

of mankind can be obtained, and the “ opium question” may be the means, evil as it is, of a vast good being educed for the welfare of myriads of our fellow-creatures in China. The extent and value of our trade with that vast, rich, and interesting portion of the globe, and the means by which it may be improved and preserved, must form the subject of another article.

In the mean time, however, we would entreat that the whole subject of our commercial relations with the Eastern hemisphere were made the matter of serious inquiry by the highest tribunal of the state. Unfortunately, this was not done on the termination of the Charter of the East India Company in 1833. Nothing was then thought of but the abolition of commercial privileges ; and those who maintained that the trade with China required the most cautious management, were treated as alarmists or corrupt monopolists. It is not, however, China alone that is effected by the present state of affairs ; India is intimately interested in the pending discussion, not only with reference to the revenue which the Indian government derive from the sale of opium at Calcutta, and from the passes granted at Bombay and Damaun, but also on account of the immense supplies of silver which were remitted from Canton to pay for the opium, and by which British India has been mainly enabled to withstand the drain of specie from India to England of latter years. This is a most serious subject for India, as she has about £5,000,000 of remittances to make annually to Great Britain, and which, by our excessive duties on her produce, we have so materially checked in their supply and exportation. Nor must we forget that in seeking freedom of trade with China, we cannot treat the “ celestial government” with the same disgraceful injustice that we have done to neglected and injured “ British India.” When we ask the Chinese to admit our cottons, woollens, &c. at 5 per cent. duty, we must remember that 100 per cent. is imposed on their tea, when imported into the United Kingdom, and on other articles in proportion. This is the *free* trade we have forcibly and shamefully compelled India to pursue ; but the Chinese, who have already burnt our cotton twist in the market-square at Canton, will expect and require a little less injustice. These and many other questions will demand the exercise of wisdom, and the dismissal of party feelings, for their adjudication.

REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS, &c.

[In the present number, owing to the numerous works which have been forwarded for review, we have been able to do little more than briefly direct public attention to their several importance. Many of the works thus noticed will, however, in subsequent numbers, come under more special examination in editorial articles, and become the texts for discussions on the topics to which they refer. We point with satisfaction to the numerous publications now issuing from the press on colonial, commercial, and maritime subjects, as a convincing indication of the growth of opinion thereon, and our columns shall duly record the progress of this gratifying fact.]

ART, I.—*Statistics of the Colonies of the British Empire in the West Indies, North and South America, Asia, Australasia, Africa, and Europe ; with Map, Chart, and Seals for each Colony. Published by the authority of Government. Royal 8vo. pp. 916. London, Allen & Co., Booksellers to the E. I. Company,*

This cyclopædia of every thing relating to the colonies of Great Britain in all parts of the globe is one of the most complete works ever issued by any government on a subject of such vital importance. It contains about 3,000,000 figures, and has required calculations to ten times that extent. The volume had its origin in the recommendation of a select committee of the House of Commons to print, for public information, the “Blue Books” annually transmitted from each colony to Downing-street. Mr. Hansard, printer to the House of Commons, and other witnesses, were examined as to the expense of printing the “Blue Books,” which have been accumulating for the last six or eight years : the expense was estimated at £ 10,000. Government refused to incur the expense ; and a private individual (with his own means) offered to perform that task, which it was the duty of the government to have undertaken. An office was assigned for his use in Downing-street, and with his own assistants, and at an expense of several thousand pounds, the volume before us was completed in twelve months. It received the highest laudations from the government departments, and from the public press, but the *sole aid afforded by the government of this vast and wealthy empire, was the ordering*

a *copy* for *the* governor of *each* colony ! Thus leaving the burden on a gentleman, who has already expended one-third of his life in advancing the knowledge of our transmarine possessions, and preparing **the** first complete “History of the British Colonies” that has ever appeared. Thus does England reward the meritorious efforts of private individuals for the public weal. Had such a work been produced in France or Russia, the author would have received the honours due to his exertions. Here no attention is paid to exertions to fulfil that which the state itself should have accomplished. Lord Glenelg presented Mr. Martin, with this official work, to Her Majesty, by whom it was most graciously received ; and the public journals and public men of all parties have in vain urged the government not to allow a private individual to bear the whole expense of the work : at least, a copy should have been ordered for each member of the legislature. **It** remains for us only to add, that under the respective heads of each colony is a complete view of the area, acquisition, topography, **climate**, population, commerce, finances, cultivated and waste lands, prices, **monies**, weights and measures, religion, education, crime, &c., together with a voluminous Appendix of Statistical Tables relating to each possession, the judicial and commercial charters of the different colonies and **companies**—in fact, every document by which the reader may, at a glance, ascertain the exact condition of every colony of the empire, totally devoid of party feeling or personal prejudice.

ART. *K*-*The Colony of Western Australia, &c.* By Nathaniel Ogle, Esq. F.G.S. &c. 8vo. pp. 298. Frazer, London, 1839.

Mr. Ogle has long been known in the scientific world for his mechanical skill and general information. He is a gentleman of an enlarged mind and generous feelings. He appears to have been engaged to draw up an account of the colony of Western Australia on behalf of the principal possessors of the land in that long-neglected but valuable colony ; and he has been aided by various documents of **an** authentic and useful nature, from which he has compiled his work. The result is, a volume which the Swan River, or Western Australia settlers, may be proud of possessing. The language of Mr. Ogle is manly, simple, and Christian-like : he points out the utter want of all principle in England, as regards **colonization** ; he shows how defective we are in the present age, of the humblest knowledge of **social** economy ; and he points with truth and brevity to the absolute necessity of England looking to her colonies as **a** means of removing the many ills

by which she is now surrounded. In his remarks on **Mr.** Wakefield's views with regard to the land-selling principle, and more especially in **reference** to the fact that high wages and high profits are compatible, Mr. Ogle perceives what has escaped **Mr.** Wakefield's otherwise clear vision, that prices are not only dependent on demand, but also on the quantity of money in the market, by which the price of every commodity is to a certain extent regulated. In the remarks on the aborigines, **on** the neglect of religious establishments, on the petty, paltry system of paying our colonial governors, we see much to commend, and, in general, the frank and generous feelings of the writer win our approbation. But he does not fairly grapple with the evils of the Swan River settlement, which the last pages in his book indicate, namely, the large quantities of waste land held in the colony by a comparatively few individuals, who have neither the capital nor the **labour** to bring them into cultivation. It is doubted whether the crown has now the power to resume the excessive grants of land improvidently made **from** 1829 to 1832 in Western Australia ; but, at least, the crown may impose a quit-rent of three pence per acre on all uncultivated and unclaimed lands, by which an annual sum of £20,000 would be procured, which would convey an abundance of **labour** to the colony. Those proprietors who might refuse to pay this quit-rent would forfeit their lands, and they would be sold by auction to the highest bidder, subject to the arrears and to the continuation of the quit-rent until cleared. Western Australia only requires **labour** to make it one of the most flourishing parts of the "fifth quarter" of the globe.

Mr. Ogle has not given us a sufficient history of the **early struggles** of the infant settlement, and there is a want of order in his **arrangement** of the subject. But he has performed his **duty** to the landed proprietors of the colony, and interspersed his **pages** with many remarks of a comprehensive view, and indicating a philanthropic spirit.

There is an excellent map appended to the volume, but the engravings are unworthy of the letter-press.

ART. III.—*Travels into Bokhara, Narrative of a Voyage on the Indus, &c. By Captain Sir Alexander Burnes. Three Vols. small 8vo. London, John Murray.*

This is a revised edition of a valuable and standard work, particularly acceptable to the English public at the present crisis. Captain (now Sir Alexander) Burnes has fairly laid open the magnificent river

Indus to British enterprise-commercial and political,-and the results, if a judicious and honest course of policy be pursued, will become of great moment to England, and to our empire in India. The first volume contains an accurate description of the Indus, which, until navigated by Sir Alexander Burnes, was completely closed against the English by the Sind rulers. The second and third volumes are filled with the most interesting details, political, historical, and commercial, relative to central Asia and the adjacent territories. No object worthy of note seems to have escaped the eye of Captain Burnes, and we congratulate him on the honours which he has received, and which, we doubt not, a grateful country will be ready to augment on his return to Europe.

ART. IV.—*Travels and Adventures in the New Colonies of South Australia, &c.* By W. H. Leigh, Esq. 8vo. pp. 290. Smith, Elder, & Co.

Mr. Leigh's sketches, pictorial and literary, indicate a talent for the picturesque, and a correct appreciation of life. During the voyage detailed in the interesting volume before us, we have graphic notices of Tristan d'Acunha, the Cape of Good Hope, South Australia, New South Wales, Calcutta, St. Helena, the Nicobar Islands, &c., interspersed with pleasing anecdotes-seasoned with a spice of the picturesque. There are homely truths told by Mr. Leigh, which intending emigrants should peruse, and on which they should ponder.

ART. V.—*History of Upper and Lower California.* By Alexander Forbes, Esq. 8vo. pp. 352. Smith, Elder, & Co.

The vast resources which the southern States of America present to Europe are becoming daily more and more appreciated. In the work before us we have a faithful account of a country hitherto almost unknown to England, although eagerly coveted by the United States, and encroached on by Russia. Mexico is unable to hold possession much longer of California, and Mr. Forbes points out the way in which England may obtain California, which would form one of the richest of agricultural colonies. The resources of this fine country are very great; the climate good, and well adapted to the European constitution; and the people, although semi-civilized under the persevering efforts of the Roman Catholic missionaries, yet are still in a state of pitiable dependence on their spiritual pastors, who hold them in complete mental bondage. If we had statesmen at the head of our colonial affairs, **California** would soon be added to the list of British colonies.

ART. VI.—*New Zealand in 1839. By J. D. Lang, D.D. 8vo. pp. 120. London, Smith, Elder, & Co.*

There are some men possessed of a moral and physical courage which nothing can subdue, and who seem to live for the welfare of those around them. No fear of consequences can prevent them expressing their opinions of injustice, and no labour is spared, nor any danger avoided, which may enable them to benefit the distressed portion of their fellow-creatures. It is among men influenced by the high and holy faith of Christianity that we alone witness this noble and efficient combination ; no system of religion has equal power over the soul to enable it to go on, despite of every obstacle, in the career of duty. If the early martyrs of the Christian faith were called on to **suffer** the most **painful** deaths in **defence** of the creeds which they professed, the pastors of our church are not the less required to set an example of devotedness to the cause of Christian morals and principles. It is rarely, however, in our colonial clerical establishments that we witness a devotion earnest and abiding in behalf of the sacred duties of Christianity ; and we trust that in the selection of fitting persons for the apostolic duties, care will be taken to choose men adapted for the great and important trust of colonial ministers.

We are led to these remarks by a perusal of Dr. Lang's Letters to the Earl of Durham on the state of New Zealand, now before us. Dr. Lang is head of the Scotch Church in New South Wales, where he has resided, we believe, nearly twenty years. But not content with fulfilling the mere duties of his church, he has taken an active **part** in the extension of education, and made two or three **voyages** to **England**, either for educational or emigration purposes. During his present visit he has published the Letters to the Earl of Durham, to show the iniquity of the system now in progress in New Zealand for plundering the natives of their land, and of spreading among them the worst vices of degenerate Europeans. The worthy Doctor has written also a strong condemnation of the conduct of the missionaries in New Zealand, and, indeed, makes out a decided case for the immediate interposition of the English government, if we would preserve the remnant of the aborigines from utter destruction. No person intending to purchase land in New Zealand should do so without reading Dr. Lang's Letters, and we trust that the New Zealand Company **will** profit by the advice and **recom-** **dat**ions of this excellent Christian. Scotchmen make admirable colonists, and the rigid discipline of the Kirk is of great **efficacy** in governing the passions of men. which are too often loosed from restraint in our colonies.

ART. VII.—*History of the Rise, Progress, and Abolition of the African Slave Trade by the British Parliament. By Thomas Clarkson, M. A. J. W. Parker, West Strand. 1839.*

All honour to the revered name of Thomas Clarkson—generations yet unborn will bless his **memory**—and time will add new wreaths to the fame which in all lands will hallow the remembrance of one of the noblest, purest benefactors 'of the human race. Eighteen centuries elapsed, from the foundation of Christianity to the dawn of the benign influence, which at length struck the manacle from the slave, and bid the bound go free. Individuals are instruments in the hands of Almighty Providence, and **Clarkson, Wilberforce**, and other good men, were but acting in obedience to a divine decree. If the Christian desire to know the powerful struggle made for the abolition of the accursed traffic in human beings, let him peruse the volume, and then, as the writer of it says, “retire within his closet, and pour out thanksgivings to the Almighty for his unspeakable act of mercy to our oppressed fellow-creatures.”

Mr. **Clarkson** has been unusually blessed in the high privilege of beholding a part (though but a small part) of the **effects** of his benign exertions. How **shameful** it is in this country, calling itself Christian, when we behold all ranks bowing down in almost servile idolatry to the soldier, yet but faintly (if at all) conceding their approbation to those whose career on earth is more godlike than mortal, and whose first and last aspirations are for the salvation and happiness of **the** human race.

ART. VIII.—*Life and Campaigns of Arthur, Duke of Wellington, K. G. By the Rev. G. A. Wright, M.A. Vol. I. 8vo. pp. 476. Fisher, Son, & Co. 1839.*

The life of the Duke of Wellington comprises not merely the history of his own country during the period of his memorable career, but it also includes the leading events of the age. Bearing this in mind, the Rev. G. N. Wright has produced a statesmanlike and interesting narrative, full of historical details, of biographical sketches, and of personal incidents. It is, indeed, a work of standard reputation, adapted to the politician as well as the soldier, and containing an immense quantity of curious and authentic information, collected from various sources. The style of Mr. Wright is lucid and graphic, carrying on the reader with an interest which the novelist possesses, and enlisting his attention, without warping his judgment. We have reason to know that

Mr. Wright has had access to materials in the preparation of his history which stamp his labours with peculiar value, and which have called forth the high eulogium of the Marquis of Anglesey, to whom the work is dedicated. A pleasing sketch of the noble Duke's family commences the volume, which terminates with the convention of Cintra : and we rejoice to perceive that Mr. Wright has accorded to the Marquis Wellesley the meed of honour to which his lordship is so fully entitled. In conclusion, we may add, that this, the first volume, is adorned with fifteen admirable portraits of the most conspicuous characters that occur in the history of the Duke's career; and the work, for the taste and spirit in which it has been prepared, reflects credit on the spirited publishers, who deserve the cordial support of those who desire to see justice done to one who has richly earned the gratitude of his country.

ART. IX.—*Chapters on the Modern History of British India.*
By E. Thornton, Esq. Svo. pp. 644. W. H. Allen & Co.

Mr. Thornton is favourably known to the Eastern public by his work entitled "India, its State and Prospects ;" and, owing to his position in the East India House, and his general intelligence and honest comprehensive mind, he is well qualified to unfold the details of events connected with the history of India. But Mr. Thornton, like Mr. Mill, having no personal knowledge of India, labours under a serious defect, which no talents or advantages can sufficiently compensate. This defect is but slightly apparent in the work before us, and we only allude to it with reference to the opinions generally entertained of the character of the natives, the worst portion of whom have come under Mr. Thornton's cognizance.

Mr. Thornton details the principal events in India from the close of the Marquis Wellesley's administration (to which he bears a generous tribute of commendation) to the renewal of the charter of the East India Company in 1834. In the fidelity of Mr. Thornton's statements, in the justness of his conclusions, and in the tone of his commentary, we cordially award him the praise of a true and faithful historian ; and as Mr. Thornton evidently possesses a mind cast in no ordinary mould, we look forward to the production of other and perhaps more elaborate volumes than the present. Justice for India in a commercial point of view, must begin in England, and we are glad to perceive the manly and able manner in which Mr. Thornton advocates the principle. The remarks of the historian on the character of the Marquess Hastings will surprise many in India and in England,

ART. X.-*Western India in 1838. By Mrs. Postans. 2 Vols. 8vo. Saunders and Ottley. 1839.*

Woman owes a deep debt of gratitude to Christianity; under its civilizing influence alone are her mental powers developed and her moral freedom secured. This remark applies more particularly to English women, and well are they repaying the debt of gratitude due from them to the whole family of man.

Mrs. Postans (the authoress of the very interesting work before us) is one of those gifted women, who, especially in our colonies, have shed a lustre on the British character, and by a sympathy with human misery, and an endeavour to alleviate human suffering, have tended materially to soften the **rigour** and often unavoidable harshness of despotic rule. What a contrast does the amiable and well-read authoress before us present to the secluded Hindoo or Moslem **lady**—the slave of the tyrant lord, and the ignorant, childish mistress of the Zenana? In the one we see a mind feelingly alive to all the beauties of nature; revelling in the purest emotions, and breathing forth the kindest feelings for all who come within the sphere of her influence. In the other a gilded doll, unconscious of any thing beyond the walls of the harem—an abject vassal, and therefore tyrannizing over all around—and desirous only of the gratification of her own wishes. Well may Mrs. Postans sigh over the beautiful flowers she beheld in the East, and earnestly seek to aid in giving odour and use to their loveliness, by the imparting of intellectual and moral culture,

In the volumes before us we have a vivid picture of Western India, and of its inhabitants, interspersed with judicious reflections and advice, which statesmen need not be ashamed to follow. We esteem the fair authoress even yet more for the amiable disposition she evinces for the natives of India than for the sound intellect which her remarks display. This is woman's choicest attribute—compassion for the distressed and a readiness to pour the balm of consolation into the agonizing wounds of suffering mortality. We need not recommend "Western India" to **our** readers; it is sure to be read—and it is impossible for the reader not to desire to extend a **knowledge** of a work, which all who wish well to England and to **India** should endeavour to circulate. The Illustrations, by Lieut. Postans, are executed with ease and graphic fidelity. If all **who** visit India would record their impressions, and collect materials for the information of their friends at home, as this subaltern officer and his gifted wife have done, **India** would soon cease to be a *terra incognita*.

COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

EAST INDIES.

BOMBAY.

The fortress of Joudpoore was taken by the British on the 28th of September, it having been supposed that the **nuwaub**, or chief of the territory of **Kurnoul**, was hostile to the British rule in India. The nuwaub himself was carried off by his own troops, as a hostage for payment of arrears due to them. The troops who assisted in the capture of the fort consisted of the 51st regiment of native infantry, two companies of Her Majesty's 39th regiment, two companies of the 16th Native Infantry, a troop of the 7th regiment of light cavalry, and a detachment of sappers and miners. It was intended to have carried it by assault; but the **maharajah**, having abandoned the place, it was entered by the British without opposition; one man only having been killed, who fired at Captain Smith, and wounded him in the head. The artillery openly displayed in the fort was very insignificant; but in the **Zenana** an astonishing discovery was made, there being found concealed between four and five hundred pieces of artillery, principally four to six-pounders, of which more than one hundred were in such a state of equipment as might have rendered them fit for active service at a few days' warning. A great many muskets, pistols, swords, and other weapons were also discovered, as well as an immense quantity of -shot of all sizes, hand-grenades, shells, &c., and from **80,000** to **100,000** lbs. of gunpowder. Numerous furnaces and gunsmith's workshops were found standing, evidently but **recently** in full operation. The nuwaub appeared to have lived in great **splendour**, and his palace and gardens were decorated and arranged with much taste. Colonel James was named president of a committee of six officers, ordered to take charge of and make a report of the stores found. The nuwaub having taken post with his armed followers, and refusing to disband them (probably being under their control), a reinforcement was sent to our forces, consisting of one regiment of **native in-**

fantry, two companies of Her Majesty's 39th regiment, a squadron of the 13th Dragoons, a squadron of native cavalry, and two six-pounders and two howitzers, under the command of Colonel Dyer, and to be subject to the orders of the commissioners; and on the 18th Oct. at 10 o'clock, the British troops advanced to the attack, and after a severe and desperate struggle, the enemy were completely routed; about 150 of them having been killed, and 160 taken prisoners. Our loss was - two officers killed, and two severely wounded; three Europeans killed, and one native: seven Europeans wounded, and one native.

All the Rohilla chiefs were killed at the onset, and the nabob became a prisoner.

SIR CHARLES FORBES, BART.— In another part of our paper will be found an address to Sir Charles Forbes, from a large and most respectable body of the native merchants of this place, expressive of their sense of the many obligations they owe to him, of the affectionate regard they entertain for him, of the deep conviction in their minds, that he has ever been, and still continues their **best, truest**, and most untiring friend, and soliciting him to allow them the opportunity of perpetuating this expression of their sentiments, by a statue in marble of his person, to be executed by Sir Francis Chantrey, the best sculptor of the day, and afterwards erected in this place. It gives us much pleasure to make public a document of this sort, breathing throughout so fine a spirit, **honourable** alike to the parties and to Sir Charles. We understand that the measure is in a state of **forwardness**, and that Sir Francis Chantrey's undertaking is, to execute a full-length figure, of the heroic size, for the sum of **£3,000**. It may be **confidently** anticipated that this work will redound to the fame of the artist, as well as prove a worthy addition to the specimens we already possess. "*Bombay Courier*, 26th Oct., 1839.

[The following is a copy of the address; it is written in the chastest style, and expresses the purest spirit, worthy