an enquiry in a Committee of this description: and to this question he would simply answer that the necessary time, whether long or short, must be allowed. The consideration of the estimates was the great business of the session, and the conducting of this business must not be made a question of mere time.

The House then divided, when there appeared

Against the motion 18
For it 14

Majority against the motion..... 4

The Colonial Secretary gave notice, that on Tuesday next, he would move, that the Council should resolve itself into Committee for considering the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 1844; and that Mr. Elwin should take the Chair. In giving this notice the honourable member remarked, that he should take it as a great favour if any member

intending to enquire into a particular item, would give him, either publicly or privately, an intimation to that effect, in order that he might come prepared to afford the necessary information.

The Australian Auction Company's Bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Wentworth rose to move the second reading of the Bill "to give a preferable lien on wool from season to season, and to make mortgages of sheep, cattle, and horses, valid, without delivery to the mortgagee." The object of the Bill was two-fold: first, to give parties who were in possession of money, and were disposed to advance it upon wool, a security upon that wool, even while it was upon the back of the sheep; and, secondly, to give the owners of sheep and cattle an opportunity of raising money upon them by means of a valid mortgage. The Bill itself was a novelty; but its principles were not a novelty to the British Constitution, being analogous to that of bottomry, by which a loan was raised upon the vessel in order to enable her to proceed upon her voyage. Upon this same principle the loan was raised upon sheep and cattle, in order to enable the proprietor of them to pay the wages of his servants, and other necessary expenses, and by this means to bring the wool or the cattle ultimately to market, and thus obtain a profit for himself, besides paying off the loan he had previously incurred. It was a somewhat singular coincidence, that at the present moment a similar law to the present was just coming into operation at the Isle of France. The second part of the Bill, which related to the mortgaging of live stock, had always been valid; at all events, in all cases where the money was not presently payable; but the operation of the Insolvent Law had placed the investment of money in this manner a perilous undertaking, and it was seldom done unless by the charge of an exorbitant interest—a system but too common in the present day. Many had objected to the Bill, because, by leaving the cattle in the possession of the mortgagee, a false system of credit would they conceived be created in his favour, and parties would readily believe him to be in possession of greater property than he was really master of. The Act itself provided a sufficient answer to this objection in the provision for the registration of all such mortgages, and parties who were about to deal with the possessor of cattle might, by going to the registry office, and paying a fee of one shilling, ascertain at once whether he had or had not any incumbrance upon his property. The Insolvent Act had been the means of destroying vested interests to a great extent, by setting aside transactions of this nature to, in some cases, a large extent; and if an *ex post facto* law was as objectionable as honourable members said it was, here was, indeed, a sufficient example of that nature. The present Bill would have the effect of restoring such of the by-gone securities as were still in existence, and, in this point of view alone, would be productive of a highly beneficial effect.

Mr. Foster had no objection to the second reading of the Bill, although he had several objections to make against it, on matters of detail which would come in more properly when the Bill should be passing through Committee.

Mr. Elwin thought that no sufficient provision was made in the Bill for the protection of innocent purchasers; for it was quite

possible that at the very time a mortgage might be negotiating of the description to be allowed by this Act, some party, not at all cognizant of that fact, might be in treaty for the purchase of the same cattle. It was very true, that a registry of all mortgages would be kept, by which means the purchaser would be able to ascertain what incumbrance there was upon the property at the time of his purchase; but this registry would be kept in Sydney, and as both the vendor and the purchaser might reside some hundreds of miles in the interior, it was quite possible that the latter might never be aware of the existence of a mortgage previous to his own purchase. In order, therefore, to prevent this system of fraud, it was necessary that a notice of every transaction should not only be given in Sydney, but circulated throughout the districts of the interior. The second point to which he would refer was a positive infraction of the existing laws, and an equal infraction upon the system of fair dealing between man and man: he alluded to that portion of the bill by which, in the event of any capitalist offering a higher price than the sum originally given by the party first contracting with the proprietor, the contract with the latter would become absolutely void.

After a few words from Mr. Foster and Mr. Walker,

Mr. Therry said, it was not his intention to oppose the Bill; but although he concurred in the principle of it, he could not forget the important question of "How was that principle to be carried out?" He thought that the notice of the mortgage in the first clause required to be more extensive than was proposed. Up the country the mere registry in Sydney would be scarcely any notice, and he would suggest that a copy of the registry should be lodged with the nearest Bench of Magistrates. He thought the second clause was open to all the objections which had been urged by Mr. Elwin. A merchant might advance upon wool as much as he thought was safe, when a ship might arrive from England, bringing news of a demand for woollens for China, or some other market, which might have the effect of raising the price of wool, and then a person might step in and purloin the wool away from him; in this there would be no reciprocity, for the first mortgagee must hold to his bargain, let the wool fall as it may. If this clause were passed, no one would advance money upon so precarious a footing; it would render the Act inoperative. The third clause, again required considerable alteration; as it stood, a person might mortgage all his property on a Saturday, and go into the Supreme Court and file his schedule on a Monday, and then all his assets would be relieved.

Mr. Wentworth: That is mere detail, which can be altered in Committee.

Mr. Therry was glad his honourable friend was of that opinion. If the Council could pass any measure which would enable persons safely to make advances to stock and sheep-holders, it was extremely desirable that they should do so; and it was therefore that he should support the Bill if it could be made to work well.

Mr. Wentworth said, if honourable members had looked at what they called a mortgage, but what he called a lien, the instrument by which the wool on the sheep's back was to be hypothecated, they would see that the party advancing the money or goods was

to have "a preferable lien to the extent of his advance." He did not wish to tie the Council down to those identical words. If another form of hypothecation could be agreed upon, he had no objection to any alteration which might be suggested; but he did not think that a person would have any thing to complain of, who advanced money or goods upon the security of wool, if in two or three months he received payment in full, some other person having thought the wool worth more than the money advanced upon it. If any means of registration could be devised for the country districts, if there was any machinery by which it could be effected, he had no objection; he thought the notice was the best preventative against fraud, and the more efficient that notice could be made the better.

The Bill was read a second time and the House formed itself into a Committee. A lengthy conversation then followed, during which various amendments were proposed, and the clause was altered so far as to make the security of the mortgagee consist in the possession of the wool by the mortgagor, being considered to be, to all intents and purposes, the same as its possession by the person or persons making the advances—so that it would be criminal in the mortgagor or any other person to dispose of such wool as long as the mortgage debt remained unliquidated, it being, in point of law, the property of the mortgagee, although in the possession of the mortgagor.

The clause, as thus amended, together with two or three less important alterations, was then put and carried.

The second clause, on the suggestion of Mr. Wentworth, was expunged, and another substituted on the motion of Mr. Therry, to the effect, that any person who had advanced money on a clip of wool before the passing of the Act, might make affidavit of the fact, and thus bar the claim of any person registering his lien under the Act, unless such affidavit shall be taken off the registry by consent of the party interested, or the order of a Judge.

The third clause (rendering mortgages of sheep, cattle, or horses, valid without delivery to the mortgagee) was amended so as to apply to live stock generally; and a proviso was added, to the effect that no mortgage of live stock (unless the consideration be a *bona fide* advance at the time of the execution thereof) shall protect it from the operation of the insolvent laws, unless the deed of mortgage shall be executed sixty days prior to the mortgagor taking the benefit of such laws.

The fourth clause—with an amendment fixing the amount of the registry fee at 2s. 6d., and another, reducing searching fee from 2s. 6d., to 1s.—was then passed; after which, the schedules, with such alterations as were rendered necessary by the amendments of the bill, were passed; as were also the preamble and title, after a slight alteration in the former.

The House then resumed, and the Chairman reported progress, when the Council adjourned.

FRIDAY.

Mr. Windeyer brought forward the motion of which he had given notice relative to the duty charged upon tobacco in Van Diemen's Land. Formerly, he said, we had customers for our tobacco in the prisoners; but these being taken from us and sent to Van Diemen's Land, he thought it was not acting like a

sister-colony to shut us out from their market.

Mr. Cowper suggested that the motion should be worded so as to refer only to "tobacco the produce of this Colony."

Mr. Windeyer having adopted this suggestion.

The Colonial Secretary said that as we received their produce, he thought it but fair on the principle of reciprocity, that they should receive ours duty free. He would support the motion.—Motion carried.

The Colonial Secretary asked permission to defer the consideration of the Estimates till Tuesday week, as he found it would require a good deal of investigation to come prepared with the explanations that honourable members might be expected to require.—Granted

The House then resolved itself into committee, for the further consideration of the Solvent Debtors' Bill, when a slight amendment was made in the 16th clause, after which the Chairman reported progress, and the bill was ordered to be printed as amended.

The House then resolved itself into committee on the standing orders.

Mr. Hamilton, as Chairman of the Select Committee brought forward the clauses which had been referred back to the committee, and moved that clause 22 should be omitted, and clause 55 remodelled, so as to include the substance of the former. The clause was to the effect that members guilty of highly disorderly conduct, when called by name by the Speaker, should be delivered into the custody of the Serjeant-at-Arms.

Clause 45 declaring it to be highly disorderly to digress from the subject, and comment upon the words members in a former debate, was adopted as also clause 53 directing all divisions to be entered upon the minutes.

Clause 54 was omitted.

A conversation took place upon the question, whether a clause should be inserted prohibiting persons from voting in matters affecting their own interests. Mr. Windeyer contended that such a clause should be introduced.

Mr. Therry objected to depriving the representatives of the people of votes in any case.

Doctor Lang thought it ought to be left to the good sense of individuals to vote or not.

Mr. Wentworth hoped that no case would arise in which a member would so vote. But if so he would oppose it.

Mr. Murray thought that a government officer had an undoubted right to vote on a question affecting his salary.—The conversation dropped.

Clause 58 was struck out.

Clause 69 was then read, to the effect that the Speaker should be entitled to admit 16 strangers to the body of the House, and that each member should be entitled to give cards of admission to the gallery to two persons.

Mr. McLeay suggested that the judges and members of the Executive Council should have the privilege of admission to the body of the House.

Mr. Wentworth protested against any stranger being entitled *de jure* to sit in that House.

Mr. Windeyer proposed that the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the City of Sydney should have admission to the gallery without members orders.

Mr. Therry was astonished at such an

amendment. Who ever heard of the Lord Mayor of London being privileged to sit in the House of Commons? He had every respect for the Corporation of Sydney, but he thought that great inconvenience would arise from establishing such a privilege.

Doctor Lang would have the gallery thrown open altogether.

Mr. Windeyer would remind the honourable member for Camden, that the Remembrancer of the City of London had the privilege of admission to the House of Commons.

Mr. Wentworth recollected the time when petitions from the Citizens were very acceptable to the honourable member for Camden—Petitions which were mainly instrumental in calling into existence this mayor and those aldermen, and he thought the Corporation had a right to look up to the honourable member for a little more patronage than he seemed to bestow upon them on this occasion. The labours of the Corporation were destined soon to close—they would linger on a little longer and soon depart; and although neither they nor the citizens were grateful to the honourable member for his former exertions, he thought they had good reason to turn round and say to him in the words of the Roman—*et tu Brute!*

Mr. Therry admitted that the Corporation was more indebted to him than to the honourable member for Sydney. He had been indeed lent his humble aid to establish free institutions in this City, and he was satisfied to abide by the decision of posterity as to his conduct on that occasion. He thought it was too early to predict the premature decay of the Corporation—he conceived it to be the duty of the City member more particularly foster and encourage it. There were doubtless some irregularities in the proceedings of the City Council, but he saw much zeal among them and he augured well of their stability.

Mr. Wentworth wished to justify himself to the Council and the country. He was not opposed to the incorporation of the City. He had supported a measure of Sir R. Bourke for that purpose, because he proposed to make large grants to the City, to enable them to carry on improvements. He opposed the measure of last year for the same reason, namely—because it was not accompanied by such grants, and because he knew they never could carry on their improvements without them.

After a few words from Mr. Windeyer, the Attorney-General, and Mr. Murray, the House divided, when there were

For the motion	19
For Mr. Windeyer's amendment	6

Majority

13
Mr. Windeyer then proposed that the Mayors of the several Corporations should have admission to the gallery.

Mr. Murray seconded the motion.

Dr. Lang thought that if they improved so much in their oratory, as some members seemed to expect, they ought to build a larger gallery, and throw open the doors altogether.

The House divided, when there appeared	
Against Mr. Windeyer's motion	13
For it	6

Majority

13
Clause 62 was adopted ordering that members absent for more than a fortnight

without leave should be fined £5 and committed to the custody of the Serjeant at Arms, till the fine and all fees should be paid.

City Council.

WEDNESDAY.

Mr. Macdermott presented a petition, signed by seventy of the most respectable citizens of Cook Ward, residing on the Surry Hills, complaining of the bad state of the streets in that neighbourhood, and praying that some repairs might be ordered to them by the Council.

After the petition had been read, Alderman Flood moved that the petition might be received, and its prayer complied with; and after a short discussion, this resolution was adopted.

Alderman Allen remarked, that one of the Auditors of the City Council, Mr. J. H. Potts, having taken the benefit of the Insolvent Act, it would be necessary to declare the vacancy in the usual form, and this having been done, Saturday (this day) was fixed upon for the election of a successor in that office.

On the motion of Alderman Broughton, Mr. B. C. Rodd was received as one of the sureties for the City Treasurer.

Alderman Allen moved, that the sum of 26l. 10s. 11d. might be voted to pay the salaries of the various officers of the Corporation, for the month of August.—Carried.

Mr. Holden said, that some time back a petition suggesting certain amendments in the Corporation Act, had been given to Mr. Richard Jones, for presentation to the New Legislative Council: as this petition had not been presented, he would suggest that it might be well to get it back from Mr. Jones, and refer it once more to a Committee, in order that certain further alterations might be recommended.

The Mayor remarked that the last speaker laboured under an error, as the petition alluded to had been presented in due course to the late Council, and a part of it had been acted upon.

Several of the members confirmed this statement; but in course of the conversation which followed, it appeared to be still the opinion of the Council that some alterations in the Act were necessary, and that it would be advisable to petition the Legislative Council upon the subject. It then became a question as to whether the proposed petition should be referred to the consideration of a Sub-Committee, or should be discussed in a Committee of the whole Council, and the latter course was ultimately determined on, with the understanding that a special meeting should be appointed for that purpose, of which the members should receive due notice.

The Town Clerk read the report of the Police Committee, with the view to its being taken into consideration by the Council.

Mr. Macdermott moved that the report just read might be adopted.

Mr. Taylor seconded the motion.

Alderman Flood moved, as an amendment, that the consideration of the report might be allowed to stand over until the Council should be placed in possession of some account as to how the Police Force was distributed.

Mr. Little seconded the amendment as he considered that there were many points which the report did not fully explain.

Alderman Allen said, he considered the report to be a very explanatory one, and thought that credit was due to the Committee upon that score. He thought, however, that the time had arrived when it became the duty of the Council to see how cheaply things could be done. They had already seen how much the Legislative Council was disposed to act upon this view, and he should be inclined to fall in with Alderman Flood's proposition for the temporary postponement of the question, in order that they might have an opportunity of seeing the course pursued by that body. He could not see what necessity there was for three Police Magistrates, and one of these three functionaries might at least, he thought, be dispensed with: £300 a-year was a large sum, and in times like these when distress and insolvency pressed them on every hand, it behoved them to be very careful before they voted away the money of the citizens without receiving a proper equivalent. In the report formerly brought up by Alderman Broughton, it was recommended that one of the Police Magistrates should be dispensed with, and it did not appear upon what ground this opinion had been altered.

Mr. Macdermott rose to order. The Report alluded to by Alderman Allen, was in point of fact no report at all, having been merely drawn up by Alderman Broughton, without the assistance of any Committee, and rejected by the Council upon that ground.

Alderman Allen continued: If he was not allowed to give this fact as the opinion of others, he would give it as his own. He had no hesitation in saying that the third Police Magistrate, Mr. Ryan Brenan, might be very well dispensed with; for if that functionary could obtain leave of absence, and stop away for long periods of time from his duties, it was a plain proof that the office was not required at all. The City had upwards of thirty unpaid magistrates, which was surely a sufficient number to perform all the police duties, with the assistance of the Commissioner of Police and a single paid Magistrate. When the continuation of two paid Magistrates was formerly determined on, it was done with the view principally of breaking in the City Magistrates to the performance of their duties; but the same reason could scarcely be said to exist now, when the unpaid civic Magistrates had received about seven months' training. One Police Magistrate, however, would unquestionably be still necessary; and he felt bold to say that a more attentive or efficient than the second Police Magistrate, Mr. Charles Windeyer, could scarcely be found—he was in fact, a perfect slave to the duties of his office; while, go where you would, the report would be heard, that Mr. Brenan was never to be found at his post when wanted. The number and expense of clerks was equally enormous, and ought to be greatly reduced. If there were too few constables for the protection of the City, there ought to be fewer clerks and more policemen.

Mr. Holden entertained precisely the same views as Alderman Allen. It was perfectly astounding to see so large a sum of £822 18s. under the head of the Clerical Department, more especially as it came within his own knowledge that the duties of this department were very inefficiently performed. He could see no reason why the salary of the Deposition Clerk should not be stopped when he was dangling about the town for his own

amusement for two or three days, and sometimes a week at a time.

Mr. Macdermott objected to the course which the discussion had taken, as being of too personal a nature, and expressed a hope that the Mayor would not permit its continuance.

Mr. Holden continued: he would not be deterred from holding up his hand in support of any measure calculated to put a stop to existing abuses; and when he looked at the immense amount which they were called upon to vote away for police purposes, he felt it his duty to enquire, in the first instance, what value was received by the citizens for that amount? One fact mentioned in the Committee's report was, that although only one messenger had been employed at the Police-office for some years past, the salary of an imaginary one had been drawn and expended. Now this, he thought, was a matter which ought to be carefully investigated, in order to determine by whom the expenses of the second messenger had been appropriated. Suggestions had been thrown out, that the City Council ought to be entrusted with the management and controul of the civic police, and he thought that they ought either directly or indirectly to possess this controul. As matters at present stood, their whole duty consisted in exacting a rate from the citizens for the purpose of protection to their lives and property, still, if appealed to for such protection, they were unable to afford it. A pretty specimen the citizens had received of the efficiency of the police upon the only occasion when their efficiency was really tested, namely, the late City Election, when in spite of the forewarning which the authorities had received from the proceedings upon the day of nomination, they yet suffered the streets of the City to be kept possession of by a mob of ruffians, by whom property, and in one instance even life, was recklessly destroyed. He now came to the point alluded to by Alderman Allen, and he thought, with that gentleman, that the office of third Police Magistrate might be very well dispensed with. He had good reasons for stating, that out of the six or seven months which had elapsed since the Police Estimates were last voted by the Council, the third Police Magistrate had scarcely devoted six weeks to the performance of his duties, and the fact of the business having gone on in the face of such neglect, was in his opinion a sufficient proof that the office could be altogether dispensed with. It might be necessary that there should be one paid magistrate for the City, whose attendance, the citizens have a right to command. At present, the citizens often had to wait about the court for several hours together, before they could get their business attended to. It was the general practice to announce the opening of the court at ten o'clock in the forenoon, but instead of adhering to this practice, it was frequently twelve and sometimes one o'clock before a magistrate made his appearance, taking the whole amount of the police expenses at £10,000 per annum, they certainly appeared almost incredible, amounting upon the average to no less than 6s. 8d. per head for each person for the mere purpose of keeping them in order: and he had hoped that the Police Committee would have been prepared to suggest some reductions in this amount.

Alderman Broughton did not perceive the

applicability of the greater portion of what had been said in the shape of objections to the report: With respect to the question of retrenchment, the committee even in their estimate had proposed all the retrenchment which they possessed the power of doing, by reducing the salaries of the assistant chief constable, inspectors, and sergeants. With the salaries of the clerks, they possessed no power to interfere, as those clerks were paid in accordance with an increasing scale proportionate to the number of years they had been in the Government service. It was true that some of these clerks were incompetent and inefficient persons, but although the Council might strike some of the number altogether off the estimate, they could not reduce the amount of their several salaries.

Mr. Taylor would sooner have dispensed with the Commissioner of Police than with either of the other magistrates, for when a person holding such an office as this was called upon to perform bench duties, his mind was apt to be poisoned and warped by the representations of his constables. He thought that the present staff of magistrates were still necessary, in order to train the young city magistrates, who could scarcely be said to be yet out of leading strings; but he could not help remarking that the police expenses of the Colony certainly appeared very enormous when it came to be considered that they were scarcely less than those of the City of Glasgow, which contained upwards of 300,000 inhabitants. There was certainly blame to be attached somewhere with regard to the proceedings on the day of election, but it was scarcely fair to make this the groundwork of a charge upon the police; they were altogether unused to mobs, and although they might be very blameable if such scenes occurred in future, they were scarcely so much to be censured on the score of past matters. He admitted that the police was composed of a better description of men than hitherto, but they were still far more attentive to the fining of an unfortunate publican who happened to sell a drop of beer half an hour after the specified time than they were to what more properly constituted their duty. As to the controul of the police, he was disposed to agree with the remarks of a former speaker, that such controul ought to be vested in the Corporation: they had, in fact, but a barren sceptre in their grasp, and were deprived of every power regarding the police, except that of paying for its support.

After some further discussion, in the course of which an amendment for the reduction of the clerks' salaries, was moved by Mr. Hunt, and seconded by Mr. D. Jones.

Mr. Holden moved, as a further amendment, that the gross amount of the estimate might be reduced to the sum of £2211, and that, the estimate so amended, the last-mentioned sum might be voted to defray the expenses of the police for the remainder of the year 1843.

Alderman Allen had much pleasure in seconding the motion. The sum named in this amendment was a reduction upon the original estimate equivalent to the salary of the third police magistrate and two of the clerks.

Mr. Macdermott said the estimates had not been brought up by the Committee with a view to their being regarded as the sum

which must at all events be voted, but merely as an approximation to the amount which was likely to be required. It mattered but little in point of fact whether the sum £2211 was determined on, or whether the Council should adopt the sum laid down in the Committee's estimate, for the taxes imposed upon the citizens would not thereby receive any immediate relief, although the balance of the fund might be carried over to the account of the next quarter. With respect to the amendments, he would in the first place turn his attention to that of Mr. Hunt, and he could not help expressing his surprise that as that gentleman was himself a member of the Committee, he had not brought the matter contained in his amendment under the notice of that Committee, instead of doing it in open Council. A new light had evidently dawned upon the worthy Councillor's mind upon this question, and by taking into consideration the remarks of Alderman Broughton upon the point with respect to which the amendment had been moved, they would see at once that it was unreasonable and impracticable, the salaries of all clerks being fixed by a graduating scale, according to the term of their service, and thus placed altogether beyond the controul of the Council. The only question which the Council had been called upon to determine with reference to the estimate prepared by the Committee was, whether the charges for such and such offices should be confirmed or rejected; but, instead of that, the discussion had merged into discourteous personality, during which the office had been forgotten, and the person by whom it was filled made the only subject of debate; much had been said about the present third Police Magistrate, and the comparative regularity of his attendance, contrasted with that of his colleague, the second Police Magistrate; but the Council ought to remember that the latter functionary was differently situated from the former, and was paid an extra £100 a-year for the purpose of looking after the documentary details of the police department. When the third Police Magistrate was aware, on a former occasion, that statements had been made to his prejudice, he took the opportunity of attending the Committee, and explained away the whole of those imputations to the most perfect satisfaction of every member of that Committee. He agreed with Mr. Taylor that the City Magistrates were yet in leading strings, and required the guidance of abler and more experienced hands, and when the smallness of the amount alluded to was taken into consideration, it seemed preposterous that the City should be put to so serious an inconvenience as the loss of an efficient and tried Magistrate, for so trifling a consideration.

The question was then put upon Mr. Holden's amendment, when the majority appearing in favour of it, a division was called for, when there were:—

For the amendment 6
Against it 4

Majority for the amendment..... 2

The amount of rates collected was stated to be £3,118 11 2d., and much praise was given to the citizens for the readiness with which they had paid them.

The sum of £155 18s. 6d. was voted to defray the expenses of the Collectors of Rates.

It was stated that there were not more than about half a dozen defaulters in the payment of the rates, but that distress warrants would be positively issued against those parties on Tuesday next.

Original Poetry.

PETRARCHIAN MUSINGS;

OR, THE HUNDRED SONNETS OF LOVE.

BY CHARLES HARPUR.

ON FIRST SEEING ROSA.

Why tower my spirits thus? what means this wild
Disturbance at my heart?—this dreary chase
Of ideal joys that glow like stars in space?
Now to sweet death I were reconciled,
For all seems spiritual!—Hills up-piled
And rude are cheated into beauty—grace
Suffuses the dull forest's fruitless face!
The river that, like a pure mind beguiled,
Grows purer for its errors, and the trees
That fringe its margin with a dusty shade,
Seem robed in mystic wonder! and are these
Thus transcendentalized because surveyed
By one whose presence sweetens this same breeze,
In simple maiden majesty arrayed?

HER PERFECTION.

I never saw but one of many fair
Amongst dear womankind, in whom, to me,
Some inexpressible deficiency
Lurked not, to leave my admiration bare
And fruitless; so that my affections ne'er
Might find abiding place, though fond and free;
And cheated thus of its felicity,
My heart grew wild with passionate despair.
But one at length, a late-found charmer, came
Over my lonely spirit—as a strain
Of music, fann'd into a vocal flame,
Floats o'er the troubled waters of the main—
So perfect to my thought, that for sweet shame,
Did she love, I could not but love again.

HER EYES.

As lustrous as the noontide heavens are
The eyes of my beloved—and yet serene
And shadowy for delight as evening's scene;
And fairy fancy, like a win'd star,
Moves in their glowing depths, and lures afar
The gazer's soul—far from the present mean,
To were the spirit of Old Romance is seen
Plunging with love the iron front of War.
Bright eyes before, in the world's ways, with glance
Ethereal, have made my Being one
With passion, but such charm before had none
My sense of the ideal to enhance!
And works this witching power by fate or chance?
Resolve me, Love, for my wild heart is gone!

EPIGRAM.

When lawyers fight, (so our newsman has said)
A contrast is shown in their vapour,
For if F***'s oration is loaded with lead,
The pistols of both are but paper.

FUDGE.

YOUNG MEN'S REGISTER

EVERY young man should remember that the character which he is to sustain, and which is to sustain him, when he shall be in business for himself, is to be formed while he is yet in a subordinate station. This observation holds true, not only with respect to the reputation which he is to possess among men, but also with regard to his real characteristics. The habits, principles, and manners of the youth, will be essentially those of the man; and as it is our object to place these on a solid basis, and form them in a manner suited to the real exigencies of life, we shall express ourselves plainly, going directly to the point; and calling the vices and virtues by their right names. We begin by pointing out some practices which are to be avoided; and as the fountain of all that is beautiful in character is ingenuousness, we shall first bear our testimony against