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The diggers advocate.

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THE DIGGERS ADVOCATE

I WILL NOT LOOK SILENTLY ON AND SEE OUR LIBERTIES INVADIED

OR REMAIN A PASSIVE SPECTATOR OF PUBLIC ROBBERY.—PITT.

No. 2.—Vol. I.]

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1853.

[PRICE 6D.]

THE DIGGERS AND THE LEASE.

We have expressed our opinion before to the diggers that the license question was not the only grievance they would be required to fight against, and every day proves more and more the truth of that opinion. No sooner is the license question settled than a greater evil arises—namely, the leasing out the gold fields to private companies. This is a question of great moment to the mining community, and determined steps should at once be taken, or the digger will find himself at the mercy of a few wealthy companies, who will be not only ready but willing to buy the very earth from under his feet; and, for aught the Government and the squatters will care, the digger may go and do the best he can for himself in bushing it.

We have kept our eyes and ears open since we have been in town, and we know that the diggers, in the eyes of the "fat and greasy citizens of Melbourne," are but "a class of men up the country who get their living by digging for gold and opposing the Government"—and that is all. And they talk of the gold fields as they would talk of a fat calf, a thing only to buy and sell to the highest bidder, and straightway they sit down and map it out. But they must be made to understand that the prosperity and safety of this colony depends upon the social and political condition of the mining community.

We extract the following letter from our friend and best supporter, the "Herald." In speaking of the "mineral leases at the gold fields," the writer says:—

"From the letters of our own correspondents, and those of private diggers, we gather that some degree of excitement prevails at the gold fields on account of a supposition that certain blocks of land, now in the occupation of digging parties, are to be leased to one or more gold-mining companies. We are extremely anxious to receive further information upon this subject. It is at Fryer's Creek that the chief encroachment upon the diggers' rights is said to be contemplated. We are told that there a square mile of country has been, or is about to be, leased to a company, whose operations will necessitate the expulsion of a large number of diggers now actively engaged in their ordinary occupations.

"Such a proceeding as the one here described would be so flagrant a breach of law, to say nothing of justice, that we cannot but think there must be some error about the statements which have reached us. It is so distinctly laid down by law that only those lands are to be leased to companies which have been abandoned by individual diggers, that without any excessive reverence for our present government, we are persuaded, if any leases of occupied land have been issued, this must have been done under a misapprehension and a mistake.

"That such should be the case seems the more probable to us, because even we, who have no interest one way or the other—who have no policy to serve, no pets to provide for—have been so assailed with contradictory statements upon the subject, that we feel in considerable doubt as to how the truth lies. One day we receive a communication, informing us that the company to whom land is to be leased, so far from interfering with existing interests, will, by draining their own land, drain divers adjacent gullies, too, and enable hundreds of diggers to operate where they cannot get now, and will not turn off a single party, for the simple reason that the land proposed to be occupied contains no parties to turn off. The next day letters reach us, purporting to be written by people who, having experimented last season upon the Fryer's Creek flats, and having been driven off by the rain, have now returned, and been waiting for weeks until the weather should permit them to go to work upon their old holes, and who find their prospects suddenly thwarted by a monopoly granted to a company upon the specious pretence that the lands they seek to occupy have been worked out and abandoned. If we find ourselves so embarrassed between contradictory statements, we can well suppose that the Government—so much less likely to be well and impartially informed—so much more exposed to party influences, and to be misled by biased persons—may be completely at fault, and without the slightest desire to injure the diggers may, from wrong information, be guilty of an irreparable blunder. Wherefore, we are extremely anxious that the parties interested may, in a pacific but unmistakable man-

ner, let the world know how matters stand,—may inform us whether it is proposed to grant a lease of land that has, or of land that has not been abandoned. Upon this the whole affair turns. To grant a lease of land that the diggers have worked and abandoned, would be an act as just and beneficial as it would be unjust and injurious to turn diggers off the ground for the sake of promoting the interests of a company.

"We do not doubt that, in many respects, it would be an important economy of labour if our gold-fields were to be worked in an organised and methodical manner, rather than as the fancies, ignorance, or caprice of a thousand different persons may dictate. But in practically regulating the affairs of the world, the laws of distribution are even more important than the laws of production. It is better that a thousand men should make in a week a thousand ounces of gold, and should so divide the treasure that the wants of each person should be supplied, than that a few should have the opportunity of squandering a larger amount. For these reasons, and because we would rather that our Colony should reap the benefits of the gold-fields than that these should go to swell the profits of absentee capitalists, we do not care to enquire too closely whether the present system of working the gold-fields is or is not the most remunerative of all possible modes. We would rather that the diggers should scramble on as they now do, wasting their labour often, indulging in false hopes perpetually, but always working with zeal and hearty good-will that would shame our hired road makers and other public wielders of the pick and shovel;—we would rather that the digger should work harder and make less, but have the privilege of doing as he thinks fit with the produce of his own labour, than that this last should be exacted to raise a much larger portion for a set of unknown shareholders in some public company. The laws regulating the production of the wealth of nations are doubtless of the highest importance; but those that regulate the distribution, we repeat, are yet more important; and for this reason we feel that it is unnecessary to show at length why, so long as individual diggers are prepared to work a tract of land, it would be in the highest degree dangerous and impolitic to grant a lease of that land to a company.

"The law has recognised this; and it is, therefore, all the less necessary to dwell upon it; but for reasons we have already stated—because the Government is doubly likely to be perplexed by contradictory statements, that leave less interested people in doubt—we would earnestly recommend the diggers to take all opportunities of asserting the truth, and letting it be known whether the proposed leases of mineral lands at Fryer's Creek will, or will not, interfere with the digging interest—will, or will not, be in contradiction to the spirit of the present law."

NEWS OF THE DIGGINGS.

Bendigo.

(From our own Correspondent.)

BENDIGO, November 7th, 1853.

Your paper arrived here in good time on Saturday. The smallness of the number, however, prevented a great many from obtaining copies that were eager to have done so. The heading has been universally admired, and not so much disappointment expressed as regards the size as I anticipated. The public indulgence must not, however, be abused—your excuses about square inches won't do long, for we have not all of us forgotten the three yards of song that was to be had for a penny at home.

I do not mean anything invidious, but you must give it to us in length and breadth, and we will judge of the quality ourselves. Of course I write now as one of the public, your Special Reporter rendering it unnecessary for me to trouble the public any longer with my discursive remarks upon men and manners and things in general.

The news of this week savours very strong of nothing but murder. There has been the body of a man found in the Esk Creek, his skull showing decided symptoms of foul play. There was a report circulated that a trooper had been shot dead by a bushranger, the object of the scoundrel being to obtain the poor fellow's horse, but it turns out not to be quite so bad as reported. The man was shot, but is likely to recover, although in a very precarious state. I have not heard whether the ruffian has been taken yet, but I fear not, a thing but his coat being identified.

The body of a still-born child was found behind Captain Harrison's store, and some stir was made about it until the medical man gave in his report.

There is to be another paper on the Bendigo very shortly; the precise time is not yet known; but the proprietors expect to hold a post mortem examination upon you very soon after—but that is your business not mine.

I shall be glad when you have got your devil in the court taking notes, for it will not be before it is wanted, some of the proceedings being characterised by anything but dignity or even decency.

The yield of gold up here presents no fresh feature. All, I think, are doing something, and Commissioners' Flat is rising in favour, while other places have still their admirers.

Mount Malaga has fallen into disrepute the last few days, and a good many are returning here to their old grounds, mentally resolving not to be again tempted, which, of course, they'll keep till the next opportunity offers an inducement for them to break it.

EAGLE HAWK GULLY, 29th OCT.—Little is doing in this quarter, and as the water gets scarce many are on the move. The new diggings at Mount Malaga are occupying some attention, although very unfavorable accounts have been received from thence to-day and yesterday. Some are doing well at the Sydney flat, and the population there is slightly on the increase. A few "rushes" in other parts, such as the Devonshire and New Zealand gullies, have taken place, but with little more than individual success.—Mr. Wilkinson's store and large stock of goods, sold on Wednesday and Thursday by Messrs. MacPherson and Co., realized fair prices.—The Wesleyan community, with the activity which always characterizes that body, have built a very neat and capacious Chapel, of canvas, on a substantial frame, at the head of Eagle hawk; when Divine Service is performed, morning and afternoon, every Sunday; I believe it is intended to open a school in connexion with the chapel.

Several robberies have taken place about here lately, and amongst others a butcher in New Zealand gully was robbed of some money and a gun. Suspicion fell upon a man named Lancaster, who was apprehended and discharged. On obtaining his release he returned to his work; but the butcher not being satisfied, as it would appear, yesterday went to his (Lancaster's) tent, looked in, and finding him out, went to where he was working and seeing him there, walked home, loaded a double-barrelled gun, returned to the gully, and deliberately fired on Lancaster, lodging the shot in the bone of his leg; he was then aiming the second shot for the unfortunate man's breast, but was happily prevented by the bystanders, who seized him; he however effected his escape before the police arrived on the ground, and I have not yet heard of his apprehension.

The Police have not been round this district yet for licences; when they come, however, I believe they will find few, if any, unprovided with the requisite document. The first number of your paper is impatiently awaited about here.

Forest Creek.

(From our own Correspondent.)

FOREST CREEK, Nov. 7th.

I have but little to communicate of general interest this week. Alas! for the good old times of Alexandrian celebrity, when gold was measured by the pail, and poundsweight filled the mouths of men, in place of the ounce and pennyweight of those degenerate times. Then there was something invigorating even in the scratch of a pen that chronicled the success of some lucky dog who had groped his way into the realms of Plutus, and turned out the long-hidden treasure. Yes; now the romance of the thing has in a great measure departed, leaving behind it only the success that waits upon untiring energy and unflagging labour. You will think from my strain that I am in the doldrums, but no such thing, although I admit that my four last "shicers" have not at all improved my temper. Well, but I'm not all the world, you'll say, and what are others doing? Well, I'll tell you. They are working up the old ground, right manfully, where the water will admit of it; and occasionally some adventurous wight goes down on some new spot, and a rush of course is the consequence. But when a dividend is declared on the estate, the assets are generally nil, or next to it. But mind, I don't say the place is bankrupt, for I believe that the summer will turn up something yet. Barker's Creek looks promising, and there are a good many out prospecting towards the Loddon, where there is every prospect, as far as outward appearances go. The Loddon reminds me of Friars Creek. Could you put a fellow up to the way of doing this square mile business? Egad, I got into a row the other day about a square foot; but then I have no friends at court, so it is no use telling me that dodge.

There is to be a cattle pound here, and who do you think is to be the keeper? Why, a lawyer. So now, you see, the parchment will be holder of the steaks [beef], as well as Master of the Rolls.

We had a meeting at the Chapel on Tuesday last, upon the baneful effects of liquor. The speakers appeared fully at home on the subject: old acquaintance anything to do with it, think? I can't say myself. The subject not very popular, judging from the attendance—I should say about fifty, at a rough guess. They drew up a petition, but knowing you are not hard-up for matter, I did not send it, as no one would read it except the fifty before-mentioned.

Don't be long before you send us some copies of your paper for circulation. Mine gets worn out before it's half done with round about my text.

Ballarat.

(From our own Correspondent.)

We are jogging along pretty quietly here at present. There seems to be a good feeling existing between the authorities and the diggers. An occasional skirmish takes place about a claim but after each party has "said his say," and the commissioner decides, they generally retire, the winner pleased—the loser grumbling until he commences another hoped-for-prize, which is not long in being put into operation.—The price of fresh meat here is astonishingly high: mutton, hindquarters 8s. 6d., and 9s., forequarters 6s. 6d. to 7s.; beef 9d. per pound, and expected to rise. The butchers not unfrequently have to give 8d. per lb. for beef, and as high as 25s. and 27s. for sheep; which, when you consider their size and quality, is not a profitable speculation.

Some few days since a report was prevalent that a woman had been murdered at Ewreka, by her husband, that he had cut her head off, and thrown it into a "shicer." People went so far as to search the debris of old fires in hopes of ascertaining some clue to the murder, but when a great commotion had taken place and they had actually succeeded in finding some old and charred bones, and were about dispatching a courier for Dr. Carr, the lost sheep returned, and a hearty laugh concluded the farce of the diggers in search of a wife.

To the astonishment of everyone the man who fell down the hundred feet hole has recovered, and is now as sound as ever, with the exception of being a little bruised. A rumour has run like wild-fire this evening that a 30lbs. nugget has been taken out of a claim near Sinclair's store. I will not vouch for the accuracy of it, not having had time as yet to enquire into the particulars.—New lines are opening up here every day. The diggers are doing well in New Chums' Gully, in sixty feet sinking; and the Sailors' Gully is still giving handsome yields to the fortunate digger.

Great dissatisfaction has been expressed in all quarters here at the Squatters' resolution not to vote for Mr. Fawcner's motion for assessment on stock. The diggers are perfectly willing to pay a fair share of the taxes, but such conduct as I have mentioned, coupled with the fact of several members having taken spirits out of bond, that they intended to place a high duty upon, has elicited nothing but a feeling of universal contempt and disgust. When men in their position descend to such backdoor ways of making money, which almost amounts to swindling, how can a high moral tone be expected to pervade the general mass of the community.

Mr. Jones' Circus, in Prince Regent's Gully, continues to amuse the diggers, and he is patronised liberally, and not undeservingly, for a kinder or more obliging little fellow never broke the world's bread.

The Melbourne Nugget is veritably a "black diamond," of the very first water, on horseback; he is "sui generis," having no competitor.—The weather still continues fine, but as yet we have nothing that you may call summer weather.

During the week accounts have reached Melbourne from the Colac of the discovery of a workable gold-field in that locality, but as yet this depends on the assertion of a single individual, and who refuses to divulge the precise place, although in doing so he would be entitled to a reward of £300, subscribed for that purpose by the inhabitants of the Colac. Therefore, where there has been in this matter so many groundless reports, the affair at best must be considered very doubtful. It is said to be on the coast side of the Colac, and in a quarter which has often been remarked as a likely gold region.

ANOTHER BUSHRANGING MURDER.—Two mounted troopers arrived express from Bendigo at a late hour on Friday night (Nov. 4), to give information to the police in Melbourne of a most cold-blooded murder. At an early hour on Friday morning a trooper was riding near Bendigo, when some bushranger, who wanted his horse, deliberately shot the trooper as he was riding along. The shot took effect, and the trooper is dead. Of course the murderer took the horse, and immediately rode off. Unfortunately there is no other description of the ruffian, except that he wore a light drab coat. He is said to have been followed and traced along the road to very near the Lady of the Lake, and appeared to be the making towards Melbourne.

AMERICA IN LESS THAN FOUR DAYS.—We are enabled to announce that by a new and much improved construction of vessels, it will be perfectly practicable to accomplish the voyage between the United States and the United Kingdom in considerably less than four days; in fact, in about three and a half, the ports connecting the old and the new worlds being Halifax and Galway. This is no speculative statement. It is grounded on experiments which have already been made to test the sailing capabilities of vessels constructed on the new principle. With the submarine telegraph which is about to be laid down between Halifax and Galway, and the passage of vessels in three days and a half across the Atlantic, America and Great Britain will virtually become one colossal country; inhabited and governed by the Saxon race.—Morning Advertiser.

Open Council.

(To the Editors of the Diggers' Advocate.)

Sirs,—Being a new comer into this colony, you will, perhaps, allow me to make a few suggestions to you. You, who have been here some time, are hardly in a position to understand the requirements of a "new chum." Nothing surprised me so much, upon my first arrival in Melbourne, as the orderly appearance of the streets. The idea prevalent in England when I left was, that it was necessary, before entering Melbourne, to charge several pistols to the muzzle, and to carry a bowie-knife ground up to a very fine edge. I am happy to say that I find quite a different state of affairs. The climate does not appear to induce a love for man-shooting; nor, as far as I have yet experienced, is there anything in the water consumed by the inhabitants of Melbourne which is likely to produce a desire to cut my neighbour's throat.

Having landed with the intention of proceeding to "the diggings," my first step was to inquire for some reliable source of information. By accident I heard of the "Diggers' Advocate," but I am sorry to say, that what appears to me ought to have been a principal feature in your paper was entirely neglected—I mean information to new comers. I saw a great deal about Bendigo and Forest Creek, and some mysterious allusions to "second bottoms." The paper was evidently written for "old hands." I sought in vain for some indication of the route to the diggings, and for some notion of the expense of the journey. Do you not think, sir, that you would be conferring a great benefit upon those unfortunates who are landed on the wharf amidst bales of luggage, if you were to give a few plain straightforward directions as to the manner of proceeding to the diggings, and the necessities for the journey? Trusting you will take this suggestion into consideration, I remain yours truly,

H. R. NICHOLLS.

[The suggestions made by our new friend shall receive our attention; and next week we hope to be in a position to furnish every necessary information to new comers respecting the gold-fields, the best mode of getting there, and what to do when they have reached the "land of tents." We thank our correspondent for the suggestion, and shall feel obliged by any one pointing out what they may think we have forgotten.—Eds. D. A.]

(To the Editors of the "Diggers' Advocate.")

7th White Hill, Bendigo,
Sunday, 7th November.

Gentlemen,—I have just got hold of the first number of the "Diggers' Advocate," and though it is but "small, it is great." It is great, because it is the advocate of a community, who up to this moment was without a voice in this Colony, and a political existence. Your paper gives us both, and we already feel ourselves freer and more independent. Only a few days ago we had no means of bringing our grievances before the authorities, or advocating our rights before the Government. Now, we have all these advantages, and that too by the exertions of yourselves; as a digger I feel grateful, and trust that all my fellow workers will do their best for the paper, and think the best work they can do, will be the supporting of the "Diggers' Advocate." Some are sorry it is not larger, but they seem to forget the only way to make it what they would wish it to be, is to put their shoulder to the wheel, for the greatest city in the world was once a village. In conclusion, I, with many of my mates, wish you every success, and what we can do to push your paper we will.

AN OLD FRIEND AND DIGGER.

(To the Editors of the Diggers' Advocate.)

Sir,—And so you have appeared at last, to use the expression of a very eminent man, "in this super-eminent reality of which all phenomena are but the glooms and echoes." And you are actually at the starting post among your brother bloods to run the race of literature on the golden soil of Australia. I fancy you must have a heavy dash of the old Peter Finn blood, to carry you successfully through the dirt and mire of Colonial journalism. Be that as it may, I congratulate you on your pluck; do not start, my gentle editors, at the vulgarity of that term, it is strictly Johnsonian, and I am but a dirty gold-digger, a boweller of the earth, a groper among the dark things of to-day and by-gone ages; think you it is of wisdom, nay, say rather of filthy lucre. Well, I wish you every success, and that I feel you will have at Ballarat.

I am, gentlemen,

ET TU BRUTE,
A Converted Follower.

THE POST OFFICE AND THE NEWSPAPERS.

(To the Editors of the Diggers' Advocate.)

Gentlemen,—Among the statistics of an English paper, I have just met with the following:—

"The last Australian Mail, via India, contained about 30,000 letters and 50,000 newspapers."

If it is a fact, gentlemen, I wish to ask the Postmaster General of Melbourne what becomes of all the newspapers which are delivered in the course of a few months? Are they forwarded to the parties for whom they are directed? Or are they burnt on their arrival at the General Post Office? I have been told by clerks in that office, that the papers oftener "go to blazes" than to the letter-carrier.

When I left England, eighteen months ago, I left with an understanding with my friends to send me four papers per week to Australia; and my brother, who arrived here a few days ago, informs me that not only four but a great many other newspapers have been sent according to promise.

My brother tells me also that three newspapers were sent to me by last May's mail, announcing my father's death, yet I have not received one of them—not a newspaper since I have been in the colony. Where are they? What becomes of them? Is the Government responsible for the breach of so important a public trust? The same act of newspaper purloining seems connected with all post offices throughout the country. At the Bendigo post ask in vain for newspapers, and I am not the only one.

I am surprised the people of Melbourne have not called public meetings upon the subject long before this. I know well many improvements have been made in the post office within these last few months, and are still being made; but what is that to me? I get not my papers any the more for that; and

when I ask at the window—and I have but lately asked—I am told "We have no newspapers for you; did I not tell you so the other day." And away the gentleman goes, forgetting I told him the other day that I did not believe him.

This state of postal business still exists, with all the boasted improvements; but so long as it remains, so my opinion will be—"there is something wrong there yet, and must be removed; something wanting, and must be had," before the post office of Melbourne is worth the money expended on it. The same will apply to the Bendigo, &c., and other places.

IRON.

MISSING FRIENDS.

MISSING FRIENDS may be heard of by applying at Newman's Library, Bookings, Registry, and Bullion Office, Viewpoint, Bendigo, where a registry of the same is kept, and their names advertised in the various Colonial papers.

JOSEPH HENRY ABBOTT is desirous of seeing Mr. Felix Field. Address Abbott & Co., Birmingham Store, or office of this paper, Bendigo Flat.

THE sons of the late Mr. John Ross, of Cape Breton Islands, are requested to communicate at the office of this paper, Bendigo, with Mr. John McKenzie, late of the firm of McKenzie and McRaie, of New London, Prince Edward's Island.

WILLIAM KING and HENRY TRIMMER, write to your old mate Ned, at the office of this paper, Bendigo.

EDMUND BARTON is requested to communicate with C. J. W. Russell, at the office of this paper, Bendigo.

BENDIGO.—THOMAS HARVEY, of Chester. Write to T. L. Thomas, to the care of F. Pritchard, at the Office of this Paper.

IF Mr. G. PORSON, late of GEELONG, should see this Notice, he is requested to send his address to "Diggers' Advocate," Box 870, Post-office, Melbourne. Mr. H. R. Nicholls has letters for him.

IF this should meet the eye of the Rev. EBENEZER SYME, from London, Mr. H. Holyoake would be glad to hear from him. Direct to the Central Office of this Paper at Bendigo, or the "Diggers' Advocate" Box, Post-office, Melbourne.

"DIGGERS' ADVOCATE" Office,

Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

The Editors of the "DIGGERS' ADVOCATE" respectfully direct your attention to the following regulations, which they have adopted for the management of their Paper, more especially the Advertising department.

Firstly. All Advertisements will be classified, and printed under separate heads, according to the nature of the business advertised.

Secondly. The Advertiser can choose his own form of advertisement. Illustrations, and large lined type will be charged for according to the space occupied in the column.

Thirdly. For the first and second lines, sixpence each, and threepence per line afterwards. Payment will not be required before the day of publication.

Fourthly. Advertisements to be at the office not later than 6 p.m. on Tuesday.

Fifthly. A discount of 20 per cent. allowed on advertisements continued for a month, and 30 per cent. on those continued for a quarter.

Gentlemen who have stores in town, and business with the gold mines, will find the "DIGGERS' ADVOCATE" a valuable advertising medium, it being the only newspaper devoted entirely to the social and commercial interests of the digging community. Besides which, it possesses advantages which no other paper has at command, namely, a weekly circulation on all the gold mines of Australia. The Proprietors are able to inform their friends, with much satisfaction, that so soon as the necessary arrangements shall have been completed, the "Diggers' Advocate" will be second to none as a commercial and political organ.

All advertisements and business communications to be forwarded to Mr. HUNTER, Publisher, &c., Queen's Arcade.

* * Contributors and correspondents to this paper are requested to direct Box 870, Editors of the Diggers' Advocate, Melbourne. All communications must bear the signature of the writer, which will be published unless a wish to the contrary be expressed.

* * Terms for advertisements: Sixpence a line for the two first, and threepence a line afterwards, which must be paid in advance or they will not be inserted.

* * A commercial agency has been established in connection with this paper, orders for which are received at the central offices only. All purchases are effected and goods forwarded at five per cent. commission on the invoice, exclusive of the carriage.

The Advocate.

THE FRANCHISE.

"Your committee would recommend that several advantages should be granted to those who may become annual licensees. They consider it reasonable that the elective franchise should be extended to this class. But as any bill passed by your Honorable House for this purpose must, previously to its becoming law, be laid before both Houses of Parliament for thirty days prior to receiving the royal assent, and as no time would be gained by introducing a separate measure for this object, your committee would recommend that the necessary provision should be made in the new constitution, the preparation of which now engages the attention of your Honorable House. At the same time your committee are of opinion that those who will not, by obtaining a yearly license, afford a guarantee for their settlement in, and attachment to, the colony, are not entitled to be entrusted with so important a privilege; and that a migratory population, many thousands of whom are not resident for more than a few months in the country, should not have power to interfere in permanent legislation for its internal government."

Prefixed to our remarks upon this subject is the report of the Gold Fields Committee upon the same question; a question so intimately affecting the future of this Colony, that it ought not to be passed over lightly, either by the press or the public. It is the first symptom of the animus of the Council relative to the new Constitution, and an endeavour on their part to perpetrate the limited constituencies and class legislation, with, of course, all the flagrant anomalies connected with that system. The attempt, however, will prove an abortive one. The English public have learnt to look upon the question in a very different light during the last few years. The tendency of the Home Government has been for some time merging towards the one point of universal suffrage, and however distasteful it may be to some parties in this Colony, it is nevertheless true that here it must and will be conceded. It is, then, folly to look at the past history of home politics, in search of arguments in favour of such a thesis. Government commenced there when mankind never contemplated representative power at all, and the inevitable result was, that the iron grasp of the monarch, and the mailed hand of the noble, monopolized the exercise of authority, which was scarcely seated on the strong hold of feudalism, when the contest for popular rights, commenced, and has been steadily maintained ever since, and although marked by occasional retrogressions towards individual class despotism, the tendency throughout has been unmistakable, and the Constitutional monarchy differs only in name from republican principles, legislative power resting alone on the broad basis of popular will. Such is the past history and present position of this question in the mother country, and the only excuse ever advanced for the exclusion of the class comprising labour and labour only, is the protection of the property and vested interests. But these excuses can never be alleged in a new country like this, where property and vested interests are in embryo. Labour alone is in maturity, the parent alike of wealth and civilization, and whose prescriptive right to consideration must never be lost sight of. It is enough that a man labours, and thereby enriches society, to constitute his right to be consulted in the framing of its laws, and the control of the funds he contributes to the coffers of the state.

We have no hesitation in denouncing the notion of parties affording a guarantee for their settlement in, or attachment to, the Colony, by paying five pounds all at once, as perfectly farcical, and only calculated to facilitate bribery and corruption, and will in no way conduce to the permanent settlement of the country. The consideration of so small a sum would never influence a man disposed to leave; whereas the existence of popular institutions would go far to induce him to remain; and we are utterly at a loss to see what is to be gained by the provision. Why, the very men who recommend it may leave the Colony the day after, for any guarantee they afford the public to the contrary, and so may the licensee for twelve months, and every other class in the Colony, the day after he has recorded his vote; but what if he does? Men don't make bad laws out of sheer mischief, and there is greater safety in migrative intellect, without a sixpence, than there is in located folly, possessed of millions. The only fear of impolitic legislation and unjust laws, is when class self-interest warps the judgment and clouds the sense of right, leave all men the right, after a certain residence in the country, of taking a part in its administration, and the goers and comers will produce but little effect upon its policy. The very coming and going, to which they object, has been more the result of the class legislation and monopoly which was established here, than from any dislike to the Colony itself, as witness the numbers who have settled in South Australia and New Zealand, and who would have remained here had the same facilities been afforded them of acquiring land that exist in those Colonies.

From our recollection of the discussion of the House of Commons as to the framing of this very Constitution, and which resulted in its being left to the Colonists themselves, we are fully convinced that it must be a comprehensive and liberal one, and the public have only to represent their case to the Home Government to get immediate attention paid to them; therefore we advise the Council to keep as clear of mean selfishness and sordid class motives as they possibly can, for they may rely upon it, it won't do.

LICENSED HOUSES AT THE DIGGINGS.

A meeting was held at the Temperance Hall, Russell-street, on Tuesday, to consider the propriety of petitioning the Legislature not to sanction any bill having for its object the establishment of public-houses at the gold-fields. Edward S. Parker, Esq., M.L.C., was voted to the chair.

The Chairman, in opening the business of the evening, announced it as a tolerably well-known fact, that it was the intention of the committee now enquiring into the management of the gold fields, to recommend a large issue of publicans' licenses for these localities. The speaker next entered at some length into the objects of the meeting, and detailed the oft-repeated alleged evils attendant upon the establishment of public-houses at the diggings. He also stated that, in the preliminary arrangements of the meeting, it had been decided upon taking, *seriatim*, as resolutions, the various paragraphs in the following draft of a petition, which resolu-

tions would be spoken to by several gentlemen:—

"TO THE HONORABLE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE COLONY OF VICTORIA,

"The petition of a meeting of the Citizens of Melbourne, and other inhabitants of this colony, at the Temperance Hall, Melbourne, on Tuesday, the 25th day of October, 1853, convened by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Melbourne,

"Humbly sheweth—

"1. That your petitioners have heard that it is intended to introduce into your honorable House a measure for licensing the public sale of intoxicating drinks at the gold-fields of the colony.

"2. That your petitioners have for a long time past witnessed the moral and social evils which attend the establishment of public-houses, wherever licensed; and that in no degree whatever do such establishments mitigate the mischief of the illicit manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors.

"3. That, on strong religious grounds, your petitioners urge the inexpediency of the Legislature giving sanction to a measure so antagonistic to true piety, and opposed to the principles and character of the Gospel of Christ.

"4. That your petitioners can produce indubitable proof that the crime of the colony mainly originates in drunkenness and its associations; and they protest against the injustice of sober people being made to bear the burdens brought upon society by such unnatural and unrighteous means.

"5. That, to render groundless the reasons urged in favour of the licensing of public-houses, your petitioners beg of your honorable House to encourage the establishment of coffee-houses and places of refreshment on the gold-fields, and along the approaches thereto, and so take away all occasion for the licensed public-houses, as well as all inducement for the surreptitious sale of liquors, whether drugged or otherwise.

"6. That your petitioners have a strong persuasion that such measures as they have ventured to suggest would be more consonant with the wishes of the population at the diggings than the measures which your petitioners deprecate; and they humbly pray your honorable House to bestow the most earnest consideration upon their prayer."

Dr. Iflla, after referring to the pernicious effects of intemperance, and the demoralising consequences of what was intended to be done, proposed the adoption of the first two paragraphs. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goodwin, who, in an address of much energy, endeavoured to show the fallacy of supposing that the licensing of houses at the diggings could possibly have any tendency to check vice, or suppress sly grog-selling, and he contended that all experience proved quite the contrary.

THE DIGGER'S INCOME.

Sir,—Your remarks on "Nemo's" letter render it unnecessary to reply to it. However, I wish to ask "Nemo" what is the value of gold if left in the soil? And if a body of men go seek for it, find it, and work hard to get it out, and bring it in circulation for the benefit of the country, are they not entitled to the value of that coin according to the current rate? The rate of wages paid for hard labour during the past months is about £14 per month—but the average produce of all the diggers scarcely amount to two-and-a-half ounces of dust per month, say worth about £9 7s. 6d., and exposed to many privations; consequently the diggers, as a mass, sacrifice much time and labour to get out the gold now obtainable for the benefit of the Colony—in value more than £2 per month. Surely, then, no one should begrudge the reduction of the license fee to the lowest possible amount, and much less the wood and water they consume at the diggings, inasmuch as with all these apparent advantages they pay dear for what they get. The diggings are not what they were, and I recommend "Nemo" to visit them, and correct his figures and conclusions.

AN OLD DIGGER.

LEASES OF GOLD MINING LAND.

Sir,—By the "Herald" I learn that companies to work the Gold-Fields at Fryer's Creek have been organized, and land leased to them by the Government. I wish to be informed whether every shareholder will be required to take out the usual license, and whether the workmen employed on the ground are to pay for their permission to search for gold? My license fee sets forth, "regulations to be observed by the persons digging for gold, or otherwise employed at the gold-fields," and one of them is, that four miners may have a claim 24 by 24, or 376 square feet, "beyond which no greater area will be allowed in one claim." What can your correspondent mean by saying one company has a lease of a square mile? If what your correspondent says is true, please let me know where I can get two or three cases of Colt's revolvers, for they will immediately be in great demand, as well as powder, lead, and percussion caps. Yours, &c., HERMIT OF FRYER'S CREEK.

[We take the above letters from the "Morning Herald" of Tuesday the 8th. The question of the Lease shall receive our attention, next week.—Eds. D. A.]

EMIGRATION FROM LIVERPOOL.—The number of emigrants who sailed from all the ports of the United Kingdom, during the spring quarter, was not less than 115,595. Of these 74,646 sailed from Liverpool, 10,619 from London, 3,722 from Southampton, 2,095 from Plymouth, 7,884 from Glasgow and Greenock, and 16,993 from the ports of Ireland. Liverpool has thus considerably more than half the emigration of the United Kingdom. The countries to which the emigrants sailed, during the last quarter, were:—United States, 78,205; British North America, 20,107; the Australian colonies, 17,152; and other places, 495.—*Liverpool Times*, August 11.

TO THE AUTHORITIES OF THE GOLD-FIELDS OF VICTORIA,
Lieutenant-Colonel Valiant in particular.

Letter II.

Nous n'écouterons d'instinct que ceux qui sont les notes,
Et ne croyons le mal que quand il est venu.
LA FONTAINE.

Gentlemen,—It was my intention to have confined myself this week to the consideration of the claims of the Gold Diggers, and the position they have a right to occupy in this colony, being the class which produces the greatest wealth, and, therefore, of the greatest value to this young and rising colony. But a letter signed "LT. COLONEL VALIANT" induces me to adopt another course. The letter to which I allude was printed in the last number of this paper, and which, in my opinion, illustrates the kind of policy and official practice which ever destroys the confidence of the people in a Government and its servants. The letter not only abounds in misrepresentations, but seeks to reflect discredit upon the leaders of the agitation at Sandhurst. When I stood before the public as a delegate of the gold-diggers, my determination was, to use no personalities towards opponents, but relying on the justice of our cause, I waited without fear the issue of the contest. Now, that I stand before the people as a journalist, my policy will be the same, and it matters not to me whether it be a colonel or a private soldier who questions the sincerity of my motives, I shall defend myself against either, and fight my own battle—come what may. I see no reason why Col. Valiant should not give his own colouring to his own picture; but he has no right to say "the objectionable parts" and dark shadows reflect the character of the men whom he introduces into his painting, when those characters belong to the people and not his own party. He has no right to use hard names and stigmatise the leaders of that movement as "a designing few who led the diggers on to the verge of a frightful precipice, which threatened destruction to them; and but for the timely aid of a proclamation" they would have tipped over and broken their ungodly necks.

For my own part, I like exceedingly to see the saddle upon the right horse, and for the credit or discredit to be placed to the account of the right parties. For this purpose, I shall dissect Col. Valiant's letter, sentence by sentence. We may, perhaps, find that the Governor and the Government were among "the designing few" who led the diggers on to the verge of that precipice down whose steep the people of Victoria were just as likely to fall as the miners themselves. Mind, gentlemen, I do not mean to say that the diggers would have pushed them over, but merely for you to understand that it would have been rather a dangerous experiment for Col. Valiant, with one hundred and twenty soldiers, to have tried the like experiment with twenty thousand diggers.

If you, the authorities of the gold-fields, know anything at all of the history of the Anti-Gold-License Society of Bendigo, you must know well the first step the diggers took to gain a reduction in the license tax was to petition His Excellency; and when the deputation waited upon His Excellency in Melbourne and presented the gold-diggers' petition, signed by twelve thousand diggers, and praying him to take their petition into consideration, His Excellency then declined to do so. He said "he was sorry that he could not comply with the request of the diggers; neither could he say when it should be laid before the Legislative Council; besides which he did not believe such grievances existed on the gold-fields as were set forth in the petition; but there was one thing he saw in the prayer of the gold-diggers that would militate against its success, and that was the names of the German people which he saw appended thereto." Now, had His Excellency played any other than a weak vacillating policy, upon that occasion, the license agitation on the Bendigo would have passed away with the presentation of the petition. The diggers felt themselves insulted and left without hope, by one remark that His Excellency made during the interview with the delegates, namely, "there were other interests in the colony of more importance to be considered before their own." Gentlemen, what were the diggers to do? Were they to sit down silently and be contented with a grievance that was oppressing them more and more every day? Or were they to appoint another set of delegates, draw up another petition, and forward it to His Excellency, and with baited breath and whispering humbleness say, "Important sir, you spat upon our first petition on the first of August. Another time you said there were interests more important than ours to be first considered; and when we left your threshold, it was without hope of redress from you;" and for these courtesies we bring you a second petition, and pray to you again like stranger curs." No, no, Lt. Colonel Valiant, diggers are Englishmen, and the same honour which would prompt a true soldier to die rather than crouch a coward slave before a brainless tyrant, animates the heart of the true digger, whether English, French, German, Italian, or Dane.

The diggers, as I said before, had nothing to hope from the Governor or the Government. It was not till then the truth of the old adage rushed into their minds, "God helps those who help themselves." But how was the next question met? Why, by taking the only alternative which Mr. LA TROBE had left in their hands—by relying on the strength of their own numbers, and by forming an organization for self protection. In less than a week, twenty thousand diggers on the Bendigo had entered into a compact with other gold fields, to carry the object of their petition, in defiance, not of

the law, but of those who had turned a deaf ear to their prayer. The governor had told them that he "would enforce the license and the law, at any risk;" but the diggers, stronger and more determined than the boaster, declared that they would resist it, by moral force, as long as they could, and if that failed they would still resist it. The Governor and the Government saw the determined position they had made, and felt their own inability to resist the claims of the diggers, and what they could not withhold, to their own shame, they were compelled to grant. Now that we have put the saddle on the right horse, the question we wish to ask Lieutenant Colonel Valiant is, what "designing knave" was it who "forced the diggers on to the brink of a frightful precipice," which threatened destruction, not only to the diggers, but to the peace, law, and order of this Colony? O ye men of narrow sight! Know ye not that

"After the storm, when the rude winds sleep,
And the wild waves are in their graves,
The calm sea wonders at the wreck it's made?"

I think I have made it somewhat plain to you, that the stormy agitation which followed the presentation of the petition was induced by your own ignorance, and fermented by your own vacillation. I shall now proceed to answer another remark which occurs in the same letter. The writer says:—On my arrival at Sandhurst, I found all appearance of disturbance had vanished, owing to a very judicious proclamation issued by the Chief Commissioner of the gold fields, by direction of the Colonial Secretary.

In the first place, the tranquillity which prevailed on the Bendigo, when Colonel Valiant arrived, was not consequent upon the proclamation issued by the Chief Commissioner of the gold fields, but owing to the steps we, ourselves, had taken on receiving the information direct from town, that the Legislative Council had reduced the license fee to 13s. 4d. per month, and which information we last no time in posting throughout the diggings. We also called a local meeting, and informed the diggers that their committee was satisfied with those terms for the next three months, until such time as the Government could meet and settle finally the rate of taxation. But the most amusing part of the letter is that which says, "The proclamation served two important purposes." True, it did; but those purposes were not the same as Colonel Valiant would have the public believe. In the first place, it served for merriment to the diggers, and disgust to those who had supported the Government throughout the contest; for, be it remembered, three different proclamations had been issued before that. The first was from the Governor, which declared the license should not be enforced. The second was from the Government, which declared the license should be enforced. The third declared that "loyal and peaceable subjects" might pay the license, but that the diggers might do as they pleased. The last mentioned parties, thinking they knew the value of a "shicor" too well, declined the honour of an interview with check-taker on the camp. The public would imagine from the tone of the Colonel's letter, that any proclamation issuing from the camp, fell like oil upon the troubled waters of the Anti-Gold License Agitation. It is true, the battle was a strong one, and took, at times, shapes which were anything but pleasing to ourselves; but we had commenced the works, and were determined to carry them through, and had it not been for the cool judgment of the men who conducted the movement, the consequences might have been serious, both to themselves and to the Colony. But with that, as with all other reforms, there is unpleasantness, misunderstanding, and jealous feelings on all sides. However, it was a consolation to feel and to know

"'Twas but the ruin of the bad,"—
The wasting of the wrong and ill;
Whatever the good the old time had,
Is living still."

IRON.

A descendant and namesake of the great philosophical author of the inductive system, recently puzzled a modern man of science by asking him if he had read "Dr. Von Shienmycher's Treatise on the Cause of Lunacy in Fleas?" "No," replied the hoaxee, "but it is a very interesting subject, and it is curious to trace the disease among the lower insect tribe. But," added he, after a solemn pause, "how has it been ascertained that fleas are liable to insanity?" "Oh, very easily," rejoined B—, "since so many of them die cracked."

MAN'S LAST FRIEND IS THE TAX-GATHERER.—His wife may leave him, his family disown him, his best friends and worst acquaintances avoid him, but the tax-gatherer follows him wherever he goes, even to the grave. It must be most flattering to an Englishman's pride, that poor as he may be, he has always one friend that takes care of him, and who will call without the smallest ceremony and share his last penny loaf. Solitude and selfishness cannot exist in England, for no man can live independent of the tax-gatherer. His existence is a partnership drawn up for life, between the government and himself, in which the former takes what it likes, and the latter gives more than he likes. In short, every Englishman may be said to possess two shadows—his own genuine true-born shadow, and the Government presentation shadow; but there is this difference between the two—that whereas his own shadow merely walks after him, the Government shadow walks into him if it is not paid the moment it runs after him.

A GREAT COMMERCIAL FACT.—"Time is money," said a debtor to a creditor, "and, therefore, if you will give me time, it is just the same thing as if I gave you money."

A HINT TO LADIES WITH GREY HAIRS.—Never say "Dye."

A man has started a paper in Maine, to be issued occasionally, which is a great deal oftener than the editor thinks he shall be able to get paid for it.

THE GOLD FIELDS.

The gold fields must be maintained in their integrity, and that cannot be, if companies are allowed to select, claim, and divide, privately, and then to notify to the digging community that the thing is done.

Our prosperity is owing to the diggers, and the prosperity of the digger arises from the fact, that he participates in the gross results of his labour, instead of partaking of a modicum in the shape of wage.

If companies engross the occupation of our gold, the riches whereof are the developments of men's enterprise, who worked hard successfully, despite inclemency of weather and the hardest privations, years before these companies were thought of, then wages will be paid, and diggers be turned into journeymen.

When the time of wages comes, individual enterprise slackens; the proceeds of our gold fields, instead of being diffused amongst the many, will become concentrated in the hands of the few. Shareholders may make fortunes, gold diggers must be content to take what the shareholders offer.

We see the results of independent labour, under the system which has obtained. Hundreds have built themselves houses, purchased their little freeholds, and have virtually sat down independent. Independent labour has built Chilliwell, Newtown, Little Scotland, Ashby, and made lands in the township of Geelong worth nine thousand per acre.

Would it be wise to allow a system fraught with such overwhelming good, to be coolly set aside, and the community be sacrificed to an interested few? Would we be content to be despoiled of riches, for the sake of filling the pockets of a few English and colonial capitalists, who would pocket princely gains, and dole out wages in return?

If we be content to see this, and have not energy enough to oppose it, we deserve to lose our gold, and see the best parts of Ballarat parcelled out amongst a few wealthy adventurers, who may have sufficient of backstairs influence to smuggle themselves into possession of a section or two of the Buninyong Range, and exclude the diggers from the Eureka Tiers, who may be coolly informed, as were their brothers at Mount Alexander, that the land is leased to some auriferous cormorant association, with its tail in Collins Street, and its head in Cheapside.

It will be a sorry day for Victoria, when her independent labour on her gold fields is superseded by a company-dom. Wealth is now diffused, and irrigates through a thousand channels, fertilising everywhere. Concentrate that wealth—and by companies it will be concentrated and the result will be fortunes to a few, and a subsistence to the multitude. Enterprise would fade, local progress would starve; and all that would be left to Victoria of her gold, would be the value of her labor for getting it, whilst the capital would slip through her fingers, and be fobbed by foreign capitalists.—Argus.

MONTHLY RETURN OF THE VICTORIA GOLD FIELDS.

	ozs.
Ballarat.....	35,169
Ovens	9,729
M'Ivor	6,210
Mount Alexander.....	105,058
	156,166

The monthly yield of Ballarat, as compared with corresponding period of October, 1852, gives an increase of 7,481 ounces.

The monthly yield of Mount Alexander, as compared with corresponding period of October, 1852, shows the amazing decrease of 232,426 ounces.

The M'Ivor gold field has supplied 6,210 ounces, published escort returns, and one escort quantity not yet known; and the Ovens 9,729 ounces, for the month of October.

The total yield of the Victoria Gold Fields during October, 1852, was 365,172 ounces. The total yield for the past month, as shown above, is 156,166 ounces, showing a total deficiency of 239,006 ounces.

It will be seen that Ballarat is the only improving gold field. With the addition of two new gold fields, there is a terrible deficiency on the northern side.

The discovery of gold on the Avoca is likely to add considerably to the western diggings; and the intelligence from the Wardy Yallock, recorded in our last issue, will be read with great interest, being the first fruits of the opening up a large tract of country extending from Ballarat down to the Cape Otway Ranges, intersecting the Colac district, where gold has been lately discovered.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE DIGGERS' ADVOCATE.—We have received the first number of this journal, which gives very promising indications of success. It would be unfair, however, to criticise it strictly, considering the difficulties connected with the press in the present circumstances of the colony. We sincerely wish well to our new contemporary, and hope to see him improve as he proceeds.—"Argus," November 4.

NEW PAPER.—We have received the first number of the DIGGERS' ADVOCATE, and although it issues from the printing office of the publishers of our facetious contemporary, we have great pleasure in speaking no less favourably of the ensemble of the paper, than of the general character of the articles and matter which it contains. The "diggers" are well entitled to a journal to themselves, but we fear the present temper of the Council will leave it few grievances to complain of, few concessions to demand. We wish our contemporary every success, and shall watch his progress with interest.—The "Banner," November 3.

[Advertisement.]—BENDIGO DIGGINGS.—A friend of ours has forwarded to us the following notice:—"On Bendigo Flat will be found (if looked for and wanted) a Hair-cutting Establishment, called 'The Shampooing and Shaving Saloon.' The fittings up of this establishment are so tasteful, and its accommodations so complete, that I think it completely takes the shine out of anything of the kind at any other diggings."

THE LICENSE QUESTION.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

The labours of the Gold Fields Committee have at length been brought to a close, and the report printed, by order of the House.

We extract the important features for the benefit of our readers. Commencing with the vexed question of the license fee, which to our minds has been tolerably well arranged, although we should have been better satisfied with a less difference between the minimum and maximum amounts—the single month and the whole year. The proposed new law is £1 for a single month, £2 for three months, £3 for six months, and £5 for twelve months. It is likewise suggested that the holder of a twelve months license should be allowed to cultivate garden ground without additional charge, subject to such regulations as will not interfere with the sale of agricultural or the working of auriferous lands. The Committee likewise recommend the imposition of an annual charge upon all parties engaged in trade upon the gold fields. There is likewise a clause affecting the establishment of companies, which is thought advisable, but not, however, to disturb the individual miner.

They likewise urge that in every possible manner the same practice of the law should apply to the residents on the gold fields, as elsewhere, unless where circumstances render it impracticable, or some benefit to be derived makes the change expedient.

The Committee are of opinion that the sale of fermented and spirituous liquors should be permitted upon the gold fields as elsewhere, and also that there should be some simple law, relative to mining claims, and the partnership relations of the inhabitants of the mining districts.

With a brief remark upon the advisability of encouraging prospecting parties, the report closes. We have purposely omitted the reference to the franchise, because we have a word or two to say upon that subject in the "leader."

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE LATE ANTI-GOLD-LICENSE ASSOCIATION.

Gentlemen,—We, the diggers of Golden Gully and its vicinity, beg to return you our grateful thanks, for the untiring industry, disinterested zeal, indomitable perseverance, and great moral courage which you displayed in conducting our late struggle against the oppressive License Tax of 30s. a-month. We are now reaping the fruit of your labours, for, however numerous, resolute, and stout of heart we may have been, we were as an army without a general; and, although the reduction of the tax is only an instalment of the grievances set forth in our Petition, we could not have achieved even that without your guidance.

Your motives were misrepresented by professing friends, as well as by open foes. You were stigmatized as "lawless and disaffected," because you sympathized with us in our sufferings; but when did an oppressed people carry on a vigorous agitation against bad laws and maladministration, without having similar opprobrious epithets hurled at the devoted heads of their leaders?

You were accused of "inciting us against the law. Does modern history furnish no precedent for the course we adopted? Do our accusers forget the nature of the machinery by which the Reform Bill was extorted from the House of Lords? In 1832 it was the law, that a certain amount of money, called King's taxes, should be paid for the house in which the London "Weekly Dispatch" was published. Did Alderman Harmer obey that law? No! he caused a placard to be posted on the outside of that house, with the following "lawless and disaffected" words printed in large type: "No taxes will be paid for this house until the Bill, the whole Bill, and nothing but the Bill, shall be passed into a law." But how should our calumniators be qualified to act as judges over us on such a question as the late obnoxious tax; let them come to the diggings and work during four or five months for a pennyweight a day, and we have no doubt that, in the event of another Monster Meeting, they would join with us, heart and head, in registering, before the face of High Heaven, a vow such as that witnessed by you on Saturday, the 27th of August, at View Point, Bendigo.

Again, gentlemen, we thank you most cordially for your kind offices and valuable services in the late movement on our behalf.

(Signed)

E. Tobin.	Samuel Harrison.
J. Bell.	James Parker.
J. Hardeman.	John Jones.
David Marshall.	J. C. Norton.
Thomas Ashton.	Ludwick Moulden.
William Ashton.	Thomas Laurie.
W. Johnston.	Robert Chamberlain.
W. Bowers.	Thomas Quitty.
William Bean.	George Fitchet.
T. McManus.	J. McNab.
James Ferres.	Robert Lloyd.
John Stevens.	F. C. Oswald.
John Hardman.	J. Harris.
Robert Foster.	P. Monks.
Joseph Dennes.	W. Berfoot.
Alex. B. Barker.	Joseph Magee.
James Jones.	Joseph Macarthy.

And by the Robinson Crusoe Society of 134 members.

EMIGRATION FROM MADEIRA.—The distress of the peasantry of Madeira, resulting from the total failure of the vines of last season, has been the subject of consideration on the part of the Portuguese Government, with a view to some measure of relief by emigration. It was first proposed to promote emigration to the sugar plantations of Demerara, but subsequently the Australian Colonies were regarded with more favour, and we understand a number of emigrants from Madeira are likely to arrive here in a short time. A letter from an influential member of the Cortes, residing in Lisbon, has been received by a Sydney merchant, detailing the plans in contemplation, and we are informed the communication has been placed in the hands of the local government. The introduction of a number of these persons, who must have so intimate a knowledge of the cultivation of the vine, could not fail to be highly beneficial to one of the most interesting branches of our colonial industry.—Sydney Empire.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.—Number of persons arrived during the week, 1,275; number departed, 394; addition to population, 881.

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DANIEL and GEORGE FORD, Proprietors,
(The original and well-known English Carriers and Shipping Agents.)

THE Proprietors beg to inform the public they have opened the above central and convenient establishment for the reception of all kinds of merchandise and passengers' luggage for storage or sale, for which they have room for 3,000 tons—extending a length of upwards of 400 feet, conveniently divided into various separate departments, suitable to show goods, &c., and for forwarding as Carriers or Agents to all parts of the Colony and Europe.

They claim particular attention to their extensive system of Booking through all packages under two feet square to every town in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Guernsey, and Jersey, at one charge (prepaid or not), including all the expenses of freight, commissions, dock, wharf, and pier dues, lighterage, cartage, and rail charges of both countries, which their general knowledge of the trade, and having upwards of one hundred resident correspondents in the principal cities and manufacturing districts, enables them to do with economy, safety, and punctuality.

For the greater safety and convenience of removing goods requiring special care, such as china, glass, music, &c., they have brought out light spring vans, which can be had on application at the office.

Merchants, wholesale houses, and others contracted with for delivery twice a day, to any part of the city.

Collecting vans will call daily at the principal hotels and boarding houses for passengers' luggage to be conveyed to and from the steamers.

With these arrangements, which are intended to facilitate the transit of goods to and from the Colony and Great Britain, particularly for parcels, which the increased immigration renders most important to thousands unacquainted with the formality and expenses of shipping such goods themselves; and for affording greater local accommodation than has hitherto been attempted, the Proprietors respectfully solicit the patronage of the mercantile community, and the public in general, with the assurance that all goods consigned to them shall be carefully and promptly attended to.

Particulars of rates, times, &c., to be had at the office.

BENDIGO JEWELLERY MART,

WHITE HILL PLAT.

MESSRS. DOUGLAS, HISLOP, & Co. beg to announce to their friends and the public, that they have at present in stock a quantity of Gold and Silver Watches of a very superior quality, also Clocks and Timepieces of various descriptions; Accordeons, Flutinas, and Musical-boxes.

Their stock of Jewellery is replete with every article belonging to the trade, in their newest and richest patterns.

Spectacles and Preservers to suit all ages, in gold, silver, and steel frames.

An assortment of very superior Pistols and Cutlery.

Mr. Douglas takes this opportunity of tendering his thanks for the patronage he has experienced since commencing business here, and since the recent alterations in the concern; it gives him much pleasure to be enabled with the utmost confidence to recommend his partners as competent and experienced tradesmen.

The Watch Repairing department is superintended by Mr. Hislop, who, by studying punctuality and accuracy, will endeavour to merit public confidence.

The Jewellery Department is superintended by Mr. Laing, whose experience as a manufacturer at home prompts him to assure the public that any work left under his charge will be executed in a style which for elegance of workmanship or pattern cannot be surpassed in Victoria.

Parties wishing work made to order can be supplied with Gems and Stones of every description.

At present on hand, a parcel of Diamonds, Emeralds, and Rubies of very superb lustre, suitable for rings, &c., to which inspection is invited of those desirous of having jewellery manufactured of their own gold.

Engraving in all its branches executed in every style and variety.

Gold bought in any quantity.

Medical Notice.

AMERICAN REMEDIES, and Scientific Medical Treatment, for the quick and permanent cure of syphilis, gonorrhoea, urethral discharges, gleet, stricture, seminal weakness, impotency, sterility, whites, periodical affections of females, rheumatism, diseases of the back and loins, inflammation of the bladder and kidneys, rupture, hydrocele, cancers, ulcers, and the various diseases of the skin; also consumption, dyspepsia, sore eyes, chronic dysentery, diarrhoea, liver complaint, scurvy, piles, constitutional debility, and the catalogue of nervous affections.

Can be had of Dr. J. FLATTERY, who is the only regularly-educated Surgeon in the city of Melbourne, giving a specified portion of his time strictly to the treatment of Venereal and Chronic Diseases.

Dr. Flattery is, therefore, prepared to say to the unfortunate sufferer, that without hindrance from the ordinary pursuits of life, and without injury to the constitution, he will warrant a cure of any of the above diseases, however serious and inveterate the case may be.

J. Flattery, M.D., American Surgeon, from New York, can be consulted at his office daily, on Venereal and Chronic Diseases, from 7 till 12 o'clock in the morning; gratuitously for the poor, from 5 o'clock in the evening.

Office—Room No. 1 NEAVE'S BUILDINGS, opposite Town Hall, corner of Collins and Swanston-streets, Melbourne.

N.B. Persons living at a distance, thoroughly describing their diseases in a letter, shall have the fit medicines sent them, with directions for use.

MEDICAL CARD.

JAMES BOONE, M.D., Physician, Accoucheur, and Surgeon, respectfully informs the public that he may be consulted daily at his office, Bendigo Flat, directly opposite the Commissioner's Camp. Office hours from 8 to 10, morning; 12 to 2, mid-day; and 6 to 8, evening.

JAMES TIBBETT, Pastrycook and Confectioner in all its branches, on moderate charges. View Point, near the Camp.

JAMES MOORE, Watch and Clock Maker. Repairs neatly executed, glasses fitted, &c., &c., punctuality observed.

THE Diggers' Arms, by J. L. Croom, board and lodging house, 5th White Hill, Bendigo. Quietness, comfort, cleanliness, and civility.

Messrs. Bedson and Steel,
GENERAL STORE,

Robinson Crusoe Gully, where the Digger can be supplied with everything suitable for the Diggings.

STOREKEEPERS and others can be supplied with Assistants, Carters, Cooks, &c. by applying at NEWMAN'S LIBRARY, BOOKING, REGISTRY, & BULLION OFFICE, View Point, Bendigo.

J. E. EDWARDS, Auctioneer, Bendigo, holds sales of horses and cattle at Wilson's Horse Bazaar, Golden-square, every Monday and Thursday, at 12 o'clock, where horses can be booked; also at Eagle Hawk Gully, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, at 3 o'clock p.m. Horses booked at the Californian Coffee House.

The Robinson Crusoe Store,

BROWN & CO.

THE OLD ORIGINAL STORE.

Mr. Allen,

(Branch Office of the DIGGER'S ADVOCATE.)
Near the Bridge, Golden Point, and Adelaide Gully.

To Diggers coming to the Bendigo.

COME TO HARRIS'S TEA AND COFFEE ROOMS, where you will find Comfort combined with real Home Convenience, at Moderate Charges, with all Information of the Best Localities.

VIEW POINT, NEAR THE COMMISSIONER'S.

The Diggers of Victoria and Parties
Visiting the Bendigo

WILL find a clean, comfortable home, with every accommodation, at

W. GUNN'S COFFEE ROOMS,

Kangaroo Flat, entrance to the Great Bendigo, With moderate charges, and a good dinner, bed, &c. The proprietor will do his utmost to gain the confidence and patronage of the community.

Branch office of the DIGGER'S ADVOCATE.

Orders received, passengers booked, and commissions executed with despatch and punctuality.
Kangaroo Flat, Bendigo, 21st Oct., 1853.

The National Reading Room
AND CIGAR DIVAN.

M. R. GRUBE, (late member of the Anti-Gold-License Society) has much pleasure in informing his friends on the Bendigo, that he has opened the above room, with the intention of making a social evening for his friends and supporters, which he has so frequently found amongst his numerous friends on the Bendigo.

To the Diggers of Kangaroo Flat and
Neighbourhood.

DUNCAN & MORRISON beg to tender their sincere thanks for the share of patronage with which they have been favored since opening, and hope by civility, integrity, and attention to purchasers, that they may secure a portion of the Diggers' favours, who will find that they will get as good value for their money as in any establishment on Bendigo.

Observe! GEELONG STORE,

At the foot of Kangaroo Gully.

AUCTION ROOMS,

GENERAL AGENCY, & REGISTRY OFFICE,

Star Flag, 17 Auction Street,

BENDIGO.

CAPTAIN HARRISON begs to acquaint the Gold Diggers, Storekeepers, &c., of Bendigo, that he has opened the above Office, where he will carry on business (under the firm of J. HARRISON & Co.), and hopes that the great pecuniary sacrifice he has made, and the services he has rendered to the Mining Community, will ensure him a share of their patronage and support.

N.B.—Pastoral, Domestic, and other Servants obtained for Settlers and Storekeepers. Carriers' Supplies Stored, or Sold by Auction or Private Contract.

BEARD & CO.,

WHOLESALE & RETAIL CONFECTIONERS,

FANCY BISCUIT BAKERS,

And Syrup Manufacturers,

From one of the first houses in London,

BEG to inform their Friends and the Public, that they are now prepared to supply Stores and Parties with every kind of Article in the above branches, at Moderate Charges, and upon the most improved scale and style of the Art, together with Expedition and Exactness.

WEDDING & CHRISTENING CAKES always on hand.

Near Commissioner's Flat, Bendigo.

N.B.—Orders received at the Central Office of this Paper.

JOHN WOOD,

Of the firm of JOHN WOOD & Co. (Bakers), Kangaroo Flat, Bendigo,

INTIMATES to his Friends and the Digging Community, that he has Dissolved Partnership with his late Partner, and that all Debts and Demands will in future be received and paid by him.

N.B.—J. W. returns his thanks to the Public for the liberal support he has hitherto received, and begs to assure them that no exertion on his part will be wanted to ensure their future patronage.

JOHN WOOD.
Bendigo, Oct. 20th.

A SMALL NUGGET,

Found in some washing stuff at the bottom of an unworked claim, and presented to the successful diggers, by H. T. HOLYOAKE.

Dost thou seek the treasures hidden

Within earth's rocky bed,

The diamond for beauty's tresses,

Gems for the queenly head?

'Tis not on the dewy surface

That they their rays unfold,

But far in distant hollows—

Dig deep to find the gold.

Heed not how long it takes ye,

'Tis the present, not the past;

And he who diggeth steadily

Must find the gold at last.

Dost thou long thy fields should brighten

With golden harvest ears,

And thy pastures yield in verdure

Rich for coming years?

Then dream not, that while you linger,

Earth's bounty you'll behold;

But work, and win her treasures—

Dig deep to find the gold.

It may be after days of sorrow,

When all bright hopes are past;

But he who diggeth steadily,

Must find the gold at last.

Dost thou sigh for wealth of knowledge,

The riches of ages past;

And o'er the bright world of science,

Thy longing glances cast?

With love and zeal undaunted,

Seek for the wealth untold,

In the soul-lit mines of genius—

Dig deep to find that gold.

'Tis the noblest work of nations—

To every man the same;

The coward digs and leaves it,

But the brave one works the claim.

Melbourne, Nov. 7th, 1853.

THE MARKETS.

MELBOURNE WHOLESALE PRICE

CURRENT.

Invoices but little in demand, summer goods alone realising good per centages, together with tinware and stationery.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Beer, per hhd.	6	10	0	8	10	0
Porter	5	10	0	6	15	0
Coffee	0	0	5	0	0	7
Fruit: Almonds	0	2	0	0	2	6
Apples, dried	0	0	7	0	0	7½
Currants	0	1	3			
Figs	0	0	9	0	0	10
Raisins	0	0	6	0	0	10
Grain: Flour, per 2000 lbs.	33	0				
American, per bbl.	2	10	0	3	0	0
Oats	0	6	0	0	11	0
Hay, per ton	25	0				
Hops, per lb.	0	1	6	0	2	6
Provisions: Cheese, Eng.	0	1	0	0	1	4
Dutch and American	0	0	9	0	0	10
Butter, Cork	0	1	6	0	1	9
Pickles, qts., per doz.	0	13	0			
Do. pints do.	0	13	0	0	14	0
Rice, per cwt.	0	8	0	0	16	0
Salt, table, per ton	12	0				
Do. rough	5	0	0	0	9	0
Spirits: Brandy, per gal.	0	12	0	0	13	0
Do. per case	1	10	0	2	0	0
Old Tom, per doz.	1	5	0	0	1	7
Rum, per gal.	0	11	6	0	12	0
Whiskey	0	11	3	0	11	6
Sundries: Canvass, per yd.	0	0	9	0	1	3
Candles	0	0	7	0	0	7½
Sperm	0	1	4	0	1	6
Isinglass	0	10	6	0	17	6
Jams, V. D. L., per lb.	0	1	6	0	1	9
Do. English do.	0	1	10	0	2	0
Soda, carbon, per cwt.	1	16	0	0	2	0
Acid, tartaric, per lb.	0	4	10	0	5	0
Tea: Congou, per chest	6	10	0	0	7	0
Hyson do.	5	0	0	0	5	0
Tobacco in bond:						
Manilla, No. 2, per 1000	4	0	0	0	4	10
No. 3, do.	3	0	0	0	3	15
Negrohead	0	0	11	0	0	2
Cavendish	0	1	0			
Wines: Champagne p. doz.	1	15	0	0	2	10
Claret	0	18	0	0	1	10
Port	1	5	0	0	1	10
Sherry	1	1	0	0	1	8

MELBOURNE HORSE MARKET.

Draught cattle are still very much in request, although the supply for the last week has been very great. The following are the latest prices:—

First class large draught horses from	£70 to £140
Inferior do.	45 to 60
Small draught, first class,	45 to 60
Do. inferior,	30 to 45
Light harness do., superior,	65 to 80
Do. inferior,	30 to 55
Superior hacks,	25 to 45
Inferior do.,	15 to 25
Bullocks in teams of eight	110 to 145

BENDIGO WHOLESALE PRICE CURRENT.—Flour, Adelaide, per ton, £67 10s.; sugar, Mauritius, per lb., 6d. to 7d.; coffee, per lb. 1s. 10d. to 2s.; tea, per chest, black, £9; Manilla, per thousand, No. 2, £6 10s.; tobacco, per lb., 5s. 6d.; butter, Cork, 2s. 6d. to 3s.; raisins, 1s. 3d. per lb.; currants, 2s. do.; hops, 3s. 6d. do.; pickles scarce.

LIST OF AGENTS FOR THE
DIGGERS' ADVOCATE.

ABBOTT & Co., Central Office, Bendigo Flat.
Mr. W. DEXTER, View Point.
Mr. T. JACKSON, (Near Daw's Store,) View Point.
Mr. DENAVAN, (Top of the Hill,) Golden Square.
Mr. ALLEN, between Golden Square and Kangaroo Flat.
Mr. DIXON, head of Eagle Hawk Gully, (on the main line of road to Myers' Flat.)
Mr. McKENZIE, near the First White Hill.
Dr. KING, Long Gully, (crossing the main line of road to Bendigo.)
Mr. GUNN, Kangaroo Flat.
Mr. ROGERS, (Victoria Saloon,) Back Creek.
DUNCAN & MORRISON'S Store, Robinson Crusoe Gully.
Mr. GAUBE, National Reading Room, opposite the Circus.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVED.

Oct. 28th.—Dundee, Jamieson, 305 tons, from Newcastle, N. S. W., 2 passengers; Viola, Shackelford, 495 tons, New York, 13 pass.; Polar Star, Walker, 535 tons, London, 4 pass.; Royal Stewart, Goble, 837 tons, London, 158 pass.; Jan Janieteezon, Koon-Fellope, 563 tons, Liverpool, 1 pass.; Valliant, Watson, 140 tons, Sealer's Cove, 3 pass.; Aurora, Crosbie, 293 tons, New York, 21 pass.

Oct. 29th.—Firefly, Evans, 170 tons, from Liverpool, 11 pass.; Eliza Bowen, Richards, 171 tons, Liverpool, 1 pass.; Duke of Wellington, Herry, 87 tons, Launceston, 2 passengers; Louisa, Brown, 50 tons, Cape Town, no passengers; Seaton, Wood, 185 tons, Adelaide, 4 passengers; Norma, Risley, 292 tons, New York, 40 pass.; Margaret, Doran, 231 tons, Portland, 17 passengers; Cygnet, McLean, 50 tons, Sydney, no pass.; California, Leslie, 624 tons, London, 119 pass.; Ballona, Ritchie, 302 tons, Newcastle, N. S. W., no pass.; Remeau, Englebens-Grange, 105 tons, London, 4 pass.

Oct. 30th.—Rio de Janeiro, Nescke, 270 tons, from Valparaiso, no passengers; Allerton, Bulford, 421 tons, Glasgow, 16 pass.; Sophia, steamer, Huson, 135 tons, Gibraltar, 2 passengers; Mary Clarke, Breckous, 180 tons, Adelaide, 3 pass.; Henry William, O'Hagan, 194 tons, Adelaide, no pass.; Louisa, English, 141 tons, Adelaide, 15 pass.; Mary Emma, Pearson, 165 tons, London, no pass.; Manchester steamer, Harrison, Launceston, 19 pass.; Goldseeker, Diekey, 80 tons, Swan River, 33 pass.

Oct. 31st.—Sir John Harvey steamer, Mailer, from Sydney, 103 passengers; Yarra Yarra steamer, Gilmore, Launceston, 64 pass.; Jessie, Anderson, 115 tons, Adelaide, 6 pass.; Rebecca, Sayers, 189 tons, Adelaide, 67 pass.

Nov. 1st.—Levenlass, Niekof, 184 tons, from Adelaide, 3 passengers.

Nov. 2d.—Wave, Dixon, 198 tons, from River Mersey and Circular Head, 6 passengers; Shamrock steamer, Warner, Sydney, 9 pass.

Nov. 3d.—Eucalyptus, Blackburn, 195 tons, from Hobart Town, 28 passengers; Sailor's Friend, Cohen, 147 tons, Hobart Town, 1 pass.

Nov. 4th.—Laurita, Moreton, 135 tons, from Sydney and Twofold Bay, 4 passengers; Delmar, Thayer, 238 tons, Auckland, N. Z., 3 pass.

CLEARED OUT.

Oct. 31st.—Sussex, Scanlan, 960 tons, for Calcutta, 3 passengers; Envoy, Ward, 146 tons, for Adelaide, no passengers; Chilian, Grayson, 196 tons, for Adelaide, no pass.; Don Pedro the 2nd, Eustice, 166 tons, for Adelaide, no passengers; Sarah Bell, Hart, 148 tons, for Sydney, no passengers; Tamar, Ellis, 119 tons, for Launceston, 6 pass.; Harriet Hope, Pannerman, 250 tons, for Hobart Town, 2 passengers; Castillon, Groves, 999 tons, for Callao, 1 passenger.

Nov. 1st.—Sydney, steamer, S. Y. Askey, 735 tons, for Sydney, 10 passengers; Commodore, Woodward, 200 tons, for Adelaide, no passengers; Osmanli, steamer, Corbett, 403 tons, for Sydney, 33 pass.; Bonanza, Barnett, 343 tons, for Ceylon, no pass.; Dreadnought, Lowrie, 338 tons, for Adelaide, no pass.; Gazelle, McDonald, 131 tons, no passengers; Wanderer, Robbins, 173 tons, for Auckland, 5 pass.; Eclipse, Cross, 168 tons, for Sydney, 19 pass.

Nov. 2d.—Ann, Irving, 286 tons, for Adelaide, no pass.; Indus, Prole, 368 tons, for Newcastle, N. S. W., no pass.; Caroline, Hindley, 127 tons, for Adelaide, no pass.; Creole, Griggs, 144 tons, for Hobart Town, 52 pass.; Wellington, Sewart, 473 tons, for Portland, no pass.; Christina, Rees, 126 tons, for Sydney, 33 pass.; Amazon, Blacklock, 320 tons, for Launceston, no pass.

Nov. 3d.—Sh

COAL IN VICTORIA.

On Saturday, the 5th instant, a public meeting was held at the Mechanics' Institution, relative to the discovery of coal. The Mayor in the chair. Mr. Terry, of the Ovens Mining Company, opened the subject, by briefly remarking upon the importance of the discovery, and introduced the discoverer, a Welsh collier, named Davis. Mr. Polk, the mining surveyor, then read a report of the observations that he had made in connection with it.

The coal, it appears, exists immediately on the sea coast, cropping out on the beach, and is only perceptible at low water. The largest of the seams, of which there are several, is eighteen feet wide and six feet thick, dipping down in towards the land; but the inclination being very slight, will obviate the necessity of deep shafts to work it; there is likewise a large quantity of magnetic iron and fire clay, in immediate proximity to it, with lime and free stone, within an available distance. The reports were received with evident marks of satisfaction by the meeting. But now comes the strangest part of the business; it is not a recent discovery at all, but has been known to dozens of people in Melbourne for the last two years; and a thousand pounds were subscribed before the making out of the gold-fields, to prosecute the working of it; but abandoned for a time in consequence. The very man, Davis, asserted that he brought the subject before Mr. La Trobe ten years ago, but failed to interest the Government in the matter, and now, after offering a reward for the discovery of that which has been marked down on the survey maps for some time past, we learn that the only reason why coal has not been worked, is owing to the supineness and inactivity of the Executive.

The samples exhibited were of the very best character of coal, and all the experiments that have been tried upon it confirm the high opinion its appearance is calculated to create. It produces 70 per cent. of coke, with only 4½ per cent. of ash, while the gas evolved is of the first quality; its volume, however, has not yet been ascertained; but the public are promised further particulars in the course of a week or two.

STEAM COMMUNICATION.

No thoughtful person can cast his eye over the map of Australia without becoming conclusively aware that Melbourne is destined to be the future metropolis of these colonies. Two concurrent conditions indicate this obvious result. First, the geographical position of that rising city asserts for it a manifest claim of political and commercial superiority. Nearly equidistant from all the other Australian cities, it must carry on an active intercourse with each and all of them. From the central point of Melbourne radiate the various lines of civilization which touch the social circumference at the points northerly of Sydney, southerly of Launceston and Hobart Town, and westwardly of Adelaide. Each of these cities are isolated from each other by a large intervening ocean space. Melbourne alone commands a near vicinity to each, and must enjoy with every one an extensive intercolonial trade. If matters, therefore, were now, as respects Melbourne, no more than in the same position as they presented three years ago, we should consider that we would be justified in anticipating the future metropolitical distinction of the capital of Victoria. Her geographical position alone would point to her future pre-eminence. But how much more unequivocally is this end being precipitated by the amazing prodigality of gold wealth which has been discovered within the limits of our Victorian neighbour! Abundance of money, abundance of men, abundance of excellent land waiting for the plough, open the way to sure and rapid ascendency. There are dark sides to the picture, doubtless, but upon these it is not now relevant to dwell. We are only concerning ourselves at present to set forth a case for immediate application to our own practical good. We would, in the remembrance of these promises, press upon the thoughtful attention of our statesmen, our political thinkers, our enterprising merchants, our diligent and intelligent landholders, that no possible means should be neglected, no ties unproffered, no social or political relations uncultivated, which may tend to bring us into the most intimate connection with the neighbouring Colony. In her prospects the prospects of Tasmania are bound up. In her prosperity we prosper; in her retardation we languish. Every political good that elevates Victoria acts directly and beneficially upon the interests of this island. Therefore, every physical item whereby mutual intercourse is increased and facilitated should be unsparingly and energetically promoted. The telegraphic system by electric wire ought to be earnestly forwarded, and increased steam communication should be actively pressed forward. Trade creates trade. One steam enterprise enlarges the beneficial prospects of another. In the special condition of Melbourne, and its relative bearing upon these markets, it is impossible to over-estimate the importance of commercial interchange. Mutual knowledge will best and most efficaciously destroy past prejudices, and hasten the day of mutual confidence. We therefore strongly urge upon our merchants the enlargement of our steam fleet, as between the ports of Melbourne and Hobart Town. We are satisfied that prosperity will attend such enterprise, and that a great social and political good will thus be compassed. Let us hope that by this and other means such an intimate relationship will have soon grown up between the two countries as will result in the immense advancement of Tasmania, morally, politically, and economically.—*Hobart Town Courier*.

THE BIG EXCHANGE.—The seamen from the steamer Acheron were employed all Saturday and a portion of yesterday in picking up goods from the wreck of the above vessel. Up to noon yesterday there had been received on board the Acheron, her mainboom, fore-top-gallant yard, stump of foremast, main gaff, main trysail mast, topmast studdingsail boom, spritsail yard, topsails and courses, jibs and boom mainsail, fifty cases pickles, three cases merchandise, several bales hops, and sundry smaller articles. At nine o'clock yesterday morning her stern fell out, and shortly after she parted amidst ships. But very little of the wreck remained last night. The Acheron came up from the Heads yesterday afternoon. The wreck of the Exchange was purchased yesterday by Mr. Bainbridge for £10.—*Sydney Herald*.

SYDNEY.

SYDNEY, 6th November.—The constitutional agitation is still carried on, with the same results. At Shoalhaven a meeting was held the other day, at which a petition was adopted, containing protests against hereditary legislation and nomineeism; but there was also a considerable novelty in the shape of a suggestion that the constitutions of all the Australian colonies ought to be uniform, and that the Governor-General should "invite the Lieutenant-Governors of Tasmania, Victoria, and South Australia, with delegates from each Council, to a conference in Sydney, to prepare one constitution for Australasia, to be submitted to the imperial parliament and the Queen in Council."

Intelligence from Valparaiso has been received, but nothing of any immediate interest in a political or commercial sense. Catherine Hayes was delighting the Chilenos with her melodious voice, and seems to have renewed the triumphs and ovations she had already received in California. There is a project on foot for establishing a line of American steamers from Panama to Valparaiso. At Panama, they were talking of getting Chinese labourers for the railway.

Reports from Buenos Ayres to the 22nd June had been received in Valparaiso, stating that the blockading squadron had deserted from Urquiza to the Buenos Ayreans, and the besieging army had followed their example. The "Diario," of Valparaiso, discredits this report, on account of its *monstrosity*.

Captain Sir Everard Home, Bart., senior naval officer on this station, died a few days since, on board the Calliope. All the vessels in harbour hoisted their flags half-mast high.

BUSHRANGING.—The notorious bushranger, Thomas Haywood, was brought down yesterday (October 28th) in irons from the Clarence River, in the Iron Prince steamer. This prisoner stands charged with several instances of horse stealing, and latterly with setting fire to the house of a settler. He was apprehended for these offences, and confined in Woollengrove gaol; he escaped from the prison, and was shortly afterwards recaptured and locked up in the prison at the Condamine. He soon managed to release himself from the latter place, and was a third time taken, in the district of Grafton. This time the police authorities were more fortunate, and took the prisoner in security to the steamer, from whence he was yesterday morning conveyed to Darlinghurst gaol, to take his trial at the next session of the Central Criminal Court. A female prisoner was brought down and lodged at Darlinghurst, having been convicted under the Vagrant Act, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment. Both prisoners were conveyed here in charge of constable Grady.—*Sydney Empire*.

ANOTHER MURDER BY THE BLACKS.—Mr. Bell's overseer, named Bourke, was murdered by the aboriginal natives at Jinbour, blacks with whom he had been on terms of kindness and familiarity. The full particulars of the murder had not yet come to hand. It has caused great excitement, and every means are being taken by his friends to bring the offenders to justice. Judging from the many murders lately taken place of the same nature, one would think the blacks had come to a determination to revenge themselves upon the white settlers of the interior.—*From a Correspondent at Moreton Bay*.

NATIVE SHEPHERDS.—The *Bathurst Free Press* mentions the following instance of shepherding by the Aborigines:—"It has been usual at Mr. Crowder's station, near the Waw-waw Creek, on the Downs, to employ blacks for shepherds, as being cheap and answering the purpose. This appears to have succeeded for a time. However, a short while since, the McIntyre River blacks being bellicosely inclined, the pastoral darkies at Mr. Crowder's station became infected by the martial sentiment, and the result was that, laying aside the crook of the shepherd and assuming the spear of the warrior, they quietly decamped from the locality of Mr. Crowder's station, quitting their aradial pursuits for the more exciting business of war, and leaving 8,000 sheep without shepherds, to be taken care of as best might be."

GOULBURN.—HOUSE-ROOM.—It is next to impossible to procure even a very humble class of cottage in Goulburn. So great has been the demand for house-room, that rents have risen in some cases more than 150 per cent., and premiums are given of from £100 to £200 for good wills. In Auburn street £2 a week has been offered for a shop without any apartments; small shops there with three rooms let at that rate; and a decent four-roomed cottage will fetch from 12s. to 20s. a week. Of course this is not so high as the rents in Sydney, but they are extravagant, considering that Goulburn is situated so far away from the metropolis, and communication with it by drays is so dear.

STEAM BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, AND ENGLAND.—Nelson has had the honour of being the first port in the southern portion of New Zealand visited by a mercantile steamer. On Sunday morning last, the screw steamer Ann, seven days from Sydney, entered our harbour, bringing the welcome intelligence that the Directors of the Peninsular and Oriental Company were desirous of extending their already established line of communication from England to Sydney, to New Zealand, and that the present voyage of the Ann was a preliminary step (if suitably encouraged) to a monthly communication between Sydney and this colony, to be eventually carried on by the Chusan and Shanghai, one to the northern and the other to the southern ports; two splendid vessels of 750 tons each, now engaged in running between the Australian colonies and Singapore, but which are to give place to larger vessels as soon as they can be obtained from England.—*Nelson Examiner*.

HORRIBLE MURDER OF A CHILD BY ITS MOTHER.—A most horrible murder was committed at an early hour (3 a.m.) on Sunday morning last at Sandridge. The offender is a married woman, named Mary Jane Fenton, and the victim is her own child, a little girl aged four months. The wretched woman was immediately arrested and conveyed to the Swanston-street watch-house. Her appearance does not betoken insanity, but her conversation at once proves her to be of unsound mind. The husband came to the watch-house soon afterwards, and appeared absorbed in grief. An inquest was to be held next day.

GENERAL NEWS.

THE GOLD ESCORTS have brought into Town, since our last:—Mount Alexander and Bendigo, 28,440 ozs.; Ballarat, including Geelong, 7,332 ozs.; McIvor and Goulbourn, 2,221 ozs.; total, 37,993 ozs.

THE NEW GOVERNOR.—We have much pleasure in reporting the expected arrival of the new Governor, Lord Marcus Hill; a man, if we mistake not his antecedents, admirably adapted to the requirements of the Colonists, and calculated to falsify the old Scotch proverb, "that when a bad one goes, a worse one comes." A difficulty, we admit, in our case, unless the gentleman in black himself were to pay us a visit.

SIR WILLIAM DENISON.—There is a report, which we give as we receive it, that a new office is to be created in England, in consequence of the cessation of transportation to this colony—that of Director General of Convict Discipline for the United Kingdom, and that Sir William Denison is to be nominated, with a salary of £4000 a year.—*Tasmanian Colonist*.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—Yesterday morning (says the *Geelong Advertiser* of Monday) about nine o'clock, a gentleman riding by the botanical gardens heard the report of a pistol, and turning round in the direction whence the sound came, he saw a man fall, and immediately rode up to him, when he discovered that the attempted suicide had discharged a pistol at his head. The gentleman promptly rode off to Dr. Walsh, who went to the spot immediately, and found the man about forty yards off from where he had been left. Dr. Walsh examined the wound, and ordered the man to be taken to the hospital, where he was at once conveyed. A bullet had penetrated one temple and glanced along the skull, escaping without inflicting death. It is rumoured that the unfortunate young man had been drinking heavily, whilst another statement attributes the catastrophe to ill-reqiied affection.—Another account says:—"This morning, about 9 o'clock, a man named How, better known as Sydney Ned, or Large Ned, shot himself with a pistol, in the Government Reserve. The ball has not entered the skull, but has taken a piece of the bone away just off the right temple. A dray was immediately procured, and he was taken to the Hospital; he has been stopping at the Clare Hotel for some time past and appears to have been drinking heavily. It is said that he was to have been married on Wednesday last, but was disappointed, which is stated to have been the cause of his having committed the rash act.—Later particulars state, that How was conscious when he was conveyed to the Hospital, and told the Doctor during the time he was probing the wound, and after he had extracted one bullet, that there must be another there, as he put two balls into the pistol. Upon the Dr. asking him the reason for attempting his life, he said, "oh, it was all through some girl." No money was found upon him, but a quantity of bullets and powder.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH.—Dr. Campbell, the coroner for Bourke, held an inquest last week at Mr. Conolly's, at Upper Prahran, on the body of Owen Donohue. The deceased was driving a bullock-dray, when he, from some unknown cause or accident, fell from the dray, and one of its wheels passed over his body, killing him on the spot. The verdict was in accordance with these facts.

AWFUL DEATH BY LIGHTNING.—Dr. W. H. Campbell, the County Coroner, held an inquest on the 5th inst. on the body of Stephen Payne, whose death by lightning was mentioned in our last. From the evidence of Thomas Stokes, a butcher, it appeared that on Friday evening he was in company with the deceased, near Prahran, when they were both employed in driving stock for Mr. Wedge. A terrific storm was raging at the time, accompanied by thunder and lightning. In order to obtain a temporary shelter, Payne and Stokes stopped and leaned their backs against a gum-tree,—the deceased while in that position continuing to hold the stockwhip in one hand and the bridle-rein of his horse in the other. Stokes became fearful that the tree might be struck, and he moved a few yards off. Soon after he had done so, a second and very loud peal of thunder was heard, accompanied by a vivid flash of lightning, amid which deceased's dog howled hideously. Stokes looked around to where the dog was, and then saw deceased's horse fall down dead, while the deceased continued leaning against the tree. On going to him Stokes discovered that he was dead, and that, corpse as he was, so instantaneous had been his death, that he still continued holding on to the stockwhip and bridle-rein, and held them firmly and tightly grasped in his hands. The jurors returned a verdict that "The deceased came to his death through being struck by lightning."

THE LATE MURDEROUS ATTACK.—With reference to the shooting of a trooper near Bendigo, we may mention that intelligence has reached town that the trooper is not dead, nor fatally wounded, and he may be expected in Melbourne in the course of the week. Nothing farther has been heard of the would-be assassin.

The J. H. Millay has been chartered by the French Government for the purpose of procuring supplies for the station lately established on New Caledonia. The barque has obtained in trade about 330 piculs beche-le-mer, 75 piculs sandal wood, 1 barrel 1 chest tortoiseshell. These goods are not intended to be landed here consequently they are not given as imports. Two French officers, Messieurs Depieries and Amet, have come in charge of the French mission for supplies, &c. The French man-of-war steamer Phoque arrived at New Caledonia on the 23rd September, and took formal possession of that island on the 24th. The French Admiral of the Pacific, M. Feboirier des Pointes, is on board the Phoque. The J. H. Millay brings a report of gold having been found on the island by Captain Edwards of the Marian Watson (belonging to this port). Captain Grandell has seen the specimens of gold procured, but cannot give further information respecting the working or the quantity obtained.—*Sydney Empire*.

H. M. S. Calliope has returned from a cruise, having been absent eight months. She sailed hence on the 16th March for Melbourne; from thence to King George's Sound, where she arrived 24th April, having had to contend with strong westerly gales all the way. Left for Hobart Town 7th May, and made the passage in seven days, the quickest on record. From Hobart Town she proceeded to Port

Arthur, Nelson, Port Hardy, and Wellington, arriving there on 5th July, and sailing again for Auckland on the 19th. While on her passage she was struck by a heavy sea which carried away head and port forecastle bulwarks and otherwise injured her. She arrived at Auckland on 28th July. While there, the Galatea, barque, drove from her anchors, and got foul of the Calliope, carrying away the jibboom and cathead, besides causing other serious damage. She has since been to Whyehi and Coromandel, but no diggers were at work at the former place. Her last port of departure was Kawan, which port she left on the 17th instant. On the passage to Sydney, on 20th instant, she was struck by a heavy sea, which carried away the starboard quarter; and the same day, the close-reefed main-topsail was blown clean out of the bolt-ropes. A continuation of bad weather has prevailed throughout the cruise. A large ship was sighted on the 28th, standing to the westward.—*Sydney Herald*.

THOMAS DAWSON AND O'DONOHUE.—To the *Editor of the Sydney Morning Herald*.—Sir,—In your publication of this day I have read an account of the escape of Mr. O'Donohue, as copied from the "Melbourne Herald," in which that individual is pleased to say that "two sordid Englishmen, named Mr. D—n and Mr. T—n—t, charged himself and friends the sum of £400 for aiding in his escape to Tahiti." As part owner of the above cutters I deny, in the most emphatic manner, that I ever negotiated with himself or friends for such a passage; and I further deny that I ever received one farthing, directly or indirectly, for any such passage, nor have I aided or abetted his escape in any form whatever.—I am, Sir, &c., THOMAS DAWSON, part owner of the cutter Oberon.

THE FRENCH AT NEW CALEDONIA.—The English schemes for converting New Caledonia into a convict settlement are now cut short in a way which never entered into the calculations of some of our economists. The French Admiral stationed in the Pacific has formally taken possession of those rich and important Islands in the name of his Imperial master; and the first intimation the Australian colonists got of the event, is by the arrival of a chartered ship in the waters of their principal port, to obtain supplies for Louis Napoleon's new naval station. New Caledonia is not only the nearest country to the Australian coast of the great Polynesian group, but it is the most valuable to the commerce of these seas. For a long time past it has been visited almost exclusively by English shipping; and some of the Sydney shipowners at this moment, we believe, have trading establishments on its shores. Upon what pretext the French flag is now planted there it is not easy to see, though it is by no means difficult to understand the designs of those who plant it.

THE FUTURE.—We are not quite sure the large landed proprietors of Tasmania rightly understand their position. Wool growing must cease to be their function, food-raising must be their avocation. Not that they are to become extensive agriculturists; they must remit the task to others, and profit by princely incomes in the shape of rents. The squinting interest will, in this island, soon become despicably small in importance. Shepherds cannot be found for the flocks on terms like those offered by occupants of extensive tracts of country. The nomadic state of Tasmania will be displaced by fixed settlement. We are too near to the gold-fields of Victoria, and too remote from the working population now profitably employed in Britain, to hope that labour will ever again be obtained here at low prices. The labourer must have his reward or he will not toil. A revolution in the relation of labour and capital has occurred, and it is the policy of wisdom to make the best of it, not to grumble at what is inevitable. The system of past years has been changed—operations once facile have ceased to be practicable. The man of thousands of acres must subdivide and lease, instead of attempting to retain in his own possession his extensive estates. He has largely profited by the discovery of the gold fields, and could dispose of his property at a price far beyond his expectations three years ago. Providence does not permit him to have the advantage both ways—increased value of land and cheap labour. If he desire to participate in future prosperity he must shape his course to the times; expend his surplus capital in building houses, barns, and stabling, on sections varying from fifty to two hundred acres, and announce the farms to let, and on fair terms.—*Launceston Examiner*.

PAPER HOUSES.—Among the various uses to which papier machee was known to be applicable, about the last we should have thought of would have been that of the construction of houses: yet that has been attempted and carried out with success by the Messrs. Bielefeld, at their works near the Staines station of the South-Western Railway, where may now be seen several neat cottages, commodious stores, and handsome villas; the whole, with the exception of the framework, the doors, and the flooring, which are of wood, are composed of papier machee. These houses, which contain from four to ten rooms each, can be taken down and re-created within a period of from four to six hours, so that immediately upon landing in his new home, the emigrant may find himself in a comfortable residence, relieved from heavy rent or the miseries of the weather. These houses, which are as durable as brick, we understand will be little more than one-third in cost, and it is probable that they will, ere long, be adopted for summer houses, park lodges, railway stations, and moveable barracks, to all of which purposes they are admirably adapted. The houses are all made with hollow walls, thereby excluding damp; and for the East Indies and other places where the white ant does so much mischief, timber can be altogether dispensed with, and the houses constructed entirely of papier machee, which they will not touch, in consequence of its poisonous nature.—*Daily News*.

SINGULAR DEATH.—A man named Andrew Francis, whose brother was among a batch of emigrants leaving Galway last week, being refused admittance at the railway terminus, ran round by another direction to meet the train, with a view to seeing his brother once more, but, on observing the train pass before his arrival, he dropped down and expired.—*Maidstone Journal*.

BIRTH.—Oct. 25th, the wife of Mr. W. Gunn, Glasgow Coffee-rooms, Kangaroo Flat, Bendigo, of a son.

REVIEW.

We have received No. 2 of Mr. Kennedy's "Land Guide and Commercial Gazette," for November, which contains much useful information both for people on the diggings as well as in town. We extract the following:—

"THE REVENUE.—The Auditor-General has compiled one of the most complete returns we can remember to have seen. Such a one as must convey to the public that the department under his charge must be kept in a most efficient state, and one that, under the difficulties in procuring and retaining in service a competent staff of officers and clerks, reflects on him the highest credit.

Quarters ended 30th September,		1852.	1853.
Ordinary revenue	...	£190,606	£385,032
Territorial revenue	...	271,733	351,298

Totals ... £452,340 £736,330
Total increase on the quarter ended 30 September, 1853, £283,990.

Years ended 30th September,		1852.	1853.
Ordinary revenue	...	£565,324	£1,469,885
Territorial revenue	...	553,500	1,255,341

Totals ... £1,123,825 £2,725,226
Total increase on the year ended 30th September, 1853, £1,601,401."

"WATERMEN'S FARES.—WILLIAMSTOWN.—To or from any vessels within the line of red buoys marking the fair way, and within a line from the red buoy to the Lighthouse—

	s.	d.
For one person	...	2 0
Two ditto, each	...	1 3
Three, or more, each	...	1 0

To or from the North Shore, or Sandridge Jetty, or any vessel without the line of fair way buoys, and within a line from the Lighthouse to the white buoy off St. Kilda—

	s.	d.
For one person	...	4 0
Two ditto, each	...	2 6
Three, or more, each	...	2 0

To or from any vessel beyond the fore-named limits, and to any customary anchorage within the limits of the port, or above Spotswood's Ferry on the Yarra Yarra—

	s.	d.
For one person	...	6 0
Two ditto, each	...	3 9
Three, or more, each	...	3 0

"CARTERS' RATES AND FARES BY DISTANCE.—

For Licensed Carters and Porters, for the conveyance of goods and other articles within the city, and the distance to which such Licensed Carters and Porters respectively shall be liable to go, as fixed under bye-law No. 3, of the Council of the City of Melbourne.—For every load of goods conveyed from the Queen's Wharf to any part of Lonsdale Ward, north of the river Yarra, and east of Spencer-street, and south of La Trobe-street, 4s.: to any part of Gipps Ward, south of La Trobe-street, and west of Spring-street, 4s.: to any part of La Trobe Ward, north of the river Yarra, and west of Spring-street, 4s.: to any part of the city, west of Spring-street, and north of the river Yarra, not included in these boundaries, 5s.: from any street in any Ward to another street in the same Ward, within the above limits, 3s.: from any part of Flinders-lane, and between those streets west of Elizabeth-street, to any street in Bourke, Gipps, or La Trobe Wards, within the above limits, the same fare as from the Queen's Wharf, not exceeding two hundred and fifty yards, 4s.: from any street in Lonsdale Ward, north of Flinders-lane, and from any street in Bourke, Gipps, or La Trobe Wards, to any street in any other Ward, excepting Fitzroy Ward, not exceeding two hundred and fifty yards, 3s.; exceeding two hundred and fifty yards, 4s.

"STRAW VERSUS NUGGETS.—Talking of beds, the beds are not beds here, they are opossum rugs.—I never saw yet a sheet—its not colonial.—No more is straw—I don't know how much it is a pound; but its only a Cressus that can sleep on a bit of straw—a gold-dust mattress is, comparatively speaking, dirt cheap.—The old say, 'I don't care a straw' is blown up here—'I don't care a nugget' is the proper substitute. A man of straw is a gentleman of no small importance—'a man of gold' means nothing—or a dirty digger.—Rev. Mackenzie, in his work on Australia, as admirable as it is truthful, told you as how the Sydney people fatten pigs with peaches and apricots—here, we have to keep our horses on pine-apples, our cows on cauliflower, our sheep on asparagus. Great expectations are entertained from this superior quality of provender, as well as from the instructions 'to Flock Owners' by the Great Kennedy, in his celebrated 'Land Guide.'"

THE MAINE LAW.

To the Editor of the "Geelong Advertiser."—Sir,—The "main law" is No. 1. I pay great attention to it, and worship it. I am a believer in spirits, and am called by brother-teetotalists a Bottle Imp. Port is the haven of my happiness, and because I avoid water they call me a "mad dog," whereas I am only a merry one. Did they confine themselves to precept and practice, instead of attempting to confine me to their dogmas and regimens, I should not grumble. But I do complain of one part of the community trying to coerce the three other parts of the community, and form themselves into an unconstitutional Anti-Nobler League of Hydropathists. Bonded stores, I maintain, sir, are not bottomless pits, nor are merchants cloven-footed, or endowed with candal appendages, nor are bonded spirits synonymous with the "souls of the condemned." It is too bad for these devotees of the teapot and willow pattern to speak of us as they do. So far do they abominate ardent spirits, that the other day a matrimonial engagement, entered upon by one devoted to love and potent libations, was designated a "lucifer match." Only think of that, sir! Phosphorus and brimstone united in indissoluble bonds—one can't go off without the other. What I want to impress is this—that as I have no objection to my neighbour suiting his palate, he ought not to interdict me suiting mine; but, if he attempts to stop the importation of my beverage, I'll vote for the interdiction of tee-totalism.

Yours,
ALEXANDER COPPERSMITH.

VARIETIES.

He who can implant courage in the human soul, is its best physician.

It is merit, and not title, which gives importance. It is usefulness, and not grandeur, which makes the world happy.

How frequently does the human heart struggle with its better feelings, and laugh in public at that which has made it bleed in private.

What animal has the greatest quantity of brains? The hog, of course; for he has a hoghead full.

It being proved on a trial at Guildhall that a man's name was really Inch, who pretended Linch: "I see," said the judge, "the old proverb is verified in this man, who being allowed an Inch, has taken an L."

Dr. Percy, of Birmingham, recommends in certain cases, the use of bread made of wood. Superficial persons may deride the notion of wooden bread; but when they come to think, they must see that it is the fittest of all materials to make the staff of life with.

A maimed soldier, who was refused relief by an overseer because he did not belong to that particular parish, said, "Ah, sir, I lost my limb fighting for all the parishes."

NELSON AND WELLINGTON.—A very curious little book has just appeared, called "the Royal Descent of Nelson and Wellington." It has been compiled by Mr. George Russell French, and the object of it is to trace through genealogical tables the descent of the two great heroes from Edward the First, King of England. We do not pretend to such a knowledge of the art of tracing pedigrees as would enable us to form a critical opinion of the accuracy of Mr. French's investigations, but we can vouch for their interest, and see no reason whatever to question their correctness. We forget the name of the Frenchman who some years ago published a singularly erudite work on genealogy, by which he proved that if we could only obtain the right clues, it might be established beyond doubt that everybody in the world was related to everybody else; and considering how the population of England has increased and scattered since the time of Edward the First, there would be nothing wonderful in the discovery that tens of thousands of people who have not the slightest suspicion of the royal blood that is flowing in their veins, are directly descended from that patriarchal monarch. The families through which Nelson and Wellington are traced back to Edward, who was himself descended from Egbert, are here given with a scrupulous simplicity, which looks as like a sound piece of heraldry as any genealogical tree we have ever seen; and among other interesting points thrown up to the surface in the progress of the pedigree is the fact that Sir John Suckling, the poet, was also descended from Edward the First. To all the families whose royal origin is illustrated by Mr. French's researches, the Beauforts, Spencers, Careys, Wodehouses, Sucklings, Audleys, &c., the volume presents considerable attractions, while the public in general must feel more or less curiosity about the new dignities in the way of blood which it confers on a favorite poet, and on two of the greatest men by sea and land of our annals.—*Home News*, July 25.

PENNY POSTAGE.—It will be in the recollection of our readers that some months ago Lord Aberdeen intimated to an influential deputation which waited upon him in reference to an ocean penny postage, that if any of their body, connected with the shipping interest, were desirous of undertaking the conveyance of letters at the proposed fourpenny rate between England and her colonies, the post office was prepared to entertain the offer. Lord Canning, subsequently in the House of Lords, announced the intention of Government to put up to private competition the conveyance of the mails to some of the colonies. It appears that these views and intentions of the Government having reached the United States, were extensively published there, and have produced from a new Steam Packet Company in New York a proposal, addressed to Mr. Elihu Burritt, to enter into an arrangement with the British and American Governments to carry any quantity of mail-bags at the rate of one penny sterling per letter. This offer at least shows that there are practical men who think that letters between America and England may be profitably transmitted at the rate of one penny ocean postage. But in the present state of the Company it is not likely to be accepted, as they do not as yet possess the means of carrying it into effect. They have only one packet on the line, making an average passage of between 12 and 14 days. They announce, however, that a second vessel is building, which is expected to perform the passage in 36 or 48 hours less. She will not be ready for sea till February next. Two more vessels are about to be contracted for, and when the four are in regular course of service the Company propose to maintain fortnightly communication from coast to coast. Should the Company renew the offer under such circumstances, we may, probably, look for the experiment of an ocean penny postage early next year.—*Home News*, July 25.

THE FOUNDER OF RAGGED SCHOOLS.—Who would have expected to discover the founder of English Ragged Schools in the person of a poor cripple cobbler of Portsmouth?—one apparently, the meanest of human beings, laboring in the most humble vocation, in a dingy little weather-boarded workshop, in one of the poorest streets of his native town, poor and uneducated, yet with true and noble impulses;—for such was John Pounds—his life affording only another illustration of the fact, that it is not wealth, nor honor, nor birth, nor even high intellect, which determines a man's beneficial influence in the world, so much as his moral purpose, the truthness of his aims, and the diligence with which he labors at the work he has undertaken to do. The life of John Pounds contains no striking incidents; spent as it was at his cobbler's stool, at work amongst his little ragged children. He was the son of poor parents, his father being a workman in the Portsmouth Dockyards. At fifteen, he met with an accident which crippled him for life, and he was put to the trade of a cobbler. When he carried on business upon his own account, he lived for the most part in a small boarded tenement, in St. Mary street, Portsmouth, his workshop measuring about six feet by

eighteen; and here he might be seen, day after day, seated on his stool, mending shoes, and administering his humble instructions to the crowd of ragged children clustered around him, filling his little stall to the very door. Indeed the candidates for admission to John Pounds' shop were always very numerous, more than could be admitted; and consequently he had to make a selection, generally choosing the poorest and worst among them—"the little blackguards," as he called them. When, in the course of his strolls about the streets, he chanced to meet with some one more destitute or profligate than ordinary, he would use all his efforts with such a one to induce him to come to his school. He would follow him to the quay, and hold out the bribe of a "nice roasted potato" to tempt him; and if he succeeded, was not John Pounds then a more than usually happy man.

This humane and generous-hearted individual was first induced to set up his "Free School" by a happy kind of accident of providence. In early life he adopted a young nephew of his own, whom he thought he could educate better with a companion, so he enlisted in his service the son of a neighbouring poor woman. Another, and another poor child was added, until John found himself engaged in a great work, though perhaps he knew it not. It was the duty and the work nearest to him, and he did it. Here was the true life of the man. Doubtless, there are free schools, so called, in Portsmouth, as there are in nearly all our great towns—schools formed by the pious benevolence of good men and women of past times, intended by them to teach poor children; but, perverted from the will of their founders, and grown rich, they are now little better than so many useless institutions, to furnish fat livings for idle "learned" men, while the children of the poor may go untaught and untrained, but for the active and truly Christian heroism of such men as John Pounds.

John Pounds established his nephew comfortably in the world, out of his slender means, and went on adding to his school until it became famous.—Many a poor child did he rescue from vice, and educate into usefulness. He watched with anxious interest the progress of his pupils through life, and helped them when he could. Many useful and industrious citizens, who otherwise might have been outcasts and beggars, does England owe to this humble man. He was a parent to the destitute; he was the father who bound them to society. His labours at his stool earned him bread enough for his wants; but his labours on the minds and hearts of his little pupils—that was the great work of his life, the value of which can scarcely be over-estimated.

THERE IS SOMETHING YE MAY DO!

BRETHREN, in this life's existence,
Though but humble be your parts,
Let not fear upbuild resistance,
To the dictates of your hearts.
Fear of ridicule and scolding,
Of oppression's thralling band;
For a better time is dawning,
Brighter moments are at hand,
Come they fast, or come they slowly,
It depends alone on you;
If ye are put somewhat lowly,
There is something ye may do.

Something while one tithe of grieving
Through the land its shadows casts,
While one burden wants relieving,
While one hungry being fasts.
While there is one spirit striving
Truth's progression to resist,
Or a varnish'd cheat is living,
Or a blazon'd wrong exist.
Single hand would move but slowly,
Many are begot of few;
Though ye are but somewhat lowly,
There is something ye may do.

Something, if your hand is willing,
While they robe fair Truth in shame,
While Oppression's wholesale killing
Taints and blots a nation's name.
Waves combined create an ocean,
Forests are but single leaves,
Gather'd winds a tempest's motion,
Single ears make harvest's sheaves.
Thus each deed shall prove—though slowly,
Time may give its work to view,—
Thus, in fellowship, though lowly,
There is something ye may do.

Every little act is telling,
In the giant scale of time;
And, however small, is swelling
High each bulwark against crime.
Every truthful deed is tending,
In its moving, still, to prove
The all-linking, all-defending
Power and majesty of Love.
Speed ye then! and let the holy
Zeal for right, each deed imbue,
Ye shall be, however lowly,
Working good in what ye do.

FREDERICK ENOCH.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVED.

Nov. 4th.—Waratah, from Sydney; Red Rover, from Hobart Town; New Forest, do.; Margaret Nicol, do.; Agnes, do.; Flora Bella, do.; Argenti, do.; Peri, do.; Anna Dixon, from Adelaide; Elizabeth, from Auckland; Fetercairn, steamer, from Sydney; Sporting Lass, do.; Dove, from Hobart Town; Swift, from Lancaster.

Nov. 5th.—Iron Tasmania, from Hobart Town; Thomas Worthington, from Newcastle; Franklin, from Mauritius; Adele, from Sydney; Worthington, from Hobart Town; Zone, from Moreton Bay; Ulrica, from Newcastle; Gem, from Hobart Town; Maria, from Sydney; Chicora, from Newcastle; Flying Cloud, from Sydney; Clarence, steamer, from Lancaster; Spitfire, from Sydney; Hellespont, steamer, do.; Joshua, from London.

Nov. 6th.—Waverley, from Glasgow; Invincible, from Auckland; Wee Tottie, from Hobart Town; George, from Adelaide; Zodiac, from Singapore; Maraquita, from Warrambool; Swordfish, from Hobart Town; Wave, from Port Fairy; Glance, from Geelong; Acis, from Hobart Town; Blackwall, from London.

NOTICE.

ALL Advertisements and Letters of Business in Town, to be forwarded, post free, to the Office of our Town Agent, Mr. JOHN HUNTER, Publisher, &c., Queen's Arcade.

"DIGGER'S ADVOCATE," "BANNER," "ARM CHAIR," &c. &c., published weekly by JOHN HUNTER, Bookseller & Stationer, Queen's Arcade, Melbourne.

ADVOCATE OFFICE.—Branch Office for R. A. PHILLIPS & Co., Auctioneers and Commission Agents, next door to ADELAIDE OBSERVER Office.

MR. BARRETT, M.R.C.S.E. and L.S.A., has taken Dr. LISLE'S Practice, Golden Square, Bendigo, and may be consulted at all hours. Nov. 1st, 1853.

DR. L. L. SMITH'S Vegetable Pills will give to the taker of them a clear skin, healthy body, face free from blotches, and fair complexion; they are also a perfect preventive against dysentery.

DR. L. L. SMITH'S Vegetable Pills are the best Ladies' pills that have ever been brought before the public; so mild are they in their operation that they can be taken by the most delicate.

DR. L. L. SMITH can be consulted, gratis, daily from 8 till 11, and from 5 till 9. Dr. L. L. Smith, 197 Great Bourke Street, East.

IF you suffer from a furred tongue, a nasty taste in the mouth on waking in the morning, and a fullness after eating, try Dr. L. L. Smith's Vegetable Pills.

DR. L. L. SMITH'S Vegetable Pills are sold in boxes at 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. Dr. L. L. Smith, 197 Great Bourke Street, East, beyond the Newmarket Hotel.

IN CONNECTION WITH THIS PAPER.

W. WARBURTON respectfully informs the Inhabitants of Bendigo and Forest Creek that he has taken the Contract for the Carriage of the DIGGERS' ADVOCATE, which necessitates his having the fastest and most punctual conveyance on the road. He would likewise remark, as a claim upon the patronage of the public, that this was the only conveyance which secured to the public the advantages of a weekly communication with town throughout the winter.

W. WARBURTON feels that he is too well known upon the road to need any comment as to the management of his vehicles, but would remind the public that an accident was never known either in connexion with himself or his passengers.

Booking Offices on the Bendigo—the Central Office of this Paper; and in Melbourne, at the Criterion Hotel, Great Collins-street.

N.B. Four-horse Conveyances start every Thursday morning, from Town, at 10 o'clock, reaching Bendigo early on Saturday, and returning from Bendigo on the following Monday.

United States Coffee Shop,

CAPTAIN W. T. WATT, Sole Proprietor, VIEW POINT, near the Commissioner's.

BILL OF FARE FOR EACH DAY

SUNDAYS.
Soup, salmon, roast beef, do. mutton, potatoes, beefsteak pie, currie, rice, apple and plum pudding, pickles, cheese, tea and coffee.

MONDAYS.
Soup, roast beef and potatoes, beans and bacon, currie rice, sweet pudding, tea and coffee, or beer, &c.

TUESDAYS.
Soup, roast beef, mutton and potatoes, beefsteak pie, currie rice, apple pudding, tea and coffee, &c.

WEDNESDAYS.
Soup, roast beef and potatoes, beefsteak pie, currie rice, plum pudding, tea, coffee, &c.

THURSDAYS.
Soup, roast beef, do. mutton, potatoes, peas, currie rice, sweet pudding, tea, coffee, &c.

FRIDAYS.
Soup, roast beef and potatoes, beefsteak pie, currie rice, apple pudding, sweet pudding, tea, coffee, &c.

SATURDAYS.
Soup, roast beef, do. mutton, potatoes, beefsteak pie, currie rice, plum pudding, tea, coffee, &c.

Breakfast, 3s.; Dinner, at one, at 4s. per head; Supper, 3s.; Beds, 2s. 6d.

Bendigo, Oct. 24th, 1853.

MAILS ON THE DIGGINGS

CLOSE AS UNDER:

Bendigo, Monday and Thursday	...	5.30 p.m.
Castlemaine, do.	...	5.30 "
Ballarat and Buninyong, Tuesday and Friday	...	2.30 "
Burn Bank, Tuesday	...	2.30 "
McIvor, Tuesday	...	1 "
Marden's Punt	...	1 "
Ovens, Tuesday and Friday	...	1 "

ARRIVE IN TOWN:

Bendigo, Wednesday and Saturday	...	1.30 p.m.
Castlemaine, do.	...	1.30 "
Ballarat and Buninyong do.	...	1.30 "
Burn Bank, Monday	...	9 "
McIvor, do.	...	2.30 "
Marden's Punt do.	...	2.30 "
Ovens, Monday and Thursday	...	2.30 "

COUNTRY MAILS

CLOSE IN TOWN.

Mondays	...	5.10 p.m.
Thursdays	...	5.10 "

MELBOURNE POST OFFICE.

CHARGES FOR LETTERS.

Not exceeding 4oz.	...	1s.
Exceeding 4oz. and not exceeding 1oz.	...	2s.
Exceeding 1oz. and not exceeding 2ozs.	...	4s.
And so on, increasing two shillings for each ounce, or fraction of an ounce.		

Newspapers two-pence each.

THE MAILS.

Great Britain, for Liverpool—to close Dec. 3rd. Mails closed:—Ballarat, for Liverpool, Nov. 2nd; Nautilus, for Mauritius, Nov. 3rd; Osmanli, for Sydney, Nov. 1st; Dreadnought, for Adelaide, Nov. 1st; Sussex, for Calcutta, Nov. 1st.

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