

by a bold exercise of the spiritual sword, and this seems to have struck Lord Palmerston's fancy, while his forcible transportation of two rival French missionaries to the Gambier Islands commended this head of the English missionary establishment as an active spirit and an able man to the then Foreign Office. This activity, it seems, has continued, and has contributed to bring on these disturbances.

"The fact is, neither country has been properly or suitably represented by its officers at Tahiti. Mr. Pritchard was a busybody and a disturber, and M. D'Aubigny peppery and unscrupulous. It would have been ridiculous for the two governments to have fallen out, because these two warm-headed men happened to have come into collision, with the insignia of office upon them. We are ready, for our part, to throw them both overboard, and clear both countries of any connexion with them. In this state of the question it is of comparatively little consequence which of the combatants struck the outward blow, and did the overt act. Both were to blame; and, though the overt act is the one to be taken cognizance of, because it is an overt one, and therefore must be seen, and an apology must be made for it; still, both countries are clear, and both retain their character, because neither has strictly had anything to do with the act, or the provocatives to it."

This reasonable view of the question is, however, far from being acquiesced in, either by the war party in France, or by the missionary party in England, neither of whom, it appears, would regret giving a new importance to the quarrel by shedding the blood of their countrymen on its account.

THE TENTH REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

I. We stated in our last Report, that unless the annual grant were raised we could not undertake to contribute to the building or even the support of additional schools, although many were wanted and applied for; nor could we take those steps which we deemed essential for giving due efficacy to our system of local superintendence. We added, that the number of schools under us had about doubled since the present number of local superintendents was fixed; that unless it were augmented, the duty of inspection could not be adequately performed, and that we must consider this a very serious evil.

As the grant has not since been augmented, we have been unable to meet the unceasing desire of the public to establish schools in connexion with us; and many applications which have been made to us for aid now stand over.

We have reason to believe that the number of applications made to us falls far short of what it would have been, had not the country been aware of the exhausted state of the funds; that many who have schools conducted upon principles different from those of the national system would prefer it, if they did not fear that by doing so they might lose some of the contributions which they now receive from individuals, without being compensated by assistance from us; and that the people of those districts from which aid is withheld feel deeply aggrieved at finding that they are excluded from the benefits of a

boon which is professedly intended for the whole of Ireland, but from the advantages of which they are practically excluded.

It has also been matter of regret and disappointment to us, that we have not had it in our power to provide for that strict and frequent inspection of the schools which we have already adverted to as so essential to their efficiency.

We have, therefore, learned with the greatest satisfaction that her Majesty's ministers intend proposing such an addition to the funds confided to us as may enable us to increase the number of our schools, and of our superintendents.

To leave the grant unaugmented would in effect be, not to leave matters go on as heretofore, but suddenly to stop the spread of a great good at a certain point, and thus to make it the means of producing discontent instead of satisfaction through the nation.

We say a great good, because the tendency of the system is to produce peace, and that knowledge of men's true interests, the want of which is so likely to lead to disaffection and crime.

We have shown this in former reports, particularly in our last; and we have the gratification of observing, that those unfounded impressions upon the subject, which we have on former occasions had to notice, are at length rapidly dying away.

II. We have now to state our progress during the last year.

At the close of the year 1842 we had 2727 schools in operation, which were attended by 319,792 children. At the close of 1843, we had 2912 schools, which were attended by 355,323 children. The increase in the number of schools in operation, therefore, amounted within the year to 191; and the increase in the attendance of children, to 35,528.

Your Excellency will thus perceive, by comparison of the foregoing numbers, that the increase in the number of children educated is more than proportionate to the increase in the number of schools by above 13,000.

To most of the new schools we have been able to afford aid only by grants of books; but we have undertaken to give them further assistance, should we be enabled by an augmentation of our funds to do so.

III. We trained during the last year 195 teachers, of whom 134 were males, and 61 were females. Although we give a training of about twenty weeks only to the teachers we bring up from the country (to which time we limit it, that we may the more rapidly extend its advantages to the whole,) yet we find, short as it is, that it effects a very great improvement in those who receive it; and the reports subsequently received of them are, in general, highly satisfactory. We propose, should our means be adequate to the purpose, to have in future a certain number of paid monitors in some of our best schools, and that they should be educated for the office of teaching. We intend that they should be selected by the local superintendent, and when of a suitable age, that they should be received at our training establishment, from which they may be set to undertake schools as opportunities offer. We hope, in this way, without any considerable increase of expense, to provide gradually a supply of teachers of a superior description, and thus

to add most materially to the benefits which the national schools are already conferring upon the country.

IV. The receipts from the sale of our school books continue to increase, although we have been enabled, by a reduction in the cost of printing and binding, to make a large corresponding reduction in their price.

It appears, by returns had from the patrons of the national schools, pursuant to an order made by the House of Commons the last session, that the Scriptures were read in 944 of the national schools, and that the Scripture extracts which we have published were read in 1,037. We have to add that the school books which we have published were read in all, and of these we beg leave to repeat what we said in our last Report:—"The books we have published for the use of the national schools, and which, though not forced, are adopted universally in them, contain several lessons upon the subject of religion. They give an epitome of Sacred History; they dwell on the original sin of our first parents, and on the promise then made that in time one would come by whom sin should be overcome; they show how that promise was renewed, particularly in the covenant with Abraham; and they point out the fulfilment of it in the coming and suffering of our Lord: they dwell also on the giving of the law to Moses; they state that it is commonly divided into three parts, the moral, the civil, and the ceremonial, and that the moral is of perpetual obligation, 'because the duties which the creatures of God owe to him and to one another can never have an end.' The duty of Christian charity is set forth as enjoined by the precepts and example of our Lord himself; and a lesson by which it is thus inculcated is hung up in every national school."

RICHARD DUBLIN, † D. MURRAY, FRANCIS SADLER, A. R. BLAKE, ROBERT HOLMES, RICHARD W. GREENE, HENRY POOLEY SHOULDHAM, D. D.; ALEXANDER MACDONNELL, JOHN RICHARD CORBALLIS, KILDARE.
Dublin, 21st March, 1844.

PATRIOTISM.

BY SNIP.

In ancient days, a gallant son of Rome,
To save his country from impending doom,
Plunged, without fear, into the dark abyss:
A patriot here a different course would run,
Would see his country ruined and undone,
That he might call that wretched country *his*.

A squatter in his dream saw Marcus Curtius,—
One of the B—ds, B—n, A—d, or Tertius,
And thus addressed him with mock admiration:—
"Arn't you the chap as jumped into the chasm
To save old Rome from Ruination's spasm,
Giving your life without *consideration*?"
"I am," exclaimed the shade, "my country's claim
Gave me to death,—but an undying fame
Lifts me to life, where noble hearts are borne."
The squatter looked at him with some surprise,
Then made a "*Grinder*" e'en before his eyes,
And said "*Oh, Anthony, how soft's your horn.*"

MAJOR WENTWORTH.—The *Mercury* states that a requisition to Major Wentworth, is going round, to request that gentleman to resign his seat in the Legislative Council, and stating to him that his constituents, or the major part of them, are dissatisfied with him, and hope he will vacate his seat.

Domestic Intelligence.

THE ANNIVERSARY REGATTA.—A meeting of boat owners interested in the formation of the customary Regatta to celebrate the Fifty-seventh Anniversary of this colony's foundation, was held at the Dock Yard on Tuesday last, when the various Stewards and other officers were elected.

THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S OFFICE.—The very great inconvenience that would accrue to the public if the office of the Registrar General were to be closed, has induced Mr. Carter, the Registrar, to determine upon keeping open the office, and paying the expenses himself, until the next session of the Legislative Council, in the hope that by that time some arrangement for the payment of the expenses by the government may have been made.

NEW INSOLVENTS.—George Rowley, of Queanbeyan, storekeeper, £5,614 3s. 4d.; assets, personal property, £80; balance deficiency, £5,534 3s. 4d.; John Morris, official assignee. John Warner, of Market-street, Sydney, baker: debts due by the insolvent, £50 16s.; assets—personal property, £4; debts due to the estate, £10 15s. 9½d; balance deficiency, £36 0s. 2½d.; John Morris, official assignee.

ATTEMPT AT MURDER.—About one o'clock on the morning of Dec. 27, a most atrocious attempt was made on the life of the Rev. M. O'Reilly of Bathurst by shooting through a glazed door of his sleeping apartment. About the hour named Mr. O'Reilly was awake by the report of a piece almost close to his head; he had scarcely time to arouse himself before another and a third report took place, supposed from a double-barrel piece; he immediately arose, and having secured a fowling-piece; which was in an adjoining room, he sallied out and searched round the premises, but could discover no one. The matter was investigated privately at the police office on the following day, and suspicions are said to be entertained against several parties, whose names however, are not yet mentioned.

INQUESTS.—On Saturday afternoon, the adjourned inquest on the body of William Henry Russell, who had died on the 24th instant, was resumed, in the "Sir Walter Scott" public house, corner of Bathurst and Sussex-streets. Dr. McPhee being present to hear the statement of his having opened the body contrary to law, Dr. Silver proved that he saw the body of the deceased on Christmas Day, which had been opened. On the day of the inquest he had made a *post mortem* examination of the body, which was then in a rapid state of decomposition; but from the heart being twice the natural size, he had no doubt but that death had been caused by disease of the heart. The Coroner stated that it was not his intention to proceed at present any further in the case as it affected Dr. McPhee. The evidence taken would be forwarded to the Attorney-General, and he (Mr. Brennan) would act in the matter as the Law Officers of the Crown might direct; and if ulterior proceedings were ordered, Dr. McPhee would receive due notice of the same, which would afford him an opportunity of explaining his conduct. The Jury returned a verdict of died by the visitation of God from disease of the heart.

VOYAGES OF THE "BEAGLE."—Captain Stokes is about to publish, by permission of the Lords of the Admiralty, an account of the voyages and discoveries of H. M. S. *Beagle*. The following extract from the prospectus will shew the nature of the work:—"New Lands in Australia; discoveries of the Victoria, Adelaide, Albert, and Fitzroy Rivers, and expeditions into the interior described; with an account of the hitherto unknown coasts, surveyed during the voyage of H. M. S. *Beagle*, between the years 1837 and 1843; also a narrative of the visits of H. M. S. *Britomart*, Commander Owen Stanley, to the islands in the Arafura Sea. By J. Lort Stokes, Commander, R. N. With maps, charts, and numerous illustrations, 2 vols. 8 vo. The *Beagle* sailed from England early in the year 1837, and returned towards the close of 1843. During that period, besides the ordinary incidents of naval adventure, many circumstances of the highest interest marked the progress of her voyage. Unknown shores and untraversed plains upon the north and north-west coasts of Australia have been added to our geographical knowledge. An inroad into the interior, reaching within 500 miles of the very centre of the great Australian continent, has been accomplished. The rivers Victoria, Adelaide, Albert, and Fitzroy, all discovered by the expedition to which this narrative relates, attest its triumph in an object of primary importance. Great additions have been made to the several departments of Natural History, the various specimens having been classified and described by some of the most eminent Naturalists. The north-west coast of Australia has been carefully surveyed; and Bass's Straits, heretofore so justly dreaded by the masters of ships, may now be navigated with the safety that ought to distinguish the high road between England and Sydney. The charts of the passage through Torres Strait, by the inner route, have been improved, and a safe channel discovered through Endeavour Strait: while anchorages, especially at Western and Southern Australia, now correctly laid down, and doubtful positions finally assigned, prove that in the unpretending though important duties of surveying, the officers of the expedition failed not to do justice to the cause wherein they were engaged. Notices of Teneriffe, San Salvador, the Brazils, the Cape of Good Hope, the Mauritius, its hurricanes, and the numerous Islands, Waters, and Lands of Australia, now first discovered and described, will be found in the earlier portions of the work, and an account of the interesting visits of H. M. S. *Britomart*, to the islands in the Arafura Sea, prepared by Capt. Stanley, enriches the latter."

ADJOURNED INQUEST.—On Tuesday morning the jury, who had been sworn to make inquisition, concerning the death of Dr. Joseph Meyrick, re-assembled at the Albion Inn, George-street, and the prisoner, Lucius O'Brien, having been brought from the Gaol, at Woolloomooloo, the Coroner proceeded to examine several witnesses, who deposed to the fact of the prisoner having fired two pistols at deceased. After a patient investigation, which lasted nearly nine hours, the jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against the prisoner, Lucius O'Brien, who was accordingly committed, by the Coroner, to take his trial at the ensuing Criminal Session.

ANONYMOUS LETTERS.—A number of indelicate letters have lately been forwarded to several respectable females in Sydney. About half-past nine o'clock on Monday evening a man named James McMahon took one of them to a highly respectable house, where several of them had been previously sent; he was immediately seized by the servant girl, and held fast until he was given into the charge of the police. In defence, when brought up on Tuesday before Alderman Macdermott and Mr. Miles, the prisoner stated that a man, unknown to him, had employed him to carry the letter to its address for hire. As there was no evidence to rebut his statement, the Alderman, previous to discharging him, admonished him as to his future conduct, and expressed his determination to punish with the utmost severity every one convicted before him of insulting respectable people by sending such letters. Mr. Miles also expressed his determination to put forth all the energies of the police in unmasking such miscreants.

FRUIT.—There will be an exhibition extraordinary of fruits now in season in the market building (letter A), George-street, on Wednesday next.

NEW POST OFFICES.—His Excellency the Governor having been pleased to approve of the establishment of Post Offices, at Merriwa, situated between Merton and Cassilis, and Molong, between Bathurst and Wellington, parties wishing to receive their communications through those Post Offices, are advised to caution their correspondents to address their letters and newspapers to those places distinctly by their names, and to secure their being duly forwarded to those Post Offices.

GRAIN.—Statement of the various descriptions of grain held by government on the 1st January, 1845:—Wheat, 39,013 bushels; maize, 6,640 bushels.

PORT PHILLIP.—Two meetings have been held at Melbourne—the first of settlers, at which it was resolved to adopt measures for obtaining a supply of "exiles" from the Pentonville Penitentiary as shepherds and labourers; the second a meeting of citizens, at which the Mayor presided, and at which resolutions were passed strongly protesting against the introduction of those exiles. A curious motive is urged by the advocates for this kind of immigration, namely, "to check the introduction of expiring convicts from Van Diemen's Land!" A choice of evils certainly; but why not rather agitate for the removal of both?

MELBOURNE MAIL.—The mails from Melbourne, Portland, &c., will arrive during the current year, every Tuesday and Friday, and be despatched on the same days at the usual hours.

City Council.

MONDAY.

Alderman Broughton brought up a report from the Finance Committee on the fiscal affairs of the Corporation, and the probable expenditure of the year 1845, which was read and received.

Mr. Holden presented a report of the Special Committee appointed to consider the petition of Mr. C. H. Gray, against the rates imposed upon him; stating that the petitioner had himself waved his objections against the rates.

The report was read and received.

The Town Clerk laid upon the table the statistical information required by Mr. Thurlow's resolutions passed on the 4th of December last.

The sum of £215 12s. 10d., being the amount of salaries due to the officers and servants of the Corporation for the month of December, was ordered, upon the motion of Alderman Broughton, to be paid.

The sum of £21 15s. 9d., being the amount of commission due to the rate collectors, was ordered to be paid, upon the motion of Mr. Little.

Distress warrants were ordered, upon the motion of Mr. Holden, to issue against three parties resident in Brisbane Ward, who had made default in the payment of their rates.

The letter of Mr. N. James, recommending certain alterations in the system of keeping the city accounts, was ordered, upon the motion of Alderman Wilshire, to lie on the table.

The report of the Special Committee appointed to enquire into the duties of the City and District Surveyors, recommending that no change should be made in the above offices as at present existing, was taken into consideration, and Mr. Ryan moved that it be adopted.

Alderman Flood opposed the adoption of the report, contending at some length that the City Surveyor had altogether failed to carry out the resolutions of the Council as to the alignment of the streets, &c., and arguing for the necessity of some reformation in this department, as well with the view of rendering it more efficient as of saving some portion of the present expense. He concluded by moving a resolution expressive of the Council's opinion to the above effect.

Alderman Macdermott seconded the amendment, contending that the documents and evidence before the Council fully justified the passing of such a resolution as this. Both offices might be combined at a saving to the city of about £100 a year, without injury to the public service.

Alderman Wilshire moved a further amendment, that the report should be sent back to the committee as incomplete, in order that sufficient information might be laid before the Council to make the new members understand the subject. He proposed also to add Alderman Flood and Mr. Cowlshaw to the committee.

Both amendments were ultimately lost, and the original motion (for the adoption of the report) was put and carried, the votes being twelve for and ten against it.

Certain accounts, amounting in the aggregate to £50 11s., were ordered, on the motion of Alderman Broughton, to be paid.

The present collectors of city rates were re-appointed to their situations for the ensuing year, at the present rates of emolument, upon the motion of Alderman Flood.

Alderman Macdermott moved that the valuers employed with a view to the assessment of city property be paid at the rate of 10s. 6d. per day; that there be two valuers to each ward, one the collector of such ward, and the other a person to be appointed by the Council; and that the Town Clerk be instructed to publish advertisements calling for applications for these appointments.

Mr. Fisher moved an amendment to the effect that 6s. per day only should be paid.

Mr. Little moved, as a further amendment, that the pay of the valuers should be 12s. 6d. per diem, and that of the collectors 6s.

The original motion was ultimately carried by a considerable majority.

Alderman Macdermott moved that the sum of £39 17s. 1d., being the amount of Mr. G. R. Nichols's account for conducting the defence in the case of Baker v. Moir, be paid, as recommended by the Finance Committee.

Alderman Flood protested against any of the city funds being devoted to pay legal expenses which had been incurred solely by the ignorance or neglect of any of their officers, conceiving that the burthen ought to fall upon those by whom the expenses were occasioned.

After some further discussion the Council divided upon the motion, which was carried by a majority of nine.

A committee of six members was named for the purpose of opening the tenders for printing and stationery for the year 1845.

Council adjourned until Wednesday week.

Legislative Council.

SATURDAY.

The Speaker reported that the Royal assent had been given by His Excellency the Governor to the following Acts, namely—the Sydney Incorporation Amendment Act, the Melbourne Incorporation Amendment Act, the Distillation Law Amendment Act, the Appropriation Act, and the Acts for suspending the operation of the 70th clauses in the Sydney and Melbourne Incorporation Acts.

Mr. Robinson presented a petition from the Mayor and Town Council of Melbourne, expressing in strong terms the alarm and dissatisfaction which they felt at the arrival, by the *Royal George*, of a number of convicts, from the English penitentiaries, and praying that the Legislature would throw its shield around and interdict the importation of a class of persons whose presence would act as a moral pestilence in the land.

Mr. Robinson presented a petition from the bakers of Melbourne, praying that the Council would pass a law to prevent baking on Sundays.

Mr. Wentworth moved, pursuant to notice, that the Governor's Message on the Lien on Wool Act Amendment Bill, having, in conformity with the 39th section of the standing orders, lapsed in consequence of the house being counted out on the 26th instant, the said Bill be again presented to his Excellency the Governor, for the Royal Assent, by the Speaker and the Colonial Treasurer.

The motion was carried without discussion.

MONDAY.

The Speaker stated that his Excellency had been pleased to assent, on behalf of her Majesty, to the Wharfage Bill;—that his Excellency had been pleased to send back the Bank of Australia Shares Bill, with a note to the effect that he had reserved the Royal Assent to the Bill until he should have brought it under her Majesty's consideration, and received her Majesty's decision thereon. The Interest Bill, he said, was returned with

a similar note appended to it. The Bill to amend the preferable Lien on Wool Bill was returned, with a note by his Excellency, that he withheld her Majesty's sanction altogether. The Speaker then stated that during the session eighteen measures which had been passed by the Council had received the royal assent; two had been reserved, and from one the royal assent was withheld.

Shortly after this the approach of the Governor was announced by the usual salute. The guard of honour placed in front of the Chamber, presented arms, and the band of the 99th struck up the national anthem; a salute was also fired from Fort Phillip.

His Excellency then entered the Chamber, and after members had been requested, at his desire, by the Speaker to take their seats, read the following address:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen,

I am happy in being able at length to bring this protracted session to a close, and to release you from further attendance.

As you have, gentlemen, declined to take into consideration the Estimates, which early in the session I laid before you for the administration of justice in the year which is now ensuing, I have only to express my hope that the funds which the law had previously placed at my disposal may be found sufficient to keep open the ordinary tribunals of the colony: the resources which are within my reach, I shall rigorously devote to the purposes to which they are applicable; but I shall not suffer myself to exceed in any manner the authority which I constitutionally hold, nor to set aside the instructions of her Majesty.

The supplies which you have granted for other branches of the public service, I shall expend with the utmost regard to economy.

I am happy to be able to congratulate you on the marked improvement which has recently manifested itself in the general condition of the colony. The rise which has taken place in England in the value of our chief staple has had a very cheering influence on the whole community, and, by the blessing of Providence, we continue to enjoy the most abundant seasons.

Gentlemen, you have, in the latter part of the present session, entrusted to my care various addresses to her most gracious Majesty, praying for extensive alterations in the Constitution which it pleased her Majesty and Parliament very recently to grant to this portion of her dominions: these addresses I shall take the earliest opportunity of transmitting to her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, in order that they may be presented to her Majesty; and they will, I have no doubt, receive her Majesty's most attentive consideration.

Many months must, however, necessarily elapse before her Majesty's replies to these addresses can be received in the colony; and I consequently consider it my duty openly to declare my opinion, that many of the demands of the Council are such as never will be granted—such indeed as never can be granted—unless it be the pleasure of her Majesty and Parliament fundamentally and entirely to alter the relations on which this country now stands to the British empire.

I now declare this Council to be prorogued to Tuesday, the fourth day of March.

His Excellency then left the Chamber, and the Council immediately broke up.

LITERARY REGISTER.

THE HORSEMAN WHO FACED THE STORM.

"Owre true a tale."

He left his home and he rode away
Tow'rd's Goulburn's well known plain;
He purposed making no lengthened stay,
But, sad to tell, from that hapless day,
He saw not his home again.

Australia's winter-month, bleak July,
Its freezing sway had resumed,
And snow-clouds, quitting their course on high,
Sailed sullenly down to the nether sky,
Where lowering and dense they loomed.

The horseman reached the appointed place,
And made but a short abode;
For mindful he seemed, that the day's brief space
Would yield him but little of light to retrace
His rugged and lonely road.

Remounted, he shook his bridle rein
And, urging for home his steed,
Soon far in his rear left town and plain;
Nor slackened his pace; but prest forward amain,
The distance demanding speed.

And now the fierce sleet through the forest hied
On the wings of the wintry blast;
The snow rushed on like a feathery tide,
And cold and drear was the horseman's ride,
As valley or hill he o'er-past.

At the road-side inn did the horseman call.
'Twere wise he had there remained;
For, around and above, 'twas darkness all,
Whilst the road lay hid 'neath the snow's dense fall,
And the storm fresh fury had gained.

But whither now speeds that horseman bold
Through the night's appalling gloom?
Knows he not danger? heeds he not cold?
Or his steed's false step? or his bridle-hold?
Or a snowy, or watery, tomb?

Nor the landstorm's wrathful and wild career,
Nor the ocean's billowy strife,
Could palsy that horseman's heart with fear;
Nor the bandit's words, when, approaching near,
He threatened to take his life.

And, ah! "sweet home" in his mind he sees,
A haven of tranquil bliss;
Its fireside comforts—the seat of ease—
The loving and loved ones—yes, yes, for these
He braves such a night as this.

O, home! whose name bears a magic sound
To ear of freeman or slave,
How closely thy ties to the heart are bound!
Yet, pressing to gain thee, thou'rt often found
Concealed in a lonely grave.

What riderless steed, at morn's grey light,
Keeps pacing the dark pool's brow?
Past he through the storm that raged last night?
Awaits he his rider to urge his fight?
But—where is that rider now?

Days, weeks, glide on, and the horseman's track
They vainly assay to find;
Days, weeks, glide on, and he comes not back
To slay the fears and the doubts that rack
The loved ones he left behind.

Alas! their hopes with their doubts and fears
Are waging a bootless strife;
For past is the hour from which, with tears,
The son shall date his fatherless years,—
The mother—no more a wife.

Never again will her look find rest
On her early and only choice:
Never again, to the father's breast,
Will his smiling boy be fondly prest,
Or bound when he hears his voice.

No more the cheering and manly greet,
The open and cordial smile,
The stranger guest was so wont to meet,
Whose jaded steed, or o'er-wearied feet,
Betokened the toilsome mile.

Deep woe casts over that house a cloud,
Where comfort and joy late shone;
And the widow's heart will be anguish-bowed,
And the orphan's cry will be long and loud,
And the stranger will join his moan.

For the husband, father, and friend, oft proved,
Hath o'er the dark threshold past;
No longer by life's vain projects moved,
On all he treasured—on all he loved—
That morning he looked his last.

The youthful sportsman is forth to seek
The haunt of the feathered game,
And vainly roaming the forest bleak,
He hopes to find in the river, or creek,
Some object for deadly aim.

Devious and rugged his pathway lies,
While tracing the stream's rude bed;
The coverts that fringe its banks he tries,
And now on the pool he casts his eyes;
But, wherefore that start of dread?

O, sight of woe! 'neath the mimic wave,
A floating and lifeless form
Seems bidding farewell to the oozy cave*
Which, for days and weeks, had been the grave
Of the horseman who faced the storm.

FELIX.

* The Journals of the day, when giving an account of the discovery of the remains of the late Mr. B—, by a young gentleman who was out on a shooting excursion, stated that the body, when first observed, was rising to the surface with the face downward.

The New Era.—The following observations are selected from a sprightly article that occurs in a French Paper, on the spirit of pretension, the rage for novelty, and the style of frivolity which distinguish the age:—
"We must be entirely blind not to acknowledge the progress of illumination. Never was genius more common, or science more cheap. The lowest of our literary stalls is more enlightened than the school of Athens. Would they have believed that the mechanism of the Heavens would become as common a spectacle as the Chinese shadows? It is now ten years since we have been as convinced of abysses in the sun, as volcanoes in the moon; and we can now sound them for 40 sous with an honest astronomer, who has confined infinite space within his alcove.—These are things which Pliny could not have expected when he was buried in the ashes of Vesuvius, and which would have driven Empedocles with disgust from exploring Mount Ætna, where he left his slippers. Not only does our age advance with inconceivable rapidity, but our contemporaries run the race of existence as if for a bet. Formerly, when a scholar left college, he was gradually initiated in the knowledge of business, according to the wants of his condition.—Now, a youth who quits his form is a man ready made, who knows the whole of life as well as his syntax, and sometimes better. The first recreations of his infancy have been good lectures on philosophy, and good spectacles suited to his youthful passions—that is, lectures and spectacles calculated to form beardless conspirators and rakes of fifteen. I know that there are fastidious minds who pretend that this kind of excellence is not advantageous to society; but I attribute their objection to a prejudice against our age; and although we may be a little less happy than our forefathers, is there a compensation, I would ask, which can be called too much for the pleasure of being born in an age when we can study history and morality in a game of cards; when we can learn to read and write without paper and pens; when we can navigate without sails or oars—and traverse the air at the pleasure of the winds, secure from breaking our necks by a parachute; The civilization of beasts has made a sensible if not an alarming progress. We possess a dog, who might already have become a member of the polytechnic school, if he had been so inclined;—and the English oppose to him, with pride, a learned pig, which grunts nothing but apophthegms. Give these gentlemen a tincture of liberal ideas, and you will kindle a war of independence in our kennels and court-yards."



BIOGRAPHY.

WILLIAM COBBETT, ESQ., M. P.

WILLIAM COBBETT was born in the neighbourhood of Farnham, Surrey, on the 9th of March, 1762. His father was a farmer, who, though poor, had the reputation among his neighbours of possessing considerable knowledge and experience. In a pamphlet published in America in 1797, Mr. Cobbett gives the following account of his early life.

"I do not remember the time when I did not earn my own living. My first occupation was driving the small birds from the turnip seed, and the rooks from the pease. When I first trudged a field, with my wooden bottle and my satchel swung over my shoulders, I was hardly able to climb the gates and stiles; and, at the close of the day, to reach home was a task of infinite difficulty. My next employment was weeding wheat, and leading a single horse at harrowing barley. Hoing pease followed; and hence I arrived at the honor of joining the reapers in harvest, driving the team, and holding plough. We were all of us strong and laborious; and my father used to boast that he had four boys, the eldest of whom was but fifteen years old, who did as much work as any three men in the parish of Farnham. Honest pride and happy days!

"I have some faint recollection of going to school to an old woman, who, I believe, did not succeed in learning me my letters. In the winter evenings, my father learnt us all to read and write, and gave us a pretty tolerable knowledge of arithmetic. Grammar he did not perfectly understand himself, and therefore his endeavours to learn us that necessarily failed; for though he thought he understood it, and though he made us get the rules by heart, we learnt nothing at all of the principles.

"Our religion was that of the Church of England, to which I have ever remained attached; the more so, perhaps, as it bears the name of my country. As my ancestors were never persecuted for their religious