

to be punished for not seeing that that duty is efficiently performed.

It is laid down in Blackstone's Commentaries, that a common nuisance "consists in the doing of a thing to the annoyance of all the king's subjects, or the neglecting to do a thing which the common good requires." "Of this nature," says the same authority, "are annoyances in highways, bridges, and public rivers, by rendering the same dangerous or inconvenient to pass: either positively by absolute obstructions; or negatively by want of reparations. For both of these, the person so obstructing, or such individuals as are bound to repair and cleanse them, or in default of these last, the parish at large, MAY BE INDICTED, distrained to repair and amend them, and in some cases fined." In the face of this very plain and unmistakable law, we think the Liverpool gentlemen will find it not so easy a thing as they imagined, to adhere to their resolution of not levying by direct taxation. So far as the tolls are concerned, they may rest assured that the Legislature will not give its sanction to the placing that source of revenue at their disposal, and however quiet things have hitherto gone on, the time must eventually arrive, when the Governor will deplore the inactivity of this body to such a degree, as to instruct his Attorney-General to quicken its movements by means of a criminal information. And in such a case, it would find itself without the slightest shadow of a defence.

We do not know whether the Liverpool district Council is prepared for such an emergency as this, but if, with a full knowledge of the consequences, it retains its powers until steps are taken to compel it to exercise them, it will have itself only to thank for its stupidity. We did think, when we showed these Councils how easy a matter it was for them to surrender their charters, that our advice would be promptly acted upon. That such has not been the case, may perhaps have arisen from the influence which the nominees still possess in those bodies, but it must in a great degree be attributed, to the shameful indifference and want of spirit, which has almost uniformly characterized the public bodies of this Colony. For months past it has been notorious, that the district Council scheme has not found one honest and independent man to defend it, and that throughout the length and breadth of the Colony, it has been denounced as absurd and tyrannical to the last degree. With one or two exceptions the very individuals who were selected by its projector to bring it into play, have taken a leading part in its condemnation. Public opinion in fact is universally opposed to it, and men of all parties agree that the welfare of the Colony mainly depends upon its defeat. Under these circumstances, we naturally thought, that the moment a way was pointed out, by which so desirable an object could be effected, there would be no hesitation on the part of the district Councils to follow it. But hitherto, we have seen no symptoms on the part of these bodies, of a disposition or a desire to rid themselves of the burden that oppresses them, but most of them seem content to remain in a state of inactivity. If, after the warning we have now given them—if, after being fully acquainted with the power which the law possesses of compelling them to do a portion of their duties—they should still continue this disgraceful apathy—whatever their professions may be, it will then be our duty to regard them as equally culpable—equally hostile—to the interests of the country, with the perverse and headstrong individual who was mainly instrumental in calling them into existence.

THE COSSAQUE TO HIS STEED.

From the French of Berenger.

THE northern trumpet sounds the charge, my steed is true,
Cossaque;

He never flagged upon the way, nor wheeled from foeman back.
The warrior's noble friend is he, that spares not blood nor breath;
The steed that bears my lance to-day shall lend new wings to death.

No gold adorns my saddle bow, no jewels deck thy rein,
But gold and gems enrich the foe, and those we soon shall gain:
Then proudly neigh, my warrior steed,—beneath thy thundering tread

The kingly crown shall soon go down, and nations quake in dread.

Then stamp thy desolating hoof, and peace shall smile no more,
Old Europe's ramparts topple down, her altars smoke with gore;
Besieged as in some mighty fort, by subjects oft betrayed,
The king, the noble, and the priest, all cry to me for aid—
"Oh! save us from our peoples' hand, and leave us tyrants still;
And we will be thy slaves, Cossaque, to do thy lordly will."
I come, I come, ye tyrant slaves, prepare devoted France;
The cross shall bend the sceptre bow before my quivering lance.

I saw beside our bivouac a giant's shadowy form—
Beneath his gaze the watch-fire paled, his accents hushed the storm;

My reign begins anew, he cried; and o'er his nodding crest
He waved his battle-axe on high, and pointed to the west.
Oh! well I knew that royal form, that chief of boundless sway,—
Thy son, oh Attila am I, thy mandate I obey:

Then proudly neigh, my warrior steed, beneath thy thundering tread
The kingly crown shall soon go down, and nations quake in dread.

Let vaunting annals proudly boast of Europe's martial feats,
Let helpless learning stretch her arms to shield her favourite seats;
The cloud of dust that from thy hoofs around our ranks is cast,
Shall swallow in one common doom the future and the past;—
O'erthrown the shrines where nations knelt, the thrones where kings have sat—

Laws, records, memory, all efface, and leave them desolate:
Then proudly neigh, my warrior steed, beneath thy thundering tread
The kingly crown shall soon go down, and nations quake in dread.

WHAT IS HOPE?

Hope flings her beam when the waves are foaming,
And the trembler hails the welcome ray:
Hope cheers the heart of the wanderer roaming
O'er stranger lands, from his home away.

Oh! when the soul is oppressed with sadness,
Hope! let me feel thy enkindling power;
Shed forth the smile of joy and gladness,
Brighten the dark and the gloomy hour. T. W. A.

TO J. L. T.

FRIEND, in your late Promethean matter,
Your Peggy somewhat trips:
Prometheus should have been the squatter,—
The vulture—Sir George Gipps.

EUROPE.

THE NEW BARON.

Now that Baron Bickerstaffe, late Lord Stanley, has sneaked out of the Lower into the Upper House of Parliament, there to make the eighth Cabinet Minister in the House of Lords, it certainly is due to the newly made Peer to cast a glance at his Colonial Administration whilst a Commoner. Some people think that the Baron Bickerstaffe has "cut and run" from the provoking inquiries threatened in the Commons next session—by Mr. Buller on emigration, by Mr. Hutt, on the West Indies, by Mr. Scott, on New South Wales, by Mr. Forster on the West Coast of Africa, by Mr. Aglionby, Mr. Mangles, and Lord Howick on New Zealand, and by Mr. Hawes on Colonial representation in the Imperial Parliament. There is probability in the suspicion. Before his elevation to the peerage there were seven Cabinet Ministers in the House of Lords—a number sufficient, in all conscience, to do the talking that assembly requires. But be this as it may, Lord Stanley leaves no member of the Government behind him in the Commons capable of defending his administration of the Colonies. Sir Robert Peel has more than enough to do in the general business of the country and in finance; besides, he knows quite as little of Colonial subjects in detail as he has confessed he does of foreign affairs. Sir James Graham's hands are full of administrative duties all the day, and of domestic legislation all night. Mr. Gladstone is too deeply immersed in divinity studies to descend to sublunary concerns. Lord Granville Somerville is too old to learn, or to be crammed with, a new subject. Human ingenuity or perseverance could not "grind" that foolish old gentleman, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, into anything more difficult than the first four rules of Cocker's Arithmetic. And as for under Secretary Hope, the utmost that can be extracted from him is a brief answer to a simple question. What Ministers intend to do next session with the Colonies, defies all present calculation. Just as the public is resolved to know something about them, Lord Stanley is removed from the only place in which discussion can usefully take place, to one where any debate on such vulgar topics as Colonies would shock aristocratic ears. This "dodge" has about it all that super subtlety for which the Colonial Office has long been notorious, and from which our transmarine possessions have so deeply suffered. That Office dreads discussion; it will do anything, however mean or monstrous, to avoid debate. Let us then cast a glance at the state in which Lord Stanley, on his departure from the House of Commons, leave the Colonies.

1. The connection of Canada with the mother-country, he announced in the debate on Mr. Roebuck's motion last sessions, depended entirely on the pleasure of the colonists. Whenever they desired separation, he in effect said, the Peel administration were prepared to denude England of her most important colonies.

2. The affections of the New Brunswickers have been alienated by the transfer of a large part of their colony to the United States.

3. Encroachments on the Fisheries of Newfoundland have been tolerated to such an extent that the French and Americans almost monopolise the riches of these coasts, and any resolute attempt on the part of British subjects to exercise their undoubted rights there is likely to produce renewed collision and further bloodshed.

4. In Nova Scotia a very needless discussion on responsible government has been permitted, by neglect, to become formidable.

5. In Prince Edward's Island a dangerous controversy respecting land tenures has grown up.

6. For three years Lord Stanley has done nothing but talk about immigration to the West Indies. Substantially he has thrown every difficulty in its way. He has made no preparation for the permanent settlement of the sugar duties. And, by his colleague, Mr. Gladstone's own admission (in his pamphlet, "The Ministry and the Sugar Duties,") his neglect is "highly censurable."

7. Immigration into New South Wales suspended. The colony convulsed and disturbed by an ordinance to tax, illegally it is believed, the Squatters. Agitation general, and fixity of tenure the popular demand.

8. Immigration into Van Diemen's Land suspended. New convict regulations disapproved of. And the new Governor quarrelling with the colonists.

9. Immigration into South Australia suspended. The proceeds of the land sales misappropriated. The public faith pledged to the purchasers of land violated. A representative council refused. The local government in a state of insolvency. And actions obliged to be brought against Governor Grey, to recover a small sum due for stores sold.

10. To the Australias generally all encouragement to the growth of corn, on the same terms as Canada enjoys, sternly refused.

11. In New Zealand Lord John Russell's arrangements overthrown. The Colonization efforts of the New Zealand Company suspended. The land claims unsettled. Collisions with the natives. Massacre of British settlers palliated and excused. Condemnation of the Colonial Office by a committee composed principally of Tories. And universal confusion.

12. A constitution pertinaciously refused to the Cape of Good Hope. State of the Caffre frontier disturbed. War with the Caffres a probable occurrence. Another emigration of the Boers threatened. And immigration at a stand still.

13. The measures of the Whigs inefficiently and negligently followed up in the Falkland Islands. Lieutenant Moody, the Governor, and the settlers quarrelling already. Advantages projected from the settlement of the islands likely to be lost.

14. A Governor, Captain Norcott, appointed to the Gambia; his appointment revoked before he had left the Downs, and the country saddled with the cost of his outfit unnecessarily. Another Governor, Captain Fitzgerald, sent out with instructions "to put down" some of the leading residents. The Prince de Joinville, when ascending the river, insults the British flag.

15. Recommendation of Lord Stanley's own Committee, to re-occupy the abandoned forts on the Gold Coast neglected. France allowed to plant her flag in the very centre of the British factories. Captain Maclean, the preserver of the settlements on this coast, dismissed and insulted, and a new Governor appointed, who is quarrelling with the water-side tribes (the Fantees), and is risking another Ashantee war.

16. Emigration from Sierra Leone to the West Indies suspended.

Such is the condition in which the elevation of Lord Stanley to the Barony of Bickerstaffe leaves the principal colonies! Yet was he hailed on re-entering the office in 1841, as "a heaven born" Colonial Minister!

REMARKS ON THE GOVERNMENT, ETC., OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

(From the Colonial Magazine, November, 1844.)

WHILST I am preparing for publicity, through the medium of your magazine, the history of these islands from the year 1500 to the present, with illustrations of the political and administrative principles, their unjust bearings, with their injurious workings, results, and prospects, I have been furnished with a variety of remarks and information from several observers, being official as well as non-official, who, thinking highly of the importance and capabilities of these islands, are desirous that I would send forth to the public their observations and opinions; from which it will be seen that the official mismanagement, tyranny, and injustice, which have from first to last prevailed there, and in connexion therewith, creating hostility, jealousy, treachery, loss, and disaster, have established for the place the detraactive and injurious designation of the "Isles of Misfortune;" whilst their position and resources should and might entitle them to the better cognomen of the "Isles of Relief."

For these reasons, I conceive, that by simply setting forth their own remarks, I shall have done all that is needful for the present; and as no doubt whatever exists that ere long the entire question in reference to those islands must become the subject of parliamentary investigation, with the *vis à voce* evidence of witnesses, I deem it inexpedient to volunteer here the names of the parties referred to.

Although I have presumed to modify here the asperity of some of the words which have been applied in the delineations, still the style in which the asseverations are set forth may appear needlessly offensive, yet not otherwise censurable or questionable; for the proofs in my possession are so irrefragable, as to justify and urge me to say, that any legal disputation thereof would be hailed with delight; not in an individual or personal sense, nor in respect of private worth or private character, but upon the broad and admitted principle, that public men become public property, and though not to be calumniated without cause, nevertheless when they receive pay of the public to do their business in an efficient and constitutional manner, they must expect not only to be dealt with publicly on the merits and results thereof, but to be held equally amenable for injuries to individuals; and here I may observe, that assuredly as the chief functionary returns from his government, he will be made a personal defendant in a court of law for illegalities and injuries, whether designedly or erroneously inflicted, anterior as well as posterior to the British legislature passing the act for proposed legal interference or enactments of any kind whatsoever: and should the noble secretary even bring in and pass a retrospective indemnification bill—which he might feel disposed to do for the youth he has raised from the respectable rank of engineer and surveyor, to the dignity of a colonial governor—I am nevertheless warranted in saying that he could not thereby be absolved from the pecuniary responsibilities he has incurred to individuals, who ought, and who will doubtless be indemnified by the crown, if their worthy representative do not possess the requisite means to pay, or can justify himself as having acted according to orders, or from secret instigations; and which latter, I have strong reasons for stating, are likely to be elicited by other means than the voluntary confession of his Excellency, who may feel indisposed to adopt such course condemnatory of the Colonial Office, whence most of the evils so animadverted on may possibly have had their origin.

I content myself on this occasion with simply stating, in reference to one of the complaints hereinafter set forth, that I will, in my promised future exposition, clearly prove Mr. James Stephen to have acted therein with as much of malice and injustice as he has of illegality; and whilst he has used the name of the Colonial Secretary as his authority for such proceeding and instruction, I do not hesitate, in this instance, to dispute the proof thereof, notwithstanding that his Lordship has declared to the house (in refutation of Mr. P. M. Stewart's remarks on the secret sinister influence and irresponsible agency of Mr. James Stephen) his personal supervision of all Colonial Office orders, &c., &c.; for as his Lordship could not legally, he would not otherwise than from the effect of gross misrepresentation to him, have sanctioned so flagrant and palpable an act of *ex-parte* injustice and injury, as could not be countenanced by the veriest tyro of a magistrate, and which any attorney's clerk would condemn and denounce!

To this and many similar wrongs have the aggrieved colonists submitted, and much property has been actually sunk, whilst hoping, if not for liberality, at least for impartiality, justice, and constitutional law to predominate in the colonial departments of the state, so materially under the influence and machinative management of Mr. James Stephen, who is now without the co-operation of any legal or practised colonial adjutors.

The rapid extension of our colonies, their commerce and population, with their prostrate condition and dissatisfaction, calling for national interference and legislative improvement, presented to the noble secretary the fine opportunity for trying his hand at popularity and pre-eminence as a colonial statesman; and with which view did he displace his noble and well-intentioned predecessor—for his tardiness and consequently conceived inability to work out the required reforms, with the necessary measures for more systematic and extended emigration, as well as for better and more popular management both in the colonies and at home? All of which designs are now doubtless organised, but their promulgation delayed only for completion of those arrangements deemed essential to their reception generally with satisfaction and confidence—the first whereof being the exclusion *in toto* of the worthy and esteemed Mr. Mother-country, which every one must regret, unless he be shelved with a pension, and to such alternative none can object whilst the white slaves of the colonies, and their friends in England, will, *nem. diss.*, greet his lordship as the minister of justice and benefits to the white as well as to the black. "Mais revenir à mes moutons." I find the information and evidence so similar, that I may here save time and space by embodying them so as to make a more continuous and less tautologous commentary.

"It is really laughable the way they manage business here, at the same time it is sadly annoying to those having the

misfortune to transact business with them, and certainly very detrimental to the interests and objects of the place as a naval and commercial station, or a colony. The way in which owners and masters, and all shipping matters, are treated at Government-house, is monstrous. Don't fail to see Captain Baily coming home with copper ore, for if you desire further proofs of folly and undue interference, than those of the Princess Royal, he will give you a pretty picture, and of the way in which he has been used by those jacks-in-office, from whom he sailed without his papers.

"Affair of the Hannah.—As this vessel is not yet arrived, and as proceedings will doubtlessly be instituted thereon, I should advise your waiting the owner's presence and proofs.

"Surely Captains Ross and Crozier will give the Government such information as will cause the nautical transactions at least to be placed on a better footing. Talk of attractions for shipping—why, they are certainly such as will prevent any vessel putting on shore a second time.

"I was told that Captain Lock, disgusted with the authorities, set off to the Cape of Good Hope, to refresh and refit there; and many of the settlers have left from the same cause.

"His Excellency, as he is most improperly designated, is shortly to remove himself and sappers to Port William, where he has been making some preparation. I have paid the place an overland visit; and of all the miserable bog holes in the Falklands, I believe Mr. M—y has selected one of the worst for the site of the town; and on riding past the Government carpenter's shop, in the heart of the prospective town, in went my horse up to the girths in peat-bog; and myself, in springing off, stuck fast in the like predicament. I believe that five yards of dry land cannot be found on the spot laid out for the town.

"The compulsory removal hither is very disastrous; we were assured that Port Louis was to be the seat of government, &c., and we were compelled to pay there, in cash down, £100 per acre for our town land, on which we erected our dwellings, &c.; we are now informed that no compensation will be made us, nor can we be permitted to retain the land at country or suburban price, but must re-purchase at Port Jackson, thirty miles distant, at £100 per acre, (where ten acres are not worth so much as one here,) pull down and erect there our residences, &c., at our own cost, besides the loss from abandoning our gardens and improvements. It must further be borne in mind, that no assistance or allowance of any kind has been made to us, who have purchased lands and brought out settlers; nor have the government supplied us with any immigrants from the sums voted by parliament, or from the amounts paid to them for lands, duties, licenses, beef, &c. Now, I much doubt, if any private individuals had thus acted, whether they would not have been committed and tried for obtaining money under false representations.

"Some time since, the barque *Venture* was brought here in distress, &c.; she was eventually condemned: I was employed to act as auctioneer to sell her, which the Governor would not permit without taking out a license; and upon going to pay for the same, I was refused it by reason of some connection with Mr. Whittington, who was at variance with the Governor.

"Things are getting from bad to worse here. Talk of justice! it is a mockery of the name at present. Mr. M—y is so capricious and despotic a man—his despotism amounting even to tyrannical interference with, and ruling the affairs of the settlers as he does his sappers and miners; and he deems it rank treason in them to think even on their own private business contrary to his wishes. Such rules, laws, and regulations were never before heard of. Doubtless Mr. C— will have told you about the 20s. spirit duty, and Mr. Melville's appointment to a moiety thereof; this, incredible though it may appear, is nevertheless true.

"Many settlers have left the islands recently—thirteen at one time; and I think likewise of returning to England, for I am sick of this. We are limited as to where we may walk, even—taxation, fines, and forfeitures being the order of the day. There is no chance of your doing anything to advantage or satisfaction, unless you be such a disgusting toad-eater as our government doctor is. Do the home-authorities intend to send out any people here? for presently we shall have none but officials left; we have paid plenty of money for lands, licenses, duties, taxes, beef, &c. By the way, Mr. J. B. W— has paid the government a deal of money one way and another; and what becomes of it I don't know, for we are treated with Government paper, of which I send you a specimen:

No. 159. Anson, Falkland Islands.

I promise to pay the Bearer the sum of Two Shillings and Two Pence on the part of the Colonial Government.

(Signed) R. C. MOODY,
Lieutenant Governor.

"Now, as it is here legal tender, and only redeemable at will, and not on demand, we must take it, and keep it.

"As to the management of the cattle, it is so wretched and foolish that the Gauachos have left; it is a shame also towards the settlers and shipping, the system being a monopoly by the Government, who only retail, and at 2½d. per lb., always cutting off and reserving the fat for Government-house. Much of the beef is such stuff, as, if exhibited in Newgate-market, would be burned, and the vender fined.

"Mr. J. B. W—'s account is £20 a month for this trash; and for the heads of the animals only, the same price is extorted. This gentleman, who is really a most excellent man, and would be the making of the place if only fairly treated, has been most shamefully dealt with, and annoyed in different ways that you have no idea of; but he has the ability and I expect the intention, to speak and to write for himself, and it is impossible that he can fail to obtain redress. Mr. M—y is jealous of his talents and position here, whence emanates his unjust and oppressive conduct towards him. You will recollect, that two years now passed, I think, I wrote you a private letter, communicating to you what had been told me in confidence by Mr. A—, as to Mr. M—y's intentions, and, as he then inferred, instructions in respect of Mr. J. B. W—. I did not then believe in it, but it appears now as being too true; for, beyond all doubt, there is the clear combination of secret influence unfairly at work to thwart and to

crush him, and which I deeply deplore, because, in truth, I can say, that I believe he has never, whilst here at least, wronged a soul, whilst he has been the sincere friend of the people and of the place, both in word and deed; and because I have dared privately to take his part, M—y has refused to do any business with me, and will, I expect, serve me out when he can. His pounding of Mr. J. B. W—'s sheep, and lastly, sending a party of his sappers to pull down the buildings, destroy the improvements, and turn everything out of the kraal forming part of Mr. W—'s premises, and which he had at and from the time of his arrival there in 1840. The place is not now even used in any way by the excellent Governor.

"I send some further correspondence, &c., of the youthful Falkland Government, by which, coupled with that previously transmitted, you will readily judge how fit a person has been deputed to govern a young colony, and will perceive that we are rapidly progressing in the depopulation of the islands. There are fewer persons now here than there were three years since; and the same statistic will presently apply to the shipping—the absence of both arising solely from the disgust felt by captains of ships and settlers at Mr. M—y's treatment and management, with the notoriety thereof. To speak of Tyssen as a colonial governor, he was a king both in word and deed, as regards the colony compared to Mr. M—y, and I firmly believe that the errors of the former were of the head only. Mr. F. has truly depicted Mr. M—y's character, and Mr. M—y has verified the faithfulness of the portrait to a shade, in his late transactions with me and others. Amongst those who have left with their wives and families, are the Scotch people, but gone to the river Plate only. The latter have asked me to let them know when Mr. M—y has left, for they will all return, and I have promised to advise them; and I sincerely hope Mr. M—y's voice here will soon be turned into moody silence, or this place, instead of proving a national benefit and a blessing, will prove but a loss and a general disappointment. There is scarcely a soul, either man, woman, or child, that does not hate the despotic manner in which the government exercises its authority, and I believe there are but two of the whole detachment of sappers and miners who do not plainly say so. I do not write now from malice or from passion,

I speak only as he has latterly proved himself, and in doing so, I feel I am only fulfilling that obligation which is imposed on me by my position here, and the great objects which such was intended to lead to; whilst delusive impressions or misrepresentation, on this or on other points, will tend only to further injury and disaster to this place.

"I was surprised by the perusal of the commissioners' reports and the papers published for parliament, and still more so by Mr. Jas. Stephen's ex-parte conduct. Now I am sincerely of opinion, that the less a settler has to do with government or government people, the better for his mind, body and estate. A French vessel from Bordeaux put in here the other day, stated to be for water, but, from the manner and remarks of the commander, I think for other latent purposes. The American captain, Smyllie, of whom you have heard, (the daring independent Falkland cattle-hunter, and purveyor to the whalers and sealers of his station,) is now occupied with his American schooner in bringing horses and sheep from the Rio Negro for the Governor and Mr. Robinson, who are become sheep-farmers, but who cannot, of course, even for their private ends, be guilty of any acts mean, paltry, or disgraceful, though their sheep can run at large over the government and other person's lands with perfect impunity; whereas, settlers must pay one dollar for every sheep, goat, or pig which may happen to stray on the crown-lands.

"This brings me, with deep regret, to an account of the loss of all my English rams and ewes, which were doing so well. You will have heard of the military operations which were carried on against my kraal, &c., the depository of my live stock, &c. Well, how or in what way all my bullock-dogs broke loose, I can't say; but unprecedentedly as unaccountably, so it was, and one fine morning all my English sheep only were found dead; of course it was from their being South American dogs, and their being as discriminating as inimical to English blood, and success in the Falklands.

"I see it proposed officially in print that we are to have a government fishery, in addition to the government butchery, government cattle farm, government model farm, government sheep farm, government stud and breeding farm.

"Amongst other delusions in print (by order?) is one of fortune making by the rifle. I think you are bound to undeceive people about the freedom of sporting here; we no more dare look at a wild animal than you dare to steal a horse in England; nor shoot geese, &c., without a license, and then only in certain places.

"And in respect of bringing over servants or labourers at immigrant settlers' cost; make it known, that unless the terms be made on a 35s. bond stamp, and properly settled and certified before a magistrate, they are deemed here illegal and invalid; and so also if the terms of remuneration therein specified do not fully equal what her Majesty's representative here deems adequate, colonial pay, &c., which is about £5 per month, with rations and lodging. It was on the above Falkland law premises that all Mr. J. B. W—'s labourer's, servants, and others, having written and mutual engagements for passage, with clothing, boarding, and lodging there, all at Mr. W—'s cost, were freed by his Excellency and then hired by himself; but as he makes the law, so he breaks it for himself, and from the will of this absolute monarch there is no other being to appeal to for redress. The Scotchmen before alluded to state, they quitted solely from his thus wronging them, and under violation of agreement."

On this subject Mr. J. B. W— says,

"Mr. M—y has, by seductive and illegal means, deprived me of all my mechanics and labourers, and nearly all my servants, both male and female, by telling them their agreements were not binding, &c., which acted instantly so as to make them discontented, and to compel me, in order to reserve some, to submit to fresh and high terms, dictated to me even by those who had first gone out with me, and who were, till Mr. M—y's arrival, &c., quite satisfied and serviceable. Out of thirty persons thus expensively conveyed, &c., but few have withstood the temptations thus held out; and for these few faithful domestics he, Mr. M—y, has ex-

pressed to Mr. C— and others a strong desire of obtaining them. It is now evident that it was contemplated by the Governor to get labour and mechanics for himself, and at my expense, but I did not see it at the time so palpably; perhaps I was in some measure blinded by the exorbitant nature of the demands some of them proposed.

"Captain Onslow, R.N., has put in here on his way round the Horn, to Valparaiso, in his fine new frigate the *Daphne*; himself and officers seemed to emulate each other in showing me every courtesy and consideration, which I reciprocated, being so different to the conduct of Captain Sullivan, of H.M. brig *Philomel*, who is on terms of close intimacy with Mr. M—y, with whom, after a few days, Captain Onslow was very distant, as, indeed, have been the captains of every vessel, whether government or merchant, with the exception of Captan Sullivan, from whom, as well as from Mr. M—y, I have received treatment as unjust as unmerited. Captain Onslow repeatedly condoled with me for my losses and difficulties here: he also expressed his extreme regret to find such little progress made since he planted here the British flag, as commander of H.M.S. *Clio*. He says the place looks far more sad and miserable than it did then, and fewer persons resident; indeed, there will not shortly be a civil labourer left, for every ship putting in takes away two or three.

"Mr. M—y is just beginning to meet his deserts; as regards his personal comforts, he has not now one servant who came with him from England—all have left him and the islands, and he is now doing with two boys only, whom he got from ships. This is as it should be; it is a just retribution for him to feel the inconvenience and discomfort which his shameful conduct respecting my servants inflicted on me.

"I perceive that Government positively refused to allow the nomination of emigrants, on account of the land purchases we have paid for here. The Governor is determined to get labour *couste qui couste*, as it does not come out of his pocket, whilst it most seriously affects us. The peat here, which is so abundant, is dearer firing, from the high price of labour and license-duty, than coals brought from England at £5 per ton.

"Mr. M—y does not attach the necessary importance to conciliation and pleasing of the shipping-interest, which I conceive it requires, for without it no colony can possibly thrive; but what can you expect from a young person brought out of a military college, and placed as Governor over the interests of business and business men, whereof he is completely ignorant, and to conceal which he is continually committing acts of folly, injustice, and wrong?

"This is and will be ostensibly a port of refuge and refit for merchant vessels, and, as such, requiring a man conversant with those matters and shipping business: a military man is not adapted for that purpose; he confounds and disgusts masters of vessels, which cannot last long; for, assuredly as I am now writing to you, no vessel will put in here, except from necessity. My opinion may be considered biased, nevertheless I affirm, that this place will never become a colony so long as Mr. M—y is Governor. I believe that Captains Onslow and Sullivan feel and know this, and that Mr. M—y cannot long remain. From what I have seen and know of Captain Onslow, I think he would make a most desirable governor for this place.

"The orders issued here by his Excellency are more arbitrary and impolitic than an ukase of the Russian Emperor. I will state a simple fact: a short time since a dozen fin-backed whales were driven ashore on Long Island in Berkely Sound. I went across the bay in my pleasure boat with my two boys to see them; we did not touch the shore. I gratified my curiosity of inspecting the fish, and returned home to dinner at five o'clock; about six o'clock I received a letter from his Excellency, demanding to know by whose authority I had dared to land upon Long Island, after having received notice to confine myself exclusively to those lands in my own occupation. So disgusted was I, that I made no reply.

"I hope you will receive my despatches per the *Triton*, and the copied orders therein enclosed, which his Excellency Governor Moody has thought fit and expedient to put in force at the Falklands. Surely he would not dare to commit such egregious acts of absurdity in a larger community, or nearer home."

I will for the present close this commentary with an extract from a letter from an official gentleman, now in England, who takes much interest in the Falklands, viz:

"I hope you will not fail to let me know when my vessel is going out to the Falklands. I should have thought, with the further £10,000 voted in the last session, that the government would have sent out persons, stores, &c., so long provided for by parliament. I much regret to hear the complaints and causes for dissatisfaction in the islands. I hope and trust such ere long will be removed. I am quite sure you will do no good by seeing Lord Stanley; on the other hand you may do Mr. J. B. W— more harm, for, depend upon it, those in authority here always hang to those in office abroad; and it must be a very powerful interest indeed that can make any impression. If the powerful New Zealand Company could with difficulty obtain a hearing, and then nothing satisfactory, what can one or two individuals expect? It reminds me forcibly of throwing your hat at the moon!"

I reserve for future numbers my further promised expositions, but I here remark, that if this continuous, desperate spell hanging over the place, and so sadly influencing every exertion and action of ourselves and predecessors for the weal of the isles and their friends, be not supernatural, then there must have been much more than mismanagement at work, sustained by injustice with high and with low, which I will develop politically and practically; and in so conclusive a manner, as not only to enlighten the public, but to command the attention of the legislature.

G. T. W.

OF DOING INJURIES TO OTHERS.

Propitious conscience, thou equitable and ready judge, be never absent from me! Tell me, constantly, that I cannot do the least injury to another, without receiving the counter-stroke; that I must necessarily wound myself, when I wound another.—*Mercier*.