

Legislative Council.

TUESDAY.

Mr. Lamb begged to ask the honorable the Colonial Secretary whether instructions had been given to the customs' or other officers, in the various ports of the colony, to take accounts of the numbers of persons arriving with pardons from Van Diemen's Land, and whether persons so arriving had been, or would be, required to register their names and places of abode, in like manner as persons arriving from Norfolk Island, after having undergone sentence.

The Colonial Secretary said, that the subject was one of importance to the colony, seeing the large number of persons of the class referred to that were likely to be permitted to proceed hither from Van Diemen's Land. The matter had already been under notice by the government, and it had been the subject of correspondence between the Executive here and his Honor the Superintendent of Port Phillip, in which district the principal portion of such persons were likely to land from Van Diemen's Land. He was not aware whether it would be in the power of this government to place the persons so arriving in this colony under the *surveillance* that was hinted at by the honorable member; but a reference would be made to the law officers, in order to ascertain immediately what could be done.

Mr. Murray moved, "That a select committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon an Act of the Governor and Council (4 Vic., No. 33), intituled 'An Act to ensure the fulfilment of engagements, and to provide for the adjustment of disputes between masters and servants in New South Wales and its dependencies.'"

Mr. Bradley seconded the motion, which was put and carried; and the following members were elected to be the select committee—Mr. Murray, Mr. Bradley, the Attorney-General, Mr. Cowper, Mr. Suttor, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Robinson moved, that an address be presented to his Excellency the Governor, praying that his Excellency will be pleased to direct the necessary steps to be taken to carry into effect the recommendation of the select committee of this Council, appointed on the 3rd October, 1843, "to consider the practicability of establishing an overland communication from the settled parts of New South Wales to Port Essington;" and further praying that his Excellency will be pleased to direct a sum not exceeding one thousand pounds to be inserted in the estimates of expenditure for the year 1846, to meet the expenses consequent upon carrying into effect the above mentioned recommendation.

Mr. Lamb seconded the motion.

The Colonial Secretary was happy to say that he should on the present occasion be able to give his support to the motion. The state of the finances was fortunately more favourable now than in 1843, and there was every reason to believe that the sources of revenue would be yet more productive. The approval of her Majesty's Secretary of State had also been obtained. There was, however, another question on the part of the government, which was as to the way in which Sir Thomas Mitchell proposed to proceed, which the government considered as too hazardous. This, however, was a matter which would

be maturely weighed and considered before the expedition was undertaken.

Mr. Windeyer expressed his opinion that the plan of Sir Thomas Mitchell was practicable, and that of the Governor impracticable; he therefore moved that the words "according to the plan of Sir Thomas Mitchell" be added to the resolution.

Dr. Lang and Dr. Nicholson concurred in this amendment, which was opposed by Mr. Hamilton and the Attorney General, and ultimately withdrawn. The original address was then put and agreed to.

Mr. Bradley moved, "That an address be presented to his Excellency the Governor, praying that his Excellency will be pleased to place upon the supplementary estimates for 1845 a sum not exceeding £1000, to be applied to the repairs of dilapidated bridges on the Great South Road, between the Cowpasture River and Goulburn."

Mr. Robinson seconded the motion.

Mr. Cowper proposed to add, after the word bridges, "and dangerous passes."

Mr. Murray seconded the amendment.

The Colonial Secretary said, that although he was ready to admit that in the present state of the road it was required that something should be done, yet he found difficulty at this period of the session in supporting the motion of the honorable member. It was well known that the repairs of the roads belonged now not to the government but to the District Councils, and they had the means, if they had the willingness, to employ them. The responsibility, however, was not with the Executive. Besides the motion of the honorable member, there were two other similar motions on the paper, one by the honorable member for Melbourne, with respect to the road to Illawarra by George's River, and the other with respect to the Port Phillip Road by the honorable and reverend member for Port Phillip, and should the House affirm this motion, he should expect to see some twenty or thirty similar notices; for it would be impossible for honorable members to refuse their constituents, if they applied to them to bring such motions forward. When the answers arrived to the references which had been made to the home government on the subject of district councils, it might be necessary that the government should propose to incur much greater expenses than it yet had; and he should be glad if the honorable member would postpone his motion for a time, at all events until the financial measures were more matured, when he, the Colonial Secretary, would be able to adopt a more satisfactory course with respect to the motion.

Dr. Nicholson said, that he was sure that any member of the House would be willing to meet, so far as he could, the wishes of the honorable the Colonial Secretary; but this was a case which would admit of no delay; the roads were impassable; a month ago he had despatched drays to Goulburn, this day he had received letters which informed him that the drays had not reached Goulburn, and that from the impassable state of the roads there was no saying when they would. If something were not immediately done all access to the southern country would be closed. As to the District Councils, everybody knew that they were doing nothing, and would do nothing; but supplies must be sent into the country, and produce must come down.

Mr. Robinson, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Windeyer, Mr. Lowe, and Mr. Bland followed on the same side.

Mr. Cowper withdrew his amendment.

The Attorney-General was unwilling to vote against the motion, and hoped it would be postponed till a more fitting time.

The motion was put and agreed to.

Mr. Cowper moved the re-appointment of the Committee of Correspondence with the Honorable Francis Scott, M.P., the Parliamentary agent.

The motion was carried without discussion.

The Attorney General obtained leave to bring in a Bill, for adopting an Act of the Imperial Parliament, intituled, "An Act for taking away the punishment of death in certain cases, and substituting other punishments in lieu thereof, 4 and 5 Victoria, cap. 56." Also, a Bill for adopting an Act of the Imperial Parliament, intituled, "An Act to abolish the punishment of death in cases of forgery." 1 Vic., c. 84.

Mr. Murray moved, "That a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into and report upon the operation of an act of the Governor and Council (5 Will. IV., No. 1), intituled 'An Act for regulating the Slaughtering of Cattle.'" His principal reason for moving in this matter was, that the act might be so amended as to afford protection to stockholders and others, which was rendered necessary in consequence of a practice which was growing up of stealing cattle, conveying them to the nearest boiling-down establishment, where they were at once disposed of, and the thief received the proceeds and walked off with them.

After a few words from the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney-General in support of the motion, the question was put, and the committee granted, as follows—Mr. Murray, Mr. Cowper, Mr. Lord, Mr. Bradley, the Attorney-General, Mr. Icely, and Mr. Wentworth.

Mr. Cowper moved for a return of the quit-rents for which levy has been made on stock running upon grants from the crown since 12th July, 1844, specifying the districts in which collected, the names of those against whom execution has issued for the recovery of the same, the period during which the arrears sued for have accumulated, and the names of the parties to whom the stock seized in each case belonged, the respective amounts so recovered, together with the amount of commission paid to the collectors, and other expenses incurred in collection.

The Colonial Treasurer said, that there would be no objection on the part of the Executive to lay the returns before the House; and the motion was adopted.

Upon the motion of the Attorney-General the Bill for Consolidating and Amending the laws against offences relating to Coin, was read a second time, and considered in committee; as was also the Bill to adopt an Act for more effectually preventing embezzlement by persons employed in the public service of her Majesty.

WEDNESDAY.

Messages were received from His Excellency the Governor, presenting—(1.) A Bill to authorise the payment of moneys arising from the sale of impounded cattle to institutions of charity within the district in which such moneys may be raised; (2.) The Draft

of a Law to authorise the taking of a Census of the population of the colony in the year 1846. (3). A statement of the sums intended to be appropriated during the year 1846 to the several services and purposes named in the Schedule B, annexed to the Act 5 and 6 Vic., c. 76.

The Colonial Treasurer moved that the consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 1846 be postponed until Wednesday next.

Mr. Lowe, enquired from the Colonial Secretary whether the Government intended to take any steps for the auditing of the accounts laid before the Council, in pursuance of the 36th section of the 5 and 6 Victoria.

The Colonial Secretary said, that in replying to this question it might be convenient to state what had heretofore been the practice. The whole of the accounts, were first audited by the Auditor General here, and then transmitted half-yearly to the Audit Office in England; this was up to the time of the passing of the Act 5 and 6 Victoria. Since the passing of that Act a correspondence had been going on between this Government and the Home Government on the subject, and the Home Government had finally settled the matter in this way: The accounts relative to the Crown lands were still to be sent home, after having been audited here by the Auditor General; the accounts of moneys expended under the schedules attached to the Act of Parliament were also to be sent home; but the accounts relative to moneys expended under the authority of the Council were still to be audited here by the Auditor General.

The Attorney General moved that any correspondence which may have occurred between the Committee and the Honorable Francis Scott, M.P., since printing of the last, be printed, by order of the House.

Dr. Nicholson seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

The first order of the day was for the consideration of the Governor's message on a General Cemetery.

The Colonial Secretary said, the Bill had two main objects in view. The first was the establishment of a general cemetery in the neighbourhood of Sydney, and the second was the removal from the Old Burial Ground in George-street of the remains of the dead there interred; also to remove the doubts as to the power of the Government to grant this ground for certain public purposes, especially a portion of it which it was proposed to grant for the site of a town hall. He was fully aware that the utmost respect ought to be paid to the feelings of those who might happen to have friends interred in this place; and it was a matter which ought to be proceeded in with the utmost delicacy, and he trusted that the measure would be treated with due deliberation and proceeded in, in such a way as not to wound the feelings of any. The establishment of a public cemetery at a reasonable distance from the city, in such a position that the health of the living might not be injuriously affected, was a subject of the utmost importance. He should content himself now with moving the first reading of the Bill.

After some remarks from Dr. Lang, the Attorney General, and Mr. Cowper, the Bill was read a first time, and a Committee was appointed to consider and report upon it.

The Lunatics Bill was read a first time, and the Corn Bill was considered in Com-

mittee, and ordered to be engrossed and read a third time on Thursday next.

THURSDAY.

The following members were declared to be the members appointed to the Select Committee on the Cemetery Bill:—Mr. Cowper, Dr. Nicholson, the Attorney General, Mr. Allen, Dr. Lang, Mr. Lamb, the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Lowe, and Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson moved, that an address be presented to His Excellency the Governor, requesting that His Excellency will be pleased to place upon the Estimates of Expenditure for 1846, a sum, not exceeding £1000, towards the completion of the road via George's River to Illawarra and the South country.

Mr. Lowe seconded the motion.

The Colonial Secretary said, that he regretted that it was not in his power to support the motion; the principal objection he had to it was the same as that which he had urged a few nights ago against what was in his opinion a much more urgent claim than that now brought forward, namely, the motion with reference to the great South Road. He stated at that time that there were already two similar motions on the paper, and that if the House did affirm the motion, as it did, of the Honorable member for Argyle, similar motions would be crowded upon them; since then the honorable member for the Cumberland boroughs had given notice of his intention to move for another £2000, to be expended in addition to the tolls, on the roads between Liverpool and Sydney, and Liverpool and Windsor; he stated, that he believed the affirmation of one such motion would lead to enormous demands on the revenue, which it would not be possible to meet, and to none of which in the present state of the financial measures of the year, would it be expedient to assent. He hoped that at a later period of the session something might be done, so as to put the great thoroughfares of the country into repair.

After a few remarks from Mr. Bowman, Dr. Lang, Mr. Lamb, and Dr. Nicholson,

Mr. Robinson consented to withdraw the motion, on the understanding that the state of the roads should be taken into consideration before the close of the session.

Mr. Cowper moved "That the Select Committee appointed to inquire into and report upon the necessity of amending the law relating to scab and catarrh in sheep, be also directed to make enquiry, and report to this House, whether it is considered desirable for the Government to adopt any system of reward, payable from the revenue of the colony, for the destruction of the native dog."

Mr. Suttor seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

The Bill to enable the Savings' Bank to lend money to the Corporation of Sydney was read a first time, upon the motion of the Colonial Secretary.

The Bill for the Abolition of Oaths in Government departments was read a first time.

The Attorney-General presented the Bills which he obtained leave to bring in on Tuesday, viz.: "A Bill for adopting an Act of the Imperial Parliament, intituled, 'An Act for taking away the punishment of death in certain cases, and substituting other punish-

ments in lieu thereof,' 4 and 5 Victoria, cap. 56"—and "A Bill for adopting an Act of the Imperial Parliament, intituled 'An Act to abolish the punishment of death in cases of forgery,' 1 Vic., c. 84."

The Bills were severally read a first time.

LITERARY REGISTER.

THE CREEK OF THE FOUR GRAVES.

A TALE OF THE BUSH.

BY CHARLES HARPUR.

(Continued from our last.)

Egremont,
On all the solemn beauty of the Night,
Looked out yet wakefully, for thoughts of home
Ingathered to his heart, as by some nice
And subtle interfusion that connects
The cherished ever with the beautiful
And lasting Things of Nature. So then thought
The musing Egremont: when suddenly,
A hough cracked loudly in a neighbouring brake,
And drew his spirit thitherward. He listened;
But silence, recomposing there her wings,
Soon brooded stiller even than before,
Nestled in darkness; and to his sweet mood
Of museful memory he recurred as soon,
Calmly, and unassured of danger—But,
Again!—and hark!—Good God! have Hell's worst fiends
Burst up into the doomed World? Or whence,
If not from diabolic rage, could surge
A yell so horrible as now affrights
And upward sends the shuddering air? Alas!
Even worse are near!—ehold, from the long grass
And nearer brakes, at once, a semi belt
Of stript and painted Savages, divulge
Their bounding forms!—full in the flaring light
Thrown up and outward now by the roused fire—
Roused even by the shock the air receives
From their so terrible cries!

A moment seen,
Thus, as they bounded up,—on then they came,
Closing, with weapons brandished high, and so
Rushed in upon the sleepers! three of whom
But started, and then wretched quivering, under
The first fell blow dealt unto each by three
Of the most strength of their merciless foes!
But one, again, and yet again, heaved up—
Up to his knees under the crushing strokes
Of the huge nulla-nulla, even till
His own warm brains were blinding him! For he
Had lived with misery nearly all his days
Of manhood, and thence hungered after hope.
And thirsted for the taste of good; and now
He could not but dispute the fact of Death
Even in the fact! For oh, the pampered child
Of vanity consents to his grim power
With less reluctance often, than the wretch
Who hath been ever blown about the world
The straw-like sport of Disappointment's blast,
Vagrant and tielless,—ever still in such,
The craving spirit thus grieves into itself—
"I never yet was happy, never yet
Tasted unmixed enjoyment, and I would
Yet pass on the bright earth that I have loved
Some season, though most brief, of happiness;
So should I walk thenceforward to my grave,
Wherever in her green and motherly breast
It might await me, more than now prepared,
Soothed and subjected to its certainty,
Even by the consciousness of having shaped
Some good in being! But to have lived, and now
To die, thus desolate, is horrible!"
And feeling thus by habit, that poor man;
Though the black shadow of untimely death
Hopelessly thickened under every stroke,
Yet struggled up against them, till, at last,
One, as in mercy, gave him to the dust
With all his sorrows.

(To be continued.)

BIOGRAPHY.

GALILEO.

GALILEO GALILEI was born at Pisa, in 1564. His family, which till the middle of the 14th century, had borne the name of Bonajuti, was ancient and noble, but not wealthy; and his father, Vincenzo Galilei, appears to have been a person of very superior talents and accomplishments. He is the author of several treatises upon music, which shew him to have been master both of the practice and theory of that art. Galileo was the eldest of a family of six children, three sons and three daughters. His boyhood, like that of Newton, and of many other distinguished cultivators of ma-

thematical and physical science, evinced the natural bent of his genius by various mechanical contrivances which he produced; and he also showed a strong predilection and decided talent both for music and painting. It was resolved, however, that he should be educated for the medical profession; and with that view he was, in 1581, entered at the university of his native town. He appears to have applied himself, for some time, to the study of medicine. We have an interesting evidence of the degree in which his mind was divided between this new pursuit and its original turn for mechanical observation and invention, in the history of his first great discovery, that of the isochronism (or equal-timedness, as it might be translated,) of the pendulum. The suspicion of this curious and most important fact was first suggested to Galileo while he was attending college, by the motions of a lamp swinging from the roof of the cathedral. It immediately occurred to him that here was an excellent means of ascertaining the rate of the pulse; and, accordingly, after he had verified the matter by experiment, this was the first, and for a long time the only, application which he made of his discovery. He contrived several little instruments for counting the pulse by the vibrations of a pendulum, which soon came into general use, under the name of *Pulsilogies*; and it was not till after many years that it was employed as a general measure of time. It was probably after this discovery that Galileo began the study of mathematics. From that instant he seemed to have found his true field. So fascinated was he with the beautiful truths of geometry, that his medical books henceforth remained unopened, or were only spread out over Euclid to hide it from his father, who was at first so much grieved by his son's absorption in his new study, that he positively prohibited him from any longer indulging in it. After some time, however, seeing that his injunctions were insufficient to overcome the strong bias of nature, he yielded the point, and Galileo was permitted to take his own way. Having mastered Euclid, he now proceeded to read the *Hydrostatics of Archimedes*; after studying which he produced his first mathematical work, an *Essay on the Hydrostatical Balance*. His reputation soon spread itself abroad; and he was introduced to one of the ablest mathematicians of that day, Guido Ubaldi, who, struck with his extraordinary knowledge and talents, recommended him to the good offices of his brother, the Cardinal del Monte; and by the latter he was made known to the then Grand Duke Ferdinand. The road to distinction was now open to him. In 1589 he was appointed to the office of Lecturer on Mathematics in the University of Pisa; and this situation he retained till 1592, when he was nominated by the Republic of Venice to be Professor of Mathematics for six years in their University of Padua. From the moment at which he received the first of these appointments, Galileo gave himself up entirely to science; and, although his salary at first was not large, and he was consequently, in order to eke out his income, obliged to devote a great part of his time to private teaching, in addition to that consumed by his public duties, his incessant activity enabled him to accomplish infinitely more than most other men would have been able to overtake in a life of uninterrupted leisure. The whole

range of natural philosophy, as then existing, engaged his attention; and besides reading, observation, and experiment, the composition of numerous dissertations on his favourite subjects occupied his laborious days and nights. In 1598 he was re-appointed to his professorship with an increased salary; and in 1606 he was nominated for the third time, with an additional augmentation. By this time he was so popular as a lecturer, and was attended with such throngs of auditors, that it is said he was frequently obliged to adjourn from the largest hall in the university, which held a thousand persons, to the open air. Among the services which he had already rendered to science may be mentioned his contrivance of an instrument for finding proportional lines, similar to Gunter's scale, and his re-discovery of the thermometer, which seems to have been known to some of the ancient philosophers, but had long been entirely forgotten. But the year 1609 was the most momentous in the career of Galileo as an enlarger of the bounds of natural philosophy. It was in this year that he made his grand discovery of the telescope—having been induced to turn his attention to the effect of a combination of magnifying glasses, by a report which was brought to him, while on a visit at Venice, of a wonderful instrument constructed on some such principle, which had just been sent to Italy from Holland. In point of fact, it appears that a rude species of telescope had been previously fabricated in that country; but Galileo, who had never seen this contrivance, was undoubtedly the true and sole inventor of the instrument in that form in which alone it could be applied to any scientific use. The interest excited by this discovery transcended all that has ever been inspired by any of the other wonders of science. After having exhibited his new instrument for a few days, Galileo presented it to the Senate of Venice, who immediately re-elected him to his professorship for life, and doubled his salary, making it now one thousand florins. He then constructed another telescope for himself, and with that proceeded to examine the heavens. He had not long directed it to this; the field which has ever since been its principal domain, before he was rewarded with a succession of brilliant discoveries. The four satellites, or attendant moons, of Jupiter, revealed themselves for the first time to the human eye. Other stars unseen met him in every quarter of the heavens to which he turned. Saturn showed his singular encompassing ring. The moon unveiled her seas and her mountains. The sun himself discovered spots of dark lying in the midst of his brightness. All these wonders were announced to the world by Galileo in the successive numbers of a publication which he entitled the "*Nuncius Sidericus, or Intelligence of the Heavens*," a newspaper undoubtedly unrivalled for extraordinary tidings by any other that has ever appeared. In 1610 he was induced to resign his professorship at Padua, on the invitation of the Grand Duke of Tuscany to accept of the appointment of his first mathematician and philosopher at Pisa. Soon after his removal thither Galileo appears to have for the first time ventured upon openly teaching the Copernican system of the world, of the truth of which he had been many years before convinced. This bold step drew down upon the great philosopher the attention of the Inqui-

sition, on the ground that in maintaining the doctrine of the earth's motion round the sun he was contradicting the language of Scripture. This absurd notion was founded upon a total misapprehension of what the object of the Scriptures is, that object being to teach men morality and religion, not mathematics or astronomy; but in this respect Galileo was not wiser than his adversaries, as he constantly mixed up the Scriptures with his expositions of science, in a manner well calculated to shock the theologians of the time. In 1616 Galileo, having gone to Rome on learning the hostility that was gathering against him, was graciously received by the Pope, but, without being required to retract, he was enjoined to abstain from teaching the doctrines of Copernicus. He promised, and kept his promise till 1632, when he published his celebrated Dialogue on the two Systems of the World, the Ptolemaic and the Copernican, in which he took but little pains to disguise his thorough conviction of the truth of the latter. The author was again summoned to appear before the ecclesiastical tribunal, and arrived at Rome on the 14th of February, 1633. On the 21st of June he was found guilty, and condemned to abjuration and imprisonment. The latter part of the sentence, however, was not enforced, and he was allowed to return to his country seat at Arcetri, near Florence, where he continued the active pursuit of his philosophical studies, and even sent to the press another important work, his *Dialogues on the Laws of Motion*. At length old age came upon him. His health had long been bad, and his fits of illness were now more frequent and painful. In 1639 he was struck with total blindness. A few years before the tie that bound him most strongly to life had been snapt by the death of his favourite daughter. He died at Florence on the 8th January, 1642, in the 78th year of his age.

SIMILIES.

ONE of the best performances of Junius, closes with a simile which several have not scrupled to pronounce the finest in any language. "Private credit is wealth; public honor is security. The feather that adorns the royal bird support his flight; strip him of his plumage, and you fix him to the earth." It is difficult to mention another where the image is at the same time so exquisitely beautiful and proper, and so happily illustrated and confirmatory of the argument.

The simile used by Mr. Burke to describe the rise of Mr. Charles Townshend. "Even then, even before this splendid orb was entirely set, and while the western horizon was in a blaze with his descending glory, on the opposite quarter of the heavens arose another luminary; and for his hour became lord of the ascendant;"—has uncommon merit, but it yields to that of Junius.

One of the finest similes which we received from antiquity is that in which Homer compares Ulysses trying his bow, to a minstrel fitting the strings of his harp:—

Then, as some heavenly minstrel, taught to sing,
High notes responsive to the trembling string,
To some new strain, when he adapts his lyre,
Or the dumb lute refits with vocal wire,
Relaxes, strains, and draws them too and fro;
So great the master drew the mighty bow,
And drew with ease.

Another simile descended to us from antiquity, and particularly celebrated, is that in

which Androgeos, falling unware in the way of the Trojan hero, is compared to a peasant who has set his foot upon a snake:—

As when some peasant, in a bushy brake
Has with unwary footing, pressed a snake;
He starts aside astonished! when he spies
His rising crest, blue neck, and rolling eyes;
So from our arms surprised, Androgeos flies

The following is the Draft of the Bill before the Legislative Council to amend the "Lunatic Act," as drawn by Punch (Colonial).

WHEREAS an act was passed by the Governor and Legislative Council of New South Wales, intituled "An Act to make Provision for the Safe Custody and Prevention of Offences by Persons dangerously Insane, and for the Care and Maintenance of Persons of Unsound Mind;" and whereas the provisions of the same, except as hereinafter excepted, have been found to be beneficial to the colonists generally, but doubts have arisen as to the legality of the same, in consequence of the insanity or alleged insanity of the Members of the said Legislative Council, or a majority of them; at the time of the passing of the said act, whereby their seats (heads?) became vacant, in accordance with the 16th clause of the Act of the Imperial Parliament, 5th and 6th Vict. ch. 76: and whereas it is expedient to remove such doubts:—Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof (being of sound mind), that the several enactments and provisions in the said act contained, except as hereinafter excepted, shall be valid in law, notwithstanding the insanity or alleged insanity of the Members of the said Council, or a majority of them, at the time of the passing of the said act.

II. But in as much as it is inexpedient that persons who are now, or are liable at any time hereafter to become insane, should have or take any part in the management or control of any Asylum, or Public Hospital, set apart for the custody of lunatics: Be it therefore enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that so much of the said recited act as relates to the annual appointment, by the said Legislative Council, of visitors to any such Asylum or Public Hospital as aforesaid, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed.

III. And whereas in the said recited act it is provided that persons who are proved to be dangerously insane shall be committed to some gaol or house of correction; and whereas it is proper and just that the Members of the Legislature should have accorded to them some peculiar privilege in this regard: Be it therefore enacted that it shall not be lawful for any one or more justice or justices of the peace to commit any Member of the Legislative Council as a dangerous lunatic, but in lieu thereof every such Member shall have the privilege of committing himself.

Punch's Draft of the "General Cemetery Bill."

WHEREAS it is expedient that every body should be buried, but it is impossible that every one can be buried unless he has some place to be buried in: Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, that for the health and convenience of the citizens of Sydney, there shall

be a General Cemetery, at Grose Farm, comprising ten acres of ground.

II. And be it enacted that every citizen of the said city shall, on application, be allowed to be buried in the said General Cemetery, on payment of a fee at the rate of one shilling for every even foot of stature of the party so applying (*children in arms, half-price*).

III. And whereas some persons have a strong objection to be buried with persons of a different way of thinking: Be it enacted that the said General Cemetery shall be parcelled out into as many distinct portions as there are persons of different ways of thinking—each such portion to be surrounded by a good and substantial stone fence.

IV. And whereas in like manner most persons have a well-grounded objection to be buried *before* other persons: Be it therefore enacted, that every person resorting to or using the said General Cemetery shall, on expressing a wish to that effect, be buried immediately after every body who has gone before him.

V. And whereas it is notorious that many wealthy persons hasten to their graves by means of hearses and various other ingenious contrivances, whilst poor people are reluctantly obliged to walk, and whereas it is desirable to remove so unseemly an inequality: Be it enacted that every one who goes to be buried in a hearse, or other vehicle, shall pay a fine of five pounds—one half to go to the sexton and the other half to the next person who comes to be buried on foot.

VI. And whereas, the Old Burial Ground in George-street, has long been disused, and it is desirable that the land should be applied to various purposes of life; but doubts have arisen whether the persons interested therein from time to time, can be legally removed without their consent. Now therefore, in as much as it has been held in all civilized countries from time immemorial, that *silence gives consent*; and not a syllable has been uttered by the parties interested against the contemplated removal, although several "*post mortem*" examinations have been held. Be it therefore enacted, that the persons aforesaid, shall be held to have consented to such removal; and that any such person who shall be found interred in the said Burial Ground on or after the 1st day of September next, will be liable to be removed by force.

VII. And be it enacted that all fines leviable under this Act, shall be recoverable in the best way they can.

New Words.—It being legitimate to coin new words for the expression of new ideas, the *New York Mirror* has been at work of late, with more or less of success, in the construction of compound epithets that may keep up with the spirit of the age. Fashionable society according to Willis, is "*Japonicadom*," to borrow a form of construction peculiar to Carlyle and his followers, who "*dom*" everything. Why not say "*kid-glovedom*?"—And it also appears to us that this winter season might be called coughdom or sneezedom—shiverdom and shakedom; thus generalizing the peculiarities of the time.

Party Predilections.—A young American lady being asked, by a boring politician, which party she was most in favour of, replied that she preferred a wedding-party.

Flowers, and their Value to Man.—

"The cultivation of them," says Lady Vavasour, "improves his health, and raises his mind, if he thinks about them. Among the working classes, much might be done in the improvement of their morals, habits, and manners, by encouraging them to pass their few leisure hours in the cultivation of flowers. The difference between two families, one loving flowers, the other loving gin, at the end of twelve months, would be very striking. It may be said, all cannot have gardens. True: but all may have a few flowers in their windows, and many more than they imagine; for a little wooden balcony could easily be made outside of every window; and the very circumstance of tending these flowers would induce them occasionally to open the windows, and give air, that best tonic to the poor, exhausted, typhus-fevered inhabitant. If all my readers could witness the state of the rooms inhabited by the poor, within a stone's throw of the splendid shop windows of magnificent Regent-street, they would shrink from it with horror. They would be tempted to break through the walls, to give the fainting creatures light and air: or transport them to the heath covered mountain, and let them rather lie under the natural rock than within the walls of the unnatural pestilential prison they were found in. To the ladies of the creation, flowers are a boon beyond all prize; and if the gentlemen knew it, to them, through their wives. The lady who is fond of her garden, and delights in the cultivation of it, will not seek expensive pleasures abroad. Home is everything to her; and if her husband is wise enough to encourage her taste, he is a happy man. Women feel deeply little attentions; and in all probability, there are few who would be bad wives, if they had kind, affectionate, well-judging husbands.

Spirit of Love.—Beyond all question, it is the unalterable constitution of nature, that there is efficacy in love. The exhibiting of kindness has the power to bring even the irrational animals into subjection. Show kindness to a dog, and he will remember it—ha infallibly returns love for love. Show kindness to a lion, and you can lead him by the mane—you can thrust your hand into his mouth—you can melt the untamed ferocity of his heart into an affection stronger than death. In all God's vast creation, there is not living sentient being, from the least to the largest, that it is insensible to kindness. What an inducement to practice it!

Rich, Yet Poor.—Prince Esterhazy, whose coat, studded with diamonds, has long been the talk of European courts, possesses princely estates in Hungary. His vast wealth may be judged from a well-known anecdote. While minister to England, he was visiting in the Highlands, when his noble host pointed to a hill side on his estates, where 2,500 sheep were feeding. "*I have more shepherds than you have sheep*," was the reply of Esterhazy. This is almost strictly true, or so near the truth as to justify the repartee. And yet, immense as his revenues are, he is deeply in debt. One of the Rothschilds, we have heard, has assumed his debts on condition of being allowed the income of his estates for thirty years, at the end of which time they revert to the Prince—who can select any one of his castles for a residence during that period.