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MONKS FOR THE COLONIES.

It is very difficult for those who have been educated in this colony, or who have been long absent from England, or who, when resident there, paid little attention to ecclesiastical matters, to understand the amount of the blessing which the Bishop of Australia, and his friend and correspondent, the virulent Puseyite Coleridge, are preparing for us. Dazzled by its pompous Puseyite prospectuses, bewildered by the names of bishops and archbishops, lords, ladies, knights, deans, archdeacons, and honorables, it is excusable, nay, it is natural, that the colonists should think that the Church of England is putting forth her strength, to extend the principles of the Reformation to them, and that they owe a deep debt of gratitude to those who so liberally come forward, to provide for their spiritual instruction and improvement. But, alas! far other is the opinion which they would form, had they the means of testing the intention of this scheme placed at their command. It shall be our task to point out the hollowness and rottenness of this splendid fabric, which, though fair without, will be found to be within full of dead men's bones.

We must candidly admit, that there are among the subscribers, many who are opposed to the doctrines of Newman and Pusey, and many, of course, of whose opinions we are ignorant; but let none infer from this that the opinions of these subscribers, will be respected in the management of the college, it being expressly provided that subscriptions should give no right of nomination or interference. The material questions are, who set this matter on foot—in whom is the appointment of officers vested—by whom are the preliminary arrangements to be made?

First—The matter originated, either directly or indirectly, with the Bishop of Australia. He, at any rate, is known to us. His teaching—his preaching—his manner of dealing with his clergy—the association he has founded, and the schism and scandal he has raised in his church—all identify him as one in heart and spirit with the bishops of London and Exeter—with Newman, Pusey, and Ward. If this college is founded upon his views, and honored with his cordial support, it is not intended for the dissemination of Protestant doctrines. His organ, Mr. Coleridge, is perfectly well known as one of a family unanimously devoted to Puseyite opinions. The head of the college, the renegade Bishop of Barbadoes—who left his flock, like a hireling, because he was a hireling, and cared not for the sheep—is of this family, and of these opinions.

The appointment of officers is vested in the Bishop of London, who will doubtless take especial care that the discord which prevailed in his diocese, shall not extend to the college, and that within the walls of the resuscitated monastery of St. Augustine, tradition and apostolical succession shall be all in all.

The provisional committee contains a majority of Puseyites—Coleridge, Jelf, Harrison, and Hope, and for aught we know, consists of nothing else.

The visitor is the Archbishop of Canterbury, who has long scandalized the Protestant part of the church by retaining the Rev. B. Harrison, a shining light of the new school, as his domestic chaplain, and who has never been induced to exert himself against Puseyism with any heartiness. In the subscription list we find the names of Gladstone, Marriot, Judge Coleridge, R. Wilberforce, Manning, Greswell, Cour-

tenay, Anderdon, Champernowne, Spry, Moberley, Woolcombe, Gresley, Fronde, Stanley, The President and Fellows of Magdalen College, Oxford, Keble, Fraser, Wordsworth, Churton, Phillimore, and many others, who we know are Puseyites, and who, animated with all the zeal of a new sect, would forward nothing that did not tend to its promotion. It matters not that there are many others who do not belong to a sect. Their zeal is not the same. There is a numerous class in England, very benevolent, but not very discriminating, who subscribe with equal readiness to every scheme which purports to be for the promotion of religion, whether it be to make the copper-colored islanders of the Pacific, Methodists, or the Anglo-Saxon natives of Australia, Papists. There is also a large infusion of lords and ladies in the list, who offer a strong temptation to the hungry aspirant after preferment to bring his name before their notice, or to the tuft-hunter to associate it with so much good company.

To one, however, well acquainted with the state of religious opinion in England, the omissions in this list are most significant. Those who have seen most of Puseyism, who have been brought most in contact with it, who know best what spirit it is of, are not there. The Vice-Chancellors, the Professors, the Heads of Colleges, of both Universities, have kept aloof. The members for the Universities seem to have been equally cautious. Her Majesty's Ministers, with two exceptions, make no sign. Where were the Bishops of Winchester and Chester—Peel, Graham, Ashley, Inglis, Plumptre—Hamden, that they did not contribute to this professedly national object. We suspect, if they could answer, it would be in the words of the late Dr. Arnold; "we feel at once attracted and repelled"—attracted by the name of religious instruction—repelled by the character it is sure to assume in the hands of a Bloomfield and a Coleridge. This is an aristocratic movement—the middle class of England, the ruling body, has no share in it. It is an effort to engraft upon the colonies, the religion of the bishops and the nobles, not the religion of the people. To raise up in the colonies, a city of refuge for Puseyism, should she find herself unable to maintain her ground in England, against the general execration of the laity. Those who founded this college well know, that an institution to supply England with semi-Catholic clergymen, would have to give an account of its doings at the bar of public opinion, but that for the colonies there is no public opinion, and that therefore upon them, any selfish experiment may be tried—any injury be inflicted with absolute impunity. They know that it is easier to poison the stream at the fountain head, than at the mouth. They are wise in their generation, let us be wise in ours. If the laity of this colony, are not prepared to acquiesce in the degradation of the ordinances of their church, at the hands of men, who evade her articles, and deny her doctrines; if they are not prepared to see entailed upon themselves, and their posterity, the curse of a priesthood who are not part of the people, but form a separate, and aspire to be a dominant class, it is time for them to consider well, if nothing can be done on their part, to arrest the progress of this great conspiracy against the Protestant religion, as it has hitherto been taught and believed in the colonies. The monastery of St. Augustine will, they may rely on it, be a propaganda from whence will issue doctors and teachers, as fatal to the welfare and advancement of the human race, as those of the Vatican, but backed with more lavish wealth, and more formidable influence.

MR. WENTWORTH'S DINNER.

We believe that among the sensible and unprejudiced part of the community, there do not exist two opinions as to the merits of Mr. Wentworth. However much certain portions of his public conduct may be disapproved of, (and no doubt he has started and advocated some measures that have not been very generally admired,) upon the whole, he must be considered as the leading political character in New South Wales. He has now been two or three-and-twenty years before the public, in positions more or less prominent, and

during the whole of that long period, his history may be said to form a part (and no inconsiderable part either) of the history of his native land. There has been no question of importance agitated amongst us since the year 1824, with which he has not been more or less identified. Those who are acquainted with his career, will of course be in need of no one to remind them of the many and valuable services which he has rendered to his country. A great part of the public of the present day, however, know him only by his recent proceedings, and it may not, therefore, be out of place to advert, very briefly, to what he has done to merit the admiration which has been so largely accorded to him.

When a very young man, he commenced his career by writing and publishing in England, a history of this colony, with a view to make its great resources and capabilities generally known in the mother country, where previously the grossest ignorance and the strongest prejudice existed respecting this remote province of the empire. The work displayed considerable ability and research, and produced the effect which its author intended. Since then it has been repeatedly referred to, as a book of high authority, and one in every way creditable to the country, as the production of the first native who received a university education. At Cambridge, Mr. Wentworth was remarkable both for his learning and ability, and he attracted considerable notice by the able manner in which he competed for the poetical prize—his poem being, by those who had to decide, considered second only to Mr. Præd's—the successful candidate—while many more considered it the better of the two. The distinction which he attained at the university, was of considerable service to this country, and the British public were inclined to look more favorably upon it, in consequence of the talent which it appeared capable of calling into existence. After having been called to the bar, Mr. Wentworth did not remain long in England, but preferred coming to his native country, although, if he had stayed at Westminster Hall, there can be no doubt that the most brilliant prospects were before him. Shortly after his return, he, in conjunction with the late Dr. Wardell, started the *Australian* newspaper—the first free press that had been seen in the southern hemisphere—and at a time when, to speak with freedom of public measures, and public men, was to be excluded from society, and to be subjected to the most vindictive criminal prosecutions—he introduced into this new country that independent style of discussion which had been so long the ornament and safeguard of the old. For a time, he bore up against the weight of an arbitrary and all-powerful executive, until, at length, prudence compelled him to secede altogether from the press, when he found that he was likely to injure himself, without, in any corresponding degree, benefitting the public. In those days, the governor of this colony was almost irresponsible; the country was ruled by a code but little better than martial law, and the head of the executive was a morose, ignorant, and unyielding tyrant, knowing not the benefits of liberty himself, and unwilling to tolerate the possession of it, by others. Against the despotism of this man, Mr. Wentworth brought all his abilities to bear, and not entirely without success. Although he was not able to control, he yet had power sufficient to hold the tyrant at bay. He did not indeed prevent the passing of Acts by a servile Council, for the purpose of gagging the press, and banishing public writers from the country, but he enabled public opinion, in some degree, to resist the torrent of oppression that was threatening to oversweep the land. His ceaseless and powerful agitation in those days laid the foundation of that measure of freedom which we now enjoy. His efforts to obtain trial by jury, next claim our attention, and in this respect, he certainly did the state some service. For a long time all civil and criminal issues were tried by a jury of seven officers, over whom the Governor, as commander-in-chief, exercised nearly unlimited control, and only those who remember the manner in which justice was administered, or rather discountenanced, by this most extraordinary tribunal, particularly in cases

where the Executive were interested, can fully appreciate the vast benefit conferred upon the country by allowing us an appeal in all matters affecting our lives, our liberty, or our property, to that *judicium parium* which has so long protected the land from which we have sprung. In the endeavour to secure to all persons accused amongst us a right of putting themselves, in the expressive language of the common law, upon their country, Mr. Wentworth had many difficulties to contend with—not the least of which was the opposition of a clique, some of whose leaders, a few of the native youth we believe, are now base enough to be desirous of honoring, while they are neglecting, the man who did so much for them and their posterity. After repeated failures—after many disappointments, Mr. Wentworth, assisted by Dr Bland and other friends, at length saw trial by jury established in New South Wales, and we again assert that it is only those who can recollect the previous state of things, and the immense efforts that were required to effect a change, that can now say how much the colony is indebted to Mr. Wentworth in this matter. Contemporaneous with his struggles for the right of trial by jury, were his attempts to procure the recognition by Parliament of our right to be governed by our own representatives. His endeavours to attain this object were prodigious. By public meetings, petitions, addresses, and in short by every conceivable mode of legitimate agitation, he kept the public mind alive to the importance of this subject, and though for a long time thwarted by the same people who opposed trial by jury, he at length succeeded so far as to obtain for us our present constitution. Defective as that constitution is—clogged as it is with an enormous civil list—contemptible as it is, when compared with that constitution which, and which only, Englishmen are, from their boyhood, taught to admire, it is still far superior to the one which preceded it. It is but a small part of that full self-control, which we know to be our birthright—but, small as it is, it is to Mr. Wentworth, particularly, above all other men, that we owe it. In promoting the cause of education, Mr. Wentworth has always displayed a laudable activity, though, in this respect, he must yield to Dr. Bland, of whose exertions in so noble a cause, it is impossible to speak with too much praise. Mr. Wentworth's later acts, as a member of the present Council, are, of course, known to every one. Elected at a time of acknowledged difficulty, and great public distress, he was looked up to, as one equal to the task of relieving us from the evils under which the entire community was sinking, and he justified the expectations that were formed of him. Recalled, after a period of temporary retirement, into the busy arena of political life, he assumed the first place, and exerted his talents with a degree of energy and success, worthy of his former reputation. From the opening session, in 1843, until the present time, he has been the most diligent of our representatives, and although it may be, that there are comparatively few people who think that in all his measures he has acted with uniform wisdom and discretion, none but his personal enemies will deny that, upon the whole, he has been the means of effecting great good for the community. His Preferable Lien Act, in particular, is, by almost universal consent, allowed to have, (more than any thing else) saved hundreds of our most enterprising colonists from utter ruin. In our opinion, and in the opinion of a large majority of the public also, this Preferable Lien Act, however, forms but a small item in the entire amount of good which he has achieved. Though unsuccessful in his attempts to reduce the rate of interest upon existing mortgages, and to limit it upon future ones, the discussions to which his bills gave rise, have had the effect of indirectly bringing about the object which he had in view. The eyes of capitalists were opened to the enormous absurdity of exacting a rate of interest, which was eating up the entire capital of the country, and the consequence has been, that the reductions he endeavoured to force, by means of a legislative enactment, have been voluntarily made, and interest and profit bear now some reasonable proportion to each other. In opposing the arbitrary policy of Sir George Gipps, and in endeavouring to wrest from the hands of the executive, the power to impose a species of taxation, independent of the control of the Legislative Council, he has always been in the foremost rank, urging on the waverers, and animating the timid, by his example. Whenever constitutional principles were to be asserted or defended—whenever the reverse was to be denounced, he has always been at his post—superior, in every instance, to any consideration, but the desire to benefit his country.

There are, indeed, a few paltry-spirited creatures who, ignorant of the nature of public worth, allege that, because in serving his constituents he served himself, he was therefore actuated by selfish motives; and some of those who do not venture to deny that the Preferable Lien Act has been extensively beneficial, are not ashamed to derogate from the merits of its author, by asserting that he himself was one of the largest participators in the advantages which it conferred. It may be true that Mr. Wentworth did some good for himself by introducing this measure, but the good done to the country was not the less on that account, and truly contemptible must those people be, who think that he is the only man in this community who ought not to share in the benefits of his own senatorial exertions. In estimating the value of a public man's

performances, all that the public have a right to do is, to look to results and not to motives, and if the former are worthy of commendation, the latter need not be enquired into. The imputation of interested motives in this matter is absurd, too, on other grounds, for in endeavouring to ascertain what was good for the country, Mr. Wentworth could not do better than inquire what was good for himself. His own case was the case of a hundred others, engaged in similar pursuits, and by providing for one he provided for all.

The ability of Mr. Wentworth, we believe, has never been questioned. As a speaker on great occasions, he is second to no man in the colony. Mr. Lowe is more uniformly eloquent, but when there is anything to induce Mr. Wentworth to put forth all his power, there are few men that can surpass him. Many instances of this could be mentioned, but his treatment of Mr. Boyd, when that gentleman threatened to make a bargain with the Executive for the purpose of accomplishing the independence of Port Phillip, is a sufficient illustration. A nobler burst of oratory than this was never delivered within the walls of the Legislative Council. It would have done honor to any speaker. The effect produced by it was electrical. It extinguished, at one blow, the contemplated conspiracy, and made the plotter of that conspiracy look peculiarly insignificant.

Mr. Wentworth has frequently been charged with evincing an intemperate zeal in the discussion of public questions, and his violence has been supposed on some occasions to have deprived him of the means of judging rightly. Those who form this estimate of him are, we think, mistaken. Looking at his career in the present Council, we cannot see that he has ever been guilty of displaying that unbridled energy which was thought to be his peculiar failing. On the contrary, so far as we can recollect, his speeches have been remarkably calm and deliberate. Strong expressions, no doubt, he has used from time to time, but only such as an independent statesman has a right to use, when denouncing the misconduct of men in power. To the sneaks and sycophants of the day, such independence as this cannot be otherwise than displeasing, but those whose good opinion is better worth having, view it with peculiar satisfaction.

Upon the whole, we may safely say that Mr. Wentworth's exertions have been commensurate with his gifts. Endowed with great talents, he has uniformly exerted them in the service, and for the benefit, of his country. In every political movement of importance during the last twenty-two years, he has occupied the foremost place, and he has done more than any man amongst us, towards obtaining for us whatever portion of political freedom we now enjoy.

It is to this native of the colony, thus distinguished, that a public dinner is to be given on the twenty-sixth, and no man was ever more deserving of such a mark of respect. An unworthy and contemptible opposition to this dinner has been set on foot, we regret to say, by some of Mr. Wentworth's own countrymen. Our regret at this outrageous piece of folly does not arise from any apprehension that it will, even in appearance, diminish Mr. Wentworth's popularity, but rather from the fact that any of Australia's sons should be so grossly ignorant as to act in this manner. The Australians who have joined this opposition, are men of no intrinsic influence themselves, nor do they possess one single qualification that entitles them to take a prominent part in public affairs, but as natives of the colony, their defection from the right side is on that account to be deplored. If they were endowed with the smallest share of common sense, they would at once see the absurdity of which they are guilty, in refusing to do honor to Mr. Wentworth on this occasion. His education and ability ought at all times to command their respect, and they ought to be ashamed ever to be found in opposition to a countryman of their own, who has done so much for the reputation of his native land.

The pretext which these foolish and ill-informed people have set up is, that the anniversary of the colony's formation should not be set apart for the purpose of doing honor to any individual, however great might be his merits. No objection could be more unfounded than this. No doubt it is commendable in not only the natives of the colony, but in the colonists generally, to meet together once a year, and commemorate the first settlement of the land in which they live. A dinner got up by the friends and admirers of Mr. Wentworth, or any body else, for the express purpose of interfering with, or preventing any such demonstration as this, would of course be highly objectionable. But we all of us know that, during the last four years, there has been no anniversary dinner worthy of the name, and this year no active steps were taken to get one up, until the contemplated dinner to Mr. Wentworth was announced. In fixing upon the twenty-sixth, Mr. Wentworth's friends had no desire to interfere with any anniversary demonstration, for no such thing was talked of—and, to all appearance, no such thing was in contemplation. The day was considered an open one, and one not likely to be dedicated to any other purpose, and, consequently, it was fixed upon as more eligible than any other. And, in coming to this determination, the stewards acted, in our opinion, with great judgment, for we consider that there is no day so appropriate as the twenty-sixth of January for the purpose of doing honor to the

first and most distinguished of Australia's sons. That day could not possibly be better spent, than in showing respect to a native of the soil, whose political principles have ever been on the side of freedom, and whose exertions have always been in accordance with those principles—whose independence of thought and action has never been clouded by a moment's vacillation—and whose ability has, for nearly a quarter of a century, been uniformly conspicuous. As to the anniversary dinner, there can be no doubt that it originated from no patriotic motives. A few ignorant people were desirous of thwarting, as much as was within their power, the efforts of Mr. Wentworth's friends, and hence their extreme solicitude for the honor of the twenty-sixth. Many of these silly and insignificant persons pretend to be warm admirers of Mr. Wentworth's political career, and express their willingness to attend any dinner that may be given to him on any other day. Whether their good wishes be sincere or not, both Mr. Wentworth and his friends, we dare say, can well spare their company—for their approbation and their dislike, are equally contemptible. Secure in the esteem of the really respectable, educated, and intelligent portion of the community—satisfied with the approbation of those who are best able to judge for themselves; Mr. Wentworth, we are sure, will not regret the absence of any of his ignorant and weak-minded countrymen, otherwise than with pity for the extreme stupidity which they are displaying. He has, on more than one occasion, had cause to be disgusted with their conduct—more especially, in the celebrated instance when they invited him to preside at a dinner attended exclusively by Australians on a former anniversary. His unlettered and inexperienced countrymen on that occasion were violently indignant with him for refusing their invitation. Since then, some of them have become a little more civilised, while others remain as obtuse as ever. This incorrigible and unteachable clique, we admit, cannot be better occupied than in allowing themselves to be led by the nose against the true interests of their country. They are worthy of such a fate. But no punishment or degradation can be too great for those among this "opposition" who are not natives, and who, if they will reflect for a moment, must remember that, if it had not been for Mr. Wentworth's exertions, many of them would have still had stamped upon their foreheads, that mark of infamy which certain people that they are now desirous of courting, endeavoured to fix upon them and their posterity unto the third and fourth generation.

As it is, we rejoice to see that the most respectable people of all classes in society estimate Mr. Wentworth as he deserves, and that his dinner on the twenty-sixth will be attended by a more numerous and influential assemblage than ever before came together in this colony on a similar occasion. The day selected is a good one, and the man that has been chosen is well worthy of the distinction. Those who deserve well of their country, have in all ages been loaded with public honors and rewards. Rome of old had her rock of triumph—her high place where she embraced her heroes—it is fit that we, too, should show, though in another, and a less imposing way, that we know how to honor him who, like "Rome's latest tribune," has ever been, in the land of his nativity,

The forum's champion and the people's chief.

THE RESIDENT JUDGE.

We understand it to be the intention of the members of the Port Phillip Bar to entertain his Honor the Resident Judge at dinner prior to his departure for Sydney. We should opine that in like manner the inhabitants would press forward to testify, by a similar mark of respect, the sentiments they entertain towards his Honor during his short sojourn amongst us, for truly may we say, "we ne'er shall look upon his like again."—*Port Phillip Patriot.*

WEEP, Port Phillipians! Men of Melbourne mourn
For the dear Judge, who never shall return.
Too precious Roger braves the angry main—
We ne'er shall look upon his like again.

Who, now, shall wrong'd Commissioners redress,
When Squatters sue and jurymen oppress?
Such law from others to expect were vain—
We ne'er shall look upon his like again.

How can we e'er forget the day when Sprott
Did get the verdict, but the costs did not!
While baffled jurors fume and fret in vain—
We ne'er shall look upon his like again.

Fyans his pistol grasps, and says with pride,
Roger is gone, but *this* can still decide.
Lead can alone replace his matchless brain—
We ne'er shall look upon his like again.

Spread, spread the banquet—who'd a dinner grudge
To him—the patriot sage—the hero judge,
Whose soul was made to break oppression's chain—
We ne'er shall look upon his like again.

And oh, should Sydney so ungrateful prove
As not to cherish him we fondly love,
Not long another in his stead shall reign—
Whose like we never shall behold again.

Oh! never, never! Black shall turn to white—
Jeffreys and Denman shall in one unite—
Mansfield and Scroggs be one in heart and brain—
Ere we shall look on Roger's like again!