

Thomas Johnson and John Crawley, indicted for stealing some lead, the property of William Smale Friend. The Jury found both prisoners guilty—sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labor.

John Larkins, indicted for stealing a washstand, the property of Richard Tremaine. The prisoner pleaded guilty—sentenced to twelve months' labor in irons.

The business of the Court then finished.

Original Correspondence.

CORPORATION RATES.

MR. ATLAS—Will you oblige by answering the following query—Is the Corporation rate due immediately after being made, as in England, or is the Corporation obliged to wait until the expiration of the six months before it can demand or enforce payment.

Yours, respectfully,

M.

[It is payable immediately.—Ed.]



SYDNEY: SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1847.

THE Reviewer in yesterday's *Herald*, of "The Impending Crisis; an address to the Colonists of New South Wales, on the proposed Land Orders, by Robert Lowe, Esq., M.C.," &c., &c., must have but a slight recollection of the speech delivered in the Legislative Council, on the 27th ultimo, by the honorable and learned member for Auckland, and must also have given his pamphlet but a cursory perusal, when he undertook to decide that Mr. Lowe's pamphlet was nothing more than Mr. Lowe's speech modified. From the manifesto issued the day before the publication of the review, promising that the question would be entered into at some length on the morrow, we were in expectation of seeing something worth reading, instead of which, the same flippant language is used as might be expected from a voyage to Southern Australia in search of *Cockletoys*. The review is meagre and partial—"The ministry will not lower the price of land, and what is to be done then?" asks the reviewer. The pamphlet tells him—"We ought never to surrender our hopes, or remit our exertions, as regards the reduction of the minimum price, till the Home Government have placed it out of their power to reduce it, and this they will not have done till the leases to the squatter are actually granted. Till then, we ought to be unintermitting in our exertions." The pamphlet is one that ought to be read by every colonist that feels an interest in the squatting question, and desires the welfare of the country—its price renders it accessible to all, and let all purchase it and judge for themselves, without being biassed by a trumpety review.

REFERRING to a short article in the ATLAS of the 8th ultimo, headed "The Australian Gas Light Company," wherein it was shewn from statistical data then under consideration, that gas in Sydney at 22s. 6d. per thousand cubic feet, costs in Manchester no more than 6s. per thousand, we find a conditional promise made that we would return to the subject at a future period—namely, when possessed of further information. This information, to some small extent, we are glad in being able to furnish to-day. We yesterday inspected a model of the mechanism required for the production of portable gas—and from the short examination we had time to give it, we feel persuaded that portable gas will ere long supersede, in many parts of the city in private houses, and in the suburbs more especially, the expensive mode of pipe gas. This belief is grounded upon the simple fact, that the portable oil gas is less than one-half the price of pipe coal gas. As an instance of the jealousy entertained at home towards the introducers of portable gas into the market, by the large gas companies that have expended, unnecessarily, immense sums in the laying down of street pipes, it may be as well to mention that in Manchester, Doctor Fearnly had constructed a portable gas apparatus, and was about to commence operations for supplying a part of the town with his portable gas, when the Manchester Gas Company offered him a large bonus to relinquish his project, and dispose of his apparatus to the company, so convinced were they that the Doctor's portable gas was better and far cheaper than their own. The whole mechanism of the model we yesterday inspected is exceedingly simple. First, there is an horizontal retort, or tube, in the furnace or fire; meeting this is another, a perpendicular tube, filled with oil, and a cock attached to it to let the oil run down into the first retort to generate the gas—the gas thus generated rises and passes, together with the tar deposited by it, into the hydraulic main; from the hydraulic main the gas and excremental tar take different directions—the gas passing into the condenser, the tar into a receiver—from the condenser the gas passes into the gasometer or holder—from the gasometer into the receiver—and is then ready for use. In a portable gas receiver, capable of containing gas for thirty hours' duration, the oil gas costs, at full light, one half the price of coal gas—besides, one cubic foot of oil gas is no more in substance than five cubic feet of coal gas, that is, one cubic foot of oil gas will burn as long as five cubic feet of coal gas. Other objections to coal gas, compared

with the portable oil gas, might readily be given—one, however, the most serious, is the pernicious effects of the smell arising from coal gas, so much so that in an establishment in town where a quantity is nightly used, human life has been sacrificed to the baneful odour.

IMPORTANT HOME NEWS.

WE have very sincere gratification in being enabled to lay before our readers in our present publication, a detail of the efforts which are being made in the mother country, for the benefit of the colony generally, and of this province in particular, by our able and indefatigable representative, the Rev. Dr. Lang, M.L.C. It would be preposterous to offer anything in the shape of eulogium, upon services which the whole colony must appreciate, we content ourselves, therefore, with quoting from the Dr.'s letter to us, as follows.—*Melbourne Argus* :—

Before leaving London, I called at Downing-street, but as Earl Grey, whom I know personally, and who, I know, does not think unfavorably of me, was not in office, I sent up my card to Mr. Hawes, the Under Secretary, with whom I had a long interview, in the course of which I learned two things extremely gratifying to us colonists—firstly, that Government considered it the interest of Great Britain to encourage emigration to Australia rather than to Canada—and, secondly, that they were fully alive to the propriety and necessity of encouraging Protestant emigration, (which I stated it was my principal object in coming to England to promote), and would afford every facility for carrying it out, consistently, of course, with the existing Acts of Parliament and their duty to the country. I experienced a most cordial reception from Mr. Hawes, and the prospect which I was induced to entertain for the future from the views of the Government, was highly favorable. Separation is understood here to be virtually granted, but I did not learn the exact state of the question at head quarters, and did not like to act the part of an interrogator too much on my first interview, as I expect either to see or to write Earl Grey on the subject very soon.

I could not ascertain in London whether Mr. Cunningham had been able to do anything in the way of emigration, but Dr. Learmonth, late of Buninyong, who called on me yesterday, told me that he had not, and that he had given up the attempt, being at present resident on a property he has in Ayrshire, where it appears he is busily engaged in some mining speculation; Dr. L. added, however, that Mr. C. had managed to send you a shipload of Pentonvillians, a service for which I trust you will be duly grateful. I confess I am not greatly surprised at this result, as it is not very different from what I anticipated. The difficulties in the way of promoting emigration from this country are beyond calculation in the colony, and I do not wonder that any person like Mr. C., who has no higher object in the matter than that of supplying the squatters with additional labour, should give up the attempt and retire from the occupation in disgust. But you know I have a far higher object—I mean the deliverance of our splendid colonies from the degrading yoke and tyranny of Rome; and in pursuit of that object I am determined to make a whole series of efforts, both here and elsewhere, of a very different kind, and I trust with a very different result, from the feeble essay of Mr. Cunningham.

With this view I have already in print two different prospectuses for the formation of Associations or Companies for the promotion of emigration to our Colonies—the one for agitation in London for New South Wales, and the other for agitation in Scotland for the South-Western District of Port Phillip. I have a third in manuscript for the North-Eastern District of Port Phillip, with a view to a course of agitation in the North of Ireland; but before putting this one in type I wrote a long letter by this evening's post to Dr. Cook, of Belfast, to ascertain beforehand the feelings of intelligent and patriotic Protestants in that locality on the subject of the agitation I contemplate, and the plans I have to submit. I have also a fourth prospectus in reserve, to be brought out in Manchester as soon as my book on the Northern Country, to which it refers, comes out. Each of these prospectuses is quite distinct from all the others, both in the locality from which, and the locality to which the proposed stream of emigration is to be directed, as well as in the modes of operation, which are suited in each case to the physical character and peculiarities of the country more immediately in view. Of course if one, or even two of these projects should fail, as I think very likely, considering the uphill work one has to expect in such a matter, there is a chance that one or two may take, and the success of any one of the four will be well worth all the trouble. If they all fail, and "Rome must rise, then I am innocent."—But I am in no apprehension of such a result.

In the meantime the present destitution in the Highlands presents a most favorable opportunity for agitation; but you cannot conceive the coldness and indifference with which the emigration of the Highlanders, even in the midst of actual famine, is regarded by many of their professed friends here. The subject was forbidden at a great meeting which I attended at Glasgow on Tuesday last, at which the Lord Provost presided. I learned this beforehand from Dr. McLeod and Mr. Baird, who informed me that a Mr. Mackenzie, from Canada, who wished to speak upon it at the meeting, had been refused permission by the committee. People talk here at present of there being no redundancy of population in the Highlands, although it is confessed that there are not fewer than 300,000 in that locality on the brink of starvation at the present moment. They talk also of some great revolution that is to be effected in the relations of landlord and tenant, and of some Utopian changes to be expected from a recent Drainage Act passed by the Imperial Parliament. Dr. Candish even, and the Free Church people, I found actually raving on this subject; but a friend of mine here was much amused when I told him I thought there was no need of an Act of Parliament for draining Scotland, as the Free Church had done it pretty effectually already, having drained it of upwards of a million sterling since the disruption. In such circumstances I did not make myself known to any person at the Glasgow meeting, and did not offer to say a syllable as to my object and views; but as Dr. McLeod referred in his speech to a series of letters

on the destitution of the Highlands, which he had received from influential ministers and gentlemen in various parts of the country, and which he had got printed in a separate pamphlet, I procured a copy of the pamphlet, read it out on my return to Edinburgh by the railway, and immediately wrote a circular, which I have now in the press, and of which I propose forwarding a copy to each of the letter writers, and to other ministers and Highland gentlemen elsewhere, pointing out to them the eligibility of our colony as a field for emigration at present, referring to the case of your friend Mr. M'M—, of Brighton, and other Highlanders of the last period of destitution who emigrated to Australia, and asking them whether there is any disposition to emigrate in the particular locality, and to what extent. These statistics of a disposition to emigrate, and its actual extent, I shall obtain quietly without asking the permission either of the Destitution Committee, or of the Free Church advocates for more draining; and having obtained them, I shall, in all probability, proceed with them direct to London to agitate on the subject there—for I have told the parties to whom the circular is to be addressed that we could not only receive 20,000 of the destitute Highlanders—men, women, and children—during the present year, but could eventually pay the whole cost of their passage out with interest at five per cent till its actual repayment. I have had a note to-day from our Colonial Agent, the Honorable Francis Scott, M.P., in which, on referring to the desirableness of promoting emigration, and the difficulties in the way of it, he observes, with perhaps more of the style of compliment than it becomes me to quote—"Your energy, perseverance, talent, and singleness of purpose, may do much towards it, but it will require much to start it at this moment, AND THIS MOMENT LOST, IT MAY BE LONGERE YOU FIND ONE SO FAVORABLE." I am quite of this opinion (I mean as to the importance of the present crisis) myself, and I am therefore sparing neither labor nor expenses to take proper advantage of it. It is doubtless a very thankless office, one in which I see plainly, from the monstrous ignorance still prevalent almost every where respecting our colonies, and the total indifference of almost all parties regarding their real welfare, there is no sympathy, and but little co-operation, to be reckoned on in any quarter. Still, however, I do not despair, and I am sanguine of having good accounts to give you by and bye.

THE REV. DR. LANG, M.C.—Private letters from the Rev. Dr. Lang, M.C., received by the *Lima*, announce the safe arrival of the reverend gentleman and his family, (increased by the birth of a son on the passage) in the Downs on the 22nd December. The Dr. only remained in London a few days, and proceeded thence to Edinburgh, where he has established his head-quarters, on account of the education of his sons. In one of his letters, the Dr. says:—"With a view to facilitate my intended agitation in this country for Protestant emigration to our Colonies, I employed the leisure of my long voyage home in working up the materials I had collected during my journeys, both to the northward and the southward, into two separate volumes, to be entitled, respectively, '*Cook's Land*;' or, the northern division of the Colony of New South Wales—its characteristics and capabilities as a field for extensive colonization; and '*Phillip's Land*;' or, the country hitherto designated Port Phillip—its present condition and extraordinary capabilities for extensive emigration." These volumes I intend publishing here, to connect them, if possible, with this portion of the United Kingdom, but I have not yet been able to make definitive arrangements on the subject, having been too much engaged otherwise." The Dr. complains bitterly of the climate; he says:—"We have all been suffering severely from colds and influenza since our arrival in this miserable climate, and I have just had to send for a doctor to prescribe for our youngest child, born near Cape Horn, who is now apparently dangerously ill. Oh! for the bright sunny land of Australia!"—*M. Argus*.

EXTENSIVE CONFLAGRATION IN GLASGOW.—Private letters received by the *Lima*, give accounts of an extensive conflagration in Queen-street, Glasgow, by which that beautiful street has been nearly totally destroyed. Among the sufferers, we are sorry to notice the firm of Messrs. Reid, Robertson and Co., of which our townsman Mr. R. Langlands was recently a partner, whose extensive premises are completely destroyed, as are also the premises of Messrs. S. R. and T. Brown, the most extensive sewed muslin manufactory in Scotland, which alone has thrown 300 hands out of employment. The Stamp Office was in great danger, but fortunately preserved. The stock of R. R. and Co. was insured to the extent of £17,000, a sum considerably under the amount of loss. Messrs. Brown were insured to the full amount. The total loss is estimated at £70,000.—*M. Argus*.

TRANSPORTATION QUESTION.—In the House of Lords, on 21st January, Lord Lyttleton inquired whether it was the intention of the noble Earl, the Secretary for the Colonies, to make any statement to the house on the subject of transportation? Earl Grey said, that it was his intention, in a very few days, to lay on the table an official statement, which would make it clear what had been done with respect to this subject. In the House of Commons, on the 22nd January, Lord Mahon wished to ask whether the right hon. baronet was prepared to lay before the house, at an early period, papers which might enable them to form an opinion upon the plan adopted by the Government? Sir G. Grey said, the noble lord and the house would remember that, at the close of the last session of parliament, he (Sir G. Grey) stated, that before the late Government quitted office, they had come to the conclusion to discontinue or suspend transportation to Van Diemen's Land and our Australian Colonies, and he hoped in the course of next week to be enabled to lay before the House papers which would explain the course they intended to take.

CONVICTS.—Fifteen hundred convicts were to be sent to Jersey, to be there employed on public works. The *Euryalus*, 44-gun frigate, at Sheerness Dockyard, was to proceed with all possible speed as a convict depot at Gibraltar. She was to take out three hundred male convicts for that destination, to be placed at the disposal of the governor, Sir Robert Wilson, who has signified to the home government his want of hands to complete the fortifications and defences of this important garrison. Some most important naval and military works are ordered to be completed with all possible despatch. But as all the convicts could not be disposed of in the Channel Islands and Gibraltar, arrangements were in progress for the distribution of offenders in the various county and borough prisons throughout the country.

Domestic.

IRISH AND SCOTCH DESTITUTION.

The meeting at the City Theatre on Monday last was, we regret to say, but very poorly attended.