

our conviction, that in the course of it, as is usual in such cases, some injustice has been done to both sides: to the Members by the almost altogether undeserved and uncalled for censure,—to the Governor, by concentrating upon him, because the mere immediate agent of offence, the bile which, in a large measure, was due in the direction of Downing-street. Let us be considerate. Let us be merciful. Whatever were the delights of governorships in the olden time, we are certain that the office has been no sinecure, since Sir George's opening address to the present Council. The manufacturing of Gubernatorial messages alone, and the peripatetic labours of Mr. Parker, in carrying them to the house, are distressing to think of. No wonder that, irrespective of uniformity of general politics, the Tory Colonial Secretary has kept our present Governor in office. He is one of the very few specimens of humanity among the moderns, who could fill the post. Let any one study Lord Stanley's notions of colonial policy, and he will find that his lordship's governors must possess the same striking union of moral and physical qualities, demanded in an advertisement for a porter, which we have somewhere met with; "Wanted a pious young man of evangelical principles, who can carry five hundred weight." So, Lord Stanley may proclaim, "Wanted a clever fellow, of a decidedly British Constitutional turn of mind, who can buffet for five years, with dolorous and discontented colonists, giving good reasons to the last for refusing them every thing which the minister decides must be withheld." Such a man has Lord Stanley at the present time in Canada, in the person of Sir Charles Metcalfe. Such governors he will endeavour to procure, wherever circumstances may require them. Such a governor, will ever be necessary in a colony, where the Mother-country has granted a Representative Council, but reserved to herself the right of ruling in that colony's domestic affairs. How heavy, wearisome, and almost insupportable must be the duties of such an officer, he only can know who is called upon to discharge them. A government, on the "sic volo, sic jubeo" principle,—an undiluted despotism,—will go on smoothly enough, we have heard it said, until the governed rise, and knock the tyrant on the head. Governments like these are carried on with few reasons or explanations, from one side to the other; for little discussion is required in a controversy which may be cut short by the bow string. The people that are subject to them, are an inert mass, wanting, as it were, a political soul. But give them self-government, even such as we have, with the knowledge to guide it, and how miraculous the change. They have a new existence; a being, which enables them to contend with the power which has conferred it. The "many-headed monster" as the people have somewhere been called, has become endowed with a kind of collective mind, a unity of will, which is irresistible: like that other fabled monster in Frankenstein, which received a life from its maker, that the latter could neither recal, nor control.

Let us put aside vain quarrels then, which can avail nothing, and let us live on in charity with each other, if we can. Let it be admitted that the people's representatives, have spoken, and voted, according to the wishes of their constituents. What reason is there for doubting it? Let it be conceded, that the governor has all along pursued, what he felt to be the conscientious discharge of his duties; and if the Squatters together with ourselves, should consider him wrong-headed on certain great questions of colonial interest, let them pause, before they speak of a mistaken man, as if he were an unfeeling, or a dishonest one. We have on our parts, a warm hope that the time shall soon come, when governors shall be no longer abused,—when masters of chancery, and prothonotaries shall be able to traverse our streets, without startling us by coming round corners with countenances so unpleasantly, like those of dogs with kettles to their tails;—when officials may be able to take their constitutional drives in the Domain, without being oppressed with an unpleasant sense, that they are being legislated about in the next street:—when the great cause of all these phenomena shall have passed away;—when, in short, our Colonial Legislature shall possess the power of providing for the country's wants, by *unrestricted domestic legislation*.

But have we not already a Representative Council, the reader may ask—what more do we want, or can we in reason require? A Representative Government in the letter, doubtless, we possess: and partly in substance too; but in so guarded and limited a form, that every exercise of it, is not only subject to the parent government, but to the veto of the governor for the time being; the authorised interpreter between the wishes of the colonists, and the will of the ministers—the Imperial private watchman,—the keeper of so much of a Secretary of State's conscience, as we may consider dedicated to this portion of Her Majesty's dominions. Important, however, as is the boon, as breathing into the colony for the first time, the breath of a political life, it falls so far short of what the Colony requires, that, for that very reason, it will be the "fons et origo" of multifarious differences between the Colony and the Mother-country, besides affording a plentiful crop of troubles and anxieties, to governors, and secretaries, to come.

By the extract which appears in our prospectus, from one of the lectures of the present Oxford Professor of Political Economy, it will be seen that that well informed writer, has clearly anticipated the results likely to accrue, from the anomalous co-existence of partially representative government in a colony, blended with, and controlled by, superior legislative authority in the parent state. "It seems difficult," he writes, "except by the continued application of force, and with repeated disturbance in the motion of the machine of state, to give to a people a Representative Assembly, with the usual powers of such a body, and at the same time to establish among them, domestic institutions to which they are not attached; dispose of their lands to such purposes as England, and not the Colony may deem expedient; introduce English jurisprudence into their tribunals, govern them by officers selected as friends to the parent state, and not as popular among themselves, exempting them from all responsibility to the Colonial Legislature."

To this, as the moderate enunciation of a very plain, and simple truth in political philosophy, we conceive, all British Colonies that possess any thing like a representative and legislative body, will subscribe. Canada and Jamaica, have found it by experience. New South Wales begins to feel it.

Instead of putting it as a "seeming difficulty," Mr. Merivale might have safely said, that, "without the continued application of force, and repeated disturbance to the machinery of state" it is impossible, to give to a people a Representative Government, and at the same time establish domestic institutions among them, to which they are not attached, &c." And wherefore is this so? Wherefore, but that all society of men, controlled by laws and religion, are soon, even from their infancy, surrounded by a great number of local interests and considerations, of which they are not only the best judges, but with which, they alone, for purposes of municipal government, are thoroughly competent to deal. Living on the spot, and daily and hourly observing and affected by them, they have not only the amplest means for, but the deepest interest, in legislating about them. In our own Colony, these circumstances of general interest to us as a people, take the shapes of "land questions,"—"squating regulations,"—"the administration of justice,"—"the appointment and removal of civil officers, &c." These are all subjects of the deepest domestic interest to us: subjects on which many thousands of sensible Colonists feel a grave concern; and on which it may be safely inferred, that the present Council represent the opinions and wishes, of the colonial community.

It is scarcely in the nature of human dealings, but they should occasionally carry their discussions towards the Imperial preserve, and if they should even at times overstep that invisible, mysterious, unmarked, but still somewhere existing boundary, that Lords Russell and Stanley talk of in the Parliamentary Report of the 30th May, 1844, the latter can scarcely in reason complain; when they have declined to define, either the powers and functions of a Colonial Governor on the one hand, or the extent of the authority of a Colonial Representative Chamber on the other. They would lay down no general rule, but act on particular occasions as they arose. Both were agreed, that to permit a Colony, the exercise of an unrestricted legislative control, is incompatible with its depending on the parent state. They seemed to consider on that occasion, that the proper tender relation between Empire and Colony, could only be efficiently preserved, by Empire having the right of doing as she liked with Colony's domestic affairs. The right of appointing all Colonial officers, was insisted on in terms "We could not otherwise go on properly, as parent and child," say their Lordships. We hope our readers will be more successful than we have been in discovering the logic of this. If it be sound in politics, it appears to us, that no old gentleman who is properly anxious to excite and preserve the affections of those of his grown up children, who have colonised from his house to establishments of their own, should fail to insist on his paternal right to rush into their houses and discharge their servants for them, as well as to examine into the state of their cupboards and coal-cellars. We live and learn it is true; but we confess we should never by our own unaided lights have discovered that this was a good prescription for domestic harmony; or, that it was the perfection of political philosophy to grant the representation principle to a people, but control its exercise in their most momentous affairs; or that political wisdom consisted, in allowing the Council to cut off straggling and undefended clerks, and withholding the same legislature from approaching irreverently the Government reserve—the £80,000 schedules. We are pretty plainly told that all large matters of this sort are best understood at St. Stephen's, Westminster; and that rash and precipitate legislation by an ardent young Colony, is best avoided, by a year or two of delay, and by taking care that the Squatters shall be at one side of the globe, and their-law makers on the other.

The grand object to be obtained, then, is legislative power commensurate with our knowledge and our wants. We can only ensure it, by steadily, and temperately showing, that we understand, and shall not abuse it. It is galling no doubt, to be treated as an infant, after the period of infancy has passed away; but it is not a pleasant moral display, to see a child kicking itself out of its mother's arms, merely because it is conscious of legs, and convinced that it can run alone. Let us show that we have that high qualification for civil liberty, which consists in putting moral chains on our own passions. Let our representatives have patience, whilst they steadily, and respectfully press in the direction of the great object; the granting of which by the mother country, will be the surest means of strengthening and continuing those amicable relations which both parent and child must be anxious to maintain.

The great question of "Responsible Government for the Colonies" must be taken up by Parliament while there is yet time dispassionately to consider it in all its bearings. It is evident to every man of common sense that the present absurd system of governing her dependencies ought not to be continued by the mother-country. And such being the case, a wise statesman will embrace the earliest opportunity, consistently with the consideration due to so important a subject, of bringing forward the necessary modifications. "How those modifications should be best conceded under the particular circumstances of this Colony?" forms a wholly distinct question, to which we shall next address ourselves.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

"Sir Thomas More.—Religious education, you say, is neglected. Where does the sin of omission rest—with the people, or with the clergy? Is it a defect in the institutions, or a fault in the customs of the country?"

"Montesinos.—All have their share in it, ill customs, defective institutions—the clergy, who neglect their duty in this particular; and the parents, who leave undone what it is in their power to do."—SOUTHBY'S *Colloquies on the Progress and Prospects of Society*.

ASSUMING that the eventual happiness of the whole community is the fundamental rule and political basis upon which this journal sets forth its claims to universal support, it is not enough to say that we are well inclined to the scheme, at length sanctioned by the Legislative Council, whereby, under the blessing of Providence, a large amount of moral and mental culture may be comprehensively administered to the great body of the People, from whom, in the free and widely spread exercise of their elective birthright the power of Government can alone legitimately proceed. We are animated, as respects this vitally important subject by no lukewarm feeling of mere acquiescence. We are anxious to place it foremost amongst the matters that will require our attention.

We confess the presence of an impulse which carries us beyond the expression of a cold and circumspect approval. It is in a deeply rooted confidence in the truth and value of the comprehensive principle lately affirmed by the House in its Educational Resolutions that we call upon all forward-thinking men who know that the true palladium of Australian liberty will consist in the moral, social, and political enlightenment of her future children, to fight this battle until the victory is gained and used, nor to cease until the opposition of prejudice, whether it be conscientious or interested, be overpowered, and until this scheme of general and combined instruction is actually placed in operation amongst us.

The friends of the national system, as it may with strict propriety be called, should nevertheless at this particular stage of its progress, dispassionately bear in mind the existing state of the case, lest they fall into the generous error of being zealous without discretion. They should remember that the question is at present but in embryo. It is true that a great point has been gained. Affirmative Resolutions have been passed which embody and enunciate sound principle and one of comprehensive applicability. But before these Resolutions can be of any practical utility their substance must be recast and presented in the shape of a Bill. And admitting, as under existing circumstances we may fairly admit, that such a Bill will be carried through the House in spite of the pledged opposition to it "in every stage" of Mr. Cowper and those who think with him, it must be recollected that it will require for practical completion the sanction of the Governor on the part of the Crown. And the question will then probably arise, not whether His Excellency will put a veto on the measure, but whether a delay of twelve or fifteen months may not be anticipated from the fact of Sir George Gipps reserving it for the Queen's consideration. The friends of the system are well satisfied that such a Bill will not be rejected by the Governor.—1. Because the system has been already formally approved of by Sir Robert Peel and Lord Stanley.—2. Because it is in conformity with Sir George Gipps's well known and publicly expressed opinion.* But a delay will perhaps arise from the circumstance that an enactment of this comprehensive nature, professing to be binding as a matter of law in every locality throughout the Colony, will clash with the powers already granted under the Imperial Act to the District Councils of the territory, and one of which powers is to give to the Councils within the limits of their respective Districts control and authority in this very question of Education. If we are to take the Imperial Statute to be a fixed and permanent law, it is manifest that every District Council in the colony can set up a system of its own, can raise funds at any future time it may think fit, and bring such system or systems into collision with that ordained by the Act of the local Legislature. The beneficial feature of unity and conformity of working throughout the interior would thus be endangered, so long as the Districts Council Educational clause in the Imperial Act remained unrepealed. But even if we take it for granted that the Governor is prepared at once to sanction the Bill or Resolutions when submitted to him, we must still contend that the time for offering any personal co-operation has not yet arrived. Such a movement of the friends of General Education as that proposed a few weeks ago at a public meeting in Sydney would be quite premature. It might have been remembered that, even if the system was the law of the land, which it is not, the Board of Commissioners, upon which Board all the practical application of the plan must in the nature of the case depend, is not yet called into existence. Far less are we possessed of those necessary statistical details which can only be arrived at by diligent and deliberate local enquiry. One great advantage appertaining to a national system of instruction under the auspices and supervision of the Legislature will be that in future we shall be certified, by means of the Annual Report of the Commissioners, of the minute condition and comparative progress of Education from year to year within the Colony, a species of information in which, by reason of the pernicious exclusiveness upon which the instruction of the humbler classes hitherto been conducted, we are all but entirely deficient. But although we are averse to any ill-timed effort at the attainment of those ends which are not yet legally within our reach, such as the building of schools within the limits of the county of Cumberland, and establishing corresponding Committees at Parramatta, Windsor, Campbell Town, &c., although we ask our readers to wait till the Bill becomes an Act—till the Board is appointed and incorporated, till that Board promulgates its rules—till exact local statistics are accumulated—and till the amount of funds forthcoming through the Board from the Ordinary Revenue is ascertained, we would by no means curb, but, on the contrary, would cheer to full exertion their advocacy of this noble cause in the wide field of abstract discussion. Much indeed remains to be done in the exercise of a rational influence upon public opinion. Sufficiently arduous, is it, and adequate to task all our energies, to remove the stumbling blocks of ignorance and misrepresentation. With all the exertion, all the moral and intellectual power which the friends of truth can command, it will we fear, be found that when the time for action shall really have arrived, no spontaneous movement on a large scale may be expected. Experience has abundantly shown that it is quite Utopian to look for energy amongst what are called "the respectable residents" in the country. In addition to a large amount of positive ignorance among the upper classes, of the scope, the bearings and the nature of this great question of Education, there exists a selfishness and an insensibility sufficient to prevent the recognition even of a present, much less of a prospective political and social good. And if this is the case how large is the field of exertion in which the advocates of a comprehensive plan of enlightening the people may be invited to labour. The time truly can not be long deferred when more direct and practical steps must be adopted. When the machinery is ready to act, and when we know precisely the means and instruments we have at command then will in reality be commenced once and for ever the glorious task of instructing the masses of children now growing up in a state of heathenism and of ignorance. With the arrival of an adequate number of schoolmasters attested, as respects charac-

* Since the above was written, a reply to the address of the Council, on the subject of the Educational Resolutions, has been presented by His Excellency, and will be found in our report of the legislative proceedings.

ter and competency, by the Board of Commission in Ireland, and with the foundation of a Normal School for masters in Sydney, a new era will dawn upon the friends of Knowledge and of Liberty. Until then we must be content with the "day of small things," and restrict our zeal within the bounds of verbal and literary exertion.

A review of the present position of this important subject, and an allusion to the merits of the controversy as recently elicited in the debates of the Council, and at public meetings, would be incomplete if we failed to draw from them three obvious deductions.

1. It is too clear to admit of denial, that the argument has been all on one side. Abundance of rhetoric was employed by all the speakers, but whatever logic came into use went but to one conclusion. The amount of pure *rationale*, or reasoning power, shown by the denominational speakers was surprisingly feeble. What did it amount to? Why, that the Protestant clergy of all denominations, who are dissentients from any general system, see a fatal blemish in plans which do not give the scholars, every day, the Bible, the whole Bible, and little or nothing but the Bible; while the Roman Catholic clergy are in truth jealous of any interference whatever on the part of persons not of their own religious creed, in a question so vitally affecting the permanency of their church. Respecting either of these objections, we hold it quite unnecessary to enter into any particular discussion at this time. The thrice-refuted charge against the combined system of its irreligious, nay, of its infidel tendencies, must ere long vanish in the very progress of events; and the opposition of the Romish clergy is fortunately as harmless to prevent the diffusion of knowledge as it was naturally to be looked for.

2. It is undeniable that the Bishop and the resident curates of the Church of England have brought this "calamity," as they term it, upon their own heads. Every thoughtful man who can approach the examination of this subject with impartiality, must allow that, as in England, so here, the education imparted to the children of the humbler classes has been most lamentably deficient, both as respects the quality of the instruction itself, and the numerical amount of persons to whom it has been afforded. For many years past, and indeed it may be said up to the present time, the children of the lower classes have, in the educational sense of the term, sat at meat, and it hath been the awful and the responsible privilege of the Church of England clergy, for the most part, to serve them. And if, after years of patient endurance, careless is found the ministry, and meagre the nutriment, shall not the appointed guardians of those children rise up, and look abroad for better purveyors? Most assuredly. Reading and writing and common arithmetic are well. The knowledge of religious duty, albeit that knowledge be dry, formal, and mechanical, is better. But we desire to see something more than a creed gabbled through, parrot-like; a catechism got by rote, and the same passages of Scripture repeated day by day, in the genuine hopeless tone of maudering indifference. We want to rouse the will, to awaken the reason, to touch the affections; we want the soul, the mind, and the heart.

3. An organized opposition to the general system, now, at length, in a fair train of permanent settlement, will, without doubt, be set on foot. And this will probably show itself most prominently in the avoidance, on the part of the clergy, of the public schools, and the maintenance of as many denominational schools as possible. This is not objectionable, provided these establishments are maintained by voluntary support. But if, by any misrepresentation, wilful or unintentional, it shall be sought to stretch the concession embodied in Mr. Wentworth's amendment beyond its fair and legitimate limit:—if any vamped up cases are to be presented to the Board of Commissioners, either as regards school-houses vested in trustees, or as respects the average daily attendance, during twelve months *then last past*, of fifty children and upwards—it will be the duty of any and every friend of the national system to ascertain the truth, and to forward the exact particulars to the proper quarter. Furthermore, it is not unreasonable to anticipate that the clergy will lose no opportunity of the many opportunities which they must possess, of damaging the cause for which we labour in the eyes of the humbler classes; that they will denounce the system as pernicious, and seek to cover its advocates with obloquy. They will, perhaps, go so far as to withhold their support and co-operation, as respects religious instruction, on the days when the children will be delivered over to their direct controul and guidance. And if we are asked how these powerful tactics are to be effectually resisted—how this serious opposition is to be rendered nugatory, we must reply, that a patient continuance in well-doing cannot but eventually produce the fruits of success. Not vainly will a matured system, under approved teachers, appeal to that sound good sense which especially belongs to the humbler orders. Time, the Great Healer, will, not distantly, point to the evidence of successful experiment. Then will the weakness of mere vituperation be unmasked, and the venom of detraction be neutralized. "There is not," says a great writer, "for the happiness of man, and, in my opinion, for his progress towards moral perfection, a more important practical principle to recognize, than that for the large exercise of the spirit of philanthropy, we must look beyond to-day and to-morrow." No one, indeed, who has been versed at all in the practical details of human life, who has been called upon to bear his part in conferring moral benefits on his fellow men, can have failed to notice with pain the slow and laborious struggle of good against evil; the uncertain and unsteady gain; the fearful overbalance of loss; the sunshine glancing but for a moment on the shady place; the days, the months, and the years during which the reign of prejudice is prolonged. It is true philosophy alone which, having scrutinized the groundwork of opinions, and being satisfied of the soundness of premises, is contented to "look at the after-time," to watch and to wait patiently. Let the friends, then, of popular education persevere in a course of calm and steady vigilance; let them strive to influence public opinion now, and be prepared to act at the fitting season. The opposition of bigotry and ignorance may be strong, but great is the truth, and it will prevail. So shall they in due time achieve a victory already so successfully commenced, and, to use the words of the reverend member for Port Phillip, acquire for themselves "a species of immortality."

THE REPORT ON CROWN LAND GRIEVANCES, AND ITS REVIEWERS.

It has been said of Plato that he was neither methodic nor systematic; that he had neither that sort of order which respected the connexion of what he taught as a thing to be understood, nor that which respected its connexion as a thing which was to be realized—neither that which concerned the *ratio cognoscendi*, (to adopt a great distinction revived by Leibnitz from the schoolmen), nor that, on the other hand, which regarded the *ratio essendi*. This last neglect he could not have designed; the other, perhaps, he did; and the loose order of colloquial discussion, sometimes going back, sometimes springing forward with impatient anticipation, and then again thoughtfully resuming a topic insufficiently examined, is the singular law of succession by which, in the ten books of his Republic, Plato slowly advances the general theme, and casually unfolds its particular heads.

We have chosen a tolerably good authority to excuse our somewhat immethodical introduction of a document, which, in future numbers, we propose to examine with that care which is demanded by "the vast importance of the various subjects falling necessarily within the range of its inquiry." We may also advert to the irregular, albeit very able, manner in which the several points referred to by the Report itself, have been discussed by the public press of the Colony; and may find therein further apology for our present cursory allusion to a subject which not only has not been exhausted, but into the body and soul of which not one writer yet has pretended to enter. The Sydney reviewers have chiefly confined their remarks to three of the questions considered in the Report, namely, "The Minimum Price of Land," "The Depasturing Regulations of the 2nd April, 1844," and "Sir Richard Bourke's Compact of the 10th May, 1835." But these questions are but the masks of other great questions, the unpromising shells of which must not be thrown aside as unprofitable husks. The chrysalis must be spared for the sake of the living butterfly that will spring from its folds, and the transformation which even the minor points of the Report may effect, will form a vital crisis in the history of New South Wales.

Our Port Phillip friends, in reviewing the Report, have taken a comprehensive survey of certain features, which have seemingly escaped the notice of our Sydney contemporaries. Among several able notices, we have been particularly struck by an article in a recent number of the *Portland Guardian*, wherein those sections of the Report which refer to the "amplification of the already overgrown powers of the Commissioners of Crown Lands," are brought under review in a masterly manner. As we are now only assisting in completing the construction of premises which tend to the settlement of the preliminaries of one great question, we will afford room for the whole of the article, and so let our intelligent cotemporary speak for himself. It will be seen that he ventures on a bold strain:—

"A NEW TRAIT IN SIR GEORGE'S CHARACTER.

"The character of the Government under which the destinies of the Colony are placed, is becoming more fully developed as the Legislative Council proceedings take place. By the lately terminated investigations of the Land Grievances Committee, Sir George Gipps figures as the author of a new system of espionage, and the creator of a new body of informers. It will hardly be believed, yet it is the fact, that the Governor of New South Wales is attempting to model the whole corps of surveyors into a band of informers against the settlers. That the police has long been serving such a purpose is not now a matter of revelation; and that, while the various police corps of the Colony have had, as the object of their existence, the protection of life and property, they have been serving much more industriously the private ends and secret purposes of the Executive. Yet it was not dreamt of that, beyond that department of the state, the Governor had ever attempted to make use of any other, for such a mean and despicable purpose; nor is it probable that in so correct and authenticated a form would the discovery have now been made, but for the diligent and praiseworthy exertions of the Council, and especially of the committee which we have before named. So far as the means are adapted to the end, Sir George deserves the highest credit. For the devising of any plan of oppression and tyranny, we are not easily to be convinced that the Engineer will be found wanting. It is certain he was not in the present instance, for he either purposely reduced the salaries of the surveyors, and thereby hoped to make them subservient to his purposes, or in being under a necessity of abridging their incomes, he saw instinctively that they would be likely to fall into his views from the suitable inducements he should be able to hold out to them, under their peculiar circumstances. Reduced to one-third of their salaries, they are armed by the Executive with the powers of crown land commissioners, and sent into the various districts to make up the deficiencies of their means by preying upon the unfortunate settler. Sir George reduces these officers to the most needy circumstances, and after making them necessitous, puts them in possession of powers by which they can readily become relieved of their difficulties. In fact, he places them in desperate circumstances, and leaves them no other alternative by which to obtain relief than in hunting the settler, until the revenue be so much increased by their means, as 'soon to pay the Government the whole expense of their employment,' in addition to the informers' fees, as their perquisites.

"But lest the necessities of the licensed surveyors should not be sufficiently urgent as to goad them on to become informers, without their hopes being excited, his Excellency has been pleased to hold out strong inducements to those gentlemen, that if they will exert themselves, 'and only force proprietors of stock to take out licenses, or, in other words, to pay rent for the land they occupy,' they will shortly be able to make up the deficiency of the two-thirds of their former salary, and greatly augment the revenue into the bargain. The scale of informers' fees is not definitively fixed. For the removal of a sly grog seller, or the ferreting out of a harbourer of runaways, no sum is named, as his Excellency is not greatly concerned about the removal of either class of such gentry, their presence being often useful to force a neighbouring proprietor to take out a license when he does not need it, in order to keep them at a greater distance; but not less than twenty-five per cent. will be allowed where the surveyors are successful in 'only forcing' a proprietor of stock to take out a license, or to rent crown lands contiguous to his estate.

"It is easy to comprehend the professed object which the Governor has in view, in making the inquisitorial and harassing regulations that he has given the licensed surveyors to carry out. Without doubt the failing revenue of the Crown from the source of leases of crown lands within the borders, is the great moving

cause of these shameful attempts to extort money from the settler and the grazier. The plea for this measure, no doubt, will be, that the revenue is defrauded; that the cattle of settlers run on land belonging to the Crown, and proprietors failing to pay the license fee for the use of such land, it becomes necessary that means be used to 'force' them to take out leases. And were this all, some excuse *might* be made for the wretched system which the Governor has set on foot; yet, when it is taken into account the circumstances under which grazing land has usually been bought, the increase of rent for the temporary occupation of waste lands, contemporaneously with the depressed state of the grazing interests, Sir George Gipps's name will be handed down to colonial posterity with a brand of notoriety that no time or after circumstances will ever efface."

This, then, is the language in which the Crown Land Grievances are discussed by practical men from one end of the Colony to the other; and it well becomes all those who are interested in the Colony's welfare to cast a retrospective glance on the past, and a prospective eye on the future. Coming events do now, indeed, cast their shadows most distinctly before; and it requires not the gift of prophecy to foretell that the days of Sir George's rule are numbered. Yes, "the evening red has preceded the morning grey," and the most cheering prospects for the interests of the holders of property, and with them the stability and independence of New South Wales, are to be found in the very measures which have preceded, and now attend, the dissolving efforts of an unwise administration!

Having already excused our immethodical introduction of this important subject, we shall avail ourselves of as much latitude as the occasion will allow, and, giving free scope to the illogical spirit which moves on the wing, solicit respectful consideration for a somewhat irregular ditty, which goes, we believe, excellently well to the tune, "Mrs. Arne, Mrs. Arne, it gives us consarn."—

"Good bye, Sir George Gipps—his departure's at hand"—
Is the cry o'er the length and the breadth of the land;
From the Pic of Tangle and plains of the west
To the lands that by ocean's blue waters are blest,
All the folks are rejoicing—hope smiles on their lips,
And they sing in full chorus—"Good-bye, Sir George Gipps!"

He has crouched to the Crown as to something divine,
Till his fulsome compliance has sullied its shine;
He has sought to perpetuate Wakefield's mad scheme,
Till an empty exchequer has ended the dream;
He has crippled our commerce, retarded our clips,
But his days are now numbered—"Good-bye, Sir George Gipps!"

What economy preached he to Hunter's nobles?
N'er were promises greater, performances less.
What a budget he broached when declaring with pain,
That the roads all round Melbourne were strewn with champagne!
But what savings the country has made by his trips,
Is a mystery as yet, so—"Good-bye, Sir George Gipps!"

How the squatters may stand when they square their accounts—
Of their losses and gain the respective amounts—
Sir George has no care, (take his words by the letter),
He but wants the sheep fatten'd to fleece them the better.
So the squatters, set down as intractable rips,
Are proclaiming by bonfires—"Good-bye, Sir George Gipps!"

Oh, our Governor's one who, without any gammon,
Makes scarcely a secret of worshipping Mammon.
But his lease being out, he no longer may bide,
And a tanner from Downing Street comes for his hide.
Le Pastoral dance we whenever he ships,
And all sing in full chorus—"Good-bye Sir George Gipps."



SYDNEY: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1844.

THE Legislative Council resumed its sittings on Wednesday last. With the exception of the Governor's Message on the subject of the Educational Resolutions, there has been but little in the two days' proceedings of the House to demand any particular comment; and the important question referred to by his Excellency has been discussed at some length in another column.

We had prepared an article on the question of "Financial Separation," which our Port Phillip friends have so powerfully urged in the petition presented to the Council on the 17th of September last, by the Corporation of Melbourne; but are compelled, by reason of the crowded state of our columns to-day, to defer its publication until our next number. We the less regret this, because we have received at a late moment a mass of statistical details, of which a careful analysis is necessary before the scheme of finance they so clearly expose is laid before the public. Our Southern neighbours have a long list of grievances, for which they are loudly claiming redress; and they may rely on our cordial co-operation and zealous advocacy of their interests.

We will for the present content ourselves with observing that the total estimated excess of the Revenue of Port Phillip for the year ending December 31, 1845, is £20,253 4s 3d., and we can scarcely think the district is to be blamed for setting forth the following reason, among several others, for desiring that the Port Phillip Revenues be appropriated strictly to Port Phillip purposes.

"That Port Phillip urgently requires the expenditure of a much larger sum than is proposed to be abstracted from its Revenues, in the formation of streets and roads, the construction of bridges, and other public works of general utility, the want of which is attended with serious inconvenience, and daily peril to the lives and property of the inhabitants; for although it appears from the estimates of proposed expenditure for the ensuing year, that the sum of about forty-two thousand pounds is to be appropriated to the service of this District, of that amount thirty-four thousand pounds, and upwards, are to be expended in the maintenance of overgrown and expensive Government establishments; about fifteen hundred pounds are to be given for the support of schools and religion, and only five thousand nine hundred and fifty pounds to be appropriated to public works; but notwithstanding the inhabitants are suffering to an incalculable extent from the impassable state of the streets and roads, the want of bridges and public buildings, only one thousand nine hundred and fifty pounds of this latter amount can be regarded as applicable to works of urgent necessity, and general utility, the remainder being intended to be expended in giving additional accommodation to the several Government departments of the District."