

PLEASE NOTE

**THE FOLLOWING
THREE PAGES ARE
INCORRECTLY
NUMBERED**

papers laid before Parliament in March last, to which we may refer as containing all material information respecting the progress of the settlement since its renewal in 1837. We fear that the result has not yet been very successful. Under the temperate and regular habits enforced upon the marines and others, the sick list has been light for a tropical station; but it is now admitted that the climate would be unsuited to the European labourer. In the period of more than two years covered by the papers laid before Parliament, the crew of only one shipwrecked vessel is noticed as having found a refuge at Port Essington. It is mentioned in one part of the papers that the *Prahus*, which come for purposes of fishing, have not much room for articles of trade; and in another part, that the Malays who came in 1842 could not be induced to barter as formerly, being apparently under the influence of some prohibition against it. From such inquiry as we have been able to make of the masters of vessels trading to Australia, we apprehend that Port Essington is too much out of the track of ships going on to China or India to be worth visiting, unless for some definite and certain object. Singapore, which has been so successful as a place of trade, has naturally been looked to as a model for any other emporium that it might be attempted to form in the Eastern Seas; but Singapore lies in the direct channel of the vast amount of shipping passing between India and China; and although like Port Essington, without important natural products of its own, it is so situated that large and valuable cargoes for export find their way there from the adjacent seas.

Believing that if a prosperous settlement were to be developed in a situation so unlike that of any other recently-formed British colonies, the best means for the purpose must be suggested by some one acquainted with Asiatic, and especially with Chinese subjects, we transmitted the late Parliamentary collection of papers to Mr. Crawford, whose former experience in the administration of affairs at Singapore and the knowledge necessary for his work on the Indian Archipelago, pointed him out as peculiarly qualified to afford information on the subject; and we now beg leave to annex extracts of the the principle parts of the able and comprehensive paper which he sent us in reply. We think this document will amply show that natural circumstances account for Port Essington's not having made more rapid progress.

It is right, however, to mention that there are gentlemen who, having correspondents in the Eastern seas, are still of opinion that a profitable trade might be created between Port Essington and islands of the Indian Archipelago. And while we have thought it our duty not to refrain from producing what appear to be the material facts and remarks above alluded to, we are aware that there are reasons of quite a different nature which have been urged for maintaining a post at Port Essington.

THE MONTH OF MAY.

(Concluded.)

An elegant and highly-gifted French poet, Abbé de Lille, author of *Les Jardins*, &c., and translator of Virgil and Milton, born in

1738, died on the 1st of May, 1813. Though a royalist his genius procured him the respect even of the tyrant Robespierre. Exceedingly cheerful, gay, and amiable, the Abbé was not altogether without eccentricity. With a body of seventy-five, his soul was only fifteen. He would visit a duchess in deshabille, and ride a hunting in full dress. "He will give you his company for hours," says Madame du Molé, "and is happy with you: but so he is with the housekeeper: or his horse, which he will sometimes caress for two hours, and then forget that he has one."

John Frederic Christopher Schiller, one of the ablest historians and poets of Germany, died on the 9th of May, 1805. His first production was that extraordinary play, *The Robbers*, by which half the young German noblesse were seduced, and the performance of which was, in consequence, prohibited. His tragedies of *Fiesco*, *Cabal and Love*, *Don Carlos*, *Wallenstein*, *Mary Stuart*, *Joan of Arc*, and *William Tell*, all rank high in genius and merit. Schiller will also be remembered as the author of a *History of the Thirty Years' War*, *The Ghost Seer*, and various other works.

The illustrious painter Leonardo Da Vinci was born in 1452, and died at Fontainebleau, in the arms of Francis I., on the 2nd of May, 1519. He was the rival of Michael Angelo. Had he never painted aught but "The Last Supper," he would have been immortalised.

Richard Wilson, one of the earliest members of the Royal Academy, died at the age of 68, on the 11th of May, 1782. "The name of this extraordinary man," observes Sir M. A. Shee, in one of the notes appended to his *Rhymes on Art*, "is a reproach to the age in which he lived: the most accomplished landscape painter this country ever produced: uniting the composition of Claude with the execution of Poussin; avoiding the minuteness of the one, and rivalling the spirit of the other. With powers which ought to have raised him to the highest fame, Wilson was suffered to live embarrassed, and to die poor."

Sir Robert Bruce Cotton, whose valuable library is now in the British Museum, was a distinguished member of the Society of Antiquaries, in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. He wrote a book on duelling, the "Life of Henry III.," and collected the "Parliamentary Records." Sir Robert Cotton was the first who collected English coins; and the first engravings we have in that class of the antique were taken from originals in his collection. Sir Robert died on the 6th of May, 1631.

Dr. Isaac Barrow, excelled in mathematical learning only by his pupil, Sir Isaac Newton, died on the 4th May, 1677, in the 47th year of his age. Famous for exhausting all subjects that he meddled with, he ultimately gave himself up to divinity, and sometimes preached sermons of three or four hours in length.

Dr. Paley, who died on the 25th of May, 1805, in his 61st or 62nd year, was wiser in his day; he illustrated without exhausting—either himself or his hearers or auditors. His "Natural Theology," and his "Evidences of Christianity," are valuable works. The former has been enlarged upon by Lord Brougham, with considerable effect.

Lord Chatham and Henry Grattan, died in May: the former on the 11th, in 1778;

the latter on the 14th, in 1820. May their shades forgive us for naming them together!

The venerable Bede, a monk, and the most eminent writer of his time; died on the 14th of May, 735.

Sir James Macintosh died on the 30th May, 1832.

Anthony Laurence Lavoisier, a celebrated French chemist, was guillotined on the 8th of May, 1794, on the charge of having adulterated tobacco with ingredients obnoxious to the health of the people;—Sir Humphry Davy, the first of his day in the same science, died at Geneva, on the 29th of May, 1829, at the age of 51;—George Leopold Christian Frederic, Baron Cuvier, the most eminent naturalist of modern times—to whom France is indebted for the finest osteological collection in the world—and to whom geologists of all countries are under inestimable obligations for his illustrations of ancient zoology—died on the 15th May, 1833, aged 64.

Columbus, the discoverer of America, the victim of ingratitude and injustice during life, and who has not been permitted to enjoy his fair portion of fame even in the grave, died on the 20th May, 1506.

Beccaria, professor of philosophy at Palermo and at Rome, and author of several works of merit, particularly on the nature of the electric fluid, died on the 22nd of May, 1781.

Copernicus, the founder it may be said, of a new system of astronomy, died on the 24th of May, 1543.

Calvin, the chief of the "reformers" after Luther, died on the 22th of May, 1564, at the age of 59.

THEATRICAL REGISTER.

A controversy has sprung up during the week respecting the originality of the tragedy of "*The Hibernian Father*," which we noticed favourably on Saturday last. A number of anonymous correspondents in various journals have asserted that it was produced in Dublin some years ago, by a clergyman named Groves, under the title of "*The Warden of Galway*;" and, consequently, that its pretended author in Sydney is a literary impostor. We are not in a position either to admit or refute this censure, but we think it is at least rash, and not borne out by any evidence yet adduced in proof of the charge of plagiarism. It does not follow because there are, at least, fifty dramas of *Iphigenia*, that, therefore, forty-nine of them are mere plagiarisms from Euripides—that because there was an English Tragedy of Julius Cæsar before Shakspeare's time, his must therefore be an imposition. In two plays founded on the same fact in history, the leading characters and circumstances will of course be the same, while the plot and the language may be entirely different; and the closer a play, professedly historical, adheres to the history, the more perfect it must be considered; other essentials not being overlooked. One of the finest tragedies in the English language is Otway's "*Venice Preserved*." We have never heard it spoken of as an imposition on the public, and yet it is taken almost literally from the "*Conjuration des Espagnols contre la République de*

Venice," by the Abbé de St. Real. Moreover we have two tragedies of Pizarro, two of Brutus, and so of many others.

Another circumstance goes to shake the opinion that "*The Hibernian Father*" is a plagiarism. We have before us the author's original draft of the piece, which is in several respects different from the play as it was brought forth at the Victoria; and a comparison of these various readings would seem to prove that the author is capable of writing an original tragedy. On the other hand we have seen a person who states that he has in his possession a printed copy of Groves' play, and that they are one and the same; but the refusal of the party to produce it for examination, and the assertion of others that the work was never printed, render this evidence of no value whatever.

In fine, the positive assertion of the author that he never saw Groves' production, if it be not conclusive on the point, at least throws the onus of proving the identity of the pieces entirely upon the shoulders of his opponents; whose zeal, we must say, considering the little they appear to know about the matter, appears to us to be strongly impelled by some other feeling than a zeal for the interests of the republic of letters.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

On Saturday, from the Clarence River, the steamer *William the Fourth*, Wiseman, master, with 32 bales wool, 25 casks tallow, &c. Passengers, Miss Hamilton, Mrs. Blakeway, Mr. McMillan, Mr. Coventry, Mr. McTear, and three in the steerage.

Same day, from Port Phillip, Launceston and Twofold Bay, the steamer *Shamrock*, Gilmore, master, with sundries. Passengers, Mr. Sheriff Young, M. C., Dr. McCrae, Mr. Allen, Mr. Graham, Mr. J. Macarthur, Mr. D. Campbell, Mr. Bogue, Major Macan, Mr. S. Darling, 51st Regiment, Mr. Hebbard, Mr. Rixon, Mr. and Miss Western, Mr. Wren, Mr. Baddully, Mr. Langley, Mrs. Lord, Mrs. Sutton, Messrs. Singleton, Oldridge, Roberts, Goebert, Coulter, Chambers, A. Mackenzie, H. Carrington, Burgess, Browne, Thom, McKail, S. Holmes, and Turton.

On Sunday, from Norfolk Island, the brig *Governor Phillip*, Boyle, master, with sundries. Passengers, Lieutenant-Colonel Jackson, 90th Regiment, Mr. Lackey, Mrs. Farrell and two children, Miss Burrows, 61 prisoners of the crown, and 13 rank and file of the 99th regiment.

Same day, from Port Nicholson, the brig *Sir Archibald Campbell*, Bawtree, master, with sundries. Passengers, Captain Richmond and servant, Miss Souter, and Mr. Smithers.

On Wednesday, from Newcastle, the barque *Arachne*, Pearce, master, with wool, tallow, &c.

On Thursday, from Launceston, the brig *William*, Grant, master, with grain.

Same day, from the Whale Fishery, the barque *Caroline*, Hunter, master, with 700 barrels sperm oil.

On Friday, from Port Phillip, the ship *Johnstone*, Harrison, master, with part of original cargo, &c. Passengers, Mr. Spence, Mr. Power, Mr. and Mrs. Hiberson and two daughters, Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Needham, Mr. Mayne and three children, and one in the steerage.

On Friday, from Swan River, the schooner *Velocity*, Bogue, master, with flour, wheat, &c. Passengers, Mr. Lefroy, Mr. Nicholl, Mr. and Mrs. Kirkland, Mr. Stockley, Mr. Levi, Mr. Reed, Miss Fulton, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, and child, Mr. and Mrs. Macpherson, and two children, Mr. Oliver and Miss Fox.

DEPARTURES

On Monday, for the Whale Fishery, the American barque *Le Grange*, Stetson, master, with sperm oil, &c.

On Thursday, for Port Nicholson, the schooner *Lady Leigh*, Reid, master, with sundries. Passengers, Messrs R. Murray, M. Asher Johns, E. and G. Johns, T. Frazer, Bryant, Chambers, and Mrs. Turton and child.

On Friday, for Boyd Town, Port Phillip, and Launceston, the steamer *Shamrock*, Gilmore, master, with sundries. Passengers, Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie, Mr. Macarthur, Mr. Macnab, Mr. Mollison, Mr. and Mrs. Atkins, Miss Steel, Mr. B. L. Wood, Mr. Blaxland, Mr. McIntyre, Mrs. Owen and two children, Messrs. J. Rawson, J. Flannigan, J. Brown, Sutton, F. Thompson, Badderley, Nixon, Hebbard, Roberts, Brooks and son, Chisholm; Mr. and Mrs. Hollier and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Plumridge and four children, Mr. and Mrs. Keenon and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Munday, and three children, Mr. and Mrs. G. Jones and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Hurley and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Clarke, and Mrs. Singleton.

Sydney Markets.

WHEAT..... 3s. to 3s. 4d.
Fine flour..... 11s. to 12s.
Second ditto..... 9s. to 10s.
No. 1 biscuit, per cwt. 22s.
No. 2 ditto 16s.
Bread, the 2lb. loaf, 3d.

BRAN, 6d. to 8d. per bushel.
MAIZE, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d. per bushel, retail.
OATS, 2s. to 2s. 3d. per bushel, retail.
BARLEY, 1s. 6d. to 3s. 0d. per bushel.

HAY, wholesale price, £3 to £4 per ton; retail prices, from 2s. 6d. to 4s. per cwt.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter, best, 1s. 4d. per lb.; other sorts, downwards to 9d.; salt butter, from 6d. to 1s.; bakers' butter, 4d. to 6d.; cheese, 3d. to 8d.; eggs, 1s. to 1s. 3d. per dozen.

FRUIT.—Oranges, from 9d. to 1s. 6d. per dozen; apples, 1s. to 2s. per dozen; pears, from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per dozen; peaches, 6d. per dozen; grapes, 3d. to 8d. per lb.; quinces, 8d. to 1s. 3d. per dozen; Pomegranates, 6d. each.

POTATOES.—Colonial potatoes, £2 2s. to £2 10s. per ton, retail, 4s. to 6s. per cwt.

VEGETABLES.—Cucumbers, 1d. to 4d. each; peas, 2s. to 2s. 6d. per peck; French beans, 1s. 9d. to 2s. per peck; cabbages, 1s.

to 6s. per dozen; turnips and carrots, 2d. to 3d. per bunch; shallots and common radishes 1d. per bunch; lettuces, 2d. to 4d. each; water-cresses, 1d. to 2d. per bundle; asparagus, 6d. per bundle; rhubarb, 4d. per bundle; leeks and young onions, 1d. to 2d. per bundle; dried onions, 2d. per lb.; vegetable marrows, 4d. to 6d. each; water-melons, from 1s. to 3s. per dozen, and from 3d. to 6d. each; rock melons, 4d. to 8d. each.

BUTCHERS' MEAT.—Beef per quarter, and mutton per carcass, 3d. to 1½d. per lb., and from 1½d. to 1¾d. per single lb.; pork, 2¾d. to 3d. per lb., retail, 4d. to 5d. per lb.; veal, 3½d. to 4d. per lb. by the carcass, and 4½d. to 5d. per single lb.

POULTRY.—Fowls, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per pair; ducks, 3s. to 3s. 9d. per ditto; geese, 4s. to 5s. 6d. each; cock turkeys, 6s. to 8s. each, hen birds and small cocks, from 6s. to 7s. per pair.

LONDON MARKETS.—Up to our latest dates the price of wool continued firm, and at the London sales to commence on the 1st February there was a prospect of a rise. Sperm oil was quoted at £75s. 5s.; black oil at £35 5s. The tallow market was dull; some New South Wales had been sold at 37s. 3d. to 40s. 3d. per cwt.

BIRTHS.

At Launceston, Van Dieman's Land, on the 22nd of April last, the lady of Captain John Snodgrass, of her Majesty's 93th Regiment, of a son.

At Ravenswood, Argyle, on the 8th instant, Mrs. Curlewis, of a daughter.

At Yarrowlumla, on the 7th instant, the lady of T. A. Murray, Esq., M. C., of a daughter.

On the 11th instant, at her residence, Kent-street North, the lady of Captain R. J. Hopkins, of a daughter.

At Rose Cottage, Pyrmont, on the 14th instant, Mrs. T. Day, of a daughter.

MARRIED.

On the 16th May, at Richmond, Lewis Duncan Whitaker, Esq., J. P., to Rebecca, the youngest daughter of William Cox, Esq., J. P., of Hobartville.

DEATHS.

At Bedervale, on the 18th ultimo, in the 19th year of her age, Mary Ann, third daughter of John Coghill, Esq., M. C.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

"THE WEEKLY REGISTER."

THE terms of Subscription to this Paper are SIX SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE per Quarter, payable in every case in advance. The terms for ADVERTISEMENTS are, for one inch and under THREE SHILLINGS, and ONE SHILLING for every additional inch. ADVERTISEMENTS will be received till Nine o'Clock on Saturday morning, but cannot be withdrawn later than Friday afternoon. All communications to be made by letter to the Editor, and all letters must be post-paid.

SCHOOL OF ARTS.

LECTURES—SEASON 1844.

THE Committee of the School of Arts have the pleasure of announcing that the following LECTURES will be delivered in the Theatre of the Institution during the present season.

- Introductory Lecture... 1, Mr. Carmichael.
- Astronomy 3, Mr. Dodd.
- Phrenology 3, Mr. Michie.
- Climate—Varieties of geographical position, &c., and its effects on the human race 2, Mr. Maberly.
- Advantages of Association 1, Mr. McEachern.
- Mechanics 2, Mr. Hollinshead.
- Geology 1, Mr. Goodall.
- Political Economy 1, Mr. Carmichael.
- Pneumatics 2, Mr. A'Beckett.
- Genius and Writings of Burns 2, Mr. Rae.
- Matter... 1, } Mr. Grayling.
- Galvanism 1, }
- Taste, as applicable to the Arts 2, Dr. Nicholson, M. C.
- Hydrodynamics 2, Mr. Duer.
- Architecture 2, Mr. Bibb.
- Oratory (ancient and modern) 2, Mr. S. P. Hill.

The Opening Lecture will be delivered on Monday evening, the 3rd of June next, at half-past Seven o'clock, and the remaining lectures on the succeeding Monday evenings at the same hour. The doors of the Institution will be opened each Monday evening at Seven o'clock.

By order of the Committee,

J. S. DUER,

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Secretary.

J. FIELDING

HAS much pleasure in announcing the opening of a BILLIARD ROOM at his Establishment, PITT-STREET, next door to the VICTORIA THEATRE.

To Gentlemen who are desirous of visiting a select room, the arrangement made for their comfort will be found, in every respect, what can be desired. The Table is a fine specimen of Thurston's manufacture, and will be acknowledged as the best in Sydney. 311

Just Published, price One Shilling,

AN ESSAY ON THE MAKING OF WINE. Collected from Rozier, Gay Lussac Chaptal, Olivier, Fabbroni, and all the best authorities.

To be had of all Booksellers.

COLONIAL RUM.

THE undersigned have for sale, RUM of superior quality, at any strength. Sample may be inspected at the counting-house, George-street, next door to Messrs. Peek and Co.

FISHER AND CO.

11 January, 1844.

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TO LET,

THOSE very desirable and old established MERCANTILE PREMISES, situated in the High-street, West Maitland, and now in the occupation of the Proprietor, who has carried on a very successful business therein, as a General Storekeeper, for the last eleven years. These premises are situated in one of the most central and best situations for any kind of business in Maitland, and consist of one large front Shop and Store; one spacious Parlour; three Bed Rooms; Kitchen; Stable; Coach House; and Out Offices, with a Verandah nearly the whole extent of the building at the back; together with about half an acre of Land enclosed in a paling fence. The Shop is completely shelled throughout, and the whole premises are in a thorough state of repair.

The above premises can be let for such term as may be agreed on, and the Proprietor is willing to go out at any time. The Stock of Goods at present in the Shop are well assorted, and can be taken with the premises, at the option of the lessee.

To parties having a knowledge of these premises, comment is unnecessary, but to parties unacquainted with them, the proprietor considers he would be doing himself an act of injustice if he did not here state, that he is confident, that any person taking these premises, of businesslike habits, would do a good profitable business therein; and that a more eligible opportunity for persons requiring good business premises probably never offered in New South Wales. The proprietor is now leaving solely on account of his retiring from business.

Apply to Mr. HENRY FERRIS, 103, York-street, Sydney; or to the undersigned, on the premises.

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ANCIENT AND MODERN LITERATURE.

ON SALE at the publishing office of Duncan's WEEKLY REGISTER, King-street, a choice and extensive collection of BOOKS, comprising the principal classical works in the English, French, Italian, German, Spanish, Latin, and Greek Languages. This collection contains some rare and valuable editions, which are usually to be met with only in the libraries of the curious.

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RESPECTFULLY begs leave to return thanks to his friends and the public for the liberal support he has received from them, and hopes to merit a continued share of patronage, by affording his customers good workmanship of the very best materials, and as cheap (if not cheaper) than any other house in the trade.

A. McClean calls the attention of the gentlemen of the City of Sydney to the superior style of Wellington Boots and Dress Shoes manufactured by him. 315

This day is published, price 6d.,

A PRACTICAL TREATISE on the Culture of the Olive-tree, from the best authorities Ancient and Modern.

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To be had of all Booksellers.

"Mr. Duncan has recently directed a great deal of time and labour to the consideration of what may be the resources of this Colony.....and has published several small pamphlets containing much very important matter. The treatise on the Olive, now before us, is highly interesting, even to read, without any intention of carrying out its recommendations; but we hope it will find readers who will take advantage of its contents, and form small olive grounds. The treatise contains directions by which any person who can obtain a few olive slips may plant them, and do all that is requisite until the trees are in full bearing."—Morning Herald.

"It affords us the highest pleasure to find so able a coadjutor as Mr. W. A. Duncan pursuing the same path of inductive enquiry and establishing principles of the highest importance to the cultivators of the soil. The title treatise before us.....will be perused with profit and interest by those who may contemplate the introduction of the *Olea Europaea* into their horticultural arrangements."—Australian.

"Every one visiting Sydney, and having an acre of land ought to buy this little work."—Chronicle.

"We think that the work will be extremely useful to those persons among the colonists who may be desirous of turning their attention to what one day will be classed amongst the most important productions of this country. The author has elucidated the subject in a clear and methodical manner, and we doubt not the work will meet with a ready sale."—Record.

EXCHANGE UPON LONDON.

THE ROYAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA, hereby give notice, that they will sell their Drafts, or Scotch Bank Acceptances, payable in London.

J. P. ROBINSON,

Resident Director

Office, No. 2, Church-hill.

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PROTEST of the PASTORAL ASSOCIATION of New South Wales against the projected Regulations of his Excellency Sir George Gipps, said to have been forwarded for the consideration of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State, in a Despatch dated 3rd April last, by the ship *General Hewitt*.

The Committee of the Pastoral Association, although not bound to notice a document so apocryphal, put forth without the formalities of official routine, yet, believing that document to be genuine, from its having remained so long uncontradicted, protest against the Regulations which it contains for the following reasons:—