

course acknowledge, that as a question of moral feeling it is preferable to pay our debts with 20s. in the pound, rather than with a magic document, "the schedule." But when we have nothing else to pay with, we must pay with that; and we know of nothing much more foolish, than charging upon the author of the act (which after all, is little else, than an echo of the English Insolvent Law,) the making of the insolvency, he only finds. The extensive, and all but universal system of land gambling, fostered by the Government, has drained away our only natural means for getting money. When our pockets were at the lowest ebb, the trust companies offered their gold on the security of our lands and houses; the offer was too tempting to be resisted; the monies were borrowed, the properties pawned, and *now* the interest must be paid. *How* is it to be paid? Sorely are the borrowers and mortgagors bewildered as they put to themselves that question. Relief from usury laws, or from acts which shall empower them to break through established contracts, is now, honor be to the Council for its decision, hopeless. *The interest therefore must be paid.* The vein is still open, through which the colonial life blood is flowing; who, or what shall stop it?

As this is a question well worth an article to itself, we postpone any treatment of it until our next publication, when, we shall have the pleasure of submitting to our readers, such views as have occurred to us, as to the most desirable course for the colonists to pursue, if they sincerely desire to escape from their present calamities.

ERRATA.—Page 615, line 15 from the bottom, for "puffing," read *proffering*. Page 616, line 10 from the bottom, for "commercial," read *economical*. Page 618, line 16 from the bottom, for "returns," read *rations*.

REVIEW OF NEW WORKS.

SHAKSPERI CONGLOMMOROFUNNIDOGAMMONIÆ: a Musical Extravaganza. by CHARLES NAGEL, Esq. Sydney: Duncan. London: Whittaker.

THIS is a truly strange and clever satirical emanation. The very idea of embodying the principal characters of Shakspeare's most celebrated plays, as a means of exhibiting humorously the present state of affairs in the colony, bespeaks originality of conception in a high degree. Each character in this extraordinary production can be identified in the colony. Who can mistake Shylock? Who Justice Shallow? The mortgaging of Falstaff's nose presents a most ludicrous specimen of the extent some individuals have gone to in the way of obtaining accommodation on mortgage security. The scene in Justice Shallow's Court, is racy in the extreme, and, indeed, a rich strain of wit and humour pervades the work, which is written in verse, and contains a number of comic songs, duetts, and choruses.

The book is very neatly got up; and any one who wishes to enjoy a hearty laugh in the present epoch of "monetary confusion," we recommend to procure "Shaksperi Conglomerofunnidogammoniæ."

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, September 19.

Council went into Committee. Long debate upon the reduction of the Governor's salary, but nothing determined.

Wednesday, September 20.

A Petition received for a reduction on upset price of land.

Dr. Bland presented a petition from Sydney in favour of the Usury Law. The debate on the Interest Bill was resumed by Mr. Cowper, who supported the Bill, as did also Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Therry thought it an infringement on the public faith.

Mr. Elwin opposed the second and third clauses, as unjust.

Thursday, September 21.

Mr. Berry resumed the debate on the Interest Bill, the influx of capital had not made money cheaper, and a higher rate of interest was demanded than ever. He hoped the provision of the Bill would be confined to the regulation of interest from henceforth, and would cordially support it.

Mr. Walker was convinced that all laws forming the rate of interest would be found futile.

Dr. Nicholson followed on the same side.

Mr. Windeyer opposed the Bill at some length. There were no means of preventing usury, and as surely as the second reading of the Bill were passed, payment of all claims would be enforced instant.

Major Wentworth, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Blaxland supported, and Mr. Panton opposed the Bill; and Mr. Wentworth having replied at great length, and consented to rejection of two clauses. The question that the Bill be read that day six months was put, and there appeared—

Ayes	21
Noes	12

Majority against the Bill	9
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Friday, September 22.

Dr. Lang gave notice of motion, That it is the opinion of the Council that the Town of Melbourne is not adequately represented in this House, and that it is fairly entitled to return an additional representative to the local Legislature.

And further—

That it is the opinion of the Council, that the seaport Town of Newcastle should be disjoined from the Northumberland boroughs, and authorized as a separate district, to return a representative member to this House.

Further, it had been suggested to him, that taking into consideration the large population of the City of Sydney, the addition of two members to the number of representatives of the city would not be sufficient, and he would therefore ask permission to alter the word "two" to "four," thus providing a member for this House from each of the six wards of the city.

Mr. Therry gave notice of motion, That it is the opinion of this Council that the counties of Northumberland, Camden, and Durham, are not adequately represented in this Council; and each of these counties ought, therefore, to return an additional member to this House.

The Solvent Debtors' Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Colonial Treasurer moved the postponement of the estimates.—Carried.

Dr. Lang gave notice of motion, September 26, That all salaries payable from the Public Treasury be reduced twenty-five per cent. from and after December 31st, 1843.

Tuesday, September 26.

The Governor assented to the Slaughtering and Auction Company's Acts.

Dr. Lang presented a petition from 3,153 unemployed labourers, and moved that it be referred to the Immigration Committee. Forty or fifty emigrants had left this for Valparaiso: the Council should provide employment to prevent the loss of labour which the colony had paid for.

Mr. Hamilton wished to know wherein the forty or fifty persons got money to pay for their passage; the change was owing to discontent. The unemployed parties should be compelled to take employment in town or country, when they could get it.

The Attorney-General thought the Government had induced people to come here, and that the House should preserve them from want.

Mr. Murray agreed with Mr. Hamilton.

The Colonial Secretary denied that inducements had been held out to immigrants; no blame could attach to the Government; he had hoped that before this something would have been done by the Council. Government was now at an expense of from £40 to £50 a day in wages.

Dr. Nicholson said, that millions were starving in Ireland; and here the present rate of wages was ample.

Mr. Wentworth saw no reason to accuse this colony, or the Government, of deceit.

The Colonial Secretary said, he had ascertained the amount of bounty paid on the parties who had left the colony for Valparaiso. There were twenty-three on whom bounty had been paid, and their cost to the colony had been no less than £524. Besides this, many of them had been receiving very high wages in the colony; some, as he had ascertained, £30—others, upwards, to the amount of £45 per annum; and more than this, some, in towns, 30s., 40s., and 50s. per week.

Council went into Committee on the Estimates.

Mr. Wentworth's motion, for reduction upon a sliding scale, being brought forward.

Mr. Walker proposed that the salaries of all public officers, receiving salary or allowances from the public Treasury, should be subjected to a reduction of twenty-five per cent. from and after the thirty-first of December next.

After a very long debate, Mr. Walker's amendment was put, and negatived by 9.

Mr. Wentworth's sliding scale was negatived by 17.

Mr. Windeyer proposed an adjournment, which was lost by 12,

Mr. Windeyer repeated Mr. Walker's motion, substituting twenty for twenty-five, which was lost by eight.

Mr. Walker, repeated the same, substituting ten for twenty, which was lost by 2.

Wednesday, 27th September.

A petition was received from the sufferers by the defalcation of the late Mr. Sheriff Macquoid.

A petition was received from Merton and Muswellbrook, against District Councils.

Dr. Lang gave notice of his intention to move a series of resolutions on the subject of Education.

The Colonial Secretary presented several dispatches from the Secretary of State, dated April 29th, March 23rd, and July 24th, which were ordered to be printed.

Council went into Committee on the Estimates.

Mr. Elwin in the Chair.

After much discussion, the sum of £625 17s. 6d. was voted to defray certain expenses of the Establishment of His Excellency the Governor, for the year 1843.

£735 16s. 6d. for the department of the Superintendent of Port Phillip, after deducting £109 16s. for forage for two horses, was voted.

Thursday, September 28.

A petition was received from Murrurundi, county of Brisbane, for the extension of the jurisdiction of the Court of Requests to £30.

A message was received from the Governor suggesting two alterations in the Preferable Lien Bill. Message to be considered on Friday.

A petition was received from Mr. Fowler, claiming compensation for injuries received while capturing certain bushrangers in April, 1842, who had since been executed.

The Colonial Secretary stated that £200 had been placed on the Estimates, and only required the sanction of the Council.

Dr. Lang's resolutions on the representation of the colony were postponed until the Estimates shall have been disposed of.

The Registry Bill was referred to a Committee.

Council went into Committee on the Estimates. Mr. Elwin in the chair.

The consideration of the Colonial Secretary's department, and of the items provided for in schedule B, was postponed.

The Colonial Secretary moved for £9414 14s. 6d. for the Customs' Department, and in the motion of Mr. Cowper, £7,531 15s. 7d. was voted by a majority of fifteen.

Friday, September 29.

Mr. Wentworth moved for returns of the revenue and expenses of the Water Police Office.

The amendments proposed by the Governor in the Preferable Lien Bill were agreed to.

A petition was received for license to sell wine of colonial growth, in smaller quantities than two gallons.

Council went into Committee on the estimates

The question of reduction of the Collector of Customs' salary from £1,000 to £800, having been moved, after a long conversation, was rejected by a majority of fifteen.

Mr. Wentworth moved that £1,339 2s. for the revenue cutter, be struck out.

Ayes	9
Noes	16

Majority	7
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The sum of £4,353 4s. was voted for the Customs' department at Port Phillip.
Saturday, September 30.

Mr. Windeyer moved, That in the opinion of this Council, it is expedient to fix, by colonial enactment, the salaries of all future Governors of the colony. Carried.

The Council went into Committee on the Estimates.

Mr. Walker moved that the salary of the Sub-Collector at Port Phillip be increased from £300 to £400. Carried.

Monday, October 2.

Dr. Thomson gave notice of motion (October 3.) for a return of all fees received by the Commissioners of Crown Lands, throughout the colony, under the Act 2 Victoria, No. 27.

2. Copies of the annual returns from each commissioner, under schedule B of 2 Victoria, No. 27, since the date of that Act.

3. A return of the number of persons received into the Colonial Hospital at Melbourne, also an account of the items charged under the head of Incidental Charges for the year 1842.

A petition was received from Port Phillip for the omission of all reference to Port Phillip in the Registry Bill.

Mr. Windeyer's Bill to regulate the salaries of future Governors of the colony was read a first time.

Council went into Committee on the Estimates.

The Colonial Treasurer moved for a sum not exceeding £18,157 6s. 6d. for the Post Office department.

Mr. Walker moved a reduction of twenty per cent., which was lost by fifteen.

Mr. Ebden moved a reduction to £16,341 14s., (or 10 per cent.) which was carried.

The Colonial Treasurer moved for the sum of £8,235 17s. 6d. for the Post Office at Port Phillip.

Mr. Windeyer proposed a reduction of £40, which was carried, and the Estimate passed.

The Colonial Treasurer said, that in consequence of an intended Bill to abolish colonial distillation, it would be unnecessary to take a vote for the Inspector of Distilleries.

The Item for the management of Church and School Estates, was withdrawn, as chargeable on the Land Fund.

The Colonial Storekeeper's department was postponed.

Tuesday, October 3.

A report from the Library Committee was laid upon the table.

Dr. Nicholson moved for a committee to consider an overland mail route between the settled parts of New South Wales and Port Essington, thus to open a direct line of communication with the Islands of the Eastern Archipelago, with India, and other parts of Asia.

Dr. Lang seconded the motion, which was carried; and Messrs. Elwin, Wentworth, Suttor, and Macarthur, with Drs. Lang and Nicholson, appointed a committee.

The motions of which Dr. Thomson gave notice yesterday were carried.

The Colonial Treasurer moved, and the Auditor-General seconded, That this Council will make good any sums, not exceeding £2,500, which may be expended by His Excellency the Governor, in giving employment to distressed mechanics and labourers in Sydney, during the remainder of the present year. Unless this sum were voted, the Government was prepared to discharge the men now employed on Saturday.

Mr. Wentworth would not oppose the motion, but protested against the sum being applied to the repairs of the Court House.

The resolution was carried, with a provision for the engagement of such workmen only as had families.

Council went into Committee on the Estimates.

The Colonial Treasurer moved for £1,554 0s. 6d. for the Colonial Storekeeper's department.

Mr. Cowper moved the abolition of the department.

Mr. Wentworth moved a reduction to £1000, which was carried.

The Colonial Treasurer moved for £15,000 for the Surveyor-General's department; upon the motion of Mr. Windeyer the Estimate was expunged.

Wednesday, October 4.

A petition was received from the district of Illawarra, for a reduction of the Estimates.

Council went into Committee on the Estimates.

The consideration of the Harbour Master's department was deferred.

The Colonial Treasurer moved for a sum not exceeding £11,571 3s. 3d. for the Colonial Engineer's department.

After Colonel Barney had been called in and examined, the Colonial Treasurer moved that £8,500 be granted for that department.

Mr. Cowper moved that the department be abolished, which was carried.

The Colonial Treasurer moved for £1,000 for the repairs of roads, and the conveyance of metal, which was negatived.

£1,000 for the repair of bridges and drains, £25 for the construction of new ones, were disallowed.

£480 was voted towards completing the breakwater at Newcastle.

The Colonial Treasurer moved for £1,532 8s. for the Colonial Architect's

department. The following reductions were agreed upon:—In the salary of the clerk, £23 15s.; of the bailiff of the Government Domain, £41 10s.; and £20 in the allowance to the keeper of Government clocks.—In all, £85 5s.

The sum of £1447 3s. was then carried.

£1000 was voted towards building the new Government house.

The consideration of the Estimates of £3600 for the Circular Quay, in Sydney Cove; £12,000 for the new Military Barracks; and £1,000 for the new Gaol, at Darlinghurst, with the remaining items of Public Works, was postponed.

Thursday, October 5th.

A petition was received from Parramatta, for amendments in the Licensing Act.

A petition was received from Henry Fisher, of Glenmore, praying for compensation in case of colonial distillation were abolished.

After several returns had been placed upon the table

The Council went into committee on the Estimates.

The Colonial Secretary moved for £3,600 towards the formation of a Circular Quay, but after some consideration, the item was postponed.

£12,000 was voted towards the building of the new Military Barracks, South Head Road.

The item for the Gaol, at Darlinghurst, was postponed.

£1,000 was voted for building the new Gaol, at Goulburn.

£1,000 was voted for the new Gaol at Bathurst.

£2,000 was voted for the new Gaol, at Maitland.

£380 was voted for additional cells at the Gaol, Newcastle.

£780 was voted for repairs of the Court House, King-street.

£1,314 4s. 2d. was voted for repairing the General Hospital, Sydney.

£3,000 was voted for casual repairs to the Courts of Justice, and other colonial buildings.

The Colonial Secretary moved for £2,513 17s. for the Public Works, at Port Phillip.

Mr. Windeyer moved a reduction of the expenses created by employing prisoners, amounting to £2,088 6s.:—carried. £425 11s. was therefore voted.

£2,000 was voted for a new Gaol at Melbourne.

£1,500 was voted for a Police Court and Offices, at Portland.

£800 was voted for a Watch-house, at Portland.

£200 was voted for a Custom-house, at Geelong.

A long discussion ensued on the Estimate of £36,022 10s. for the Church Establishments.

Mr. Cowper moved that the Estimate be confined to £30,000, as allowed in Schedule C of the Act, which, after some discussion, was carried.

Friday, October 7th.

A petition was received from a number of merchants, shipowners, and masters of Sydney, for alterations in the Water Police Act.

Mr. Wentworth moved for a select committee to consider the subject—carried.

Council went into committee on the Estimates.

£3,600 was voted for the Circular Wharf.

£1994 10s. was voted for the Government Printing Establishment.

£325 was voted for the Medical department.

£1,321 6s. was voted for the Lunatic Asylum, Tarban Creek.

£724 7s. was voted for the Medical Establishment, Port Phillip.

The item of £5,000 to the Sydney Corporation for Police purposes, was struck out.

The Colonial Secretary moved for £498 13s. 6d., for the outstationed constables in the Sydney district. After some conversation,

Mr. Wentworth moved the following resolution:—That in the present state of the colony, it is highly inexpedient, if not impossible, to cast any portion of the Police Expenditure on the country Districts. That this expenditure, therefore,

for the year 1844, be defrayed as hitherto, out of the General Revenue. Which was carried.

The House resumed, and the resolution passed by the committee was agreed to.

Monday, October 9th.

A petition was received from the inhabitants in and about Raymond Terrace, against District Councils.

Several petitions were received from the clergy and laymen of the Church of England, against Dr. Lang's Educational resolutions.

Council went into committee on the Estimates.

The Colonial Secretary moved for £4457 for the Sydney Gaol expenses.

Mr. Wentworth moved that the salaries of the two Chaplains and of the two Turnkeys, be struck out.

Mr. Cowper moved for the reduction of the two Turnkeys only.—Carried.

£713 10s. 9d. was voted for the expenses of Bathurst Gaol.

£1,535 12s. 6d. was voted for the expenses of Newcastle Gaol.

£1,041 8s. 6d. was voted for Berrima Gaol, being a reduction on the estimate (£1120 18s.) of £20 from the Gaoler's salary, and one Turnkey discontinued.

The House resumed, and

The Speaker informed the House, that His Excellency had assented to the Preferable Lien Bill.

Tuesday, October 10th.

The following Returns were laid on the table :—

1. The deposits in the Bank of Australasia, to January 1st, 1841.
2. The revenue and expenditure under the Water Police Act, up to June 30th, 1843.
3. The fees received by the Crown Land Commissioners.

Mr. Bowman obtained leave to bring in a bill to separate Campbelltown and Appin, as a separate District, from Camden, Picton, and Narellan.

Dr. Lang moved, but afterwards withdrew the motion, for leave to bring in a Bill to repeal Act 8 William Fourth, No. 7, and Act 4 Victoria, No. 18, relating to the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Windeyer moved, that the resolution passed on the 7th October, (see page 630,) relative to the Police expenses in Country Districts, be communicated to the Governor, by means of an address, with a request that His Excellency would be pleased to adopt such measures as might seem to him requisite, to give due effect to that resolution.—Carried.

Dr. Lang moved the following resolutions relative to the Postage Act.

- 1st. That the general efficiency of the Post Office Establishment is of essential importance to the welfare of this colony.
- 2nd. That it is necessary to reduce the rate of postage chargeable on letters to the lowest possible amount.
- 3rd. That it is the opinion of this council, that no letter, posted in any city or town for delivery, either such city or town should be chargeable with a higher rate of postage than one penny irrespective of its weight.
- 4th. That it is the opinion of this council, that for all greater distances within this colony, whether by sea or land, no letter, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, should be chargeable with a higher rate of postage than twopence: and that twopence additional should be chargeable on every letter for every additional half ounce which such letter may weigh.
- 5th. That it is the opinion of this council that for all letters to or from any place, beyond the limits of the colony, whether posted or delivered in the port of entry or departure, no higher rate than twopence each should be chargeable irrespective of weight; but that the inland postage to or from any other part of the territory should be chargeable on all such letters in addition to that amount.
- 6th. That it is the opinion of this council that the privilege of franking should be abolished, and that the postage of the various departments of the public

service should be chargeable on these departments respectively, in such manner as his Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council may seem fit. 7th. That it is the opinion of this council, that the postage of the military, commissariat, and convict departments, should not be chargeable upon the colonial Revenue.

The resolutions were referred to a committee, and the bill postponed to Thursday next.

Returns respecting the trials of Aborigines were ordered to be printed.

Council went into Committee on the Estimates.

The Colonial Secretary moved for £704 18s. for the Botanic Gardens, Sydney.

Mr. Windeyer moved a reduction of £70, which was carried, and £634 18s. voted.

The Estimate of £588 6s. for the Government Domain, Parramatta, was negatived.

£200 was voted for the Australian Museum, which was to be moved to a more convenient situation.

£200 was voted for the School of Arts.

£1,700 was voted to repay duties on foreign goods exported.

£300 for Sydney, and £1,000 for Port Phillip was voted for furniture for Public Offices.

The Estimate of £300 for the conveyance of stores to the several public departments was struck out.

Wednesday, October 11th.

Several petitions were received against Dr. Lang's resolutions on Education.

The future Governor's Salary Bill, was read a second time. October 17th was fixed for committing the Bill.

Dr. Lang withdrew his Educational resolutions, with the understanding that they were to be brought on early next Session.

The Council went into Committee on the Estimates: £4000 was voted for the expenses of Sydney Gaol, being a reduction of £457.

The Estimates for Campbelltown, Liverpool, and Windsor Gaols were expunged.

£1672 2s. was voted for Port Phillip Gaol.

Mr. Wentworth moved "That it is the opinion of this committee, that the expenses attending the imprisonment and support of convicts in the various gaols and houses of correction throughout the colony, ought not to be borne by the colonial revenue."—Carried.

£140 was voted for the Government lamps in Sydney.

The Estimates of £5000 and £2000 for the Corporations of Sydney and Melbourne respectively, were withdrawn.

£2000 was voted for unforeseen expenses, to be afterwards accounted for.

The Council resumed, and

Mr. Wentworth's resolution relating to the expenses of Convicts was reported and agreed to; and he (Mr. W.) gave notice that he should move, That an address be presented to the Governor, communicating the above resolution.

Thursday, October 12th.

Petitions were received from certain Roman Catholic Schoolmasters, praying for the payment of their salaries.

The following address to the Governor was carried:—

We, her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the members of the Legislative Council of New South Wales in Council assembled, beg to lay before your Excellency the following resolution:—

"That, in the opinion of this committee, the expense attending the confinement of convicts in the various gaols and houses of correction throughout the colony, ought not to be borne by the colonial revenue."

We beg to inform your Excellency, that the above resolution originated in a committee of the whole council on the estimates for the year 1844, and was

therein *nemine contradicente* agreed to, as well as afterwards by the whole council, on the 11th instant.

A message from the Governor, proposing certain amendments in the "Act to prevent the Waste of property of Debtors under process of Law," was ordered to be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

A second message, with respect to the address which had been presented to the Governor, wherein it was stated, that "In the present state of the colony it is highly inexpedient, if not impossible, to cast any portion of the Police Expenditure on the country districts; that this expenditure, therefore, for the year 1844, be defrayed as hitherto, out of the General Revenue." The Governor stated in reply, that he was willing to share, with the Legislative Council, the responsibility of postponing for a year a compliance with the requirements of the 47th clause of the Act of Parliament, and invited the Council to appropriate the sum set down in the estimates, or a smaller sum, out of the General Revenue.

His Excellency's message was greeted with unanimous cheers, and ordered to be taken into consideration on the following day, when Mr. Wentworth stated he would move that the cordial thanks of the house be presented to the Governor for the course he had adopted.

Council went into committee on Estimates.

£750 a year was voted as the Speaker's salary, with the conditions, that where there was a pension or commutation of a pension to the Speaker, an adequate reduction should be made; and that if a Government officer should be elected Speaker, the salary should not exceed £350, and that in no case the emoluments from the Government officer and Speaker combined, should exceed £1,000 per annum.

£100 was voted as the Sergeant at Arms' salary,

£600 was voted as a salary for the offices of Clerk to the Executive and Legislative Councils combined.

£250 was voted as a short hand writer's salary, being an increase of £100 on the estimated sum.

The Council having resumed, the thanks of the House were presented to Hastings Elwin, Esq., for his gratuitous and very efficient discharge of the duties of chairman of committees.

Some papers were laid on the table relative to the Aborigines' protection at Port Phillip.

The second reading of the Sheriff's Bill, and the Lighthouse Bill was postponed.

The Council again went into Committee on the Estimates.

£1,500 was voted for the schools in aid of destitute Roman Catholic children.

£2,640 6s. was voted for the Male Orphan School, being a reduction of the Surgeon's salary to £48, and of £25, the salary of a Clergyman.

£1,340 6s. was voted for the Female Orphan School, being a reduction of £147.

The following sums were then voted, £2,950 for Church of England Schools, established prior to the year 1837.

£500 for additional schools, £1,200 for Presbyterian schools, £350 for Wesleyan Methodist schools, conducted according to the regulations of September, 1841.

£1,450 for Roman Catholic schools, and £1000 in addition for a new school house for the Roman Catholics, instead of the old Court House, which will be given up to the Episcopalian body at the end of the year.

£400 for schools of all denominations at Port Phillip.

Friday, October 13.

A petition was received against alteration in the Water Police Act.

Mr. Wentworth moved an address to His Excellency, thanking him for his willingness to share with the Council the responsibility of suspending the operation of the Police clauses, and the Act of Parliament for the ensuing year. Carried.

Mr. Wentworth moved an address to His Excellency, praying him to insert the sums voted by the House for the salaries of its officers, upon the Estimates. Carried.

Mr. Wentworth obtained leave to bring in a Bill to regulate the Friendly Societies, instituted to provide against sickness and other human miseries.

A message was read from His Excellency, stating that he had no funds at his disposal to support the convicts in jails, nor power to take such convicts out of jail, till they were delivered in the course of law.

Mr. Windeyer gave notice of motion, (Oct. 17.) for leave to bring in a Bill to declare Cockatoo Island and Hyde Park Barracks a place of confinement for convicts committed for trial.

Council went into Committee on the Estimates.

The Judicial establishments were brought forward, and the Colonial Secretary stated, that the Government had no intention of making an alteration in the administration of justice in Port Phillip.

Mr. Windeyer made several propositions with a view of reducing the expenditure in this department, and finally moved, that it is the opinion of this committee, that the sum set down in schedule A, of the Act of Parliament, might be made sufficient for the administration of justice for the ensuing year.

The debate was adjourned.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

MUSICAL INTELLIGENCE.

It gives us great pleasure to be able to speak very favourably of the two concerts which were given in October, at the Royal Hotel. The first was given on the 11th ult., by our old and talented friend Mrs. Bushelle, and we only regret that our limits will not allow us to say all that it deserved; it was, however, a rich treat. If we remind our readers that the second concert was given by a new candidate for favours, we feel we may be pardoned if we allow a larger space than would otherwise seem just to our fairer candidate: to speak of Mr. Marsh's concert, which came off on the 18th, and which fully realized the sanguine expectations of the friends of this talented composer. In our opinion it disarmed criticism, except such as has its origin in *ignorance*, or *malevolence*, and in expressing this opinion we are sure we but express the opinion of all present, who were really capable of judging. We are sorry, however, to find that there is a *Pickwickian Stiggins* presiding over one of the public journals, who, either from one or the other of the reasons just mentioned, allows rankling partizanship alone to guide him in his criticisms, a circumstance we regret much. In repudiating the unjust criticisms given by our contemporary, we maintain we are justified, for when ill-natured and depreciatory remarks are made of entertainments in every respect most superior, those remarks ought to be indignantly met, as being more calculated than any thing else to perpetuate the lamentable dearth of intellectual amusement, which has hitherto been complained of in the colony.

Those who feel an interest in the establishment of a taste for compositions of the highest character, must have been pleased at the selection of the pieces made by Mr. Marsh for the occasion, and sincerely do we hope that his laudable endeavours to accomplish so desirable an object will be generally appreciated and encouraged. We therefore regret that our space precludes our minutely detailing the respective merits and beauties of the instrumental pieces, all of which were of the highest order. We must not, however, omit to particularize the first and last pieces in the first part. The introductory quartette—harp, pianoforte, flute, and violoncello, from Semiramide; and the last duett for two pianofortes, performed by Mrs. Prout and Mr. Marsh, were the greatest treats we ever enjoyed in the colony, and the performance of which displayed a degree of skill and science of which the colony has great reason to be proud. All the vocal pieces were well executed, particularly by Mrs. Bushelle "Tu che accenti." Mrs. Wallace acquitted herself very creditably. The original trio