

the events that have occurred in the Church of England within the last 5 years—teach us, if we are not ignorant of the signs of the times, or spiritually infatuated, to associate such things with the superstition and idolatry of Rome. There are already several churches in England which have crucifixes on their "altars," to which the knee is bowed; and if the advances already made in this colony are to be tolerated, we may soon witness the same.

These are not mere groundless suppositions, but founded upon occurring events. Many have gone over to the Church of Rome within a late period, from that famous seat of learning and once famous bulwark of Protestantism—Oxford. Thirty of its members have already seceded, amongst whom are about eighteen clergymen, some of them men of rank and influence. Crosses, and things of their kind, are approximations to Rome. They are Rome's insignia—beacons which already have directed many thither. The creatures of a superstition arising in the bosom of the Church of England, which, if not suppressed, will hatch such a brood of abominations as we may fear shall bring down the displeasure of God upon the church of our fathers. "So that he will cast her out of his sight," and Protestant Briton, like apostate Israel, shall "become a proverb and a by-word among all people"—(1 Kings, ch. 9, ver. 6-9).

MR. ATLAS—The Squatting Act is now nearly defunct. "To be or not to be" renewed; "that is the question." So far in the Bush as we are, we cannot tell how quickly these matters may be carried out in Sydney, although we are far more intimately acquainted with the working of these enactments than the framers themselves.

There is a report that there will be an appointment of a Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, to reside in Sydney, at a salary of £— per annum. I want this birth! My name is Sponge—I want your recommendation—you will give it, for you profess to be honest and honorable—so am I. My character and qualifications: I have closely observed the actions of Commissioners and Magistrates, and am therefore able to follow precedents and examples. I have no money—no estate—no profession—and cannot get a living without a Government appointment—(some say I am too lazy to work and too stupid to live, but this is a libel)—I owe many small debts—I often leave my reckoning unpaid; I have even borrowed silver from publicans, and "made my lucky with it." I have some small dislikes and quarrels, which I think I could settle to my own satisfaction were I dressed in a little brief authority. My mode of proceeding would be very plain and concise. If accused of giving a decision contrary to evidence—instead of arguing, or denying the accusation, I would freely admit it, and blandly add, "but I go by my own opinion in this matter." I should have no hesitation in fining any young man five pounds or more, at the same time refusing to hear any witnesses or defence he might have ready—unless I was afraid that he had sufficient spirit and cash to annoy me afterwards. Nor should I hesitate to give a servant an award against a master I did not like—should the master be absent and unsummoned; and *vice versa*, according to my taste. I would also (to favour whom I pleased) refuse to hear criminal informations for murder, perjury, and other trifles. I would not mind altering the book, &c., in my own office—if nobody were present; and, when convenient, I should certainly manage to lose papers, for I could easily certify that they never existed.

Had I any direct authority over other Magistrates and Commissioners, should I punish them for acting in a similar manner? The question needs no reply.

Now, Mr. ATLAS, I call upon you, by your own high-flown protestations, by the character you started with and have maintained before the public, to do something for me. Take particular notice of this application—urge it upon the Legislative Council—let them consider it when arguing the renewal of the Squatting Act—do not allow them to treat this letter as a joke.

To revert to myself, if by my present professions I am not calculated much to surpass my predecessors, consider—I might improve, and soon after my instalment into office get more thoroughly acquainted with the minutiae of business.

Let me, at least, have a common Commissionership. Should I fail in this, my first application, may Heaven reward me with the office of a *Judge in the Supreme Court*, a *Chairmanship of Quarter Sessions*, or a *Police Magistracy*.

I know a fine, or rather a splendid run, part of it belongs to a Mr. Square (hang him)—use your most strenuous influence for me (as you undoubtedly ought)—I will ensure it for you, and we will not talk of arrears of assessment, trespasses, &c. If you could lend me a few pounds, you would much oblige

Your affectionate,

PARASITE SPONGE.

5th June, 1846.

SUPREME COURT.—INSOLVENCY JURISDICTION.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24.

(Before their Honors the three Judges.)

CERTIFICATES.

The certificates of discharge granted to John Garrick, Thomas Carew, John Taggart, Henry Fisher, and Dansie Sawkins, were confirmed.

PLANS OF DISTRIBUTION.

Plans of distribution in the estates of John Edye Manning and Joseph Hyde Potts, the former yielding a final dividend of 4d. in the pound, and the latter a final dividend of 1s. 4d. in the pound, were confirmed.

ESTATE OF CYRUS MATTHEW DOYLE.

This estate was released from sequestration, the creditors having consented to an offer of twenty shillings in the pound, with eight per cent. interest.

IN THE ESTATE OF JOHN TERRY HUGHES.

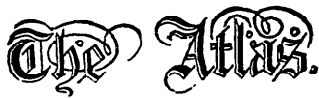
This was an appeal by Henry Macdermott and the Bank of Australia, as creditors in the above estate, from the decision of the Chief Commissioner, who had suspended the certificate of the insolvent for twelve months. The insolvent had been compulsorily brought before the Court of the Chief Commissioner, upon a citation issued at the instance of Mr. Macdermott, in order that he might be dealt with as the Act prescribes in cases where the insolvent abstains from making his own application.

The proceedings commenced as long back as the 14th July, 1845, and the different hearings had been continued by adjournment, until the 19th of February last, on which day the Chief Commissioner gave judgment, deciding on suspending the insolvent's certificate for twelve months from the date of application. It was against this decision that the present appeals had been made.

Messrs. Foster and Fisher counsel for the Bank of Australia; Mr. Michie for Mr. Henry Macdermott; and Messrs. Windeyer and Broadhurst for the insolvent.

The petitioners relied upon the whole of the evidence which had been taken in connexion with the estate.

The case had been closed last Court day, and his Honor the Chief Justice this day delivered the Judgment of the Court, that the certificate of the insolvent must be wholly withheld. His Honor stated that the opposing creditors having succeeded by an appeal from the decision of the Chief Commissioner, which was to a certain extent in the insolvent's favour, the Court could not give costs against the latter.



SYDNEY: SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1846.

We understand that the notoriety-hunting gentlemen, having failed to entice Sir George Gipps to a public dinner, before his departure, have started a subscription for the purpose of procuring the erection of a statue, commemorative of the many distinguished services which His Excellency has conferred upon the colony. We are quite sure that the wise attempt of these gentlemen will meet with all the success that it deserves. At all events, it will give an opportunity to the hangers-on and time-servers to show their gratitude for past favours, though we fear such a monument will cut but a sorry figure when placed in contrast with that of Sir George's predecessor.

LATEST ENGLISH NEWS.

THE arrival of the *Agincourt*, on Thursday afternoon, (*the mail packet for March*.) has put us in possession of important English news up to the 6th of that month, she having left the Downs on the 8th. The February packet is still due.

Sir Robert Peel's motion on the Corn Laws had been carried in the House of Commons by a majority of 97, the numbers being for the motion, 337; against it, 240.

America—important news on the Oregon question will be found among our extracts.

India—large reinforcements for the Indian army were about to leave England. Six regiments of infantry and two of cavalry were spoken of as being under immediate orders.

THE CORN LAW QUESTION.

The question of the corn laws, may, as we have said before, be considered as set at rest. In spite of resignations, ejections, and protection meetings, the Minister has had a majority of 97—a majority greater than that which supported him on several occasions, ere he had startled the intelligence, roused the fears, or offended the consciences of his Conservative adherents. Another question may also be considered as dismissed, or, at any rate, as diminished in importance. That is, "What will the Lords do!" With a majority of only 70, the Premier might have looked forward to the tactics of the upper house with anxiety,—had it been only 60, with alarm. He may now, as far as the safety of his measure is concerned, regard them with indifference. The House of Commons dare not rescind a vote which it has thus confirmed by an after recantation: the House of Peers will be wise enough to avoid a collision with the representatives of public opinion.

But, it is asked, and asked too with sincere and unstimulated doubt,—Is public opinion really on the side of the Premier? How has it been tested? Look to the premises:—A House of Commons, elected especially on protective principles, by the will of large and enthusiastic constituencies—making protective speeches—uttering protective cheers for three years together,—and then in the fourth year suddenly veering round, disposing of all its former speeches, protestations, and professions, as a professor of conjuring disposes of white pocket handkerchiefs. How can you tell this emanation of public opinion? Public opinion disowns such an affiliation, is scandalized by such levity, and is disgusted by such a palliation. Besides, public opinion is not a dumb thing. It speaks loudly and intelligibly. It shows itself in gatherings and large assemblies, in the excitement of crowds, and the enthusiasm of cities. Where is that public opinion signifying itself now? Where is the excitement? Where the commotion? Where the expression of popular feeling? There is nothing of this sort. The Minister has outrun it by his policy; has outraged it by his fickleness; has calumniated it by his defence. You must seek its voice elsewhere." There are who spoke thus a week ago, and whom a majority of 97 in the House of Commons has failed to convince. They speak so still. They believe what they say. Their consciences and their interests are in a happy accordance. Their professions jump with their principles. They believe what they wish to believe. Their faith is deeply coloured by their hopes. They look for a sign to disabuse their impressions; but they look in the wrong place, or with shaded eyes, and therefore they look in vain. "The country is not with them," they mutter; "we appeal to it,—or to the Lords."

Appeal to the country! For what? A great ethical experiment! To read lectures at the hustings of political consistency, or harangue mobs on the duties of a party? Alas! we grieve to say, the people, or rather the constituencies—care for none of these things at election times. Not that the nation is indifferent to the merits of constituency or the weakness of vacillation. They judge with an exact rigour of political deserters and individual apostates. A "turncoat" is a name of obloquy even in a village. The man who has changed his principles without cause, or sold them for a consideration, runs the risk of atoning by involuntary lapidation for his delinquencies. They think there is something mean, cowardly, shabby, in not standing to one's colours. It is related that a colour-sergeant who, at the battle of Fontenoy, had displayed unprecedented gallantry in maintaining the standard with which he was entrusted, was afterwards charged with a felony. The testimony was strong, positive, and consistent. Evidence of character was adduced. Among other things, witnesses spoke of his heroism on that occasion. This decided the verdict. He was acquitted. The jury could not believe that a man who had kept his colours at the hazard of his life could do a mean or criminal act. This is a popular feeling; you see it in every mob, in every assembly. Let a man cling to an unfortunate or unpopular side, he will gain the respect of bystanders, enemies, partisans. "He stood by him through thick and thin," is an expressive eulogy, which is understood nowhere so well as it is in England, and by none so well as an English mob.

Those are right who lay great stress on the English love of firmness, consistency, devotion. It is the essence of our loyal feeling. All the nonsense which is spouted after dinner about "the British lion" is but the effervescence of a sound and manly principle.

And they are right in inferring that the constituencies of the kingdom would avenge themselves on the apostacy of those who had turned their coats and their votes. They would do in other boroughs as they did in Westminster. They would shoulder off the labourer who came at the eleventh hour—to make way for him who had toiled in the heat of the day. Yet, remember this, Protectionists. A new election would see the punishment of deserters; but it would not see enlistment of new recruits in the same cause. You would be gratified by the castigation of those who had betrayed you, not by the concession of new forces to your standard. The nation which would gladly punish apostacy is on the brink of apostatizing itself. "Protection," as a word of charm, has gone by. It strikes on ears all but indifferent, on hearts all but dull. The country has gone to school for the last few years. It doubts what it once denied—it admits what it once doubted. It would find scapegoats for its non-conversion, and immolate victims on the altar of consistency. Inconstant itself, it yet admires, but would not elect, the constant lovers of protection. It gives them "vails," and bids them gracefully adieu. It says to them prettily, coquettishly, but not without meaning:—

*Lu-istis satis, edistis satis, atque bibistis;
Tempus abire."*

It has been gradually unlearning its former economical lessons; and hitherto it has found material as well as intellectual gain in its change of doctrine. The new tariff disabused it of some old ideas, and set it a thinking on some fresh ones. It learned thereby that a nation may have more and yet not be worse off than before: may eat, drink, and buy more from other nations than it did, and yet not be the poorer; and that it is possible so to adjust customs as to receive less upon each article separately, but yet gain more upon the whole aggregate of imports. Its interests and its theories have so far harmonized. It has forgotten its predilection for "protection" in the abstract, but saves its character for consistency by condemning the immortality of Parliamentary renegades.

Let not the protectionists imagine that the old colours may be waved triumphantly over the country, or the old cry be re-sounded in the counties. If they see no startling enthusiasm—no wild excitement—no fierce and sturdy combination in behalf of free trade, it is because the necessities of the times and the tone of the people do not require them. The people of England deride superfluous preparations and unprovoked combinations. When the time comes for resistance or for exertion they combine with alacrity, and struggle with resolution. They are quiet now, for there is no show of determined opposition, no intimation of even a temporary check. They have made up their minds to the issue. Slowly, and step by step, the late adopted policy of the minister has made its way against the prejudices of party or the interests of crafts. It has been conned over and over again in ten thousand homesteads. It may not, yet be universally popular; but the good sense of the country is embracing it. Not the good sense alone, but the good faith likewise. Men who hope to see a general principle limited to one object, and a legislative battery concentrated against one class, are beginning to acknowledge that their own lot is justly cast with that of others. Those who had indulged the desire of seeing the landowners damaged by an exclusive act, confess the impartiality of a policy which comprehends mercers, tailors, and tanuers. The confession may not be general, nor the satisfaction universal: but it is sufficient to observe that the dissatisfaction is not strong enough nor wide enough to encourage the Lords in provoking an "appeal to the country." To do this with effect would require a greater political strategy, and a greater economical knowledge, than belong to the leaders of the protection party.—*Times, March 3.*

AMERICA.

By a private merchant vessel we have later accounts, reaching up to the 11th ult.

On the 9th ult. the following resolutions were passed:—

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the President of the United States cause notice to be given to the Government of Great Britain, that the convention between the United States of America and Great Britain, concerning the territory of the north-west coast of America, west of the Stony Mountains, of the 6th August, 1827, signed at London shall be annulled and abrogated in twelve months after giving the said notice.

"2. And be it further resolved, that nothing herein contained is intended to interfere with the right and discretion of the proper authorities of the two contracting parties to renew or pursue negotiations for an amicable settlement of the controversy respecting the Oregon territory."

We take the following from the *New York Herald*:—

The vote in the House of Representatives upon the notice resolutions, analysed, shows that the parties have all been split to pieces upon this question.

The vote was as follows:—

AFFIRMATIVE.		NEGATIVE.	
Democrats	121	Democrats	15
Whigs	37	Whigs	37
Natives	1	Natives	1
Total 163		Total 54	
Majority 109			

There were only three members absent—two Democrats and one Whig.

All the members from South Carolina voted against the motion but one. This is a significant fact, as it points to a similar course on the part of the Senators from that state. The votes of members from the other southern states were pretty equally divided.

It appears that the only condition made in the resolutions that passed the house by such a large majority was one preventing them from interfering with any negotiations that may be going on, or that may hereafter arise. This does not amount to much, as the resolutions will probably be very much altered and modified before they can have any effect.

It is possible that the recent correspondence that has passed between the Secretary of State and the British Minister, and the position taken by the President, as exhibited in Mr. Buchanan's letters, may have a great influence in the Senate, and prevent the passage of the resolutions giving the twelve months' notice, of such a liberal character as anticipated by many previous to the publication of that correspondence. The senators, even, in favour of concurring with the house in giving the notice, may not be disposed to leave so much to the President as they have heretofore.

Messrs. Allen, Cass, and Hannegan, are considered the mouth pieces of Mr. Polk in the Senate; and whatever may be stated by those Senators in debate can, therefore be considered as the President's views. The decided stand taken by these gentlemen, and the war speeches of General Cass, clearly show that the Government feel justified in placing the country in a position to meet any emergency. This indicates very little hope of an amicable settle-

ment of the question; but we are not disposed to put such a construction upon any preparations the Government may make for war. We have not given up all hope of the virtue of negotiations. Even in the event of appropriations being made to place our ports in a better state of defence, and the increase of our navy to a new standard, the giving of the notice, the expiration of the twelve months, and the official announcement that mutual or joint occupancy has ceased, we do not abandon all hope of an amicable, satisfactory arrangement of the question.

All may hasten negotiations, and bring about a more speedy settlement of the disputed points. So long as the question is left open, and both parties have before them an unlimited period, we cannot expect any decided action; but if the notice is given, something must be done at once, and if the two Governments will approach each other with a determination to bring matters to a crisis at once, and then Mr. Pakenham can offer the *ultimatum* of his Government. The effect of the recent movements in relation to this question, upon trade and commerce, has been of the most injurious character, and all feel anxious to see the end of it. Any honourable compromise, any arrangement, rather than months or years of such uncertainty as now exists.—*Times*, March 5.

THE OREGON QUESTION.

The resolutions for the abrogation of the convention of 1827, which recognised the temporary joint occupation of the Oregon territory by Great Britain and the United States, have passed the House of Representatives by a majority of 163 to 54 votes, and there is no doubt that they have since been adopted by the Senate. The confident announcement which we made yesterday morning has thus been fulfilled within a few hours, and all doubt is removed on this part of the case. It must be borne in mind, that there is nothing, either in the nature or in the form of these resolutions, which exceeds the undoubted right of either party to the convention of 1827, or violates the courtesy of nations. Thus far, the difficulties of the case are scarcely aggravated by the notice. But this resolution having been irrevocably taken, the peace of the world depends upon the next step which may be set along this slippery path. Is Mr. Polk now prepared to open the negotiation on an admissible basis, or must we infer from his silence that the settlement of this question is not the real object of his policy, but that he entertains very different designs, which the next twelve months will disclose to the world?

In estimating the causes which guide human conduct and govern the destinies of the world, there is unhappily a very wide distinction to be drawn between good reasons and probable motives; and the history of the follies and disasters which befall mankind is nothing more than the result of the preponderance which the worst incentives sometimes acquire over the best conviction. That form of government is undoubtedly safest and wisest which is best able to preserve the balance of a temperate and rational policy from the accidents of passion and of popular delusion. But the more a Government tends to the extreme of despotic power or of democratic license, the less can we rely upon this salutary control, and the more reason have we to dread the predominance of its insane impulses over its sane reasons and true interests. The other day, when the Governor-General of India doubted the intentions of the Sikh army, and affirmed that they would not cross the Sutlej, until he was actually apprised that their whole force had taken up a strong position on the left bank of the river, his opinion was formed upon reasons which would have been conclusive if they had applied to a rational Government and a prudent General, but which were false with reference to the sots and strumpets of Lahore and to the Sirdars of that licentious camp. Sir Henry Hardinge miscalculated the course of events by giving the enemy credit for more self-control and less fool-hardiness than the Sikhs really possessed. They were, no doubt, mistaken in the objects and prospects of their invasion, but it required three days of frightful slaughter to convince them that they had better have stayed at home.

The same remark may be applied, *mutatis mutandis*, to the attitude which has now been assumed towards this country by the Cabinet and Congress of the United States. Excellent, innumerable, and unanswerable arguments may be found to demonstrate the absurdity and wickedness of a war between the United States and Great Britain—the immense disproportion between the forces of the contending Powers—the close relation of their common interests—the worthlessness of the territory in dispute—the enormous injury which war must inflict on the states engaged in it, and may possibly on the whole world—and the infamy which such a catastrophe must heap upon the heads of the accidental statesmen and the popular dupes by whom alone it is provoked. Nothing can be truer, nothing more certain; but is it ascertained that truth and reason are exclusively the guiding lights of the policy of Mr. Polk? Must we not rather argue *against* truth and *against* reason, if we would arrive at a correct calculation of his perverse career? From the portentous declaration contained in his inaugural address down to the very last act of his Government, which was to heap fuel upon an angry debate by the precipitate publication of the negotiation so lately renewed by Mr. Pakenham, every part of his conduct has evinced a direct tendency to war, which we have only treated lightly, because it seemed, in spite of himself to be utterly incredible. The good reasons against war are so evident in this country and throughout Europe,—and the bad motives which may lead to war are so obscure, so peculiarly American, and in part so nefarious, that we have never condescended to acknowledge that the cause of peace could be sacrificed to such considerations. But, since the repeated messages and the public acts of the President have thrown off all disguise, and rejected every alternative, he must be judged as a man actuated by the most deplorable motives, and who can only be arrested in his disastrous career by the re-action which the consequences of his policy must occasion. No doubt that re-action will occur; it is the retributive punishment of the excesses of democratic governments; but we are compelled to add, that it seldom acts with sufficient energy and opportunity to prevent them; and it is more likely to pursue Mr. Polk's administration than to restrain it in its course. At present, the recent votes at Congress have placed the game in his hands.

An American President is raised for a limited period to the exercise of a limited power. As nothing but impeachment can shorten the duration of his term of office, whilst it may be doubled by his re-election, he has a strong inducement to play the highest stakes of ambition, to repay a hundredfold to his party the support which that party has given him, and to make all the power he enjoys, and all the interests of the state contribute to this personal and party object. The outbreak of a war, and especially of a war which has been rendered popular by artful appeals to the passions of the democratic party, as the only event which can suddenly enlarge the powers of the executive Government in the United States. It places at once at the disposal of the administration immense sums of money, loan contracts, army and navy contracts, and military and naval patronage on a great scale. The whole people are constrained to concur in strengthening and concentrating the forces of the executive power; and in the excitement of success,

or the terrors of defeat, they become alike insensible to the effects of measures which would be regarded at another time as dangerous inroads on their freedom. Mr. Polk probably does not aim at any serious encroachment on the liberties of the United States; but we have no doubt that he does aim at securing, by every possible means, the unbounded ascendancy of the democratic party. If war be possible, if its horrors and disgrace are to be inflicted on the world, there is not a man in either hemisphere who will not clearly know that such a war could only be caused by the democratic party in America, and for the supposed interests of that party. That execrable motive, that false and deluded policy, may, we are told, prevail over all the higher considerations which stand forth so prominently before the world that he who runs may read. We disbelieve it, for we refuse to attribute to our own American descendants, in this civilised age, a conduct which was accredited even in the barbarians of the Sikh camp. But the resistance to this dangerous and alarming tendency must not be looked for in the cabinet of Washington; it can only arise amongst the American people. Upon them the hopes of peace now rest. The courage of moderation is the rarest of all courage in popular states, but the tone of the greater part of the press in the United States has of late much improved, and we trust the nation will pause to weigh the consequences of the resolution which has just been carried. The guarded and dignified expressions of the Queen's speech, the temperate language of the Government, the opinion delivered by Lord John Russell at Glasgow, the free-trade measures of Sir Robert Peel, and the attitude which has been assumed by France for the maintenance of a strict neutrality in this dispute, implying her disapproval of the aggressive and warlike policy of the American Government, are all important circumstances which cannot fail to act on public opinion in America. They were not known there upon the 9th of February. The next step upon the path Mr. Polk has hitherto pursued must be one of active preparation for war. Congress must be prepared to give into the hands of the rashest Government which ever assembled at the White-house the means of sustaining the most formidable and the most-wanton conflict the Union has ever engaged in. The real pressure of danger will then be felt; and at the same time easy and honorable means of preserving the amicable relations of the two countries will lie open to the choice of the people. If in that choice they err, the curse of all that may ensue will rest upon their country.—*Times*.

Domestic.

LAUNCH OF THE STEAMER PHENIX.

On Wednesday last, this vessel was launched from the building yard of Mr. Chowne, at Pymont, being the twin vessel with the *Sovereign*, also built by Mr. Chowne. It being high water about ten o'clock, that was the hour appointed for the launch; long before that time, however, the neighbourhood of the yard was thronged with persons occupying every available position along the shore, as well as several steamers well filled, numbers of boats and small craft in the bay, to obtain a view of the ceremony adopted on such occasions. We have, in a former publication, spoken of the good taste and mechanical skill which had been brought into action in building this vessel, but our remarks on that occasion, fell far short of the merit due to Mr. Chowne as a shipbuilder; she was then in an unfinished state as regarded her hull, but every pains having been taken to make her as perfect as possible Mr. Chowne appears to have fully succeeded, and this, too, within the short space of eight months, about which time her keel was laid down.

Mr. E. Manning, the principal owner of the vessel, together with his lady, accompanied by the honorable the Colonial Secretary and lady, the Solicitor-General, and others of his family were present.

It having been arranged that Mrs. E. Manning should perform the ceremony of christening her, every preparation having been made, orders were given to knock away the shores, and in an instant she glided from the stocks, during which, Mrs. Manning dashed the bottle of wine against her bows, and christened her the *Phoenix*, amidst the cheers of the multitude.

The launch was effected as successfully in every respect as could have been wished, and we have heard of no accident that could in any way tend to mar the pleasures of the day.

Immediately after the launch, the honorable the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Manning, and friends, proceeded on board to partake of a luncheon provided for the occasion, at which the customary toasts were given and responded to, after which the company gradually dispersed, highly pleased with the amusement of the morning.

As we have before observed, the *Phoenix* is a model of her class, and reflects great credit upon the colony, in being able to boast of men like Mr. Chowne, whose mechanical art so much tends to the increasing commerce of our shores.

The *Phoenix* is intended for the Hunter River trade, her draught of water not exceeding three feet six inches forward, and four feet six inches aft; and her dimensions are, 105 feet keel, 130 feet over all; breadth of beam, 19 feet 6 inches; depth of hold, 9 feet. The accommodation for passengers is superior, 12 berths being fitted up in the ladies' cabin, 16 in the saloon, and 14 in the fore cabin. She is to receive her machinery at Struth's Wharf. The engine belonged to the *Sophia Jane*, so long plying to and from the Hunter, but the boilers were made by Mr. Struth. It is expected that she will make her first trip in about six weeks.

Music.—Mr. Nathan's *Pæan* on "Leichhardt's Return" from Port Essington, and to which we referred in our last number, is now published. This song, like all Mr. Nathan's music, is perfectly descriptive of the sentiments and feelings of the poet—appealing at once to the heart and the imagination. The song is longer than that of "Leichhardt's Grave," but, from the variety of movements and changes of Melody, to the listener it appears much shorter. Indeed, for ourselves, we may, with all sincerity, say what Dr. Johnson said of Goldsmith's *Vicar of Wakefield*—"That its only fault was, that it was too short." At the lines—

At length the hour of triumph came,
The white man's track appeared,

there is a sudden transition in the modulation, as beautifully illustrative of the words and the incident, as it is productive of corresponding sympathy in the hearer. The expression of the music in this passage may perhaps be best compared to the mariner's joy and excitement at the first discovery of land after a long and perilous voyage. This composition has the characteristic of all good music—the combination of simplicity of melody, with rich efficient harmony; to which is also added another essential quality, *originality*. Of the poetic beauties of this piece we have already spoken. In justice, therefore, to the hero, the poet, and the composer, we trust this *Pæan* will be welcomed in every drawing-room in the colony.

WINDSOR.—James Metcalfe has been appointed keeper of the pound in the town of Windsor, in the room of Daniel Search, dismissed.

NEWCASTLE AND MORETON BAY.—The *Government Gazette* of yesterday, makes the following announcement:—"And whereas it is deemed necessary to alter the boundaries of the Port of Newcastle, and to establish a port at Moreton Bay: Now, therefore, I the Governor, in pursuance of the power and authority so vested in me as aforesaid, do, by this my Proclamation, hereby declare and direct that, for the purposes of the said recited Act, the Port of Newcastle shall be construed to extend from Bungaree Norah on the south to the thirtieth degree of south latitude on the north, and that the Port of Moreton Bay which shall and is hereby established, shall be construed to extend from the said thirtieth degree of south latitude on the south, to the twenty-sixth degree of south latitude on the north, including within each such Port, all inlets, rivers, bays, and harbours, within the same respectively, and one league to seaward."

INQUESTS.—On Monday afternoon, an inquest was held in Mrs. Watkins's public-house, at the corner of Liverpool and Pitt-streets, on the body of Catherine Smith, then lying dead in her lodgings in Pitt-street. Dr. Macfarlane deposed: he had been called in to see the deceased during her lifetime and had prescribed for her; from the difficulty of her respiration and other symptoms, death in his opinion had been caused by the rupture of one of the large blood vessels in the region of the heart. The Jury found a verdict of died by the visitation of God.—Another inquest was held on Tuesday, in Solomon's Temple tavern, at the corner of Erskine and Clarence streets, on the body of Mary Cummins, then lying dead in a hut in Clarence-street. William Cummins, laborer, of Clarence-street, deposed: The deceased was his mother; she was seventy-five years of age; for the last eight months she has been of unsound mind; she always wanted to leave the house, and fancied that I was about to take away my brother (who is a cripple) and destroy him; on last Monday week, about midnight, my brother called to me that our mother was dying, on which I immediately went into the room found her with a razor in her hand, her throat cut, and a quantity of blood on the bed. There was a fire in the room, by the light of which my brother could see the deceased; he is unable to walk, and it was his calling that awoke me; I brought Mr. Gain, the druggist, who closed the wound, until Mr. Surgeon Maberly was brought by a constable. Mr. Maberly said he could do no more for her than was already done by Mr. Gain; Mr. Maberly did not afterwards visit her; a constable wished to take her in a cab to the Dispensary, but he could not get a cab. In the morning between eight and nine o'clock, Mr. Gain saw her, and stitched up the wound; he attended her ever since, twice a day, up till the time of her death; she died about noon on Monday; she has frequently spoken since she inflicted the wound on her throat, and was quite sensible. The Jury found a verdict that death had been the result of a wound inflicted by deceased while labouring under temporary insanity.—Another inquest was held on the same day in Mr. C. Doyle's public-house, the Builders' Arms, at the corner of Castlereagh and Liverpool-streets, on the body of William White, then lying dead in Elizabeth-street. The jury found a verdict that death had been caused by the rupture of a blood vessel on the brain, while laboring under *delirium tremens*.

The mail by the *Ajincourt* contained three thousand five hundred and thirty-four letters, and thirteen thousand four hundred and twenty-seven newspapers.

SHIPS FOR ENGLAND.—The *Triad* is now full; her mail will close this evening at 6 P.M., and she will leave the port for London early on Monday morning. The *Palestine* and *Posthumous* will both get away the beginning of next month. The *St. George* is filling up fast, and she will get away about the 10th proximo.

Impoundings.

NORTH RICHMOND.—June 14, from the Kurrajong: Black and white bullock, near horn down, off horn straight, branded IC off ribs. Yellow cow and calf, an illegible brand off rump, DIV. off shoulder, a circle with an illegible letter inside on off ribs. Black steer, no brand visible, about one year old; damages 6d. each. If not released, to be sold in 21 days. J. MOORE 10s.

MUSWELLBROOK.—June 15: Strawberry poley cow, white back and belly, an illegible brand like 11 on near rump, a brand resembling TW on off ribs, apparently D off rump. Brindle strawberry bullock, a brand like HI on off rump and ribs. Brown cow, branded apparently IN on off rump, a brand resembling J on low on off ribs. Black and white heifer, rough coat, no visible brand. If not released, will be sold on the 20th July. L. BRADSHAW 10s. 3d.

BLACKMAN'S SWAMP.—June 13, from Mr. Trappet's: Strawberry poley cow, branded apparently ML off side, brands on ribs and shoulder not legible; a brindle calf by her side, white back. Yellow and white cow, illegible brand near ribs, TH off rump; a red and white heifer by her side. Strawberry cow, branded DMC off ribs, illegible brand off rump; a white heifer calf by her side. Red steer, branded apparently WN off rump. Red and white working bullock, branded SM on off rump and ribs, snip out of both ears. Brown working bullock, branded apparently IH off rump. Red and white heifer, branded apparently LR on off rump, S on off shoulder. Red and white cow, short tail, blind of an eye, no brand legible, piece out of both ears; a red and white heifer calf by her side. Red heifer, branded apparently LR off rump. Red cow, small horns, branded WD and WD under off rump, illegible brand on ribs, piece out of ear; a red heifer calf by her side. Red and white spotted cow, illegible brand on ribs, snip out of both ears; a brown calf by her side, short tail. Red and white cow, branded apparently LR on off rump, snip out of ear; a red and white heifer calf by her side. Strawberry steer, branded apparently LD on the off shoulder, E off ribs. Red and white steer, no brand legible. Brown cow, branded apparently H over x, snip out of ear. Strawberry steer, branded apparently H near rump, snip out of ear. Red poley cow, white back, branded JE near rump; a red and white heifer calf by her side. White poley steer, branded apparently JE conjoined off rump, illegible brand on near side, snip out of ear. Black poley cow, branded MA off ribs, snip out of ear, white back; a calf by her side. Red heifer, white back, no brand legible. If not previously released, they will be sold on the 7th July. EDWARD SMITH 18s. 6d.

GUNNING.—June 13, from the Police Station near Gunning: Black horse, long tail, star on forehead, saddle marks, 15 hands high, aged, mark of a fistula on near wither, OH conjoined on near shoulder. Also, on the 15th June, from the Estate of Mr. W. Woodhouse, Fish River: Red cow, white flanks, white face, branded BC off rump, apparently No. 3 on near ribs. Red and white steer, branded BC off rump, No. 5 or 6 on thigh. Red steer, branded No. 1 or 2 over BC off rump. Dark red steer, branded J in circle off ribs. If not released, on or before the 8th July, they will be sold. SAMUEL CROWTHER 11s.

DAPTO.—June 15th, from Mr. G. Brown's farm: Small blue bull, unbranded, about 2 years old. If not released within 21 days, will be sold. RICHARD GAWTHORPE 9s.

JERRY'S PLAINS.—From Birnam Wood: Dark bay mare, black points, branded ES on near shoulder, S off shoulder, an illegible brand under saddle near side, about five years old, about 14½ hands high, has what is called a racing tail, and appears to be remarkably well bred. Light brown filly, both hind feet white up to fetlock joints, dark points, mesly muzzle, branded like a on near shoulder, and like an illegible brand underneath same, rising 3 years old, about 14 hands high, appears to be unbroken; damages 1s. each. If not claimed before 13th July, they will be sold. J. J. HARPER 10s. 9d.

RED POST HILL, FALBROOK.—June 10: Bay gelding, black points, short tail, white under saddle, branded HD conjoined off side of back, and two letters not describable, aged; damages 2s. 6d. If not claimed by 8th July, he will be sold. J. TULLOCH 9s.

CHESHIRE CHEESE POUND, PARRAMATTA ROAD.—By Robert Johnston, Esq., of Annandale: White and red cow, white face, branded H off rump. Dark bay horse, white down the face, two hind feet white, a scar under the chest, branded S on off side. Light bay mare, white spot on forehead, fetlock and off hind leg white, has a discharge from the back, branded G on off shoulder. If not released by 16th July, they will be sold. JOHN BROWNE 10s. 3d.

INSOLVENT SEQUESTRATION.

On the 24th instant, *Edmund Jaques*, late of the Coasting Packet Wharf, Sussex-street, wharfinger. Hutchinson Bell, official assignee.