

DEEP-SEA EXPLORATIONS.

At a meeting of the Royal Society on Thursday night—the President, General Sir Edward Sabine, in the chair—Dr W. B. Carpenter, V.P.R.S., presented a report of the results obtained by the deep-sea explorations, conducted on board Her Majesty's ship Porcupine by Professor Wyville Thompson, Mr Gwyn Jeffreys, and himself during the course of the past summer and autumn.

The report itself was a very long document, illustrated by a variety of tables and diagrams; but Dr Carpenter, in presenting it to the Society in the names of himself and his colleagues, delivered an address containing a condensed account of some of its most important features.

Referring, in the first instance, to the past history of such explorations, Dr Carpenter mentioned the dredgings that had been carried on by M. Sars for the Swedish, and by Count Pourtales for the American Government, as part of the ordinary work of the coast surveys of the respective countries. Near the Loffoden Islands, M. Sars brought up from a depth of 300 fathoms a small crinoid of a class that had been supposed to have no living representative. It was a *Rhizocrinus*, allied to the *Apicrinoid* type that flourished in the oolitic period, and that was supposed to have its last representative in the *Bourgetticrinus* of the chalk formations. To naturalists conversant with such matters the discovery of this living animal was a fact as remarkable as the discovery of a living mammoth or plesiosaurus. It suggested the possibility that the process of chalk formation, which was believed to have long ceased, might still be actually going on, and in June 1868 it led to a letter from Professor Wyville Thompson, containing the suggestion that the Admiralty should be asked to lend a cruiser for the purpose of facilitating dredging operations of a kind that would be beyond the reach of private scientific enterprise. This suggestion commended itself very highly to the President and Council of the Royal Society, and was by them pressed upon the attention of the Government. Captain Richards, the hydrographer to the Admiralty, also cordially supported it, and eventually Her Majesty's ship Lightning, under the command of Captain May, was placed at the disposal of Dr Carpenter and Dr Wyville Thompson. The Lightning left Stornoway on the 12th August 1868, and cruised for five weeks between the north of Scotland and the Faroe Islands, returning into Oban on the 21st September.

Notwithstanding the short time devoted to the inquiry, the unfavourable weather encountered, the imperfections of some portions of the apparatus employed, and the difficulties, sometimes of an unforeseen character, inseparable from the commencement of a new undertaking, the cruise of the Lightning appeared to establish many facts that were not only new, but diametrically opposed to pre-existing beliefs. Philosophers had imagined that all life would cease at an ocean depth of 300 fathoms, and that the temperature of the deep sea was everywhere 39 deg. It was found, on the contrary, that abundant life existed at far greater depths, and that the deep-sea temperature varied within somewhat wide limits. More remarkable still, it was found that a difference in bottom temperature between 32 deg. and 47 deg. existed at points only eight or ten miles distant from each other, beneath an uniform surface temperature of about 52 deg.; and that where this was the case in the cold area the bottom was formed of barren sandstone, mingled with fragments of older rock, and inhabited by a comparatively scanty fauna, of an arctic or boreal character, while in the adjacent warm area the bottom surface was cretaceous, and the more abundant fauna presented characteristics due to the more temperate climate. Hence an upheaval of a few miles of the sea bottom subject to these conditions would present to the geologist of the future two portions of surface totally different in their structure, the one exhibiting traces of a depressed, the other of an elevated temperature; and yet these formations would have been contemporaneous and conterminous. Wherever similar conditions are found upon the dry land of the present day, it had been supposed that the high and the low temperature, the formation of chalk and the formation of sandstone, must have been separated from each other by long periods, and the discovery that they may actually co-exist upon adjacent surfaces has done no less than strike at the very root of many of the customary assumptions with regard to geological time. The importance of these results, and the magnitude of the considerations springing from them, indeed the Admiralty, at the renewed instance of the Council of the Royal Society, to assist in the prosecution of further inquiries. Her Majesty's ship Porcupine, Captain Calver, R.N., was fitted up in the way suggested by the experience gained on the first expedition, and was provided with proper dredges for the deep sea, hauling-in machinery, deep-sea thermometers defended against pressure, and apparatus for the conduct of various chemical and other inquiries. She left Galway, under the scientific charge of Mr Gwyn Jeffreys, on the 18th May in the present year, and carried on the exploration in a westerly

direction, getting into deeper and deeper water, until she reached the Porcupine Bank, so named from one of her former surveys. She next proceeded in a north-westerly course towards Rockall, and thence returned to Donegal Bay. In this cruise the dredging and temperature soundings were carried down to a depth of nearly 1500 fathoms. Early in July she started from Cork, under the scientific charge of Dr Wyville Thompson, in a south-westerly course, for the purpose of carrying down the explorations to still greater depths, which were found at the northern extremity of the Bay of Biscay, about 250 miles west of Ushant. Here the dredge was successfully worked at the extraordinary depth of 2435 fathoms, nearly equal to the height of Mont Blanc, and exceeding by 500 fathoms the depth from which the first Atlantic telegraph cable was recovered. She returned in about a fortnight, and started from Belfast in August for a third cruise, under the scientific charge of Dr Carpenter, who was accompanied by Dr Wyville Thompson. The object of this cruise was the more detailed survey of the ground previously examined by the Lightning, and the vessel remained out until September 15, visiting Thorshaven, in the Faroe Islands, and Lerwick. The results of the three expeditions went entirely to confirm, and in many respects to enlarge, the conclusions that had been drawn from the more limited surveys of the preceding year.

Dr Carpenter commenced his account of the actual work done on board the Porcupine by a very warm tribute to her commander, Captain Calver, who brought to the work the most complete and untiring devotion, a large amount of experience, great ingenuity, and sagacity. The working of the dredge at the great depths attained was entirely due to Captain Calver's skill, resources, and good management; and nothing could have been more complete than the success of the various contrivances which he suggested from time to time. On many occasions a dredge weighing 8 cwt., and carrying 1½ cwt. of mud, was brought up without a hitch from a depth of nearly 2500 fathoms.

The thermometers employed for measuring deep-sea temperature were of a pattern invented for the purpose by Professor Miller, and made by Mr Casella. In all previous researches of the kind ordinary thermometers have been used, and these are not only very liable to fracture, but they also rise under pressure, and the readings from them require correction on this account. The Miller-Casella thermometer, on the other hand, was tested under a pressure of three tons to the square inch (corresponding to that of an ocean depth of 2400 fathoms), prior to the departure of the expedition, and showed no more change than a rise of about one degree, which was due to the actual increment of heat arising from the pressure itself; while so strong were the instruments that two of them were in constant use, without injury, throughout the whole of the expedition. The temperature was taken both by serial and by bottom soundings; the former being repeated every 50 fathoms, or even more frequently, down to a depth of 300, and every 100 fathoms at greater depths. The surface temperature varied a good deal with differences of latitude and season; but, when high, declined rapidly, and was lost at about 100 fathoms. From hence, in deep water, there was a rapid decline to about 1000 fathoms, at which a temperature of 38 deg. was found; and at 2435 fathoms there was a slight further fall to 36.5 deg. Compared with this comparatively elevated temperature it has been found that the deep sea temperature in the Arabian Gulf, and even under the Equator, is very low, falling to about 30 deg., or even lower; so that the general temperature of the deep tropical seas is less than that of the North Atlantic basin. On the other hand, the bottom temperature of certain parts of the channel between the Faroe Islands and the north of Scotland sunk to as low as 30 deg., while at the same depth in adjacent localities it was as high as 43 deg. In the colder area it was found that the temperature fell rapidly between 150 and 300 fathoms, to remain almost stationary below the latter depth; and the general result of the thermometric observations was to show the existence of a stratum of ice-cold water from 300 fathoms downwards; a stratum of warm water for about 150 fathoms from the surface, and a stratum of intermixture between the other two. The cold area occupied nearly the whole of the actual channel between the Faroe Islands and Scotland; but a higher bottom temperature was found along the east side of this channel, near the so-called 100 fathoms line which marks the commencement of the ascent to the plateau of which the surfaces form the British Islands. In order to illustrate the conditions on which these facts of marine temperature depend, the hydrographic department of the Admiralty had prepared a large map having the North Pole as its centre. On this map Dr Carpenter pointed out that the Arctic Ocean was almost entirely enclosed by land. It possesses a narrow outlet at Behring's Straits, and some circuitous channels leading to Baffin's and to Hudson's Bays. There is also a deep channel between Iceland and Greenland, through which flows a powerful current; but between Iceland and the Faroe Islands there is

a submarine ridge, rising to within 200 or 300 fathoms of the surface, and forming a complete barrier to the southward course of deep sea water. Only at one point, near the north-east corner of Iceland, is there a deeper channel, reaching to about 600 fathoms, with a bottom of volcanic sand. Between Shetland and the Scandinavian peninsula there is another ridge or barrier, on which the depth nowhere exceeds 200 fathoms; and hence the deep channel between the Faroe Islands and Scotland, the channel close to the eastward of Ireland, and that between Iceland and Greenland, are the only feeders of the deep Atlantic with ice-cold water, which necessarily traverses their greatest depths in a steady southerly current, carrying with it the debris of the region from which it comes, sustaining its appropriate forms of animal life, and displacing other forms for which a higher temperature is required. Dr Carpenter dwelt at some length upon the various currents hence arising, and upon the great changes that would occur in the deep temperature and in the fauna of the Northern Atlantic if the barriers described should ever be sufficiently broken down to allow of a free efflux of deep Arctic water such as is experienced now from the Antarctic towards the Equatorial region.

Leaving the subject of temperature, Dr Carpenter next spoke of the extraordinary abundance of animal life at the bottom of even the deepest ocean abysses. Over the whole of the warm area explored the bottom was found to be covered with globigerina deposit—that is, with animal life actively engaged in chalk formation. In the colder area the globigerina are not found; but here is a bed of volcanic sand, which forms the paradise of the northern echinoderms. From the most profound depths animals of high organisation, and with perfect eyes, have been brought to the surface by the dredge, and the creatures discovered include an extraordinary collection of siliceous sponges and foraminifera, together with the zoophytes, echinoderms, molluscs, annelids, and crustaceans. One hundred and twenty-seven species of molluscs not previously known to exist in British seas were among the captives, and a large number of these are altogether new to science. The expedition has nearly doubled the number of British echinoderms, and at one spot, where the dredge brought up little or nothing, and where Captain Calver devised a plan for sweeping the bottom with hempen tangles, the first haul of these tangles secured, at a moderate estimate, 20,000 specimens of a single form of echinus. In the cold area *arenaceous foraminifera*, creatures which construct habitations by the agglutination of particles of sand, were so abundant that it will be difficult to find names for the new varieties; and a chymical examination of their cases confirms the inferences about the cold currents that were drawn from thermometric observations, by showing that these cases are formed from particles of northern volcanic detritus. Many new sponges, some differing widely from previously known varieties, were also discovered; and at the next meeting of the Society Dr Carpenter purposes to exhibit to the Fellows a collection of the treasures of the deep that have thus unexpectedly fallen into his hands.

During the progress of the researches sea-water was brought up from various depths for chemical analysis; and attention was early called to the character of its retained gases. Near the surface it was found that the gas consisted of about 24 or 25 per cent. of carbonic acid, the rest being chiefly oxygen and nitrogen, but at greater depths the proportion of carbonic acid greatly increased, and reached 45 per cent. at 700 fathoms. After storms of wind, however, by which the surface of the ocean had been much agitated, the quantity of its carbonic acid was very much diminished. In one of the surface specimens taken scarcely any was found at all, and its absence was at first set down to some error in analysis. Afterwards, however, it was remembered that this water had been dipped up from abaft the paddles of the steamer, and not, as usual, at the bow. The inference from these facts is that the agitation of the sea by storms, by liberating its superficial carbonic acid, and thus permitting the ascent of that which is constantly formed by the abundant animal life below, furnishes one of the conditions which render the continuance of that life possible.

The inquiry into the sources of food for the deep-sea animals resolves itself into the single question of the maintenance of the globigerina, or chalk animalcules. Directly or indirectly, all their neighbours can live upon them, but it was at first difficult to conjecture how. They could live themselves. Professor Wyville Thompson has suggested that they may be supported by the organic matter diffused through the deep-sea water, and analysis has shown that such organic matter is present in considerable quantities, and in assimilable, as distinguished from decomposing forms. Besides the analyses conducted on board, some specimens of water were brought to Professor Frankland, and he has fully confirmed the conclusions that had been reached.

Dr Carpenter's address was received with very cordial applause by a crowded meeting. It concluded at so late an hour that any questions or dis-

33
 cussion upon it were postponed; but Sir Charles Lyell gave expression to the thanks of the Society. He observed that the perfect eyes of the deep-sea animals suggested the probability of their having a phosphorescent habit, and said a few words upon the astonishing, and, to geologists, almost revolutionary character of the discoveries which Dr Carpenter had announced, and in which he had had so large and so honourable a share.

FARM-SERVANTS' PROTECTION SOCIETY—MEETING AT JEDBURGH.—A meeting of the farm servants in the district of Jedburgh was held in the Black Bull Ball-Room on Wednesday. There was a pretty good attendance. Mr Henry Martin, Ulston, was elected chairman, and stated the object for which the meeting had been called. He then called on any of those present to state their views to the meeting. A statement of the hind's gains and wages in the district was next laid before the meeting. Some discussion took place as to the price at which oatmeal ought to be set down, and 30s. per boll was thought to be a good average price. It was above that price this year, but for a number of years past it had not reached it. It was therefore agreed to set it down at that price. The following is the statement:—

Five bolls oatmeal at 30s.,	£7 10 0
Three bolls barley at 20s.,	5 0 0
Potatoes,	5 0 0
Coals,	1 0 0
Cow-keep,	6 0 0
Money,	5 0 0
House rent,	3 0 0
Harvest meat,	1 0 0
Total,	£33 0 0

Then, as it was stated, the hind had to hire a bondager, and to her he paid £8 for the summer half-year and £4 for the winter half-year—making in all £12. Allowing that the bondager could work for £14, 10s. during the year (and this was keeping the sum high), the hind, after deducting the £12 which he paid for the woman's wages, would pocket £2, 10s. But the hind had to keep the bondager for the whole twelve months, and allowing for her meat and washing 5s. a-week, which certainly was not too high, this amounted to £13; then, taking from this the £2, 10s. which he received off the woman's wages, it still left £10, 10s. which had to be deducted from the £33 as stated above. This left a net-balance of £22, or not more than 8s. 8d. a-week for the hind and his family. The reading of this statement was received with applause; and on the chairman asking those present if it was the opinion of the meeting that 8s. 8d. a-week was enough for a hind and his family, there was much laughter and loud cries of "No, no." Mr William Hume, Moseburnford, Mr John Weatherhead, Ulston, and others addressed the meeting; and it was at last agreed to form a Farm-Servants' Protection Association, and a committee, consisting of one man out of nearly all the steadings in the district, was elected to carry on the business of the society, and to make arrangements for a large meeting to be held in the same place on Wednesday next.

We are prepared for the retort disastrous, but we may point out that it must also be given to the secretary of agriculture, an officer specially charged with supervising the farming interest. Writing on the 1st June, 1875, we find this gentleman not depressed, but exultant. The wretched selector driven forth into the wilderness by the tyrant monopolist is unknown to him. "The agriculture of the country," writes the secretary, "is rapidly undergoing a change, and the spendthrift system of continuous grain growing is fast giving place to a rational system of husbandry, into which the keeping of sheep enters largely. So rapid, indeed, has been the change that within three years the sheep on farms, from being numerically equal to about one-half of those upon stations, have increased until they now exceed in number sheep upon stations, the relative figures being 5,694,391 sheep on farms and 5,526,645 sheep on stations. In short, evidence of increased stability is noticeable on all sides." Again, the secretary tells us that the number of hands employed on farms has increased

SHEEP ON FARMS AND STATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARGUS.

Sir,—In your leader of Friday statements are made regarding the relative proportions of sheep on farming and squatting lands which are certain to mislead the public.

In your quotations from the report of the secretary of Agriculture, it is made to appear that "the agriculture of the country is undergoing such a rapid change that within three years the sheep on farms, from being numerically equal to about one-half of those upon stations, have increased until they now exceed in number those upon stations, the relative numbers being 5,694,391 sheep on farms, and 5,526,645 sheep on stations." In this statement the term "farm" as understood by the public is misapplied to at least eight-tenths of the alienated country lands, which, although now private properties, many of vast extent, are still devoted entirely to grazing purposes, and may still be designated squatting lands, as opposed to farms, in so far as they are not, and for many years will not be, anything else but sheep runs.

In accordance with the opinions of competent judges, I submit the approximate quantities should be nine millions of acres under pasturage, and two and a half millions of acres under "professed" agriculture.—I am, &c., J. D.

[The passage to which our correspondent refers is a verbatim extract from the report of the secretary for Agriculture, and was put forward as such. Within the three years in question, the large estates do not appear to have increased by half a million of acres, and about five millions of acres have been selected, in blocks of not more than 320 acres. Unless this five millions of acres is lying useless, there must have been a substantial change in the ownership of sheep. The point of the argument of the secretary for Agriculture is that farmers have become rational, and are devoting attention to the national industry of the keeping of sheep.—Ed. A.]

1975 July
SHEEP ON FARMS AND STATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARGUS.

Sir,—The importance of the changes going on in the lands of the colony from squatting to alienation, and the necessity for placing before the public an approximate statement, induces me to address you again, and to remedy a mistake I made in the last paragraph of my letter, which should read "9,000,000 of sheep on pastoral properties, and 2,500,000 on 'professed' agricultural lands." I based my figures on the opinions of competent judges, and further conversations with others of ability and information convince me that, so far from my statement being beyond the mark, I have every reason to think that "farms" held for purposes of cultivation, in fulfilment of the act passed to place the people on the lands, do not depasture 2,500,000 sheep. Instead of that large number, it is very questionable if they amount to half a million, spread over all the *bona fide* selections, in addition to the 5,000,000 of acres selected within the last three years in blocks of not more than 320 acres. The difficulty of my getting statistical reports which can be depended upon, the want of time to follow out the subject, and the means at your command for laying the true state of matters before the public are my excuses for requesting your attention to them; and in doing so I take the liberty of suggesting that the number of selectors under 500 acres, with their men, sheep, cattle, and horses, be ascertained.—Yours, &c., J. D.
 Feb. 17.

John Ritchie
 Boodearra
 Born Dec^r 1801

FIGI COTTON.

The following letter has been addressed to the Editor of *The Argus*:—

Sir,—As there is at present quite a rage for settling in the Fijis, and as the value of the principal article of export from these islands is comparatively a mystery to the mass of intending emigrants from our shores, I beg you will give publicity through *The Argus* to some thoroughly reliable information I received by last mail from England.

In March last, I had given to me by Mr. Ryder, of St. Kilda, a small parcel of "Sea Island" cotton, grown by his sons in Fiji, and by the following mail I forwarded samples of it to Mr. Dalglish, M.P. for Glasgow, and Mr. Edward Wilson, of Hayes, that these gentlemen might ascertain the opinion of its value from the most competent judges of the article in Great Britain.

Mr. Dalglish replies, under date of June 9:—
 "My Dear Sir,—I sent the sample of Fiji cotton to our cloth purchaser in Manchester, and requested him to get the best information he could on its quality and value. I enclose the report he received. My son also asked the opinion of the Glasgow spinners; they praised the quality and appearance of the cotton, but I believe they use nothing approaching to it in quality. . . .—Yours truly,—ROBERT DALGLISH."

"Report, Manchester, 27th May, 1870.—The sample of Fiji cotton has been carefully examined by several spinners competent to give a correct opinion of its quality and value. They consider that it has been most carefully prepared; that at this moment there is no cotton better than it in Liverpool. Its value is above 5s. per lb., and it would be worth 6s. to 7s. per lb. to any one wanting such a fancy article; but it is very rarely wanted, and then only in very small quantities. As there are only five or six spinners in the world who occasionally want so fine an article, it is probable that the realisation of 6s. or 7s. per lb. would be very slow work. It will not, therefore, be prudent to expect above 5s., and even at that price only a very moderate quantity could be sold. I would rather recommend your friends to produce a larger quantity of a lower quality, which they can sell at about 2s. 6d., as more likely to pay a certain profit than speculating on a fancy price for an article only occasionally wanted.—Yours respectfully, W. W."

"Report, Liverpool, May 25, 1870.—We have examined a small sample of Fiji Sea Island cotton. It is extra fine, long, clean, and well-prepared, but a little cut in the spinning, and rather tender. We have seen a lot very similar sold lately in our market at 4s. 2d., but the sample sent us is too small to allow of a very precise valuation.
 Yours, &c., W. B."

In reply to my letter to Mr. Edward Wilson, who takes the deepest interest in everything connected with the southern colonies and islands, that gentleman sends me the following opinions from his friends in Manchester:—

"My Dear Sir.—You will be glad to see the high price put upon the small sample of cotton you sent to me by Mr. C. L., a practical spinner. I find, however, that I am still obstinate enough to hold to my own opinion, that he overvalues it.
 W. W."

"Report, Manchester, June 4, 1870.—The sample of cotton you left with me is equal to the finest Sea Island, and I should think it worth 5s. to 6s. per pound. It is, however, rather weaker than the best Sea Island.
 Yours, faithfully, C. L."

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
 JAMES DAWSON.
 Heatherlie, August 15.

THE ECCENTRICITIES OF JURIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARGUS.

Sir,—In *The Argus* of Saturday appears an account of the trial of one Robert Burns, accused of placing an obstruction on the North-Eastern Railway, and notwithstanding that neither he nor his counsel denied the very serious charge, the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty." Had such a verdict been returned in Belfast, no one there would have thought it worthy of notice; but when a Melbourne jury deliberately gives a decision, contrary to facts, and to all intents and purposes perjures itself, apparently to screen a miscreant who might have caused immense destruction to life and property, the question of having such cases decided by jurymen obtrudes itself very forcibly on the public.—I am, &c., J. D.
 Aug. 20.

1869

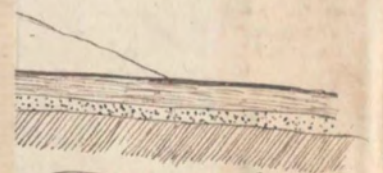


depth

Yellow ashes
small pieces
of char coal



greatest depth



least depth

the proportion
made by cutting
down to the
afterwards
having carefully
d. substrate
the slightest
having been
a simple
common
original soil
ing.
which were
tory of the
as shown
the marks
able by the

discussion upon it
Lyell gave extirpation
He observed the
animals suggest
phosphorescent
the astonishing
tionary character
penter had anno
large and so hon

FARM - SEE
MEETING AT
servants in the
Black Bull Bal
a pretty good
Ulston, was e
object for whic
then called on
views to the m
gains and wage
the meeting.
price at which
30s. per boll
price. It was
number of year
therefore agree
following is the
Five bolls o
Three bolls
Potatoes,
Coals,
Cow-keep,
Money,
House rent,
Harvest me

To
Then, as it was
ager, and to h
year and £4 fo
£12. Allowin
£14, 10s. durin
sum high), the
he paid for the
10s. But the
the whole twe
meat and wash
not too high, t
from this the
woman's wages
be deducted fr
left a net-balan
a-week for the
of this stateme
on the chairm
opinion of the
enough for a l
laughter and l
Hume, Mosel
Ulston, and ot
was at last ag
tection Associ
one man out
district, was el
society, and t
meeting to be
next,

We ar
astrous, t
must also
agricultur
with sup
Writing o
this gent
ultant.
forth into
monopoli
" agricul
the secret
" change,
" continu
" place to
" into wh
" largely.
" change
" on farm
" to abc
" stations
" now e
" station
" 5,694,
" 5,526,
" short,
" is notic
secretary
hands en

ABORIGINAL MOUNDS (near Wainwright)

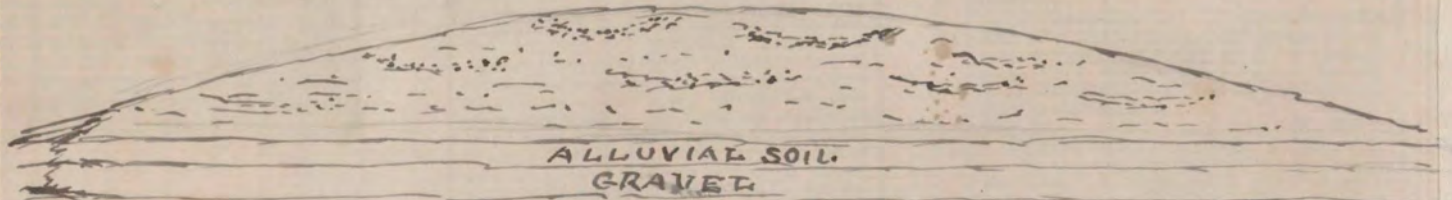
Opened up by James Dawson on 8th November 1868

Mound situated on open Plains about one mile from River. Length from East to West sixteen yards. Breadth from North to South ten yards. Height 4 1/2 feet. Made three cuts three feet wide, across from North to South, and down to original soil which was undisturbed. Throughout these sections there were many saucer shaped deposits of ashes mixed with charcoal, indicating a succession of hearths with the increase of the mound. No stones were found amongst the ashes, which proves that no cooking with hot stones took place in the domestic fires. Cooking with hot stones took place in Ovens outside the residence.

Centre Section



Side Section



The whole mound was composed of fine earth mixed with charcoal cinders and ashes. It must have been used for very many years to accumulate such large dimensions.

Other mounds near the river were of much smaller dimensions and had only one saucer shaped hearth indicating that they were temporarily occupied while fishing. One of these (No 2) was 8 or 9 yards in diameter and 15 inches high, and had the hearth at one side which must have been facing the open side of the Wainwright.

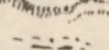
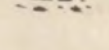
Sections of Native Mounds at Woorivrygate

1869

First section
of No 1



Middle section 30 feet long by 3 1/2 feet in greatest depth

Note  Yellow ashes
 Small pieces
of char coal.

Second section
of No 1.



Side section 27 feet long by 2 feet 9 inches in greatest depth

Middle section
of No 2



Centre section 27 feet long by 18 inches in greatest depth.

1869

With the assistance of a man from An Shoox - the proprietor of Woorivrygate - I opened several Aboriginal mounds by cutting ditches across them at intervals of 3 to 4 feet down to the original soil, leaving it completely bare, and afterwards through a bed of shotty gravel to the clay. Having carefully examined the surface of the original soil and substrata to a depth of 15 inches, I could not observe the slightest trace of its having been disturbed or of there having been any ovens or cooking places beyond that of a simple fire such as is to be met with in every common Mysing and that ^{did} not even penetrate the original soil on which the habitation had its beginning.

Throughout the faces of the crop cuttings which were dug in different directions a complete history of the growth of these mounds was exhibited as shown in first and second sections of No 1 where the marks of old fires or hearths are distinctly traceable by the sponcer

saucer shaped streaks and layers of yellow coloured wood ashes intermixed with small pieces of charcoal. These ancient fire places are separated and covered by layers of common earth intermixed with bits of charcoal, but in no instance have I found a stone larger than a Walnut. No 1 measures 16 yards long from east to west by 10 in breadth, with a depth in center of 3 feet 3 inches, top is flat and round. It has every appearance of having been an old permanent residence, formed by strong boughs placed like an arch, and covered with grass and earth, with a fire place in the center or doorway. These materials through time, tumble down, get burned, levelled and renewed, till the successive layers are formed into the mounds so common in most parts of this colony, and represented by the diagrams Nos 1. In this mound there were 3 mens skeletons about 15 to 18 inches under the surface, with their bodies drawn up, and heads to the west; one of them was buried so recently that the silk handkerchief round the skull was quite fresh, & the others were not very old, and apparently had been interred after the occupation of the station by the white men.

No 2 Mound - in a bend of the river - is nearly circular and 27 feet diameter by 18 inches deep in center; composed of black unburnt earth intermixed with small pieces of charcoal, and not the slightest sign of an oven, or of the original surface of the ground having been disturbed. On one side (the north east) there is a mark of a fire place which is distinguished from all other parts of the mound by a saucer shaped hollow four or five feet diameter and one in depth & filled with yellow wood ashes. This mound was cut across in various directions but did not show any ashes excepting in the one fire place

continued page 36

Answers

1. We lived in communities, thirty and forty, and even more, occupying one Miami.
2. Our miamias were far better than those we build now. They kept out all rain. We lived in different places according to the season of the year.
3. Our miamias were never burned down, and when they got old and tumbled down we rebuilt them upon the same sites.
4. We built them of props as we do now the frame work, which we covered first with long grass, and then with sods.
5. The mounds are the remains of old miamias, and the accumulation of ashes. We lived in them. (This is the testimony of several old people I. H.).
6. We used to cook the old Kangaroos - foresters - whole, not skinning them, baking them in the ashes - in ovens as they are termed - a hole made in the ground of ashes, which was made ~~up~~ with ^{live} ~~ashes~~ embers, and sometimes ^{hot} stones, some boughs or thin wattle bark covering the carcass from the ashes, which were then heaped upon it, and left for several hours. The brush and young Kangaroo were roasted upon the embers as at present. Fish were
Some

some of the
 wood and
 coal. The
 covered to
 bits of chert
 a stone
 yards low
 a depth
 found.
 an old
 placed to
 with a
 materials
 levelled
 found
 parts of
 No 1.
 about 15
 their
 one of the
 found
 the others
 had been
 the white
 No 2
 circular
 center; co
 with
 sign of an
 having been
 there is a
 from all
 shaped
 in depth
 was cut
 show any

sometimes cooked between two flat stones.

I myself fully believe, that these
 mounds, were the sites of old miamis.
 and from the size of the mounds, some of
 them are more than sixty to eighty yards in cir-
 cumference at the base - that some of them
 would contain nearly a hundred individuals
 - men women and children - as the blacks
 inform me; they tell me they lived in
 them as thick as bees in a hive.

J. Francis.

Aboriginal Reservoir
Lake Condash

14/4/68.

Aboriginal Reserve 36
Lake Condah
14th April 1868

Jas Dawson Esq^{re}

Sir

I have the
honour of acknowledging your commun-
ication of the 4th inst, and have great
pleasure in forwarding to you any infor-
mation I have or can procure upon the
desired subject.

My attention had been drawn to them,
and I had resolved the first leisure present-
ing to open one of them. We are however
too busy at the present to do it. Should
I be able to do it shortly I will let you
know the result. I suppose that there are
no finer ones - mounds - in the colony than
those in our immediate vicinity.

I have not seen the Australasian lately,
for which I am sorry, consequently I
know nothing of the discussion you
speak of.

Answers to your questions are attached.

I am,

Sir

Yours very respectfully
J. Francis.

P.S. Johnnie Brock and Henry Dawson I do not
know. Johnnie Dawson I believe is at Mr. M'Knight's Sta-
tion, near Cumarella

found in
wood and
coal. The
covered by
bits of chert
a stone
yards low
a depth
found.

an old
placed
with a
materials
levelled
found
parts of
No 1.

about 15
their
one of the
found here
the others
had been
the white

No 2
circular
center; con
with small
sign of an
having been
there is a
from all
shaped
in depth
was cut
show any

found in

NATIVE MOUNDS

36

and contained no stones whatever. There was a human skeleton lying with its head to the west and very little beneath the surface; it had every appearance of having been buried long after the mound was abandoned as a place of residence.

A large mound one mile west of Worcester Home Station measures 17 yards long by 14 wide and four feet and a half in depth. It has a light wood tree 30 to 32 inches in diameter growing on it which shows that it has not probably been occupied as a place of residence for at least 40 years. Apparently some bodies have been interred in it not many years since.

NORTHERN LIGHTS ON THE SUNDAY QUESTION.

"**ABERDEEN, 15'4.**" Thus speaks the Registrar-General in his last half-yearly report, intending to signify that, in those northern regions, nearly 15½ per cent. of all the children born, or little less than 1 person in every 6, are born out of wedlock. Keeping in view two great characteristics of poor human nature, and especially Scotch nature—that we are prone to compound for sins we are inclined to by denouncing those we have no mind to, and that we are much less quick-sighted as to our own beam than as to our neighbours' mote—this little statistical fact helps to some extent to explain what might otherwise have seemed inexplicable. Of all places in Scotland, not one has shown so much wrath and zeal against the North British Railway Company for opening the Edinburgh and Glasgow line upon Sundays as has the proverbially far-north town of Aberdeen. The resolutions of the Aberdeen meeting were the most frantic of all, and especially were the most explicit and unblushing in recommending that policy of exclusive dealing so judiciously and consistently enjoined by the new member for Edinburgh (who, nevertheless, is "of the same opinion as the Scotsman, that the trains should run twice on Sunday," and who "believes that three-fourths of all the people of Edinburgh and Glasgow, if polled, would give the same deliverance.") Indeed, the Aberdeen meeting may be said to have quite settled the fate of the North British Company—Mr Neil Smith, jun., is not going any longer to send his goods by the North British Railway Company, which runs three Sunday trains, but by the Caledonian Company, which runs four. What then is left to the North British Company but to do as the great Hoby did when Ensign Spooner threatened to go elsewhere for his boots—put on the shutters, and get into the *Gazette*? To be sure, it may be said that the people who thus exhibit themselves are numerically and otherwise very small, making a show and a noise ridiculously beyond their strength. And, indeed, it is not to be denied that those "traders and merchants" who figure in certain recent proceedings are manœuvred by their reverend masters, much as the supernumeraries of a theatre are manœuvred by the manager. "The Roman Army marches across"—whereupon solemnly enter half-a-dozen persons, somewhat withered in attire and deeply depressed in aspect, each of whom, as soon as he has accomplished his march across, scuttles round behind the scenes, and then reappears on the other side with renewed solemnity, until the galleries will stand it no longer, and, addressing the centurion or some other of the heathen host by his Christian name, recommend him not to come round again, but to go home to his wife. In this case of "Sunday-train meetings," the public—gallery, pit, and boxes—have detected the trick years ago, and have only ceased to object because they have ceased to observe or to care.

Why all this little uproar here and there, but especially at Aberdeen, about the line between Edinburgh and Glasgow? On almost all the other lines in Scotland, except those of Galloway ("Kirkcudbright, 14'9," "Wigtown 17'5"), Sunday trains have been running from the beginning; nobody can show any but good results in the districts so supplied; and nobody was saying, or is even now saying, anything against those trains. But the moment it is proposed that the two chief cities of Scotland should be put in possession of the same privileges or rights as the great majority of less important places, certain persons jump up in horror and begin to demean themselves like dancing dervishes. What is the reason of all this? Are the forty miles between Edinburgh

and Glasgow holier ground than the rest of Scotland? Or is Glasgow the Scottish Jerusalem, beside which all other Scotch places are common and profane? Are the half million of people in that district less likely than a smaller number of people elsewhere to need and to wish some means of locomotion in the twenty-four hours between Saturday night and Monday morning? A negative answer is supplied not only by probabilities but by various facts, such as that the Glasgow people have sought to compensate themselves for the want of two Sunday trains by the introduction of twenty Sunday omnibuses. The simple and obvious truth is, that there is no reason in the matter—that we have among us a certain class of people who think that, when they can call anything a religious question, they may, with profit to themselves, talk any kind of nonsense and do any kind of injustice. Even the extreme cases, such as this of canny Aberdeen insisting upon weeping so loudly for her sister Glasgow, can be accounted for on certain well understood principles. "Aberdeen, 15'4." There alone is a very good reason why people at Aberdeen should prefer to contemplate their neighbour's imaginary sins rather than their own actual transgressions. A certain sin, though Byron spoke of it as "so much more common where the climate's sultry," has, for no reason that has yet been discovered, taken deep root in the cold north-east; and it is natural, if neither proper nor reasonable, that the north-easterns, finding it irksome and indeed impracticable for themselves to observe the Seventh Commandment, should try to raise their moral average by compelling their neighbours to observe the Fourth. Some people indeed may say that the sin which the north-easterns practise is the most heinous and hurtful of all sins, in the opinion of all Christians and almost all mankind; whilst the sin which the north-easterns so furiously denounce and menace is, in the opinion of all the world but a few thousand persons, no sin at all, but a right, a necessity, or even a duty. But what of that? Are we not all commanded to make ourselves judges over our neighbours, especially "in respect of the Sabbath-day?" And can it be fairly held that the well-known interdict against physicians healing themselves does not comprise even physicians having only an Aberdeen diploma?

It is curious to perceive that a fallacy so wildly nonsensical that nobody thought it worth notice has, just because of its being thus held in contempt, obtained an increased currency and almost authority. It was resorted to the other day by an extremely prudent and "practical" person among ourselves, who never says anything foolish unless he thinks it will be acceptable, and it was adopted at the Aberdeen meeting as forming the very kernel of the question. Nobody, we are told, has come forward to detail any case of hardship arising from the Edinburgh and Glasgow line having been shut all these years—therefore, there has been no such case. This is a very striking specimen of the mistake of proving too much. If in districts containing nearly half the population of Scotland no "cases of necessity and mercy" have arisen within twenty years, it must be held as pretty well established that no such cases occur at any time or anywhere. But does anybody really believe what so many people are saying? Passing over the multitude of persons who happen to know of actual cases of hardship—of cases so cruel that Dr Candlish himself would admit that they were cases within even his narrow category—any man on a moment's reflection must see that the occurrence of many cases of hardship is certain and inevitable. What, then, is proved by the fact of no person having come forward to make public complaint? Only this—that there may be, or indeed has been,

much hardship without public complaint having been made. If there had been a few complaints, people might have said that these were all; but the absence of complaints proves, not that there were no cases, but that people have not made public exhibition of their private sorrows, nor kept complaining when there was no chance of redress.

MR. ANDERSON ON AGRICULTURE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRONICLE.

SIR,—Generally, in electioneering addresses, there is a certain amount of "bunkum," which fortunately for the community is accepted as such, but when a candidate tries to catch votes by stating his belief in Government neglecting their special interests, and that, if elected, he will warmly support any reasonable measure that would tend to promote them, when no such measure can do so without injustice to the community at large, I assert that said candidate is guilty of talking "bunkum," or to use a Trollopism "blowing." I refer to Mr. William Anderson's sentiments as set forth in the third paragraph of his address to the electors of the Western Province, in which he tells us benighted electors that his experience as an agriculturist leads him to believe agriculture to be a most important interest, and hitherto not in receipt of that consideration from any Government its importance demands.

In the name of common sense, what, as an agriculturist, does he want? Has not his class obtained a thousand times more land at one-tenth of its true value than they know what to do with in conformity with the intentions of parliament? And have they not destroyed by their bad management nearly every acre they have put the plough in? And now Mr. William Anderson calls on Jupiter to help them out of the slough? If Jupiter does so it can only be by the imposition of such a Corn Law as the British people starved and groaned under for half a century, and which very nearly brought the nation into open rebellion, all to foster the landed interest. Mr. William Anderson, appears indirectly to entertain an idea of some such measure, for no other will have the effect of fostering his pet interest. If he does, however, he advocates a dear loaf, and is unworthy of the confidence and support of the electors.

(*J. Davidson*) AN ELECTOR.

Wool Washing

Tuesday's *Warrnambool Standard* reports: An interesting experiment has been tried by Mr. William Rutledge, illustrating very forcibly the value of washed and greasy wool. Last year a flock of half-bred ewes, consisting of 1,565 in all, was divided, at random, into two lots, one of 781 being washed, and the other of 782 shorn in the grease. The sheep were all of the same age and breed, had been similarly treated throughout the previous year, and the shearing was effected within 48 hours. The wool went home in the same ship, and was all sold in London on 10th of September last by the same brokers, so that no trial could be fairer. The results are that the account sales show a balance of £54 10s. 8d. in favor of the washed wool. The washed sheep brought, after deducting expenses of washing, 8s. 11d. per sheep as against 7s. 9½d. a sheep for greasy, showing a clear profit of 1s. 1½d. on the washed sheep. The loss of weight by washing was found to be as nearly as possible one third; the lesser charge for freight on greasy wool—½d. instead of 8d.—this by no means compensated for the extra weight; and the warehouse charges on the greasy wool were also more in proportion. The experiment shows how great a loss must be sustained by large flockowners when they shear in the grease.

INFUSORIA

37

in Riverina. Mr. Archer also brought under notice an interesting communication from Mr. James Dawson, of Camperdown. That gentleman lives on Basin Banks, near Camperdown, overlooking an extinct crater filled with water of a slightly sweetish description, but not so much so as to cause cattle to reject it. From his elevated position he has for some time noticed the surface of the lake, marked as if by the reflection of passing clouds, and believed it to be such until he observed the same appearance on a perfectly cloudless day. The discoloration extended in patches all over the lake, and moved with considerable rapidity, not only while the surface was calm and smooth, but even against the wind. On going to the shore of the lake he found the discoloration bore the appearance of smoke in the water, with well defined edges. Sometimes it was in stripes, and at others with a broad front, tailing off till it became invisible. By means of a pannican he obtained some of the discoloured water, which, on settling, deposited a smooth, slimy mud, having a disagreeable smell. Some of this material Mr. Archer has examined, and he is in correspondence with Mr. Dawson in order to elicit further particulars as to the true nature of the infusoria. A letter was also read from Mr. Charles French of the Botanic-gardens, offering specimens from his large collection of insects for the investigation of the society, and stating that a gentleman in Western Australia had promised to prepare specimens of the arachnoidea for the society.

Mr. SYDNEY GIBBONS made some remarks on the method of detecting sewage in water by the presence of fungi, and mentioned that it was a great proof of the purity of the Yan Yean water that the fungi would not thrive in it.

Mr. T. S. RALPH read a paper on some specimens of entozoa, forwarded by Dr. Youl. They consisted of portions of the lungs and other viscera of a sheep, which had died from an entozootic disease prevalent on a run in the neighbourhood of the Werribee.

Dr. YOUL said he attached great importance to the question of this disease, as it had already killed thousands of very valuable sheep. He had undertaken the treatment of some of the sheep attacked with the disease, and after trying the remedies usually applied to the human subject, and killing several sheep, he had tried a remedy recommended by Mr. Cruikshank, which had proved eminently successful. Making a *post-mortem* examination of some of the sheep he found the first and second stomachs contained myriads of small worms. Hydatids were also present in considerable numbers, particularly under the jaw, a very unusual place for them to be found. The blood was in a very fluid state, and greatly resembled that of a person who had died from snake-bite. The land on which these sheep were depastured was of good quality, and consisted of limestone plains and basaltic country. The water was all saved in dams, and therefore liable to be contaminated. In the paddocks were a few patches of ferns, which were full of rabbits. A great peculiarity of the sheep that died from the disease was the large quantities of sand found in the stomach, there sometimes being fully 3lb. of sand found in the stomach of one sheep, among which myriads of the worms sparkled like gems. On being attacked with the disease, the sheep wasted away very rapidly, and soon died. Finding that all known remedies did no good, he gave that recommended by Mr. Cruikshank a trial, and the effect was marvellous, as every sheep treated recovered. The formula he received was 50oz. of sulphur, 12oz. of nitre, and 100oz. of water, the mixture being kept stirred, and administered through a horn. He was unable to say how the remedy acted, but could vouch for its being effectual. The rabbits found on this run were attacked with the same disease as the sheep, and he recommended that the covert should be destroyed, and the rabbits got rid of. He accounted for the presence of such large quantities of sand in the stomachs of the sheep to the want of salt in the pasture, which the animals attempted to supply by licking the soil. On his recommendation, rock salt had been put on the run, which the sheep licked eagerly. As the question was an important one to sheepfarmers throughout the Western district, he intended to write a paper on the subject for publication in *The Australasian*.

In reply to the chairman, Dr. YOUL said he had not taken any of the water in the dams, but would do so before the next meeting of the society.

Superstition, in all times and among all Nations, is the fear of a Spirit whose passions are those of a Man, whose acts are the acts of a Man; who is present in some places, not in others; who makes some places holy, and not others; who is kind to one person, unkind to another; who is pleased or angry, according to the degree of attention you pay to him or praise you refuse to him; who is hostile generally to human pleasure, but may be bribed by sacrifice of a part of that pleasure into permitting the rest. This, whatever form of faith it colours, is the cause of Superstition.

And Religion is the belief in a Spirit whose merits are over all his works, - who is kind even to the wretch and the evil; who is everywhere present, and therefore in no place to be sought, and in no place to be avoided; to whom all creatures, times, and things are everlastingly holy, and who claims - not riches of wealth, nor months of days - but all the wealth that we have, ~~and~~ all the days that we live, and all the beings that we are, - but who claims that totality because he delights only in the delight of his creatures, and because therefore, the one duty that they owe to him, and the only service they can render him, is to be happy; - A Spirit, therefore, whose eternal benevolence cannot be angered, cannot be appeased; whose laws are everlasting and inexorable, so that Heaven and Earth must indeed pass away if one jot of them failed, - Chaos which attach to every wrong and error a measured, inevitable penalty, to every rightness and prudence, an assured reward, - Penalty, of which the remittance cannot be purchased, and reward, of which the promise cannot be broken.

Ruskin, Royal Institute of Brit. Architects, Sermonal Papers, 1864-5, p. 143.

- Neil Black born 16th July. 1804
- William Pentledge born 22^d July. 1806
- William Taylor - " - 15th Nov 18
- John Ritchie Boocarra - Decem^r 1801

n
s
e
d
e
y
n
g
e
o
ie
s-
h,
r-
he
p-
ct,
as,
ch
k-
s;
he
to
ve
of
ill
be
ary
in-
ity,
est
ps,
po-
his
ter
ess
to
een
the
will
aces
we
een
(by
ata,
that
ran,
ade
it
left
that
ally
sub-

Migration of Birds

WHEN early spring brings with it the starry daisy and fragrant violet, when the delicate cowslip lifts its head from among the emerald spikes of tender grass, and the wayside banks are one mass of primrose, then it is that, with the year's first flowers, we begin to expect the return to us from warmer climes of our feathered friends. Along the sandy downs and amongst the broad tracts of furze where the sun strikes warmest, the stonechat and whinchat, and with them the exquisite little fallowchat or wheatear, flicker to and fro on their tiny wings; while on the bleak moorland and hill can be heard the low, flute-like call of the beautiful white-throated osnel. Soon the slope is all one spangle of silvery blossoms, and the may trees break out in rich green wealth of those delicate buds which the village children know as "bread and cheese;" and then—at first one by one, and afterwards in large flocks—arrive the swallow and swift and the graceful little sand martin. Soon, just before our English summer bursts upon us in all its glory, we hear the pleasant note of the cuckoo and the sharp, shrill whirr of the cornerake. Our warblers—the nightingale, blackcap, willow-wren, redstart, chiff-chaff, and others of the sweet-voiced family of the *Sylvia*—have come or are coming fast; and all along the coast vast flocks of sea-fowl are following the great southward exodus of the herring and pilchard from the silent polar seas. And yet but few of our visitors make long stay with us. What schoolboy is there who does not know the quaint old catch, as strange a relic of early village life as the old swallow-song of ancient Greece, which tells us how in June the noisy ash-coloured dun-throated bird "changes his tune:" how "In July Off he'll fly, And in August Go he must"? The green and gold of summer no sooner begins to fade away into the sober livery of autumn than our friends take wing for warmer climes. The approach of winter brings with it other guests who flit southward to our warmer shores from the drear darkness and cruel cold of the grim Arctic circle. Along the marshy banks the snipe hovers with its quaint puzzling flight, more like that of butterfly than of bird; the shy woodcock is seen in the thick, fragrant fir plantations and by the side of the mountain streams; large flocks of fieldfare and redwing cover the fields; the sanderling and little pied turnstone run to and fro along the beach; and the bays and estuaries are covered with countless ducks and divers, gulls and geese, who have reared their young in the far north, and now, like CHANTREY'S woodcocks "driven from northern climes which would have starved 'em," seek the comparative hospitality of an English winter. Each migration is now going on. The woodcock has come, and the swallows are going or have gone. They are chattering on the roofs and under the eaves, and holding their busy councils, before they set out on their southward flight. "Conciliabules" THÉOPHILE GAUTIER calls these noisy gatherings, and pretends to detect in the busy twitter of departure the shrill little refrain of anxiety, "Voici l'hiver! voici le froid." Even now the flocks are gathering on the southern coast, whence they will wing their way over thousands of miles of rough ocean to shores where the whole year is one long summer, and the midday sun stands vertically in the centre of a dome of cloudless blue.

What is it that determines the annual migration? Why does our friend the cuckoo spend his short summer with us while he winters on the warm shores of Africa, and why does the fieldfare wing his way northward with early spring only to return when the holly berries are just beginning to show their coral amid the rich green leaves, and the days are drawing in, and the nights are chill? The question is one to which naturalists have never yet been able to give an exact answer. When scientific men first began to busy themselves with the annual disappearance and reappearance of the swallow, they took it for granted that the fact was to be explained upon the familiar analogy of the winter hibernation of the bat and dormouse,

and that the quick-winged tenants of the air, instead of having taken their departure to warmer climates, were in reality lying concealed in fissures of rocks, in sandbanks, in the holes of decayed trees, and even—wonderful to say—at the bottom of ponds and streams. Our first authority for this marvellous statement is, as might be expected, OLAUS MAGNUS, the old Archbishop of Upsala, who is also, it may be remembered, the most important witness we possess to the existence of the kraken and the great sea serpent. "From the northern waters," says the Archbishop, "swallows are often dragged up by the fishers in great clustered masses. The sweet season being over and gone, they plunge into the water with a song, from which, at the beginning of spring, they quietly emerge to revisit their old nests." Upon this the comment of PENNANT, in his "British Zoology," is that the good old Archbishop does not want credulity, for he first stocks the bottoms of the lakes with birds, and then the clouds with mice, which, according to his account, often fall in Norway in plentiful showers. But, if "OLAUS MAGNUS" was easy of belief, GILBERT WHITE most certainly was not; and he so firmly believed in the winter hibernation of the swallows that he actually proposed to have a small plantation grubbed up, in the hope of finding among the roots "the whole aggregate body of the district in different secret dormitories." It is, indeed, only within the last fifty years that more accurate observation has taught us that almost all birds are more or less migratory in their habits, even the familiar London sparrow retiring in autumn to the well-stocked cornricks of the farmer's yard, whence he returns again in spring to enliven our squares and parks, and to renew his noisy twitter under our smoky eaves. Only seventy years ago "A Person of Learning and Piety" published an elaborate tract in which he argued at considerable length that our migratory birds in reality retire to the moon. His opinion was that the journey occupied some two months, and that during it the feathered passengers had no occasion for food, either because the thin ether through which they passed was not so apt to prey upon their spirits as our own grosser air, or else because they were lulled to sleep by the motion arising from the mutual attraction of the earth and the moon, and so made the journey in a half-unconscious state, sustaining themselves upon the provisions laid up for the voyage in their bodies, which are, like those of bears, "of a sanguine and succulent temperament." We can form some idea of the lamentable condition of natural history at the commencement of the century when we find that this absurd theory was actually discussed in sober earnest by no less an ornithologist than RAY, who gravely decides, after much weighing of *pros* and *cons*, that the fickle planet is too far off to be reached by any of our birds, even if the tenuity of the intervening medium would allow them to use their wings or sustain the weight of their bodies.

Of late a singularly beautiful theory of the migration of birds has been suggested by the aged poet RUBEORG, who, lying on his sick-bed at Helsingfors, in Finland, has watched day after day through the open window the habits of his feathered visitors. He believes that what draws birds southwards is the longing after light. When the days shorten in the north then they wing their passage to the south; but as soon as the northern nights set in, with all their luminous and long-drawn hours, the wanderers return to their old haunts. "The same instinct," he asks us to believe, "that works in plants—which, although firmly rooted in the ground, yet strain towards the light, spreading upwards in search of it—works also in birds, who on their free wings fly after and follow it." Beautiful as the fancy is, it yet, unfortunately, must be rejected by those who follow the terrible logic of facts. The coming and going of birds is in no way coincident with the shortening of the days, but is later in some years and earlier in others, from causes at which for the present we

can only guess. That want of food has in some cases a great deal to do with it, can hardly be questioned. The sea-birds which winter on our coasts follow, as we have already said, the southward passage of the herring and pilchard, upon which they feed; and when the ground within the Arctic circle is ironbound with the bitter frost, the snipe and the snow bunting pass down towards the south. But, on the other hand, it is impossible to explain the spring passage of the swallow from Africa to Southern Europe by any want of food, or to say why

so many of the warbler tribe should leave us long before the insects on which they feed have disappeared. BREHM, who, of all ornithologists, paid most attention to this difficult problem, decides that it cannot be want of food in all cases which induces birds to migrate, as most of them commence their departure long before their peculiar sustenance fails them in the country which they abandon. Neither can change of season explain the phenomenon, as the greatest number of birds set off while the weather is yet fine, and others, as the larks and starlings, arrive while the season is bad. "It is the presentiment of what is to happen," he urges, "which determines birds to begin their journey. They have a particular faculty for foreseeing the rigours of the coming season, and an exquisite sensibility for the perception of atmospheric changes that are not yet arrived, but are approaching." To much the same effect Mr. F. O. MORRIS, whose name is a household word with all who love the feathered tribes, tells us that "Away! Away!" is the irresistible impulse that alone guides them. If it were otherwise, they would leave more regularly at a fixed time than they do; for the light of the day diminishes year after year at its 'appointed season,' but they depart earlier or later as suits their caprice, or as they are led by some prescient instinct of which we know nothing nor ever shall have knowledge." What this strange wild impulse is we do not know, but that it exists there can be little doubt. We do not explain it away when we call it "instinct," for what "instinct" is we have yet to learn. "How should I know what 'instinct' is, madam?" once said SYDNEY SMITH; "I never was inside a dog's head;" and there is just this truth in the joke, that "instinct" is little more than a phrase by which naturalists fancy they explain whatever they cannot otherwise account for in the habits of beast and bird and creeping thing. How far we can accept Mr. HERBERT SPENCER'S ingenious explanation that instinct is the sum total of hereditary experience is a wider question, and one which, however it may ultimately be solved, is far remote from those more immediate facts that are, after all, the pleasantest material of natural history.

PRICES OF MEAT FOR THE LAST THIRTY YEARS.
—The following table shows the prices realised for fat stock per stone of 8lb. at the London Christmas markets since 1841:—

Year	s.	d.	s. d.	Year	s.	d.	s. d.
1841	3	8	5 0	1857	3	4	4 8
1842	3	4	4 8	1858	3	4	5 0
1843	3	8	4 4	1859	3	6	5 4
1844	4	0	4 6	1860	3	4	5 6
1845	3	6	4 8	1861	3	4	5 0
1846	4	0	5 8	1862	3	4	5 0
1847	3	4	4 5	1863	3	6	5 2
1848	3	4	4 8	1864	3	8	5 8
1849	3	4	4 0	1865	3	4	5 4
1850	3	0	3 10	1866	3	8	5 6
1851	2	8	4 2	1867	3	4	5 0
1852	2	8	4 0	1868	3	4	5 8
1853	3	2	4 10	1869	3	6	6 2
1854	3	6	5 4	1870	3	6	6 2
1855	3	8	4 2	1871	3	10	6 2
1856	3	4	5 0	1872	—	—	6 0

THE LATE MR DAWSON OF BONNYTOUN.

MR ADAM DAWSON of Bonnytoun, Linlithgow, whose death was recorded yesterday, was a man who, though long laid aside by severe illness, did such service in his day as well entitles him to something more than passing notice.

Mr Dawson had attained the great age of eighty, but for many of the latest of his years age had been to him but labour and sorrow. From early life he was subject to severe rheumatism, which latterly altogether mastered and prostrated him; but even when confined to bed, and racked with pain, he maintained almost to the last a keen interest in life and its affairs, and to a surprising degree also his original vivacity of temperament. Until laid aside by illness, Mr Dawson was in many ways a busy man. Occupying the position of a county gentleman, he also farmed his own land; a keen politician, he interested himself in all public affairs in his county; he was for twenty years Provost of the burgh of Linlithgow—an office which his father had held before him, in which his brother succeeded him, and which his eldest son now holds; and he also took an active share in the conduct of the business of the firm of A. & J. Dawson, distillers, of which he was a principal partner. In politics he was an earnest and consistent Whig—from the early days, when even a suspicion of doing so was certain to bring a man into disfavour with the class to which Mr Dawson himself belonged; he enjoyed the long-delayed triumph of Liberal principles and the splendid results of their application, and he held to them firmly when they came to be, as too often now-a-days, abandoned or decried. In the contests for the representation of Linlithgowshire subsequent to the passing of the Reform Bill, he was one of the most active and influential supporters of the late Mr Gillon of Wallhouse, whose return to Parliament was largely due to his indefatigable efforts. Throughout the long period during which he held the Chief Magistracy of Linlithgow he so conducted himself as to acquire the entire confidence of all parties, yet without sacrificing one jot of principle or giving up one tittle of his original sterling honesty and uprightnes. Endowed with a shrewd and vigorous intellect and a high degree of moral courage, well educated, well read, of no mean acquirements and even accomplishments, Mr Dawson might easily have taken a more prominent public position had it accorded with his pursuits and inclinations. Though it could not be said that he "to party gave up what was meant for mankind," it might be that he devoted to the narrow sphere of county and burgh business talents and energies that might have made him famous in a higher and wider field. Not that his character and exertions were unknown beyond his own district—of which he was so long the best known and best liked man—he had many friends and admirers far beyond it. Among his estimable and lovable characteristics, his warm-hearted devotion to all who could in any degree claim his friendship, his keen sense of humour, ready wit, and large store of old-world anecdote and allusion, rendered him a welcome addition to all societies, and one of the most genial and instructive of companions. Some years ago, to relieve the tedium of long days and nights of weariness and pain, he strung together in a series of letters, originally published in the *Falkirk Herald*, what he called "Rambling Recollections of Past Times," which were afterwards reprinted for private circulation. These recollections extend over a period from the end of last century till 1820, and are full of graphic pictures of the peculiar political condition of the country during that dark and troubled time, interspersed with and lightened up by all sorts of amusing anecdotes and illustrations of social life and manners, of convivial customs and now out-worn habits. In his "Recollections," Mr Dawson states that he attended the University of Edinburgh in 1806-7, during which time he lived with his relative and life-long friend, Mr Charles Maclaren, the late editor of this journal. Of the proposal, in 1816, for the establishment of the *Scotsman*, he was an early confidant; and he records the satisfaction with which its appearance was hailed by all men of his own way of thinking who dared either privately or publicly to express or hint at such sentiments. He rejoiced in the slow-coming prosperity of the organ whose precarious infancy he helped to watch over, and when from a bi-weekly it became a daily journal, he said that he hailed it every morning as "a letter from a friend which required no answer." Attached to letters, and a lover of art, he had many friends among

painters and men of literature. Of the former the late Mr David Roberts, R.A., was one; and he dedicates his "Rambling Recollections" to Dr Hill Burton, "in token of the value which I put on your friendship, and of the admiration which I have for you as an author." Had Mr Dawson chosen to use his pen earlier and more diligently, he might himself have enlightened the world on many topics. Of agriculture and arboriculture he was a highly intelligent student. For nearly a quarter of a century he was our agricultural correspondent for West-Lothian, and he contributed to our columns several reviews of horticultural and kindred works.

Of Mr Dawson's shrewdness and tact in the management of men and of business much might be said; and many specimens might be given of his fine native wit and humour, did such accord well with an obituary notice. One, perhaps as a characteristic example, may be permitted. On occasion of a large social gathering in a country house, the party included several remarkably tall and handsome sisters, whose health Mr Dawson, in a convivial hour, was asked to propose, and in doing so he concluded by declaring that "he had never understood the passage in Scripture which said that man was made a little lower than the angels till he had seen the Miss N——s."

Our late friend was the third son of his father, the late Mr Dawson of Bonnytoun, who attained the patriarchal age of 80; his eldest brother, several years his senior, died little more than a year ago; and the second of the family still survives, hale and vigorous, as do also two younger—one in Australia; the other Mr John Dawson, Greenpark. Mr Dawson, who had been long a widower, leaves three sons and two daughters; his eldest son, as already mentioned, being the present Chief Magistrate of Linlithgow. His eldest daughter is the wife of Dr Wyville Thomson, Professor of Natural History in our University, now engaged in the scientific expedition round the world in Her Majesty's ship Challenger.

DEATH OF JAMES WATSON, LATE PROCURATOR-FISCAL OF LINLITHGOWSHIRE.—We regret to record the death of Mr James Watson, late Procurator-Fiscal for this county, which took place at his residence at Rivalsgreen on Sunday forenoon. Mr Watson had been in rather infirm health for some time back, but though well up in years, his end was certainly not expected to have been so near at hand. He was admitted as a Procurator before the Sheriff Court on 7th January 1820, and was the oldest member of the faculty save one in the county. In 1829 he was appointed Procurator-Fiscal for the county, which office he held till 1870, a period of 41 years. He was a man of very superior talents and ability, and was held in high esteem by the profession. On the passing of the Procurators' Act, 1865, he was unanimously chosen Dean of the Faculty, and held this office till 1871, when failing health compelled him to resign. As a Fiscal he was singularly judicious in the discharge of his duties, while his affable and unostentatious manner won for him the esteem and affection of all around him. He belonged to the United Presbyterian Church, and was for many years an elder in the West U.P. Church, and took an active interest in all its affairs. He devoted much time and labour in promoting its interests, was an ardent supporter of missions, and was for many years President of the Town Mission, which did much good in its time. In politics Mr Watson was a Conservative, but he seldom identified himself with any political movement. He was in his 75th year, and leaves a widow and an only daughter to mourn his loss. Yesterday, on the assembling of the Sheriff Court, Sheriff Home feelingly referred to the demise of this aged member of Faculty; and at the close of his remarks suggested that a letter of condolence, as from the members of the Court, be sent to Mrs Watson, expressive of regret at the melancholy event of Mr Watson's death, and that the same be entered in the minute-book of Court. His Lordship's suggestion seemed to be favourably received by the members of the bar present.

RATIONS AT AN OUT-STATION.

Sir,—I send this in reply to "Subscriber."—Flour, per week, one man, 10lb.; meat, 14lb.; sugar, 2lb.; tea, 1lb. Sufficient suet and salt are generally allowed for the week. Where there are two men or one man and a woman they are served every ten weeks with flour, tea, and sugar; meat once a week. July 20. MANAGER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BLACKFELLOWS' OVENS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AUSTRALASIAN.

Sir,—Under this heading, in *The Australasian* of the 7th inst., there is a long and, I think, unsatisfactory conjectural letter signed "M.," which I beg space to take notice of as briefly as possible. "M." raises and demolishes in a thorough penny-a-liner style the supposed origin and uses of these mounds, the existence of which forms the only visible mark of a race fast passing away, and as he appears to have derived the knowledge set forth in his communication principally from the white side view, you, Sir, can have little objection to permit me to place in opposition that of the black one. By means of a very close intimacy of upwards of twenty-five years with the aborigines, and with the very material aid of a young lady who understands and can freely converse in the language of the tribes of the western districts, I have drawn from the blacks there the conclusion that the mounds in question are the *débris* of old residences which served as the winter homes of individual families, and which from their great size in many instances must have been occupied for innumerable generations. Previous to the disturbance in the domestic and tribal arrangements of the natives by the intrusion of the white man, each family inherited and occupied a district, and had a comfortable permanent large *mia-mia*, not carelessly built as now of branches and bark of trees, but of stout limbs, forming a dome high enough to permit the tallest man to stand upright in, and covered over with grass and then with turf, like slates on a roof. These warm abodes had an opening at one side and a fire in the centre, around which a dozen might squat easily, and when several branches of the family lived in community their *mia-mias* were placed close together, as much for friendly chat (for they are great gossips) as for protection against their enemies. In these the natives spent their winters, and when summer arrived, and their annual wanderings commenced, the family mansion was abandoned and shut up for a season with a bush drawn into the doorway till their return. Occasionally, however, during their absence bush fires swept the face of the country, and often with it all traces of the homes of the blacks, excepting in the shape of ashes and burnt turf, but as the old spot retained its charms, and the family fire-place was still visible amongst the dust and ashes, new *mia-mias* soon sprang up as before, to be again burnt down. Thus, in course of myriads of generations, have these mounds been added to and formed by sprinklings of ashes and burnt turf, if the blacks are to be believed, and I am more inclined to pin my faith to their tale than to the coat-tail of white men tinged with Druidical notions. In the Western District they are to be seen in all situations, on all sides of gullies and swamps, irrespective of aspect, but more often facing the west than the east as far as my observations go, and are more common on the banks of lagoons where plentiful supplies of water, fowls, and eels are at hand than on the level country. That some of those long abandoned may have been opened up by the natives to bury a dead body in is not unlikely, but that does not make them tumuli any more than a cellar with a dead body buried in it makes it a graveyard. From long intimacy with the blacks I have been enabled to observe how very easily and readily they adopt the white man's ideas, and believing him infallible, give them forth afterwards to new chums as their own. In this way many errors have crept into accounts of native customs and traditions, and so much has this been the case, that it is now difficult to discriminate between ideas truly aboriginal and those of white men adopted by the blacks. In the present case, never having heard the natives of the Western District attribute the origin and use of the mounds in question to the cooking of food, I must continue to adhere to their and my own opinion, that they are the *débris* of old permanent *mia-mias*, and more especially so, on opening many of them, I never discovered anything to induce me to alter my belief.

Yours, &c., GIFF-GAFF.

39

40

WHERE ARE OUR HENS?

THE PERIPATETIC HEN.

(ADDRESSED TO THE FIELD.)

Sir.—“If I had been a very wicked man, which I have endeavoured not to be,” I often say to my friends, “I should still go to heaven holding on to the tail of my great invention, the peripatetic hen.” “What is that?” they ask, and I proceed to tell them—as I now, if you will allow me, tell you.

Perhaps there are few living creatures more profitable and interesting, as there are few more beautiful, than a well-selected and well-managed fowl. A good hen will lay 200 eggs a year; I have specimens now lying before me weighing nearly a quarter of a pound, and I wonder how many animals equal this astonishing annual production of something like 10 times the weight of the animal itself! And this is of a kind of food of almost all descriptions the most useful, palatable, and nutritious!

But the points that I wish most strongly to urge upon you are these:—That we have always treated this useful creature in much too trivial and restricted a way; that we ought to have given it a very much wider scope, and aimed at producing it upon a very much larger scale. We fancy that we have done all we are capable of doing when we collect a dozen or two to scratch round our homesteads, occasionally breeding up a few choice specimens for exhibition at our annual shows. What I want is to allow the fowl to be restored more nearly to a state of nature, and permitted to roam freely over the whole country. *What the rook eats the fowl ought to eat.* The rook is a most respectable bird, doing a great deal of good in proportion to the small amount of mischief it does. But it contributes no eggs to our tables—except, I believe, a few plovers’ eggs for our wedding breakfasts—and we do not find it roasted or fricasseed on our diningtables.

My plan of management is this. Instead of having a few fowls round the homestead, I have a small house mounted on wheels placed in the middle of a grass paddock. This is sufficient to accommodate about 60 or 80 fowls. It is made without door, window, or bottom, and is just sufficiently light to be pushed along each day by one man. The fowls soon get accustomed to this house and range from it in all directions—very generally, I must confess, showing a predilection for adjacent trees. But accustomed from early life to a great range and much liberty, they become exceedingly healthy, hardy, and self-supporting; and for a great portion of the year they require very little except what they find for themselves.

Indeed, with such active foragers one soon learns to look upon the whole insect world in quite a new light, and, instead of treating grubs and beetles as simple nuisances, one begins to recognise in them a valuable form of provender. As I see the slug and earthworm creeping about, I luxuriate in their slimy succulence, and say to them, “My friends, I shall want you by-and-by.” And my grasshopper, taken affectionately round the waist by the all-pervading fowl, has scarcely time to squeak before his bony tissues and scaly coats, pulverised in a well-regulated gizzard, are strewn in the form of rich phosphates on my meadows.

Treated in this way, the number of fowls which can be supported on the land seems to be simply illimitable, and it appears quite conceivable that they should eventually become so plentiful as to sell at 4d. or 6d. per pound; the price of eggs being in proportion. I should very much like to see the thing tried upon a large scale in some of our great parks, or other domains of our larger landed proprietors; and the experiments I have myself made lead me confidently to predict very remarkable results.

The great multiplication of such forms of live stock is a notable advantage in other respects. It makes the country more interesting, and tends to foster a love of rural pursuits amongst our young people.

Let any of your readers lead out into a meadow on a fine day (if he can find one) an average specimen of the merry, bright-faced children happily so plentiful amongst us; give the little thing a bag of maize, and suddenly surround him or her with six or eight hundred active healthy fowls, and I promise him that he would witness a sight he could not easily forget, and one that he would not if he could.

As to the breed of fowls best adapted for this hardy active life, my own special favourite is the golden-pencilled Hamburg. It lays a small egg, but is perpetually laying; it never wants to sit; it is very hardy, a splendid forager, and perhaps rather more beautiful than the pheasant. For hatching and rearing, perhaps, there is nothing so good as the dark Brahma.

In view of such a prodigious importation of eggs from France—a million and a half a day, with poultry in proportion—it is very properly asked, “Where are our hens?” We all know where they are. I have tried to indicate where they ought to be. And I have thorough conviction that if this system were arranged upon an adequate scale, a prodigious increase might be made to some of our more useful and wholesome forms of the food of the people. What I have indicated as possible to be done in England may be done with still greater facilities in warmer climates, and where insect life is more redundant. The fowl has long been too much neglected, and will very well repay more trouble, more expense, and more intelligent consideration.

Kent, Feb. 5. 1873

E. W.

*A totally
Incorrect statement*

An instance of the profitable management of an infant's estate, under the supervision of the Equity Court, was mentioned yesterday. About 19 years ago a Mr. Anderson died, leaving two sons, both infants, the eldest being only two years of age. His property consisted of a third share in a station, in which he had put £1,000. The estate was brought into court to have it legally administered, and owing to the judicious management of the administrator and the receiver, it now amounts to £50,000, invested in mortgages or Government debentures. One of the children died young, and the other came of age a few months ago. He is at present residing in Scotland, but on an application on his behalf yesterday, an order was made for putting him in possession of his estate.

Argus 5th Dec 1874

— Cruelty to Horses —

The following has been forwarded to us for insertion:—“Some little time ago it was reported by Mr. James Dawson, of Camperdown, that great cruelty was shown by the aborigines at Framlingham in the treatment of their horses, and Mr. H. B. Lane, the police magistrate at Belfast, and local guardian of the aborigines in that district, was accordingly requested to investigate the statements made by Mr. Dawson. He reports that he visited Framlingham, but did not see a single horse belonging to the station having any appearance of a sore back, and that he regards the statement of the aboriginal, who was seen at Camperdown, as a mere invention. Mr. Lane states that there are but three horses on the station, the property of the board; but Mr. Goodall, the superintendent, informed him that the blacks possess some animals of their own, and that these are allowed to graze there, and Mr. Lane says the probability is, that Johnson, the black, when away from the station, had ridden his own horse with a sore back when seen at Camperdown on the 8th ult., but that it must be a random assertion that all the horses on the station were in the same condition. Indeed, Mr. Goodall, the master, who is himself a member of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, informed Mr. Lane that he had made a particular request to the police to bring before the Bench any of the blacks transgressing in this respect. On mentioning the subject to Sergeant Archibald, in charge of the police at Warrnambool, Mr. Lane was informed that the sergeant had sent Mounted-constable Ryan to the station to make particular inquiries into this matter, and that his report was not unfavourable.”

BURNING OFF TIMBER AND SCRUB.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRONICLE.

Sir,—As the season for burning off timber and scrub is at hand, I recently requested a friend in Melbourne to procure for me a copy of the Act regulating the use of fire for such purposes, and on his application at the Government Printing Office he received the following reply:—“The careless use of Fire Act is repealed and its provisions incorporated in some other Act not known at this office.”

Doubtless a copy of this “other Act” is to be seen at the Court-house, and you would confer a public favor by stating its provisions, as much mischief may be done through ignorance of them, and cautious people may be prevented burning off when they might otherwise do so legally.

I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

JAMES DAWSON.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.—The “other Act,” about which our correspondent could obtain no information at the Government Printing Office is the Police Offences Act, and that portion of the Act upon which he desires further information is the following:—

28 VICTORIA No. 265, SEC. 21.

If any person shall (except as hereinafter mentioned) ignite or use or carry when ignited any inflammable material within twenty yards of any growing crops or stack of corn pulse or hay or within three yards of any stubble tree or grass land and thereby the property of any other person shall be injured or destroyed, or if any person shall leave any fire which he may have lighted or used in the open air before the same shall be thoroughly extinguished, he shall forfeit and pay for every such offence any sum not exceeding one hundred pounds or be imprisoned with or without hard labor for any period not exceeding six months. Provided that it shall be lawful for the occupier of any land to burn any straw stubble grass or herbage or to ignite any wood or other inflammable material on such land, after he shall have cleared of inflammable substance a space of land around the straw stubble grass or herbage intended to be burnt or wood or other inflammable material intended to be ignited of not less than fifteen feet in breadth, and after he shall have given to the occupiers of all land contiguous to the land from or on which the straw stubble grass or herbage is intended to be burnt or inflammable material to be ignited notice in writing at least twenty-four hours before burning or igniting as aforesaid of the time at which it is his intention so to burn or ignite. Provided further that it shall be lawful for the occupier of any grass lands between the hours of two of the clock in the afternoon and nine of the clock in the afternoon to burn off any grass or herbage from any such land in his occupation, after giving the like notice in writing as hereinbefore directed of his intention so to do to the occupiers of all land contiguous to the land from which the grass or herbage is intended to be burnt, and after having drawn plough furrows for a width of not less than three feet on either side of such grass or herbage. Provided also that nothing in this section contained shall be taken to apply to any place within the operation of any Act now or hereafter in force for regulating buildings and party walls in the city of Melbourne.

11th Aug. 1875

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by Correspondents.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HAMPDEN GUARDIAN.

Sir,—In consequence of some cases of gross cruelty to horses having come to my knowledge as having been committed in Camperdown and its vicinity, I addressed a letter to J. G. Stewart, Esq., honorary secretary of the Victorian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, requesting to be furnished with the constitution and powers of the society, and instructions how to proceed against offenders in this district. In reply I have this day received the following communication:—

“Victorian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

“1 Collins-street east, Melbourne.

“Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 3rd inst. With reference to your request for a copy of rules, in order that you may advise on cases of cruelty, I beg to inform you that we have none beyond those of the constitution of this society, which would be of no use to you under the circumstances. I have this day forwarded to you by post 12 bills, which contain extracts from the 23rd section of Police Offences Statute, which is the law this society acts under. As a member of this society you will doubtless have numerous cases brought under your notice. It is desirable you should pursue the course which has been followed out here, of directing the attention of the police to the case or cases that may have been brought under your notice. The police undertake the prosecution, while you can employ a solicitor, who will assist them and represent this society. I will inform the Chief Commissioner of Police of your appointment as a corresponding member, when he will issue instructions to the police stationed in your district to report to you all cases of cruelty to animals coming under their notice. I shall be glad if you will keep a record of, and report to me from time to time all cases that your attention may be directed to, accompanied by any suggestion that you may think desirable.

“I remain, Sir, yours, &c.,
“J. G. STEWART, Hon. Sec.”

James Dawson, Esq.

For the information of those unfeeling and merciless abusers of animals who labour under the pleasant but mistaken idea “that they can do what they like with their own,” I quote the 23rd section of the 265th Act of Parliament, known as the Police Offences Statute, which provides that

“Any person who cruelly beats, illtreats, abuses, or tortures, or omits to supply with sufficient food or water any animal; any person who keeps or uses, or acts in the management of any place for the purpose of fighting or baiting any kind of animal, or permits or suffers any place to be so used; any person who in any manner encourages, aids, or assists at the fighting or baiting of any animal; and any person who conveys or carries, or causes to be conveyed or carried, any animal in such a manner or position as to subject such animal to unnecessary pain or suffering, shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds (£20), or to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any period not exceeding two (2) months.”

These terms will doubtless be considered very hard by those who, through cruel treatment of animals render themselves liable to punishment; but the cowardly abuse of the brute creation by beings apparently in a greater degree under them in feeling than above them in intellect, has rendered such a course necessary; and I trust that every humane person in this district will aid in suppressing that cruelty to animals which says little for our vaunted civilization.

Yours respectfully,
JAMES DAWSON.

Camperdown, Aug. 11, 1874.

Mr. James Dawson, of Wurrong, near Camperdown, has been appointed a corresponding member of the “Victorian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,” and we elsewhere publish a letter from that gentleman on the subject. It is too much the fashion even in country districts to overwork and illuse dumb animals, and it may perhaps be as well for people of cruel dispositions to know that the law does not permit them to illtreat a horse or an unfortunate bullock even supposing the animals are their own property. We are glad, therefore, that the operations of the society have been extended to this district, and sincerely trust that the public will afford its cordial co-operation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AUSTRALASIAN.

Sir,—In *The Argus* of the 9th inst. there is a report of the monthly meeting of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, showing financially that, after paying the accounts put before the meeting, the balance in hand would be £10. If I mistake not, there was some time ago a fear that the society would collapse for want of funds to enable it to prosecute persons guilty of cruelty to animals; and now there is every appearance, from the miserable balance in hand, that it will soon come to an end if not more liberally supported. If such should happen, it will be very unfortunate for poor dumb animals; for there are many unfeeling people ready to resume cruelties the fear of prosecution only restrains.

Now, Sir, is it not a remarkable feature in the ministers and preachers of what is termed the Christianity of the present day, that, with rare exceptions, out of the one hundred and one sermons and lectures they are each supposed to deliver annually, scarcely one refers to the subject of cruelty to animals? At least, if they do inculcate from the pulpit kindness to the brute creation—next to man the noblest work of God—it is more than I ever heard of, with one solitary exception. This will be considered a very harsh conclusion to arrive at without positive information, which it would be next to impossible to obtain, but if I am wrong in my conjectures let them show their interest in the protection of God's creatures by raising funds at least once a year to support this humane and laudable society. Surely the multitude of clergy of all denominations in this colony could by one touching appeal gather 20 or 30 shillings from each congregation; if not, their influence for good must be poor indeed.—Yours, &c.,
JAMES DAWSON,
Camperdown.

The Devil

III. Matthew Chap 4, v 10

Then saith Jesus
unto him “get thee
behind me Satan
“for it is written
“thou shalt worship
“the Lord thy God
“and him only
“shalt thou worship”

41
Argus 23 March 1872

MOUNT ROUSE PUBLIC PARK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARGUS. 1872

Sir,—As it is impossible to overvalue the importance of public reserves as places of recreation for present and future generations, so is it imperative on everyone having the interests of the community at heart to watch the proceedings of the Government of the day in literally giving portions of them away to their friends at nominal prices. I emphatically say giving them away, when members of the Government know very well that in putting valuable reserves in the immediate neighbourhood of townships up to public auction, at the instigation of their favourites, they are certain to fall into the hands of the individual whose interest, fancy, or greed induces him to give a price that no one of a community or association of individuals in that community will give. A neighbouring proprietor having secured a large tract of country at not a fourth of its value at the present time, can afford to pay an enormous price for a few acres lying into his estate, and at auction is sure to bid up the lot far beyond the reach of any one; and in this way, bit by bit, the valuable reserves are frittered away. Such is evidently the intended fate of the most important portion of the Mount Rouse Reserve, consisting of 34½ acres lying under the hill, and having the old crater in the centre, full of the only permanent water on the whole reserve.

For a long time the Mount itself was a bone of contention between the public and a neighbouring proprietor, and after numerous deputations, got up at great expense and loss of time to individuals, it was vested in trustees as a park for the public benefit, but by some easily accounted for “representations,” that portion of it called the “water reserve” of 34½ acres was not included permanently, double's with the view to future “representations,” covered with professions on the part of the neighbouring proprietor too transparent to be taken notice of further than as a prelude to what has been going on for some time.

Suspicious that a boasted determination was at work to get this exceedingly valuable water reserve added to the neighbouring private property at some convenient opportunity, the trustees of the Mount wrote to the Crown Lands Office, and the reply was, “There is no intention of selling the water reserve at Mount Rouse.” This is dated on the 4th of January last, and just 22 days afterwards, in the *Government Gazette* of the 26th, page 188, appears the following:—
“Mount Rouse, or Kolor, the site temporarily reserved for a public park, in the parish of Purdeet (being allotment 4, section 1) by order of the 2nd December, 1870, is about to be diminished by deducting therefrom the portion thereof comprised within the boundaries hereafter described, and consisting of 35a. 3r. 15p., more or less, and the temporary reservation is about to be revoked.”

This, as a matter of course, will be followed by a public sale, and for reasons I have given the lot will pass into the hands of the neighbouring proprietor.

Now, Sir, I denounce the idea of the Government selling this lot for the sake of the money it will put into the Treasury, for no man in his right mind would offer £1 an acre for it on account of the quality of the land, which is little else than a bed of lava. Its worth consists entirely in the permanency of the water and of its value to the other portion of the reserve, which is entirely dependent on it; also on the romantic old crater which forms one of the chief attractions of the neighbourhood.

That these considerations should be set aside, and this public reserve alienated for an old song, is discredit to a Government which assumes to stand up for the rights of the people. It is equally discredit that there should be occasion for the perpetual warfare between the public, whose interests the present Government professes to have such a holy care for, and the “representations” of individuals, whose sole aim it apparently is to aggrandise themselves at the expense of the community. As one of the oldest residents of this district, and an enemy to anything in the shape of favoritism, I beg space in *The Argus* to draw public attention to this glaring attempt to despoil the Mount Rouse Public Park.—Yours, &c.,
JAMES DAWSON.

Wm. John X
Mr. Robert (Client)

SALE OF PROPERTY.—The following subjects were on Friday exposed for sale, by public roup, within the Star and Garter Hotel, by Mr Nicol, auctioneer, viz.—The dwelling-house and other premises occupied by Mr Jamieson, dairyman, Linlithgow, upset price £350, was knocked down to Mr Dawson at £470. The dwelling-house and shop at the Cross, occupied by Mrs Aitken, innkeeper and others, also sold to Mr Dawson, at the upset price of £500. The Plum Garden, the upset price of which was £150, was, after a spirited competition, knocked down to Mr John Lithgow, Falkirk, at £202. The Lady's Park, at the west of the town, consisting of about 4 imperial acres, was sold to Mr W. H. Henderson, for a client, at £1030; the upset price was £800. A piece of ground adjoining the Lady's Park, the upset price of which was £396, was sold to Mr George Dougal at £407. A small dwelling-house in High Street brought £164, while another of the same class, at the upset price of £100, failed to find a bidder, and the sale of which was accordingly withdrawn.

QUEEN'S SWISS
LINLITHGOWSHIRE.
LINLITHGOWSHIRE.
MOST DESIRABLE FARM TO LET.
 TO BE LET for 19 Years, from Martinmas 1875.
THE ARABLE AND PASTURE LANDS on the ESTATE of BONNYTOUN, extending to 363 Acres 206 Dec. Imperial measure or thereby, situated within a mile of the County Town of Linlithgow, where there is a weekly grain market as well as a principal railway station.
 The Lands have been long in the natural possession of the Proprietors, and are in the highest state of cultivation. The Arable Land is a rich free soil, capable of raising every description of Crop, and specially adapted for Green Crop Husbandry. The Pasture Land is sound and early.
 The OLD MANSION-HOUSE of BONNYTOUN, which will be LET along with the Lands, is large and commodious, and a very desirable residence.
 The Farm Steading contains extensive and ample accommodation of every kind, including Engine-Power for Thrashing and Steaming purposes, with large covered feeding and wintering Cattle Sheds.
 John Hunter, overseer at Bonnytoun, will point out the Boundaries; and for the Conditions of Let apply to ADAM DAWSON, Esquire of Bonnytoun; or Messrs GLEN & HENDERSON, Solicitors, Linlithgow, with whom Offers may be lodged on or before 28th June next.
 The Proprietor shall not be bound to accept the highest or any offer.
 Linlithgow, April 1875.

SALE OF AN ESTATE.—The estate of Bonnytoun, which belonged to the late Mr Adam Dawson, distiller, and which extends to upwards of 463 imperial acres, has been sold privately to Mr Robert Mackel, wood merchant, Glasgow, at the price of £20,000. The annual burdens average about £76.

All who know the real boundaries of the royalty, must be compelled to admit, the force of your reasoning. The boundary of the royalty to the west comes of course from Mr Crocket's house over towards and up the Bathgate highway road, excluding even Bailie Learmouth's killing-house, so that any station to be erected at the West End of Linlithgow must naturally go out of the royalty. Hence, I cannot find any fault with the proposition as to whether the customs will be reduced by the removal of the station to the West End. It is clear they must be, so far as regards the traffic to the west is concerned—is clear to any person of common observation or that of common sense. Now, I would ask, are the ratepayers ready and willing to throw away their custom dues for nothing. If so, you must be prepared to put your hands in your pockets for the corresponding deficiency, by way of assessment."

A FORMER LINLITHGOW CLERGYMAN AND PUBLIC WORSHIP IMPROVEMENT.—The Rev. Donald Macleod of Park Church, Glasgow, (formerly minister of Linlithgow), spoke at the Bellahouston Church Bazaar last week; and, in the course of an interesting speech, said he highly approved of the objects contemplated as to the improvement of the church. Some people thought that Presbyterian purity was somehow or other connected with ugly churches, bad singing, and all that was wretched. He could not sympathise with the view. The truth was that our ugly churches had arisen from nothing except the inconsideration of the heritors. They would not give money for better churches; they put up the cheapest, and then fathered the idea on the Scottish people that they attached a sanctity to what was ugly and plain. But there was no such feeling among the Scotch people. They liked becoming houses of prayer as much as their neighbours on the other side of the Tweed; and as regarded this side of the Tweed, he was glad to say of late years they had been improving, and things had been getting better in the public worship of God. As to music in churches, it was dreadful to think of what had existed in Scotland for so many years. He did not speak about any principle connected with it; there was no principle conceivable except of utter carelessness, which had reigned in many parts of Scotland about public worship for so long. Look what existed at present in many parts of Scotland. They put forward as a preacher a big rough mason or a dirty blacksmith, and paid him £4 or £5 a year, who suvvelled through his nose, some of the people in church tittering and others trying to join in the praise. Go into any country church in the Highlands, and tell him if the state of matters there was



E-COD!!

Great excitement of Mr. E—d Wils—n (we decline to give the gentleman's name) on the arrival of a Murray River Cod at the Victorian Club. Melbourne

See page 184

LINLITHGOW.
 SALE OF THE ESTATE OF BONNYTOUN.—Mr. Robert Mickel, of Bonnytoun, Linlithgow, has sold that estate to Mr. H. M. Cadell, of Grange, Bo'ness. The estate originally belonged to the Earl of Linlithgow, who, in order to equip himself for the rebellion of 1715, applied to Glen of Longcroft for means, and in return for the accommodation granted, the Earl disposed the estate to Mr. Glen. At the beginning of last century the estate came into the hands of the Dawsons, distillers, Linlithgow, and remained in that family for about one hundred years. Some ten years ago it was purchased by Mr. Mickel for £20,000. The estate, which is finely situated, extends from the east end of the burgh of Linlithgow to the Roman Road on Bonnytoun Hill, which commands a beautiful prospect of the Firth of Forth and beyond.

Syrup —
 citric acid
 water
 to sugar
 warm
 essence of lemons
 cut with 1/2 glass of spirits of
 Wine. Bottle warm.

Scotch Oath

The right hand is held up while the following is spoken by the person sworn.
 "I swear by Almighty God, and as I shall answer to God at the great Day of Judgement, that I will tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

Uncle John
Mr. Robinson (clerk)

SALE OF PROPERTY.—The following subjects were on Friday exposed for sale, by public roup, within the Star and Garter Hotel, by Mr Nicol, auctioneer, viz.—The dwelling-house and other premises occupied by Mr Jamieson, dairyman, Linlithgow, upset price £350, was knocked down to Mr Dawson at £470. The dwelling-house and shop at the Cross, occupied by Mrs Aitken, innkeeper and others, also sold to Mr Dawson, at the upset price of £500. The Plum Garden, the upset price of which was £150, was, after a spirited competition, knocked down to Mr John Lithgow, Falkirk, at £202. The Lady's Park, at the west of the town, consisting of about 4 imperial acres, was sold to Mr W. H. Henderson, for a client, at £1030; the upset price was £800. A piece of ground adjoining the Lady's Park, the upset price of which was £396, was sold to Mr George Dougal at £407. A small dwelling-house in High Street brought £164, while another of the same class, at the upset price of £100, failed to find a bidder, and the sale of which was accordingly withdrawn.

QUEEN'S
LINLITHGOWSHIRE.
LINLITHGOWSHIRE.
MOST DESIRABLE FARM TO LET.
TO BE LET for 19 Years, from Martinmas 1875.
THE ARABLE AND PASTURE LANDS on the ESTATE of BONNYTOUN, extending to 263 Acres 206 Deca. Imperial measure or thereby, situated within a mile of the County Town of Linlithgow, where there is a weekly grain market as well as a principal railway station.
The Lands have been long in the natural possession of the Proprietors, and are in the highest state of cultivation. The Arable Land is a rich free soil, capable of raising every description of Crop, and specially adapted for Green Crop Husbandry. The Pasture Land is sound and early.
The OLD MANSION-HOUSE of BONNYTOUN, which will be LET along with the Lands, is large and commodious, and a very desirable residence.
The Farm Steading contains extensive and ample accommodation of every kind, including Engine-Power for Thrashing and Steaming purposes, with large covered feeding and wintering Cattle Sheds.
John Hunter, overseer at Bonnytoun, will point out the Boundaries; and for the Conditions of Let apply to ADAM DAWSON, Esquire of Bonnytoun; or Messrs GLEN & HENDERSON, Solicitors, Linlithgow, with whom Offers may be lodged on or before 25th June next.
The Proprietor shall not be bound to accept the highest or any offer.
Linlithgow, April 1875.

SALE OF AN ESTATE.—The estate of Bonnytoun, which belonged to the late Mr Adam Dawson, distiller, and which extends to upwards of 463 imperial acres, has been sold privately to Mr Robert Mackel, wood merchant, Glasgow, at the price of £20,000. The annual burdens average about £76.

All who know the real boundaries of the royalty, must be compelled to admit, the force of your reasoning. The boundary of the royalty to the west comes of course from Mr Crocket's house over towards and up the Bathgate highway road, excluding even Bailie Learmouth's killing-house, so that any station to be erected at the West End of Linlithgow must naturally go out of the royalty. Hence, I cannot find any fault with the proposition as to whether the customs will be reduced by the removal of the station to the West End. It is clear they must be, so far as regards the traffic to the west is concerned—is clear to any person of common observation or that of common sense. Now, I would ask, are the ratepayers ready and willing to throw away their custom dues for nothing. If so, you must be prepared to put your hands in your pockets for the corresponding deficiency, by way of assessment."

A FORMER LINLITHGOW CLERGYMAN AND PUBLIC WORSHIP IMPROVEMENT.—The Rev. Donald Macleod of Park Church, Glasgow, (formerly minister of Linlithgow), spoke at the Bellahouston Church Bazaar last week; and, in the course of an interesting speech, said he highly approved of the objects contemplated as to the improvement of the church. Some people thought that Presbyterian purity was somehow or other connected with ugly churches, bad singing, and all that was wretched. He could not sympathise with the view. The truth was that our ugly churches had arisen from nothing except the niggardliness of the heritors. They would not give money for better churches; they put up the cheapest, and then fathered the idea on the Scottish people that they attached a sanctity to what was ugly and plain. But there was no such feeling among the Scotch people. They liked becoming houses of prayer as much as their neighbours on the other side of the Tweed; and as regarded this side of the Tweed, he was glad to say of late years they had been improving, and things had been getting better in the public worship of God. As to music in churches, it was dreadful to think of what had existed in Scotland for so many years. He did not speak about any principle connected with it; there was no principle conceivable except of utter carelessness, which had reigned in many parts of Scotland about public worship for so long. Look what existed at present in many parts of Scotland. They put forward as a precentor a big rough mason or a dirty blacksmith, and paid him £4 or £5 a year, who suivelled through his nose, some of the people in church tittering and others trying to join in the praise. Go into any country church in the Highlands, and tell him if the state of matters there was



See page 184

Mr. JAMES WARRER, (see Catalogue) District Hospital for Women and Children, 12, St. James's Street, London, W. Mr. CHARLES COLONEL SMITH, Brewer of Messrs. E. Lacey and Co., 113, Old Street, London, E.C. Mr. SAMUEL NIGHTINGALE (67) The Hall, Scrinby, and Sandringham Lodge, Great Yarmouth, and for many years connected with the Lincolnshire Asylum, Lincoln.

E-COD!!
Isen (we decline to give the gentleman's name) on ray River Cod at the Victorian Club, Melbourne

Syrup

4 ounces of citric acid
4 pint of water
6 lbs of white sugar
dissolved warm.
Flavour with essence of lemons
cut with 1/2 glass of spirits of
Wine. Bottle warm.

Scotch Oath

The right hand is held up while the following is spoken by the person sworn.
"I swear by Almighty God, and as I shall answer to God at the great Day of Judgement, that I will tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

Sydney Morning Herald - 20th April 1874

THE inquiry as to the literature of the Australian aborigines, previously dealt with, is connected with the design of tracing the origin by descent or migration of that race, and belongs to the recently-formed science of Anthropology. It is hardly possible to enter deeply into the views of that branch of study without coming in contact with opinions and doctrines that bring the student into collision with time-honoured and venerable dogmas of religion or the theories of historians. We have no wish or design, in further noticing the subject, to entangle the reader in a mesh of difficulties from which it would be hard to escape; but as it may be interesting to some to produce what may be called a basis of discussion respecting the history of the Australian tribes, it is proposed to give a slight summary of some important facts in this branch of Anthropology; and this in accordance with the saying of the poet—"the proper study of mankind is man." Whilst, therefore, we have considered it not useless to have pointed out the hindrances to the completion of Dr. BLEEK's design in addressing our GOVERNOR on the question, we now turn to another important topic, as to the variety or unity of the Australian tribes, so far as either view may be established or refuted by facts observed and recorded by persons worthy of credit.

So intense is the interest in such inquiries as these, that societies have been formed almost throughout the civilized world, and books have been written and published in various countries illustrating and defending the conclusions of philosophers, or disparaging and attempting to refute ancient historical declarations as to the unity of the human family as descended from one common parentage. No doubt it is a question of very great importance, and on this as well as many others the learned are greatly divided.

Among the societies referred to is that established in Paris, which has a section or committee whose business is with the inhabitants that dwell in the islands of the Pacific. This committee consisted in 1872 of four members, whose names are well known in the scientific world, viz., DE QUATREFAGES, BERTILLOU, HAMY, and TOPINARD. The latter was the chairman when an inquiry was called for upon the present subject, on the proposition of two other members, both going out to Australia, and one of whom is domiciled among us, viz., Dr. JULES GOYARD and the present Consul of France at Sydney, M. EUGENE SIMON. Dr. PAUL TOPINARD is a physician of eminence and author of several medical works of value and success. Among them is a memoir presented to his Society, entitled *Etude sur les Tasmaniens*. Another of the same class, and which we desire to introduce to our readers, is *Etude sur les Races Indigènes de l'Australie*. This embraces the inquiry suggested by Dr. BLEEK, but goes into details of wider scope than language or literature. It was his duty to draw up Instructions for inquiry on the following question:—Whether the indigenous race is the same over the whole of the Australasian Continent, as the greater part of French navigators and almost all the English pretend; or whether it is a multiple race, as M. ROCHAS professes to believe, when he states that there is no nearer resemblance between these Australian races than there is between the Norman and the Basque, or between the Fleming and the Provençal?

In the absence of distinct documents, which it is the object of these Instructions to call forth, he has searched for and collected his information from travellers as to the tribes that came under their separate notice, and in their own words.

It is a remarkable fact, that whilst in Great Britain there appears a great indifference to Australian affairs, accompanied, as is only natural, with consummate ignorance on the part of those who ought to know better; on the Continent of Europe a most satisfactory and encouraging sympathy is evidenced respecting these southern colonies. Witness the inquiries of Dr. BLEEK and other Germans; the historical memoirs of the Italian Bishop, RUDESINO SALVADO, and the essay under notice of Dr. TOPINARD. We have long known the earnest attention which the Government and savans of France have paid to all that concerns the development of this colony in particular, and the anxiety they exhibit to obtain all kinds of information, which is turned to our own advantage as well as to that of their own country—information and advantage, of which many connected with the Legislature to which Dr. BLEEK appeals are almost as ignorant as the aborigines themselves, and to the collection of which for their own use they give neither patronage nor assistance.

Although the greater part of the Bishop of PORT VICTORIA's work has reference to the establishment of the Catholic Church and Missions, in what he denominates New Nurcia; yet it gives a clear, though brief, history of each of our colonies up to 1851, including valuable details respecting the natural history and physical structure of Australia and the discovery of gold—as well as an able treatise on the Aborigines. Dr. TOPINARD, having the latter object altogether in view, with infinite research quotes nearly every publication extant, on the peculiarities of the aboriginal natives, and proves that he comes to his inquiry with ample stores of arguments and facts for his guidance and decision; and it is worth considering whether an English version of his very clever monograph would not be a boon to numbers of our fellow countrymen. To analyze his statements in this part of our columns would be impossible; we must confine our notice of the work to a very brief, and, we fear, unsatisfactory summary of results, leaving to private readers the amusing as well as suggestive particulars he has, with great skill and judgment, brought together.

So far as his sources are reliable (and he has dived into them all, collecting from each explorer and traveller, who has committed his ideas to the Press, all the distinctive data which they offer), his conclusions are deserving of the respect which is due to honest and indefatigable industry; and if there be further evidence necessary to be sought for, such as that which Dr. BLEEK requires, still what Dr. TOPINARD has produced is not therefore to be ignored.

Mr. RIDLEY, we have already seen, considers that there are very many distinct languages, indicating to him distinct sections of the aborigines. The questions arise—Which is oldest? and how came they to dwell side by side—a circumstance also characteristic of Bushmen and Hottentots, and others in Africa?

Dr. TOPINARD seems to have limited the number of tribes, and offers some explanation of the phenomenon presented to us. He reminds his readers that the hypothesis of certain English authors is that in consequence of some evidences of art, such as sculpture on the rocks (common, however, to all parts of the Continent) which are too much above the intellectual powers of the present aborigines, these are but the remnants of an earlier civilization. There is not, however, much in this solution of the difficulty, for the aborigines even yet scratch the rocks with outlines of fish and other objects, and there are no evidences of such architectural skill in Australia as are found in Java, or even in Easter Island.

TOPINARD thinks there may have been conquests and immigration in past times, and doubtless he is right. He alludes, also, to the traditional songs of the blacks—partly the literature of Dr. BLEEK—as leading not only to inferences as to connection with Polynesia, but with Papousia and other distant localities, and as proving such connection in times anterior to this. Bishop SALVADO and Captain GREY both mention a fact very well known to most persons who have had intercourse with our aborigines—that, rather than appear ignorant of anything relating to the origin of their so-called traditions, they always resort to ready invention to explain what they do not understand,—and this justifies the warning given in our former remarks on Saturday last. Immigration always brings new words into existence and new ideas among any given people, and no better illustration can be afforded than is presented by the synonym of *puss* for the *cat*; it may be possible, therefore, to obtain traces of origin from the tracing of words, but this method is not infallible, because it may deceive a critic who does not sift any possible number of transmutations in the progress of a word or tradition from one people, through many others, to another.

The main result of Dr. TOPINARD's argument is his suggestion that there are in Australia, distinct physical and moral evidences of two distinct races with intermediates, and he seems to believe that these races are blended at certain parts by intercommingling; that the dominant or stronger party may be found closely in connection with the weaker, and that in some places in the interior, and in others along the coast, the traces of the two are easily made out. But that at a far distant epoch the two main races met in conflict, and drove out the weaker. These primordial races are distinguished by being both dolicephalous, *i. e.*, having long heads, but, paradoxically enough, the less robust and feebler race are the *longer-headed* of the two, but it is to the form of the skull and not to its contents, that the description belongs. There is no doubt as to the fact, as shown by the journals of recent expeditions, that in almost immediate contact with each other, there exist civil and hospitable black-fellows and ferocious and warlike tribes; and this, too, in districts where the want or the supply of food does not appear sufficient to explain the difference of courage. Perhaps, we may hazard a conjecture, that the progress of religious civilization of our aboriginals will depend much on the original character of the race which comes in contact with missionary efforts. That all are not outcasts from the influence of the finer feelings of humanity, the writer of these remarks can attest from personal experience; and, perhaps, if ever the theories and hypotheses of anthropologists shall eventuate in certainties, this difference of races may lead to the better choice of subjects on which to try the success of the religious education. But it is sad to reflect how long such inquiries have been deferred, and how soon the subjects of the experiments of Christian philanthropists will disappear from the arena.

As to relationship of the Australian races with any one given distinct country alone, we discard the notion, for whatever may have been the direction of the primitive immigration (by many supposed from north to south, expanding laterally) we conceive that Polynesian, Melanesian, Papousian, Malayan, and even African inroads may have been made on the shores of Australia, and that it is quite possible that all these may have left traces of their action on the "remnants that are left" of pristine inhabitants, not originally indigenous to the soil, but themselves the subjects of migration.

THE LATE MR JOHN RITCHIE.

By the death of Mr John Ritchie, which took place on Wednesday at noon, Edinburgh loses perhaps the oldest, as well as one of the most respected, of its citizens; and this journal the last of its originators, and its commercial head for forty years.

Born on the 3d February, 1778, Mr Ritchie was near the completion of his 93d year. His place of birth was Kirkcaldy—he used to say he was proud to be a native of the same town as Adam Smith. His parents, who were folks of homely fortune, but sterling character—his father was a flax-dresser, in a business of some extent—subsequently removed to Lundin Mill, near Largo; and with this village, or rather hamlet, his early associations were all connected; and those associations he maintained to the benefit of the poor of the place to the end of his life, long after all other links of connection had snapped. While yet a mere boy, he was sent to serve with a small farmer near Largo. Of the primitive condition of agriculture and agriculturists in Fifeshire at that now remote period he recorded his recollections in a paper published in the Scotsman of 9th April 1857, under the title of "Scotch Farming and Farm Living Sixty-Five Years Ago"—a paper which gives proof not only of his remarkable memory, but also of his having effectively exercised his great powers of observation from a very early period. After some years of farm-work he left that line of life, returning to his native place, where he worked at the loom, manufacturing in a small way on his own account. At the beginning of the present century he came to Edinburgh; and in after years would refer to the supreme loneliness which he, a friendless country lad, at first experienced in the crowded city. He was soon, however, joined by his brother William, who began his career in Edinburgh as a writer's clerk; while John, continuing his manufacturing, boldly by-and-by, without apprenticeship, and with scanty experience, and equally scanty capital, plunged into business as a linen draper in the Crosscauseway, which was at that time the chief southern outlet of the town. His good address, diligence, and integrity brought him customers and friends; but he often acutely recalled the great anxieties of those early days of effort and enterprise. In the course of ten or a dozen years, having secured a prosperous business, he removed from the declining Crosscauseway to the then fashionable Nicolson Street, where he continued as long as he remained a shopkeeper.

In 1816, the Scotsman newspaper was projected under the circumstances referred to as follows in our memoir of its late editor, Mr Charles Maclaren:—

"It was in the year 1816 that the idea of starting an independent newspaper in Edinburgh originated. The political terrorism which overspread the country towards and after the close of the war had permeated society; and the ruling powers carried their paralyzing and repressive influences into almost every sphere of public action. The local press was utterly abject; no Edinburgh paper could be found independent or courageous enough to expose almost any sort of abuse, however flagrant, if in doing so there was the slightest risk of giving offence in high quarters. It was an incident of this sort—the refusal of all the public prints in the city to publish a statement of the mismanagement of the Royal Infirmary, prepared by Mr William Ritchie at the request of some friends and clients—that drew the attention of that gentleman and of Mr Maclaren to the great need for some free organ of public opinion in Scotland. It was calculated that, if 300 subscribers could be procured, the project might have a chance; and ultimately, the enterprise—hazardous in much more than a pecuniary sense—was resolved on. Mr Maclaren and Mr W. Ritchie were to be joint-editors; the former devoting himself to the political, and the latter mainly to the literary department."

Mr John Ritchie was, of course, at once taken into counsel, and was one of the principal original proprietors. William died in February 1831; and John, who cherished the deepest reverence and affection for his brother—acting rather on an impulse prompted by those feelings than on anything like commercial calculation—relinquished his own trade, and, with more than misgivings as to the pecuniary results, devoted the capital he had realised, and his

entire energies, to the journal in whose conduct his brother had taken so large a share, and in the due maintenance of which, as an independent and efficient organ of public opinion, especially of Liberal opinion, they had both been ardently interested. In course of time he acquired all the shares held by others—Mr Maclaren alone retaining a proprietary interest in the concern in his capacity of editor, which only ceased, by arrangement, on his retiring from that post in 1847. Mr Ritchie brought with him to the Scotsman that business talent, and concentration of aim and purpose, in which it had been confessedly deficient; and until within the last few years he continued to take an active interest in its management—attending daily at the office, indeed, till over ninety years of age. During the fifty-three years of his proprietorship, he saw many changes in the character and position of the newspaper press; and has assisted in the Scotsman's own gradual transmutation from the small weekly sheet, price tenpence, of 1817, to the large daily, price one penny, of 1870. His faith in the ultimate fortunes of the journal in which, forty years ago, he embarked the savings of half-a-century, was often sharply tried; and it was only within the last few years that its established success as a daily paper remunerated him in any adequate degree for his long-continued expenditure of work, capital, and anxiety. In jesting allusion to the lateness with which decided prosperity had arrived, he would say in late years that, if he only lived to be old enough, he would die a rich man. Imbued with the commercial spirit, he was keenly alive to the value and credit of commercial success in journalism as indicative of a well-conceived and wisely-managed enterprise; but he never allowed any narrow view of his interests in that respect to rule the editorial conduct of the paper. He stuck manfully and steadily to the Liberal colours, and to the great principles which he held them as representing; and gave generous encouragement, alike to Mr Maclaren and the present editor, on occasions—and more than once those occasions were critical enough—when they deemed it right to oppose the popular current, even though the majority of their own friends and supporters might be swimming with it. For he was as free from servile party spirit as from any desire unduly to control, to apparent or immediate pecuniary advantage, men in whose judgment and integrity he confided.

Deterred, perhaps, from prominent appearances by a naturally retiring disposition and misgivings as to his fitness for such prominence, owing to his early educational disadvantages—which, however, he had notably overcome—Mr Ritchie was never, in the common sense of the phrase, a public man; but he took a fair share in civic business, and when he ventured to speak in public, spoke briefly, neatly, and with emphasis and point. For a number of years he was a member of the Town Council, and for several of these a Magistrate, under the provostship of his valued friend Mr Adam Black. He was a Justice of Peace; long a Director, and for two years (1849 and 1850) Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce—having been re-elected on the expiry of his first year of office; and at that time such an honour as re-election was rare. He was associated with Lord Dunfermline, Lord Murray—both of whom became his personal friends—and the other men of their stamp in instituting the United Industrial School; and his name continues on the list of directors of that admirable institution, though for some years past he was unable to give personal countenance and attendance. To this, and every other public charity or public object which he approved, Mr Ritchie was a liberal subscriber. In the conduct and welfare of all such public institutions, he took considerable interest; and in his latest as in his earliest days, he followed the current of civic and national politics and affairs with sustained attention. Up to within a few days of his death, he could clearly and firmly discuss the chances of the great war in France, the general aspect of foreign complications, or the home incidents and measures of the day. Save for a slight

degree of deafness, not unusual in persons many years his juniors, he had full possession of his bodily, as of his mental faculties, even in the midst of gradually increasing physical weakness, almost to the very close. He read much; and till within a fortnight, enjoyed many hours daily over his book or newspaper.

Mr Ritchie was a man of great natural sagacity, and of altogether unusual vigour of mind and character, ripened and mellowed by long and keen observation of men and things. His intellect was alike powerful and alert; he grasped large and complex business affairs with singular firmness and celerity; his judgment was independent and acute; and his decisions, generally just, when once arrived at, were irrevocable. The extent of his general information impressed all who conversed with him; and he held his own, unostentatiously but well, in talk on a vast variety of topics with all sorts of people. And to all he was an attractive companion; at home alike with the humblest and with the most eminent of the many men with whom, in his prolonged career, he came from time to time in contact. From a certain inborn pride—partly, too, from a super-induced feeling that the Scotsman and its services to the Liberal cause were too long left unrecognised by the heads of the party—he rather evaded than courted the fellowship of men in distinguished positions; but an equally inborn and manly courtesy saved him from anything like embarrassment in any society. With his chosen friends, in social hours, his good spirits and genial humour never failed. He enjoyed banter, or badinage, but never indulged it to ill-nature; and his ordinary conversation, always marked by acuteness and originality, abounded in strokes of that unstudied wit which is rather the result of vigorous thought fitted to apt phrase, than of any fixed intent to utter "good things." Hospitality was with him an instinct; he exercised it freely and cordially to the end of his days, expanding the circle of guests as his opportunities and means enabled him. And not less in his extreme but vigorous old age than in his earlier days was he cheerful with the youngest—even gay and sprightly with little children, his great-grandnephews and nieces. Under something occasionally of the external hardness common to self-made and self-reliant men, all readily recognised the essential kindness of his nature, of which many from time to time had substantial and valued proof. Thus, especially, among the goods that should accompany old age, he enjoyed—to a degree that must be rare in such lengthened years as he attained—the society and esteem of troops of friends.

Though from his boyhood to past middle life closely engaged in exacting work, Mr Ritchie's love for literature kept him abreast with all the best current reading of his time; and he had especially a large acquaintance with and lively appreciation of national poetry and song. He was himself a writer of verse, in days when verse-writing was not as yet a universal accomplishment. He enjoyed music, had a fine eye for scenery, loved and encouraged art, and particularly admired the engravings of Strangé, of which he accumulated a well-chosen collection.

Mr Ritchie married early; he lost his wife in the same year as he did his brother—1831. He had no children, and he remained a widower; a niece and her three children formed his family. He enjoyed his long lease of life fully but humbly; looked forward to its close with Christian composure; and though latterly feeling the weariness and burden of many years, held himself resigned alike to stay or to go. His release came gently, after a very brief illness, which was only a decay.

MUNGO PARK'S FAMILY.—Our obituary to-day contains an announcement of the death of the daughter of Mungo Park, the African traveller. Only one member of the family bearing the name is, we believe, now alive in this country—Miss Jane Park, Innellan, daughter of Archibald, eldest brother of Mungo, an intimate friend of Sir Walter Scott, and, as stated in Lockhart's "Life," "remarkable for his great powers of mind as well as of body."

Mr Robert Stewart (Clerk) ...

CAMPERDOWN
CHRONICLE,
JULY 27, 1898.

The Ballarat Star.

DAILY ISSUE.

FRIDAY, 8TH JUNE, 1866.

It has been remarked by philologists that

(1)

MERCURIUS CALEDONIUS.

COMPRISING

The Affairs now in Agitation in
SCOTLAND:

WITH

A Survey of Forraign Intelligence.

Conamur Tenués Grandia.

From Monday Decemb. 31. to Tuesday, Jan. 8th. 1661.

From Edinburgh, Decemb. 31.

Our clouds are diffipate, the rays of Royalty, darts from the breafsts of *Scot's*-men, not being in the power of the moft skillfull Artificers of Treason, to ftave off our Allegiance, which was bravely manifested in the reception of His Majesties High Commissioner the Earl of *Middleton*; (who according to the grander of his State) was welcomed seven miles from the City, by numerous Troops of Nobility, Gentry and Citizens, all in fuch equipage, as become both Court and Camp.

A

The

one of the savage peoples, who have most excited, and with justice, the curiosity of Europe. Such are the questions which belong to its investigation. It only remains, that with our good wishes we follow the two distinguished travellers," (viz., Dr. GOYARD and Mr. Consul SIMON,) "who, before they rushed off almost to the antipodes, have desired to afford us the opportunity of drawing up these Instructions.—*Des faits, des faits, et toujours des faits : voila ce qui nous leur demandons.*"

Other famous names of antiquity. If Carthage exists no longer in the Old World, it is to be reckoned by the half-dozen in the New. If any over-zealous European Protestant should feel inclined to question the right of Rome to the title of the "Eternal" city, let him but travel for a few months in the United States, and he will readily acknowledge that the title is ludicrously indisputable. Paris, Moscow, Berlin, Madrid, and other more or less well-known cities of modern Europe, have each their numerous namesakes in the rising

more tribes almost places abori-ustra-ans—ns of they they untry lly be The ances ader-ve of final, ould ringle vilised apor-nes of some om he some mbles r rock ment These stored or of own o the te de- s that places ost in- beauti- been In erica, our than after- nglo- s de- i the that ire of a the places Wadi- land, revo- less ts, as vette- But if cheap e, we clas- a so and

empire of the West. Whatever may be said of Yankee ingenuity, their warmest admirers cannot say that it has extended to their nomenclature, unless, indeed, the brilliant idea of attaching numbers instead of names to the streets be deemed sufficient to atone for all their other shortcomings. In monarchical London, a man may change the street he resides in, for every year of a good long life, and yet be in a George or a King street all the while. In republican New York, the citizen is probably born in 4th street, gets educated in 5th street, married in 15th street, and dies a rich man in 41st or 51st street, to be carried perchance to some extensive cemetery, where he will for the future repose as number —.

But while having a laugh at our neighbors' oddities in nomenclature, how stands it with ourselves? We are afraid that we in Australia have not much to boast of over our transatlantic friends. We have been placed in a position at least as favorable as they, for the adoption of a fitting and beautiful topographical nomenclature, for, euphonious as are many of the American Indian names, they are equalled if not excelled by those of the Australian aborigines. It is true that in one respect we have avoided the error of the Americans. We question whether there is a Rome, an Athens, a Corinth, or a Carthage within the confines of Australia. On that head we are clear enough of blame. Our survey department has ignored the beauties of Lempriers, but has looked with a loving eye on the names in Debrett's Peerage and Baronetage. There is Castlemaine, for instance, that great "ganglionic centre" of Dr Evans. Why should that be the appellation of one of our chief gold fields? The name is only known in history as the title of a lascivious lady who was a royal favorite in the days of the Stuarts. Is there again anything peculiarly appropriate in the names of Sandhurst or Beechworth, or is there any particular reason why the map of this colony should be disfigured by such puerile absurdities in the way of nomenclature as was perpetrated by the Land Office when Mr Duffy was Minister, and which seems to have been followed up by his successors. Mr Huddle, we believe, was for a long time an official in the Land Office, but is that a sufficient reason why a by no means fascinating name should be given to one of the land areas. Then there are Williamschase, Hoodstead, Merthyr-Humffray, Higginbotham, Dunneworthy, Kirkcairns, Bealanbarry, Hodgkinson, and others. These are the later follies. Of the earlier ones we have already mentioned some, and there are plenty more, due apparently to that flunkeyism which, according to Thackeray, is so strong in the British mind. Castle Donnington, Normanby, Heytesbury, Chetwynd, Winchelsea, Pakenham, &c.—why should these names be honored here? If British names are to be bestowed on our cities and towns, it is surely not too much to ask that they should be the names of historical places, or of personages who have figured worthily in British history, or that there should be some other valid reason for their adoption. As it is, a large part of our nomenclature is notable mainly for its flunkeyism. To have been a titled patron of some of the officials of ten years ago, or some other equally puerile reason, seems to have sufficed to secure such immortality as it was in the province of our Land and Survey department then to bestow.

Continued page 51

THE LATE MR JOHN RITCHIE.

By the death of Mr John Ritchie, which took place on Wednesday at noon, Edinburgh loses perhaps the oldest, as well as one of the most respected, of its citizens; and this journal the last of its originators, and its commercial head for forty years.

Born on the 3d February, 1778, Mr Ritchie was near the completion of his 93d year. His place of birth was Kirkcaldy—he used to say he was proud to be a native of the same town as Adam Smith. His parents, who were folks of homely fortune, but sterling character—his father was a flax-dresser, in a business of some extent—subsequently removed to Lundin Mill, near Largo; and with this village, or rather hamlet, his early associations were all connected; and those associations he maintained to the benefit of the poor of the place to the end of his life, long after all other links of connection had snapped. While yet a mere boy, he was sent to serve with a small farmer near Largo. Of the primitive condition of agriculture and agriculturists in Fifeshire at that now remote period he recorded his recollections in a paper published in the Scotsman of 9th April 1857, under the title of "Scotch Farming and Farm Living Sixty-Five Years Ago"—a paper which gives proof not only of his remarkable memory, but also of his having effectively exercised his great powers of observation from a very early period. After some years of farm-work he left that line of life, returning to his native place, where he worked at the loom, manufacturing in a small way on his own account. At the beginning of the present century he came to Edinburgh; and in after years would refer to the supreme loneliness which he, a friendless country lad, at first experienced in the crowded city. He was soon, however, joined by his brother William, who began his career in Edinburgh as a writer's clerk; while John, continuing his manufacturing, boldly by-and-by, without apprenticeship, and with scanty experience, and equally scanty capital, plunged into business as a linen draper in the Crosscauseway, which was at that time the chief southern outlet of the town. His good address, diligence, and integrity brought him customers and friends; but he often acutely recalled the great anxieties of those early days of effort and enterprise. In the course of ten or a dozen years, having secured a prosperous business, he removed from the declining Crosscauseway to the then fashionable Nicolson Street, where he continued as long as he remained a shopkeeper.

In 1816, the Scotsman newspaper was projected under the circumstances referred to as follows in our memoir of its late editor, Mr Charles Maclaren:—

"It was in the year 1816 that the idea of starting an independent newspaper in Edinburgh originated. The political terrorism which overspread the country towards and after the close of the war had permeated society; and the ruling powers carried their paralyzing and repressive influences into almost every sphere of public action. The local press was utterly abject; no Edinburgh paper could be found independent or courageous enough to expose almost any sort of abuse, however flagrant, if in doing so there was the slightest risk of giving offence in high quarters. It was an incident of this sort—the refusal of all the public prints in the city to publish a statement of the mismanagement of the Royal Infirmary, prepared by Mr William Ritchie at the request of some friends and clients—that drew the attention of that gentleman and of Mr Maclaren to the great need for some free organ of public opinion in Scotland. It was calculated that, if 300 subscribers could be procured, the project might have a chance; and ultimately, the enterprise—hazardous in much more than a pecuniary sense—was resolved on. Mr Maclaren and Mr W. Ritchie were to be joint-editors; the former devoting himself to the political, and the latter mainly to the literary department."

Mr John Ritchie was, of course, at once taken into counsel, and was one of the principal original proprietors. William died in February 1831; and John, who cherished the deepest reverence and affection for his brother—acting rather on an impulse prompted by those feelings than on anything like commercial calculation—relinquished his own trade, and, with more than misgivings as to the pecuniary results, devoted the capital he had realised, and his

entire energies, to the journal in whose conduct his brother had taken so large a share, and in the due maintenance of which, as an independent and efficient organ of public opinion, especially of Liberal opinion, they had both been ardently interested. In course of time he acquired all the shares held by others—Mr Maclaren alone retaining a proprietary interest in the concern in his capacity of editor, which only ceased, by arrangement, on his retiring from that post in 1847. Mr Ritchie brought with him to the Scotsman that business talent, and concentration of aim and purpose, which had distinguished him

for many years he conducted the management till over thirty years ago. His faith in the utility of education, and his assiduous attention to the improvement of the mind, were the basis of his success as a writer. His faith in the utility of education, and his assiduous attention to the improvement of the mind, were the basis of his success as a writer. His faith in the utility of education, and his assiduous attention to the improvement of the mind, were the basis of his success as a writer.

Deterred, perhaps, by a naturally retiring disposition, his fitness for such educational duties was not notably overcommon sense of took a fair share of the venture, and with emphasis and for several years he was a member of the Black. He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and for two years he was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and for two years he was a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

all such public institutions, he took considerable interest; and in his latest as in his earliest days, he followed the current of civic and national politics and affairs with sustained attention. Up to within a few days of his death, he could clearly and firmly discuss the chances of the great war in France, the general aspect of foreign complications, or the home incidents and measures of the day. Save for a slight

degree of deafness, not unusual in persons many years his juniors, he had full possession of his bodily, as of his mental faculties, even in the midst of gradually increasing physical weakness, almost to the very close. He read much; and till within a fortnight, enjoyed many hours daily over his book or newspaper.

Mr Ritchie was a man of great natural sagacity, and of altogether unusual vigour of mind and character, ripened and mellowed by long and keen observation of men and things. His intellect was alike powerful

(2)

The next day, January the first, the Earl Marshall, accompanied with Four hundred Gentlemen of his own relations march't on foot from his own Lodging to His Majesties Pallace, the present residence of the Lord Commissioner; with the Honors of the Kingdom, (viz.) He himself, carrying the Crown, the second Brother, Colonel George Keith, the Scepter: and the younger, Sir John Keith, the Sword: These three Noble Brothers hath been eminent both in their Services and Sufferings for the Royal Interest: And when the two elder were prisoners in England, by the particular care and industry of the younger; the same sacred Honors (so much hunted after by Enemies) were miraculously preserved: for which, His Majesty hath deputedly conferred upon him the Honour of Knight-Marshal of Scotland.

After the Honors were solemnly laid before the Commissioner in the presence, upon the Table, under the Cloth of State, then conform to the Ancient Custom of our Nation, and the formalities of ranging the Nobility by the King at Arms, being performed; they proceeded to the Riding of the Parliament, in manner as followeth:

The Commissioners for the severall Burghs, in comely and rich Apparell, after them the Barrons, sumptuously, but civilly clothed, with their Lacqueis in Livery, every one two: Next, the Lords in their Robes, each with three Lacqueis, with their respective Badges of Honour on back and breast, as all Noblemen at such times and Solemnities use to have; then the Viscounts with their Lacqueis: then the Earls, each having four Lacqueis in rich Attire: Then six Trumpets uncovered: Twelve Heralds with their Coats of Arms: Two Serjeants with Maces: Then Sir Alexander Durham, Lord Lyon, King at Arms in his Coat, which was most glorious: Then the Earl of Mar carrying the Sword of Honor, with a Mace on each hand: Then the Earl of Sutherland

MUNGO PARK'S FAMILY.—Our obituary to-day contains an announcement of the death of the daughter of Mungo Park, the African traveller. Only one member of the family bearing the name is, we believe, now alive in this country.—Miss Jane Park, Innellan, daughter of Archibald, eldest brother of Mungo, an intimate friend of Sir Walter Scott, and, as stated in Lockhart's "Life," "remarkable for his great powers of mind as well as of body."

SALE on Fri... the Sta... viz... cupied... upset... Dawson... the Cr... others... of £5... which... knocks... £202... consis... W. H... price... Lady... was a... dwelli... aouth... failed... accor... Qu... THE... measur... Town... as a pr... The... Propri... Arable... tion of... The... he LE... very d... The... tion... Steam... Cattle... Job... Bound... DA... SON... or be... the offer... Lin... SA... count... distib... in... Mace... £20,000... all... mus... ceas... wes... tow... ing... any... lita... Hel... as t... mo... the... we... oba... wo... thi... yo... po... as... W... led... of... Ba... ing... cot... So... sor... ba... no... ed... a... p... n... a... h... o... o... la... h... o... o... a... I... S... w... T... o... w... il... p... la...

CAMPERDOWN
CHRONICLE,

JULY 27, 1866.

exists,
viz.,
any
ican
Aus-
of
and
one

The Ballarat Star.

DAILY ISSUE.

FRIDAY, 8th JUNE, 1866.

It has been remarked by philologists that

therland
the Royall Crown in like manner.

The Lord Ramsay, Son to the Earl of Dalhousie carried His Majesties Commission in a Crimfon Velvet Bagg, a little advanc't on the Lord Commissioner his left hand, who rode in State, all others being bare, save Duke Hamilton and the Marqueffe of Montrose who immediately followed him with their Hats on.

The streets all along was Guarded by Eighteen Companies of Citizens well armed and in gorgeous Apparrell.

At their arrivall at the Parliament Yard, they were received by the Lord High Constable of Scotland: The Earl of Arroll with a hundred Gentlemen of his Name, Armed with Swords, Pistols, and gilded Pole-axes.

The Lord Commissioner being by him conducted to the door of the House, he was received by the Earl Marshall and his Guard, confisting in like manner of Gentlemen of his Name and Relations, Commanded under himself, by Alexander Keith of Ludwharne.

The Parliament being fet, the Officers of State, and all the other Members in their peculiar stations: Sermon being ended, His Majesties Commission read, the Lord Commissioner shortly, though fully delivered His Majesties carefull Inclinations towards this His Ancient Kingdom, and how graciously he was ready to restore the fundamentall Laws which had been so shrewdly shaken by the iniquity of the Times: but the present occasion will not admit of. all that was spoken by His Grace, which I refer to another conveniency. It was then moved that the Lord Chancellor, according to the right of the Kingdom should preceed: Next that, the oath of Allegiance should be taken by all the Members, both which votes passed without contradiction, the one to the extirpation of all unjust Oaths, the other to lop off the former fort of Precedentship, or Chire-man, never known but in the dayes of darknesse. This was the issue of that dayes proceeding.

Only the Members of Parliament in the same order, conducting the Lord Commissioner to his Majesties Pallace of Holy-

one of the savage peoples, who have most excited, and with justice, the curiosity of Europe. Such are the questions which belong to its investigation. It only remains, that with our good wishes we follow the two distinguished travellers," (viz., Dr. GOYARD and Mr. Consul SIMON,) "who, before they rushed off almost to the antipodes, have desired to afford us the opportunity of drawing up these Instructions.—
Des faits, des faits, et toujours des faits : voila ce qui nous leur demandons."

Other famous names of antiquity. If Carthage exists no longer in the Old World, it is to be reckoned by the half-dozen in the New. If any over-zealous European Protestant should feel inclined to question the right of Rome to the title of the "Eternal" city, let him but travel for a few months in the United States, and he will readily acknowledge that the title is ludicrously indisputable. Paris, Moscow, Berlin, Madrid, and other more or less well-known cities of modern Europe, have each their numerous namesakes in the rising

more
tribes
almost
places
abori-
ustra-
ans—
ns of
they
they
untry
ly be
The
ances
nder-
ve of
ginal,
ould
ingly
ilised
aport-
nes of
some
om he
some
mbles
r rock
ment
These
tored
or of
own
o the
te de-
s that
places
st in-
eauti-
been
In
erica,
our
than
after-

nglo-
de
i the
that
re of
i the
places
Madi-
land,
revo-
less
ts, as
ette-
But if
cheap
we
clas-
a so
and

empire of the West. Whatever may be said of Yankee ingenuity, their warmest admirers cannot say that it has extended to their nomenclature, unless, indeed, the brilliant idea of attaching numbers instead of names to the streets be deemed sufficient to atone for all their other shortcomings. In monarchical London, a man may change the street he resides in, for every year of a good long life, and yet be in a George or a King street all the while. In republican New York, the citizen is probably born in 4th street, gets educated in 5th street, married in 15th street, and dies a rich man in 41st or 51st street, to be carried perchance to some extensive cemetery, where he will for the future repose as number —.

But while having a laugh at our neighbors' oddities in nomenclature, how stands it with ourselves? We are afraid that we in Australia have not much to boast of over our transatlantic friends. We have been placed in a position at least as favorable as they, for the adoption of a fitting and beautiful topographical nomenclature, for, euphonious as are many of the American Indian names, they are equalled if not excelled by those of the Australian aborigines. It is true that in one respect we have avoided the error of the Americans. We question whether there is a Rome, an Athens, a Corinth, or a Carthage within the confines of Australia. On that head we are clear enough of blame. Our survey department has ignored the beauties of Lempriere, but has looked with a loving eye on the names in Debrett's Peerage and Baronetage. There is Castlemaine, for instance, that great "ganglionic centre" of Dr Evans. Why should that be the appellation of one of our chief gold fields? The name is only known in history as the title of a lascivious lady who was a royal favorite in the days of the Stuarts. Is there again anything peculiarly appropriate in the names of Sandhurst or Beechworth, or is there any particular reason why the map of this colony should be disfigured by such puerile absurdities in the way of nomenclature as was perpetrated by the Land Office when Mr Duffy was Minister, and which seems to have been followed up by his successors. Mr Hoddle, we believe, was for a long time an official in the Land Office, but is that a sufficient reason why a by no means fascinating name should be given to one of the land areas. Then there are Williamschase, Hoodstead, Merthyr-Humffray, Higinbotham, Dunneworthy, Kirkcairns, Bealanbarry, Hodgkinson, and others. These are the later follies. Of the earlier ones we have already mentioned some, and there are plenty more, due apparently to that flunkeyism which, according to Thackeray, is so strong in the British mind. Castle Donnington, Normanby, Heytesbury, Chetwynd, Winchelsea, Pakenham, &c.— why should these names be honored here? If British names are to be bestowed on our cities and towns, it is surely not too much to ask that they should be the names of historical places, or of personages who have figured worthily in British history, or that there should be some other valid reason for their adoption. As it is, a large part of our nomenclature is notable mainly for its flunkeyism. To have been a titled patron of some of the officials of ten years ago, or some other equally puerile reason, seems to have sufficed to secure such immortality as it was in the province of our Land and Survey department then to bestow.

THE LATE MR JOHN RITCHIE.

By the death of Mr John Ritchie, which took place on Wednesday at noon, Edinburgh loses perhaps the oldest, as well as one of the most respected, of its citizens; and this journal the last of its originators, and its commercial head for forty years.

Born on the 3d February, 1778, Mr Ritchie was near the completion of his 93d year. His place of birth was Kirkcaldy—he used to say he was proud to be a native of the same town as Adam Smith. His parents, who were folks of homely fortune, but sterling character—his father was a flax-dresser, in a business of some extent—subsequently removed to Lundin Mill, near Largo; and with this village, or rather hamlet, his early associations were all connected; and those associations he maintained to the benefit of the poor of the place to the end of his life, long after all other links of connection had snapped. While yet a mere boy, he was sent to serve with a small farmer near Largo. Of the primitive condition of agriculture and agriculturists in Fifeshire at that now remote period he recorded his recollections in a paper published in the Scotsman of 9th April 1857, under the title of "Scotch Farming and Farm Living Sixty-Five Years Ago"—a paper which gives proof not only of his remarkable memory, but also of his having effectively exercised his great powers of observation from a very early period. After some years of farm-work he left that line of life, returning to his native place, where he worked at the loom, manufacturing in a small way on his own account. At the beginning of the present century he came to Edinburgh; and in after years would refer to the supreme loneliness which he, a friendless country lad, at first experienced in the crowded city. He was soon, however, joined by his brother William, who began his career in Edinburgh as a writer's clerk; while John, continuing his manufacturing, boldly by-and-by, without apprenticeship, and with scanty experience, and equally scanty capital, plunged into business as a linen draper in the Crosscauseway, which was at that time the chief southern outlet of the town. His good address, diligence, and integrity brought him customers and friends; but he often acutely recalled the great anxieties of those early days of effort and enterprise. In the course of ten or a dozen years, having secured a prosperous business, he removed from the declining Crosscauseway to the then fashionable Nicolson Street, where he continued as long as he remained a shopkeeper.

In 1816, the Scotsman newspaper was projected under the circumstances referred to as follows in our memoir of its late editor, Mr Charles Maclaren:—

"It was in the year 1816 that the idea of starting an independent newspaper in Edinburgh originated. The political terrorism which overspread the country towards and after the close of the war had permeated society; and the ruling powers carried their paralysing and repressive influences into almost every sphere of public action. The local press was utterly abject; no Edinburgh paper could be found independent or courageous enough to expose almost any sort of abuse, however flagrant, if in doing so there was the slightest risk of giving offence in high quarters. It was an incident of this sort—the refusal of all the public prints in the city to publish a statement of the mismanagement of the Royal Infirmary, prepared by Mr William Ritchie at the request of some friends and clients—that drew the attention of that gentleman and of Mr Maclaren to the great need for some free organ of public opinion in Scotland. It was calculated that, if 300 subscribers could be procured, the project might have a chance; and ultimately, the enterprise—hazardous in much more than a pecuniary sense—was resolved on. Mr Maclaren and Mr W. Ritchie were to be joint-editors; the former devoting himself to the political, and the latter mainly to the literary department."

Mr John Ritchie was, of course, at once taken into counsel, and was one of the principal original proprietors. William died in February 1831; and John, who cherished the deepest reverence and affection for his brother—acting rather on an impulse prompted by those feelings than on anything like commercial calculation—relinquished his own trade, and, with more than misgivings as to the pecuniary results, devoted the capital he had realised, and his

entire energies, to the journal in whose conduct his brother had taken so large a share, and in the due maintenance of which, as an independent and efficient organ of public opinion, especially of Liberal opinion, they had both been ardently interested. In course of time he acquired all the shares held by others—Mr Maclaren alone retaining a proprietary interest in the concern in his capacity of editor, which only ceased, by arrangement, on his retiring from that post in 1847. Mr Ritchie brought with him to the

degree of deafness, not unusual in persons many years his juniors, he had full possession of his bodily, as of his mental faculties, even in the midst of gradually increasing physical weakness, almost to the very close. He read much; and till within a fortnight, enjoyed many hours daily over his book or newspaper.

Mr Ritchie was a man of great natural sagacity, and of altogether unusual vigour of mind and character, ripened and mellowed by long and keen observation

Scot
aim
fess
year
man
till
thre
in th
and
mat
of h
His
whi
half
only
succ
ade
of
to
had
tha
fie
me
val
nal
mar
nar
the
full
gre
and
lar
tha
wh
gur
frie
For
any
dia
and
I
a n
his
edt
not
con
too
vet
an
yet
an
the
Bl
an
Ch
th
tit
H
M
—
th
li
in
ur
an
pt

(4)

Holy-woodhouse, where his Grace, in the Prefence Chamber Supped in State, and the Nobility at two long Tables on each side of the room.

The Earl of Atholl officiate as Cup-bearer, the Earl of Aboyne (Son to the late martyr'd Marquesse of Huntley) presented the Water, the Earl of Dundee holding the Towell, Master Murray, Brother to the Earl of Atholl, as Carver: The Dishes being served up by Gentlemen, and which was most remarkable, considering the past dissentions during the late Troubles; there was such an unexpressible harmony in that Solemnity; as their cheerfulness discovered them fo many loving Children, who had found a lost Father.

Friday following, being the fourth, the Parliament fate again, where having first fetled some small debates touching Commissions: They resolved an honourable reparation for that horrid and monstrous barbarity fixed on Royall Authority, in the person of the Great James Marquesse of Montrose, His Majesties Captain General, and Lord High Commissioner (viz.) that his Body, together, with that of the Baron of Dalgetyes, murdered on the same Account, and buried in the same place; Head, and other his divided and scattered members, may be gathered together and interr'd with all Honour imaginable.

Saturday, Jan. the fifth.

The English Garison in the Castle of Edinburgh were removed, and Captain Robert Straiton appointed Deputy Governour by the Lord Commissioner, possessed the place with 150 Scots Souldiers, all of them approved persons, both for courage and fidelity.

Sunday, Jan. the sixth.

The Lord Commissioners Grace, with the Members of Parliament, performed the dayes worship in the House: Mr. James Sharp carried on the work, but with so great piety and learning, as was sufficient to recover the most perverse Heretick or dissatisfied Brother, either in Law or Gospel to their Civil and Christian obedience; but least I prejudge the Author, I forbear to speak more till the world be made happy in the communication of both his Sermons.

From

liberal subscriber. In the conduct and welfare of all such public institutions, he took considerable interest; and in his latest as in his earliest days, he followed the current of civic and national politics and affairs with sustained attention. Up to within a few days of his death, he could clearly and firmly discuss the chances of the great war in France, the general aspect of foreign complications, or the home incidents and measures of the day. "Save for a slight

MUNGO PARK'S FAMILY.—Our obituary to-day contains an announcement of the death of the daughter of Mungo Park, the African traveller. Only one member of the family bearing the name is, we believe, now alive in this country.—Miss Jane Park, Innellan, daughter of Archibald, eldest brother of Mungo, an intimate friend of Sir Walter Scott, and, as stated in Lockhart's "Life," "remarkable for his great powers of mind as well as of body."

8
10
11

CAMPERDOWN
CHRONICLE,
JULY 27, 1866.

exists,
viz.,
many
ican
Aus-
of
and
one

The Ballarat Star.

DAILY ISSUE.

FRIDAY, 8TH JUNE, 1866.

It has been remarked by philologists that the primitive languages of the more

tribes almost places aborigines—ans of they they untry lly be The ances ader- ve of ginal, ould ngly vilised nport- nes of some on he some mbles r rock rment These atored or of own o the ie de- s that places ost in- eauti- a been . In erica, our than after-

(5)

From London the 31. Decemb.

The bottom and extent of the late Plot is discovered daily by taking new Prisoners, viz., *Unton Crook*, Col. *Farley*, Major *Audley*, Capt. *Edward Jones*, Capt. *John Smith*, Quartermaster *Trevour*. They are all secured in the Gatehouse: A Declaration found among them against Kingly Government, and in several suspected houses were found a great number of Muskets, Pistols, and in Capt. *Blackwells*, diverse Blunderbushes, with sufficient quantity of Powder and Ball, and many Ensign-staves new shod, and all to ruine their own Country, after so signal mercies from heaven in its restitution.

There is nothing twixt his Majesty and his Parliament, but the height of mutual love, his Majesty satisfying their legall desires, and they in gratitude making provision for the entertainment of such Guards as is most becoming the preservation of his Sacred Person in this time, both of publike and private dangers; But in all this sweet concord, I must acquaint you with sad news. I will not change the ingenuous expressions of the Parliaments own Intelligencer, viz. It hath pleased Almighty God to take into the Kingdom of Heaven, that most Excellent Princessse Royal *Mary*, Princessse of *Orange*, sifter to our Sovereign Lord the King, a Princessse of such high and admirable vertues (whether we consider her as Daughter, a Sifter, a Mother, or a Princessse) that she hath left many a sorrowful heart, as well for the losse of so Excellent a Personage, as for that influence it may have on the sad thoughts of the most vertuous Prince of the whole world. Our most precious and Dread Sovereign himself, for whose health and happy long Raign, let all that are not enemies to themselves and Great Britain, send up their prayers to the God of Heaven.

Because as yet we have not established our Forraign correspondence, take a little view of the most materal things in the English Intelligencer.

Paris Decemb. 24.

The Cardinal is upon the way of recovery, the Treaty twixt the Arch-Duke of *Inspruch* is concluded, the agreement with the Duke of *Lorrayn* goeth backward through some new

empire of the West. Whatever may be said of Yankee ingenuity, their warmest admirers cannot say that it has extended to their nomenclature, unless, indeed, the brilliant idea of attaching numbers instead of names to the streets be deemed sufficient to atone for all their other shortcomings. In monarchical London, a man may change the street he resides in, for every year of a good long life, and yet be in a George or a King street all the while. In republican New York, the citizen is probably born in 4th street, gets educated in 5th street, married in 15th street, and dies a rich man in 41st or 51st street, to be carried perchance to some extensive cemetery, where he will for the future repose as number —.

But while having a laugh at our neighbors' oddities in nomenclature, how stands it with ourselves? We are afraid that we in Australia have not much to boast of over our transatlantic friends. We have been placed in a position at least as favorable as they, for the adoption of a fitting and beautiful topographical nomenclature, for, euphonious as are many of the American Indian names, they are equalled if not excelled by those of the Australian aborigines. It is true that in one respect we have avoided the error of the Americans. We question whether there is a Rome, an Athens, a Corinth, or a Carthage within the confines of Australia. On that head we are clear enough of blame. Our survey department has ignored the beauties of Lempriere, but has looked with a loving eye on the names in Debrett's Peerage and Baronetage. There is Castlemaine, for instance, that great "ganglionic centre" of Dr Evans. Why should that be the appellation of one of our chief gold fields? The name is only known in history as the title of a lascivious lady who was a royal favorite in the days of the Stuarts. Is there again anything peculiarly appropriate in the names of Sandhurst or Beechworth, or is there any particular reason why the map of this colony should be disfigured by such puerile absurdities in the way of nomenclature as was perpetrated by the Land Office when Mr Duffy was Minister, and which seems to have been followed up by his successors. Mr Hodde, we believe, was for a long time an official in the Land Office, but is that a sufficient reason why a by no means fascinating name should be given to one of the land areas. Then there are Williamschase, Hoodstead, Merthyr-Humffray, Higinbotham, Dunneworthy, Kirkcairns, Bealanbarry, Hodgkinson, and others. These are the later follies. Of the earlier ones we have already mentioned some, and there are plenty more, due apparently to that flunkeyism which, according to Thackeray, is so strong in the British mind. Castle Donnington, Normanby, Heytesbury, Chetwynd, Winchelsea, Pakenham, &c.—why should these names be honored here? If British names are to be bestowed on our cities and towns, it is surely not too much to ask that they should be the names of historical places, or of personages who have figured worthily in British history, or that there should be some other valid reason for their adoption. As it is, a large part of our nomenclature is notable mainly for its flunkeyism. To have been a titled patron of some of the officials of ten years ago, or some other equally puerile reason, seems to have sufficed to secure such immortality as it was in the province of our Land and Survey department then to bestow.

Such is the summary of our knowledge of one of the savage peoples, who have most excited, and with justice, the curiosity of Europe. Such are the questions which belong to its investigation. It only remains, that with our good wishes we follow the two distinguished travellers, (viz., Dr. GOYARD and Mr. Consul SIMON,) "who, before they rushed off almost to the antipodes, have desired to afford us the opportunity of drawing up these Instructions.—*Des faits, des faits, et toujours des faits; voilà ce qui nous leur demandons.*"

Other famous names of antiquity. If Carthage exists no longer in the Old World, it is to be reckoned by the half-dozen in the New. If any over-zealous European Protestant should feel inclined to question the right of Rome to the title of the "Eternal" city, let him but travel for a few months in the United States, and he will readily acknowledge that the title is ludicrously indisputable. Paris, Moscow, Berlin, Madrid, and other more or less well-known cities of modern Europe, have each their numerous namesakes in the rising

THE LATE MR JOHN RITCHIE.

By the death of Mr John Ritchie, which took place on Wednesday at noon, Edinburgh loses perhaps the oldest, as well as one of the most respected, of its citizens; and this journal the last of its originators, and its commercial head for forty years.

Born on the 3d February, 1778, Mr Ritchie was near the completion of his 93d year. His place of birth was Kirkcaldy—he used to say he was proud to be a native of the same town as Adam Smith. His parents, who were folks of homely fortune, but sterling character — his father was a flax-dresser, in a business of some extent — subsequently removed to Lundin Mill, near Largo; and with this village, or rather hamlet, his early associations were all connected; and those associations he maintained to the benefit of the poor of the place to the end of his life, long after all other links of connection had snapped. While yet a mere boy, he was sent to serve with a small farmer near Largo. Of the primitive condition of agriculture and agriculturists in Fifeshire at that now remote period he recorded his recollections in a paper published in the Scotsman of 9th April 1857, under the title of "Scotch Farming and Farm Living Sixty-Five Years Ago"—a paper which gives proof not only of his remarkable memory, but also of his having effectively exercised his great powers of observation from a very early period. After some years of farm-work he left that line of life, returning to his native place, where he worked at the loom, manufacturing in a small way on his own account. At the beginning of the present century he came to Edinburgh; and in after years would refer to the supreme loneliness which he, a friendless country lad, at first experienced in the crowded city. He was soon, however, joined by his brother William, who began his career in Edinburgh as a writer's clerk; while John, continuing his manufacturing, boldly by-and-by, without apprenticeship, and with scanty experience, and equally scanty capital, plunged into business as a linen draper in the Crosscauseway, which was at that time the chief southern outlet of the town. His good address, diligence, and integrity brought him customers and friends; but he often acutely recalled the great anxieties of those early days of effort and enterprise. In the course of ten or a dozen years, having secured a prosperous business, he removed from the declining Crosscauseway to the then fashionable Nicolson Street, where he continued as long as he remained a shopkeeper.

In 1816, the Scotsman newspaper was projected under the circumstances referred to as follows in our memoir of its late editor, Mr Charles Maclaren:—

"It was in the year 1816 that the idea of starting an independent newspaper in Edinburgh originated. The political terrorism which overspread the country towards and after the close of the war had permeated society; and the ruling powers carried their paralysing and repressive influences into almost every sphere of public action. The local press was utterly abject; no Edinburgh paper could be found independent or courageous enough to expose almost any sort of abuse, however flagrant, if in doing so there was the slightest risk of giving offence in high quarters. It was an incident of this sort—the refusal of all the public prints in the city to publish a statement of the mismanagement of the Royal Infirmary, prepared by Mr William Ritchie at the request of some friends and clients—that drew the attention of that gentleman and of Mr Maclaren to the great need for some free organ of public opinion in Scotland. It was calculated that, if 300 subscribers could be procured, the project might have a chance; and ultimately, the enterprise—hazardous in much more than a pecuniary sense—was resolved on. Mr Maclaren and Mr W. Ritchie were to be joint-editors; the former devoting himself to the political, and the latter mainly to the literary department."

Mr John Ritchie was, of course, at once taken into counsel, and was one of the principal original proprietors. William died in February 1831; and John, who cherished the deepest reverence and affection for his brother—acting rather on an impulse prompted by those feelings than on anything like commercial calculation—relinquished his own trade, and, with more than misgivings as to the pecuniary results, devoted the capital he had realised, and his

entire energies, to the journal in whose conduct his brother had taken so large a share, and in the due maintenance of which, as an independent and efficient organ of public opinion, especially of Liberal opinion, they had both been ardently interested. In course of time he acquired all the shares held by others—Mr Maclaren alone retaining a proprietary interest in the concern in his capacity of editor, which only ceased, by arrangement, on his retiring from that post in 1847. Mr Ritchie brought with him to the

degree of deafness, not unusual in persons many years his juniors, he had full possession of his bodily, as of his mental faculties, even in the midst of gradually increasing physical weakness, almost to the very close. He read much; and till within a fortnight, enjoyed many hours daily over his book or newspaper.

Mr Ritchie was a man of great natural sagacity, and of altogether unusual vigour of mind and character, ripened and mellowed by long and keen observation

(6)

new Proposals made to him: The English Merchants complain much at this Court for losses sustained by the Subjects of France.

Naples Novemb. 20.

By reason of the late storms, there hath been extraordinary losse of Ships, and the Rains were so great, that they run down the Mountains like Rivers, a multitude of Vineyards utterly spoiled, especially about Sarno, the damages valued to 300000 Crowns.

Rome Decemb. 3.

The two Kings of France and Spain are like to concern themselves to have the Pope restore Castro to the Duke of Parma, that of Comacho to Modena, and Montefelto to the Duke of Florence; But it is thought the Camera Apostolica will hazard a War, rather then part with such considerable morfels.

Hamburgh Decemb. 14.

The Pollanders victorious against the Muscoviters, and Queen Christina of Sweden disparing to recover her Sovereignty, is ready to part from that Kingdom, the Sweds resolved to prosecute the War against Muscovia.

Edinburgh Monday 7. 1661.

This day, in obedience to the Order of Parliament, this City was alarmed with Drums, and nine Trumpets, to go in their best Equipage and Arms for transporting the Dis-membered Bodies of his Excellency the Lord Marquesse of Montrose, and that renowned Gentleman Sir William Hay of Dalgety, murdered both for their prowes and transcending Loyalty to King and Country, whose Bodies to their Glory and their enemies shame, had been ignominiously thruft in the earth, under the publike Gibbet half a mile from Town. That of the Lord Marquesse was indeed intended for ignominy to his high Name, but that of the other ambitiously covet by himself as the greatest honour he could have, when being incapable to serve his Majesty longer, to engrave nigh his great Patron, which doubtlesse proceeded from a faith typical of a more glorious one. The Ceremony was thus performed: The Lord Marquesse of Montrose, with his friends of the name

liberal subscriber. In the conduct and welfare of all such public institutions, he took considerable interest; and in his latest as in his earliest days, he followed the current of civic and national politics and affairs with sustained attention. Up to within a few days of his death, he could clearly and firmly discuss the chances of the great war in France, the general aspect of foreign complications, or the home incidents and measures of the day. "Save for a slight

MUNGO PARK'S FAMILY.—Our obituary to-day contains an announcement of the death of the daughter of Mungo Park, the African traveller. Only one member of the family bearing the name is, we believe, now alive in this country.—Miss Jane Park, Innellan, daughter of Archibald, eldest brother of Mungo, an intimate friend of Sir Walter Scott, and, as stated in Lockhart's "Life," "remarkable for his great powers of mind as well as of body."

CAMPERDOWN

CHRONICLE,

JULY 27, 1866.

exists, viz., many American names of and one

The Ballarat Star.

DAILY ISSUE.

FRIDAY, 8TH JUNE, 1866.

It has been remarked by philologists that the primitive languages are to speak

more tribes almost places aborigines—ans of they they untry lly be The ances ader- ve of ginal, ould ingly vilised nport- nes of some om he some mbles r rock rment These atored or of own o the re de- s that places ost in- eauti- been . In erica, our than after- nglo- 3 de- r the that ire of a the places Madi- land, revo- less ts, as vette- But if cheap e, we clas- a so and

(7)
name of *Graham*, the whole Nobility and Gentry, with Provest, Baillies and Council, together with four Companies of the Trained Bands of the City, went to the place, where having chanced directly (however possibly persons might have been present able to demonstrate) On the same Trunk, as evidently appeared by the Coffin, which had been formerly broke a purpose by some of his friends in that place nigh his Chest, whence they stole his heart, embalmed it in the costliest manner, and so reserves it: as also by the Trunk it self found without the skull, and limbs distracted in the four chief Towns of the Nation; but these through the industry and respect of friends carried to the Martyre, are soon to welcome the rest. That other of *Sir William Hay of Delgaty*, was as surely plucked forth, lying next to that of his Excellency. The Noble Lord Marquesse and his friends took care that these ruins were decently wrapt in the finest linnen; so did likewise the friends of the other, and so incoffined suitable to their respectful dignities.

The Trunck of his Excellency thus Coffined, was covered with a large and rich black Velvet Cloath, taken up and from thence carried by the Noble Earls of *Marre, Athol, Linlithgow, Seaford, Hartfield* and others of these Honourable Families: The Lord Marquesse himself, his brother Lord *Robert*, and *Sir John Calquhoun* Nephew to the deceased Lord Marquesse, supporting the head of the Coffin, and all under a very large Pale (or Canopy) supported by the Noble Viscount of *Stormond*, the Lords *Stranaver, Fleeming, Drumlanerick, Ramsay, Matherty* and *Rollock*. Being accompanied with a Body of Horse of Nobility and Gentry, to the number of 200, rallied in decent Order by the Viscount of *Kenmure*, they came to the place where the Head stood, under which they set the Coffin of the Trunk on a Scaffold made for that purpose, till the Lord *Naper* the Barons of *Morphy Inchbrakie, Urchell* and *Gorthy*, and severall other Noble Gentlemen placed on a Scaffold next to the Head (and that on the top of the Towns Tolbooth six Story high) with sound of Trumpet, discharge of many Canon from the Castle, and the honest peoples loud and joyful acclamation, all was joyned and crowned with the Crown of a Marquesse,

Such is the summary of our knowledge on one of the savage peoples, who have most excited, and with justice, the curiosity of Europe. Such are the questions which belong to its investigation. It only remains, that with our good wishes we follow the two distinguished travellers," (viz., Dr. GOYARD and Mr. Consul SIMON,) "who, before they rushed off almost to the antipodes, have desired to afford us the opportunity of drawing up these Instructions.—*Des faits, des faits, et toujours des faits: voilà ce qui nous leur demandons.*"

other famous names of antiquity. If Carthage exists no longer in the Old World, it is to be reckoned by the half-dozen in the New. If any over-zealous European Protestant should feel inclined to question the right of Rome to the title of the "Eternal" city, let him but travel for a few months in the United States, and he will readily acknowledge that the title is ludicrously indisputable. Paris, Moscow, Berlin, Madrid, and other more or less well-known cities of modern Europe, have each their numerous namesakes in the rising

empire of the West. Whatever may be said of Yankee ingenuity, their warmest admirers cannot say that it has extended to their nomenclature, unless, indeed, the brilliant idea of attaching numbers instead of names to the streets be deemed sufficient to atone for all their other shortcomings. In monarchical London, a man may change the street he resides in, for every year of a good long life, and yet be in a George or a King street all the while. In republican New York, the citizen is probably born in 4th street, gets educated in 5th street, married in 15th street, and dies a rich man in 41st or 51st street, to be carried perchance to some extensive cemetery, where he will for the future repose as number —.

But while having a laugh at our neighbors' oddities in nomenclature, how stands it with ourselves? We are afraid that we in Australia have not much to boast of over our transatlantic friends. We have been placed in a position at least as favorable as they, for the adoption of a fitting and beautiful topographical nomenclature, for, euphonious as are many of the American Indian names, they are equalled if not excelled by those of the Australian aborigines. It is true that in one respect we have avoided the error of the Americans. We question whether there is a Rome, an Athens, a Corinth, or a Carthage within the confines of Australia. On that head we are clear enough of blame. Our survey department has ignored the beauties of Lempriere, but has looked with a loving eye on the names in Debrett's Peerage and Baronetage. There is Castlemaine, for instance, that great "ganglionic centre" of Dr Evans. Why should that be the appellation of one of our chief gold fields? The name is only known in history as the title of a lascivious lady who was a royal favorite in the days of the Stuarts. Is there again anything peculiarly appropriate in the names of Sandhurst or Beechworth, or is there any particular reason why the map of this colony should be disfigured by such puerile absurdities in the way of nomenclature as was perpetrated by the Land Office when Mr Duffy was Minister, and which seems to have been followed up by his successors. Mr Huddle, we believe, was for a long time an official in the Land Office, but is that a sufficient reason why a by no means fascinating name should be given to one of the land areas. Then there are Williamschase, Hoodstead, Merthyr-Humffray, Higinbotham, Dunneworthy, Kirkeairns, Bealanbarry, Hodgkinson, and others. These are the later follies. Of the earlier ones we have already mentioned some, and there are plenty more, due apparently to that flunkeyism which, according to Thackeray, is so strong in the British mind. Castle Donnington, Normanby, Heytesbury, Chetwynd, Winchelsea, Pakenham, &c.—why should these names be honored here? If British names are to be bestowed on our cities and towns, it is surely not too much to ask that they should be the names of historical places, or of personages who have figured worthily in British history, or that there should be some other valid reason for their adoption. As it is, a large part of our nomenclature is notable mainly for its flunkeyism. To have been a titled patron of some of the officials of ten years ago, or some other equally puerile reason, seems to have sufficed to secure such immortality as it was in the province of our Land and Survey department then to bestow.

44

THE LATE MR JOHN RITCHIE.

By the death of Mr John Ritchie, which took place on Wednesday at noon, Edinburgh loses perhaps the oldest, as well as one of the most respected, of its citizens; and this journal the last of its originators, and its commercial head for forty years.

Born on the 3d February, 1778, Mr Ritchie was near the completion of his 93d year. His place of birth was Kirkcaldy—he used to say he was proud to be a native of the same town as Adam Smith. His parents, who were folks of homely fortune, but sterling character—his father was a flax-dresser, in a business of some extent—subsequently removed to Lundin Mill, near Largo; and with this village, or rather hamlet, his early associations were all connected; and those associations he maintained to the benefit of the poor of the place to the end of his life, long after all other links of connection had snapped. While yet a mere boy, he was sent to serve with a small farmer near Largo. Of the primitive condition of agriculture and agriculturists in Fifeshire at that now remote period he recorded his recollections in a paper published in the *Scotsman* of 9th April 1857, under the title of "Scotch Farming and Farm Living Sixty-five Years Ago"—a paper which gives proof not only of his remarkable memory, but also of his having effectively exercised his great powers of observation from a very early period. After some years of farm-work he left that line of life, returning to his native place, where he worked at the loom, manufacturing in a small way on his own account. At the beginning of the present century he came to Edinburgh; and in after years would refer to the supreme loneliness which he, a friendless country lad, at first experienced in the crowded city. He was soon, however, joined by his brother William, who began his career in Edinburgh as a writer's clerk; while John, continuing his manufacturing, boldly by-and-by, without apprenticeship, and with scanty experience, and equally scanty capital, plunged into business as a linen draper in the Crosscauseway, which was at that time the chief southern outlet of the town. His good address, diligence, and integrity brought him customers and friends; but he often acutely recalled the great anxieties of those early days of effort and enterprise. In the course of ten or a dozen years, having secured a prosperous business, he removed from the declining Crosscauseway to the then fashionable Nicolson Street, where he continued as long as he remained a shopkeeper.

In 1816, the *Scotsman* newspaper was projected under the circumstances referred to as follows in our memoir of its late editor, Mr Charles Maclaren:—

"It was in the year 1816 that the idea of starting an independent newspaper in Edinburgh originated. The political terrorism which overspread the country towards and after the close of the war had permeated society; and the ruling powers carried their paralysing and repressive influences into almost every sphere of public action. The local press was utterly abject; no Edinburgh paper could be found independent or courageous enough to expose almost any sort of abuse, however flagrant, if in doing so there was the slightest risk of giving offence in high quarters. It was an incident of this sort—the refusal of all the public prints in the city to publish a statement of the mismanagement of the Royal Infirmary, prepared by Mr William Ritchie at the request of some friends and clients—that drew the attention of that gentleman and of Mr Maclaren to the great need for some free organ of public opinion in Scotland. It was calculated that, if 300 subscribers could be procured, the project might have a chance; and ultimately, the enterprise—hazardous in much more than a pecuniary sense—was resolved on. Mr Maclaren and Mr W. Ritchie were to be joint-editors; the former devoting himself to the political, and the latter mainly to the literary department."

Mr John Ritchie was, of course, at once taken into counsel, and was one of the principal original proprietors. William died in February 1831; and John, who cherished the deepest reverence and affection for his brother—acting rather on an impulse prompted by those feelings than on anything like commercial calculation—relinquished his own trade, and, with more than misgivings as to the pecuniary results, devoted the capital he had realised, and his

entire energies, to the journal in whose conduct his brother had taken so large a share, and in the due maintenance of which, as an independent and efficient organ of public opinion, especially of Liberal opinion, they had both been ardently interested. In course of time he acquired all the shares held by others—Mr Maclaren alone retaining a proprietary interest in the concern in his capacity of editor, which only ceased, by arrangement, on his retiring from that post in 1847. Mr Ritchie brought with him to the

degree of deafness, not unusual in persons many years his juniors, he had full possession of his bodily, as of his mental faculties, even in the midst of gradually increasing physical weakness, almost to the very close. He read much; and till within a fortnight, enjoyed many hours daily over his book or newspaper.

Mr Ritchie was a man of great natural sagacity, and of altogether unusual vigour of mind and character, ripened and mellowed by long and keen observation

(8)

Marquesse, conveyed with all Honour befitting such an action to the Abbey Church of *Holy-roodhouse*, a place of Buriall frequent to our Kings, there to continue in State, untill the Noble Lord his Son be ready for the more magnificent Solemnization of his Funerals.

All our Solemnities, both that of the High Commissioners reception, that of Riding the Parliament, and this great Honour done to the memory of the Grand Exemplar of Loyalty his Excellency the Marquesse of *Montrose* was accompanied with infinite Acclamations of the People: Great Volleys of shot by the City Companies, and thundering of Canon from the Castle: It's many years since those sparks of Loyalty has been smothered by the ashes of Tyranny: It's true, though a considerable part of our Nation were the first that transgressed upon their duty, yet they never reached the length of a boundless disobedience, for they no sooner discovered the depth of the Treason wherein their rebellious Confederates in *England* would have ensnared them, but they presently faced about to their Allegiance, and it is well known to the world, that since the year 1648, there was never a people enterprised such honourable and probable wayes to redeem former Escapes than we did; and though it was the pleasure of Providence to disappoint our designs, yet we never grudged neither at our Imprisonments, the loss of the dearest of our blood, nor devastation of our Fortunes; And which is our grand comfort, we have attained so much knowledge as never again to be juggled out of our reason, under the notion of specious pretences: for the drowsiest Clown of our most Northern Islands can with content smile at the cheats of Liberty, and the Good old Cause. And therefore the Blasphemers, *Rumpers*, and other Antimonarchicall Vermin in *England* must cast about some where else then for companions in *Scotland*.

Edinburgh, Printed by a Society of Stationers
in the Year 1661

all such public institutions, he took considerable interest; and in his latest as in his earliest days, he followed the current of civic and national politics and affairs with sustained attention. Up to within a few days of his death, he could clearly and firmly discuss the chances of the great war in France, the general aspect of foreign complications, or the home incidents and measures of the day. "Save for a slight

MUNGO PARR'S FAMILY.—Our obituary to-day contains an announcement of the death of the daughter of Mungo Park, the African traveller. Only one member of the family bearing the name is, we believe, now alive in this country—Miss Jane Park, Inellan, daughter of Archibald, eldest brother of Mungo, an intimate friend of Sir Walter Scott, and, as stated in Lockhart's "Life," "remarkable for his great powers of mind as well as of body."

CAMPERDOWN

CHRONICLE

JULY 27, 1898.

(To the Editor). 1898

SIR, - I observed in the Argus of the 15th inst. the following paragraph about newspapers:—"May 23rd was the 27th birthday of the British Press, the first authentic English newspaper, so far as is now known, having been issued on 23rd May, 1862, and was printed in London by J.D., for Nicholas Bourne and Thos. Archer." I have now in my possession a copy of a newspaper which I will be pleased to show you. It has the following inscription on its title page:—

MERCURIUS CALEDONIUS,

Comprising

The Affairs now in Agitation in SCOTLAND,

With

A Survey of Foreign Intelligence.

Conamur Tenues Grandia.

From Monday, 31st Dec., 1660, to Tuesday, Jan. 8th, 1661.

Printed by a Society of Stationers, Edinburgh, in the year 1661.

As it is my intention to have the copy of Mercurius Caledonius, later called the Caledonian Mercury, framed and glazed and placed in the Museum, the public will have an opportunity of satisfying themselves that the Scotch were ahead of their big neighbours in the publication of newspapers, "as far as is now known."

—Yours, &c.,

JAMES DAWSON.

Camperdown.

of African temples, and that the Hindoo soldiers of ABERCROMBIE'S army against NAPOLEON in Egypt recognised thereon also their own familiar emblems. The Boshman's ancestors may then—like all other aborigines—and according to the most ancient history of the world must have had some connection with the primitive Australians; and PAUL of Tarsus, who was a philosopher as well as apostle, says wisely enough to the free-thinkers of the Areopagus, "God hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of earth."

It was not within the limits of Dr. TOPINARD'S range of inquiry to deal with this sentiment; but the inquiry itself will, if completed, centre therein.

The essay itself is deserving of great praise for its candour, single-mindedness, and perfect freedom from all prejudice; and of it the author sums up his opinion in these words:—"Such is the summary of our knowledge on one of the savage peoples, who have most excited, and with justice, the curiosity of Europe. Such are the questions which belong to its investigation. It only remains, that with our good wishes we follow the two distinguished travellers," (viz., Dr. GOYARD and Mr. Consul SIMON,) "who, before they rushed off almost to the antipodes, have desired to afford us the opportunity of drawing up these Instructions.—Des faits, des faits, et toujours des faits: voila ce qui nous leur demandons."

The Ballarat Star.

DAILY ISSUE.

FRIDAY, 8th JUNE, 1866.

It has been remarked by philologists that the primitive languages, or to speak more correctly, the languages of peoples or tribes in a primitive condition of society, are almost universally rich in words descriptive of places and natural scenery. To savages or aborigines living in the manner of the Australian blacks or of the American Indians—depending almost entirely for the means of existence from day to day on the game they killed, the roots they gathered, or the fish they caught, the natural appearance of the country through which they roamed would naturally be to them a matter of the first importance. The languages developed under such circumstances would, as a matter of course, become wondrously rich in epithets or words descriptive of natural scenery. To the simple aboriginal, almost every hill, valley, and stream would have its peculiarity, which though seemingly insignificant to the visitor from a civilised country, would to him be of the first importance. From this beach he procures stones of a peculiar kind which he fashions into some rude weapon; from that swampy bottom he obtains in the season abundance of some edible root. The outline of this hill resembles some simple natural object; the clay or rock in that cliff or ravine yields some pigment which is used in the aboriginal toilet. These circumstances are to the rude untutored native, matters of the first necessity or of most striking interest, and he in his own simple way marks this, by applying to the locality the epithet which in his tongue describes the peculiarity. Thus it comes that in almost every country, the names of places invariably the most descriptive and most interesting, and generally also the most beautiful and euphonious, are those that have been given by the aboriginal inhabitants. In Britain, the Celtic, and in North America, the Indian names of places are—in our opinion at least—much more beautiful than those that have been bestowed by the after-coming Saxon, Dane, or Norman.

In these days, indeed, Saxon or Anglo-Saxon topographical nomenclature has degenerated woefully from the days when the race first peopled Britain—inferior as that was, as we have said to the nomenclature of the preceding or aboriginal races. In the United States, the traveller will find places 'yclept Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Madison, &c., scattered broadcast over the land, and even the minor chiefs of the great revolutionary struggle have been hardly less honored by their admiring descendants, as witness the Clintons, the Marions, the Fayettevilles, &c., of the American maps. But if some excuse may be pleaded for this cheap though disfiguring patriotism, but little, we presume, will be urged in favor of that classical ardor which has given to America so many Corinths, Caïros, and Alexandrias, and other famous names of antiquity. If Carthage exists no longer in the Old World, it is to be reckoned by the half-dozen in the New. If any over-zealous European Protestant should feel inclined to question the right of Rome to the title of the "Eternal" city, let him but travel for a few months in the United States, and he will readily acknowledge that the title is ludicrously indisputable. Paris, Moscow, Berlin, Madrid, and other more or less well-known cities of modern Europe, have each their numerous namesakes in the rising

empire of the West. Whatever may be said of Yankee ingenuity, their warmest admirers cannot say that it has extended to their nomenclature, unless, indeed, the brilliant idea of attaching numbers instead of names to the streets be deemed sufficient to atone for all their other shortcomings. In monarchical London, a man may change the street he resides in, for every year of a good long life, and yet be in a George or a King street all the while. In republican New York, the citizen is probably born in 4th street, gets educated in 5th street, married in 15th street, and dies a rich man in 41st or 51st street, to be carried perchance to some extensive cemetery, where he will for the future repose as number —.

But while having a laugh at our neighbors' oddities in nomenclature, how stands it with ourselves? We are afraid that we in Australia have not much to boast of over our transatlantic friends. We have been placed in a position at least as favorable as they, for the adoption of a fitting and beautiful topographical nomenclature, for, euphonious as are many of the American Indian names, they are equalled if not excelled by those of the Australian aborigines. It is true that in one respect we have avoided the error of the Americans. We question whether there is a Rome, an Athens, a Corinth, or a Carthage within the confines of Australia. On that head we are clear enough of blame. Our survey department has ignored the beauties of Lempriere, but has looked with a loving eye on the names in Debret's Peerage and Baronetage. There is Castlemaine, for instance, that great "ganglionic centre" of Dr Evans. Why should that be the appellation of one of our chief gold fields? The name is only known in history as the title of a lascivious lady who was a royal favorite in the days of the Stuarts. Is there again anything peculiarly appropriate in the names of Sandhurst or Beechworth, or is there any particular reason why the map of this colony should be disfigured by such puerile absurdities in the way of nomenclature as was perpetrated by the Land Office when Mr Duffy was Minister, and which seems to have been followed up by his successors. Mr Hoddle, we believe, was for a long time an official in the Land Office, but is that a sufficient reason why a by no means fascinating name should be given to one of the land areas. Then there are Williamschase, Hoodstead, Merthyr-Humffray, Higinbotham, Dunneworthy, Kirkcairns, Bealanbarry, Hodgkinson, and others. These are the later follies. Of the earlier ones we have already mentioned some, and there are plenty more, due apparently to that flunkeyism which, according to Thackeray, is so strong in the British mind. Castle Donnington, Normanby, Heytesbury, Chetwynd, Winchelsea, Pakenham, &c.—why should these names be honored here? If British names are to be bestowed on our cities and towns, it is surely not too much to ask that they should be the names of historical places, or of personages who have figured worthily in British history, or that there should be some other valid reason for their adoption. As it is, a large part of our nomenclature is notable mainly for its flunkeyism. To have been a titled patron of some of the officials of ten years ago, or some other equally puerile reason, seems to have sufficed to secure such immortality as it was in the province of our Land and Survey department then to bestow.

Continued page 51

Certain it is, that one curious fact exists, which has not been sufficiently noticed, viz., the exact conformity of the names of many localities in New South Wales with African names; whilst on the coast of Western Australia, nearest to Africa, the termination of words representing mountains and rivers and plains differs only between the "op" of one country, and the "up" of the other.

Moreover, there is a physical resemblance between the aborigines of India, and some of our Australian tribes, which so struck a friend of ours who had in the course of his military experience seen much of the former, that on his meeting some of our *negritos* he immediately expressed his surprise at the likeness. In addition to such conditions, if we call to mind the difference in the hair, not woolly but curled or crisp, and the difference of complexion not so much black as brown and of copper-colour, and other personal characteristics, and then compare them with those of the natives of New Guinea, in which there are two or more races; or of the natives of New Caledonia, the New Hebrides, and New Zealand, we shall have plenty of work on which to exercise our judgment, knowledge and reason, out of which exercise may arise much good, but in which there is great danger of many fatal errors hostile to the determination of the truth.

"The primordial negroid element of the Australian Continent which I have been compelled," says Dr. TOPINARD, "in the course of this work to separate from the other element under which it is disguised, should therefore be the aboriginal (*autochthone*)."

He then asks this question—"Between the Papousians of New Guinea, the *negritos* of the Andamans, the *Möis* of Indo-China and Malacca, the Moundas of the Deccan, the Malagashes of Madagascar, and these Melanesian negroes, what was the primitive relation?"

To lead to the solution of this, is indirectly the duty which Dr. BLEEK wishes to lay upon the Governor and Legislature of New South Wales; or, at any rate, has invited them to further by the influence of their authority.

Dr. BLEEK looks to Africa, as a connection; and if any argument can be gained from its consideration, he might have suggested, that the boomerang is depicted on the walls of African temples, and that the Hindoo soldiers of ABERCROMBIE'S army against NAPOLEON in Egypt recognised thereon also their own familiar emblems. The Boshman's ancestors may then—like all other aborigines—and according to the most ancient history of the world *must have had* some connection with the primitive Australians; and PAUL of Tarsus, who was a philosopher as well as apostle, says wisely enough to the free-thinkers of the Areopagus, "God hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of earth."

It was not within the limits of Dr. TOPINARD'S range of inquiry to deal with this sentiment; but the inquiry itself will, if completed, centre therein.

The essay itself is deserving of great praise for its candour, single-mindedness, and perfect freedom from all prejudice; and of it the author sums up his opinion in these words:—"Such is the summary of our knowledge on one of the savage peoples, who have most excited, and with justice, the curiosity of Europe. Such are the questions which belong to its investigation. It only remains, that with our good wishes we follow the two distinguished travellers," (viz., Dr. GOYARD and Mr. Consul SIMON), "who, before they rushed off almost to the antipodes, have desired to afford us the opportunity of drawing up these Instructions.—*Des faits, des faits, et toujours des faits: voilà ce qui nous leur demandons.*"

The Ballarat Star.

DAILY ISSUE.

FRIDAY, 8th JUNE, 1866.

It has been remarked by philologists that the primitive languages, or to speak more correctly, the languages of peoples or tribes in a primitive condition of society, are almost universally rich in words descriptive of places and natural scenery. To savages or aboriginals living in the manner of the Australian blacks or of the American Indians—depending almost entirely for the means of existence from day to day on the game they killed, the roots they gathered, or the fish they caught, the natural appearance of the country through which they roamed would naturally be to them a matter of the first importance. The languages developed under such circumstances would, as a matter of course, become wonderfully rich in epithets or words descriptive of natural scenery. To the simple aboriginal, almost every hill, valley, and stream would have its peculiarity, which though seemingly insignificant to the visitor from a civilised country, would to him be of the first importance. From this beach he procures stones of a peculiar kind which he fashions into some rude weapon; from that swampy bottom he obtains in the season abundance of some edible root. The outline of this hill resembles some simple natural object; the clay or rock in that cliff or ravine yields some pigment which is used in the aboriginal toilet. These circumstances are to the rude untutored native, matters of the first necessity or of most striking interest, and he in his own simple way marks this, by applying to the locality the epithet which in his tongue describes the peculiarity. Thus it comes that in almost every country, the names of places invariably the most descriptive and most interesting, and generally also the most beautiful and euphonious, are those that have been given by the aboriginal inhabitants. In Britain, the Celtic, and in North America, the Indian names of places are—in our opinion at least—much more beautiful than those that have been bestowed by the after-coming Saxon, Dane, or Norman.

In these days, indeed, Saxon or Anglo-Saxon topographical nomenclature has degenerated woefully from the days when the race first peopled Britain—inferior as that was, as we have said to the nomenclature of the preceding or aboriginal races. In the United States, the traveller will find places 'yclept Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Madison, &c., scattered broadcast over the land, and even the minor chiefs of the great revolutionary struggle have been hardly less honored by their admiring descendants, as witness the Clintons, the Marions, the Fayettevilles, &c., of the American maps. But if some excuse may be pleaded for this cheap though disfiguring patriotism, but little, we presume, will be urged in favor of that classical ardor which has given to America so many Corinths, Caïros, and Alexandrias, and other famous names of antiquity. If Carthage exists no longer in the Old World, it is to be reckoned by the half-dozen in the New. If any over-zealous European Protestant should feel inclined to question the right of Rome to the title of the "Eternal" city, let him but travel for a few months in the United States, and he will readily acknowledge that the title is ludicrously indisputable. Paris, Moscow, Berlin, Madrid, and other more or less well-known cities of modern Europe, have each their numerous namesakes in the rising

empire of the West. Whatever may be said of Yankee ingenuity, their warmest admirers cannot say that it has extended to their nomenclature, unless, indeed, the brilliant idea of attaching numbers instead of names to the streets be deemed sufficient to atone for all their other shortcomings. In monarchical London, a man may change the street he resides in, for every year of a good long life, and yet be in a George or a King street all the while. In republican New York, the citizen is probably born in 4th street, gets educated in 5th street, married in 15th street, and dies a rich man in 41st or 51st street, to be carried perchance to some extensive cemetery, where he will for the future repose as number —.

But while having a laugh at our neighbors' oddities in nomenclature, how stands it with ourselves? We are afraid that we in Australia have not much to boast of over our transatlantic friends. We have been placed in a position at least as favorable as they, for the adoption of a fitting and beautiful topographical nomenclature, for, euphonious as are many of the American Indian names, they are equalled if not excelled by those of the Australian aborigines. It is true that in one respect we have avoided the error of the Americans. We question whether there is a Rome, an Athens, a Corinth, or a Carthage within the confines of Australia. On that head we are clear enough of blame. Our survey department has ignored the beauties of Lempriere, but has looked with a loving eye on the names in Debrett's Peerage and Baronetage. There is Castlemaine, for instance, that great "ganglionic centre" of Dr Evans. Why should that be the appellation of one of our chief gold fields? The name is only known in history as the title of a lascivious lady who was a royal favorite in the days of the Stuarts. Is there again anything peculiarly appropriate in the names of Sandhurst or Beechworth, or is there any particular reason why the map of this colony should be disfigured by such puerile absurdities in the way of nomenclature as was perpetrated by the Land Office when Mr Duffy was Minister, and which seems to have been followed up by his successors. Mr Huddle, we believe, was for a long time an official in the Land Office, but is that a sufficient reason why a by no means fascinating name should be given to one of the land areas. Then there are Williamschase, Hoodstead, Merthyr-Humffray, Higinbotham, Dunneworthy, Kirkeairns, Bealanbarry, Hodgkinson, and others. These are the later follies. Of the earlier ones we have already mentioned some, and there are plenty more, due apparently to that flunkeyism which, according to Thackeray, is so strong in the British mind. Castle Donnington, Normanby, Haytesbury, Chetwynd, Winchelsea, Pakenham, &c.—why should these names be honored here? If British names are to be bestowed on our cities and towns, it is surely not too much to ask that they should be the names of historical places, or of personages who have figured worthily in British history, or that there should be some other valid reason for their adoption. As it is, a large part of our nomenclature is notable mainly for its flunkeyism. To have been a titled patron of some of the officials of ten years ago, or some other equally puerile reason, seems to have sufficed to secure such immortality as it was in the province of our Land and Survey department then to bestow.



KING BILLY,

THE LAST MALE ABORIGINE OF TASMANIA.

THE MERCURY, FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 5, 1869.

DEATHS

LANNY.—On the 3rd March, at the Dog and Partridge Inn, Goulburn-street, William Lanny, the last of the male aborigines of Tasmania, aged 34 years. The funeral will leave Mr. Millington's, Undertaker, Murray-street, on Saturday morning, at 9 o'clock, when friends are respectfully invited to attend. dm

THE LAST MAN.—The last of the aboriginal natives of Tasmania, William Lanny, better known as "King Billy," died yesterday afternoon at the Dog and Partridge Hotel, Barrack-street. Lanny has for some years past followed the pursuit of whaling, and he arrived about a fortnight ago in the barque Runnymede after a cruise of some months' duration, and took up his abode at the Dog and Partridge. On Friday week past he complained of illness, and proceeded to Dr. Smart's dispensary where he obtained some medicine. On Friday last, however, he was seized with choleraic diarrhæ and took to his bed, when Dr. Atherton was sent for and attended the unfortunate man until yesterday morning, when seeing that his circumstances were not favorable to recovery, he ordered his removal to the Hospital. Lanny got up about 2 o'clock, and was dressing for the purpose of being conveyed there, when he expired. He has since his return led a very intemperate life, showing a great partiality for rum, and his constitution, thus enfeebled, was unable to conquer the disease.

We chronicled yesterday an event such as we believe it has never before been the lot of a British journalist to record, namely, the death of the last man of his race—the total extinction, we may say, of a once numerous division of the human family. Exceptional, as the announcement appears to be, it derives an additional and melancholy interest from the circumstance that it is not likely to stand *unique* for any very lengthened period in the history of British colonisation. It is strange, that wherever the white man has set his foot, in whatever quarter of the globe civilisation has been implanted, there the savage races have begun rapidly to degenerate, and to die out under the shadow of the "pale-faces." The historian of the next half-century will probably have to record more than one event such as that to which we now allude. The remnant of the Aboriginal tribes of the Australasian settlements number but a few, a mere handful; they have almost ceased to procreate, and in a very brief period the place where they once reigned supreme in

I James Dawson, Author of "Australian Aborigines" visited and conversed with William Lanny the day previous to his death. Lanny, who was a robust fellow, and appeared to be in good spirits, remarked that like most sailors of a long voyage he had been drinking, but would soon be all right. Next morning he was dead, and his body quickly removed by order of the City Coroner Dr. Crowther from the Dog & Partridge public house and to the dissecting room. Suspicion arose that Lanny was poisoned for the sake of his skeleton.

numbers and in strength, shall "know them no more for ever." The death of Tasmania's "last man" affords an abundant field for the speculations of moralists, philanthropists, and savants, which, doubtless, will be fully availed of both in England and the Colonies, and it is perhaps, as well, that we should condense a few facts respecting the history of the aboriginal inhabitants of the Colony, which, in connection with this event, acquire a peculiar interest. In 1816 the Aborigines of Tasmania were estimated to number about 7000 souls, but there existed no perfect means of ascertaining this, and by many settlers they were believed not to exceed 5000, while Mr. LLOYD, in his work on Tasmania, sets them down at 1600 in 1803. On the first settlement of the Colony the natives were disposed to be very friendly towards the whites, and it was not until they had been subjected to numerous cruelties at the hands of depraved men, that they fled the settlements and assumed a hostile attitude towards the new comers; and although Governor COLLINS in 1810 issued an order to the effect that "persons detected in firing wantonly on the natives, or murdering them in cold blood, should suffer the extreme penalty of the law," the means actually taken to prevent such outrages were very inadequate. In an article in the special edition of this journal, published for the Intercolonial Exhibition of 1866-67, we alluded more particularly to this subject, and gave as instances the case of a monster who "was merely flogged for exposing the ears of a native boy he had mutilated," and that of another fiend in human shape, who escaped with a similarly light punishment for "having cut off the little finger of a native and used it as a tobacco stopper." Up to the year 1824, the same description of outrages against the natives were of frequent occurrence; their children were stolen with impunity, and their women treated most shamefully by ruffians living in the out-settlements. "One of these boasted of having captured a native woman, whose husband he had killed, and of having strung the bleeding head to her neck, and driven her before him as his prize." Actions like these aroused a keen sense of wrong in the native mind, and led to indiscriminate measures of revenge against the white population. Fields and flocks were ravaged during the hours of night, and it was unsafe for white men to travel through the Country without arms, as they were liable at any time to become the mark for some treacherous spear or waddy. Colonel DAVEY had to take sharp measures for the prevention of the wholesale slaughter of the blacks by the settlers in return for the depredations committed by them, and a curious proclamation issued by him, which was found under the floor of the old Government House, was by no means the least interesting feature of the Tasmanian Court at the late Exhibition. This proclamation consisted of a series of pictures roughly executed in colors upon a slab of pine wood.

One picture showed the GOVERNOR and his marines as the protectors of blacks and whites; another represented the shooting of a black man by a white, and the white being hung for the offence; another a white man speared by a black, and the black hung for the offence; and a fourth exhibited the happy fraternity of both races, as illustrated by blacks and whites working together; a black woman nursing a white baby, and a white woman nursing the sooty offspring of the native. No doubt this proclamation was calculated to produce a very practical impression upon the minds of the blacks, but it had not the effect of preventing the commission of outrages by either blacks or whites, and in 1830 the natives were still so troublesome—although greatly reduced in numbers—that Colonel ARTHUR, then GOVERNOR, conceived the idea of forming a grand *cordon* across the Island, and, in one bold and vigorous campaign driving the blacks *en mass* across Eagle Hawk Neck on to Tasman's Peninsula, there securing them, and confining them in some suitable locality for the rest of their days. The number of the natives at this time was estimated at from 1500 to 2000, and on the 1st October, 1830, a force of military and settlers mustered from every quarter of the Island, was assembled, with the GOVERNOR at its head, the *cordon* was formed, and the memorable "black war" commenced. The force was out about three weeks, the cost to the Colony was £70,000, and on closing in around the Neck, expecting to hear that the whole native population had passed over to the Peninsula, the GOVERNOR found to his chagrin that not a blackfellow had been seen there, and that the result of the campaign had been the capture of two miserable natives, one of them an old woman. After the failure of the grand *cordon*, a philanthropic gentleman, Mr. G. A. ROBINSON, offered to go out single-handed, and to effect by persuasion what could not be accomplished by force. His services were accepted, and in 1831 he started on his mission, accompanied only by five natives of Bruny Island, who had been partially civilised. In a very short space of time he induced one tribe of natives to surrender themselves, and in four or five years he had succeeded in capturing every native in the country, and they were placed upon Flinders' Island under his Protectorship. The number brought in by Mr. ROBINSON was about 300, and they were well cared for by the authorities, but succumbed rapidly to the inevitable degree of fate. Mr. ROBINSON's story is a most interesting one, and those who may be anxious to peruse it, we refer to LLOYD's Tasmania. When the establishment was moved from Flinders' Island, the remaining natives were located at Oyster Cove. On the 31st December 1861, when the last census was taken, there were eight aborigines residing there, namely, 2 male and 6 female: there is now but one old woman the last of her race; she is named Lalla Rhook and is maintained at a cost to the Colony of £300 a year; the Superintendent, Mr. DAN-

BRIDGE, being still in charge of the institution.

The "last man," whose death has led us to enter upon the present notice, was named Billy LANNE, or as he was sometimes erroneously called, William LANNEX. He was born at the Coal River about the year 1829, and was partly educated in the QUEEN'S Asylum. When resident at the Oyster Cove Station, he was, with other blacks, frequently taken out by the whalers, and thus acquired a partiality for a sea-faring life. He and his compeers were invaluable in early days to the whaling masters, as their great power of vision made them excellent mast-headsmen, and they were athletic, and active on boat service. On the death of his sable brethren "KING BILLY" as he was frequently called, did not remain long at the station, but shipped regularly as a whaler out of this port. He went several voyages in the Aladdin, and was very popular among the seamen, as a good natured, jolly fellow, and an amusing companion. He was not particularly proud of his ancestry, and when his portrait was taken by Mr. WOOLLEY in 1866, for the Intercolonial Exhibition, he objected to the photograph as being "too black for him." He was, however, a pure bred Tasmanian aboriginal and as black as a sloe. Some time ago BILLY proceeded to England, and it was intended that he should be presented to HER MAJESTY, but we are not aware whether this intention was ever carried out. He was, however, on the Regatta Ground in January, 1868, when His Royal Highness the DUKE of EDINBURGH patronized that festival, and, attired in a blue suit with a gold lace band round his cap, he was presented to the PRINCE, who received him with kindly consideration. BILLY shipped for the last time on board the barque Runnymede, on the 4th March, 1868, and having made the voyage in her returned about a fortnight ago. He had made flesh very fast while at sea, and on landing was fat and unhealthy. He had an unfortunate propensity for beer and rum, and was seldom sober when on shore. He was paid off on Saturday last, when he received a balance of wages and lay amounting to £12 13s. 5d. He took up his residence at the Dog and Partridge, public-house, at the corner of Goulbourn and Barrack-streets, and died from a severe attack of English Cholera, as described by us yesterday. His body was removed to the General Hospital on Wednesday night, where it awaits burial, and to-morrow the grave will close over the last male aboriginal of Tasmania.

FUNERAL OF THE LAST MALE ABORIGINAL.

MUTILATION OF THE BODY.

On Saturday afternoon the remains of "Billy Lanné" or as he was generally called "King Billy," the last male Aboriginal of Tasmania, were committed to the grave in presence of a very large concourse of the citizens. On the announcement of the "death of the last man," it was generally supposed that the funeral would be made a public affair, and that some part in the arrangements would be taken by the Government; the first announcement made, however, was simply to the effect that the funeral would move from the establishment of Mr. Millington, Undertaker, of Murray-street, at 9 a.m. on Saturday, and inviting friends of the deceased to attend. As previously stated by us, the body had been removed from the Dog and Partridge Hotel, where the man died, to the dead-house at the Hospital, and on an order being sought for its removal to the undertakers, it was declined, on the ground that as the body was of the greatest scientific value, the authorities were determined to do all in their power to protect it. An application to the Colonial Secretary met with the same reply, and the hon. Sir Richard Dry sent positive instructions to Dr. Stokell that the body of "King Billy" should be protected from mutilation, on this subject, however, we have more to communicate presently. On its being ascertained that the authorities were taking no steps respecting the obsequies, the matter was taken in hand by Mr. J. W. Graves, and invitations were issued to a number of old colonists and natives, requesting their attendance, the funeral being postponed until 2 o'clock. At that hour between fifty and sixty gentlemen presented themselves at the institution, and found all in readiness for the burial. Rumours had, meanwhile, got afloat to the effect that the body had been tampered with, and Capt. McArthur, Mr. Colvin, and some others interested in the deceased, from his connection with the whaling trade, requested that the coffin should be opened in order to satisfy their minds that the ceremony of burial was not altogether a "vain show." This was done by Mr. Graves, and the body was seen by those who desired to see it, in the condition which will be hereafter described. The lid was then again screwed down, and at the suggestion of some of those present the coffin was sealed. In connection with this part of the proceedings a singular accident occurred. On a seal being asked for, it was found that there was not such a thing in the institution, but on a search being made in the dispensary an old brass stamp was found, and on its being impressed upon the wax, it left the simple word "world." What such an odd seal could have been cut for is unknown, but its turning up under such circumstances, and its accidental use to seal down the coffin of the last man of his race, is a circumstance so singular as to be worth recording. Having been duly sealed, the coffin was covered with a black opossum skin rug, fit emblem of the now extinct race to which the deceased belonged; and on this singular pall were laid a couple of native spears and waddies, round which were twined the ample folds of a Union Jack, specially provided by the shipmates of the deceased. It was then mounted upon the shoulders of four white native lads, part of the crew of the Runnymede, who volunteered to carry their aboriginal countryman to his grave. Their names were, John Silvester, John Timms, James Davis, and George Attwell. The pall was borne by Captain Hill, of the Runnymede, himself a native of Tasmania, and by three colored seamen, John Bull, a native of the Sandwich Islands, Henry Whalley, a half-caste native of Kangaroo Island, S. A., and Alexander Davidson, an American. The chief mourners were Captain McArthur, of the whaling barque Aladdin, and Captain Bayley, owner of the whaling barque Runnymede. Among the mourners were nearly all the masters of vessels in port, and many gentlemen connected with the whaling trade. There was also a large muster of old colonists and native born Tasmanians. As the procession moved along Liverpool and Murray-streets to St. David's Church it gathered strength, and was followed by a large concourse of spectators. The Rev. F. H. Cox read the service, and preceded the body to the grave, clothed in his surplus. On leaving the church the procession num-

bered from a hundred to a hundred and twenty mourners, and the event re-called to the minds of the old colonists present many an interesting episode of the early days of the colony, and of that race, the last male representative of which was about to be consigned to his tomb. At the cemetery the Rev. Mr. Cox read the second portion of the impressive burial service of the English Church, and the grave closed over "King Billy" the breast-plate on whose coffin bore the simple inscription "William Lanné, died March 3rd, 1869. Aged, 34 years."

MUTILATION OF THE BODY.

Notwithstanding the precautions above referred to, the body of poor "King Billy" has not been respected, nor does the grave around which so many persons gathered on Saturday, contain a vestige of Tasmania's "last man." It is a somewhat singular circumstance that although it has been known for years that the race was becoming extinct, no steps have ever been taken in the interests of science to secure a perfect skeleton of a male Tasmanian aboriginal. A female skeleton is now in the Museum, but there is no male, consequently the death of "Billy Lanné" put our surgeons on the alert. The Royal Society, anxious to obtain the skeleton for the Museum, wrote specially to the Government upon the subject, setting forth at length the reasons why, if possible, the skeleton should be secured to them. The Government at once admitted their right to it, in preference to any other institution, and the Council expressed their willingness at any time to furnish casts, photographs, and all other particulars to any scientific society requiring them. Government, however, declined to sanction any interference with the body, giving positive orders that it should be decently buried; nor did they feel at liberty to give their sanction to any future action which might be taken; although it is needless to say that so valuable a skeleton would not have been permitted to remain in the grave, and possibly no opposition would have been made to its removal, had it been taken by those best entitled to hold it in the interests of the public and of science, and without any violation of decency. Besides the Royal Society, it seems that there were others who desired to secure "Billy Lanné's" skeleton, and who were determined to have it in spite of the positive orders of the Colonial Secretary. The dead-house at the Hospital was entered on Friday night, the head was skinned and the skull carried away, and with a view to conceal this proceeding, the head of a patient who had died in the hospital on the same day, or the day previously, was similarly tampered with and the skull placed inside the scalp of the unfortunate native, the face being drawn over so as to have the appearance of completeness. On this mutilation being discovered the members of the Council of the Royal Society were greatly annoyed, and feeling assured that the object of the party who had taken the skull was afterwards to take the body from the grave, and so possess himself of the perfect skeleton, it was resolved to take off the feet and hands and to lodge them in the museum, an operation which was carefully done. The funeral then took place as above described. On the mutilation of the bodies in the dead-house becoming known, a letter was addressed by the Colonial Secretary to Dr. Stokell, requiring a report upon the case, and we have it upon the very highest authority that Dr. Stokell reported the circumstances much as they are described above, informing the Colonial Secretary that the only persons who had been present in the dead-house during Friday night were a surgeon, who is one of the honorary medical officers, his son, who is a student, and the barber of the institution, and neither of those persons were seen to remove anything from the hospital. It is believed, however, that the skull was thrown over the wall at the back of the dead-house with a string attached to it, and that it was secured by a confederate stationed in the creek on the other side. These reports occasioned a very painful impression among those present at the funeral, and a deputation consisting of Messrs. Colvin, McArthur, and Bayley, waited upon Sir Richard Dry in the evening, and requested that steps should be taken to have the grave watched during the night. Sir Richard at once acquiesced in the proposal, and instructions were given to the police, but in some way they miscarried, possibly owing to the fact that they were not

communicated through His Worship the Mayor, and the consequence was that the grave was found disturbed yesterday morning, when Constable Mahony reported that the earth had been removed, that a skull had been found lying on the surface, that a part of the coffin was visible, and that the ground surrounding the grave was saturated with blood. During the morning this report spread through the city, and several hundreds of persons visited the cemetery in the afternoon. On the facts being communicated to Sir Richard Dry, he, in company with the hon. Attorney-General, visited the grave, where they were met by Mr. J. W. Graves. The skull found on the surface was buried in their presence, and a general examination of the ground was made. Whether any other step will be taken respecting the violation of the grave we are unable to say. The visit of ministers to the grave was, we understand, consequent upon a report that the coffin had been removed, and had this been the case a search warrant would have been issued at their instance, as executors of "Billy Lanné," with instructions in the event of any portions of the body being found in the course of its execution, that they should be taken possession of. Sir Richard and Mr. Dobson satisfied themselves, however, of the presence of the coffin, and therefore no step was taken, as it is doubtful whether any legal property in the body exists. Many rumors are afloat as to what has become of the body, and the men employed in the cemetery state that blood was traced from the grave to the gate opposite the stores of the Anglo-Australian Guano Company in Salamanca Place, but that there the traces were lost. There can be little doubt that the body has been secured by the individual who made off with the head, and possibly the fact that it is minus feet and hands may yet lead to the restoration of that important portion, as the skeleton will be comparatively valueless unless perfect. We have been informed by the Hon. Sir Richard Dry that Dr. Crowther waited upon him on Saturday morning prior to the mutilation being reported, and made a request that the body should be granted to him, in order that he might secure the skeleton for the Royal College of Surgeons, England. Sir Richard Dry informed the Doctor of the prior claim of the Royal Society, and expressed his opinion that if the skeleton was to be preserved at all, it should be in the Hobart Town Museum, where all scientific enquiries respecting the aboriginal race would most probably be made. Dr. Crowther concurred in this view, and received an assurance from Sir Richard that, should any future opportunity present itself of securing a skeleton for the Royal College of Surgeons from among the graves of the aborigines without violating the feelings of individuals or of the community, that should he Sir Richard continue in office, no impediment would be placed in Dr. Crowther's way. The report and other documents connected with the proceedings at the dead-house of the hospital have been referred to the Chairman of the Board of Management of that institution, and it is understood that an inquiry will be at once instituted.

yor,
und
able
re-
the
and
was
this
un-
the
l to
the
ere
cull
res-
nd
be
ave
ers
ent
een
a
ned
illy
of
the
ken
son
of
as
the
to
en
ood
site
un-
the
abt
in-
nd
nds
ant
ely
in-
Dr.
ng
ade
to
on
nd.
he
ed
be
he
fic
ld
ed
Sir
ity
he
ves
gs
ld
nt
he
he
al
he
it
ce

TUCANEVE

The first of the ...



The second of the ...

Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.

Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.



TUCANENE

The last female Aborigine of Tasmania

RIVER MURRAY

From the DAILY ARGUS of Tuesday 14th inst.

The Select Committee appointed by the Assembly of New South Wales to report upon the Western rivers, was instructed to inquire not only into the advantages of opening up the Murray and its tributaries, but also into the best means of clearing their channels. In its report upon this second point, the Committee gives a full description of what has been already done, and it is probable that a brief summary of the details will prove interesting to most of our readers.

The navigation of the Murray was first opened in 1853, and Captain FRANCIS CADELL was the principal pioneer in this great service. The total number of miles navigable, according to his estimate, is as follows:—

The Murray, within South Australia	500 miles
The Murray, between New South Wales and Victoria	1,300 "
The Wakool, in New South Wales	50 "
The Murrumbidgee	800 "

Making in all ... 2,650 miles

To these may be added as likewise navigable, but not yet opened up:—

	Miles.
The Edward and Wakool, about	350
The Darling...	800
Lakes, and the Upper Murray	200
And (though not mentioned by the N. S. Wales Committee)—	
The Gonburn in Victoria	300
	1,650

Making a total mileage of navigable waters in the three colonies, all comprehended in the Murray basin, amounting to 4,300 miles. The Committee states that the courses of the rivers are extremely tortuous, and that direct lines would not be more than half the distance, but still they afford cheap access to vast tracts of every kind of country, rich agricultural lands on the higher districts, splendid sheep and cattle country on the lower region; and almost everywhere there are indications of auriferous deposits. In one sense, the tortuousness of their courses is a positive advantage, as water communication is thus afforded to a greater extent of country.

— Rod Fishing —

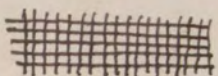
I. T. Stoddart

All rod fishers know Mr Stoddart's standard work, "The Angler's Companion." The general reader, however, finds more attractiveness in his "Angler's Rambles," where fishing and poetry and fascinating scraps of the history and literature of the districts visited are so pleasantly blended. His diary, hitherto unknown to the world, may some day in the future be given to the public.

Summations show that in fifty-three years, from 1827 to 1880, when he died, the old gentleman fished 4150 days, and caught—Salmon, 928; sea trout, 1540; trout, 64,573; pike, 378; in all, 67,419. This is an average of over sixteen a-day—very fair fishing.

INSECTS in SKINS

Bisulphide of Carbon for destroying insects in bird skins &c

First. An airtight case will be necessary. Place in the bottom of it some pieces of lath or battens, lengthwise and crosswise thus  (leaving spaces between) so as to prevent the feathers from touching the fluid, and also to allow the evaporation to penetrate the skins.

About two ounces of the Bisulphide will be sufficient to kill not only the insects but their eggs. Screw the lid of the box tightly down and leave the skins in it for about 24 hours.

See below &
opposite page

W. J. Poilfoyle
Botanic Gardens

— Copy — National Museum
29th July 1879

Professor de Cuy Director of the National Museum in reply to Mr Dawson's note of 25th inst asking for information as to the best means of destroying insects in skin begs to say that Benzene & Camphor will keep moths and other destroying insects from entering cases and attacking skins, but that stoving is the only absolute way of destroying the insect & larva when established in a specimen. But this is so likely to injure a specimen that it is better to put the Camphor in cases and watch every day and take them by hand

1
2

INSECTS in SKINS

When Moths or other insects are observed in cases of stuffed animals Mr Wm Guilfoyle (Botanic Gardens Melbourne) recommends Naphthaline as a certain remedy as it is instant death to every thing.

Put a little bit wrapped in paper under the wing of the infected bird, and sprinkle some over the specimen. Also put a small quantity into a glass vessel (such as the bottom of a common bottle) and place it in the case

From t
The
the Ass
report r
instructe
the adv
ray and
best me
In its re
Commit
what hi
probable
details v
our read

The r
opened
CADELL
this gr
of miles
mate, is
The Mu
tralia
The Mus
Wales
The Wal
The Mus

Mak
To th
navigab

The Ed
The Dan
Lakes, a
And (th
N. S.)
The Got

Making
in the th
the Mu
miles
courses
ous, an
more th
afford
every k
lands c
sheep a
region ;
are inc
In one
courses
commu
greater

- Roc
T. 2

At
standard worl
general read
in his " Ang
poetry and fi
literature of
blended. H
world, may s
public.

fifty-three ye
the old gent
-Salmon, 9
pike, 378 ; i
over sixteen

1410
July 7/71

EXECUTORSHIP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARGUS.

Sir,—It must have occurred to everyone connected with the management of the estates of deceased persons that there is a demand for a law which will award compensation to executors, trustees, and guardians for services rendered to heirs where no such provision has been made by the testator. In most cases the maker of a will never takes into consideration the amount of trouble executors are certain to be put to in seeing it faithfully carried out; and in a much greater number of cases the parties benefited by the labours, risks, and anxieties of their executors are exacting, discontented, suspicious, and ungrateful.

There are innumerable instances in this colony of executorships and trusteeships having been thrust upon unwilling friends and acquaintances without the slightest consideration for the labour and responsibility extending over half a lifetime, on the plea that it is customary, and a duty of one to another. And there are doubtless nearly as many instances where a desire to oblige has led to lifelong trouble, and often the ultimate ruin of well-meaning people who could not refuse the dying request of a friend.

As a rule, with very rare exceptions, unpaid services are seldom properly performed, and the deficiency of the present law on the subject is doubtless to blame for the numerous instances of badly managed estates. For, in fact, it is unreasonable to expect that executors, having their own business to attend to, and feeling little or no personal regard for heirs, should exert themselves to forward their interests, especially in cases of long minorities, with the unsatisfactory probability staring them in the face that in working for minors they are labouring for parties who will look on their services, however well performed, as merely a duty one man owes to another, and as such quite undeserving of any remuneration, or even thanks. That young heirs are ready to act on this thankless and unrequiting system is unpardonable, but not to be wondered at, as it rarely enters their inexperienced brain to take into consideration the troubles and vexations undergone on their account, and the obligations they lie under to executors and guardians who have done their duty honestly and faithfully to them. But more especially are they apt to estimate lightly services and exertions which in many cases have rendered them wealthy and independent for life because their services are considered, in the eye of the law, as totally unworthy of fair remuneration.

That an act awarding payment to executors, guardians, and trustees, for faithful, and in many cases extremely valuable, services, does not exist, is certainly not creditable to the present age. That it would incite them to greater exertions and better management there cannot be a doubt. Its introduction into the House by some of our intelligent law members is well worth a trial, and if successful an ill-used class will obtain that recompense to which they are justly entitled, but rarely receive.

Yours respectfully, J. D.

July 20.

GOOD BREEDING AT CONCERTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARGUS.

Sir,—As a lover of music as well as a friend of the Society for the Assistance of Persons of Education in Distressed Circumstances, I attended the amateur concert given in the Frahran town-hall on Friday evening last, by some generous-hearted ladies and gentlemen, to whom all honour and credit are due for their motives, and for their exertions to render it a musical treat. With the performances every one ought to have been pleased. About them I make no further remark, as it is my intention to deal with the audience only. When people go to a concert it is understood to be for the sake of the music, and if not, to see and be seen—both very proper; but I dispute the right of those of the latter description—who are supposed to be unmusical—to offer a downright insult to the feelings of the performers, who are entitled to every consideration, and also to the musical portion of the audience, by a perpetual chatter and titter loud enough to be heard over a whole hall. It is to be regretted that such did take place on Friday evening; and those who transgressed the rules of good breeding on that occasion should know that they committed errors unworthy of such an audience, and which would not be submitted to in Paris, London, or Edinburgh; and I am sorry to add, can only be excused here on the score of ignorance of etiquette amongst a class which ought to lead in these matters.

Yours respectfully, J. D.

PAYMENTS TO EXECUTORS AND TRUSTEES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARGUS.

Sir,—I have lately read two letters in your valuable paper complaining that there is no law awarding payment to executors and trustees for their faithful, and, in many cases, extremely valuable, services. I take this opportunity to inform your correspondents that the law does provide for a commission to be paid to executors and administrators, and that if such commission has not been allowed by the Courts it is not the fault of the law, but of the judges; and the bar has frequently had to regret unsuccessful attempts to obtain from the Supreme Court the payment for services which the law allows. By the 16th section of 15 Vic., No. 10, vol. 3 of Consolidated Statutes, p. 620, it is enacted, "That it shall be lawful for the said Court to make all such orders as may be necessary for the due administration of the assets of any such estate to all persons entitled thereunto; and also for the payment out of such assets to the person administering the same of any costs, charges, and expenses which may have been lawfully incurred by them; and also, such commission or percentage as shall be just and reasonable for their pains and trouble therein."

An application under this clause was made in the matter of the goods of Hawkins, reported 3 W. W. & A. B., p. 73, Eccles. Cases, and it was urged upon the Court that it had jurisdiction, and ought to grant such commission. Mr. Justice Molesworth, however, declined to exercise the jurisdiction, as he thought that, as it had not previously been done, the long practice of not doing it should act as a law against doing it—making, in fact, the law of none effect by his traditions. Any attempt, therefore, to put the law now into action would be useless, unless the decision of Mr. Justice Molesworth should be appealed against, a course which executors are not always willing to follow.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Aug. 16. — 1871/43 B. F. B.

Payment to Executors

IN THE WILL OF MICHAEL PENDER.

In this case the executors, Messrs. J. Buckley and J. Phillips, had applied on Thursday last to be allowed a commission on the estate for their trouble in administering it.

His Honour said this was an application for the approval of compensation to executors for their trouble as such executors. The 15 Vic., No. 10, sec. 16, authorised the Court to make orders for the due administration of estates of deceased persons, making provision for the payment of costs and expenses incurred, and also such commission as shall be just and reasonable, to the executors and administrators. There was a further provision for the punishment of the neglect of executors to pass accounts. All these may be done on summary orders. But summary orders to account were not usual. They had fallen into disuse in England, and no orders were granted except on special application. He had disliked making summary orders to account, because they were *ex parte* at the instance of the person who went before the master to pass his accounts, and persons interested in opposing him had no opportunity of being heard. Such accounts were rather mischievous than otherwise, for should the case come before the court again on administration suit, it would be to a certain extent prejudged, and persons who were interested in opposing the charges could not disembarass themselves of the previous proceedings. With regard to the allowance of commission to executors and administrators on passing their accounts, it appeared that in New South Wales, before separation, it was usual to grant commission. After separation, the practice had continued in New South Wales, but had fallen into disuse here. On one occasion an application for commission was made to him, and he had refused it, as he considered that the practice of not giving it, which had continued in force so long, ought to have the effect of statute law until there was some definite general rule made. In one case, *re Chadwick*, 2 W. W. & A. B., 50, he had given commission, because the bulk of the property was in New South Wales. He had also allowed it in the suit of *Carter v. Murphy* because the testator had promised it, and the parties interested did not oppose it. Since then the Act 427 was passed, mixing up real and personal estate in a common fund, and section 25 of it enacted that it shall be lawful for the Court to

49 1/2

allow a commission to executors and administrators for their trouble. He thought the language of the act left it discretionary in the Court to grant or withhold the commission on consideration of all the circumstances. The Legislature must be taken, however, to mean that for the future the allowance of commission was to be the rule, and the disallowance the exception. In the present case the original will appointed two gentlemen as executors, and gave them £100 each in consideration of their trouble in the estate. By a codicil the appointment of those executors was revoked, and the present executors appointed. To them £100 was left, conditional on their acceptance of the office—very different from the language in the first will. Considering that the testator had verbally promised the executors compensation for their trouble, that the language of the codicil was different from the language of the original will as to the legacy, and that the Legislature had passed the Act 427, he should give the executors commission. Order that James Phillips and John Buckley be at liberty to pass their accounts of the property belonging to the estate of the said Michael Pender, deceased, before the master in equity of this court, without prejudice to the rights of all persons interested under his will and codicils; and that the said master in equity do, upon the said James Phillips and John Buckley passing the said accounts, without prejudice as aforesaid, allow to them, and that they be at liberty to deduct and retain to their own use a commission, at the rate of £2 10s. for every £100, upon the amount of the corpus of all property which may come to their hands as executors or trustees of the said will, except chattels specifically bequeathed, and at the rate of £5 for every £100 upon the amount of the rents and profits of all houses and lands which may come to their hands as aforesaid, they not being allowed any further sum for the expenses of collecting the same.

Mr. A. BECKETT asked if the executors were supposed to give up the legacy left them.

His Honour said, yes. He had considered the amount of the legacy in awarding the commission.

PROTECTION FOR THE MEAT-GROWER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AUSTRALASIAN.

Sir,—In the tariff before the House it is astonishing to observe the total want of consideration by the Chief Secretary of the interests of the men he induced to settle on the lands of this colony under what is termed the "Duffy Act." The Hon. Gavan Duffy knows that the great bulk of his agricultural pets have found farming only another name for starvation, and that they have had to resort to the depaupering of stock, which on the selectors' small scale rarely pays. Taking into consideration that the present Government means increased taxation, and protection against producers in other colonies and countries, it is not unreasonable for Mr. Duffy's pets to expect that they should be protected also, by a duty on all stock, fat or lean, brought across the borders of this colony. In common justice they are quite as much entitled to that as any other producers of food and raiment. Nothing would present a stronger test of the desire of the public for fair protection to native production, by the imposition of duties, than the additional price they would willingly vote to pay for butcher meat; and no act would more powerfully convince the land selectors of the Chief Secretary's sincerity and concern for the vast interests he conjured up, in opposition to the squatters and the utter ruin of very many of them, than the imposition of protective duties on all descriptions of live-stock coming into the colony.

The race of Victorian squatters being nearly extinct, it becomes the duty of landowners and selectors to press this matter on the attention of their representatives in Parliament as a simple act of justice and impartiality.

Yours respectfully,
GIFF GAFF.

Australasian 19th Aug 1871

50

THE CAMPERDOWN SHOW.

O THE EDITOR OF THE CHRONICLE.

SIR—I reluctantly draw the attention of stockholders, who intend to exhibit at the forthcoming Camperdown show, to the bad treatment and abuse of animals—which are presumed to be the most valuable selections from the herds of the district—and that is, in the way in which they are maddened and rendered furious by the larrikins sitting on the top of the enclosure of the exhibition grounds. If it is not the duty of the honorary secretary to put a stop to this nuisance, which was carried to an extreme at the last show, the owners of exhibits would do well to send careful keepers to protect their stock from injuries painful to witness, and which, in some instances, must prove injurious, if not fatal, to the animals. I also wish to draw attention to the barbarous, dishonest, and illegal practice of competitors sending dairy cows unmilked and stocked on the morning of the show, with a view of obtaining prizes. At the last show in Camperdown, I observed a shameful example of this arrant cruelty, and should such occur again, the Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will be brought to bear on the owners of the cattle so ill used.

Yours respectfully,
JAMES DAWSON.
Honorary correspondent of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Guardian

THE HAMPDEN AND HEYTESBURY PASTORAL AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW.

O THE EDITOR OF THE HAMPDEN GUARDIAN.

SIR,—In the issue of the *Camperdown Chronicle* of this morning appears a letter from Mr. Dawson referring to the forthcoming show, and as I feel constrained to reply to Mr. Dawson's remarks, permit me in the first place to protest against its being called the "Camperdown Show," the correct designation being the *Hampden and Heytesbury Pastoral and Agricultural Show*, held at Camperdown. As Mr. Dawson's illtimed remarks can only have one tendency—that is to deter the owners of valuable cattle from sending them in for exhibition. I regret I cannot reply through the columns of your contemporary in sufficient time to assure intending competitors that their stock will be properly cared for. My attention was called last year to the fact (but too late to prevent it) that several little boys (not larrikins as I understand the meaning of the term) had been teasing one of the animals in the yard, and although it is not the duty of the hon. secretary to look after this, but the duty, sadly neglected, of those who are entrusted with stock to see that their cattle are properly penned and looked after throughout the day, I made a mental note of the circumstance, and resolved to secure the services of a trustworthy person at any future show to prevent what Mr. Dawson complains of. Had Mr. Dawson communicated with me privately upon this matter, instead of through the columns of a public journal, I would have thanked him for doing so, and at the same time relieved his conscience. The practice complained of as regards dairy cows is beyond the control of the society, and should Mr. Dawson notice a flagrant case I would strongly urge immediate action on his part in his official capacity instead of bottling up so much indignation for the space of twelve months. My strongest wish at this moment is that Mr. Dawson could be made hon. secretary for the next ten days, and if that were possible, I feel sure that the universal feeling would be expressed in the well-known lines—

"That still the wonder grew,
That one small head could carry all that he knew."

I trust, however, that Mr. Dawson's injudicious remarks will not prevent intending exhibitors sending in their cattle, and I beg further to inform them that all stock will be properly attended to, and provision made for their comfort.

Yours respectfully,
WILLIAM SCOTT,
Hon. Secretary.

10th Oct. 1874

31 Dec MISCELLANEOUS. 1874

Mr. James Dawson applied that a portion of unsold land in Camperdown, near the Cobden road, might be reserved as a market for live stock.

Mr. Picken appeared in support of the application, and stated that hitherto the cattle had been sold in the public street. The land about the township was nearly all sold, and the site applied for was the only one suitable for such a purpose. He would hand in a petition, numerously signed, in support of the application.

Mr. Ower, who had left his seat on the Board, when this case was called on, said that he had no wish to take any part in the matter as a member of the Board, but personally he had an objection to it. The site was included in the town boundaries, and it was a most unsuitable one. If it was reserved, it would not be used for the purpose intended. There was plenty of room for the sale of cattle on the three-chain roads, where they were sold already. Mr. Dawson had alleged as a reason for the land being reserved that it might be prevented from being sold. He had no desire to see the land sold, but it would be dangerous to have the market there, as there were roads all round it, and numbers of people resident in close proximity to it. The petition was signed by those who were interested in the buying and selling of cattle.

Mr. Dawson said that he was very guarded not to make application to the squatters for signatures to the petition. He was told as a fact that the names of the squatters appearing to the petition would be sufficient to condemn it. Sales of stock were conducted on the public road which made it positively dangerous for any person with a horse to pass.

Mr. Puckle observed that every market place was surrounded by houses.

Mr. Ower said that no town in this colony had a live stock market within its boundaries.

Mr. Puckle said that stock must be driven through the town. Cattle could not be kept of the public road.

Mr. Ower said that he had not spoken to any person about this matter, and merely objected as a resident on his own account. The site would not be fenced if it was reserved.

Mr. Picken said that it could be vested in trustees, and it would then be fenced.

Mr. Bennett said he had already recommended the reservation of the land before it came before the Board.

Mr. Puckle said that they had no right to refuse the application. Besides they could see no objection to it, and it seemed to be desired by a large number of persons. The application would therefore be recommended with the understanding that a road is left around it.

Mr. Ower then resumed his seat at the Board.

Mr. John Walls applied for the survey of a one-chain road on the south-east and southern boundaries of the township of Camperdown. Mr. Walls stated the circumstances connected with the fencing in of this road, and that a number of the inhabitants at a public meeting had asked him to have the matter brought before the Department, in order that the road should be surveyed.

Mr. Ower said that Mr. Bennett had recommended that the land should be reserved without any road being surveyed, and that Mr. Walls objected, the matter had now been submitted for the consideration of the Board.

Mr. Puckle.—Quite right, too, that there should be a road surveyed as required by Mr. Walls. The application would be recommended.

The Board adjourned.

We have always given Mr. OWER credit for a great deal of good common sense. But we cannot help thinking he appeared to little advantage in that respect in his opposition to Mr. Dawson's application on Thursday last for the reserve of a small portion of township land alongside the Cobden road for a cattle market. Granted that this is not the most eligible site for such a purpose, and that there are speculative purchasers in Camperdown who

would be glad to see it put into the market, yet there was nothing in either of these things to justify Mr. OWER in descending from the bench, and taking up a position on the floor of the court, to oppose Mr. DAWSON's application. Nor did he use a single argument whilst doing so, which had not already been worn threadbare, or that was calculated in any way, as the event proved, to influence the decision of the board. Most cordially do we approve of that decision, and in saying this much, we have every reason for believing that public opinion everywhere in Camperdown is on our side. To the silly self-contradictory assertions of the sucking village politicians who are always talking about a decrease in the population of Camperdown, and who yet affirm in the same breath that this land is wanted for building purposes, we never thought it worth while to say a word in reply. And whilst giving Mr. OWER credit for much more sense, we must be permitted to add, that he has left us nothing to reply to. He must, in fact, when Mr. DAWSON's application was granted, have felt it quite a relief to mount the rostrum again, for his opposition speech was a mere *cul de sac*, leading nowhere, and ending in nothing desiderated.

THE FIFTEEN PUZZLE.—As Artemus Ward said of his tame coon, this is a most amusing little cuss. In America, the land of its origin, it has become a malignant epidemic, attacking children and their parents with equal avidity. Even the Presidential campaign has waned in interest since the advent of the later sensation. Grave journals that rarely notice subjects of lighter interest than the duties on pig iron, or the beneficent consequences of an irredeemable paper currency, have found space for solutions of the puzzle offered by mathematical dons of Yale and Harvard. Suicidal monomania is said to have alarmingly increased, even "Pinafore" did not count so many victims. The worst of popular tunes simultaneously ground on all the hand organs in the world would be mildly irritating compared with a course of Fifteen Puzzle hysteria, such as is reported to have prevailed in America. It has taken nearly three months to cross the Atlantic, but it threatens to spread rapidly.

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	

The puzzle is simplicity itself. It consists of fifteen blocks, numbered consecutively, exactly filling the box containing them, one space alone excepted. The blocks are put into the box in confusion, and the puzzle consists in sliding them from square to square until they are arranged in order as shown in the diagram. The "Thirty-Four Puzzle," which is played with the same blocks, plus the sixteenth, consists in so arranging them that the sum of the numerals in every column equals thirty-four. Messrs. De La Rue and Co. offer the new puzzle, made in the usual good style of their productions, at 7s. 6d. per dozen. Cheaper lines of the same article are offered by different houses, down to 8s. 6d. per gross.

and in many cases extremely valuable services, does not exist, is certainly not creditable to the present age. That it would incite them to greater exertions and better management there cannot be a doubt. Its introduction into the House by some of our intelligent law members is well worth a trial, and if successful an ill-used class will obtain that recompense to which they are justly entitled, but rarely receive.

Yours respectfully,
J. D.
July 20.

Continued from page 45

These absurdities of nomenclature are the more to be regretted, that there were to be had—then more easily than now—the native names, often beautiful in themselves, and always fitting; inasmuch as they expressed aptly and concisely either the natural appearance of a place, or some physical or meteorological peculiarity which it was right to fix in words. Instead, however, of taking some trouble to ascertain these native names where they were not generally known, the survey department seems to have been at some pains to ignore them even where they had become well established. Camperdown, for instance, perhaps in itself one of the least objectionable of the British appellatives, is otherwise objectionable in having replaced the native word "Timboon," by which the locality was previously universally known, and which we believe expresses some local peculiarity. Even this absurd process of mis-naming is still going on. Thus our neighbors on the other side of the Murray, not satisfied with the name Menindie, which to us seems an excellent, as it no doubt is a fitting appellation, have re-christened it "Perry,"—but whether after the bishop or the beverage of that name, or some New South Welsh celebrity, whose fame has not yet crossed the Border, we are left in painful doubt.

The rule to be observed in this matter seems to us plain enough. The native names of rivers, lakes, hills, districts, and of places generally, if not already known, should with the meaning attached to them, be ascertained before it is too late, and they should, especially as regards territorial designations, such as parishes, shires, &c., invariably be preferred by the survey department in its nomenclature. The list of native names with their meanings, which we have procured from Mr J. L. Currie, and which we publish in another column, shows—if illustration be necessary—how appropriate are the native designations of places, and will also we trust convince those who are now responsible for our topographical nomenclature, of the propriety and desirability of preserving such names whenever it is possible to do so. It may be objected that some of the native words are a little difficult of pronunciation, but if so, a few years attrition of them in British mouths, will quickly wear off their rough edges, and leave them pronounceable by the humblest British intellect, while still probably preserving their distinctiveness and appropriateness. Where native names are not to be had, then names illustrious in British or Australian history, seem to us to be the most fitting. With such an ample field of choice, it is we think quite within the power of the survey department to give us names less open to objection than are many of those which are to be found on the plans of our survey department and the general maps of the colony.

Ancient Frog — 1883 —

"THE FROG IN THE ROCK."—On Thursday, while two miners were engaged at their ordinary work taking down the coal in the splint seam at Ferniegair Colliery, at a depth of nearly 100 fathoms from the surface, a frog leaped from the face of the coal in quite a lively state. The coal, which was very hard, showed a cavity which had been the singular abode of the frog. It measures eight inches in length, and is very attenuated.

Glasgow Newspapers

W. March
1875

We stated in our last that Mr. CASEY had decided that the proposed site for a market reserve recommended at a late Local Land Board should not be granted, but that it should be surveyed and sold, and we now supply in another column the correspondence which has passed on the subject. Our correspondent, Mr. JAMES DAWSON, who has devoted much time and attention to the subject, solely on public grounds, is very indignant at the action taken by Mr. CASEY, and his allusion to the "speculative land-sharks," who did all they could to thwart him in his efforts to get this reservation made will be readily understood. Mr. DAWSON might, for anything we know to the contrary, have intended to include Mr. WILLIAM OWER, indirectly, if not directly, among the number of those whom he designates as "speculative land-sharks," and if he did, it would be hard, we think, to prove that Mr. DAWSON was not perfectly right.

Mr. OWER's close connexion with those whom Mr. DAWSON designates "speculative land-sharks" is well understood, and few can have forgotten with what a mock-heroic strut he descended from the bench to plead against this reservation, when Mr. DAWSON presented a memorial signed by a large number of the most respectable inhabitants of Camperdown on its behalf. Nor with these two facts before the residents of Camperdown can any at all acquainted with the bearings of the case divest themselves of the suspicion, if not belief, that Mr. OWER has had something to do with the "local 'wire pulling,' adverse to the advancement of the township," of which Mr. DAWSON complains, if not one of the "speculative land-sharks," to whom Mr. DAWSON refers in the same connexion. Mr. OWER may plead that he was perfectly conscientious in his protest against the reservation of this land for a live stock market, and no one possessed of a grain of sense would think of contesting any such point with him. But the greatest sticklers for conscientiousness are often the most prejudiced persons, and the least to be trusted. They are stubbornly and conscientiously prejudiced in all they say and do. However wrong, they will allow no one to harbor a thought of their being so.

Put Mr. Dawson has higher game than "speculative land-sharks," or their "local wire pullers," to fly at. In his eyes, those classes of men are mere tools in the hands of a department which has been long since, and is even now, gibbeted to public scorn from one end of the colony to the other. He, therefore, passes over them, and comes to the head of that department, and asks what is the use of a Local Land Board, if its recommendations are to be over-riden after this "autocratic" fashion? The answer to that is, that they are mere screens or blinds behind which Mr. CASEY enconces himself, to work out "in ways that are dark, and by tricks that are vain," a policy with regard to the alienation of our Crown lands which is bringing the colony to ruin. Their recommendations are never intended to be sanctioned, except as they fall in with Mr. CASEY's own sweet will, or as en-

forced by unmistakable demonstrations of a determined and clamorous outside public. For all practical purposes, they are perfectly useless, so far as any good can be got out of them, but, in the hands of Mr. CASEY, they can, when he requires it, be converted into instruments of mischief. If the recommendations of these boards do not suit his whim, as in this case, he can, as Mr. DAWSON says, "insult the board," and show his "contempt for the public" by setting them aside.

This is not the end of the matter, however. It is only the beginning; and if the residents of Camperdown do not make some further effort to keep this land out of the hands of our "speculative land-sharks," and their "local wire pullers," they deserve to lose it. This is the last piece of land in the township that can be set apart as a market reserve, and if the residents of Camperdown allow this to be sold for the gratification of "speculative land-sharks," and their "local wire pullers," they will have to do without a market. Camperdown has been too long governed by a clique, composed of men of the two classes above described, to be any longer tolerated, and this clique is just upon the eve of being burst up, once and for ever. All outside the clique feel this to be the case, and rejoice at the prospect. Let no one, then, who plays into the hands of these "speculative land-sharks," or who is identified with them in any way, even as a "local wire puller," ever be placed in any public position, however humble, among us again. Any one attempting to do that, or even aiding in the attempt, should be regarded as an enemy to our local institutions. In that direction, public opinion, and public feeling, are fast rising.

HAMPDEN SHIRE COUNCIL.

ORDINARY MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, January 5, 1875.

Letter from James Dawson, drawing attention to the Government having granted 6 acres 2 roods and 10 perches for market purposes, and to its being important that a public market for the disposal of live stock should be established, and asking to be informed if the Council were willing to undertake the control of the site, fence it in, and erect suitable yards thereon, charging for the stock yarded; that a gentleman had offered to undertake the control of the market, etc., and erect suitable yards on obtaining a seven years lease, and to pay a rent of 5 per cent. on present value of the land. Mr. Dawson considered that no time should be lost as it was desirable to have a great central market for the disposal of live stock at Camperdown. — Mr. Ower said he was individually opposed to the site, as he thought that if cattle yards were erected they would be dangerous to residents in that neighborhood. Mr. Scott said he had heard several complaints about the inconvenience of drafting stock on the roads, and believed the yards would be an advantage, but would just as soon sell on the roads. The further consideration of the matter was postponed until next meeting.

Chronicle to J. W.

PROPOSED MARKET RESERVE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRONICLE.

SIR—I have not the slightest doubt that you and the majority of those inhabitants of Camperdown who signed the document applying for the reservation, for market purposes, of the land abutting on the Cobden road, and approved of by the Local Land Board, will be astonished to hear that to a letter from myself as the original mover in the matter, addressed to the Surveyor-General, to have the land gazetted, I have to-day received the following reply from the Secretary for Lands:—

“Office of Lands and Survey, Melbourne, 3rd March, 1875.”

“SIR—Adverting to your letter of the 20th ult., I have the honor to inform you that it is decided to offer for sale by public auction the land in the township of Camperdown therein referred to, after the survey of the same into allotments in lieu of reserving same for market purposes as requested.

“I have the honor to be, Your most obedient servant,

“JOHN L. LEWIS,

“Pro Secretary for Lands.

“James Dawson, Esq.,

“Wuorong, Camperdown.”

With all due deference to the wisdom of the Secretary for Lands, every one interested in the general advancement of Camperdown, excepting those blinded by selfish ends, must look upon this last effort to deprive the district of a “stance” for what may become a great central live stock market at no distant day, as something incomprehensible.

It may reasonably be demanded of the head of the Crown Lands Department in Melbourne for what purpose he directed an application to, and the approval of, the Local Land Board, in answer to the petition of the most respectable householders of Camperdown, if it is to be set aside in this truly autocratic way? It is indeed a poor compliment, if not a gross insult to the Board, and a contempt for the public, the refusal of such a reasonable request as the setting aside of two, or at most three, acres of the township lands, and it is impossible to avoid coming to the conclusion that some local “wire-pulling,” adverse to the advancement of the township, has induced the Minister of Lands to come to this very unsatisfactory and extraordinary conclusion. As a non-resident of Camperdown, but much interested in its prosperity, I must be pardoned for saying that if the inhabitants callously allow this last piece of land to be alienated for private purposes, or pass into the hands of speculative land-sharks without further efforts for its reservation as a market-place, commanding a most important and rich district, they deserve to lose it, and with it all the advantages such great gatherings of stock entail.

I am, sir, yours respectfully, JAMES DAWSON.

Wuorong, 5th March, 1875.

P.S.—Accompanying this is the letter, dated 3rd inst., from the Secretary for Lands.

11th March 1875 J. D.

POSTPONED BUSINESS.

The matter of the proposed cattle yards in Camperdown was then taken into consideration with the letter received last meeting from Mr. James Dawson, when, after some discussion, it was agreed, on the motion of Cr. Greeves, seconded by Cr. Curdie, “That the matter of letting the ground for building sale-yards in Camperdown is impracticable, the Council not having power to let any market for a longer period than 12 months, and having no funds to erect yards on shire account.”

HOW TO CATCH AND HANDLE A SHEEP.

There is, says the *Practical Farmer*, a right way and a wrong way, a hard way and an easy way, an awkward and a skilful way, to catch and handle a sheep. A great many men will seize the sheep by the wool on the back, with both hands, and lift the animal from the ground by the wool only. Barbarous! Let some giant grasp you by the hair of the head, and lift you from the ground by the hair only! Would you not squiggle and squirm worse than the mule sheep does when lifted by the wool! And would not there be a complaint of a sore head for a week or two? If you do not believe it, try the experiment. We have slaughtered a great many sheep in years past, and when removing the pelts of such sheep as had been handled by their wool, we never failed to observe that beneath the skin, wherever the animal had been caught by the wool, blood had settled. In many instances the skin had been separated from the body, so that inflammation was apparent. We have known proprietors of sheep to be so strict in regard to handling them that they would order a helper from the premises if he were to catch a sheep by the wool on any part of the body. Some owners of sheep direct their helpers thus:—“When about to catch a sheep, move carefully towards the one to be taken, until you are sufficiently near to spring quickly and seize the beast by the neck with both hands; then pass one hand around the body, grasp the brisket, and lift the sheep clear from the ground. The wool must not be pulled. If the sheep is a heavy one, let one hand and wrist be put around the neck, and the other pressed against the rump.” We have always handled sheep in the way alluded to. We never grasp the wool. Others seize the sheep by a hind leg, then throw one arm about the body and take hold of the brisket with one hand. But ewes with lamb should never be caught by the hind leg unless they are handled with extreme care. When sheep are handled roughly, especially if the wool is pulled, the small bruises and injuries will render them wilder and more difficult to handle. Lambs newly-born, Mr. Mechi remarks, are like infants, and require, immediately, food and warmth. How important is an assistance by cow's milk in the absence of an immediate supply by the ewe. A teaspoonful of castor-oil saves many a lamb, by relieving the first adhesive contents. I learned this from an experienced retired medical man, who treated his lambs as he would infants. My spare sheds afforded comfortable quarters for a few days to the ewes and their lambs. The first fortnight of a lamb's existence and treatment has a most material influence on its future development, especially if it is to be sold as fine fat mutton when one year old. How many calves are lost when raised by hand by giving them cold food. The warmth of mother's milk would prevent scouring and death.

KINSHIP AMONGST THE AUSTRALIAN NATIVES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AUSTRALASIAN.

Sir,—The letter which you were kind enough to publish for me some months ago has done more to help me in my researches than all the private letters I have written and the printed circulars I have sent to gentlemen who are in a position to furnish information concerning the Australian aborigines. I received replies from the far interior of this colony, from the trans-Darling country, from various districts of South Australia, from Queensland, and from Western Australia, containing information so extremely valuable that I cannot but be desirous to avail myself once more of your help, which I trust you will afford me.

The class names which I enumerated in my former letter appear to be found in the northern districts, and wherever they are found the child is of the mother's tribe. Advancing southward they disappear, and the child is of the father's tribe. They who are versed in the subject of these inquiries know the vast importance of this fact, as pointing to two great divisions of race among the aborigines. It is probable that by pushing the researches into the class names throughout all the accessible tribes, and by this alone, we may be able to prove that these divisions exist, and to trace each division to its parent stock. I shall, therefore, be very glad to receive further information concerning the class names.

I have already found certain strange peculiarities in the terms of other systems of kinship reproduced with startling fidelity among the Australian aborigines. Thus, the Dieri (a Cooper's Creek tribe) call my father's brother “my little father,” and my mother's sister, “my little mother.” This peculiarity is found in the Tamil, the Japanese, and the Fijian systems. This is but one of the many important identities of designation in the apparently anomalous terms in use among widely-separated peoples. It is simply impossible that each tribe could have invented the same peculiarity independently of all the rest. Such terms are not merely terms of kinship in each of the nations using them. They are so many proofs that the nations themselves are akin.

I shall be glad to receive the native words for the following terms:—1. My father. 2. My mother. 3. My son. 4. My daughter. 5. My elder brother. 6. My younger brother. 7. My elder sister. 8. My younger sister. 9. My father's brother. 10. My father's sister. 11. My mother's sister. 12. My mother's brother. 13. My brother's son. 14. My sister's son. Where a female uses a term differing from that used by a male for the same degree of relationship should be carefully noted. No term is of use in these inquiries excepting with the pronoun “my.”

Any one of the above-mentioned terms will be valuable. I have now before me one of my printed schedules, giving upwards of 200 English terms of kinship. Of these only 15 are filled up in the native language by the gentleman to whom the schedule was sent, and yet two out of those 15 are of inestimable value. My printed schedules are at the service of all who will use them.—I am, &c., LORIMER FISON.

Burwood-road, Hawthorn, Melbourne.

Large Shark

Caught by Captain Cornbills whaling party in Port Fairy was 19 feet long and contained two young ones and as much blubber as yielded two hogsheds of oil. It was harpooned in the harbour and it drew the boat out to sea and then stove it with its nose. The crew were picked up by another boat & the whole brought to shore.

"CAMPERDOWN GEORGE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRONICLE.

Sir,—In virtue of my recent Government appointment as Guardian and Protector of the Aborigines of this district, I consider it imperative on me to direct attention, through favor of your journal, to the recent condemnation by Mr. Adeney, J.P., of "Camperdown George" to six months' imprisonment in the Geelong jail, with hard labor—the severest sentence permitted by statute to be exercised by Justices of the Peace.

Any one accustomed to study the feeble milk-and-water sentences of the Melbourne Magistrates, on the most hardened larrikins and villains, and those of our Camperdown Justices, pronounced on human white brutes, little short of wife murderers, will be utterly confounded to find poor old harmless George the aboriginal punished to the utmost limit of the law, for what? Attempting to chop up a wife? Smash up a policeman with a brickbat? No! but simply because he is black, gets drunk on spirits supplied to him by his Christian white brethren, makes a noise in imitation of men who under similar circumstances would be admonished by the Bench, and be considered cruelly wronged by the infliction of a quarter of George's sentence, without the hard labor. If this sentence is carried out on the poor old man, to the extent, and in accordance with the fiat of the magistrate—which I am determined to prevent if possible—the Camperdown public will be rid for ever of the presence of nearly the last local representative of an ill-used and persecuted race, for six months' imprisonment with hard labor will finish him, and Mr. Adeney may then reflect that had his energies been directed to the detection of the miscreants who either supply the spirits or wink at their being supplied to the aborigines, by offering a reward, instead of punishing the victim, his magisterial duties would have redounded to his credit.—I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,

JAMES DAWSON.

Local Guardian of the Aborigines. Woorong, 15th May, 1876.

MEAT-PRESERVING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARGUS.

Sir,—On reading in *The Argus* of the 9th inst. the proceedings of the Royal Society of Victoria, I was perfectly astounded at one of the assertions put forward by Mr. R. Caldwell in his paper on meat-preserving. After referring to several matters, Mr. Caldwell said he eventually came to the "tinning process, of which there were many varieties, none of which had met with the requirements of the home consumer so successfully as that introduced by Mr. S. S. Ritchie, of the Melbourne Meat-preserving Company, to whose sagacity the colony was indebted for the successful introduction of this now immense and important industry. ('Hear, hear,' and applause.) Had Mr. Caldwell qualified his assertion on behalf of Mr. S. S. Ritchie, by saying "reintroduction of this now immense and important industry," he would have afforded no basis for any one pronouncing his statement incorrect, and of his being told that the author of a paper on any subject ought to be extremely accurate in statements intended for record in the proceedings of the Royal Society, and certain to be referred to as an authority at some future time.

As an old and particular friend of Mr. John Gardiner, at one time proprietor of Mooroolbark Station, on the Yarra, I would consider myself at fault if I did not claim for him the credit of having erected a very complete establishment on his station for the preservation of beef in hermetically-sealed tins, and of having through his rare ability and perseverance produced as thoroughly sound and good an article of food in every way fitted to the requirements of the home consumer as ever entered the British market; and this, be it remembered by those who assume to have discovered a "mare's nest," took place upwards of 27 years since. If proof of the truth of this simple assertion is required, I will undertake to produce it, as I hold a communication from Mr. Gardiner on the subject.—I am, yours respectfully,

20 April

JAMES DAWSON.

THE ABORIGINES, 1876

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ARGUS.

Sir,—It must be very gratifying to all who take an interest in the aborigines to observe a determination on the part of the board instituted for their protection to remodel the act of Parliament relative thereto, and it is to be hoped that when it has become law it will be worthy of a race professing to lead the van in Christianity. That such a movement has not been set on foot years ago reflects poorly on our legislators, on our public men, and particularly on our religious bodies. Not that the latter have been altogether idle in the matter, but they have co-mixed up their feeble efforts with discipline, dogma, and hard work, that numbers of natives prefer free kangaroo to floods of prayers as intelligible to them as Latin is to a pig-driver.

I fear much, however, that the board, with the most praiseworthy intentions, will not succeed in rousing the minds of the majority of the members of Assembly to the fact that they are about to deal with a race the people of this colony have robbed and ruined, and are now treating as little better than slaves. The poor creatures have been by acts of Parliament and force of arms driven from nearly every foot of ground, excepting the public thoroughfares, and a few wretched reserves set aside for them out of the general scramble for land. The chief who had his dominions handed down to him through time immemorial, has been evicted, shot, or kicked out of his home by men in most cases his inferiors in almost every respect. He is demoralised by them, and then when his tribe is nearly extinct our paternal Government offers him an asylum on parsimonious principles, and is astonished he does not see its generosity.

Now, Sir, let us see what the Government offers this man. It offers him protection from his enemies, certainly, but that is on condition that he leaves his native land, his favourite hunting grounds, and the home of his youth, so dear to the savage that many pine and die after removal. He is taken to Framlingham (a miserable spot, with—to him—a distasteful name), selected apparently for its bad cold, clay soil, swampy nature, and for the amount of labour necessary to render it capable of growing a cabbage.

There he is expected to work hard, a la Pentridge-stockade, at grubbing trees, digging, and ditching, from one year's end to the other, for the munificent recompense of a suit of mean clothes (minus hat, boots, and stockings), a little tobacco, and his food, which is scant enough, and not overburdened with butchers' meat; and all for no wages, no money, no thanks, no end in prospect, for it is required of him by instructions from the Government. It may be said, why does this noble savage submit? Well, he does so with the impression that he is under some sort of obligation to some indefinable power; he sees a number of his able-bodied friends there submitting, and working, and grubbing, under the same impression, and having his hut on the spot, decorated internally with a few cheap pictures, and enjoying the society of his friends, he works on like a negro-slave, but still grumbling.

This is no imaginary case, for it is exemplified in the person of the chief of a nearly extinct tribe in the Port Phillip district, who has been occasionally employed by me since the year 1846, and a better or more faithful fellow I never met, and so far superior to the run of labouring men in this colony that I would be sorry to exchange him for any two of them. I had this man working for me last summer at 14s. a week and food, and would have been glad to keep him on, but he appeared to think he was bound to work for nothing at Framlingham, and so strong was the feeling of the gross injustice done to him there, that he vowed he would go down and burn his hut, and return to live with me permanently. He went away, did not burn his hut down, and is now working there as if his existence depended on his labour. He says the manager, Mr. Goodall, and his wife are kind to him, and he likes the society of his friends, but he gets no wage, and that lies at the root of his discontent. These remarks apply generally, with the result that a considerable number of able-bodied men and women absent themselves from Framlingham for months, and their reasons for leaving are declared to be, too much hard work, and nothing for it. At one time it was too much prayer, but that is moderated now, although I believe it might be done away with altogether, except a short one on Sundays, for I am of opinion it has an opposite tendency, and leads to irreverence, and the "thank God for every trifle system," adopted by rogues and swindlers, and am sorry to say by some of the aborigines, who imagine it pleases the "unc'og'id."

Having set forth some of the grievances attending the present method of managing the aborigines, I feel impelled to say that as the people of this colony have taken the land from its original proprietors in a way not now recognised by the Government of Great Britain, which proceeds on the proper principle of fair compensation, they are bound by their professions of adherence to that rule of Christianity "to do as you would be done by," and to compensate the aborigines. That this can now be done justly and in proportion to the injuries inflicted is out of the power of our Parliament, but as the nearest approximation it is its duty to recognise its obligations, and to enact that every effort be made to render the aborigines happy and contented. To effect this most desirable object the aboriginal stations should be kept up under the best managers obtainable, the native residents should be well fed, well clothed, well sheltered, properly amused, and treated with the utmost consideration and kindness. Those willing to work on the reserves for wages should be induced to labour honestly for fair rates, but there should be no obligation to do so. Liberty and encouragement should be given at all times to take work off the stations, and they should be permitted to retain and expend their earnings. In the instance of old people unfit to work a small amount of money weekly should be allowed, and also to widows with families.

These suggestions may be considered by many as approaching too much to pampering and conducive to laziness. My knowledge of the aborigines and their love for money satisfies me that they will not have that effect; on the contrary, it will instil new life into them, and make the rising generation useful workpeople.

Since the foregoing was written, I have read the report of your special correspondent on the pet "Coranderrk Aboriginal Station," which does not induce or entitle me to alter one word of this letter, and I adhere to the opinion formed on personal knowledge of the aborigines that they are treated more like slaves than free people, and that the intelligence they display does not warrant a continuance of the present system.—Yours, &c., JAMES DAWSON, Local Guardian of the Aborigines.

The Hampden Guardian.

"BE JUST AND FEAR NOT."

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1876.

THE ABORIGINES.

The attention that has lately been drawn to the condition of the aborigines of this colony—arising out of what is now known as the Coranderrk enquiry—will, it is much to be hoped, be productive of some good to the remnant of an unfortunate race which has met with scarcely nothing but cruelty, injustice, and neglect at the hands of the white occupiers of the country. Now that the public mind has been thoroughly aroused upon this subject, and that in the columns of the leading journals of the colony much interesting information has appeared concerning the present condition of the aboriginal station above mentioned, there is some chance that the matter may attract the attention of Parliament, and that members may think it worth their while—in the interests of justice and humanity—to spare a little time from the consuming study of party politics to devote to the consideration of some scheme for improving the present condition and future prospects of the native race of this portion of the Australian Continent.

With the Coranderrk enquiry we have nothing whatever to do; we are not seized of the information respecting that establishment necessary to enable us to express an opinion thereupon, but we take advantage of the cropping up of that subject for the purpose of drawing attention locally to the condition of the aboriginal natives, and to offer our protest, amongst the rest, against the reprehensibly careless and indifferent manner in which the native race has been treated by the Governments and the people of this colony. Here we may not inappropriately express our entire concurrence with the opinions given by Mr. JAMES DAWSON, the local guardian of the aborigines, in a letter to a metropolitan journal last week, in which the writer condemns the policy of the Government towards the surviving blacks, refers to their unjust treatment hitherto, and suggests a very simple, practical and reasonable remedy. The aboriginal question of the present day appears to resolve itself into the single one of what is the best means to provide for the small remnant that remains within the limits of the colony. It is useless, of course, to attempt to open up the history of the past thirty or forty years, as no practical good could ensue, and nothing whatever could be done towards reparation to those who have suffered and gone. The only use to which the memory of the past can, with any good result, be put will be to take it as a guide in deciding upon some just and proper method in which to deal with the natives in the future, and we certainly think that, in consideration of the very great advantages obtained on the one side and the enormous wrongs suffered on the other, the aborigines should from this time out be treated with the very greatest indulgence. We have said that it would be useless to open up the history of the past in connection with the natives of this colony, and we may go farther and say—with reference to this district—and we have no doubt the same statements apply to other portions of the country—that that history would be such a long record of oppression, outrage, wrong, and cold blooded murder on the part of the "superior race" that it dare not be, and, therefore, never will be written. With reference to the extermination of the several tribes who formerly owned the country between Colac and Warrnambool much information could be supplied that would astonish, and at the same time horrify, the quiet living folks of the present day, and we might mention, by way of illustration, that were it possible for free selectors to use the same kind of "persuasion" now, in the occupation of land, as was used to the blacks by those who delight to call themselves "the early pioneers" there would not be many "squatters" left in the Western district in the course of two or three years. Drawing a veil over the earlier portion of the history of the colony, and leaving it to be inferred how and by whom the great majority of the aboriginal population of the West were "wiped out" we might point to the change that has taken place during the past fifteen years,

during which a fairly representative number of blackfellows have dwindled down to the one or two wrecks of humanity which are occasionally to be seen in the neighbourhood of Camperdown and Terang. Fifteen years ago the natives in this portion of the Western district were tolerably numerous, and included a number of young people of both sexes, most of whom were either employed or found quarters on the stations in the neighborhood. Many of the young fellows were expert stockmen, and not to be excelled in their method of working stock in forest country; several of the females were excellent domestic servants, and not a few of them were tolerably educated. Every one of them have now passed away, and, beyond two old men, GEORGE and CHARLEY, in Camperdown, and the wife of JIM CROW, at Colac, not one is now alive. In many cases death was hastened, no doubt, by disease brought on by undue indulgence and exposure; but it was not creditable, we maintain, on the part of the then Government to leave those unfortunates to their excesses when it was possible to have cared for them, and removed from them the necessity for their temptation. The doling out of a few blankets and clothing once a year, with periodical tobacco and rations was, in itself no return for the advantages of which the natives had been deprived, and, all along, Government has shewn a disposition, if not a desire to see the unfortunates die out of the way as quickly as possible. When the land was forcibly taken possession of by the white man the black man lost all that had any value or any practical use to him, and with the ownership of the soil it was natural, and, perhaps, fitting, that he himself should also pass away out of existence and remembrance; but having once taken all that the black man cared to possess it was only justice that the white usurper should, in common decency, and for the sake of appearance if not for the sake of humanity, use every endeavour to make some reparation, and give something in exchange for the capital taken. So far as we know nothing has been given, as yet, but the miserable dole of clothing and rations referred to, the entire race, with the exception of a small remnant, has been permitted to die rapidly out from disease, neglect, and starvation, and, besides the one or two mission stations where the blacks are maintained in an unhealthy state of semi-civilization, that remnant has not a foot of soil out of the vast territory owned by their ancestors fifty years ago, upon which they dare set their feet without being regarded as intruders and trespassers. We hope, for the credit of this colony, and for the sake of common humanity and justice, that Parliament will take this aboriginal question into consideration shortly, and deal with it in a thorough and conclusive manner.

THE ABORIGINES OF VICTORIA.

The following report of the Board for the Protection of the Aborigines in Victoria was presented to Parliament last evening:—
Melbourne, June 30, 1876.
May it please Your Excellency,—The Board for the Protection of the Aborigines has the

honour to submit this the 12th annual report of its progress, with other reports and returns relating to the aborigines, which are attached as appendices.

The number of natives living on the stations is as follows:—Coranderrk, 137; Lake Hindmarsh, 67; Lake Condah, 89; Lake Wellington, 81; Framlingham, 63; Lake Tyers, 63. Total, 500.

There is also a large number of aborigines still unreclaimed, many of whom are supplied with rations, blankets, and slops, whom it is very desirable to bring under the direct supervision of the board.

The gross value of produce raised on each station is as follows:—Coranderrk, £1,343 2s. 7d.; Lake Wellington, £67 9s. 9d.; Lake Hindmarsh, £195 16s. 10d.; Framlingham (estimated), £150; Lake Condah, £25 6s. 7d.; Lake Tyers, £69 16s.

Although the area under hops at Coranderrk was increased this year by four acres, the weight produced was only about the same as last year. It will also be noticed that there is a falling off in the gross cash proceeds, which is accounted for by a fall in the market of about 4d. per lb. as compared with last year. The board, however, is pleased to state that the Coranderrk hops realised the highest price of any offered in Melbourne.

The return of the population of Coranderrk shows a large death rate since the last report, and the board's attention has been specially directed to this matter. A sub-committee of the board visited the station last July, and the general inspector of the board, and the chief medical officer of the colony, at subsequent periods, also visited it. Two separate reports from these sources appear in the appendices, both of which tend to prove that the position or condition of Coranderrk has influenced this excessive mortality; but returns received from most of the other stations, as well as the report of the sub-protector of aborigines in South Australia, show that the prevalence of measles has also seriously diminished the aboriginal population of the colonies.

It will, however, be observed that no less than 14 deaths have occurred at Coranderrk from pneumonia, the best preventive for which might have been the removal of the people to a more genial climate.

Such a situation has been pointed out in the report of Messrs. Carr and Ogilvie, but as, unfortunately, the greater number of the people have a very decided and natural objection to leaving the present station, the board is of opinion that the wiser course would be to replace about 20 of the worst huts by others more suitable to the climate, and also to form a station at the locality indicated in the report last mentioned, which would not only be useful as a sanitarium for any Coranderrk invalids, but would form the nucleus of a station for the natives of that part of the colony, and which the Church of England mission has proposed to undertake, with the usual assistance afforded by the board.

The reports from the other stations are so generally encouraging that they may be left to speak for themselves.

The education of the young is a matter which has engaged the serious attention of the board, and from the success which has resulted from the schools at Lake Wellington, Lake Tyers, and Lake Condah being under the inspection of the Education department, it is its wish to carry out this system wherever possible.

It would be very desirable that an amendment should be made in the act, whereby the board would be authorised to apprentice out all lads who, having finally left school, object to remaining on the stations.

In order to give effect to the foregoing suggestions, an increase in the funds usually voted by Parliament will be necessary; and if a wise liberality is exercised now, it will enable the board to put the stations in the way of becoming more nearly self-supporting than they are at present.

Whilst on this subject the board would also wish to bring under Your Excellency's notice the inconvenience felt from the funds voted by Parliament being placed on the estimates under different heads, and to suggest that it would not only simplify matters, but also enable the board to economise its expenditure, were the sum given in the form of a grant which could be utilised by the board in the usual mercantile manner.

Owing to circumstances, several changes have been made in the general management, more especially at Coranderrk, which led to some temporary disorganisation, which has now been remedied.

The board begs to express its thanks to the chief medical officer of the colony for the very elaborate report drawn up by him on the sanitary condition of Coranderrk, and also to the gentlemen acting as local guardians, for the valuable services rendered to the board by them.

F. R. GODFREY, Vice-chairman.

Argus 3rd Sep 1876

CORANDERRK ABORIGINAL STATION.

(BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

In the Coranderrk community about one in five are able-bodied men, and as a considerable number of the women and children can do some work it would seem that it contains about the same proportion of effective or producing members that is to be found in other communities. Then, the station contains 4,850 acres of land, of which some is excellent in quality, and other portions fairly good, and there is on it 400 head of cattle intended for food, also working bullocks, horses, implements, and everything else that is necessary to the profitable carrying on of varied rural occupations. Why, then, should the establishment require to be subsidised by the state at the rate of £10 or £12 per head of its inhabitants? This is a question which must have suggested itself to the minds of the readers who have accompanied me so far in my descriptions of the place, and it is one that requires a good deal of answering; since, given land and labour enough, there should be no lack of food and other necessities and comforts in any community. A thousand industrious white people could support themselves on the Coranderrk Station, and require no subsidy; a still larger population of Chinese would get rich upon it. In endeavouring to trace out the causes of the economically unsatisfactory condition of the establishment, it has to be observed, in the first place, that the present arrangement of the station is very imperfect. But little of the ground is fenced in, and the herd of cattle on the station is therefore but inefficiently managed. A contract for the erection of five miles of good net, and when the work is completed it will become possible to keep the station herd together, and so manage it that there will always be beasts on it in fair killing condition. The cattle are a rather inferior lot, but by the introduction of a well-bred bull that would be mended in a few years. A herd of 400 should supply 70 or 80 four-year-old animals, in good condition, during the year, which would be amply sufficient for the supply of the station, and the costly plan of buying mutton for the blacks which is at present followed should not be necessary in future. Then there should always be plenty of potatoes grown on the station. At present this article of food has either to be purchased or dispensed with altogether, but after next harvest there will be a quite sufficient supply.

The main cause of the station's unproductiveness, and of its inhabitants' dependent condition, has yet to be mentioned, however. The truth is, the blacks at Coranderrk are a helpless, thriftless class. They do no work that they can avoid, and they take no thought for to-morrow. They do little more than play at working, and they expect to have their every desire and every caprice promptly gratified. The slightest difficulty that crosses their path they deem insuperable, and they have no notion of either thinking or acting for themselves. I do not give this as a description of the native character of the Australian aboriginal, but only of the character which residence in Coranderrk has developed in him. He is there a pampered child, who expects to have everything done for him, while he does little or nothing in return, and he will only submit to discipline in so far as that may meet his own convenience and suit his taste.

To make his condition and habits fully clear to the reader, I shall give a brief narrative of the events of the day I spent on the station. At half-past 9 a.m. the children were rung into school. At 10 the men were summoned to work; slowly, and one by one, they answered the summons. They were all much better dressed, and generally in better case, than any other gang of working men I ever saw. Some had meerschaum

pipes in their mouths, others ornaments on their persons. One was accompanied by a pretty pet fawn, and the others by dogs. Then the order of proceedings was arranged—so many to go to work in the hop-ground, so many others to go into the bush and fetch hop poles. Tom was to accompany Dick, and Sam Harry, and so on. Accompanying the hop party, I found that the work they had to do was to fork among the now sprouting plants, uproot weeds, and expose the roots so as to give access to the pruning-knife. They did not oppress themselves in any way, and I think the board's expenditure upon grip handles will not be great. The day being showery, the men retired to the shelter of the stacked hop poles so promptly as to show a politic regard for the welfare of their clothes, and they displayed no undignified precipitation in resuming operations again when the shower abated. In half-an-hour or so, a very handsome olive-complexioned young fellow arrived on horseback, to inform the superintendent that the working bullocks were not to be found. He was so inert and listless of manner that he hardly parted his lips sufficiently to form audible sounds, but he did manage to make it understood that the bullocks were lost. They were not in the fenced paddock provided for them—the blacks having been too lazy to drive them to that place of safety when last they had been unyoked. He was told to search for them in such and such a place, and proceeded on his quest with the utmost deliberation. To finish off with this man, I may mention that all through the forenoon he came back to the superintendent at half-hour intervals, and explained in mumbling fashion that he could not find the bullocks. In the afternoon Mr. Halliday went off in the rain to look for them, and soon found them, but not until the day had been wasted so far as that particular team and its human co-workers were concerned.

At half-past 11 there was an *émeute*, or small rebellion, on the station. The hop-workers appeared in the street, in search of the superintendent, with a grievance. They had knocked off work for a few minutes to have a smoke, when the hop manager represented to them that unless they resumed work he would not give them credit for the half day, whereupon they incontinently struck. They were most voluble in their complaints, and the women all gathered round, with their babies, to enjoy the scene. The gardener, who is a stolid old Englishman, as deaf as a post, stood by, and said little, but what he said was to the point. It was for an hour and a quarter that the men were idle, and they were not smoking but holding a public meeting to condemn the management of the station. The superintendent humoured them like children, telling them to go back to their work and it would be all right as to their pay, or to go back after dinner, the hour for which was now near at hand. But they did not disperse. There was something more. Their ration of animal food was insufficient; they could not live and work upon it. Some said they could eat their week's supply (6lb of fresh meat) at a meal; that they were tired of mutton (which was being bought for them at the butcher's), as it had no nourishment in it, and so on. Mr. Halliday reminded them that it was at their own request that they were supplied with mutton, and that so long as there was beef on the station he did not limit them to the prescribed ration; but all would not do. At last he promised to lay their complaint before the board, and they went off, listless and grumbling, to their homes, to watch their dinners cooking. In regard to the butchers'-meat question, I have already explained that the supply given for a man and his wife and two children under seven is 9lb., served out twice a week, and if they do run short sometimes, and find themselves placed under the dire necessity of killing a goose or going out hunting, for food, they have only themselves to blame. They waste their meat on the day they receive it, or give it to their dogs, and if they do sometimes

run short they are not entitled to much sympathy. The Healesville butcher arrived soon after the scene just described, with the usual bi-weekly supply.

Each family's allowance was served separately, according to a list furnished by the superintendent. Some families got sides of mutton, and others quarters. There was besides some good miscellaneous eating in the shape of sheep's heads and plucks, which were given in addition to the stipulated allowance. One man declined to accept his share because it was a fore quarter, whereas he preferred a hind quarter. The mutton was good and in good condition, as, indeed, were all the stores on the station.

Later in the day some of the men came to complain that they were out of firewood, though there was an abundant supply within a quarter of a mile of their doors, which they could have fetched on their backs in less time than they occupied in complaining about the lack of it. Saturday is the day set apart for getting timber, and the men have tools with which to cut it, and bullocks and drays to bring it home, but to look before them and provide for a whole week's consumption is entirely foreign to their habits. Minor incidents of the day were frequent applications for tobacco, medicine, and other things out of the store-room; or a matron would drop into the superintendent's kitchen to procure flannel and have a good comfortable gossip with Mrs. Halliday about some event which appeared to interest both, although it had not yet transpired. During the afternoon, while rain was falling in torrents, "Dirty Jemima" did a thing which went far to unsettle my belief in the constancy of human habit and the inveteracy of vice. As I saw her during my round of the cottages, she certainly was in a state which fully justified the name she bears, as just mentioned, and her hut was the only one on the station which was altogether squalid and miserable. But behold, when the rain began to come down as if it really meant raining, Jemima betook herself to an exposed knoll and calmly stood to be rained upon for a good hour by the clock. It is her constant habit on such occasions, I was informed. The average rainfall at Coranderrk is very high; if it were twice as great Jemima might have reasonably clean clothes and skin most part of the year. I do not like to suggest that during protracted droughts she should be compelled to go into the creek occasionally, because I abhor compulsion that is not absolutely indispensable, and would prefer to see Jemima kept decently clean by natural agencies and voluntary act. Perhaps Mr. Ellery might make arrangements that would meet her case better than those at present existing.

In subjecting the Coranderrk establishment to a critical examination at this date, I am putting it to a very severe test. The superintendent has only been in office since March last, and though he is doing his best to introduce some needed reforms, and has already accomplished a good deal, much yet remains to be done. The work is naturally slow. Official delay hinders it, and want of money, and most of all, the nature of the blacks themselves. They have never been taught to submit to strict discipline, and can indeed do pretty well as they please. Sometimes they absent themselves without leave for considerable periods. To prevent this the superintendent has threatened that the families of unauthorised absentees shall receive no rations, but the threat has had no effect; the men know quite well that it will not be carried out. This state of affairs cannot be altered all at once, and Mr. Halliday acts wisely in exercising a little patience, and endeavouring to introduce better habits by degrees.

All that there is to complain of in the dwellings upon the station will be removed very soon. Fifteen of the worst of the huts are to be pulled down and new ones built in their places. These will be superior to the best of the present lot. They will be