

Caffre land had ceased to be an ordinary excitement and a legitimate means of increasing their herds: before they were compelled to treat Hottentots and Fingoes, otherwise than as thralls and bond slaves, and Caffres otherwise than as wild cattle,—in short, before the commencement of that better and more humane and equitable system, which it is the object of this memorial to entreat the Government strenuously to support and extend.

Another evil arising out of the atrocious inroad of the Boors is the contamination of other white men by their example.

The English who had settled at Natal under the favour of Chaka first, and afterwards of Dingaan, secretly supplied the advancing Boors with hundreds of barrels of gunpowder, and trained what are called "Tame Caffres" to war. On the approach of the Boors towards Natal, these settlers, under pretence of assisting their white brethren, but really for the sake of plunder took up arms against the Zoolah, were fatally successful, carrying off much booty, in cattle and women. A pious and intelligent missionary, the Rev. Wallace Heweton, who was then at Natal and who wrote from Philipolis in September last, but who is now at Mosika, tells us that such was the demoralization consequent on that success, that the missionaries were obliged to leave the settlement in despair. The whites returned again to the attack on the Zoolahs with more extensive means of offence and plunder, but Dingaan met and destroyed all the whites, except those who took refuge on ship board. Before Major Chartres sailed to take possession of Natal with a force of five hundred men and five guns from the Cape—the traces of this desolation had been in some degree effaced, but yet he found evident tokens of the vengeance which the Zoolah chief had taken on the treacherous Christians, who, while living in apparent amity towards him had taken the first opportunity of turning their arms against him for purposes of blood and robbery.

Under these circumstances the humbled attitude of the emigrants—the division of the forces of Dingaan—the occupation of Natal by a British garrison (for the report of its removal has not been confirmed), it is hoped that a crisis has arrived when an arrangement might be made consistent with the honour and justice of Her Majesty's Government, with the well-being of the emigrant Boors, and, which is the chief object of the memorialists, with the protection of the natives of South Africa, who must in common justice be indemnified for any grant or concession which may be demanded of them.

To effect this desirable end—to promote this peace—two measures appear necessary, and of their efficacy no doubt can reasonably be entertained. The first of them is to send out Captain A. Stockenstrom, late Lieutenant-Governor of the Cape Colony, as Commissioner, with ample powers to treat with the Boors on the one side, and with Dingaan and the native chiefs on the other: to put an end to present and take steps for preventing future hostilities, and to endeavour if possible to form treaties with the natives so as to unite the several tribes beyond our frontier, and thus establish a general league under the guidance and protection of the British Government. This would tend to prevent contests between the separate chiefs and secure them from all aggression. To this suggestion the Aborigines' Protection Society attach the utmost importance, and more especially as connected with the following suggestions.

Another step which is earnestly recommended in many quarters, which is regarded as inevitable by one of the most influential missionaries in the Cape Colony, and to which this Society has no intention or desire to offer opposition, although not directly demanding or encouraging it, is the settlement of a colony at Cape Natal. There are others who would undertake the advocacy of such a step with more earnestness than becomes the Society for the protection of the Aborigines, who regard it only as inevitable and are desirous of directing for good that which cannot be avoided, and which if left to the ordinary impulses of emigration cannot but be productive of great evil. The object of the memorialists in recommending to Government the establishment of a colony at Port Natal, is exclusively the protection of the natives; that it may form one, and the chief member of the defensive and mutually protective league before referred to.

In 1834, the House of Commons specially invoked the protection of his Majesty King William the Fourth, for these defenceless people, and received from the King an assurance of His Majesty's determination to act in this respect in accordance with their wishes. Here is a distinct claim on the Government which the natives of South Africa now urge through this Society.

Lord Glenelg also in 1835 said, that "sympathising with every just and honourable sentiment of the subjects of the British Crown, His Majesty has commanded me to express his solicitude for the protection of the Aborigines of Southern Africa and his repugnance to sanction any enlargement of his dominions of which their sufferings would be the price."

The sufferings of the Aborigines of South Africa is the price of the occupation of their country by the Emigrant Boors. The suspension of those sufferings is but momentary; if no step be now taken blood will soon begin again to flow and the extermination of the wretched Aborigines must be the consequence. They are too distant to be reached from the Cape colony which already with a population of 150,000 souls extends over a space more than equal to all the land in the British Isles, and which requires all the vigilance of the Government within its frontiers. The commission could not be a roving one between Dingaan and the Boors, it must have a local habitation, and there appears no point so suitable for the residence of the representative of Great Britain as Port Natal. The Americans are already trading thither freely, the English settled there are rather numerous, the refugees of many a native tribe in considerable numbers form elements of an improvable population. The country is splendid and the cattle, Indian corn, millet and pumpkins of the Zoolahs show of what industry and knowledge could render the soil capable. In urging that Natal should be the residence of the British Commissioner this society is only anxious to show that while desirous to protect the native they have no wish to expose the settler to loss or suffering.

A paper has been recommended to and considered by a sub-committee of this society in which the reasons for the colonization of this part of South Africa are arranged in detail and a plan proposed for its accomplishment.

Without advocating the adoption of this plan, the society may be permitted to state that its elements are; 1st. The discovery of the original treaty made by Chaka with the first European settlers; in order to ascertain whether he retained or parted with the sovereignty of the district; the occupation of the land around Natal in the name of the British Government, expressly on condition that Dingaan assents to the establishment of a protective colony of white men there, and also on condition of his being amply compensated for any concession he may make, in common with all who have well-founded claims to compensation, arising out of existing and *bona fide* agreements with the native chief. The application to Natal of the South Australian principle as to the disposal of land; the encouragement of a large number of British born subjects to settle as in Albany with soil, aided by grants from Government aid the localization of an equal number of Hottentots, Zoolahs, or Caffres from the colony and from the neighbouring tribes, with such encouragement as Government could offer or their necessities require; complete equality in all respects of black and white settlers; not only as to purchase of lots but also in all immunities and privileges; the establishment of schools and missions, and making of treaties with neighbouring tribes and the employment of all the means of civilization addressed especially and industriously to the improvements of the natives.

Such are the outlines of a plan of which the society presume only to say that it presents many improvements on the ordinary and hitherto universal principles and practice of colonization. Its basis being equity and humanity.

The settlement, then, of British Commissioners at Natal, to treat with the Boors and Zoolahs and either to report or to act immediately in the settlement of their differences on the principle of just compensation to the natives for every acre of land occupied by the intruders, and the taking of hostages for the perfect security of European life and property, as regards the natives, the organization of the several tribes into one confederation and united league, and the establishment of a protec-

tive colony at Port Natal, are the recommendations of this society, and Captain A. Stockenstrom is earnestly recommended as the Commissioner on the ground that his knowledge of the whole subject is most extensive—that his entire conduct, as Lieutenant-Governor of the Cape Colony, merited and secured the confidence of this society on the presumption that, as a servant of the Crown, he is ready to act at the call of the Crown, on his known principles of benevolence and justice towards the natives; and on the belief that he, rather than any other man, notwithstanding their prejudices, would find audience with the Boors for any plan protective of the Zoolahs. The Aborigines' Protection Society—exceedingly anxious for the interests of those for whose advantage they were especially drawn together; and, at the same time, zealous of the honour of their country, entreat the Government not to suffer the present favourable moment for staying the effusion of blood, and avoiding the reproach to the Christian name—of fraud, hypocrisy, and violence to pass away, they earnestly urge the necessity of some immediate and efficient step to prevent the desolation of South Africa. Our name is not yet freed from the stain of cruelty and injustice in the late Caffre war; let not these Boors, in the name of England, steep us in deeper infamy by their inhuman conduct to the defenceless Zoolah. Let not the savage still say with truth, as Hintza said, "that imagination cannot paint a demon more horrible than the white man, nor can any curse equal that of communion with him;" but rather let us teach them all to say, as was said by Matabee, of Latakoo, Chief of the Bootchoonies, "that the king of the Macoa (white men) is a father, not only to his people, but also to his neighbours."

In the emphatic words of Lord Glenelg, the society beg leave to conclude their remarks—

"I know not that a greater real calamity could befall Great Britain, than that of adding southern Africa to the list of regions which have seen their Aboriginal inhabitants disappear under the withering influence of European natives. It is, indeed, a calamity reducible to no certain standard, or positive measurement; but it involves, whatever is most to be dreaded, in bringing upon ourselves at once the reproaches of mankind and the weight of National guilt.

We are, my Lord, on the part of the Committee,

Your Lordship's most obedient servants,
J. J. FREEMAN, Secretary.
A. B. WRIGHT, Joint Secretary.

THE LATE COLONEL LIGHT.

The following extract from one of Colonel Light's last letters, which shows his anxious desire to clear his character from any false aspersions of neglecting his duty was published in the *Morning Post* of March 23:—

"Adelaide, July 21, 1839.

"I am so ill that I feel I shall never recover, and I only pray that the Almighty may spare my life long enough to vindicate my character against all the aspersions that have been thrown against me, and to lay before the world the infamous accusations of neglect of duty I have received at various times from Mr. Hill, and which ultimately drove me from the service. For this purpose I am about to return to England. No one could have worked more zealously and conscientiously than I did, and Mr. Rowland Hill actually accused me of wilful neglect of duty and inattention to my instructions. This caused me to send my resignation long ago. The commissioners refused to accept it, and I wrote to Col. Gawler (the Governor) to that effect; but how was this contrived by Mr. Hill and the Chairman? Why, long before this non-acceptance my resignation could reach this country, that memorable and insulting order myself by to Mr. Fisher came out to suspend me, except I would degrade performing a running survey according to the plan laid down by Mr. Kingston (my subordinate officer). This insulting order arrived here nearly three months previous to the letter to Col. Gawler, so that not accepting my resignation was a fine piece of humbug; as the Chairman and Mr. Hill both knew very well, that I could not put up with their insult."

Mr. Rowland Hill's reply is as follows:—

"Sir,—In your paper of Monday last, you have given an extract of a letter from the late Colonel Light, who formerly held the appointment of Surveyor-General in South Australia, in which my name is made use of as the author of certain proceedings towards that gentleman, which are characterised as being harsh, ungrateful, and insulting.

"In order to exonerate myself from this heavy charge it might be sufficient to state, that in all the correspondence with or concerning Colonel Light I acted under the instructions of the commissioners, and that as their secretary I was merely the organ for giving expression to the sentiments and effect to the determinations of the board.

"But I will not shrink from the responsibility of deliberately stating my opinion that the measures taken by the South Australian Commissioners were absolutely necessary for the welfare of the colony, and that they were carried into effect not harshly, but with every proper attention to Colonel Light's feelings.

"By the lamentable death of Colonel Light I am obviously debarred from entering into any discussion of the circumstances of the case. Nor is this necessary, inasmuch as they are fully stated in the third annual report of the South Australian Commissioners, printed in May last, in which, under the signatures of all the nine commissioners, the reader will find the statements I have considered it necessary to make fully corroborated; and I hope I may be allowed to place the deliberate and unanimous declaration of nine gentlemen, acting in the discharge of a public duty, as to their own acts and intentions, against the impressions of a single individual, however estimable, judging in his own case.

"I trust to your sense of justice to give immediate insertion to this communication. I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"Bayswater, March 25." "Signed) ROWLAND HILL.

Brassfounders and others purchasing old metal are cautioned to examine any copper sheathing or slating nails that may be offered them for sale, as a novel method has been adopted of washing iron nails with a solution of sulphuric acid and copper, which gives them the appearance of copper.

A map has just been put forth by the British Reformation Society showing the exact position of every Roman Catholic chapel, college and seminary within the boundaries of England, Scotland, and Wales, from which it appears that there are no fewer than 532 of those buildings, being an increase in ten years of 88. In the county of Lancaster alone there are as many as 74 chapels and 9 schools; in that of York there are 50 chapels and 2 schools; in that of Stafford there are 29 chapels and 7 schools; whilst in Middlesex the chapels are 20 only, and the schools or colleges 13.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Arrangements have been made with the ABORIGINES' PROTECTION SOCIETY'S Committee, for the regular publication of their proceedings through the columns of this Journal.

The South Australian Colonist.

LONDON:

TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 7, 1840.

LATEST ARRIVALS FROM SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

LETTERS and papers have arrived in London from South Australia to the 3d of November. They contain an account of a public meeting held to take into consideration the erection of a monument to the memory of Colonel LIGHT; and, amongst other facts illustrative of the progress of the colony, and practically refuting the slanders of its enemies, it is stated that a parcel of barley had been cut in South Adelaide, the produce of which, although the soil has been affirmed to be "as hard as bricks," was estimated at one thousand fold. Some collisions had occurred between the colonists and the natives on the Murray, who had been committing depredations on the sheep; but, we are glad to state, without any loss of life.

EDUCATION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

THE means of instruction, in every branch of useful knowledge, combined with a sound moral and religious training, constitute the greatest blessing that can be conferred upon any community of men. And to none does this remark more forcibly apply than to the inhabitants of a new colony; for, in ascertaining the properties of a soil of which they can have had but very limited experience, they will derive invaluable aid from such as are acquainted with physical science; while, in general, it is obvious that an infant nation has the opportunity of reaping from education all the positive advantages it can bestow, and of avoiding all those evils which we see afflicting countries in which the proper instruction of the young has been neglected. It is our intention, therefore, to keep the subject of education constantly before our readers, in the hope that South Australia, taking warning from the criminal statistics of "happy England" herself, will not fail to guard the lives and property of her population by that best possible system of preventive police of which "the schoolmaster" is chief commissioner.

In so weighty an undertaking, we are impressed with the importance of being efficiently assisted; and we cannot help congratulating our readers and ourselves, upon having secured the valuable co-operation of so eminent and competent a writer as Dr. DICK. The hint we ventured to throw out, that the proscription of Latin learning would probably not be found to comport with the design of the projectors of a South Australian College, has prompted our learned correspondent to favour us with a second communication (to be followed, we trust, by many more) in which, with very considerable force of statement, he assigns the reasons why he thinks that much time or attention would be ill bestowed in the attainment of a knowledge of the Roman classics. Of course, his remarks apply equally to Greek, except in so far as it is the original language of the New Testament, and that of the best version of the Old. It cannot be denied that many of the considerations adduced by Dr. DICK are of great weight, and deserve not to be dismissed lightly. The question will probably be found to be one respecting which "much may be said on both sides." We feel, however, that our interference is not at present required; and, therefore, we leave it to be discussed as thoroughly as they please by those of our competent readers who entertain opposite sentiments on the subject.

On a former occasion we observed that the project of a College was not the first instance in which the South Australians had evinced their regard for the interests of knowledge; and the Report of the South Australian School Society, inserted in another column, makes good our assertion. It will be seen that Mr. SHEPHERDSON, the Secretary and Chief Manager, met with the most cordial reception from the Governor and the superior class of colonists, and that under these auspices he has entered upon his labours with every prospect of success. If the plan sketched by the society be fairly carried out, the community of South Australia will be one of the happiest on the earth. Mr. SHEPHERDSON appears to be exceedingly well adapted to his office; and all that is wanting is the pecuniary means of carrying his plans into effect. We appeal to the friends of education in general, as well as to those who feel a peculiar interest in the future of South Australia. There has been much talk about "Normal Schools." Why not make the self-supporting colony a "Normal school?" If we want our fellow-men to be more deeply impressed with the public benefits accruing from good education, we cannot adopt a better plan than that of directing

our efforts to the production of a fair practical example. Why not make South Australia the field of so noble an experiment? The freedom of its institutions and the concentrated state and limited extent of its population, are inviting circumstances. At a very slight cost, comparatively, and with perfect ease, the South Australian School Society might be enabled to put every class of its youthful inhabitants under complete instruction; by which means, in the first instance, inestimable benefits would be conferred upon the colony itself; but those benefits would reflect themselves upon the surrounding countries, and incalculably accelerate the progress of a true and lasting civilization in the Southern hemisphere.

There is one link of connection which we should like to see established between the South Australian School Society and the projected College. Amongst the children of the less wealthy colonists, instances of rare endowment or application will occasionally be found: and we would respectfully suggest that, in the formation of the College, some arrangement should be adopted whereby such superiority might have the opportunity afforded it of full and mature development. There should be a liberal foundation of poor scholarships.

THE EX-GOVERNOR OF NEW SOUTH WALES ON SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

WE have devoted one of our columns to the refutation of the attacks of ordinary calumniators of South Australia, of one of whom we have there disposed this day. The new colony, however, has enemies of a superior class, whom, therefore, it is expedient to arraign somewhat more conspicuously. Sir RICHARD BOURKE, late Governor of New South Wales, is one of these.

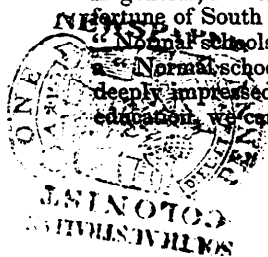
As it is impossible to touch pitch without being defiled, so it would appear that a man cannot even govern a convict colony without catching the infection.

We have been accustomed to regard the late Governor of New South Wales, not only as an able officer, but as a generally straightforward and honestly-intentioned man; and we could not have believed that he would descend to be the organ of libellous and sinister misrepresentations. That any one coming from New South Wales should affect to doubt the success of South Australia, is certainly no matter of surprise; for the penal colonies boil with envy at the rapid progress of a colony, which, while abutting upon them, is anti-convict in its character. While, therefore, we are astonished at some of the clauses, we are not at all surprised by the general drift, of the following passage in a memorandum on transportation, by Sir RICHARD BOURKE, ordered by Parliament to be printed with some other papers in August last:—

"From what I have seen effected in New South Wales, I am induced to set a high value upon the power of commanding convict labour during the first processes of settlement in a new country. The great demand for labour, incident to such undertakings has seldom, if ever, been adequately supplied by free people. Where these have been relied on, and no other description of labour obtained, the progress of the incipient colony has been slow and difficult; hence the striking contrast between the condition of the Swan River settlement and that of New South Wales, or Van Diemen's Land. *South Australia is of too recent origin to be compared with the other settlements in New Holland; but it is now maintained, I believe, by borrowed capital, and the security is doubtful. It does not seem likely to make a better progress than Swan River.*"

Now, there is no quarrel between the ex-Governor and ourselves, when he says that the great demand for labour in young colonies has seldom if ever been adequately met; nor is there any difference between us when he quotes New South Wales, and Van Diemen's Land, *with combinable labour*, in contrast with Swan River, *without it*. But we differ from Sir RICHARD when he implies that it is necessary, in order to secure combinable labour, to create a huge moral ulcer—a pestilential society—a slave—nay, worse—a convict community; to concentrate the vice and villany of the nation on one spot. Had his ex-Excellency duly investigated the principle of colonization and its operation, in South Australia, instead of founding his "belief" upon lying representations, he would have arrived at a different conclusion, and must have admitted, before this, that between economical and moral prosperity there is not only no necessary separation, but an intimate connection indispensable to the perfection of either; at all events, it is already demonstrated that successful progress, with a *free and honest labouring class*, is a quite possible thing in a young colony.

Sir RICHARD makes another very great mistake; the less surprising indeed, after his other mistakes, when he says South Australia is supported by borrowed capital. South Australia, as he might easily have learned, and ought to have known before he made it the subject of official mention, is supported by the proceeds of its land sales, and by local taxes. The latter



cover the expense of an efficient government; while for every acre of land sold, the price has been received; and for every labouring man introduced into the colony, virtual security has been given for his employment. Never was a colony commenced, the moral certainty of whose success, under Divine Providence, has been acquiesced in within so short a space, by so many men of intelligence; never was one founded for the success of which so much capital was risked within so brief a period; and never, with still greater confidence may we venture to say, was one founded more open, downright, anti-favourite, and anti-jobbing in character. Founded *systematically*: the pretension precludes all underhand dealing, and selfish design; it gives to the colony a *public* interest identified with the *private* good of every man who makes it his adopted country.

FRENCH CONVICTS IN NEW ZEALAND.

WE were the first amongst the public journals to announce that our Government had been betrayed into the impolitic and somewhat self-stultifying proceeding of consenting to the establishment of a French convict colony in New Zealand. It is now too notoriously true. The conduct of Ministers in this matter is certainly inexplicable, and creates much regret and apprehension.

The facts of the case appear to be these. The advocates of British (Government) colonization in New Zealand have uniformly contended that we acquired sovereign rights in those islands by precisely the same title as that on which we rest our dominion in Australia, Van Diemen's Land, and Norfolk Island. In conformity with this view, and (to pass over many previous occasions) by the instructions given to Captain HOBSON by Lord NORMANBY, dated August 14, 1839, New Zealand was constituted a dependency on New South Wales, and therefore, reserving the rights of the natives, a part of the British empire. In the meantime, however, there unhappily existed a Treasury minute, bearing date July 19, 1839, by which the sovereignty of the British Crown in New Zealand was repudiated; and, immediately after the publication of this document, the press of France became loud in its calls upon the Government of that country to follow the example of our own, and endeavour to obtain a *cession* of territory and sovereign rights from the native chiefs. While our own Government, influenced by incompetent advisers, was throwing all sorts of impediments in the way of such of our countrymen as had determined to emigrate thither, the French Ministers lent a favourable ear to the representations made to them; and the result is, that a Company, formed at Havre for the purpose of colonizing New Zealand, has obtained from the Government a grant of money, a number of men picked from the royal navy, and a *commission to reserve as the site of a penal settlement a fifth of any lands which they shall obtain*. One ship belonging to this Company has already sailed; and it is said that others will follow presently. Their destination is Banks's Peninsula in South Island, where it is alleged that a Captain LANGLOIS, one of the Company, is the proprietor of a considerable territory purchased from the natives. Thus will a penal colony be established in the neighbourhood of the spot where the body of the Queen's subjects, who emigrated last year, are probably by this time established.

One of our contemporaries has stated, that her Majesty's Ministers have been for some time aware of these facts, but have taken no steps in consequence. We are able to corroborate this statement. Before the resignation of Lord GLENELG, the Colonial Office was apprised, as we have good reason to know, of the evident designs of France upon New Zealand; and for years past her *soi-disant* scientific expeditions in those seas have attracted the attention and excited the suspicion of vigilant observers. Our Government, thus forewarned, will not easily vindicate itself from culpability in this matter; though we are of opinion that the managers of the Church and Wesleyan Missionary Societies are almost equally to blame. We impute no wrong motives to those gentlemen; but we always felt that their countrymen, who declared their intention to open New Zealand as a field for emigration, deserved more credit for the principles on which they professed to base their project, than the Christian charity of these their indefatigable and uncompromising opponents seemed willing to accord them. We believe, indeed, that the interests of religion were supreme in their thoughts, and that their opposition was conscientious. Their conduct, however, is now proved, and that to their own satisfaction, or rather dissatisfaction, we presume, to have been extremely mistaken; for, surely; it were far more conducive to the interests of pure religion to have colonized New Zealand with the inhabitants of a sober, moral, and Protestant country like our own, than with the scum of the restless, ambitious, unscrupulous, profligate, and Papist population of France.

From what we know of the committees of the two excellent societies in question, we feel warranted in affirming that they would have dreaded, above all things, the introduction of Popery into New Zealand; and yet, through their obstinate resistance to the formation of a British colony in those islands, the very evil, in comparison of which they themselves would have deemed all others insignificant, has come to pass.

But Popery is not the only evil which will ensue from the impolicy of our Government, and the ill-directed energies of these admirable Missionary Societies. Along with the deadliest heresy in religion comes the deadliest heresy in civil policy. The colony will be penal as well as Papist. As if the state of society in New Zealand, notwithstanding all that the Missionaries have done to purify and elevate it, were not already sufficiently infernal in its character, it is to be cursed with the convict system, and the lower depth of French depravity is to be added to the lowest degree of English vice. New Zealand will now become the very upas of the world, and everything fair and good will perish beneath its empoisoned shade. Alas! that so beautiful a spot should, by the two most enlightened Governments of Europe, have been selected as an arena for the display of those crimes by which the off-scouring of the two nations may show the barbarous natives how far the most civilized of men can surpass the most savage in all that is atrocious, when under the stimulus of a diabolic rivalry. "Rivalry!" there we touched a chord which reverberates with ominous resonance. Were we called upon to name one calamity that would be greater than any other of which we can conceive, we should reply, War between England and France. And yet in this introduction of the French into New Zealand, we behold a train laid for that dreaded explosion which the first spark of international animosity will probably set light to; when, whatever else may be saved from the wreck, the poor natives are sure to "disappear," and the adjacent colonies to sustain a severe and perhaps ruinous shock.

How in the world the British Government came to sanction the renewal of the convict curse in a more dreadful form, when just on the point apparently of abandoning the system themselves (at least so far as the commixture of felons with honest men is concerned), it is impossible to understand; and we await their explanations in Parliament in a state of perfect bewilderment. The whole of our Australian settlements are here at stake; and especially South Australia, which, deliberately founded upon non-convict principles, had a right to expect that no addition should be made to the difficulties with which, in this respect, she has to cope, in being in the immediate vicinity of the penal colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land. As far as her commercial interests are endangered, she must make common cause with them and our other settlements in that region.

ABORIGINES' PROTECTION SOCIETY.

WE have been requested by the Secretary of the Aborigines' Protection Society, on behalf of the Committee, to give insertion to the following statement:—

"The Aborigines' Protection Society feel it necessary in reference to some observations which appeared in the last number of the *South Australian Colonist*, to repudiate explicitly all views of a sectarian or party character. The objects of that Society are purely philanthropic, embracing in the most comprehensive and liberal spirit, the protection and civilization of aboriginal nations in all parts of the world, by the agency of all Christian and practical means at their disposal. The objects of the Society being of this universal description, the Committee feel that the admission of religious animosities would be in the last degree injurious to the success of the sacred cause in which they are embarked, and it appears to them essentially necessary to the promotion of their views that Christians of all denominations should be cordially combined in the effort to carry them out."

We presume that the committee have felt it expedient to make this announcement in consequence of what took place at the *conversazione* reported in our last number. Upon a deliberate review of the strictures which Mr. PENTLAND's panegyric remarks on the conduct of the Jesuits among barbarous tribes drew from us, we see no reason to retract or modify anything which we said. We are fully sensible of the disadvantage of allowing religious animosities to interfere with the operations of a philanthropic institution, and it affords us peculiar delight to contemplate the spectacle of Christians of different denominations united for the accomplishment of a common object of benevolence. We hope that we have likewise a due abhorrence for anything that savours of persecution, or of restricting the liberty of conscience. If, however, religious instruction be admitted to be the only legitimate basis of a permanent civilization (and this we still understand to be a first principle of the Aborigines' Protection Society), Papists and Protestants cannot agree in imparting it; for, without any offence to members of the Church of Rome, we may assert that they would not be parties to the religious teachings of any one