

fellow, who no doubt had tasted stray venison at home, shot one of them -the other got safe back. I wish we could have caught the rascal--we at least should have made him swallow the hoob and horns, as a ready way of digesting the necks and haunches.

They manage their flocks in a very objectionable manner. **The rams** are allowed to run with the ewes at all times; the consequence of which is that there is no "lambing season," as the lambs are dropping all the year round. Where the range of pasturage is so great, this must **cause** a vast deal of additional **labour** for the shepherds, and many lambs must inevitably be lost, as they consider 80 lambs **from** 100 ewes to be a good saving, which is much below what is realised in England. These things may gradually correct themselves; for their permanent interests, the sooner the better.

Whether the island were ever joined to the main land, or whether it be of volcanic origin some thousands of years ago, as there are strong *indications* of, are matters that cannot be determined, and are not worth the trouble of conjecturing : let us hope that it will prove the **future** happy homes of **all** those who leave the old country voluntarily to settle in it, and of all those of a **forced** emigration whose future conduct shall show that they have repented of their ways, and are disposed to become good and useful subjects of the State.

Van **Dieman's** Land being nearly situated in the antipodes, the seasons are exactly **the reverse** of ours-which has an effect, especially on a new-comer, that is anything but pleasant. At Christmas, none of those **friendly** gatherings of relations or friends which we had been so long used to ; no cheerful blaze--no smoking turkey and chine, and none of those other *agrémens* that are so delightful, and which in the old country render so many many people happy and contented ;-but all hot-piping hot, and if we have not yet been visited with a hot wind, which, for the two or three days it lasts, lays us all prostrate, we are fearfully looking out for one, and when it shall arrive "Dolce far niente" is every one's cry.

It has been usually said in England, that the climate of the southern hemisphere is **from** 8 to 10 degrees colder than in the same latitudes in the northern. Certainly this does not hold good **in** Van **Dieman's** Land, where it is much warmer than in England **in** the summer, and by no means so cold in winter. The range of the thermometer may be occasionally as great betwixt the day and **night as we have it here**, and the white frosts in the mornings are sharp and biting ; but a **speculation** in skates for any part of the island **would** turn out not a **very profitable** venture. There are some who say that the climate is very fickle

and changeable : I did not find it **so**—there were only such changes as all countries in particular situations must be liable to, and the general good health of the people sufficiently shows that the changes are not inimical to the constitution, The rains sometimes come down rather heavily, but I never heard any one say that they ever had too much of them—indeed, the general complaint is, that they very rarely have enough, and it is always found **that** after a rainy season they have a good harvest. The rains sometimes cause the rivers to overflow, and must do some partial damage ; but if there were any general power, as there ought to be, to clear the rivers of the masses of timber that for ages have been accumulating in them, this would rarely if ever happen. The people here seem very little **disposed to** help themselves : they have been so long used to look up to the Lieutenant-Governor for the time being, for all such assistance and favours as they may want, that any exertion on their own behalf would rather astonish them.

I was present at several sheep-washings preparatory to their shearing,? and generally it was done in a slovenly manner—indeed, I understand that at home they complain very much that the wool does not **come** to them in a good marketable condition—which perhaps accounts in some degree for the very great **differences** of prices at the “brokers’ sides.” When a buyer is examining a parcel of wool, and finds that it has been packed in a bad condition, he always marks his catalogue accordingly, and in any allowance that he would make in his own favour, he would, as a proper protection to himself, put down something rather more than was necessary to cover any contingent deterioration. I very easily came to a conclusion that they ought to establish a **manufactory** for coarse woollens, of which there is a large consumption ; and then the coarser parts of the fleece could be worked up in the colony, and as the expense, **&c. of freight** is as great upon these as the finer parts, a very large proportion of the returns must be run away with in **charges**—all which they will find out before many years shall pass away.

After waiting at **Hobarton** much longer than I expected, in hopes of seeing the Lieutenant-Governor, who was on a very wild-goose chase exploring a new country, from which he with great difficulty returned, I prepared, on an intimation conveyed to me that it was desirable to do so, to start into the country to my appointed station. I had been for some time making inquiries how I was to get there, and received but very little information that deserved much credit, I found Prosser’s **Plains** certainly indicated on the map, on which there was no road laid down, and an **offer** that had once been made me, of sending me round

with **my** baggage in a government vessel to Prosser's Bay, which would have **brought** me within a few miles, I found now to be evaded. I at last found a man who had been there, and through him made an engage-ment with **a carman**, who had a strong spring van, to carry myself and some light baggage for three pounds—about a pound a day. I was very lame when I started, from a sprained foot. We had a good road all the way to **Richmond**—fifteen miles—where I intended to stop and sleep, **so** as to have the whole of the next day before us for **travelling** through the Bush. When at Richmond, as I was too lame to wait on him, I sent a note to Major Schaw, the resident police magistrate, to request that he would **favour** me with a call, which he soon complied with. From him I learnt the nature of the country that I should have to go through. The Major very kindly offered me **the** escort of his mounted policeman, who could be of assistance if any accident happened. The Major had seen a great deal of service—had been all through the Peninsular campaigns, and was present when Sir Edward **Paget** was taken prisoner. We talked over many of the events of the late war with which he was personally acquainted, and an intended visit of ten minutes was extended, to more than two hours.

Whilst we were hobnobbing together near a splendid wood fire, an accidental observation satisfied us that about thirty years before, we must have been almost as near each other as we were then sitting. The Major, then **a** Captain, was attached to the 1st Battalion of the 60th Regiment, which, on its return a skeleton to England from the West Indies, having given over all its service-men to the other battalions stationed there, was ordered to **Hillsea**, near Portsmouth, to be recruited **and** reformed—General **Whetham**, its then Colonel, being **Lieutenant-Governor** of Portsmouth. They were recruited from the different **depôts** for prisoners of war in that neighbourhood, and men of every country in Europe except French were taken to replenish its ranks. They were completed to above **1300** men, and after an inspection and review having been reported fit for service, were embarked for the Cape of Good Hope, and when the war was over, discharged there.

When the regiment was on the march for embarkation, they came in one body down the High Street at Portsmouth, where at that time I happened to be, and I remember well standing at the Bank corner of the Grand Parade, where the street narrows **a** little, and had my attention particularly fixed on the leading section of the grenadier company : a finer set of men never were seen : the Major was then the Captain of that company, and being of course on the left flank of the section, we must have almost touched each other.

We started early next morning, and immediately after leaving turned into the Bush road—and such an one ! shall I ever forget it “ Oh no, my love, no ”—sometimes a track, sometimes we had to **mak** one for ourselves—now floundering on one side, now on the **other**—then bumping against stones large enough for rocks, and then **sinkin**g up to the axle-trees in holes and bogs. Towards two o’clock, when we had got over half our distance, we held a council of expediency, and very soon came to the conclusion that we could not arrive at Prosser’s Plains that night, and therefore must make up our minds to “ bivouac ” in the woods, as there is not such a thing as a **public**, a hardly any other house, between Richmond and Prosser’s Plains, whid they call 25 miles. Whilst in consultation, we were overtaken by policeman whom we had met very early in the morning conveying a **pri**soner into Richmond, and as he necessarily knew the country, we a once called on him for an opinion what it was best to do, and, to m great delight, I heard him suggest the expediency of calling on C. C Parsons, Esq. of Runnymede, which was but a little out of our **way** and he had no doubt that Mr. Parsons (as I found afterwards was ver usual with him) would receive and entertain us for the night. I **at onc** agreed to this; and having turned in the proper direction, we soo arrived there, when, on sending in my card, he came out, and gave **m** a very hearty reception. Here I found what to me was as welcome a an “ oasis in the desert ”—a large and comfortable house, standing i the centre of a great breadth of cleared country. Mrs. Parsons, a ver **lady-like** woman, gave me as hearty a welcome as her husband, and soon made myself at home with an interesting family of **half-a-doze** youngsters. It was not at all disagreeable for me to find, that whil I was not considered an intruder, I had popped in just before **dinne** which was served soon after my arrival, and to which I did fair justice although I could not join my worthy host in wine, for fear of m sprained foot : but I had many opportunities afterwards of showing **hi** that it was only the fear of a renewed inflammation that prevented **m**

Next morning, when ready to start, Mr. Parsons suggested to me **th** my spring cart would never be able to surmount the difficulties of “ Burst-my-gall ” and “ Break-my-neck ”—two his, or rather **accumt** lations of rocks, which I should have to pass over—and having **starte** the **difficulty**, he very readily offered a remedy, which was, that **my ca** should be left where it was, and that his bullock-cart, which was **bui** to meet and overcome such obstacles, should be substituted for it, **M carman** immediately backed this, and I of course consented, as I ha found the springs of no use the day before. These hills are indeed **fo**:

midable, so much so that I was obliged to dismount, and, lame as I was, try what I could do on foot, when I fortunately found that I was stronger than I had expected. I went on, alternately **riding**, walking, or crawling, till I heard the joyful sound that we had arrived at the last hill ; this once surmounted, we had a smooth and gradual ascent all the rest of **the** way. We had been joined three or four miles out by a detachment of the local police, which had been sent out on purpose ; and here I was met by the police clerk and the **district** chief constable. The luggage having been set to rights, and mounting myself on it, we set out in procession, at which, notwithstanding all the joltings I had **undergone**, **and** the increased pain of my foot, I could not help most heartily laughing. I **had** been lying as much as possible at my ease on the luggage, when all at once I heard a very strong titter almost amounting to a laugh, and raising myself up, I descried a group of young *ladies*, consisting of the governess, niece, and daughters of my predecessor.

We got on to the inn, "the Bull Inn," at Prosser's Plains ; but such a house !-I can only compare it to the "Hut, J. Kempster," so well known to cadger travellers on the road **from** Guildford to **London** ;—but, such as it was, I had only "Hobson's choice"—that or none, so I soon became reconciled to its manifold inconveniences. I shortly found that the getting there was not the worst part of it. The township of Buckland—that is, where the town *will be* when it shall be built, of which not one house has yet been finished although two are in progress, of which one is to be the New Inn—is well situated between two rivers with a gentle slope towards both of them. During the day, Mr. **Lapham**, my predecessor, Mr. Crattenden, the principal land-over in the district, and others, called on me, and Mr. C. at once asked me to waive ceremony and dine with him the next day, as he was going to **Hobarton** and should be absent for some days—a frankness that I very much approve 'of, and which will no doubt lead to a good understanding between us. Next day **I** -entered on my duties, took an inventory of papers, arms, **&c. &c.**, and mustered the forces under my orders. My establishment consisted' of myself, a clerk, two district constables, and seven police. Whatever may be now thought in the old country of "set a thief to catch a thief," here it is **practised** in all its glory, and is found to answer admirably ; it has broken up any confederacy, and destroyed all confidence amongst the prisoners, and as there is no longer even "honour amongst thieves," they look on each other with a continued eye of jealousy and distrust, **The** *district* constable, who is attached to head-quarters, is an excellent trustworthy officer, and the recommendation which I gave of him onleaving, I hope, will be attended

to, The other district **officer**, at Spring Bay, is not worth his salt. One of the men was born and bred very near to "Wapping Old Stairs," and was in trim and appearance a true "son of the Thames;" directly I saw his hat, I challenged him with being so, which he at once admitted; there is no mistaking the distinctive kiddy hat that is common amongst the watermen, as it is as peculiar as a "**Jolliffe**" or an "**Ephraim**." Another had been for twenty-two years in the 42nd regiment, nineteen of which he was a sejeant; had been all through the Peninsular war with them, and when the piping times of peace returned, retired on a pension of **1s. 10½d.** a day; but having got unluckily into a spree, he had been made, according to his own account, to *suffer* for the errors of others, and had exchanged a comfortable home and his pension for his present not quite so enviable station. Another had been a private in the 4th **Foot**; had served with Colonel **Faunce**, whom I knew, and when discharged at the peace and living at home with his mother, could not forget some of those old marauding ways which he had learnt in the Peninsula, and having made too free with a farmer's sheep, was, to mend his manners, sent out here. Another was well acquainted with **Furnival's** Inn, Holborn; knew No. 15, there, where on old **friend** of mine has his chambers, and was well acquainted with Wood's Hotel. Another had been a private in the 3rd Dragoon Guards, and was sent out for **some** military **offence**. My clerk was certainly an original—he came **from** Dublin—he had a very slight touch of the brogue, but was not deficient in blarney. He had been brought up in a **wine-merchant's** office, but, like other great geniuses, he marked out a road for himself. He was an amateur watch and clock mender, the only knowledge **o** which he had picked up by looking through the shop-windows **an** observing others at work, until his constant attention at last **attracted** the notice of one, who invited him in; and thus it was that **h** gained the very little knowledge that he alleged he possessed. He **un**dertook all sorts of watch and clock mending, and by a comparison **o** **our** dates of going with those who occasionally went **to** Hobarton, **w**e could generally tell within an hour or **two** what was the time a day.

Our official papers were in great confusion, and the attendance at **office** very lax and irregular. I had all the papers sorted and **labelled** and ordered that the "office" should always be kept open from ten to three o'clock, and some one to be regularly at the receipt of custom to attend to all those who came on business. This was not much liked a first, particularly by the clerk, who almost mutinied; but I was peremptory, and as I set a regular and consistent example myself, the

soon quietly complied, as they found it would be useless to “kick against the pricks.”

The 5th of June being the first Sunday in the month, the ticket-of-leave men who were in the immediate district were mustered ; all of them appeared clean and decent, and the roll having been called over, I told them they would find me always disposed to administer the law more in the spirit of the old county, than in that which I had already found to be the practice in this ; that if they would be friends to themselves, and show by their conduct in their respective services that they deserved it, they would ever find me disposed to befriend them, and that I should always have much more satisfaction in commending their good conduct, than in resorting to those measures of severity which some parties thought the only practicable course to pursue ; that I should always be easily accessible to them when they wanted to see me, either with complaints, which they must take great care should be well founded, or whenever they were anxious for my advice and opinions as to the due and proper regulation of their conduct ; that if there were any disputes between themselves and their employers, they might always appeal to me rather as a friend and mediator than as a magistrate. This seemed to me to be well received by them, and they all spontaneously assured me that they would do their best to deserve and insure my good opinion. How far “even-handed justice” will suit the interests and prejudices of the “top-sawyers,” I neither know nor care ; I intend to keep myself quite independent of all those around me, to hear both sides of all such cases as may be brought before me, and to show them, what I before understood they have not been used to, that I am quite free from improper prejudices either on one side or the other.

One of the first things which engaged my attention, not in my immediate duties, was the miserable state of the roads, and having spoken to several on the subject, I suggested that the owners and occupiers of land in the district should be called together to see what could be done ; and some of them, although rather coldly and despairingly, having agreed to it, I ascertained the names of all the parties interested, and wrote notes to between forty and fifty of them to meet on the 20th of June for that purpose, which many of them attended to ; and for the first time at Prosser's Plains a meeting for the “despatch of public bustness” was holden, when they did me the honour to call me to the chair. I stated to them my views of what ought to be done, when the following resolutions, which I had previously drawn up, were submitted and unanimously carried :—

1. Moved by S. H. Grueber, Esq., seconded by H. Bird, Esq., That it has been shown by all experience, that the opening of good roads, and affording facilities of **communication from** one part of a country to another, has invariably tended to the increased value of land, and **to** the general prosperity of a country.
2. Moved by James Olding, Esq., seconded by Mr. Jenkins, That the country from Richmond through Brushy Plains, Prosser's Plains and Spring Bay to Little Swan Port, is not only without a good **road** but is altogether in such a state of nature, as to-make the communication, whether with a view to the carriage of grain or other **agricultural** produce to a market, or to ordinary travelling, of the very **worst** description, and that it is highly desirable an efficient and substantial road should be forthwith commenced.
3. Moved by C. O. Parsons, Esq., seconded by Mr. James **Rawlings** That, from the great extent of unappropriated lands still in the possession of the Crown, the Government is deeply interested in **the** improvement; and, in the opinion of this meeting, the employment of a large party of convicts for that purpose is not only strongly **called** for, but it would be most legitimate and advantageous.
4. Moved by Thomas Cruttenden, Esq., seconded by Mr. **Wheeler** That the foregoing resolutions be forthwith transmitted to the **Lieut. Governor**, and that Messrs. Parsons, W. M. Orr, and William Robertson, be a committee to wait on him for the purpose of further **communication** and explanation.

—————, *Chairman.*

I sent the above resolutions to the Colonial Secretary, with a **request** that he would inform me when it would be convenient and agreeable to the Lieutenant-Governor to see the Committee, In a few days I received an answer appointing a day in the next week for that purpose and on their return they reported that they had seen the "**Magnifique**, met with a very civil reception, and received what they hoped would **turn out** to be a very civil answer. ; but that they had not had a very direct encouragement, and that, like most other matters, there the thought it would end, I told them that if it did so, it should be their own fault ; that I well understood the nature and course of official apathy and indifference, and that after waiting a moderate time, I would take such other steps as circumstances should recommend. The Committee said, that they had heard in Hobarton, that the course which I had advised, and which the meeting had adopted, was considered rather a bold one ; perhaps in the existing state of things it was so, but the miserable apathy that seemed to prevail upon all really useful public matters was quite a justification of it.

(To be continued.)

RECOLLECTIONS OF ALGERIA IN 1843.

Sine **studio** et ira.

MUCH has been written on Algeria, since 1830, in England and in France; and, as was to have been expected, contradictions have abounded. Our warlike neighbours have fallen into **ecstasies** before their feats of arms, their martial ardour to engage new foes, their perseverance in the pursuit of victory. All this is very natural, no doubt, and it is not our part to condemn them for applauding their own valour and celebrating their own triumphs. On the other hand, our countrymen have often appeared little disposed to re-echo the songs of victory which **have** been borne to them across the Channel—not that they entertained any doubt of the military prowess of the French nation (this was not to be questioned for a moment); but because of all harvests that of laurels is the least profitable, when the land on which they are gathered remains uncultivated and desolate. In other words, we are of opinion that the French did not set about colonizing Algeria in the right way, and that there are many better methods of becoming definitive ~~the~~ masters of a country than by strewing it **with** the bones of eighty thousand soldiers.—“Jealousy of our dawning **success!**” indignantly exclaim our **Gallic** allies.—“Experience of the past!” is our reply. Meanwhile the French continue to prosecute their African war, **and** we to shake our heads incredulously. Such has been the state of things for **thirteen** years and a half:

Not to give the lie to our motto, we shall abstain **from** attempting to **decide** on a question which is in the hands of the future, and shall consider Algeria simply in its present state, just as the occupants who have quartered themselves on it by force of arms have made it. We shall make a kind of peregrination over the African soil, without however venturing too far among the Bedouin hordes who shrink as yet **from** beneath the aegis of European **civilisation**. We shall not endeavour to watch the movements of the Emir Abd-el-Kader, in his Semala, remaining prudently within the French possessions beneath the **protec-**

tion of a friendly flag: we may, however, amuse our readers by a likeness of this brave and noble, but subdued and hunted chieftain of the Desert.



H. CARTER, SC.

ABD-EL-JSADER.

The territory of the Regency is divided into four governments :— Al-Jezira, or Algiers ; Titteri, to the south ; Constantina, to the east and Mascara, or Tlemsen, to the west. The total superficies is calculated at about twenty-two thousand square leagues, only one-fifth less than that of France ; but whilst in this particular the two countries are so nearly equal, how different is the amount of population, how small the proportion to the vast space occupied !

According to M. Juchereau de St. Denis, who supposes that the whole Regency, at the beginning of the eighteenth century, did not contain more than two millions of inhabitants, the population of most of the towns had, up to 1830, decreased considerably. This writer believes that in stating the number of inhabitants at eight hundred thousand we are very near the mark ; but he does not include in this calculation those who dwell between the Little Atlas and the Sahara, who were never subject to the Dey of Algiers, and estimated at two hundred and thirty thousand souls. Thus, still relying