

entire freedom and independence, and in calling on either the French or Americans to assist them in maintaining that freedom and independence, if they deemed such assistance necessary. They may doubtless, under any circumstances, be restrained from anything of this kind, as I trust they will, from choice, from a spirit of forbearance, from a want of confidence in their own strength and resources or from a persuasion that their political freedom may still be achieved by other and better means; but to maintain that a sense of duty or obligation can have place when the local Government are attempting to raise and appropriate a revenue of £120,000 a year without the consent of their Legislature, is pre-eminently absurd. Passive resistance, in such circumstances, becomes a sacred duty, nay, the first of political duties for every British subject who knows and values his birthright.

That these sentiments are at this moment extensively prevalent throughout this Colony, I beg to refer for proof to the following instances, for the reality of which I can vouch. They are all from my own personal experience during the last fortnight.

About eight days after the despatches from Lord Stanley, approving of the Governor's measures, had been published in the Colony, an old colonist, a magistrate of the territory, the father of a family, and a large proprietor both within and without the boundaries, happened to call at my house, in Sydney, when after some conversation on the subject, I asked him what were the feelings of his district, (which is situated about 130 miles from the capital,) in regard to the recent despatches and the measures they were meant to enforce. "Why," he replied, with a strong feeling of indignation, "they think the best thing they could do with Sir George now, would be to Bligh him," (that is to do with him as was done with Governor Bligh in 1808,) "to pack him on board ship and send him off to England." "But that," I observed rather drily, for I knew that the gentleman had been educated in high Tory principles at home; "that would imply an insurgent flag, and proclaiming a Republic." "It is the natural and perhaps necessary course of affairs in such a crisis," replied the magistrate, and there the conversation dropped.

A day or two after I happened to meet with a gentleman of birth and property and education, from one of the great squatting districts in the interior, about 300 miles from Sydney, and on talking on the subject of the day, which he naturally introduced, he observed, that the tyrannical procedure of the Government would compel the colonists by and bye to transform their Council into a Convention. "But how could they hold the country," I asked, "if they did?" "No fear of that," replied the Squatter, "this is an impracticable country for an invading force. They could never penetrate into the interior, against the will of the inhabitants. Besides, there is nothing for them to get there; the sheep and cattle could be driven off in a few hours' warning, and the light horse of the Colony would soon make their quarters uncomfortable enough." "But then," I observed, "we are very open to attack here in Sydney by sea; we are quite defenceless." "No doubt," replied the Squatter, "they would take Sydney, but no corn grows here; they would be starved out of it at last."

During the interval I have mentioned, I have had occasion to visit one of the districts of the interior, more than a hundred miles from Sydney, and during my absence I happened to call on a married lady of good education, of remarkably strong mind, and of decided religious principles. After conversing for some time on other topics, she observed quite spontaneously, that she "had just been reading the despatches, and she was so much affected while reading them at the idea of what they might possibly lead to in the excited state of men's minds, that she had laid down the paper, and observed to her husband that Sir George would force the people of this Colony to rebel." Her husband, it seemed, had made light of the matter, but she observed that "she had read enough of the history of other countries to know that the Governor's measures would certainly lead to that result."

I happened to meet, during my absence from Sydney, with another Squatter, from another of the great squatting districts about 250 miles from the capital, and, desirous of ascertaining the probable effect of the Governor's measure for the periodical and compulsory purchase of land by the Squatters, I asked him how his neighbours and himself would view that part of the new Regulations. He entirely confirmed my views of the subject, observing that the fee simple of 320 acres of land would be utterly valueless to himself without the permanent possession of the adjoining "run;" that the obligation to purchase that extent of land periodically at a pound an acre was a mere device for imposing an enormous tax in addition to the license fee and assessment, and that such a tax would never be paid. "But you will be compelled to pay it," I observed; "Bishop Broughton hints at ulterior coercive measures to enforce obedience, and you may therefore expect a regiment of soldiers some of these days in your district." "Poh! poh!" said the Squatter, "only give me twenty good stockmen, and I would defy any regiment in Her Majesty's service." I did not stay to enquire how this could be done; but I have sufficient knowledge of the nature of the country in many localities in the interior to know, that it was by no means a mere bravado.

Such then is the singular channel into which, for the first time within my own recollection these twenty-two years, the thoughts of the more intelligent portion of the inhabitants of this Colony have suddenly been forced by this infatuated attempt of the local Government, acting under the authority of the Secretary of State, to establish a despotism, by raising and appropriating a large public revenue, on the mere strength of the prerogative. A rebellion in New South Wales is certainly among the possibilities of the future, and although the idea may be laughed at as something like "a hurricane in a teapot" at home, it will certainly be a much more serious affair when it comes than most people at home would anticipate; for it is the decided opinion of the best informed persons in the country, that in such a case, if the great bulk of the colonists were at all cordially united, Great Britain would be utterly unable to regain possession of the country with all her power. It would cost them, for example, in the mere item of passage-money, at least £200,000 to land ten regiments of the line of a thousand men each, in this Colony from England; but suppose the colonists were to offer these men a hundred acres of land each, with a few head of cattle or

sheep, merely to give up "soldiering" and become colonists like themselves—and this was the suggestion of another extensive Squatter, to whom I have not yet referred—how many of them would remain in arms, and be available three months after, to make "April fools" of themselves by attempting to hunt down perhaps twenty thousand mounted insurgents in the interior of an impracticable country like this—of twelve or fifteen hundred miles in extent—with every nook of which, moreover, these insurgents are perfectly acquainted, and which they can traverse with the speed of the wild Arabs of the desert, leaving a conflagration behind them in every suitable locality to envelope their pursuers? Sir George Gipps and Bishop Broughton must be surely fit for straight waist-coats to be talking seriously about raising and appropriating an enormous revenue on the mere strength of the prerogative—in such a country as this, and in the hearing of men who have not yet forgotten that they are Britons.

I happen, like Bishop Broughton, to have had only *one solitary cow* during the whole period of my residence in this Colony. I am, therefore, quite as disinterested as Bishop Broughton in the squatting question, as far as I am personally concerned. Besides, I have no interests opposed to those of the people, like that functionary, in the possession of an enormous salary, secured to me against their will by a despotic authority. I have no expectations of a share of the alleged Crown Droit revenue for ambitious sectarian purposes, under the flimsy pretext of promoting religion beyond the boundaries. But both as a minister of religion, bound in every way to promote the moral and religious welfare of this Colony, and as a member of the Legislature, chosen for the time being to assist in maintaining the civil and religious liberties of its people, I feel a deep interest in this question; for it appears to me that Sir George Gipps, Bishop Broughton, and Lord Stanley, are engaged in precisely the same treasonable conspiracy against the liberties of this land, as that of Charles the First, Lord Strafford, and Archbishop Laud, against those of England in the 17th century, and that their temporary success will, in like manner, be attended with the most fatal results.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN DUNMORE LANG, D.D.,

One of the Members of the Legislative Council of New South Wales.

Sydney, New South Wales, July 16, 1845.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY SIR GEORGE GIPPS.

Plenty of good land, and liberty to manage their own affairs their own way, seem to be the two great causes of the prosperity of all New Colonies. * * * * *

The plenty and cheapness of good land, are such powerful causes of prosperity, that the very worst government is scarce capable of checking altogether the efficacy of their operation. * * * * *

The revenue which, in any civilized monarchy, the Crown derives from the Crown lands, though it appears to cost nothing to individuals, in reality costs more to society than perhaps any other equal revenue which the Crown enjoys. It would, in all cases, be for the interests of society, to replace this revenue to the Crown by some other equal revenue, and to divide the lands among the people, which could not well be done better, perhaps, than by exposing them to public sale.—*Smith's Wealth of Nations*, Book 4th, chap. vii.; and Book 5th, chap. ii.

SIR—It is a peculiarly happy circumstance in the present degraded political position, to which you have reduced New South Wales, that although writhing under the abuses of a tyrannical colonial system, the grand paladium of British freedom—the liberty of the Press—is still reserved to her inhabitants. Before that mighty engine, the most obnoxious despot must bow—must succumb—must cringe. Thus invariably the first step taken by tyrants, who have usurped absolute dominion over their fellow-men, has been to destroy the freedom of the press, the privilege of discussing acts, of laying before society, *en masse*, deeds of injustice, which could only be executed in safety under the dark veil of ignorance. Here, this last and glorious blessing is left to us—we fly to its sanctuary, we embrace it, and seek shelter under its protecting wings. You, Sir George, however powerful your desire, however strong your wish, cannot take away from us this last resource. The inhabitants of this Colony may discuss, without fear, the narrow and unjust principles of your government. The public journals may expose the tyranny of your edicts, the meanest and wealthiest individuals in the land may freely give vent to their opinions when the public weal is concerned: they are all equally protected by this inviolable blessing of the British Constitution. It is to this mighty power that I would call the attention of the public, as the only effectual weapon for overturning the abuses of the present system, being satisfied that no Government, however strong, however corrupt, can long withstand the unanimous claims of a free people, with justice on their side. But it is no part of my wish, in discussing the merits of your Excellency's policy, to forget the respect due to the first magistrate, in the contempt I feel for his measures. But, Sir George, it cannot be concealed that your best friends have deserted your standard—they cannot, without a base dereliction of moral principle, support the spirit of these Crown Land Regulations.

In the *Government Gazette*, of last Saturday, the first batch of the new Regulations is published. True, they are modified, and show a slight wish, on the part of your Excellency, to meet the views of the Squatters. But I tell you, Sir George, the Squatters will not be satisfied even with these, unless some certainty of tenure be given.

But the most obnoxious part of those Regulations—the terms on which the public are to purchase the Crown lands—remain as yet in *statu quo*, and it is to this arbitrary mode of compelling individuals to purchase at an enormous price a commodity which has a mere nominal value, and which, I have shown in my last letter, to be nothing less than a heavy tax upon wool-growing, that I invite the grave consideration of the people.

This Crown land question is not a question of mere party politics. It is not the pastoral interest *versus* the Government, neither is it the pastoral interest *versus* the public—if such an anomaly could exist—but it is a question which concerns equally every man in the Colony. The question is—are we

to be freemen or slaves? Are we to enjoy the rights of Englishmen, or are we to be deprived of the privileges of the British Constitution?

Although your Excellency be not the author of the Crown Lands Act of 1842, still you have acknowledged yourself to be its firm supporter. It is by your advice that it is still in operation, in spite of the notorious fact, that there is not one single individual throughout the length and breadth of the land that will maintain that the waste lands are worth £1 per acre. And since you yourself admit that, as far as pastoral purposes are concerned, they may be valued at the lowest coin in circulation, on what principal of justice or political economy can you maintain the equity of a measure which compels people to purchase at £1, an article that is comparatively worth next to nothing. Since we can trace it to neither of these motives, we must come to the conclusion that there is some other cause at work—the native principle of despotism in your breast—and this point I must now consider. In the first place, you are morally responsible to the public of New South Wales for any laws which may be enacted, through your representations, by the Imperial Parliament; you are responsible for the evil or good working of those laws; you are also answerable for the evil entailed upon the community by the upholding of laws which have been found, by the unanimous voice of the people, to be unsuited to their circumstances, but are still in force by your advice.

You, Sir George, are placed in a very peculiar situation, a situation of the most serious nature, which carries with it the highest responsibility. In the present degraded state to which we are reduced by the present colonial system, you are almost the sole organ through which the laws are made by the Imperial Parliament for the government of this Colony. This is a fearful responsibility to be placed on the shoulders of any man, nevertheless, this is the position your Excellency is placed in.

In the second place, in assuming the reins of government in New South Wales, you appear entirely to have forgotten four essential axioms, which apply to the conduct of the sovereign of a free people.—That the test of a good government is the happiness of the people—that the interests of the Executive are the interests of the people—that the interests of the Executive are subservient to those of the public, not those of the public to those of the Executive—that the Crown lands, in a free country, are merely held by the Crown as trustee for the inhabitants of that country, that they are the property of the sovereign is a mere fiction of the law. That you have set aside these good maxims is clearly evident, by your quit-rent extortions—by the oppressive spirit in which those new regulations have been conceived—by the haughty dictatorial style evinced in your despatches towards the colonists—and by your evident desire not to turn the proceeds of the Crown lands for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Colony, but to suit the expedience of the home minister. Do you think that the people of this Colony will long suffer you to dictate to them how the land fund is to be appropriated? For what use has the new constitution been given to us? Are the representatives of the people not even to be consulted about what concerns the most important interests of the country? Is this new constitution to be a mere dead letter—a cloak to cover your most arbitrary government? I tell you, Sir George, that had you consulted the people through their representatives in the organizing of those new regulations, you would be doing no more than what they are entitled to—no more than what the constitution obliges you to do. But let me entreat your Excellency to pause and reflect before treading too far in the path of despotism. There is a point of forbearance, to go beyond which becomes crime in a free and virtuous people. Recollect that in a British Parliament there is still left that respect for the principle of right and justice, which will drag forth into the light of day from their dark hiding place, the causes of tyranny and misgovernment, without much respect either to yourself or to the noble lord at the head of your department.

The first step to be taken by the Legislative Council will be, to petition against the high minimum price of land. A high minimum price of land implies a wish on the part of the Crown to monopolize—a desire to retain the people as mere tenants at will of the Executive, and to prevent all improvement, both physical and moral.

When you state in your despatch of the 3rd April, 1844. That the Squatting System in New South Wales will support a high minimum price of land, and that a high minimum price, renders the Squatting System necessary. Your true meaning is this—that a state of vassalage and slavery only will be sufficient to support a high minimum price of land, and to keep up a high minimum price, a state of vassalage and slavery is rendered necessary. This is the only construction to be put on this passage.

In the same despatch you desire Lord Stanley to cast his eye over the map or rather outline of this Colony; a glance will suffice to show his Lordship, the immense extent to which the Squatting interest as it is called, has grown; fourteen degrees of latitude! 11,000 English statute miles. Your Excellency appears to call his Lordship's particular attention to this passage. The true interpretation seems to be this. Here is a domain worth retaining—worth monopolizing—from the serfs who have intruded their herds and flocks upon these lands, we shall be able to squeeze a large annual sum. This will serve our purpose. They must pay or be ruined; their whole property and existence consists in their having the use of those lands. And these lands are the property of us, the people of New South Wales—and are to be dealt with in this style.

But, let me ask you, Sir George, did it ever occur to you, what was the real value of these waste lands? You consider the price of a license to be analogous to rent, and that it ought to be proportioned to the profits made from unimproved lands the property of individuals. Now, assuming as you do, that 16,000 acres are required for 4000 sheep; that the profit derived from the use of 16,000 acres will admit of £10 per annum, as a proper sum to be paid for this quantity of land in the shape of rent. And taking the ordinary profits of investments in the Colony at ten per cent. per annum, we have every reason to assume that an investment in land ought to yield that amount of revenue; £10 therefore being the revenue, interest, or profit at ten per cent.; it follows that £100 will be the principal, or intrinsic value of 16,000 acres of waste

lands. That is one penny half-penny per acre. This may appear a very low valuation; but, that these lands are worth more I defy any man to shew. And when we take this view of the case, and consider the monstrous absurdity of the £1 per acre, then we must conclude that this system is upheld for purposes, which have already been mentioned.

It will therefore be the first duty of the colonists, to petition the Imperial Parliament to repeal the Crown lands Act of 1842, and to take immediate steps for putting the people of this Colony in possession of the waste lands at something like the real value; on this measure will hinge the future prosperity of New South Wales.

Your Excellency may argue that these lands will eventually be worth more than what I have shewn them to be, as the country increases in wealth and population. You may argue, that you must legislate for the interests of those that are to come. But, may I ask you; were you sent out here to govern the country for the benefit of the present generation, or for the benefit of those that are to live after us?

Do you arrogate to yourself the gifts of a prophet? From whence did you derive this wonderful faculty of prescience—this power of prying into futurity? And how strong must be the affection you have for our great grand-children, that you would reserve for their use their extensive desmesnes on the same terms that we are now to enjoy them. I am afraid, Sir George, that even should New South Wales, in the twenty-first century, have a Governor, the very prototype of yourself, he will not be able to squeeze the £1 per acre out of the people.

JULIUS.

July 16, 1845.

LINES FOR AN AUSTRALIAN CHILD'S PRIMER, OR FIRST BOOK.

Who, when colonial credit fails,
From England o'er the ocean sails,
To keep us out of nasty jails?
The Manager.

When tottering firms are undermined,
By whom are merchant's pockets lined—
Who is so very very kind?
The Manager.

And when another bank is low,
Who takes that other bank in tow,
An promises it cash also?
The Manager.

Who, when the great Macarthur sleeps,
Over its books in private peeps,
And at its prospects kindly weeps?
The Manager.

Who strives to steer it off the shoals,
And, like a generous friend, condoles
With Sparke and Manning—gentle souls!
The Manager.

When shareholders—a stupid band!—
Cannot be made to understand,
Who tries to help them understand?
The Manager.

But some directors, being wise,
Who on their skilful aid relies,
And blinds those other blockheads' eyes?
The Manager.

Who round the unconscious chairman gets,
Exchanging for his bank assets
The worst of Hughes and Hosking's debts?
The Manager.

But when the shareholders are told
Of all their friends have done—behold!
Who finds at last that he is "sold?"
The Manager.

SYLVANUS.

HON. FRANCIS SCOTT, M.P.

The *Australian* newspaper of January 9th, contains a letter from the Speaker of the Legislative Council of Sydney, appointing the Honourable Francis Scott, M.P. for Roxburghshire, to represent the interests of New South Wales in England.

Mr. Scott is the younger brother of Lord Polwarth, better known in the history of his country as Scott of Harden,—a race who at the call of duty never knew fear. Having the good fortune to know something of his qualifications, we regard the Council's selection of him to advocate the interests of the Colony as a most judicious one. From his intimate connection with several members of the present Government, he must possess great facilities in pressing the claims of his constituents on public attention, and his personal character is a sufficient guarantee that in his hands their interests will not be sacrificed to considerations of mere party expediency. Like every other man deserving of a seat in the British House of Commons, he has formed his opinions upon public questions, and taken his position in the ranks of one of the great parties of the state. But this circumstance is not likely unduly to bias his views in discussing matters of national polity like those committed to him by the Council of Sydney. Indeed, we have been indebted, of late years especially, to men of his description for carrying through many important measures disapproved of, if not directly opposed by the leading men of their own party.

The £500 of salary voted to Mr. Scott we trust is an index of the poverty of the Colony, and not of its estimate of his expected services. Governor Gipps not considering himself authorised to sanction even this sum, has "reserved his assent for approval of the Secretary of State." "Curious chaps" those Sydney folks must be, to make the payment of their agent dependent on the approval of the Government, whose policy in regard to them he may be called on to oppose.

Should Mr. Scott undertake the onerous trust, it is not improbable he will discharge its duties without reference to the proposed pittance—not however that we think his or any other man's services should not be properly paid for. To him the £500 must be a matter of little importance, and his acceptance of it, or of any salary whatever, subject to such a condition, would be to expose himself to imputations that might impair his usefulness.

The commercial community of China might improve upon the example of the new-born Council of Sydney. With an intelligent and active solicitor, and an advocate in Parliament of Mr. Scott's influence, attainments, and capacity for business, they might look with confidence to having their complaints investigated, and their real grievances redressed.—*The Chinese Mail*.

ABSTRACT OF THE REVENUE OF THE COLONY OF NEW SOUTH WALES, exclusively of the District of PORT PHILLIP, in the Quarters ended 30th June, 1844 and 1845 respectively, shewing the INCREASE or DECREASE under each head thereof.

GENERAL REVENUE.		Qr. ended June 30, 1844	Qr. ended June 30, 1845	Decrease.	Increase.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs.	Duties on Spirits imported { 2nd Quarter, 1844, 36,157 Gallons. 2nd Quarter, 1845, 35,221 Gallons. }	18965 2 11	18685 0 6	280 2 5	
	Duties on Tobacco imported	8153 9 11	7498 7 5	655 2 6	
	Ad Valorem duty on Foreign Goods imported	3273 13 5	3145 2 6	128 10 11	
	Fees on the entry and clearance of Vessels, Wharfage and Light House dues	681 4 6	1060 0 7		378 16 1
	Duty on Coal exported to a Foreign State		11 0 0		11 0 0
	Duties on Spirits distilled in the Colony { 2nd Quarter, 1844, 8,899 Gallons. 2nd Quarter, 1845, 9,714 Gallons. }	4004 11 0	4371 6 0		366 15 0
	Post Office Collections	3344 17 7	2636 8 4	*708 9 3	
	Auction Duty and Licenses to Auctioneers	885 13 1	1386 5 4		500 12 3
	Licenses to Distil and to Retail Fermented and Spirituous Liquors	15003 10 0	15993 0 0		989 10 0
	Collected by Clerks of Petty Sessions, for Night Licenses to Publicans, and for Billiard Tables	80 0 0	70 0 0	10 0 0	
Licenses to Hawkers and Pedlars	9 0 0	34 0 0		25 0 0	
Rents of Tolls and Ferries	1122 13 2	1229 13 10		107 0 8	
Assessment on Stock by Commissioners of Crown Lands	3240 19 6	3524 10 3		283 10 9	
Collected as Tonnage Duty in support of the Water Police	101 8 6	107 7 6		5 19 0	
Store Rent for Goods lodged in Her Majesty's Warehouse		14 3 0		14 3 0	
	58866 3 7	59766 5 3	1782 5 1	2682 6 9	
Fees	Of Civil Offices	621 6 3	365 4 11	+256 1 4	
	Of the several Offices of the Supreme Court	1481 13 5	1334 10 3	147 3 2	
	Of the Courts of Requests	947 6 3	17 19 0	†929 7 3	
	Of the Courts of Petty Sessions	424 6 6	445 3 7		20 17 1
	Of Commissioners of Crown Lands, and Fines under Act 2nd Vic. No. 27	207 10 0	70 12 6	136 17 6	
	3682 2 5	2233 10 3	1469 9 3	20 17 1	
Collected by the Government Printer	333 7 0	420 11 11		87 4 11	
Proceeds of the Sale of Public Property	296 19 0	126 10 1	170 8 11		
Interest on Public Monies deposited in the Colonial Banks		6 6 9		6 6 9	
Payment for Printed Forms and Stationery supplied to the City Corporation		74 4 1		74 4 1	
Payment for Water Pipe and Iron Gratings supplied to the City Corporation	144 13 6		144 13 6		
Payment for Seed Wheat distributed to poor Settlers	4 1 1		4 1 1		
Payment for the treatment of Free Patients in the Lunatic Asylum		58 5 9		58 5 9	
Repayment for the treatment of Convicts in the Lunatic Asylum	2189 10 3	1418 19 6	770 10 9		
Repayment of the Freight of Stores per the <i>John Bold</i> , for the Commissariat		209 1 6		209 1 6	
Amount contributed from the Military Chest, for the services of the Water Police, in preventing the escape of Convicts by sea		233 7 2		233 7 2	
Surcharges recovered	40 0 0	16 0 0	24 0 0		
	3008 10 10	2563 6 9	1113 14 3	668 10 2	
	65556 16 10	64563 2 3	4365 8 7	3371 14 0	
Land Fund, being proceeds of the sale of Land and Town Allotments	2419 4 2	2793 12 9		374 8 7	
Purchase of Town Allotments by Leaseholders	41 4 3		41 4 3		
Quit-rents and redemption of Quit-rents	1935 3 8	2004 5 8		69 2 0	
Rents of Land temporarily leased	174 18 4	700 8 0		525 9 8	
Licenses to Depasture Stock on Crown Lands	610 0 0	565 0 0	45 0 0		
Licenses to Cut Timber on Crown Lands	45 0 0	38 0 0	7 0 0		
Rents of Government Premises and Quarries	258 11 6	159 1 6	99 10 9		
Collected by the Agent for the Clergy and School Estates	282 0 0	907 5 1		625 5 1	
Fees of the Office of Commissioners for reporting on claims to Land	47 2 0	27 8 0	19 14 0		
	5813 3 11	7195 1 0	212 8 3	1594 5 4	
Fines	Collected by the Sheriff	48 5 0	163 10 0		115 5 0
	Collected in the several Courts of Petty Sessions	232 11 0	338 14 6		106 3 6
	Collected by Commissioners of Crown Lands	11 10 0	1 0 0	10 10 0	
Proceeds of the Sale of Confiscated and Unclaimed Property	25 3 0	4 16 0	20 7 0		
Crown's share of seizures made by the Department of Customs	145 8 8	2 7 0	143 1 8		
	462 17 8	510 7 6	173 18 8	221 8 6	
	6276 1 7	7705 8 6	386 6 11	1815 13 10	
	71832 18 5	72268 10 9	4751 15 6	5187 7 10	
			Deduct Decrease	4751 15 6	
			Increase on the Quarter	435 12 4	

* The Postmaster General states, that this apparently large decrease is occasioned by the arrears which have arisen in the Country Postmasters' accounts, in consequence of the Clerks in the Account Branch having been engaged in preparing various returns required by the Post Office Commissioners.

† This head includes the fees collected by the Registrar General, with the exception of those received by him from 1st May to 15th June, 1845, which have not yet been paid into the Treasury.

‡ From the 1st January, the fees of the Courts of Requests, instead of being paid into the Treasury, have been appropriated to defray the salaries of the Officers, and other expenses of the Courts. The sum of £17 19s. consists of arrears of fees collected in 1844, but not paid into the Treasury until the 22nd April, 1845.

WILLIAM LITHGOW, AUDITOR GENERAL.

Audit Office, Sydney, New South Wales, 7th July, 1845.

IMPROVED CANDLES.—Mr. Gwynne, of Putney, and Mr. Wilson, of Belmont, Vauxhall, have patented certain improvements in the manufacture of Candles and in apparatus for, and processes of, treating fatty and other substances for making of Candles, and other uses. The apparatus is a close still, with appendages suitable for the distillation of tallow, lard, oil, and other fatty substances, excepting always cocoa-nut oil, when intended to be used in the manufacture of candles. The body of the still is made of copper, varying in thickness from three-eighths of an inch at the bottom, to one quarter of an inch in the upper part. It is filled by means of a pipe which passes through the top of the still, down nearly to the bottom, where there is a small round cavity formed, into which the end of this pipe dips. After the tallow, or other substance, has been melted by the application of heat to the outside of the still, steam is diffused in numerous small streams through it, by means of a pipe which leads from a boiler to the still, and passing downwards terminates at the bottom of the still, in a perforated coil, or instead of steam, carbonic acid may be employed; but the former is preferred. The products of distillation are conducted, by a third pipe, to a separate vessel, where they are collected. All these pipes are furnished with stop-cocks or valves, so that when the finer parts of what is being distilled have come over, by shutting off the communication with the receiver, and leaving only the supply and steam-pipes open, the pressure of the steam on the surface of the residuum accumulated at the bottom forces it to raise up the supply pipe, whereby the still is cleansed for another operation. The various purposes to which the patentees propose to apply this apparatus will be seen from the claims with which their specification concludes, which are as follows:—1st. The treating in manner above described tallow, lard, oils, and other fatty substances (excepting cocoa-nut oil) when intended to be

used in the manufacture of candles. 2d. The similar treatment of these substances, when used for the manufacture of soap. 3d. The application of steam to the distilling of these substances. 4th. The application of carbonic acid for the same purpose. 5th. The manner of collecting the products, and cleaning out the still. 6th. The re-distilling (by means of the apparatus described) of the acids of stearine, with the atmospheric air excluded, after the same have been previously distilled under exposure to the atmosphere. 7th. The distillation of resin oil by steam, the atmospheric air being excluded. 8th. The re-distilling of the residuum of a first distillation, after it has been ejected by the means before described, and then saponified.

GREAT FOUNTAIN AT CHATSWORTH.—This stupendous work, designed by Mr. Paxton, for the Duke of Devonshire, has been described to the Mechanical Section of the British Association. The fountain is supplied with water from a reservoir which covers 8 acres of land, and which receives the waters from the moors. One hundred thousand yards of earth have been cut away for this reservoir, and 2621 feet of piping, having 298 joints, have been constructed for conveying the water. The fall of the pipe is 381 feet, and the height to be attained by the water from the fountain is 280 feet, or about 60 feet beyond the highest point of York Minster. The description of this fountain was given as applicable to the study of hydrostatics, showing the friction of water upon pipes, the impediment to its free course by friction against the air. One gentleman observed, with reference to the force of water thus emitted, that the sensation produced by putting a finger in the pipe was just like that which would be experienced by putting a finger into the flame of a candle.—*Civil Engineer and Architect's Journal*, Part 86.