

mates or such smaller sum as you may think sufficient to defray the expense of an efficient Police, within the rural districts of the Colony, without calling on those districts during the year 1844, for the contributions which, under the Act of Parliament, ought to be required from them."

The reading of this Message was greeted with unanimous cheers.

Mr. Wentworth said that he should to-morrow move that this Message be taken into immediate consideration, and further, that he should move that the House do present to his Excellency the Governor their cordial thanks for the line of conduct adopted by his Excellency and the Government in the matter.

Dr. Lang begged leave, in the absence of the honourable member for Melbourne, to ask the Colonial Secretary whether it was the intention of the Government to grant any further aid than had already been afforded to the Corporation of Melbourne? He had already been informed that unless some aid were granted equivalent to that sum which the inhabitants themselves provided, some seven or eight hundred men, who had been employed by the Corporation, would be thrown out of employment. The Corporation of Melbourne had taken up the idea that it should have the management of its own police, much more strongly perhaps than that idea had been taken up here; but they were willing to bear the whole of the expenses of their police, and they were under the impression that there was a pledge on the part of the Government, that if they did bear all the police expenses, they were to have all control over the police.

The Colonial Secretary said, he was not aware that the Government intended, or was in a position, to do anything more than had already been done in aid of the Melbourne Corporation. The whole matter was a very simple one: by the Act of Council incorporating the Town of Melbourne, it was enacted, that a certain sum should be given in aid of the town for police expenses, and another sum in aid for other purposes; at the time the act was passed, no objection was made on the part of Melbourne; and in pursuance of the Act, the Government made advances to meet the current expenditure; but when the Melbourne Corporation was called upon to provide their share, they refused to make any contribution whatever towards the police expenses; and the only course left to the Government was to repay itself, for the advances already made, out of the other funds vested in and to the Melbourne Corporation. With respect to the control of the police which the Corporation wished to have, it was vested in the Government by the law of the land, by that act of appropriation which afforded aid to the Corporations of Sydney and Melbourne.

The House resolved itself into a committee on the estimates, and

The Colonial Secretary said, that he would first call the attention of the House to the estimate for the expenses of the Legislative Council. There were sundry blanks to be filled up in this estimate, and the first of these was for the salary of the Speaker. He intended to propose that this blank should be filled up with 750*l.* per annum; with the proviso, that the amount of any pension, or any commutation of pension, received by any person filling this

office, should be deducted from the amount (750*l.*) so allowed.

Mr. Windeyer suggested, that in addition to the provision suggested by the honourable Colonial Secretary, provision should also be made for any case in which a member of this House, being at the same time a recipient of salary as a Government officer, might be appointed Speaker of the House. He was aware, that it was formerly the practice of the House of Commons to appoint to the office of Speaker some officer who held a salary, which would render unnecessary any allowance for the additional office. In later years the salary of the Speaker had been fixed, and other remuneration which the party in office might be in receipt of had been reduced.

A lengthy conversation ensued, when it was agreed that the original motion for the salary of 750*l.* should be put, with the conditions, that where there was a pension or commutation of a pension to the Speaker, an adequate reduction should be made; and that when any Government officer should be elected Speaker, the salary should not exceed 350*l.* per annum; and that in no case the emoluments, from the Government officer and the Speakership combined, should exceed 1000*l.* per annum.

The Colonial Secretary stated, that the next item was that of the Chairman of Committees; but the honourable member who had filled that office so ably, declined to take any salary: and as he hoped that the honourable member's services would long be secured, he did not think it necessary at present to place any amount on the Estimate as salary, or to call upon the Council for a vote.

Mr. Elwin said, he had himself declined receiving any salary as Chairman of Committees; and he was of opinion that Chairmen of Committees were no more entitled to salaries than other honourable members; they were only expected to be present during the sittings of the House; and honourable members had all promised to their constituents that they would constantly watch their interests.

The sum of 100*l.* per annum was then voted for the salary of a Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Colonial Secretary next moved the items set down in the Estimate for the Clerk of Council, 600*l.*; and for the Assistant Clerk and Librarian, 300*l.* He stated that in former years the salary of the Clerk of Councils was 800*l.*; but the duties had been divided, the Clerk had formerly to attend both to the Legislative and Executive Councils; now the Council was to vote for their own Clerk alone.

After some discussion,

Mr. Wentworth moved, that in the opinion of this committee, it was expedient that the offices of Clerk to the Legislative and Executive Councils should be combined as heretofore, and that the salary of 600*l.* was a sufficient remuneration for both those offices.

Mr. Windeyer seconded the motion, which was finally adopted.

The Colonial Secretary moved, that the sum of 150*l.* mentioned in the Estimate as the proposed salary of the Short-hand Writer should be increased to 250*l.*—Carried.

The Council having resumed, the thanks of the House were unanimously voted to Hastings Elwin, Esq., for his gratuitous

and very efficient discharge of the duties of Chairman of Committees.

Mr. Elwin returned thanks.

The Colonial Secretary laid upon the table some correspondence relative to the protection of the Aborigines at Port Phillip, in answer to an address to the Governor moved by Dr. Thomson.

The House again resolved itself into a Committee on the Estimates, and

The Colonial Secretary moved that the sum of 1,500 might be voted for the support of the schools in aid of destitute Roman Catholic children.

The matron of these schools was then called and examined; and after some further conversation the sum moved for was voted without opposition.

The Colonial Secretary then reverted to the male orphan school, the consideration of which had been postponed on the following day.

Mr. Wentworth moved that the salary of the master might be reduced from 150 to 100*l.*; and that the amount of 25*l.*, specified in the Estimates as the salary of the Chaplain, might be struck out.

A long discussion ensued as to whether it was advisable to reduce the salary of the master, when it was ultimately determined that 48*l.* should be deducted from the salary of the Surgeon, and that the 25*l.* placed in the Estimates as the salary of a Clergyman, should be struck out.

The Colonial Secretary moved that the sum of 1,987*gs.* might be voted to defray the expenses of the Female Orphan School.

A good deal of desultory discussion took place as to the extent of reduction to be effected in this department; and it was finally determined, on the motion of Mr. Edden, that the salary of the Surgeon should be reduced to 48*l.* and that the respective sums of 70*l.* and 25*l.* for the salaries of the Steward and Clergyman should be struck out.

The following items were passed without opposition:

Towards the support of Church of England Schools, established prior to the year 1837.....	£2,950 0 0
In aid of additional Schools, conducted according to the regulations of September, 1841	500 0 0

Total £3,450 0 0

The Colonial Secretary moved that the sum of 1200*l.* might be voted towards the support of Presbyterian schools, conducted according to the regulations of Sept. 1841.

After some remarks from Dr. Lang, Mr. Windeyer, and Mr. Cowper,

Doctor Thomson wished to know whether the Government had in contemplation any mode for the regulation of schools in future.

The Colonial Secretary was not aware that any such regulation was at present in contemplation by the Government. At the same time, if the funds to be devoted in future to the support of such schools as that referred to, were to be raised by the Districts, it was but fair to give these councils the opportunity of framing the regulations under which the sums raised should be expended.

The motion of the Colonial Secretary was then adopted by the Committee without a division.

The Colonial Secretary moved that the sum of 350*l.* be granted towards the support of schools belonging to the Wesleyan

Methodist Communion.—The motion was agreed to.

The Colonial Secretary moved that the sum of £1450 be granted towards the support of schools belonging to the Roman Catholic Communion, at the same time he deemed it his duty to state to the Council that the last item of £1000 in the same estimate had been inserted for the purpose of giving the Catholic Communion in Sydney the means of providing themselves a suitable school-house, instead of the Old Court House, which is to be given up to the Episcopalian body at the end of the present year.

Mr. Windeyer considered the amount proposed for making compensation for the Old Court House, as very large; he did not rise to oppose the grant, but merely to obtain information as to whether there had been any arrangements made for an equal amount being raised by private subscription, on the understanding that the Council was to grant the sum applied for.

Mr. Therry stated, that the sum of £500 had been already raised by the Roman Catholic Communion; and he had been given to understand, by gentlemen whose information he could rely on, that the other moiety would be forthcoming at the close of the year, when the premises at present occupied, in Castlereagh-street, were to be given up.

The motion for 2450*l.* was then agreed to.

The Colonial Secretary having moved that the sum of 400*l.* be granted in support of schools, for all denominations, at Port Phillip,

Mr. Windeyer considered, that as this was probably the last time the House would have an opportunity of being liberal to the inhabitants of Port Phillip that the sum of £1000 was not too great a sum to place on the Estimates for aiding education in that district.

A division then took place on the amendment, when the votes were—ayes, 4; noes, 11.

The original motion was then put and carried.

FRIDAY.

Doctor Nicholson presented a petition from certain commanders and owners of vessels of Sydney praying that the House would not abolish the Water Police Establishment.

Petition read, received, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wentworth moved an address to his Excellency the Governor, thanking him for his ready compliance with the resolution of the House relative to the Police Estimates, and for the willingness with which His Excellency had shared with the Council the responsibility of suspending the operation of the police clauses of the Act of Parliament, for the ensuing year.

Mr. Windeyer seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Wentworth moved an address to His Excellency the Governor, praying him to insert the sums voted by the House for the salaries of its officers upon the Estimates.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. Wentworth moved for leave to bring in a bill to regulate the Friendly Societies, instituted for providing against sickness and other human miseries.

Doctor Nicholson seconded the motion.

Bill read a first time, to be read a second time on Thursday next.

The Speaker read a message from His Excellency to an address communicating a resolution of the Council, that the expense of supporting convicts in gaol should not be borne by the Colony, in which His Excellency stated that he had no funds at his disposal to support the convicts in the gaols, and that he had no power to take such convicts out of gaol till they were delivered in course of law.

Mr. Windeyer gave notice that on Tuesday next he would move for leave to bring in a bill to declare Cockatoo Island and Hyde Park Barracks to be places of confinement for convicts committed for trial.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee upon the Estimates, when

The Colonial Secretary brought the Estimate for the Judges before the Council.

Mr. Ebdon enquired whether the Government had any intention of making any alteration in the administration of Justice at Port Phillip.

The Colonial Secretary said the Government were deterred by an unwillingness to incur an additional expense of 1500*l.* in the appointment of another Judge.

After a few words from Mr. Wentworth and Dr. Lang,

Mr. Windeyer moved a resolution to the effect that it is the opinion of this House that the sum of 20,000*l.* in schedule A of the Act of Parliament is sufficient for the administration of Justice. The House did not possess the power of reducing the salaries of the Judges, nor did he think them too much. He would not, however, deal so leniently with the very young gentlemen who were clerk to the Judges, nor with the tipstiffs, who might be employed as gardeners or otherwise. The next item was that of the Master in Equity, which he would propose to reduce from 1000*l.* to 800*l.* Then the Clerk of the Master was an officer which he did not think was bargained for, but he would not cut him off. Then the messenger was a superfluity. He would reduce the Judge's Clerk at Port Phillip to £100, and the Tipstaff to £50. The next item was the Attorney-General who was put down at £1,200. The country was now ripe for the formation of Grand Juries, which would relieve that officer from the most burthensome of his duties, and there were accomplished barristers at home pining in poverty, who would be glad to come here at £600. He would therefore propose to reduce the salary to that sum. The clerk of the Attorney-General was put down at £200, and as more than half his duties would be taken off, he would propose to reduce his salary to £100. The Solicitor-General was put down at £800; he proposed to strike off £400 from his salary. The Criminal Crown Solicitor was the next on the Estimates, he thought that the offices of both the Criminal and Civil Crown Solicitor should be discharged by the same person, and at the salary of £500. There were a score of private solicitors in good practice in town who did not make more annually than that sum. He would propose also to strike off £100 each from the salaries of the clerks of the court, and of the peace at Port Phillip. He then came to the Prothonotary and the clerks of the Supreme Court.

The Colonial Secretary said, it was proposed with the concurrence of the Judges, to

reduce the clerks' salaries to 180*l.*, 165*l.*, and 160*l.*, respectively.

Mr. Windeyer thanked the Colonial Secretary. These reductions were rather more than he himself had intended to propose, but he thought the Prothonotary altogether unnecessary. Then there was an assistant clerk at 6*s.* per diem.

The Colonial Secretary said he proposed to strike him off altogether.

Mr. Windeyer said he had been willing to leave this item untouched. On the item of Registrar at Port Phillip he proposed a reduction of £50, and on the salaries of the two clerks £100 and £50 respectively. He now came to the Sheriff, and he did not think, with his present responsibilities, that his salary was too high, but he thought it possible to make an arrangement by which half those responsibilities could be removed. He did not, however, propose to reduce this item, nor the salaries of the Under Sheriffs, but he thought the clerks should be dealt with in the same manner as the others. He proposed to reduce them £50 each. The bailiffs were put down at 1,200*l.* This was a monstrous sum, and was a part of the system by which the late Mr. Macquoid's situation was intended to be made a sinecure. He proposed to reduce this item to 600*l.* He proposed that the duty of summoning jurors should be discharged by the constabulary, which would save a large sum. The bailiffs at Port Phillip were upon the same footing as those of Sydney, and he would deal with them in the same manner. These proposed reductions amounted to upwards of 5,000*l.* He now came to the main item, which was one on which he mainly rested; and he trusted that, like Australian gentlemen, they would take the duty upon them which they ought to discharge. The expense of the Quarter Sessions was not less than 4429*l.* Why was it that Australian country gentlemen would not perform this duty? Get rid of the Chairman, and then we get rid of the travelling expenses and all the other items connected with the office, in fact the whole of this 4429*l.*, with the exception of the travelling expenses of Jurors. He then came to the Courts of Requests, which amounted to about 5000*l.* Now, the Magistrates decided 30*l.* cases between master and servant, and he could not see why they should not decide chandler's shop disputes to the same amount. The Court of Requests in the county of Cumberland, stood on a somewhat different footing. There was a mass of business done in that court, so great that it was necessary to devote one man's time to it. But why should not the Sydney Aldermen deal with these cases, as was done in London, and by the Bailiffs in the Scotch Burghs? He did not see why the Commissioner's Office, and those of the Police Magistrates should not be abolished, and the duties placed in the hands of the gentlemen chosen by their fellow citizens. The Cumberland Court of Requests costs about 3000*l.* But if they were to admit the necessity of this Court, he did not see why the Commissioner should have 1000*l.* Then there were the several Registrars—the Sydney Registrar receiving 400*l.* a year. This sum might well be reduced to 150*l.* Then the two clerks might be put upon the same footing as those of the Master in Equity. These would reduce the Estimate to about 17,500*l.*

which would place the Estimate within Lord Stanley's schedule. He would therefore prove that it is the opinion of this Committee, that the sum set down in schedule A of the Act of Parliament might be made sufficient for the administration of Justice for the ensuing year.

The Attorney-General said the honourable member's sweeping away whole departments was certainly a bold stroke; but all his propositions depended upon changes in the law. He would give all his assistance to frame a law to establish Grand Juries, but until such a law was passed, it was impossible to adopt these propositions. He did not think the way in which the honourable member introduced the subject of the Judges' clerks, respectful to the administrators of the law: the only judge who had a son in that situation was his Honor Judge Stephen, and he could bear testimony to the efficiency of that young gentleman, notwithstanding what the honourable member had said. He had never found any young gentleman, with whom a gentleman could associate, willing to accept a permanent salary of 100*l*. He never knew a judge at home who went on circuit without a tipstaff; and he thought such an officer necessary for the deputy of that high office. The next item was that of the Master in Equity; he denied that this was a new office: it was in abeyance, and was only restored by the Government, on the petition of all the practising solicitors. The salary of that officer was not too high, when it was considered that the duties of Registrar were imposed upon him. The next item was that of the Attorney-general: on that subject he would say little, as he was sure the Council would deal with him fairly. It was a new doctrine that officers' salaries were to be reduced retrospectively; and, a doctrine which he was sure was never recognised in the Mother-country, and he hoped never would be recognised anywhere. Nor had the hon. member done him the honour to come into his office to look into the immense extent of duties which he performed, of which he must necessarily be in a great measure ignorant. He did expect that he would have informed himself upon this subject before he proposed at hap-hazard to reduce the Attorney-Generals salary below that of some attorney's clerks in Sydney. He thought he had reason to complain of this. As to the office of clerk which the honourable gentleman proposed to reduce to 100*l*., he would say, that it was a highly confidential situation, and one of very great labour, and required rather to be increased than diminished. He then came to the office of Solicitor-General, and the honourable member would find on looking at schedule A that that office as well as those of the Crown Solicitors were provided for. The honourable member would, however, reduce the Solicitor General's salary 400*l*., a proposition so monstrous that he would not dwell upon it. The Criminal Crown Solicitor, was he conceived one of the worst paid officers in the colony, and his office one of the best conducted in it. With respect to the division of the offices of civil and criminal Crown Solicitors, he regarded it as indispensable. The clerks in the Criminal Crown Solicitor's Office, he was satisfied could not possibly be dispensed with. With respect to the Civil Crown Solicitor's Office, it was different. He thought one clerk might suffice for this office. The clerk of the crown at Port

Phillip, was in reality the Attorney General of the district. He had only 400*l*. a-year, which he thought a very small salary, and he hoped the Council would not degrade the office by reducing it to 300*l*. He came next to the office of Prothonotary, which he was surprised to see a barrister of high standing find fault with. The office was contemplated in the Charter of Justice in 1824, and was recommended to be filled up by the Chief Justice, at a salary of 800*l*. This office was to supersede the office of Chief Clerk, and he did not see why that arrangement should not have been carried out. He thought the arrangement by which clerks received high salaries for five years, and then were put on a footing with properly educated attorneys highly objectionable. With respect to the bailiffs, he thought the eloquence of the honourable member had been wasted. The law of the country was that jurors were to be summoned by the sheriff: besides he could not see any object that could be gained by employing constables for that purpose, even if it were not contrary to law. The payment of witnesses and jurors he admitted did not belong to the schedule. It ought to be borne by the counties, but unless the Council voted the item at present there would be no funds to pay those expenses. With respect to the Court of Quarter Sessions, he was as anxious to see its business conducted by country gentlemen as any man, but he did not believe that gentlemen in many districts could be found having sufficient leisure and legal education to perform the duties. There were no such men as the English country gentlemen in this colony. There were no gentlemen of leisure in it; he did think the office of Chairman was necessary, and that 800*l*., was not too high for it. The honourable and learned member thought the office of Crown Prosecutor unnecessary. But with his knowledge of the subject he must say that for the prevention of perjury, and for the interests of justice it was indispensable. He came now to the Courts of Requests. The proposal was to abolish those courts altogether. He saw no advantage that could be derived from this. The courts paid their own expenses, but he would leave the honourable and learned gentleman who filled the office for the County of Cumberland to explain this. He would only say that that gentleman would have received the appointment of Solicitor-General, but that it was held desirable to secure his services in a situation in which he had given such marked satisfaction. If the increased jurisdiction of the court took place it would entirely deprive him of the practice of his profession. He thought the proposed increase in his salary quite little enough, and that the Colony ought to be more anxious to secure his services than he to tender them.

Upon the motion of Mr. Jones, the debate was adjourned.

City Council.

TUESDAY.

The Mayor in the Chair.

On the motion of Alderman Allen, a petition from Mr. Charles Smith, praying that a fence before his house, which had been broken down during the election riots, and restored by him on exactly the same spot, but which he had been ordered to remove on the ground of its being an infringement of the Building Act,

was referred to the District Surveyor; and a petition from contractors for metal for repairs of streets, complaining of loss from delay in getting possession of the Pennant Hills quarries, presented by Mr. Little, was on the motion of that gentleman referred to the Board of Works.

Alderman Macdermott presented a petition from the ratepayers of Queen's Place, and its vicinity, praying for repairs in that quarter. Petition received, and its prayer granted.

Alderman Macdermott presented a petition from certain persons, praying that they might be allowed to take water, for the purpose of watering the streets, from the fountain in Hyde Park, without paying the usual fee charged upon water used for ordinary purposes. He moved that the petition be received and referred to the Water Committee.

Alderman Flood seconded the motion.

Mr. Little, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Thurlow, opposed the motion, which was negatived.

Alderman Broughton moved that a rate of two-pence in the pound be levied and collected for the support of the Police Force of the City. The sum of £2,211 had already been voted for the purpose, and it only remained for the levy to be made, and the amount collected.

Mr. Brown moved as an amendment, that the consideration of the subject be deferred until after the next general election on the 15th of November next, which would give the new members of the Council an opportunity enquiring into the matter before so important a step be taken.

Mr. Driver seconded the amendment.

Alderman Flood, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Hunt supported the amendment.

Alderman Macdermott said, that he also, at one time, was strongly opposed to the granting of the money now called for; but not on the same grounds as he had just heard laid down. The District Councils had just been forgiven the raising of Police rates, on the ground of the poverty of the inhabitants, and yet the very member of the Legislative Council (who had made that concession) who represented Sydney, thought that it ought to pay the same rate, just as if the citizens were any better able to afford it than the inhabitants of any other part of the country. That would be his objection if he did object, to the levying of the present rate. But, on the other hand, when he considered what would be the situation of the City if the Police were disbanded (and they would be if the money was not raised forthwith), he could not advise a step which would cause so much inconvenience to the City. As to delaying the matter until after the elections on the 1st of November next, was it fair to suppose that the Council would be better qualified to consider the matter then than at present? On the 1st of November six members would go out, and even should none of them be re-elected, but six new members be introduced, by what calculation did they arrive at the conclusion that those new members would enable the Council to view the matter in a clearer light? He would remind the Council, as some of the new members might not be aware of the fact, that the Government, as appeared from a communication received that very day from the Colonial Secretary, were finally determined on not advancing any further sums for the purpose, until an assessment to an equal amount had been made on the citizens.

The Town Clerk read the communication alluded to, when

Mr. Thurlow said, that no harm could result from the delay of another month, as the Police Force, he presumed, would not be immediately disbanded.

The Town Clerk informed Mr. Thurlow, that Mr. Miles had been there, anxiously enquiring about the matter, as the Police were actually unpaid at that moment, and would remain so until the Council furnished the means of paying them.

Mr. Thurlow adhered to his opinion. There was as much wisdom now in the Council, he admitted, as there was likely to be after the elections; but still he did not see why they should be in such a hurry to pay money to a body over which they had no controul, the head of the Police himself having declared that he did not acknowledge the authority of the City Council.

Mr. Hollinshed thought they need not be so fastidious about voting away the money of the citizens, when they were so apathetic themselves that not one-fifth of them would even take the trouble to come to the polling place; they did not care who they had to represent them. If things went on that way, in course of time, any half dozen of voters would be able to put a man on an ironed gang in the Council, or a Norfolk Island expirer. He thought the only plan would be to treble the rate, and thus bring them to their senses.

Mr. Little was convinced that it was the duty of the Council to vote the money with as little delay as possible. He could not see the justice of treble rates however, but rather that they should be made as light as possible.

Alderman Allen said, that by the Act the Government had the management of the Police, and the Council could not take it out of their hands; and as for the money, it had already been voted, and the only question now was, how much in the pound would be necessary to raise the required sum £2,211. He thought 2d. in the pound would be as near as possible. With regard to the amendment, if it meant that the resolution voting the above-named sum be rescinded, it was out of order, as such a thing could only be done on motion or which due notice had been given.

Mr. Brown said, that he had framed his amendment merely with a view to give himself, and other new members, time to consider the subject, and he had no idea that it would have met with any opposition. As it seemed to be otherwise, however, he had no objection to withdraw it.

Mr. Taylor said, that although Mr. Brown had withdrawn his amendment yet he (Mr T.) would not withdraw his opposition to the original motion. At present, they were quite in the dark as to the management of the Police Force, the Council having no voice in the matter. As far as that important branch of their affairs went, they held a barren sceptre. He moved, therefore, as an amendment, that the levy of a Police vote be deferred until after the information asked for by the resolution of September 1, be received.

Mr. Smidmore seconded the amendment.

The Mayor stated, that the information referred to was actually prepared, he having seen it himself, at the Police Office, where it was ready for transmission to the Colonial Secretary, who would submit it to the Council.

Alderman Allen did not see how the difficulty of the Police being left without pay was to be got over.

Alderman Macdermott concurred. It was too late now to talk of withholding the Police rate for the present year. The debt had been incurred, and must be paid.

Alderman Flood said, that if they voted money, it was their duty to see that it was properly expended, and yet the information they had asked for with that view, was some how or other withheld. If the information was ready, why was it not submitted to the Council at once? As to the Police being disbanded, it would be easy to advance them a month's pay, and thus retain their services for so long.

Alderman Broughton, in reply, said, that as Chairman of the Police Committee, he had listened very attentively to the debate, but had not heard any good reason why the levy should be deferred. It had already been decided that the money should be raised, some time or other, and why therefore delay it. The government had possession of its share of the City Rate, amounting to £2,500. and if the Police Rate were not levied, it had the remedy in its own hands by appropriating the City Rate for the purpose.

The amendment of Mr. Taylor was then put, and lost by a show of hands; after which the original motion, authorising the levy of a Police Rate of two-pence in the pound, was put and carried.

Alderman Macdermott then moved, according to notice, the levy of the City Rate of twopence in the pound. The City Rate, they were well aware was expended in repairs and improvements of the City, for which the Council were at present laying out about £250 per week. He did not, therefore, apprehend any objection to his motion.

Alderman Broughton seconded the motion, and after a few words from Alderman Allen, it was put, and carried.

Alderman Macdermott moved, that all the old Committees of the Council be dissolved, and five new and permanent ones substituted, viz.:—Finance, By-Laws, Board of Works, Police and Water Committees. He had placed the names of the Mayor, Alderman Allen, Alderman Flood, Alderman Broughton, and himself, at the head of the Committees respectively, and had distributed the other members of the Council in the different Committees in such a way as he thought would suit the convenience of all parties.

None of the names, as arranged by Alderman Macdermott, were objected to, except that of Mr. Ryan, as a member of the Police Committee, which was objected to by Alderman Broughton and Mr. Taylor, on the ground of his being a paid officer of the Government; but after a few words from Alderman Macdermott, Mr. Thurlow, and Alderman Flood, on the other side; the name of Mr. Ryan was allowed to remain, and the motion for the formation of the five Standing Committees put and carried.

Mr. Little moved that the resolution of June 12, fixing the price of water from Hyde Park fountain at 1s. per cask, be rescinded, and that the price be reduced to 6d. per cask. He was certain there would be no opposition to his motion, as it was notorious that water of a bad quality was used in consequence of the high charge of 1s. per cask, and it was never meant, when that price was fixed, that the poor should suffer from such a cause.

Mr. Neale seconded the motion, which was supported by

Mr. Taylor, who urged the necessity of a

change in price, on the ground of the health of the citizens required it, as it was notorious that water of a very bad quality was used because it could be got at a cheaper rate—Carried.

On the motion of Mr. Little, seconded by Mr. Hollinshed, distress warrants were ordered to be enforced on and against those parties who had refused or neglected to pay the rates for which they had been assessed.

On the motion of Alderman Broughton, one hundred copies of the statement of receipts and expenditure of the Council, were ordered to be printed, and sixpence per copy charged for the same.

The Council then adjourned.

LITERARY REGISTER.

Shaksperi Conglom.morofunnidogammonice, a Musical Extravaganza, by Charles Nagel, Esq.—Sydney: Duncan. London: Whittaker, 1843.

HERE is a singular title prefixed to a not less singular Drama, in which the author brings simultaneously on the stage the principal characters of the Bard of Avon; namely, Richard III., Macbeth, Othello, Hamlet, the Ghost, Sir John Falstaff, Shylock, Justice Shallow, Ophelia, Anne Page, &c., for the purpose of shewing, in a laughable way, the working of the New South Wales Insolvent Act, and the value of sheep and cattle, and mortgage securities at the present time.

The piece contains a number of comic songs, adapted to well-known airs, and is full of humour from beginning to end. It is indeed by far the most rich, in this kind of merit, of the productions that have issued from the pen of its author. We can, therefore, recommend its perusal as a certain temporary relief from the "dull care" now universally prevalent.

The New South Wales Magazine for October, 1843.—Sydney: Reading.

THIS number opens with an essay on that everlasting subject the "Prospects of the Colony," which is, however, the best political article that has appeared in the Magazine, and contains some sound objections to Mr. Windeyer's proposed paper money scheme. This is succeeded by several light articles, after which comes "A Remarkable Passage in my Military Life," by a retired officer, well-known to the literary world of Sydney. This story, being strictly grounded on fact, is a most striking one, and is well told. An article "On the Possession of Land," illustrates the folly of those numerous Colonists, who, like the writer, have ruined themselves by attempting to make fortunes. "Remarks on the Agriculture of Australia" is a well written essay upon a subject which ought, from its vast importance, to occupy a portion of every number of the Magazine. A description of "St. James's Church" (with an execrable copperplate view), an Original Poem, a notice of "The Usury Bill," &c., have all more or less merit. Upon the whole we are much better pleased with this number than with any that has gone before it.