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THE
NARRATIVE
OF A VOYAGE TO
THE SWAN RIVER,
WITH AN
Account of that Settlement from an Authentic Source;
CONTAINING
USEFUL HINTS
TO THOSE WHO CONTEMPLATE AN EMIGRATION TO
Western Australia;
WITH A MAP AND NOTES:
TOGETHER WITH
AN APPENDIX
ON THE
PROPER CHOICE OF COUNTRY FOR THE DETERMINED EMIGRANT.
COMPILED AND ARRANGED BY
THE REV. J. GILES POWELL, B. A.
VICAR OF HILLMORTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

"The spread of cultivation is no wild or impracticable plan; it is one fraught with all the blessings Providence has to bestow; it is a pursuit in which Art and Nature go hand in hand to certain and unceasing triumphs; while the common mother, Earth, seems smiling upon the labours of her children, and the unclouded eye of Heaven looks down well pleased upon the exertions it has ordained and blessed."—*Sadler's Ireland*, p. 418.

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June 24, 1919

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TO
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
Sir ROBERT PEELE, Bart.

SIR,

I am fully sensible that this little work, which I have the honour of dedicating to you, presents nothing new to your notice, and that it would be unworthy of the patronage of your name if its object were not to afford some useful information to those who intend to emigrate to Western Australia. The rapid progress which this Colony has made since its recent establishment must be highly gratifying to you, under whose administration it was founded. Sincerely wishing that you may live to see it become as flourishing as your hopes can anticipate,

*I have the honor to subscribe myself,
with great respect,*

Sir,

Your obliged, humble Servant,

J. GILES POWELL.



P R E F A C E.



FROM the abundant and increasing population of the United Kingdom, it is expedient, and, perhaps, necessary, that many should emigrate, and endeavour to obtain in a foreign land that eligible investment of their capital, and that promising scope for their industry, which circumstances prevent their finding at home.

Colonies and countries in every quarter of the globe have successively, of late years, excited general interest; and many of His Majesty's subjects have been induced to seek their fortunes in that settlement which, at the moment, was most

popular: and while the want of novelty and of success have ceased to draw the attention of the Public and the schemes of the adventurer to the hot plains of Africa, or the banks of the Oronooko—while the frozen Winter of the North chills the adventurer who wishes to emigrate to the Canadas—while the Tory and the Whig abhor the idea of becoming the subjects of republican America, and thereby increasing the strength of a foreign nation—while the religious parent trembles to expose his children to the evil society and the vices of Sydney and Hobart Town, the new Colony on the Swan River, has suddenly risen into notice; and while it obtains the good wishes of every friend to his country, so, also, it has led hundreds to emigrate to it, and induced many more seriously to consider the eligibility of removing themselves and their families to a Colony so exclusively En-

glish, holding forth many and great advantages and promising all reasonable success.

As the statements in the public prints have been very contradictory—some describing this Colony as a Paradise, and the richest country in the world, others studiously exaggerating its disadvantages, and representing it as a scene of calamity and disappointment, it may neither be useless nor uninteresting to give a plain, unbiassed account of the Colony in its present infant state, from one who, being a resident in it, is certainly capable of describing it with accuracy, and whose letters to his Father and Brother, whom he entreats to follow him, cannot be suspected of being written with any view to exaggerate, conceal, or deceive.

If this little work should fall into the

hands of him who reads only for amusement, to kill that time which is killing him, the Editor cannot expect to offer any thing which may either excite his feelings or attract his attention: the novel reader will be disgusted with details of real life on board ship, or in the desert; and the plans and expressions of a practical agriculturist will be very insipid to him, whose notions of rural pursuits are derived from romantic accounts of romantic shepherdesses, gracefully reclining over limpid streams. But the patriot will not disdain to read a plain description of a newly-formed settlement, which will rapidly increase in opulence and in strength; he will rejoice at the establishment of a Colony which will extend the commerce of his country, and, while it adds to its trade, will consequently increase its resources. If the scholar and the man of science should take up this book as a re-

laxation from study or research, let them not be disgusted with the plain, but artless statements of an unpretending young man, who has just quitted the comparative retirement of a country village, and bursts at once upon scenes to which he had hitherto been a stranger. These statements are published to afford information to the emigrant, and not gratification to the learned. Classic elegance of expression is not yet to be expected from the uncultivated plains of Western Australia. Criticism will be disarmed at the sight of letters written, after a hard day's toil, by the flickering of a settler's lamp: and, for himself, the Editor ventures to hope that, as he is totally unaccustomed to write for the press, the *style* of this, his first literary offering to public notice, will not be examined with minuteness, nor condemned with severity. As to the *matter* of this work, although he does not at-

tempt to defy censure, he yet trusts he has written nothing to deserve it.

It is no easy task to remove prejudice, or to change general opinion, and, at present, the Colony is by many represented, and believed to be a scene of disappointment, and the grave of hope. A short explanation of the causes of various unfavourable statements, may induce less regard to be paid to those who disparage the Settlement from envy, selfishness, or to conceal their own folly and unavoidable loss.

If the Colony succeed, the trade and number of emigrants to the Convict Settlements will be reduced ; and hence the most calamitous accounts of the distress and barrenness of Western Australia have been circulated from Sydney and Hobart Town, with studied eulogiums upon the prosperity and fertility of these places.

At its first establishment, several adventurers arrived from Hobart Town, intending to monopolize the most valuable land upon speculation: but the wise and just regulations of the Governor frustrated their plans, and they returned to Van Dieman's Land, railing against the place they had quitted, with all the bitterness of envy and disappointment.

A great number of the emigrants from this country were totally incompetent to undertake the management of land; most of them expected to meet with luxuries in a wilderness, and fertile land on the very edge of the sea. But they soon found that the means of subsistence could not be obtained without labour; and that rich land, as in other countries, is less abundant than poor. Then many "gave themselves up to despair," and left the Settlement without ascertaining its resources, or attempting to overcome those

difficulties which are the invariable attendants upon the establishment of a new Colony.

Several persons went out with a view of forming commercial establishments which, in process of time may be most lucrative, but at first seemed impracticable and ridiculous. They soon proceeded in search of situations more favorable to their views, and decried the country without inquiring into its natural advantages, the quality of the land in the interior, or the prospect of success which it presented to the farmer.

Such are the causes of the reports which have arisen, to the great disadvantage of the new Colony; but time will, ere long, remove prejudice by the force of truth—and Western Australia will succeed and flourish, in spite of false statements and studied misrepresentation.

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THE following Narrative and Account are compiled from several letters addressed by a young man of respectability (now resident at the Swan River) to his relations in England. The reader may rest assured, that no statement is presented herein which is not in strict accordance with the truth.

The Appendix contains such further information as, the Editor presumes, will be interesting and serviceable to the determined emigrant, to whom he begs leave to offer his sincere advice and candid opinions, with his best wishes.



NARRATIVE
OF A VOYAGE TO
THE SWAN RIVER,
&c. &c. &c.

CHAPTER I.

*Description of the Voyage from Portsmouth—
Bay of Biscay—Sea Sickness, cure of—Des-
cription of the Island of Mayo—Description
of the Island of St. Paul—The Ship's Arrival
in Gage's Roads, Cockburn Sound.*

It is not requisite to give any account of our ad-
venturer previous to his departure from England,
or to publish the letters in which he bid his
relations farewell—suffice it to say he was brought
up as a practical farmer, and that he felt that deep
sorrow at a long, and perhaps eternal separation
from his country and friends, which became one
who was sincerely attached to both from principle

and affection. Having taken his passage in a vessel bound for the Swan River and New South Wales, he hurried his goods on board under the assurance that the ship would leave the port of London on an appointed day, but he had the mortification of seeing her remain in dock for several weeks, while his little capital was daily decreasing from the expence of his remaining in town. At length, however, the vessel did sail, and shortly afterwards he wrote a hasty letter from Portsmouth, to inform his father of his prosperous voyage hitherto, and that the ship had merely touched there in its way.

Nothing further was heard from him for ten months, and then his anxious friends had the pleasure of receiving the packet of letters from which this Narrative is compiled. They were dated at Freemantle in November, 1829, and as there is a great deal for an emigrant to prepare himself for, besides what he may encounter at the place of his destination, it may neither be useless nor uninteresting to commence the Narrative from the time the ship, in which our

adventurer embarked, broke ground from Portsmouth.

As the brig *Dragon* is sailing from hence to Ceylon, and certain there to take in a cargo direct for England, I grasp at the opportunity to inform you of my safe landing in this Colony, in the best health and spirits. In this letter I intend giving you a slight description of a sea voyage of 15,000 miles, performed in four months and four days from *Portsmouth*, for a sailor reckons his voyage only from the last port in the country from whence he breaks ground. In the letter I wrote from thence, I believe I stated that the ship dropped anchor the preceding evening, and that several of the passengers had accompanied me on shore for the purpose of purchasing some articles which we found we stood in need of, and for the melancholy pleasure of treading upon our native land for the last time. I had not been on shore four hours when one of the sailors came into the shop where I was and told me that the last boat would be off for the ship in a quarter of an hour, and that she would weigh anchor imme-

diately.—We stood out to sea at one o'clock, P. M. and proceeded with a fair wind which carried us rapidly from the shores of happy England. At the end of three days, however, it blew a slight gale rather contrary to us for about a week, but still we made a little way. Afterwards the wind became favourable, and we soon got into the Bay of Biscay. This we were four days in crossing, during which I was very unwell. Hitherto we did not experience any thing of a sea, and the wind was moderate—but now the scene was changed. Sometimes we appeared to be mounted upon the top of a wave, and the next moment we were sinking gradually until we were surrounded by great waves breaking upon us. Then the vessel would seem to pause, owing to her being buried so low in the sea that you would fancy the wind could not reach her lower sails, but in an instant the waves would rise under her and then she would mount majestically, with the wind howling through the rigging—and then I felt I was at sea. It is a most grand, awful, and beautiful sight. We did not see a vessel till we arrived in the Bay. She was a large heavy ship, and

seemed to labour very much, and no doubt our's did the same. When the sea became so rough, most of the passengers retired below decks, but I was determined to stay it out as long as possible, in order to prevent sea-sickness, and did for a long time, by assisting the sailors at the lower-ropes, holding the head of one of the hawsers upon deck, &c. and I found *that* the best method to prevent it, and by persevering and keeping up one's spirits, I am persuaded that, if it cannot be overcome, it may be greatly mitigated. There was a terrible commotion below decks—some poor little children were dreadfully sick, and half dead with fright, while their mothers were too ill to attend to them. Some of the grown-up passengers were absolutely crying with fear and agitation; others, from the rolling of the vessel, were thrown into all positions about the decks: the captain was the only person who appeared to enjoy it—but to some of us it was no joke. At last the sight of some of my fellow passengers, who came upon deck, made me for a moment as sick as the rest. As soon as possible I went below, drank a stiff glass of brandy and water, with a little nutmeg

and ginger, and felt quite revived; and thus, by perseverance and resolution, I suffered much less from sea-sickness than any other passenger throughout the voyage, though the little I felt convinces me that, to those who suffer from it in any great degree, it must be terrible indeed. Various are the methods recommended to avert or assuage it. Many have found great benefit by keeping themselves as near the centre of the vessel as possible, very frequently sipping a little neat brandy, and if possible taking a small quantity of bread or biscuit from time to time, as the retching is felt more severely when the stomach is quite empty.

When we crossed the Bay the wind subsided into a favourable gale, at which we were very thankful, for now the water was smooth in comparison with the tremendous sea we had lately experienced. And now the passengers became more intimate with each other, and we mutually communicated our plans and intentions, and the means we possessed of carrying them into effect. And it was with no small surprise that I dis-

covered not one passenger in ten knew any thing about farming, although they all professed their object to be the acquisition and occupation of land. Several of them resided in London and large towns all their lives, and scarcely knew wheat from barley. How these persons who have been brought up in trade are to succeed in the management of land I cannot conceive. You would be amused by the various instruments and articles they purchased at a very great expense, several of which, I am persuaded, will be totally useless to them. In one of the vessels which was to leave London after us, there was a poor fellow with a wife and several children, who left his shop, and expended part of his money very foolishly in the purchase of pointers, greyhounds, pheasants, and rabbits. His wife took out a favourite lap-dog—her husband had to pay five guineas for its passage. They will want the money they thus throw away before this day twelve months, or I am much mistaken. One adventurer has taken out a man, who has been twenty years in the marines, as his bailiff and factotum. Knowing me to be a farmer, several

of the passengers are applying for my opinion and advice upon certain agricultural operations ; and while I can scarcely keep my countenance at some of the questions they ask, I endeavour to give them all the information in my power, wishing to act by all as I should wish to be done by. It is to be feared that several of them will not succeed in the Colony, so you must prepare to receive dismal accounts from those who find they must work for their bread, and who, doubtless, will be imposed upon by “ the knowing ones,” who are already arrived.

A fatal accident occurred, which damped the spirits of us all. One of the steerage passengers went up the rigging half-drunk, and in turning round, lost his hold, and fell over-board—we had no possibility of saving him—it was a caution to the remainder of us I do assure you, and hope it had its proper effect upon those who were too careless about their souls. This unhappy event is a good lesson to those passengers who are unaccustomed to the management of a ship not to go aloft or get into the rigging, for,

as in the present instance, the consequences may be fatal. Passengers have their berths assigned them, and they have the privilege of walking the deck, and with these they ought to be satisfied, and not meddle with what they have no concern. The captain has a great charge. And sailors are bound to obey the word of command immediately, and indeed the safety of the vessel may at times depend upon the instantaneous performance of a manœuvre. Why, then, in any case should a passenger place himself where he has no right? and still less upon the rigging, where his being in the way may be very dangerous to the ship: and if he should be so silly as to get into the shrouds, the rapidity with which a sailor goes aloft, may shake him out of them, and his life may be the forfeit of his folly. I mention all this as a caution to my brother, (who I hope will follow me); for it is a common error with many to suppose, that because they have paid their passage-money they possess a right to run all over the ship as they please, but this is by no means the case. No passenger should ever go aloft, or interfere in the least in

the working of the ship, unless his assistance be requested. Some captains have much good nature, and do not take notice of these things, but the best captain is he who will, by keeping every one in his proper place, restrain him from going where he ought not, and may, perhaps, do more harm than good.

The wind now continued favourable for some time, when we came in sight of the Island of Madeira,^(a) and were very much disappointed in not having a clear view of it, owing to our not "nearing" it until the evening. Strong winds now prevailed, but fair. The ship went steadily nine miles an hour, which was considered very good sailing, for she was loaded dreadfully heavy, and therefore of course was deep in the water. We continued steadily on our course until we reached the Tropic of Cancer, where we were becalmed six days: the wind at last sprung up, and carried us favourably to Mayo,^(b) one of the Cape de Verd Islands, where we put in, to replenish our water-casks. The fresh water in the Island was tolerably good, but we thought proper to use it all before

ill-natured and eager to take offence, and therefore I recommend him not to be irritable or ready to quarrel about trifles ; but, at the same time, while he is courteous to all, to avoid an intimacy or too much familiarity with any one, much less with the sailors.

The wind afterwards got up, blew hard, and quite a-head, and so continued for several days, which drove us within two days sail of Rio Janeiro.^(d) The cabin passengers tried their utmost to prevail upon the captain to put in at that place, but all to no purpose.^(e)

The wind now became favourable, and so continued until we came within the latitude of the Cape of Good Hope. Here we saw a brig—spoke to her—found she was bound to Ceylon from North America. We met with good weather in rounding the Cape, but afterwards it began to rain, and blew tremendously for a fortnight ; and part of this time we were all battened below decks : this was a misery felt severely by me : we were indeed permitted to have lights, but were

obliged to buy them. The wind shifted and became less boisterous, and we saw several whales and other large fish. The captain harpooned a dolphin, which, though by no means a large one, astonished us by the strength it had in its tail when hauled upon deck. We all partook of it, and I cannot help remarking that it was the first and last treat the steerage passengers received from the captain during the voyage. We made St. Paul's in due course: it is a little rocky barren island, about midway from the Cape of Good Hope and Swan River; it is said to be uninhabited—its shores abound with several sorts of fish. At this time several of the passengers, including myself, were much afflicted with the scurvy, which I attribute, in a great degree, to the stoppage of our allowance of vinegar, tea, currants, &c. We proceeded rapidly for a week, and were again becalmed for three days. Here we saw a great many whales. The wind at last sprung up, and now the captain expressed his persuasion that we were drawing near to Rottenest Island, and this intelligence inspired every one with joy and hope. The following day a

sailor cried out the long wished-for and glad tidings of "*Land a-head.*" All ran upon deck, anxious to behold "terra firma" once more. But it could not be seen from the deck for some time in consequence of the land being low. At last it became visible to all. We were overjoyed at the sight, made it, and found it to be "Rottenest," which is a rocky barren island, difficult of access on account of a heavy surf. It looks, however, very well at first as an island, having plenty of trees upon it; but on coming close in, we saw nothing but coarse timber of inferior quality. It abounds with kangaroos, kangaroo rats, and birds of all descriptions. We dropped anchor here (for the night), the second time only since we left Portsmouth; and weighed early the next morning with the coast of Western Australia in view, and standing for Gage's Roads, (which is the harbour at the entrance of the Swan River,) with colours flying, and firing a gun for a pilot every ten minutes. Here with a glass we perceived three sail at anchor. A pilot soon came on board, and after the first salutation and enquiries, he told us of the wreck of the *Marquis of Anglesea* in a storm on

this coast, bound from London with settlers to this Colony. (f) Most providentially all lives were saved, as was the principal part of the cargo. We at length perceived her as we went along laying under some high cliffs, about 300 yards from the entrance of the Swan River. We were indeed most thankful that we had escaped this storm, otherwise there is every reason to expect we could not have weathered it. Before the Marquis of Anglesea was wrecked, the gale had been so violent, that the Calista, which came out at the same time with the Parmelia, in which the governor was passenger, actually dragged three anchors after her; and if the storm had not most providentially abated, she must inevitably have been wrecked. The Parmelia, in which the governor was, grounded twice; and if it had not been for the most admirable seamanship in navigating her, she must have gone to the bottom. There were many thousand bricks in the Marquis of Anglesea, which could not be got out. This was a great loss to the early settlers, if it were only on account of having nothing at hand wherewith to build fire-places. But the Colony has

suffered greatly in the estimation of the public, who, in consequence of this storm and wreck, are led to consider the harbour totally unsafe for any vessel to ride in. I fervently hope, however, that they will soon be convinced of their error, and that the industry of the inhabitants will bring the Colony into good repute. But to return—we dropped anchor, for the last time, within two miles and a half of the mouth of Swan River, in company with three other vessels; two of them had put in here for water. The other a brig from Hobart Town, with settlers. Here, I am sorry to say, the water is very indifferent, and thus continues until you reach Perth, where it is good. If wells, however, were sunk further in the interior, and at a greater depth, the water would, probably, be found of a much better quality; but at present, and for some time, there will neither be leisure nor hands for making experiments. The wood near the shore, and for several miles up the River, is worth but little, being short and crooked, and thus unfit for building; but the further you proceed up the country, so much the better is the timber in quality.



CHAPTER II.

*Description of the Country as you approach it
—Landing Passengers—Interview with the
Governor—Account of Perth and Freemantle,
the two Towns first established—Procuring
a Grant of Land—Exploring Expedition—
Meeting some Natives, &c.*

IT is not for me, who know so little of navigation, to give you an account of the harbour in which we anchored. I shall merely state, that “Gage’s Roads” run from Cockburn Sound to the bar of the Swan River, where it empties itself into the sea. This bar is very visible above the surface at low water; and when the tide is full, there is not more than five feet water upon it. The country, as you approach it, is beautiful; but when you land, the variegated appearance it had at a distance is so far dispersed, that it does not look like the same place.

There are certain months in the year, when, from the violence of the prevailing winds on the coast, no ship can enter these Roads : at present these are to be ascertained, but time and observation will soon teach us for what period the winds render the harbour inaccessible and unsafe.

It was on the — of October we dropped anchor in Gage's Roads, when all the steerage passengers were ordered to prepare to go on shore. This sudden and unexpected order caused great confusion throughout the ship. Fortunately I got permission for my goods to remain on board until I could get a small soldier's tent (which I purchased during my short stay at Portsmouth) erected upon the beach. The ship's long boat and skiff were now hauled along side, to land all "steerage pigs" and "Israelites," as the Captain and cuddy passengers were pleased to denominate us during the voyage. The ensuing morning, I erected my tent about 500 yards from the beach, upon a hot, burning sand, which extends all along the coast ; and, as all my goods were landed the next day, I was obliged to look out

for assistance to help me to drag them from the beach to my *castle*. I naturally applied to some of my fellow passengers, but most of them were so dejected at not finding themselves upon the richest country in the world, that they seemed to require consolation and advice to go up the river and look about them, rather than afford any assistance to those who kept up their spirits, and resolved to “put their shoulder to the wheel:” others of them had become fine gentlemen. They landed (two days before) as “independent settlers”—in a small way. So I was obliged to hire a man, and give him 8*s.* for helping me to remove my packages to their temporary destination. This was not an extraordinary price in this young colony, where the wages of a labourer are very high; for unfortunately very few labouring persons have been brought out, even by those whose means would have enabled them to do so. A carpenter is paid here 7*s.* or 8*s.* a day, besides an allowance of rum, and a common workman 5*s.* or 6*s.*; and these prices will doubtless continue for some time, unless a greater number of the lower orders are

sent out. Having pitched my tent, and stowed my goods and chattels in safety, I waited upon the Governor, who received me with great affability. I took that opportunity of presenting him with the letter of introduction and the testimonials, which the kindness of my friends enabled me to produce. His Excellency appeared pleased with them, and did me the honor to ask me to stay and drink tea, at which I saw Mrs. Stirling, whose freedom from pride and lady-like manners formed a pleasing contrast to the bridling and haughtiness of some half-bred persons whom I remember at home. It is said that the Governor is hasty, but is soon appeased, and is ready to forgive a slight offence. Indeed he has already met with many trials of his temper, from the consequential airs of some of the settlers, who seem to forget that he is not their servant, but their King's representative. Several persons have arrived here from Sydney and Hobart Town, who have met with great disappointments in their various hopes and speculations, owing to the place not having been accurately surveyed, (for which there has scarcely

been time) and trusting entirely to the reports they received from London and elsewhere, many of which were ridiculous and unfounded in the extreme. Some of these, being dissatisfied at not finding and *having* every thing they wished for and expected, have returned to their former stations, where no doubt they will circulate a dismal tale respecting the Colony. But I hope, and indeed have no doubt, that those who remain will reap the benefit of their constancy and resolution.

The Governor's kindness to me I shall ever remember with gratitude, and, I hope, continue to deserve his good opinion. He was so good as to say, that if I met with any difficulty I might apply to him, for which I returned my warmest acknowledgments, and took the liberty of enquiring where I could obtain dry stowage for my goods? He replied that, although the wreck of the *Marquis of Anglesea* was taken up as a storehouse, she was already so full, that *he* had many things exposed to the open air, very much against his inclination.

Since that interview, I had not for some time the pleasure of seeing him, as he was laid up with severe illness, having taken a violent cold in consequence of getting into the water, while upon an exploring party, in a state of excessive perspiration—to the great joy of the settlers, he is now much better.

Every article of my property was thus unavoidably exposed to the open air. A few days afterwards, we were visited with a tremendous storm of thunder and lightning, accompanied with heavy rain: it lasted so long, and was so violent, that it came through my tent in spouts. I was obliged to bolt out, and placed myself behind a boarded house, (the leeward side of it you may be sure) with my rough fearnought coat on, where I remained more than two hours. As soon as the storm abated, I returned to my tent, and found every thing in a pretty predicament. On the next day, I began to overhaul and ransack my packages; and found, to my great mortification and dismay, that every thing had taken damage, more or less, at sea, as well as from the rain

here, excepting a case of saws, the hair trunk, a portmanteau, and the box which contained my books, these sustained no injury; but the valuable fowling-piece, which — so generously gave me, was as rusty as old iron, though it was enclosed in two cases.(g) The linen, also, which I did not require during my voyage, and, consequently, had stowed in the hold of the ship, was quite mouldy: but this, perhaps, was occasioned by my not considering that it ought to have been *thoroughly dried* before it was packed up.

I was agreeably surprized to find an abundance of live stock of every description, which shews that Government had paid particular attention in providing for the wants and accommodation of the settlers, by ensuring the necessary supplies from the Cape, Sydney, and Van Dieman's Land. Cattle are by no means so dear as was generally expected.(h) Unfortunately for the colony, the sheep which came from Van Dieman's Land are now suffering severely with the "scab," which is raging among some flocks with all its fury.

Therefore, if my brother comes out, let him by all means bring a considerable quantity of that ointment which we found so efficacious at home. Various are the trials made by the different settlers to get rid of it, but all without success, for they have not "hit the right nail upon the head." Fish is caught here in great plenty—they use a large net of nearly 100 yards in length, and this they draw across the river, and take a large quantity at a haul; you may purchase a great lot of them for a shilling. We have a variety of birds, and some kinds are very numerous, such as the pelican, parrot, cockatoo, the black swan, and the wild duck, which is a great delicacy. But both ducks and swans are shy, and it is difficult to shoot them without a long duck gun, or a rifle, with which a good marksman may have plenty of sport.

Freemantle, which is to be a trading town, is situated at the mouth of the Swan. This and Perth are the only towns which are established at present. Perth, which is about 13 miles up the river, where the good land commences, is

now the seat of Government. For Captain Stirling has taken up his quarters there, as the situation is more central and convenient than it would have been on the sea-shore at Freemantle. He wished at first to establish the temporary seat of Government at Garden Island, which, if it had been practicable, would have been very advantageous; but the soil of this island is a dry white sand, which will not apparently make any return for the labour of the husbandman upon it. I have burnt some fragments of the rocks which abound in it, in the hope that they would make lime, but they would not slack; and the stone is as unfit for walls as for lime, for when exposed to the air, it corrodes and crumbles. Here it was that the settlers landed who came out in the *Parmelia*, *Calista*, and *Marquis of Anglesea*, but, after a sojourn of twelve weeks, in fruitless labour and expence, they were obliged to remove to the main land; and hence it was that we found every thing in such a state of confusion upon our arrival at Freemantle.

I can safely assure you that the soil, both on

the Swan and Canning Rivers, is excellent, to a certain extent from their banks inwards, and, in my opinion, (if the climate be as suitable as it appears) is capable of producing abundant crops under proper cultivation. As yet, there has not been time for the settlers to raise a crop from any but garden seeds (but these, when sown, appear very flourishing): it is impossible at present to say with certainty what will agree best with the soil; but if we judge from the appearance of the land, we may be assured there are very few articles cultivated by man which will not thrive in this Colony, though several years must pass away before we can ascertain what will best succeed in the soil and climate. I must, however reluctantly, pronounce Mr. Frazer's report to be erroneous—when he mentions only two trees to the acre, he ought to have known, that if he said 200 he would have been nearer the mark and more correct. There are certainly some places bare of timber, and some boggy and marshy ground, but these are not of great extent. On the edge of the rivers, where we find the land to be of the best quality,

there are not many trees ; but, at half a mile inwards, we have forests of immense trees of various descriptions, among which I mention the gum-tree and the cedar.^(l) Several experienced persons are persuaded that the bark of some of these trees would be as useful as oak-bark in tanning leather.^(k)

The climate, so far as I can judge of it at present, is very good and healthy—the heat at mid-day is excessive, but the mornings and evenings are cold. Our Summer is just commencing, and in the course of a little time will most probably be very hot. The settler must travel nearly fifteen miles up both the Swan and Canning Rivers before he can arrive at *good* land. It is said that all the good land on their banks not reserved by Government, is already taken up by those who arrived before us. It is my intention to wait with patience till I can meet with an allotment not yet appropriated, and desirable from situation and quality. I have already applied for a tract with which I am much pleased, but

have not yet received an answer from the Board of Audit and Council.

As the Colony is not yet properly surveyed and marked out, those persons who intend to become farmers, ought to explore the country by proceeding up the different rivers in search of a spot that may appear eligible, and then they should wait upon the Colonial Secretary, and if it be not a Government reserve, or taken up by a prior applicant, it is allowed, according to the amount of stock, and the means of cultivating it. [See the regulations published at the Colonial Office, a copy of which is in the Appendix.—*Ed.*]

There are settlers now at this place who came out with the first ships, and rather than be at the trouble of putting up with five or six days' provisions, and brushing up the country in search of a suitable allotment, remain here upon a dry sand, which cannot be cultivated to any useful purpose, wasting their time, and consuming their provisions, and when they are exhausted, they must either become day-labourers or starve.⁽¹⁾

To get up the River with my goods to my proposed allotment, which will consist of 2333 acres, to which I am entitled, will be a heavy expense; and as for conveying them by land, it is an utter impossibility at present. For if I were to take up my grant upon some land which is still open upon the Swan, it must be fifteen or twenty miles above Perth, and at present nothing can be got nearer, as the intervening land is either taken up with Government reserves, or by those settlers who selected their locations previous to my arrival. I make this remark in case I should be disappointed in my expectations at the Cockburn Sound River, (now the Murray—*Ed.*) For it is supposed that the seat of Government, which is at present at Perth, will soon be permanently established there, on account of Cockburn Sound being a much safer anchorage for shipping than Gage's Roads. As this River has as yet been scarcely explored, it is my intention to proceed thither immediately—examine it myself, and in this and every similar instance trust to no man's report, for there are so very few practical farmers here, that I can place

no reliance on the judgment of many of those who have absolutely explored great part of the country. If I have the good fortune to find the land here of a superior quality, I will endeavour to obtain the whole of my grant on this River, (of course as near the expected seat of Government as possible,) for on the Swan I can only have a frontage of 300 acres, or what you would call half a mile. I hope, if possible, to find a situation with a brook running through it to this new River, and, if so, shall instantly take in its description to the Board, and then I am positive of obtaining the grant of it, for no person has as yet applied for allotments upon this River. I daily and hourly wish my brother was with me; never having been alone for a day before, I feel most deeply the solitude of my situation, and being here without a friend to advise or assist me, is very miserable. But if —— was here, there is no doubt we could make it answer our purpose; but to be alone, is like a ship in a storm without a rudder, very liable to sink.

Boats at present, and for some time to come,

will be wanting here, as there is no possibility as yet of exploring grants but by water, and this method is attended with great expence. Some of the settlers have attempted to build flat-bottomed boats, but, owing to the wood in general being very tough and short in the grain, it makes sad havoc with their tools, and they, perhaps, do not understand the art of boat-building. So, few vessels have been launched at OUR DOCK-YARD!! One of them, however, answers the purpose extremely well, and is let for several guineas a-day to those parties who are desirous of traversing the rivers. The owner lets it out by the day, and is making a little fortune by it. It carries four tons at a trip. (m) Nothing but flat-bottomed boats, regular "whalers," will suit these rivers, owing to their being choaked up in many places with sand-banks and flats of land, projecting far into the river, upon which, perhaps, there is not, in some places, more than six inches of water. It will be well if Government remove these obstructions, or at least deepen some of the shallowest parts of the River, for otherwise the Colony will suffer materially; but when the Go-

vernor represents the matter in its true light to those who are at the head of affairs at home, there is no doubt it will be taken into consideration, and orders be given to make the necessary improvements where they are most wanted.^(a)

It is utterly impossible for the settlers to improve the navigation for some years to come. We are all so much engaged in conveying our goods to our *estates*, building huts, and preparing the land for our subsistence, that we shall have no time to labour for the accommodation of the public. I speak only of the prudent and industrious, for the indolent and discontented, at the rate they are going on, will be soon unable to support their families, still less to lend a hand to deepen the channels of the rivers. But if Government will cut through the sand-flats above Perth, or make a short canal to avoid them, or only make a road or causeway on the land from one extremity of the shallow water to the other, I am confident the Colony would be benefited in tenfold proportion to the money expended. To say nothing of the saving of time and labour it

would be to us poor devils, who are obliged to push an empty boat over these flats by main force. For although the river is navigable from Freemantle to a mile above Perth, at that point there are some islands, which it is difficult to pass; and a little distance above them there is a regular flat of nearly a mile in extent, and here we unload our boats, and carry their cargo to the edge of the deep water above, and then the empty boat must be dragged, with no small exertion, till it floats in deep water, and afterwards it is to be loaded again. This difficulty being overcome, you may row up a beautiful river, both wide and deep, for thirty miles, where the passage becomes once more obstructed by trees, which have fallen into the water, and thus render the passage both intricate and narrow. I have been up as high as this in a boat, and the land is excellent to some width on both its banks. I saw three natives while on this excursion; we pulled to the shore, landed, and endeavoured to enter into a sort of conversation with them, by uttering a few words, such as "how d'ye do?"—"good," "kangaroo," "dog," "pellican," and

other short words, which, to our utter astonishment, they repeated very distinctly. They eat some biscuit which we gave them voraciously, and we then parted shaking hands.(°) These men were short in stature, with large mouths and eyes, flat noses, short foreheads—they were entirely naked, and quite black. The natives seem a mild and harmless people, though, like other savages, addicted to pilfering. They are very jealous of their women, none of which the settlers have seen at present.

The Canning River is similar to the Swan for flats and islands, but the land upon its banks is not so good.

The two preceding chapters contain the narrative of the voyage to Gage's Roads, and a description of the country in the neighbourhood of the Swan and Canning Rivers; but the following chapter will contain instructions essentially requisite to be attended to, by those who wish to render their voyage comfortable, even to

a steerage passenger, and the articles recommended to be taken out by a settler of small property are not unworthy the attention of those whose funds may enable them to afford a berth in the cabin. This chapter is compiled from the letters of an emigrant to his youngest brother, who was unavoidably prevented from accompanying him in the same ship, but who followed him in a vessel which sailed the 29th of September, 1829, and consequently arrived at Cockburn some weeks before the letters in question reached this country.

Having been written from one brother to another, the greatest reliance may be placed upon the statements they contain; and the earnestness with which he advises him to take the voyage, affords ample proof that the prospects he had in view were neither uncertain nor imaginary—provided industry and perseverance were applied to realize the expectations he had formed. The advice herein was dictated by sincerity and affection; and being the result of experience, is well worthy of attention. Here no deception is at-

tempted to be practised, no false hopes held out ; and if there is any thing flattering or enticing in the description, it must be admitted to proceed from the truth, or at least from the candid opinion of the writer.

As to his mode of inviting his brother to join him, it may be said that he adopts a strange course, but it must be admitted to be a candid one ; for, by way of temptation, he begins with describing the hardships which he himself has endured.

CHAPTER III.

Useful Information to Emigrants—what should be attended to by a Steerage Passenger—the Conduct to be observed on Board-ship—what Things are requisite on the Passage—what to take with him as a Settler.

I SHALL not give you, my dear brother, any particulars of my voyage to this place, but refer you to my other letters of this date, which — and — will receive, for a description of it. I have by no means been idle since my arrival here, but have “beat the bush” up both the Swan and Canning Rivers with two more settlers like myself, and now know what it is to sleep, for several nights together, upon a piece of bark for a feather bed and the sky for a covering. We, however, always contrived to keep a rousing fire a-head of us, and have reason to be thankful to Providence that our health has not been injured

either by fatigue or exposure to the night air. This will give you some idea of the healthiness of the climate—the nights and mornings are very cold, but a good fire is every thing. I have already found out that, if you will join me, and add your small fortune to our combined exertions, we shall in a few years acquire a handsome independence, and the longer we apply ourselves to business, so much more valuable our property will become. I fear, however, that I am writing in fruitless expectation of your following me; and that you have been smitten with some fascinating young damsel or other; and, if so, pray take my advice—marry at once, and let your wife accompany you hither, for, to say nothing of the pleasure of female society, you know not how we male settlers miss the assistance of a woman to wash, cook, and sew for us. Provisions are plentiful here at present, but considerably dearer than in England; as, for example, beef is fifteen-pence per pound—brown sugar, 1s. per pound—potatoes, 1*l.* 1s. per cwt., and soap and starch enormously high. But this is not to be wondered at, for the Colony at present has

produced nothing for the market. Many of the settlers, either from ignorance or want of money, did not bring out many of the necessaries they require, and of those that did, there are few who purchased more than they require for their own use.(P)

If you take the trip, which, for your own sake as well as mine, I entreat you to do, by all means endeavour to bring as many young and *respectable* labourers as your finances will allow. But on no account take out one person whose character is blemished, or whom you think will either be inclined to insolence or laziness, for otherwise they will be of more trouble than profit. You can have no notion of the work necessary to be done upon an allotment, on which there is no hut to shelter you, no yard to confine stock of a night, no ground levelled for the plough—for if one labourer is required all the year upon a small farm in England, the whole of which is in an improved state, how much more is one wanted here, where every thing is in a state of nature. If you are ac-

quainted with any industrious persons, who have the means only of paying their passage out, and providing themselves with bedding and clothes for two or three years, and a double stock of the tools they are accustomed to use: advise them to come here, and they may rely upon obtaining constant work; and if they save, as they ought to do upon 5s. a day, in two or three years may obtain an allotment for themselves, and, if they persevere in industry, will acquire a handsome property; for as the Colony rises, their prosperity will increase.

I must earnestly recommend all those who come out as steerage passengers, to have a list of every thing that they may be entitled to during the voyage, signed by the Captain and those that charter the vessel, for that may keep you from many an unpleasant difficulty and dispute when on board. I can assure you that, owing to this having been neglected by those who came out in the same ship with myself, there was frequently very disagreeable work during the voyage. We had not been out two

months, when the ship's steward stopped the allowance of vinegar, as contained in the list given us by the ship's broker in London; then followed a non-supply of sugar; after this, oatmeal was refused to us, and instead of the half-ounce of tea we received only a quarter of an ounce. And all these dishonest breaches of covenant we were obliged to put up with, without the possibility of redress, even when we landed, but were told that, if we were going on to Sydney, we might have obtained it there. Let me, then, most earnestly advise you to be upon your guard; trust no man's word, however plausible he may be, not even of the Owner or Broker, but have it down in black and white, and then there can be no disputes.⁽⁹⁾ But, *if possible*, come out in a vessel which is not permitted to land passengers, &c. at Swan River in her way to Sydney or Van Dieman's Land, but bound for the Swan River alone.

After having made up your mind what vessel to come out by, first find out what cabins are disengaged, and then fix on your berth, and

have the key given you at the time of paying your passage money, for otherwise there may be some *mistake* when you send your bed, &c. on board. At the time the Steward promised you such a berth, he might have forgot that the Captain had assigned it to another gentleman; or if you engage a particular berth from the Captain, he may not be aware of some (of course) previous arrangement between the passenger in possession and the owners. I by no means think every owner, captain, or steward would impose upon you, many of them are persons of honourable principles; but you are a countryman, and, as such, I want to prevent your being imposed upon by *any* person who may wish to deceive or cheat you. Endeavour to be as near the middle hatchway as you possibly can for air and comfort, if you prefer coming out in the steerage. But if you engage a cabin in the steerage for yourself, and pay 40*l.* for it, you would be repaid in the end, to say nothing of the comfort of having it entirely to yourself, as I will presently state. But if you can afford^(r) to pay for a berth in the cabin, select

one, if possible, upon the poop deck, as that will be more airy than in the lower cabins ; if, however, you must go below, choose a berth as near the ladder as you can for purer air, and the nearer you are to the centre of the vessel, the less you will feel its motion. Now passengers are allowed to take as much luggage, free of freight, as can be conveniently stowed in their cabins : therefore, when your bed is put up, have what box or trunk you intend to hold the wearing apparel you will want during the voyage placed in your cabin, and fill up every spare inch with such articles as you and your fellow passengers may require on board, in addition to the allowance from the ship, such as small cases of raisins, currants, figs, mustard, tobacco, and cigars, these had better be put in square cases, for in this shape they will take up much less room.

A few gallons of spirits would be readily sold on board to great profit, they might be contained in small publican's barrels, or tin cases, with cocks and keys, (mind that) and a small

measure to sell by; but in case you are unwilling to engage in this traffic, or come out in the cabin, in which case *you* could not carry on such a trade with propriety, let one of your labourers sell for you, taking care to keep a sharp look out upon him. Fail not to bring a considerable quantity of good, wholesome pickles; the *green* pickles sold in the shops are not of this description, as verdigris is often mixed with them, to give them a nice colour—also a few ounces of pepper, ginger, and other spices. If you do not want, or cannot sell these articles on board, there is a merchant here who will be happy to take them off your hands at a liberal profit. One of our passengers, a Scotchman, being used to long voyages, arranged his cabin upon this plan, and cleared a considerable sum during the voyage, by selling these articles quietly to the passengers: he was obliged, of course, to be careful not to have a crowd or any noise at his berth; and, therefore, you must be cautious, and, as soon as your “customers” are served, request them to take their “goods” and consume them in their own cabins. And throughout the

passage, I would entreat you to avoid quarrelling with any one; be civil and obliging to all—never take a part, or side with any in party or dispute, but make it a rule to stand neuter; if, however, you *must* interfere, try to be a peace-maker rather than a peace-breaker.

I had nearly forgotten one main point—that is, to have a clear understanding with respect to cooking, either as may regard yourself, or your people in the steerage, (a cabin passenger need not stipulate upon this point, as he will dine with the Captain.) We had great annoyance and dispute throughout the voyage—some could have their victuals cooked comfortably, and others could not. But let all steerage passengers be sure to obtain an order, signed by the Captain; but even then they must have a card to play to keep the cook in good humour. On no account become familiar with him—nor thwart nor tease him—or speak in a harsh commanding tone, but always with fair words; and, although prudence forbids too great liberality, yet a glass of grog, or a quid of to-

bacco now and then, to the cook, or to any sailor who is willing to render any little assistance in his power, will secure attention to what you may want, or wish to have properly cooked. I would recommend your purchasing some of the fresh meat which is cooked and put up for the use of persons in long voyages, as a wholesome change from salt provisions—and also some cakes of portable soup, or else you (like myself) will be laid up with the scurvy ; but these, with plenty of pickles, will most likely prevent your having it. I suffered severely from it, but, not having these remedies, could obtain no relief until I got on shore. To keep off this disease as much as possible, pay strict attention to cleanliness, and by all means take as much exercise as possible, by walking the deck, holding out weights at arm's length, &c. and be sure to rub yourself well with a coarse, dry towel, night and morning. The way of avoiding or mitigating sea-sickness I have mentioned in the letter addressed to —, and which of course you will read. But it is proper that your attention should be called to a subject of greater importance than

passengers in general seem to be aware. Let it be your constant study to merit and obtain the good opinion of the Captain and cabin passengers, not by fawning and cringing, but by gentlemanly manners and conduct. By adopting such a line of conduct, you will not only have a safe conscience, but also, if you come out in the steerage, will gain permission "to walk the poop," where there will be plenty of room for exercise, otherwise your morning walks must be upon the other decks, which most likely will be crowded with stock, so that you will scarcely be able to step out, or even enjoy a "fisherman's walk," which is two steps—and the third, overboard. I was so fortunate as to succeed at last in having this privilege allowed me, but it was six weeks first; but afterwards, when I chose to change the scene, and felt inclined to take walking exercise, I paraded upon the poop, and was much relieved by even a temporary absence from the noise, bustle, and confusion, so common below deck.

Now observe! The Captain, upon his arrival

here, will give in a report to the Governor, containing the name of every passenger—how he came out, whether in the steerage or cabin, and how he conducted himself throughout the voyage. So you see how necessary it is to be very circumspect, and to charge those who accompany you to behave with propriety, for character here, as well as at home, is of no small consequence; and if your behaviour is that which the Captain can truly commend, it will be of great service to you in the estimation of the Governor and Council. On the contrary, if you behave ill on board, you will be persecuted there, and have a bad name, which will be a curse to you for years in the Colony. When on the poop, you will find a man at the wheel who steers the ship; he is obliged to keep his eye on the compass in the box before him, to see that the vessel keeps her proper course. You will often observe the Captain or the Mate speaking to him and to the other sailors—and then always be silent, for nothing is more annoying to the Captain or sailors, than to have the word of command made indistinct by people's chattering—and

never enter into conversation with them while upon duty, much less tease them with silly and absurd questions—such as, where are we now? How many knots an hour are we going? When shall we reach the Swan River?

I need not caution you against the folly of volunteering your opinion upon the working the vessel or any other subject of seamanship which you cannot understand: but in working the ship, there are times when all hands are required to “put the ship about,” and if you then see that help is wanted, never hesitate to lend a willing hand wherever it can be of use upon deck.

I will now proceed to another subject, and beg you particularly to recollect, that there are as yet no shops in the Colony, and therefore it will be necessary for all comers to bring a stock of Winter and Summer clothing sufficient for three years. For I understand that for two months in the year we shall find it very cold, with violent winds and heavy rain for days together, but no frosts. Now,

the labourers at mid-day lie down for two hours on account of the heat, but they work earlier and later to make up for it. The mornings and evenings are even at this time (on the eve of Summer) quite cold, but they are bracing, and as soon as the sun is down, the night sets in. In the night, as well as in the day-time, I should find a dog of great service to me ; the little property which I have, and cannot stow away in my tent, being exposed to all risks, and none but myself to protect it, so a dog would be my companion and protector. I beg, therefore, that you will bring out a bitch with you, not on account of her beauty, but bring one that is hard bitten, and will fetch any thing out of the water. For there are a multitude of ducks and swans shot in the rivers and lagoons, and cannot be got at for want of a good water-dog. Useful dogs are selling at high prices. The kangaroo-breed find purchasers at fifteen guineas each. They certainly are fine animals, much larger than a greyhound. If poor "Bumpus" was here, many pounds would be offered for him, for he will hunt and set any game in the water, or out of it. We have a large sort

of quail, a beautiful bird, it is found in boggy ground, and a good setter would be very serviceable; it flies like the partridge, and is equally good for the table. In order to be provided with game, which abounds here, you should bring out a double-barrel gun, a rifle or long duck-gun, and an ample supply of powder, shot, flints, and lead. For all these are becoming scarce already, and will be more so before you arrive. Rifles are much sought after with us; so if it be in your power to purchase one or two, pray do not lose the opportunity. Take care to have a snug kennel made for the bitch on board, and provide a little sulphur and other dog-medicines in case she should require them, and make much of the poor thing on the voyage, otherwise she will droop and perhaps die; for dogs, like human beings, will lose their spirits if not encouraged and spoken to. You will, of course, see that she is regularly fed, but not overfed—give her water frequently yourself, and when near the Line be careful to shade her from the sun. Prevail upon whatever friends may accompany you to bring out some good useful dogs; and if the sort I have described cannot

be purchased at a reasonable price, let them take out something of the lurcher kind, that can run fast to overtake the kangaroo, (*) for it bounds along at an astonishing rate. It will be worse than useless to bring out an old or inferior dog, the freightage of one would be £5, and the captain provides his food, which of course are the scraps of the table, but if yourself and friends take out several, you may possibly prevail upon the captain to convey them at £3. each. Having already related how I was docked in my rations who could both ask and complain, how much more careful should you be that your dumb animals are properly fed and not ill-treated.

Bear with whatever little disagreeables you may meet with, they will seldom arise from the sailors, who are not disposed to meddle with those who let them alone ; but captains are often ill-tempered and irritable, especially when they are teased by those they have to deal with, and among the passengers you will probably meet with overbearing and consequential fellows, who will be more troublesome if you appear vexed

by their behaviour. Remember you will not be cooped up with them long, and avoid any dispute with them, still less an appeal to the captain ; for although he may decide in your favour, he cannot reconcile the other party to you, who perhaps will take an opportunity of venting the grudge he cherishes against you.

Having so far given the best advice in my power as to your conduct on board-ship, I will now state the different articles (as they occur to me) which you had better bring out, partly for your own use and partly for sale. Purchase (in proportion to the extent of your funds) a quantity of cigars and mild tobacco, in addition to what you take as sea-store, citric acid, hams, and fitches of bacon. These, at present, are selling at high prices, but be extremely careful that these last articles are well packed, not as if they were going to be sent off by canal into the country, but for a long voyage. If they arrive here in good condition, they will be quickly disposed of at a liberal advance. Add also, for speculation, an assortment of quills or pens, writing paper of

all sorts,^(t) ink, sealing-wax, and wafers, a few razors, scissars, and a writing-desk or two. Every denomination of kitchen utensils you may safely venture upon, as the wood-fires in the open air make sad work with saucepans and kettles. If I had not purchased mine in England, I must have paid very dear for them here. A small assortment of common crockery-ware carefully packed, a flour-mill, and an assortment of colonial agricultural implements, may be safely purchased as a "venture;" for if they are not sold even at a tolerable profit, you would be entitled to a grant of land in proportion to their value. I would propose that we endeavour to take up as much land as ever we are entitled to, as there is no knowing what may turn up in the course of a few years,^(u) or how the value of land in the Colony may encrease, and then, from having made some slight improvements we may dispose of it to considerable advantage.

I hope you will have some cross-cut and other saws with you, and those should be well packed in tin cases, or they will become as rusty as old

iron. Gate-hooks and thimbles, &c. will be found very useful, as well as some copper such as they cover ships' bottoms with ; for, unfortunately, we have had two tents burned down in consequence of not having some screen to prevent the fire from being blown about too forcibly ; and on this account I am in a constant dread, for, knowing to my sorrow what fire is, I fear it much more than the boisterous elements which I encountered in my passage for more than four months.

You will require an iron bedstead, with a head and covering of fine net or muslin, otherwise at some seasons you will be devoured by the musquitoes. They are terribly annoying. I hope you will, on no account, omit an article of the greatest use to a settler immediately upon his arrival, and that is a truck to convey goods upon, and it ought to be so constructed that a pony or mule might draw it as well as a man—bring also some wheelbarrows, which are scarce here, and in great demand. I think that both trucks and wheelbarrows might be so made as to be taken to pieces and put together again when they are

wanted for use, and as they could be packed in much less compass, the expence of taking them out would be reduced one-half.

Fail not to purchase cart-ropes, corn-sacks, and seives, with some useful books upon agriculture, fariery, and brewing, together with a small butter-churn, pails, barrels, and kegs, these last are in great demand here—even for a common one I have been obliged to give fifteen shillings; they are so requisite an article, in fact, persons here cannot well do without them. Should you be able to afford it, bring a time-piece and sun-dial; for, to learn the time of day, however satisfactory at home, is most essential upon an exploring party, or any other excursion. Unfortunately, I have to lament the spoiling of my excellent watch, as you shall learn. In my last expedition up the river, the boat having got foul of some rocks, another settler and myself were obliged to get out to push her head round, when I slipped into a hole, which took me up over head and ears. You know I cannot swim, but Nature directed me to make an effort by which, and the assis-

tance of my companions, I regained the boat without hurt or bruise, but thoroughly soaked. The water as you may imagine had got to the works of my watch, which soon stopped, and on opening it to examine the cause, I found to my sorrow that the works were already rusted. I employed a person who was strongly recommended to me, to clean and put it in order, but if possible he has made it worse. I shall keep it carefully wrapped up until I can meet with an opportunity of sending it to England by some friendly hand, where perhaps it may be repaired and come out again upon duty. In this dilemma I entreat you to bring me one out, not an expensive, but a plain good hunting-watch.

I shall now mention another article, as essentially necessary as any of those I have hitherto named, and that is, a safety-lamp to burn in the tent, for the wind penetrates at every crevice, and blows a common light about which makes it very dangerous, especially when there is gunpowder in the place. A few lanthorns with spare horn, would be readily purchased, for be it remembered

that our buildings are composed of timber and thatch, and if they once caught fire would soon be in a blaze, and then, where are we? Fail not to bring an ample quantity of cotton and good lamp oil, for I am now writing by a miserable glimmering of fat pork and cotton, my best substitute for candle or lamp.

You may perhaps think that I shall never have done mentioning the articles with which I recommend an emigrant to this place to be provided; but fish-hooks and lines would sell well, as would twine in any quantity.

If you can purchase a chest of shoes of all sorts and sizes, especially children's, and a few pair of boots with cloth tops, you would find them answer as well as any other speculation; bring some leather or cloth gaiters also, for they as well as stout shoes are much wanted.

There are not more than three watering pans in the Colony, and these are so useful and valuable, that I am informed none of their owners will

lend them. And now to crown the whole, I hope you will provide a large second-hand sail in good condition, or else a tarpaulin, for until we can find time to build warehouses, every description of property must be damaged from exposure to the weather and rains. As we naturally feel most anxious to learn any news from our native country, you must have the kindness to bring out lots of newspapers, and any periodical publications of recent date, which you can pick up on reasonable terms. And if our friends will, from time to time send out a file of newspapers, they will provide us with a fund of agreeable intelligence, which we shall feel thankful for when the rains confine us within walls.

I have had so many things to direct your attention to, that I had nearly omitted to notice that most useful garment to a workman in a hot country—a flannel jacket, with sleeves, made of good materials; for it will be more comfortable and healthy to work in than a shirt; bring out a dozen of them for yourself and me, taking care to have them made large enough under the arms,

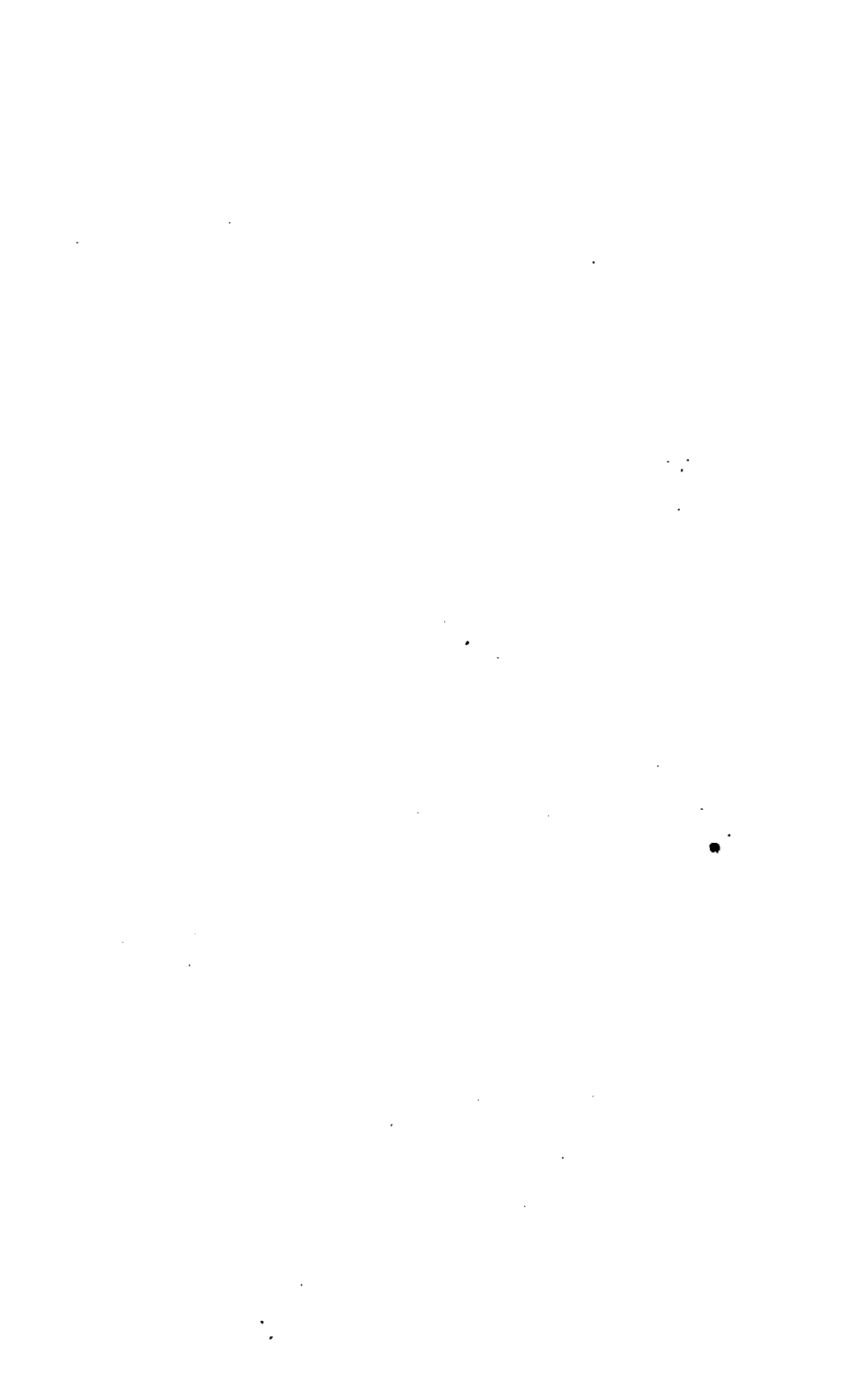
or else they will be uncomfortable to the wearer, and soon wear out. A few large umbrellas would easily be disposed of.

When you come out endeavour to obtain as many letters as you can from persons of note, as introductions to the Governor, or any of those who may hold high situations in the Colony, for passports of this sort may be of infinite service to you, and will convince those who are in the Colony, that you are neither a scape-grace sent out by friends to make a last shift, nor a runaway from creditors.

It was thought you know by us that a printing press would have been one of the first things established here, but there is none at present, nor any likelihood of it for some time to come. All public matters are in such a state of confusion, that it seems difficult to decide what ought to be done first, for the arrivals from England have been much more numerous than was expected: and (as before observed) labouring hands are so scarce that no work or building can make much progress.

We muster here already upwards of 800 settlers, (x) and several shiploads of settlers are daily expected.

As yet we are ignorant of the exact laws by which we are to be governed, but I hope before your arrival every thing will be in a regular channel, and that, with the help of God, I shall have some place to shelter you.



NOTES.

Page 10.

^a The three islands called the Madeiras are situated in a fine climate, in $32^{\circ} 27'$ North Lat. and from $18^{\circ} 30'$ to 19° W. Long. The largest, from which the rest derive the general name of Madeiras, on account of its being formerly covered with wood, is about 75 miles long, 60 broad, and 180 in circumference. It is composed of one continued hill, of considerable height, and interspersed with vineyards. There is but one large town in the whole island, which is named Funchal. Though this Island seems to have been known to the Ancients, it yet lay concealed for many generations, and was at length discovered by a Portuguese, in 1519; but others assert it was discovered by an Englishman, in 1314. Be that as it may, the Portuguese took possession of it, and are almost the only people which inhabit it. It produces Tent and Madeira in great abundance, of which 20,000 hogsheads are annually exported:—
(Abridged from) *Guthrie's Geography*, 1800.

^b In the Island of Mayo, or May, immense quantities of salt are made, by the heat of the sun, from the sea water, which, at spring tides, is received into a sort of pan, formed by a sand-bank, which runs along the coast for two or three miles. Here the English drive a considerable trade for salt, and have commonly a man-of-war to guard the vessels which come to load with it, which in some years amount to a hundred or more. The salt costs nothing, except for raking it together, wheeling it out

of the pond, and carrying it on asses to the boats, which is done at a very cheap rate. Several of our ships come hither for a freight of asses, which they carry to Barbadoes and other British Plantations. The inhabitants of this Island, even the Governor and Priests, are all negroes, and speak the Portuguese language. The negro Governor expects a small present from every Commander that loads salt, and is pleased to be invited on board their ships. The sea-water is so clear on this coast, that an English sailor who dropped his watch perceived it at the bottom, though many fathoms deep, and had it brought up by one of the natives, who, in general, are expert at diving.—*Guthrie's Geography.*

Page 12.

° The flying fish, by the continual motion of its pectoral fins, sometimes rises out of the water and flies above 100 yards, till, fatigued with its exertions, it falls again into the water. It is said thus to fly when it is pursued by the dolphins, which are numerous in the tropical latitudes.

Page 13.

° Rio Janeiro is a seaport town in Portuguese America, situated in about 23° South Latitude and 43° West Longitude. It gives its name to a Captainship or Province, of which the chief town is called St. Sebastian.—*Guthrie.*

° The passengers might have considered this refusal of the Captain to proceed from a morose and unfeeling disposition; but they were not aware that, if he had yielded to their entreaties in this instance, he would have proved himself unworthy of the command of the vessel—he would have been guilty of “barratry” by a wilful deviation from his course. The “charter

party" of the vessel would have been infringed—if any accident had happened during the remainder of the voyage, nothing could have been recovered under the policy of insurance, and the owners might, perhaps, have been ruined by the Captain's *good nature* to the passengers.

Page 16.

† Although the wreck of the Marquis of Anglesea was a severe blow to the Colony at the time, it will in the end terminate in its advantage—it will tend to cause the roadstead, and, indeed the whole coast, to be carefully and accurately surveyed, and thus cause succeeding vessels to be piloted with greater safety. And as so many ships have already come to anchor in Cockburn Sound and Gage's Roads since the Marquis of Anglesea was wrecked, where there were no beacons or lighthouses to warn off from danger, we must be convinced that the navigation can neither be so intricate or dangerous as has been too generally believed. Nay, from one of the numerous letters from this Colony, which have been published by Mr. Cross, of 18, Holborn, we have this gratifying account of Cockburn Sound. "It is as fine an anchorage as a ship can go into, and, as a proof of it, I took this ship in *without any assistance whatever*, never having less water than quarter less five, and *you know I never saw Cockburn Sound before.*" (I may avail myself of the mention of Mr. Cross's name to remark, that he is diligent in the acquisition of all credible information relative to this Colony, which he publishes from time to time in cheap pamphlets, which the emigrant for Western Australia would do well to read.)

As it is well known that the Marquis of Anglesea was lost in as heavy a gale of wind as ever blew upon a lee shore, and that Government have ordered the harbour and coast to be surveyed and buoys to be fixed where necessary, we may reasonably expect that, in a short time, Cockburn Sound and (with the excep-

tion of the Winter months) Gage's Roads, will be found as safe and accessible as any port in Great Britain.

Page 25.

^s The barrels of guns might be safely preserved from injury, even in the damp hold of a ship, if they were well cleaned and dried, and, *while warm*, filled with melted tallow, which must not be suffered to cool too rapidly, as it will crack and thus admit the air, which will produce rust. When the barrels are wanted for use, put them in warm water, and the tallow will immediately drop out; they can then be cleaned, and dried with boiling water and tow in the usual manner. The locks had better be taken out in the passenger's cabin—he may amuse himself in cleaning them as often as they have the appearance of rust. While upon this subject, I would recommend every article which may sustain injury from damp or rust to be warmed, and then rubbed with bees' wax, or brushed over with a composition of melted bees' wax and oil.

^h It appears from the letters which Mr. Cross has published, that cows and bullocks from Sydney may be purchased for £20. each—horses from the Cape at about £25. each—Javanese cows and bullocks, £12. each—South Wales sheep, £2. each—Chinese pigs, £2. to £5.

Page 29.

ⁱ There are several varieties of the gum tree in New Holland, which are thus described in the Picture of Australia, p. 143-4-7.

“BLUE GUM—*Encalyptus Piperita*. This is a very handsome timber, of straight and uniform grain, close and compact, of a bright brownish red, not unlike mahogany, but not curled or veined. It does not appear to warp, shake, or splinter, and cuts

clean. It is mostly used in the Colony in ship and house carpentry, though it seems by no means badly adapted for furniture, and almost every domestic purpose—a cubic foot of it weighs about 58lbs avoirdupois.

“BLACK BUTTED GUM TREE—*Enclaptus*. Also a straight-grained timber, having the smell and colour of German oak, though the grain is different. It seems a tough and firm timber, and well adapted to the purpose to which it is chiefly applied, viz. flooring. This is not quite so heavy as the former.

“RED GUM—*Encalyptus Robusta*. Very hard and apparently tough in the individual fibres, but of a bad colour; rough, splintery, full of decayed portions here and there. Mr. Cunningham says it is ‘of no use, not even to burn.’ The latter description must, however, apply only to the green wood, for upon trying a small portion of the dry, it was found to kindle readily, burn with a clear, lambent flame, without smoke, and, indeed, both in brilliance and durability of flame, it seemed superior to most of the timbers in this country; so that, though it may not be useful for any other purpose, properly dried, it would make excellent fire-wood.

“The RED CEDAR—*Cedrela Australis*, is a very fine timber. It is of uniform colour, though in other respects, and even in the leaves, fruit, and general habits of the tree, very similar to mahogany. It works easily and takes a fine polish. Like mahogany, it loses its colour when exposed to the air; but, excepting mahogany, we have no timber so handsome for inside work. It is a light timber, and by no means splintery.”

^k It may be worth while to mention that, until the end of the year 1833, bark will be allowed to be imported, *duty free*, from New South Wales and Van Dieman’s Land, and no doubt from the Colony of Western Australia also, which is giving a *bonus* of 20 per cent. upon the bark which is produced in our Colonies in that country—for such is the amount of duty upon bark imported from elsewhere.

Page 30.

¹ We may form, I think, a notion of the *industry* and *patient research* of these persons, from the extract of a letter from an arrivée to his friends in England. After enumerating his disappointments, he writes—"the land here is wretchedly bad, and so, I AM TOLD, it is in the interior of the country." So here it appears that, although he had taken a long and expensive voyage to this Settlement, he was absolutely too lazy to go up the country and see whether there was any good land in it or not.

Page 33.

^m It is worth while to inquire whether an iron boat might not be constructed in this country and taken to pieces, and packed up in such a manner, that its various joints and rivets being numbered and marked, it might soon be put together at the place of its destination.

Page 34.

ⁿ On reference to the Regulations published by the Lieut.-Governor, it is evident that Government eventually intend to effect the necessary improvements in the navigation of rivers; for, under the head of "permanent liabilities of grants," there is this clause:—All lands granted on the shores of rivers, which may be found desirable by Government to render navigable or to improve, are to be liable to pay their allotted fair proportion of the expences necessary to effect such, in the ratio of their extent of frontage upon such improvable rivers.

Page 36.

° From this slight specimen of the natives, it is to be hoped an intercourse, will soon be formed that will prove advantageous to the Settlement: they may soon be civilized, become sociable, and be of great assistance in exploring the country. From what has been seen of them they appear to be harmless, but addicted to pilfer, which, as yet, they do not conceive to be wrong. With regard to property, the savage tribe only know but one law or rule, and that is the doctrine of *occupancy*. The first occupant of any article, with these people, is considered to be him who can possess himself of any property not in the actual manual possession of another; so that put any thing down in their presence, and turn your back, they claim a right to lay hold of it, and pride themselves as the true and rightful owner—with us it is called pilfering. It is no uncommon thing for a negro slave in the West Indies or America, when accused of a theft, to use this doctrine as the ground of defence and justification. When called upon to answer the accusation, he will, with a great deal of confidence and apparent conscious innocence, say—“No, Massa—Sambo, he no steala him the knife. Sambo see him laya down by himself—Sambo takea him up, cansa nobody havea him, so Sambo he have rights to him. No, no, Massa, Sambo he no steala him.” In the untutored African or Australian native, who is alike ignorant of the Bible and the laws of civilized man, this surely will be, in the eye of the feeling and sympathizing Christian, considered as a venial offence, until time and education hath taught them the difference between right and wrong. From the small party of natives, as above described, it is not unreasonable to assimilate them to those of New South Wales, who are represented as a mild, cheerful, and inoffensive race; a mere nation of hunters, passionately fond of their wandering life, but averse to labour of every kind; that they have

very little jealousy of strangers, and live among the settlers on terms of perfect friendship and confidence.

Page 41.

¶ That the common necessaries of life will obtain a high price for some time must be expected, as, perhaps, very few settlers have taken out little more than to supply themselves ; but when things get settled, and a few stores or shops are opened in a general way by some capitalists at Freemantle, as a starting-place to commence trade at, a very little time will afford every thing at a reasonable rate. A new door will be open to the commerce of this country, and, of course, a vent found for the consumption of a portion of our surplus manufactures ; indeed it cannot be expected, for some years to come, the Colony will be able to supply itself with the raw material of any useful article, as the attention of every one will be rivetted to agriculture. The land must be tilled, habitations must be erected, and cattle must be reared. To produce food by manual labour, and to improve the land under the Colonial Regulations, will be the first consideration ; and as for raiment, they must calculate for some time to be supplied with that from home. Time will discover what will be useful as proper clothing in that climate, and also what other articles may be requisite, which the Colony cannot immediately furnish. All these may at first bear a high price ; but, so soon as it is discovered that the Colony can furnish any article of commerce, as, for example, oil, salt fish, tobacco, or cotton, trade by barter will commence on a fair footing, and all the essentials of life will be obtained at a reasonable rate.

Page 43.

¶ This is advice well worthy to be held in remembrance by those who may go out, as steerage passengers, to any part of

the world; otherwise, as in the case above, a person may be compelled unjustly to suffer serious privations, and without any means of redress. This vessel was bound to Sydney, but to take in passengers for Swan River, where she had no agent or consignee, to whom application could have been made to refund some of the passage-money, in proportion to the value of the articles abridged from the contract for allowance, or for other redress; and, perhaps, the limited power which the Governor at present possesses, may not permit him to exercise any authority over the captains of vessels which may arrive in the Colony.

Page 44.

^r It may appear extraordinary that one brother should seem thus ignorant of the amount of capital possessed by the other, and, therefore, it may be proper to mention that, when our adventurer left England, it was doubtful whether his brother would receive some property, to which he was entitled, previous to his meditated departure.

Page 54.

^s KANGAROOS, of which there are many varieties, constitute the grazing animals. Their characters, and, excepting size and colour, their appearance, is in all the species and varieties nearly the same. The head is small, the mouth destitute of canine teeth, the eyes large, and the ears erect and pointed. The fore-part and fore-legs of the animal are small, the latter being divided into five toes armed with strong claws. Those extremities are not used in running, though the animal makes use of them when feeding, and also as weapons of defence, for which they are by no means unavailing, either in striking blows, or in holding and hugging their adversaries, after the manner of a bear. Towards the hind quarters the whole of the race get comparatively thick

and strong, and the hind legs are long, powerful, and remarkably elastic. The hind feet are singularly formed; they terminate in three toes, the central one remarkably long, and powerful in its articulation, and armed with a claw, which, in the larger species, is no simple weapon. The outside toe has also a claw of some size, but is not half the length of the middle one. The inside toe is of trifling dimensions, and terminates in two small claws, close together. The bottom of the foot is covered with an elastic substance, more abundant, and yielding more readily to pressure than that found on the foot of almost any other animal. It is hardly to be distinguished from a piece of thick *caoutchouc*, or India-rubber. This padding of elastic matter enables the kangaroo not only to stand firm upon a hard and smooth surface, but to alight, after an immense bound, without any injury to its feet, or concussion to its body. The fore-feet are padded in the same manner, though not so abundantly, and when it springs against an ascending surface, they assist in breaking its fall. The claw on the middle toes of the hind foot is the principal fighting weapon of the kangaroo, especially when the enemy comes to close quarters,—the enemy being grasped between the fore legs, and ripped open by a single stroke of this powerful weapon, moved, as it is, by the great muscular strength of the large leg. Some idea of the power of a kangaroo's hind leg may be formed from the fact, that the elasticity of the two legs are sufficient, without any fulcrum, to throw an animal, weighing between two and three hundred weight, a distance of sixty, or, it is said, sometimes even ninety feet, at a single bound, and that the instant the feet touch the ground, the animal is elevated to another leap.

The tail is large and very muscular, and the animal uses it as a counterpoise in hopping, and occasionally as a prop when it is standing erect, so that, in this position, it has a good deal the appearance of a three-footed animal with two hands,—it often using the fore-paws as hands, in plucking grass and conveying it to its mouth, or holding a bunch in one hand—even shifting

it from one to the other, till it be gradually eaten. The tail of the kangaroo is also a tolerably efficient weapon; as in hopping about, the tail is swung in all directions, and the stroke of it is sufficient to stun a moderately sized dog, or even to kill him outright.

These are found by the colonial hunters to be, in a powerful animal, perfectly adequate to the repelling of a single dog, if he do not come upon the kangaroo by surprise. When chased, there is the stroke of the tail; and in addition to that, the jerking out of the hind leg, which, if it takes effect, is both a severe blow, and a still severer laceration,—as the powerful articulation of the central toe gives to that a very rapid motion, by means of which it tears while the foot is striking. Then, if the animal turns and stands at bay, the fore-feet strike while the enemy is not at close quarters; and if he once be grasped, there is the hug and the finishing stroke of the hinder foot. Even in water the kangaroo is formidable, and it seems to know that; for, sorely pressed, it takes to the water, if there be water near, and instead of merely attempting to escape by swimming, as is the case with the stag, (though he, too, sometimes stands at bay in water) it is almost uniformly in order to keep them at bay, which it does by striking at the dogs, or by seizing them and thrusting them under water. Thus, even from the little that is known of the habits of those singular animals, we have in the larger ones a means of defence as singular as their form is, compared with that of European animals. Of these, they certainly approximate nearer to the stag than those of any other; though the form of the animal makes the means of putting the instinct in execution quite different.

Kangaroo hunting is one of the Australian sports; and, in open places, where the surface is not intersected with deep gullies, is successful: the dogs must, however, be trained to the sport, and if the kangaroo be large, there must be several of them. If the country be intersected and contain rocks or brushes of underwood, the chase has little chance of success, as

the kangaroo bounds over those obstacles, while the dogs are obliged to make a circuit.

Several species even of large kangaroos have been enumerated by naturalists, and are also named by the colonists. The species mentioned by the colonists are: the forest kangaroo, which is of an ashen grey colour, with a slight tinge of brown, and darker on the under part of the body. It gets the name of forest kangaroo, from being chiefly found on those dry places, partially covered with trees, to which the name of forest is given—the tangled woody surface in the latitude of Sydney being generally composed of small and stunted trees, and being called bush, or brush, and not forest. Another, which is styled the mountain kangaroo, is black, with shaggy hair, and found upon the hills. There is a third, the red kangaroo, so called from its colour, which is chiefly found on the plains, or more open forests. Its fur is smooth and soft. In the interior a kangaroo has been met with, with fur so long and soft, as to get the name of the woolly kangaroo. These are all animals of considerable size, being found of the weight of between two and three hundred pounds; and they are all sought after for food; while their skins, in some places of the country, more especially in the south-western parts of New Holland, and in Van Dieman's Land, are used by the native inhabitants for cloaks, while the colonists dress and prepare them as leather. When used for food, the fore part of the kangaroo is but little regarded; the great mass of the muscles being about the loins and the hind quarters. They are remarkably destitute of fat, except, at certain seasons, a portion near the insertion of the tail. The tail makes excellent soup; and the flesh of the animal is generally chopped into small pieces, and stewed with the addition of a quantity of pork,—the dish so prepared being locally termed "a steamer," and being by no means despicable food.

Among the rocky and broken places, and on the more sterile islands, there are several species of much smaller kangaroos,

which are seldom found exceeding sixty pounds in weight, and often falling far short of that.

The kangaroos produce only one young at a time, which, after it has been for some time detached from the nipple in the pouch of the mother, occasionally leaves that receptacle to browse the same herbage on which she feeds.—*Picture of Australia.*

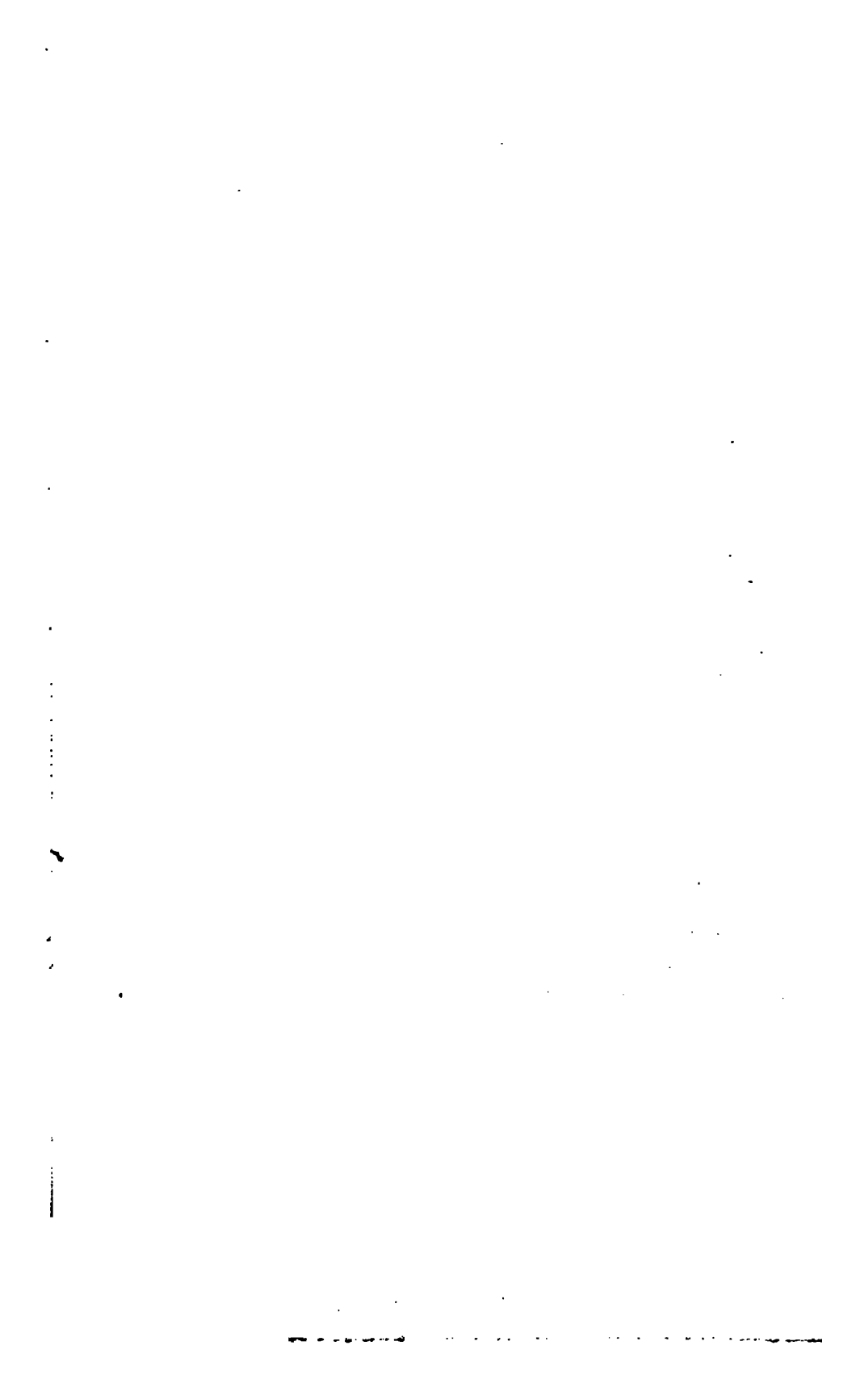
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† The cheapest shop I can meet with to buy writing paper is at a stationer's in Faringdon Street, (London) on the left hand side as you walk up from Fleet Street to Holborn Bridge.

‡ The new Regulations published at the Colonial Office, which are to be in force at the expiration of the year 1830, will, in fact, double the value of the land previously obtained by the early settlers; and there is no doubt that, before the expiration of 20 years, they may dispose of their estates at a very considerable profit; for what person, possessed of capital, would not rather purchase a partially-improved estate, than accept one which, till labour and buildings are employed and erected upon it, is worth nothing. Besides, as the Colony becomes more populous and opulent, even the unimproved land will readily find purchasers, if it be in a convenient situation.

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‡ Since the date of these letters, Mr. Thomas Peel, with 400 settlers and many other adventurers, have safely arrived at the Swan River, so that the population at the present time (Sept. 1830) may be fairly computed to be about 1700 persons, exclusive of the military and other servants of the crown.



APPENDIX.

ON

THE PROPER CHOICE OF COUNTRY

TO

THE DETERMINED EMIGRANT.

Preliminary Remarks.

IN the number of those who are desirous to emigrate from this country, it is much to be feared there are but few whose habits and pursuits qualify them for the measure they wish to adopt, and fewer still who have obtained that information of the *country* and *climate* in which they are anxious to settle, which is so indispensably necessary for their future comfort and success. Instances are not unfrequent in which an adventurer, on the spur of the moment, or from a flattering description of some particular country, will risk his all “upon the hazard of the die,” and

perhaps without enquiry, and certainly without impartial consideration, or the advice of disinterested experience, will abandon his native land for a country of which he knows little but the name. And after he has embarked his capital in this, his most sanguine speculation, and taken up his abode upon that spot where he flattered himself he should meet with no inconvenience to annoy —no impediment to retard, the rapid acquisition of wealth; he finds difficulties which he never expected, and obstacles which can only be surmounted by great labour and length of time. His non-acquaintance with the manner of dealing in the country, and the usual prices and different qualities of the various articles his necessities oblige him to purchase, must render him the dupe of those who wish to impose upon his credulity, or take advantage of his ignorance. His not being accustomed to the climate, so as to understand the proper mode of agriculture, causes him to cultivate his land with little profit, and most likely at a serious loss: or, if he did not come out as an agriculturist, the hope of establishing a lucrative business in his trade, or of meeting warm en-

couragement in his profession, have all of them produced disappointments which he did not foresee, or rendered abortive by circumstances over which he had no control :—for in infant colonies or newly-cultivated districts, the farmer, carpenter, shoemaker, bricklayer, blacksmith; and common labourer, are the principal persons who meet with encouragement or find the means of subsistence. Bread must be obtained before luxuries can be purchased, and he that is obliged to earn it by the sweat of his brow, has little opportunity, whatever may be his inclination, to patronize the man of science, or support the member of a liberal profession. But it is too often seen that, without taking these things into consideration, they who have suffered from disappointment, extravagance, or misfortune at home, seek consolation and prosperity abroad ; little expecting that there is no situation without its inconveniences—no state in this world which affords a security from calamity, or can ensure happiness without alloy. The stockholder who lives in lodgings, and indignantly exclaims against the assessed taxes, which he never is called upon to pay ; the discontented

citizen, who has no land of his own, but vehemently protests against the robbery of tithes, which he asserts are the property of the people, for *he* has no relation in the Church; the champion of liberty of conscience, and universal suffrage, who has just built a meeting-house, which does not answer, and who was not bribed at the last uncontested election; the advocate of radical reform, who exclaims against placemen on account of his unsuccessful application for a clerkship—who bitterly inveighs against pensions and sinecures because the grapes are sour; the merchant and tradesman, who were more anxious about “the St. Leger” than the balance sheet of their own ledger,—who kept country-houses and gay cabriolets, from which they nodded to their creditors who were walking to town,—who gave Sunday dinners and sported champagne till they were “unfortunate in business;” the gay agriculturist, (for the term farmer is now grown vulgar,) who rode a better horse than his landlord, and, instead of attending to his servants and cattle, broke pointers in, till he himself broke down:—all these hope to find in the land of their choice

a paradise of liberty—a freedom from every restraint—a relief from every embarrassment ; affluence without the necessity of labour, and credit without the impertinent applications of duns. But on their arrival at the long wished-for region of *bliss* and *liberty*, they find that its happiness has been exaggerated—its disadvantages not foreseen—and the Utopian dream of happiness not realized. And he who left home in the delightful anticipation of shooting where he pleased, without fear and without restraint, now finds that the pursuit of game affords him no gratification where nothing is preserved, and that the impossibility of committing trespass and stealing a march on a game-keeper, deprives his sport of its zest. They discover that they are strangers to the climate, and that the natural productions of England will not succeed because they are unnatural here ; they find that corn will not grow without cultivation, and that markets are many miles off : that the hand must be hardened with toil, and the body devoted to labour before the self-exile can be supported, and the once sanguine but theoretical agriculturist grow rich.

Then letters are sent home to their friends, gloomy and desponding indeed, full of complaints against the country and against its government, because they were permitted to become occupiers of land, while they were ignorant of soils, or because they choose to build their houses, and sow their corn upon the overflowing banks of a river, rather than upon dry and upland ground.

Not many years have elapsed, since many hundred persons joyfully and enthusiastically accepted the proposal of Government to send emigrants to establish a colony in Africa. Toy-men and milliners—comedians and hair-dressers—lawyers without clients, and half-pay officers—keepers of eating-houses and lace-manufacturers, sailed triumphantly from England to civilize the Caffres and drive the lions from their dens; to teach the ignorant natives the scientific husbandry of Norfolk, to render the plains of Caffraria more fertile than those of Sicily of old, and to confer immortal benefit upon one-fourth of the world, by substituting pure South Downs and Herefords, in the places of the Cape sheep and the buffalo. At

length the ships approached the shore :—the long wished-for moment arrived ; they feasted their eyes upon the Table Mountain, they bounded on the land of their choice. They cursed the tardiness and inattention of the Government officers, in not having marked out their allotments previous to their arrival. Their grants were soon made out—they took possession of them with hearts beating high with anticipated success, and with the most sanguine expectations of immediate comfort and competence, joined to future luxury and wealth. But the dream of delusion was soon over, and they awaked to disappointment and misery indeed : they found that the dry and sandy plains upon which they had located themselves would produce nothing but coarse and scanty herbage—that the corn they had sown was scorched by the heat of the sun—that English cattle would not succeed in a tropical climate, and that their capital, with their hopes, had wasted away. And was this Government to be blamed for this? Away with the absurd thought! The adventurers in justice could only blame themselves. Why did they not, previous to their de-

parture, obtain accurate information of the nature of the country and the state of the climate?— Why did they become proprietors of land which they knew not how to cultivate, and attempt to manage agricultural instruments of which they scarcely knew the name? Why did they so ridiculously rely upon their own inexperienced judgment as to suppose, that they could successfully cultivate that land, which, under the management of long-established inhabitants, could never be made to produce either barley or wheat.

With such a calamitous disappointment in my recollection, I feel anxious to make some remarks which, it is hoped, may be the means of preventing any of my readers from deciding upon emigration, without considering whether they may reasonably expect success in such a grave undertaking, and without deliberating on the advantages and disadvantages of every country and climate, in which Englishmen are at present accustomed or invited to settle.

It may, perhaps, savour of vanity, for a young

man thus to volunteer his opinions to the public, especially as he cannot speak of foreign countries from personal observation ; yet as he, from peculiar circumstances, has long cherished thoughts of emigrating, and has obtained every information in his power from disinterested and experienced writers, as well as from those persons who are well acquainted with the various countries to which it is usual to emigrate ; he hopes that his opinions will neither be deemed presumptuous, nor formed upon fictitious grounds nor *ex parte* statements. He disclaims every intention of persuading persons to leave this, their native country, so justly celebrated for its temporal and spiritual advantages, a “land of churches and bibles and hospitals—a nation of good Samaritans,” where the people are peaceable and the rulers are honest, where a man may walk unmolested on the way side, and retire to his rest without fear—where the law is not a two-edged sword in the hands of the rich, but a staff for the defence of the poor :—but to him who, from whatever cause or motive, wishes to settle in another country, the statement and opinions contained in this Appendix are ad-

dressed, with the earnest wish that they may in any way afford him instruction or promote his benefit. I would then urge him to consider, in the first place, why does he wish to leave his native land?—If from discontent, or from being dissatisfied with his present condition, or from any particular disappointment, let me remind him that, with such feelings, he will be unhappy wherever he goes, and that there is no part of this world where man can be exempted from divers disappointments, or independent of circumstances over which he has no control. If it be in consequence of living beyond his income, I would conjure him to live more moderately,—to endeavour, by economy, and a rigid denial of those luxuries which he cannot afford, to keep his expences within proper bounds; and then, in all probability, he will find that, instead of incurring new debts, he is enabled to pay off the old. The same advice will apply to him whose business and capital are slowly decreasing;—a more than common attention to business—a scrupulous adherence to fair and honorable dealing, and a disposition to be contented with a reasonable share

of profit, will in very many cases restore a tottering credit, and draw more respectable customers to the shop, than all the hackneyed puffings by advertisement, and stale, yet fraudulent practice, of pretending to sell “for less than prime cost.”

But if a person discovers that with all his industry and economy his capital is decreasing—that from an overgrown population he really cannot obtain eligible situations for his children—if he then desire to emigrate, not from the love of change or from the vain and ridiculous notion of becoming a gentleman, and the proprietor of an estate which till it be cultivated is worth nothing: not from being overpersuaded by the artful insinuations of some, or the credulous expectations of others; but from the clear deliberate conviction of his own mind, and the sincere but anxious wish, with God’s blessing, to benefit himself and his family; of such a man I say that he acts like a rational creature, and under Providence may entertain every reasonable expectation of success:—but then he must consider that his intended measure will unquestionably be attended with great inconve-

nience, privation and hardship, which though they eventually will either cease or be overcome, nevertheless for the time, will be most irksome to any one who has been brought up in the full enjoyment of the comforts and luxuries so abundant in a civilized and opulent country :—they who had never seen any other mode of travelling than upon excellent roads with good inns, affording ample accommodation, at small stages from each other, can scarcely picture to themselves the journey they will have to take with their families through roads which are made by cutting a path through a wood, and dragging themselves and their baggage through streams without bridges, and over swamps without drains. In those extensive wilds where the foot of an European hath scarcely trod, no cheerful inn is open for the weary emigrant in search of an allotment ;—no attentive waiters hastening to supply his wants ;—no downy pillow to invite him to repose ; but he must be dependent upon his gun or his haversack, when he wishes to satisfy his hunger, and he must be contented to lie down to rest on the bare ground, wrapped in his cloak with the sky for his canopy. I would

then most earnestly entreat my reader to consider whether the habits and constitution of himself, his wife and family, are prepared for submission to those privations, or able to bear those unavoidable hardships. If in his family there is one whose constitution is delicate ; if himself and his wife are miserable if their carpets are soiled, or their dinner underdone ; if she be a fine lady who can cut out watch papers, but cannot make a shirt, how can they bear the toil of a journey through the wilderness, or put up with the casual meal which the desert will provide ? Instead of having a companion to cheer him on the way—a friend to console him in his disappointments, and to assist him in his difficulties, he will be unceasingly mortified with tears and reproaches. He will have to pacify her, who ought to soothe him, and while *he* is dragging the real necessaries of life to an encampment, *she* will be fretting at the damage done to the piano, and lamenting the loss of the children's toys.

And I would ask my reader, does he really know wheat from barley ? Can he regulate the

depth of a plough—or know where to place the heaviest weight in a waggon?—if not, I tell him he will emigrate to his ruin. Let him reflect seriously, is he qualified to undertake the occupation of land who is ignorant of the mode of cultivating each particular soil—the quantity of seed which ought to be sown upon an acre—and the proper preparation of land for the seed, and the state when it is most fit to be reaped and gathered into the barn. If he is determined to be a farmer, let him for one year at least live upon the farm, not of a scientific experimental agriculturist who cultivates upon chemical principles, and talks of “*argillaceous*” and “*calcareous*” soils, but upon the farm of an industrious practical farmer, who is not ashamed of driving his own plough, and is proud of the cornstacks of his own building:—from such a man he will not indeed receive any information of the profits and excellence of the prickled comfrey, his theoretical knowledge will not be improved by daily dissertations upon the various gases, but he will learn *that* plain and industrious cultivation of soil, which alone can be adopted with common sense and advantage

upon his future allotment ;— where he will find no acacia hedges, “ no columns of stone, or mangers of copper.” And while he is laudably inquisitive as to the *manner* of performing the various operations in common husbandry, let him also learn *how* to perform them. Let him take the plough, the spade, and the scythe into his own hands ; the time may soon come, when he will save many shillings by his own labour ;—or if his capital is so ample as to render this unnecessary, it is very desirable that he should be able to show his labourers how their work ought to be performed. To promote the success of such emigrants as do not intend to settle as agriculturists, but in some other line, I would earnestly recommend to them, whatever their hopes, whatever their capital, or experience in other matters may be, by all means to acquire some practical knowledge of farming before they take their departure from this country. It may be that, on their arrival in the settlement of their choice, their hopes may be frustrated ;— prior adventurers may have obtained the practice they hoped to engross, or have successfully commenced that line of business in which they ex-

pected to have been the very first to embark :— under such circumstances the capability of undertaking the management of a farm may mitigate their disappointments and rescue them from ruin, which otherwise would inevitably await them. And let not the reader be deterred from emigrating in consequence of his being under the necessity of employing active industry in whatever country he may choose to settle. Man was born to labour, and daily experience teaches, that neither wealth nor eminence can be acquired in business or in any profession without the sedulous employment of mind or body. No greater degree of labour or further attention to business is necessary for the settler abroad, than for the industrious farmer at home ; but without this attention and labour both of them will inevitably though gradually sink into beggary and distress. In England the father cannot always insure the occupancy of the farm to the son, at least he can very rarely improve it with the certainty that he will not thereby entail an additional rent upon himself and the child who succeeds him ; but the case is different abroad ; there the settler is improving not his landlord's

farm, but his own estate. And is there not something grand, is there not something encouraging to the settler in the reflection that his posterity will be benefited by this investment of his capital—this exertion of his industry. What though his allotment appears at first impervious to the eye, and impregnable to the plough, the land is his own, and the inheritance his children's. Is he not in a situation where youth will supply the catalogue of human wants, and where industry must meet its sure reward? “The abundance of wood for fuel renders the fire-side of the settler during the long evenings of winter, a solace equal to that of many a wealthier citizen of the world; and as his children with united strength drag in each log to the hearth, he rejoices in the clearance of the encumbered earth, when those of the more civilized world pay dearly for the enjoyment of warmth. An emulative feeling stimulates the natural industry of his constitution. The rattling clank of a neighbour's axe, the crashing fall of a heavy tree, seem to demand responsive exertions on his part, and give rise to an energy which quickly rouses within him the spirit of active

labour. The work of his young children is of a value to him far exceeding the expence of their maintenance, and he enjoying the consciousness of being able to leave them an inheritance of peace, if not of affluence." With facilities of water-carriage, fish in abundance, and fowl by the help of his gun, he may supply the necessaries of life ; and while the partridge and wild pigeon gratify him with variety in food, he has also in store both recreation and amusement.

SECTION I.

On the Choice of Country.

FROM these preliminary observations, we are now led to seek a proper choice of country, a choice which ought to be made with impartial and cautious deliberation. The removal of a family, even to a far distant country, is a matter of no trivial moment, when connected with the permanent establishment of that family in an advantageous or disadvantageous situation. There can be

no retreat but at a calamitous loss, when the capital has been invested in an unpropitious allotment, or in a country whose manners and laws are quite at variance with the habits and native jurisprudence of the settler ; therefore, it may not be unadvisable to notice the places to which our countrymen have generally been invited, or partially induced to settle.

A few years since the Editor met with a tract, which, in no high-flown panegyric, communicated the great advantages which were attendant upon an emigration to Poland, where excellent land was stated to be rented at 7*s.* an acre, in a fine and fruitful climate, where the Government held forth such encouraging terms to the stranger, as to promise that himself and his grandchildren should be exempted from military duty, and the payment of taxes to the State. These unquestionably were great inducements and liberal offers ; but, on the other hand, we must not forget that this excellent land is situated at a great distance from any market for the purchase of necessary articles, or for the disposal of its produce.

That the climate is singularly healthy will not be denied, but a foreign language, difficult to learn, is spoken in the country, and the hatred of the Poles to the Government of Russia renders it more than probable that, as soon as an opportunity occurs, they will endeavour to throw off that yoke which they consider so galling and degrading;—and then—in the miseries and commotions of civil war, agriculture cannot flourish, nor the property of individuals remain secure; and if the Poles should ever succeed in their hopes of once more being an independent nation, has the stranger any security that the immunity from taxes and conscription, promised by the Russians, will be respected and confirmed by the Poles?

An investment of property in France for agricultural pursuits, has been very warmly recommended by some, who, it is more than probable, have never lived in that country, and are strangers to its manners, its views, and its laws; for it is unlikely that an Englishman can be pleased with the effeminate manners which so peculiarly dis-

tinguish a native of France, or that he who properly estimates his rights, his privileges, and his liberty, can, even in imagination, consent to live in a country, where he cannot travel from one town to another without a passport. But, if a person can willingly submit to those restrictions upon his liberty, I would most seriously ask him, whether, either as a religious or moral man, he can wish to reside in a country, where marriage is by many considered as the signal and passport for adultery—where infidelity is avowed without a blush, and true religion is scarcely known? There have been many who, from an idea of the cheapness of living, have for a while taken up their abode there; but what must be their distress, when, in the unstable state of that country, revolutions suddenly spring up?—and fresh commotions are daily expected.

The Editor is not in possession of any satisfactory information relative to South Spanish America, and, consequently, he will not presume to form a judgment of the advantages which that exclusive country offers to the English emigrant,

but he begs to remind the reader, that its various governments are in a very precarious and fluctuating state ; that the country itself has not yet recovered from the ravages of a protracted and sanguinary war, in which all the evil passions of mankind were indulged without restraint. He need not remind the Protestant, that the Roman Catholic religion, in its greatest ignorance and most blinded superstition, flourishes there ; and that, in one of the various governments in that vast country, an ordinance has been published, to declare that the Roman Catholic religion *alone* would be tolerated. And he would ask the sincere Christian—in what part of South Spanish America does he expect to receive the benefit of spiritual consolation and advice, from a minister of the pure and reformed religion to which he thinks it a blessing to belong.

With respect to the Cape of Good Hope, it cannot be denied that it holds forth many advantages to the settler from England, for it is under a British Government, and has a considerable English population. At the Cape, also,

commerce flourishes, and a free and frequent intercourse is carried on with all parts of the world. But though the tradesman and merchant may here successfully invest their capital, and apply their experience in business, the farmer would be out of his element. In consequence of the warmth of the climate in the interior, and the dryness of the soil, corn cannot be cultivated with success, except on those small spots on the banks of streams which have the benefit of irrigation; so that few situations can be found, in which the husbandman can grow more corn than what is required for the subsistence of his family. The land is covered with a coarse, dry grass, upon which the sheep and cattle of the country are depastured in great numbers under the care of shepherds, as in the days of the Patriarchs of old; but these cattle are profitable only for their skins, for which they are usually killed. So here we find no opportunity for the farmer to acquire land, which British experience and capital can drain or improve—no rich pastures, in which the Herefords and Leicesters may supply the shipping at the port and the clothier at home. Land

is not to be obtained on such easy terms as is usually supposed in the neighbourhood of the Cape; and before the occupant endeavours to obtain it on cheaper terms, (which he may do by going very far up the country) I would advise him by all means, beforehand, to inquire from an eye-witness the particulars of an engagement, in which it is reported that 15,000 Caffrees attacked a camp, hastily formed by English settlers, and for six hours made repeated attempts to take it by assault, in which they would certainly have succeeded, if a field-piece had not, like “the chivalry of the marches,” been brought up to the relief of the “garde doloureuse.”*

At the present period, when the United States of America are considered by many as the best and happiest portion of the globe, where the departing emigrant either in his sanguine expectations overlooks the dark part of the prospect, or, in his ignorance of the laws and real state of this extensive country, is not aware of their hardships

* Tales of the Crusaders, Vol. I.—*Vide* Thompson’s Travels in Southern Africa.

and defects, it may be of importance to call the attention of the reader to some matters which will probably excite his surprise, notwithstanding they are true, and, perhaps, convince him, that the Republic of North America is neither that scene of bliss, nor that land of liberty, which it is so generally supposed to be.

Admitting, for the moment, that the soil is most grateful to the husbandman, and the climate congenial to a native of England, still it cannot be denied that laws and regulations may exist, so irksome in their nature and so partial in their probable consequences, as not to be counterbalanced by fertility of soil or salubrity of atmosphere.

It is not generally known, that although every stranger in America receives the protection of its Government, let his crimes in the country he has fled from be ever so atrocious, still he cannot be naturalized till after the expiration of a four years' residence in it; and if, in the mean time, a war should break out between his own country and

the United States, he will be considered as an alien ; and however he may have invested his capital, or how lucrative soever his business may be, in all probability he will be obliged to depart instantly into the interior of the country, forty miles above tide-water, and there remain during the war, in order to prevent the possibility of any communication with the enemy ; and if he should disobey the mandate of the Marshal of the district in which he resides, he will immediately provide him with a *place under Government*, in some neighbouring jail, where he may ruminate upon the luxury of living in a land, where kings cannot tyrannize, and all men are free. Thus situated, should he have property in the American funds, or even debts owing to him from individuals, the same may be sequestered, and, perchance, eventually confiscated, not for *his* advantage, but for the exclusive benefit of the State ; and it may be said that he is *half* dead in law, as he may be sued for any debt which he may have contracted, but cannot recover property owing *to* him ; as, in time of war, the courts of law are closed against the claim of the subjects of

any power with whom they are at war. From these circumstances, I leave every reflecting reader to draw his own conclusions.

It has been stated that little or no taxation is imposed upon the inhabitants of the United States; but those among them who are possessed of property can prove that is contrary to the fact. It is too commonly supposed that taxation in the United States is little more than nominal, when compared with those of other governments; but this is a mistake originating from a comparison of the revenues with the *extent of country*, rather than with the *number of inhabitants* from whom they are collected. It will be unnecessary in this work to enter into a statistical view of the revenues and commerce of the United States, but plainly to state, that although in their newspapers we do not read of a Chancellor of the Exchequer opening his budget, yet let the emigrant set himself down in any part of the United States, if in a corporate town, he may be liable to corporation tax, a county tax, and a state tax, upon every such article as the legislature of each state shall deem

expedient to levy for the exigencies of its government, varying in the different states, whether it be a tax on the individual, his land, on his slave, his house, his carriage, or his dog. This must be considered as a trifling burden in peaceable times ; but let a war break out, as it did with England in 1812, then it is that the fiscal yoke becomes galling to the settler who may have obtained his domicile under that wonderful government, which some fanciful writers would compare to the cameleon, subsisting on air. The truth of this observation was manifest in the late war between this country and the United States, which lasted not quite three years in 1812, 1813 and 1814, when to support it every measure was resorted to to raise the supplies ; that every musical instrument, and every picture and print hung up in a house, helped to carry on the war ; so that to look on the miniature of a friend, whose likeness one would wish to bear in memory, a dollar per annum was the permission ticket : indeed, most persons removed their pianos and pictures to an apartment under ground until the war was over. It will likewise be a matter of no small consideration to

notice, that the article of clothing is not the least difficulty which a settler has to surmount; for, unless he bring his mind to wear the cotton cloth of the country, the high *ad valorem* duty imposed upon all articles of British manufacture makes wearing apparel of every description extravagantly dear. True it is that great wages are offered to the English mechanic and artizan, to supply the markets of America with articles of native manufacture; but if once any compromise takes place between the English and the American governments, and a tariff formed so that the present high duties may be reduced, the unlimited capital and the astonishing power of machinery would enable the English merchant to undersell the American in his own market: and then the persons who may have deluded themselves with the hope of finding great wages and increasing employment for a permanency, will be reduced to beggary and starvation, unless they resort to a claim on the poor-rates. Yes, reader, notwithstanding what the disaffected in this country may urge to the contrary, and those who are willingly blinded by false statements and reports may be-

lieve, unhappily for that country, the state of pauperism is very great; but honored be the government of America and its laws, for instituting such a system of humanity and Christian charity. "Their laws provide effectually for the comfortable maintenance of the poor, who are inhabitants so long as they remain with them—of poor *strangers* in *whatever country they were born*, and when they are sick supply them with physicians, nurses and attendants."—*Sadler's Ireland*. And may this charity never be so perverted and defrauded as is too frequently the case in this country, to the support of the idle and the extravagant, who when fed, clothed and comfortably lodged, instead of being grateful to God and man for the maintenance they receive, spurn at the hand which feeds them, and sinfully and violently exclaim, that *they are an oppressed people, and none so hardly used as themselves*. An extract from that excellent work, (Mr. Sadler's Ireland) may not be considered out of place here, and the length of the quotation will be excusable when it will appear so applicable to the subject. "A late (American) writer in the *Edinburgh Review*

says, we have no poor-rates. I wish he was correct. My poor-rates last year amounted to ten dollars, although this township and the adjoining one have a workhouse, with a farm of 200 acres and more for the employment and support of the paupers. This, considering the high rate of wages, the cheapness of food, and full employment for every one, is higher than any poor-rates in England. There are sometimes from 1200 to 1500 persons in the workhouse at Philadelphia, and as many in that of New York. They cost in Philadelphia 100,000 dollars per annum, and the whole system is miserably conducted. In the somewhat larger city of New York, the annual expence of maintaining the poor, we learn, on the decisive testimony of Dr. Dwight, amounted in the year 1811 to 154,388 $\frac{2}{100}$ dollars; that there were 2814 paupers admitted into the alms-house from the 1st of April, 1812, to the 1st of April, 1813. The number of poor has since greatly increased, for we learn from BRISTED, that a memorial addressed to the state legislature in the month of March, 1817, stated, that during the last winter 15,000 paupers, that is to say ONE SEVENTH of the popu-

lation received alms. In addition to which, it appears that there are humane and charitable establishments in that city, forty in number, which are supported with spirit. The expence of one of these, in 1816, is stated by WARDEN to have amounted to 39,053 dollars."

Amongst other things which should engage the attention of an Englishman, who may meditate a settlement in the United States, the least, perhaps, is that, it ought not to be forgotten, the Americans look with no kindly feeling upon the subjects of Great Britain. They have not yet forgiven, and never will forget, her vigorous endeavours to reduce them to obedience in the first revolutionary war, nor their own defeats and privations in the last. Should a war break out, experience proves that no previous habits and long residence—no rights of citizenship, can naturalize an Englishman in their estimation. "A drop of tar will always be found at the bottom of the bucket, and a brush at hand to apply it." In the year 1806, when the British ship Leopard fired into the American frigate, "Chesapeake,"

and brought her to, to search for deserters, the United States was convulsed from one end to the other ; a venerable citizen narrowly escaped being tarred and feathered by the populace at the city of Washington, because he had the misfortune to be born in England, and had not resided among them, expending his substance, more than fifty years. But surely no person who is sincerely attached to this country, and consequently wishes that its sources should be extended, that its trade should flourish and its strength encrease, can willingly deprive it of his support and prospects, however trifling they may be, much less will he apply them to promote the prosperity and capital of a nation which attempts to be the rival of England and boasts of soon equalling her in commerce and in ships ; and what must be his feelings in the event of a war between his native and his adopted country. How reluctantly must he pay the taxes to afford the means of resisting and defeating his own countrymen : and if obliged to take up arms, what would be his feelings on meeting that army, which was once his glory and still is his pride. He sees his country's banner—he exultingly re-

members it displayed its triumphant defiance to the world:—he hears the spirit-stirring march and the national anthem—his breast once more kindles with patriotism—it is warmed with the pure flame of loyalty again, and he feels that, though years have elapsed since he left Great Britain, his heart is English still.

It is a prevalent notion that, in the United States, land can be purchased at a nominal price, and that labourers and mechanics are anxiously sought for at very high prices, while provisions are obtained at a third of what they cost here. As common sense has not yet universally refuted these absurd opinions, let truth assure the reader, that the United States of America, on the seaboard from MAINE to the FLORIDAS, is so saturated with population, that many families, for economy, have quitted the soil inherited from their ancestors, and have emigrated to the more Western settlements, distant 1000 miles or more, there is, therefore, no room or temptation for an emigrant to settle there. This was proved in the year 1817, when the spirit of emigration from

this country was at a high pitch ; but so disappointed were many, and reduced to such wretchedness, that in the month of July, in that year, no less than 1700 poor deluded wretches, in a state of lamentable misery, supplicated Mr. Buchanan, the British Consul at New York, to find them either a passage to return to their native country, or to send them to the British dominions in Canada. The Consul complied with their prayer, chartered vessels, and returned them to the soil they had so lately deserted and depreciated. Land, indeed, may be purchased very far in the interior, in the Congressional districts, at two dollars an acre, but not in less quantity than a section of 200 acres ; but this is in a situation in the very wilds of America, where, perhaps, the foot of man never before trod, perhaps a hundred miles from a neighbour, and double that distance from any place where the necessaries of life are exchanged or sold. Mr. Birkbeck, as well as many others, can easily vouch for the truth of this assertion. The labourer or mechanic will be wofully disappointed, if he expects that, as soon as he lands in New

York, he can readily obtain employment without a moment's delay ; but should he, as a mason, bricklayer, or carpenter, be so fortunate as to procure employment, he will find that the Winters are so long, lodgings so high, and fuel and provisions so dear, that the greatest industry and economy in the Summer months will scarcely enable him to maintain himself, much less a family, throughout the year : but if he has funds to enable him to travel several hundred miles to the interior of the country, he may obtain employment, provided he is skilful, able-bodied, and willing to work. We do, indeed, sometimes hear of the exorbitant wages which some persons obtain, but we must remember, in most cases, these wages are great, in consequence of the currency of the district, for there are, I understand, some parts of the United States in which the dollar passes for more than its coined value ; but then, if a labourer is paid at a very high nominal rate, there is reason to believe that articles of provision, and other necessaries, must be selling at high prices also.

It is presumed that enough has been written

to prove, that there are many more disadvantages attendant upon an emigration to the United States than is commonly supposed. What is contained in these pages does not originate from any ill feeling towards that country, but solely from a wish to prevent the ignorant and unsuspecting from deluding themselves to their ruin by false hopes and expectations—from being drawn away by the artful representations of the enemies to England, who represent this country as a scene of tyranny, injustice, taxation, and distress; or by the partial statements of those, whose repeated apostacy of their avowed principles renders them unworthy of credit, though they may express themselves with plausibility, and appear to the unwary to argue with force.

Having made these observations upon the inexpediency of settling in the United States, we are naturally led to inquire, how far it may be advisable to turn the attention of the “determined emigrant” to those provinces in America which belong to His Britannic Majesty. Many of the disadvantages which have been represented

as existing in other countries, and their polities do not exist here. The inhabitants of North British America have the happiness of being under that mild and paternal government which rules over us at home: they have the advantage of regular and frequent communication with the mother country, with which a very considerable export and import trade is carried on. A liberal encouragement is here afforded to the settler by the official regulations; and, however some may undervalue or deride them, the true member of the Church of England, conscientiously attached to the good old forms, and hence not meddling with them that are given to change—rejoices that the religion and creed in which he was brought up flourish here. And how consoling it must be to the pious man, whom circumstances have compelled to leave his own village for ever, and to take a last and sad farewell of his relatives and friends, and to place the ocean between him and his native land—how cheering it must be to him in moments of sorrow or despondency, to hear the duties of patience and resignation enforced by a minister of that Church in which he was

dedicated to God by his parents in infancy ; in which, when reason dawned on his mind, he was taught he had a God to serve and a soul to save. And how peaceful and happy his last moments will be :—no crucifix will be waved “before his darkening eye”—no ointment rubbed upon his perishing body—no prayers offered for him in an unknown tongue ; but a native of his own country, a priest of his own communion, will exhort him to lift the eye of faith to the cross of Calvary—will anoint his soul with hope, and will pray with him in the language of his own country, and the forms of his own Church. Greatly, indeed, as the colonies of North British America abound with temporal and spiritual advantages, it is submitted that they are, in the former case, greatly inferior, and, in the latter case, not superior to the settlement in Western Australia. Let it not be forgotten, that the Winter in our North American Colonies is very severe, and though that season is by no means unhealthy, the labours of the agriculturist are for several months altogether impeded by frost and snow. Land cannot be cleared or ploughed ; and without these ope-

rations, so indispensable to the cultivation of the soil, the occupier, instead of having twelve months to devote in each year to those duties, has not more than six months, and can only perform half the work which may be done in a milder climate.*

SECTION II.

I WILL call the reader's attention to the new Settlement now forming at Swan River; and, as he will naturally wish for a statement of the terms upon which land may be obtained in this Colony, he is here presented with the Government Regulations upon the subject. And I should be ungrateful if I did not express my obligations to the Gentlemen of the Colonial Office, for the readiness with which they have furnished me with copies of the important documents, to which, in due course, I have to refer.

* Vide "Head's Scenes in the Wilds of North America," or refer to the "Quarterly Review," published in January, 1830, wherein this highly interesting work has met with the notice it deserves.

Information for the Use of those who may propose to embark as Settlers for the new Settlement in Western Australia.

1. "It has at no time formed any part of the plan of His Majesty's Government to incur any *expense* in conveying settlers to the New Colony on the Swan River. Government will not feel bound to defray the cost of supplying provisions, or other necessaries, to Settlers, after their arrival there, nor to assist their return to England, nor their removal to any other place, should they be desirous of quitting that Colony.

2. "Such persons as emigrate to the Swan River Settlement, and arrive there after the 31st of December, 1830, will receive, in the order of their arrival, allotments of Land, proportioned to the Capital which they have at command for the improvement of the Land, at the rate of 20 Acres for every sum of £3. which they may be prepared to invest in such improvement.

3. "Under the head of Capital will be considered, at a fair rate of valuation, Stock of every description, all Implements of Husbandry and other articles, which may be applicable to the purposes of productive Industry, or which may be necessary for the establishment of the Settler on the land where he is to be located.

4. "Those who incur the expense of taking out labouring persons to this Colony, will be entitled to Land to the value of £15., that is, to 100 Acres for the passage of every such labourer, over and above any investment of other Capital.

"In the class of 'labouring persons' are included Women, and also Children above twelve years old. They will further be allowed 30 Acres for every Child under the age of Six, and 60 Acres for every Child between the age of Six and Twelve.

5. "The licence to occupy will be given to the Settler, on satisfactory proof being exhibited to the Lieutenant-Governor (or other Officer administering the local Government) of the amount

of property, as above specified, which has been brought into the Colony, to be invested. The proofs expected to be produced of the value of this property, will be such Vouchers of expenses as would be received in auditing Public Accounts. The Title to the Land in Fee Simple will not be granted, however, until the Settler has proved, to the satisfaction of the Lieutenant-Governor (or other Officer administering the local Government) that the sum required by Article 2 (viz. 3s. per Acre) has been actually expended in some investment of the nature specified in Article 3, or has been laid out on the cultivation of the land, or on some other substantial improvement, such as Buildings, Roads, or other works of utility.

6. " Any Land thus allotted which shall not have been brought into cultivation, or upon which improvements shall not have been effected in some other manner, to the satisfaction of the local Government, within two years from the date of the Licence of Occupation, shall, at the end of that period, be liable to an annual payment, into the Public Chest of the Settlement, of 1s. per Acre,

as Quit Rent, and at the expiration of another period of two years, so much of the whole Grant as shall still remain in an uncultivated state, or without such improvement being effected upon it, as shall be satisfactory to the local Government, shall revert absolutely to the Crown, or become liable to such additional Quit Rent as the local Government may think fit to impose, reference being had to the value of the adjoining Lands. But in cases where Land, so circumstanced, is required for Roads, Canals, or Quays, or for any other public purpose, the local Government will be at liberty to retain the Land absolutely, in place of allowing it to revert to the original Grantee on the condition of paying an additional Quit Rent."

*" Colonial Office,
20th July, 1830."*

An attentive consideration of these conditions will it is presumed afford convincing proof that they are framed with the most prudent and commendable policy, while at the same time they are dictated with that liberal spirit which affords to

the industrious settler the certain possession of the allotment he is at first *entrusted* to improve.

To each of these rules it is submitted a few remarks will not be considered trivial or irrelevant to the subject.

1. " It has at no time formed any part of the plan of His Majesty's Government to incur any *expense* in conveying settlers to the new colony on the Swan River. Government will not feel bound to defray the cost of supplying provisions or other necessaries, to settlers, after their arrival there, nor to assist their return to England, nor their removal to any other place, should they be desirous of quitting that colony."

This rule appears to be framed with a prudent regard to economy, and, also, to avoid a multiplicity of trouble and complaints which would inevitably be produced by taking out or supporting adventurers at the public expense. If indeed such were the case, there would be innumerable applications from almost all classes of

persons of various ages, and hence it would be an endless and invidious task to enquire into the character and means of every applicant, and then to select from the multitude the few which would be found eligible ; and if no such enquiries were made, the reputation and tranquillity of the settlement would be most materially lessened by the numerous immoral and nefarious persons who would eagerly leave the scene of their vices and their crimes, and strive to indulge both in the new colony, where no experienced Bow-street Officer could watch over their movements, and where, in a widely scattered population, they would escape detection and punishment. But admitting that the introduction of such persons to the new Colony might be prevented by affording a passage to none but those who produced the most unexceptionable testimony to their honesty and moral worth, even then many excellent persons might successfully apply for a gratuitous passage who are by no means calculated to promote the interest and prosperity of such an infant establishment as that before us. As it is, many have arrived there at their own expense who, it is to be feared, are by

no means qualified by previous habits or experience to undertake the cultivation of land ; and this evil would be greater were a passage *given* to the tradesman or any other person whose life had been passed in commercial or other pursuits than those of agriculture. The failure and disappointment of such persons in new scenes and speculations would be charged not upon their own folly in forming projects, and commencing operations which they scarcely knew by name, but the government would be accused with being the cause of their disappointment and unfortunate failure, and that abuse which discontented and evil-minded persons are ever ready to cast upon those in authority would be dealt out with no sparing hand : the tables of both houses of parliament would be covered with petitions for redress, and the time of the representatives of the people taken up in discussing the imaginary grievances of a few individuals, whose *exparte* statements and plausible cases would be advocated with all the warmth which the spirit of liberalism can kindle, and all the virulence which the rankling disappointment of office, or the lust of systematic

opposition can bestow. Again, if the adventurer were to be supported at the public expense, the stimulus to labour would be blunted, the indolent would stroll about at their ease looking to Government for subsistence, and full of complaints if luxuries were not provided, and powder and shot liberally supplied so as to enable them to kill the kangaroo, and amuse themselves with parrot shooting, as some consolation for their absence from the pigeon matches at Battersea or Chalk Farm. And then the house would echo with the loudly reiterated complaints of the profuse expenditure of the public money, by some who are perhaps as well acquainted with finance, as the honest gentleman with the affairs of India, who complained "that the commander-in-chief of one of our armies there, had suffered the *savage doolies** to come down and carry off the wounded." And even if no expense were incurred either in taking out or maintaining settlers, yet if government undertook to remove them to England or elsewhere, the option of leaving the settlement would greatly

* A dooley is a sort of palanquin.

militate against their zealous exertions to improve their allotment, which they might be anxious to leave when the love of novelty should induce them to seek another place of abode, or any difficulty or disappointment incline them to abandon their prospects, allotment, and little embarrassments altogether. But in the rule before us there is no *bonus* to induce any one to leave his home, no encouragement to the idler who would wish to maintain himself at the public expense, no promise to replace the adventurer upon his own shore if circumstances should prove adverse or sanguine hopes become dissipated in illusion or adversity. Whoever then undertakes a voyage to the Swan River, must proceed thither at his own charge, and support himself either by his own finances or labour; government refusing either to assist, or incur any responsibility respecting him. But although they neither induce persons to emigrate either by money, passage, or provisions, they nevertheless afford the most ample encouragement to those who are enabled to arrive at the settlement with even a small capital, as appears by the

2d Rule. “ Such persons as emigrate to the Swan River Settlement, and arrive there after the 31st of December, 1830, will receive, in the order of their arrival, allotments of land, proportioned to the capital which they have at command for the improvement of the land, at the rate of twenty acres for every sum of £3. which they may be prepared to invest in such improvement.”

That we may properly estimate this condition, so highly advantageous to the settler, let us compare it with the boasted advantage of emigrating to the United States wherein land cannot be obtained, however far removed from the sea, or any navigable river,—however distant from any town, or even neighbour,—however encumbered with trees of the greatest magnitude, at less than two dollars per acre; and, as hath already been observed, not even at that price unless 200 acres be included in the purchase. In America then, the settler must sink a small capital before he can enter upon his allotment; here, he need not expend a shilling in purchasing an estate; all that is required is, that he should possess the means to

occupy it, and without this means, any land would be useless to him, and remain an injury to the community, as the extent of his allotment would be "waste" to the no small inconvenience of those who might have occasion to pass through it, and to the deprivation of perhaps valuable property to him who has the capital as well as the inclination to bring it into a good and useful state of agriculture. On what terms land is granted in the various provinces of North British America, it is not necessary here to enquire, but admitting that it is gratuitously given, still it cannot be denied that it must be either miserably poor in its nature, or else very far in the interior, and consequently at a most inconvenient distance from markets and shipping; and this too in a country wherein the Winter is so intense as to paralyze the arm of the labourer, and render the earth callous to the plough during its continuance. But in Western Australia the newly arrived settler obtains his land merely by the possession of capital,—he is permitted to take possession of that unoccupied part, which in his own judgment is best adapted to his purpose: and this too in one of the finest

climates in the world, where the Winter's frost never impedes the labours of the husbandman, where a navigable river runs by his door, and the produce of his farm can, in a few hours, be put on board-a-ship. In England a miserable brook, being the boundary of a farm is considered to add to its value, and if an estate intended for sale, which even for a few yards is washed by a navigable river, the advantage is dilated upon in the advertisement of sale, if not with the descriptive eloquence of Mr. George Robins, at least in such terms as to enhance its price. It is somewhat amusing to observe how the ideas of men change with their situations. Our adventurer (whose letters are the basis of the preceding Narrative) before he became such, was well aware of the convenience and advantage of any estate at home, even in the neighbourhood of a canal or a river, but now he declines an allotment he might have, because *a frontage of no more than half a mile* is washed by (according to his own account) one of the finest navigable rivers directly communicating with the sea. Admitting that all the good land is already taken up on both sides of the

Swan and Canning Rivers for twenty miles, still much of that which the epicures in land reject might be cultivated to very beneficial purposes. Many thousand acres in England, which forty years ago were considered scarcely worth occupation at almost a nominal rent, are now, from cultivation, manure and draining, considered perhaps as profitable to the husbandman as any in the kingdom. I appeal to the inhabitants of the villages "upon Dunsmore" for the truth of my assertion. This extensive part of Warwickshire, which still is called a "Heath," is surpassed by very few districts either in the industry of its occupiers, or the spirited and husbandlike manner in which it is cultivated.

3d Rule. "Under the head of Capital, will be considered at a fair rate of valuation, stock of every description, all implements of husbandry and other articles, which may be applicable to the purposes of productive industry, or which may be necessary for the establishment of the settler on the land where he is to be located."

This Rule demands the most serious attention of the emigrant, for by a reasonable interpretation of it, he may most likely lay the foundation of his future prosperity and happiness. A judicious selection of such articles as will form a capital to authorize him immediately to occupy an allotment will be his first care and consideration. Let him purchase land and become an agriculturist wherever he may, implements of husbandry and stock for a farm must be had, and in most cases he has two capitals to sink ; one in purchase of the land, and secondly in providing the means to cultivate it. But the individual who contemplates a settlement at Swan River, has but to estimate his ability to procure " such articles as may be applicable to productive industry, or which may be necessary for his establishment on a location," according to the hands he may take out ; which will enable him to judge what quantity of land he may *prudently* take up.* It is a rule stated in general terms, as it is impossible for the Government to designate every article, the number and

* Vide Observations on Rules 5 and 6.

value of each, which may be requisite for every settler; the emigrant will do well therefore to avoid the purchase of any article, however trifling in cost, which he is not persuaded will be really useful to him either on his passage or on commencing residence upon his allotment. Unless his funds are considerable, he will need the prudent expenditure of every shilling, on arriving in a colony where at present all is in a state of nature, where labourers of every description are scarce, and the necessaries and comforts of life consequently at high prices. He assuredly will find a hundred wants, which he has not hitherto experienced, and of which he can form no idea until they are felt. And as agricultural implements are expensive, let him purchase none but those of the most simple kind. The drill, the hay-making machine, the double plough and scuffler; which the English farmer employs, with the no small reduction of labour and the dispatch of business, will be totally useless upon land from whence the stumps of trees have not been removed, and every obstruction cleared away. And admitting that some spots may be found which

present no impediment to these machines, yet it must be remembered that the freight out is expensive, that they are liable to be out of order from time, accident, or carelessness; and, where will the settler find an expert mechanic with a variety of tools to repair them? Certainly for several years to come, the common plough, the harrow and the hoe alone will be of real service to the Australian farmer in the tillage of his ground, and these he should take care to have made of the strongest materials, and furnished with extra shares, coulter, and all other iron-work in abundance. Rollers he may obtain of any magnitude by cutting down trees of suitable dimensions, but the iron work and shafts he had better take out with him.

4th Rule. "Those who incur the expense of taking out labouring persons to this Colony, will be entitled to land to the value of £15. that is, to one hundred acres, for the passage of every such labourer, over and above any investment of other capital."

“In the class of ‘labouring persons’ are included women, and also children above twelve years old. They will further be allowed thirty acres for every child under the age of six, and sixty acres for every child between the age of six and twelve.”

On examining this Rule, it may be proper to observe that, in consequence of the expence attendant upon a long voyage, few among the labouring classes have the means of emigrating to our colonies,—and hence we perceive the cause of that scarcity of useful hands which must constitute such a bar to the cultivation of newly-occupied districts, and presents an almost insurmountable obstacle to the acquisition of comfort, and the rapid improvement of the settler’s estate. In order therefore to promote as much as possible the importation of that class of persons which is so indispensably necessary, Government have offered, by this Rule, a *bonus* of no trifling encouragement to those who are disposed to carry with them that assistance, without which their grants must remain uncultivated and useless. No re-

flecting person can for a moment deny that, even if no remuneration were made to the settler for the expence of taking out labourers, even then he would derive no small profit by so doing. At the Swan River, the wages of a labourer is five shillings a day, and of a carpenter more than seven shillings a day, and of course the person hired will consult his own convenience as to the time he will work for any particular individual, and perhaps leave him for higher wages, at the very moment when circumstances or seasons may render his assistance most peculiarly important : but if the settler takes a man from England, bound by Indenture, for a certain time, as will be presently discussed, he can confidently reckon upon the services of this person for a positive period, and at a much less rate of wages, than if he were dependent upon the casual and expensive assistance which he might pick up in the Colony : but with the liberal remuneration thus promised to the settler who takes out labouring persons, unwise indeed must he be if he does not avail himself of it to the utmost of his power; for he can have no just conception of the variety and

extent of the work which must be performed before he can have a house over his head, a few fields properly fenced in, and a moderate extent of land prepared for the plough and sowed with grain. He cannot, as in his native land, purchase timber sawed to any dimensions he may prescribe. He cannot obtain bricks from one neighbouring tradesman and lime from another. Here no fallows are made by an outgoing tenant, no hedges planted at the expence of the late proprietor, no growing crops to be obtained at the nominal trouble of a fair valuation. Whatever he requires, and whatever he obtains, must originate from his own labours and exertions,—money cannot procure it. Any further argument to prove the importance and benefit of being attended by as many work-people as possible would be an insult upon the understanding of the reader ; yet it is desirable that his attention may be directed to the sort of persons whom it will in all probability answer his purpose to engage. Selfishness, which is often blind to its real and permanent interest, advises that the settler should take out none but single men, that no expence be incurred by the

passage of a wife or other incumbrance, but religion and morality both exclaim against this unnatural economy, this incentive to vice which is thus presented and strengthened by avarice; but as, unhappily, all men will not act according to Christian principles, it is hoped that they will be governed by common sense and right reason. A single man rarely considers himself settled in any situation, and generally looks forward to the time when matrimony will afford him permanent residence and prospects. It is of no small importance to the settler that those whom he may take out should become attached to him, and desirous of continuing with him after the completion of the term for which they engaged to serve. Now an unmarried man having no incumbrance feels that there is no obstacle to prevent him from removing from one master or place to another,—on the contrary, the husband and father of a family has in most cases some little property which he cannot without inconvenience remove; he will hesitate before he can make up his mind to abandon his present abode and employer, lest he be not able to obtain a permanent residence and engagement

elsewhere ; and he also discovers that his incumbrances render him less welcome to any other master whom he might wish to serve : besides his wife naturally is unwilling to change ; if she is a good wife he wishes to spare her the pain of a removal,—if not, he dreads her tongue and her temper. And in many cases for the sake of his family, a father will submit to inconveniences which, if he were alone in the world, he would abandon without hesitation. It is then a most material object for the settler to take out those that have been recently married ; I say recently, out of humanity ; for it must indeed be miserable for a woman with a numerous family of young children to undergo the perils, confinements, privations and hardships of a long voyage.

Women will not be found the “incumbrances” which they are called, by those who are great politicians in their own eyes. If industrious and willing to oblige, they will be found in a multitude of instances quite as active and useful as men, and in those light labours which they can easily perform, they will save the expense of a

man, at a time when perhaps the value of his work under particular circumstances can scarcely be rated too high. When the settler is building a log house to shelter himself and family, when all his goods are exposed to the open air, when nothing is done—but all remains to do, he will find that the women who are watching the cattle, cooking the provisions and caulking the seams of his house with moss and grass, are any thing but incumbrances.

Will he think them incumbrances, when sinking under a day's fatigue, he and his people homeward plod their way, received and cheered with gladdened eyes, kind looks, and silent but eloquent welcome of a comfortable fire and well-cooked meal beneath the bark roof of their wigwam? and when he is prostrated upon the bed of sickness far from medical assistance, when the dew of agony is wiped from his forehead by a female hand, and when that hand lifts the cup to his burning lips and raises his feeble emaciated frame to the refreshment of the evening breeze, will he then find a wife an incumbrance?

But it may further be observed that, although in populous countries, the attachment of a labourer to his employer, and his long continuance in the same service, are supposed by some persons to be of little importance, they are most essentially necessary to the settler here ; it is his interest to attach his people to him, to form a permanent union of confidence and mutual obligation, and a mutual desire to promote each other's interest.

That attachment of the Scotch and Irish to their chief, which is so amiable in itself, ought, if possible, to be created and preserved here ; and were I going to emigrate, I would decidedly select followers from Ireland or Scotland, who are accustomed to look upon their chief with respect and kindness, to identify their welfare with his, rather than take out English labourers who, from the long habit of changing their masters perhaps every week, have long ceased to feel any interest in his prosperity. As children above the age of twelve years will be included among the "labouring persons" for the passage of which land will be given, it is advisable for the emigrant to ascertain

whether he might not take out young persons of both sexes legally apprenticed to him by indenture. The fees which he would receive with them would defray part of the expence of their passage, they would submit more easily than grown up persons to the unavoidable inconveniences of commencing a residence in an uncultivated country; they would be trained to useful and colonial labour under his own eye; and, it may be added that, in agricultural business, where neither hard labour nor great strength is required, a lad is as serviceable as a man. If apprentices cannot be obtained *with* a fee, it would be very desirable to engage them *without*, for their master would have the benefit of their services at the expence of their maintenance and clothes; but if he were obliged to hire labourers he must pay them high wages in addition to the cost of their maintenance.

An opinion has prevailed among the lower classes, that any mechanic or labourer, who proceeds to the settlement at his own expence, is by this regulation, entitled to a grant of one hundred acres of land. And it is to be regretted that cer-

tain ship-owners and brokers in their advertisements and printed circulars, have not scrupled to declare this to be the case. But there appears to be no foundation for this forced interpretation of the Rule; by which land is offered only to those who may incur the expence of *taking out* labouring persons. Neither in this, nor in the foregoing Rules is land offered to any but persons of capital.

This appears more clear from the fourth Rule in the official information published for those who might arrive at the Swan River previous to the 31st December, 1830, in which it is stated that provision will be made by law, at the earliest opportunity, for rendering those *capitalists* who may be engaged in taking out labouring persons to this settlement, liable for the future maintenance of those persons, should they from infirmity, or any other cause become unable to maintain themselves there.

But if land were to be thus granted, as is erroneously supposed, so far from its being a benefit, it would be a serious injury to the labouring

person. How can he cultivate a hundred acres of land without a capital? or support himself till his allotment produces the means of subsistence? He may, it is true, obtain liberal wages for working for other settlers, but then his own land must be neglected; and, in consequence of not being able to devote his whole time to its improvement, it would be subjected to fines which perhaps he could with difficulty pay, and at length forfeited from his inability to improve it within the prescribed period.

If a person of this description can only land in the Colony with his clothes and his tools, he will find immediate employment, on such terms as will enable him, if he has common prudence, soon to save a little capital, by which, if he is desirous of becoming a farmer, he will be entitled to an allotment; and by the employment of this capital, and the exercise of his trade, he will doubtless become a prosperous man. If, after paying his passage, he has five pounds to spare, I would by no means dissuade him from obtaining an allotment upon his arrival in the Colony; let him pur-

chase a few spades and other agricultural implements, which he can use with his own hands, and those kitchen utensils which are absolutely necessary, and then let him take up a *small* grant—the less the better, provided it will supply him with bread and keep a few animals, which by their increase will afford him the means of purchasing a farm from a settler, or of claiming a larger allotment as a capitalist.

Another erroneous opinion has arisen from an unfair interpretation of this Rule—that the wife and children of a settler intending to become an agriculturist will be considered as labouring persons for whose passage an allotment of land might be claimed in proportion to their number and ages.

The wife and children of a farmer in England are never considered “labouring persons,” and as these Rules are drawn up in England for the information of those proceeding to an English Colony, we cannot suppose that any expression in them is to be understood otherwise than in the

idiom of the country. Indeed as these Rules have been framed with careful deliberation, there is no reason for believing that they will be permitted to be interpreted in any sense but in their plain literal meaning. Much, in this case, may depend upon the capital, or rather the appearance and station in life, of the settler. If his capital be extensive, or himself and family evidently shew that they have not been accustomed to labour, it is more than probable that he will not be allowed any land for them ; but if he is a weather-beaten countryman, with a small capital, whose hands and those of his family bear the unquestionable evidence of hard work, it seems likely that *his* family would be considered as "labouring persons," and that he would, therefore, be entitled to the prescribed allotment for the passage of each of them. But this is stated only upon conjecture.

From the fifth Rule, we learn that " the license to occupy will be given to the settler, on satisfactory proof being exhibited to the Lieutenant Governor (or other officer administering the local

Government) of the amount of property, as above specified, which has been brought into the Colony to be invested. The proofs expected to be produced of the value of this property, will be such vouchers of expences as would be received in auditing public accounts. The title to the land in fee simple will not be granted, however, until the Settler has proved, to the satisfaction of the Lieutenant-Governor, (or other officer administering the local government) that the sum required by Article 2 (viz. 3s. per acre) has been actually expended, in some investment of the nature specified in Article 3; or has been laid out in the cultivation of the land, or on some other substantial improvement, such as buildings, roads, or other works of utility.”

It is to be feared that there are some, who are desirous of putting a higher value upon the property brought by them into the Colony than it is actually worth; and instances have occurred in which fictitious bills and receipts have been prepared by friends, whose varied hand-writing might give a colour to this iniquitous practice. But, if per-

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sons are not actuated by good and honest principles, let them beware how they engage in such a transaction as this. It is *possible* that they might be tried and convicted for uttering a forgery ; and, in such a case, it would be very distressing to be sent on to Sydney as a knight of the fetterlock, instead of being permitted to build villas upon Melville Water. But, seriously, it is not to be supposed that the Commissioners for the management of Crown Property are so careless or inexperienced, as not to ascertain the value of every article of productive industry. They will not admit tradesmen's bills as the sole or indisputable evidence of the worth of goods submitted to their inspection—but "the value will be estimated by the Commissioners according to such fair standard as they may think fit to adopt." One of the regulations published by Captain Stirling relative to the Crown Lands states, that if, within the term of three years from the date of the grant, it be proved that the statements made by applicants in obtaining grants were not substantially true, the same shall revert to the Crown.

It would save much trouble if an account were kept of the expence, package, wharfage, and freight of all articles which are expected to be considered as capital, that the bills of the same be forthcoming if called for, and that a correct list be made of the contents of every package belonging to the settler, that he may know the particular box he has to open for any article he may want.

It must be remembered, that the land to which the settler may be entitled will not be given to him until he has actually expended a certain sum in the improvement of the same, and till then he is only permitted to occupy it. It does not appear necessary that 3s. should be expended upon every acre ; but, if a man obtain an allotment of 1000 acres, he must expend at least £150. in the improvement of that allotment. If it were not for restriction of this nature, the grantee might not commence residence upon his land at all, but content himself with having obtained his license of occupation, and employ his time and capital in trade or commerce. But the interest

of the Colony is not to be promoted by the mere proprietor of an estate, but by him who has both the inclination and the means to increase its value by cultivation. As land is granted only to the possessor of capital, so it is properly required that this capital be invested or kept upon it. Every encouragement will be given to the industrious settler, and it is reported, that even the expence of making a ditch as a boundary to an allotment, will be permitted to be entered into the settler's account of improvement.

It is a great object, that the land taken up by settlers should be brought into cultivation as soon as possible, or, at least, if it has been entrusted to the management of those who, from indolence or ignorance, do not make a good use of it, that it may revert to the Crown, for the benefit of some worthier occupant. We must, therefore, admit the policy of the 6th Rule, viz.—
“Any land thus allotted which shall not have been brought into cultivation, or upon which improvements shall not have been effected in some other manner, to the satisfaction of the

local Government, within two years from the date of the license of occupation, shall, at the end of that period, be liable to an annual payment into the public chest of the Settlement of 1s. per acre, as quit rent; and at the expiration of another period of two years, so much of the whole grant as shall still remain in an uncultivated state, or without such improvement being effected upon it as shall be satisfactory to the local Government, shall revert absolutely to the Crown, or become liable to such additional quit rent as the local Government may think fit to impose, reference being had to the value of the adjoining lands. But in cases where land, so circumstanced, is required for roads, canals, or quays, or for any other public purpose, the local Government will be at liberty to retain the land absolutely, in place of allowing it to revert to the original grantee, on the condition of paying an additional quit rent."

This rule was most probably drawn up to prevent the evil consequences which arose from the imprudence of certain free persons who obtained

grants of land in Eastern Australia: instead of applying themselves to their business, they passed so much of their time at the neighbouring towns, that they soon were reduced to distress, and their land, instead of proving a benefit to them by industrious management, became, by their idleness, a detriment to the community from lying waste. It cannot be expected that, by the term "cultivation," (of land in a state of nature) we are to understand that cultivation which is so generally adopted in England, where labourers are plentiful, and every farm is cleared and fenced in. For several years, the settler must content himself with ploughing those parts of his farm which have the fewest obstructions, and even these, perhaps, very imperfectly, till roots and stumps can be removed, and large stones carried away. A portion of land which is made a field by the erection of posts and rails, will certainly be considered to be "brought into cultivation," and that upon which trees and bushes have been partially cut down, "improved." In fact, a liberal construction will be made of the term "improvement," in those cases where industry deserves

it. It is true that great discretionary power is given to the local government, but this is called for by circumstances. Allotments must unavoidably differ so much from each other in quality of soil, in mode of access, in the labour required to prepare a few acres for the plough, that it is impossible to lay down any mode or extent of cultivation, which will not bear too hard upon the occupiers of certain allotments. It is much better, then, to leave the matter to the decision of those who, from residing in the Colony, know the character of the man, the advantages of his situation, and the impediments and difficulties he has to remove and overcome.

It may, perhaps, at first view be considered, that two years is not a sufficient time to allow the settler for the improvement of his land; but a reflection will convince us, that he will eventually be greatly benefited, from being stimulated to great exertion at first. Perhaps it was found, by experience, that the indolence of many adventurers in our numerous colonies rendered it necessary that stricter rules, and a more limited

period of trial should be adopted, to compel all succeeding emigrants to the Swan River to become more industrious. But, after all, in two years much may be done, if one or more men, according to the extent of the allotment, be exclusively employed in the necessary work of thinning the trees and brushwood, where most needed, they will, in the course of the two years, improve many hundred acres, especially if care be taken that they do not remain too long in one spot, nor employ that time in sawing through one large tree, which might be better employed in chopping down several small trees. Every acre which is ploughed, should be cultivated in the best manner the state of the ground will admit; but the remainder of the farm need not be *thoroughly* cleared or drained, but as it may be required for increasing tillage and cattle. If circumstances should prevent the occupier from becoming entitled to the fee simple of his grant in the two years, he has to pay only the moderate sum of one shilling per annum upon every acre which is not improved to the satisfaction of the local Government; and, at the expiration of the

second period of two years, all that is still left in an uncultivated state, will revert to the Crown; and so, indeed, it ought. Nevertheless, Government seem disposed to act with leniency even then, for they hold out a hope, that the occupier will be permitted to rent this forfeited portion of his grant upon moderate terms, according to the value of contiguous lands.

Such are the Rules dated at the Colonial Office in July, 1830; and as the reader may not be acquainted with the Regulations published for the information of those who have already arrived in the Colony, I think it right to insert them.

“ 1. His Majesty’s Government do not intend to incur any *expense* in conveying Settlers to the New Colony on the Swan River; and will not feel bound to defray the cost of supplying them with Provisions, or other necessaries, after their arrival there, nor to assist their removal to England, or to any other place, should they be desirous of quitting the Colony.

“2. Such persons as may arrive in that Settlement before the end of the year 1830, will receive, in the order of their arrival, Allotments of Land, free of Quit-rent, proportioned to the Capital which they may be prepared to invest in the improvement of the Land, and of which Capital they may be able to produce satisfactory proofs to the Lieutenant Governor (or other Officer administering the Colonial Government), or to any two Officers of the local Government appointed by the Lieutenant Governor for that purpose, at the rate of 40 acres for every sum of £3. which they may be prepared so to invest.

“3. Under the head of investment of Capital will be considered stock of every description, all Implements of Husbandry, and other Articles which may be applicable to the purposes of productive industry, or which may be necessary for the establishment of the Settler on the Land where he is to be located. The amount of any Half-pay or Pension which the applicant may receive from Government, and which he may be

prepared to invest as before mentioned, will also be considered as so much Capital.

“ 4. Those who may incur the expense of taking out laboring persons, will be entitled to an allotment of Land, at the rate of £15., that is, of 200 acres of Land for the passage of every such laboring person, over and above any other investment of Capital. In the class of ‘laboring persons’ are included Women, and Children above ten years old. With respect to the Children of laboring people under that age, it is proposed to allow 40 Acres for every such Child, above three years old ; 80 Acres for every such Child, above six years old ; and 120 for every such Child, above nine and under ten years old. Provision will be made, by Law, at the earliest opportunity, for rendering those Capitalists, who may be engaged in taking out laboring persons to this Settlement, liable for the future maintenance of those persons, should they, from infirmity, or any other cause, become unable to maintain themselves there.

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From the fifth Rule, we learn that “ the license to occupy will be given to the settler, on satisfactory proof being exhibited to the Lieutenant Governor (or other officer administering the local

ment, within three years from the date of the Licence of Occupation, shall at the end of the three years be liable to one further payment of 6*d.* per Acre for all the land not so cultivated or improved, into the Public Chest of the Settlement ; and, at the expiration of seven years more, so much of the whole grant as shall still remain in an uncultivated or unimproved state, will revert absolutely to the Crown. And in every Grant will be contained a condition, that, at any time, within ten years from the date thereof, the Government may resume, without compensation, any Land not then actually cultivated, or improved as before mentioned, which may be required for roads, canals, or quays, or for the site of Public Buildings.

“ 7. After the year 1830, Land will be disposed of to those Settlers who may resort to the Colony, on such conditions as His Majesty’s Government shall determine.

“ 8. It is not intended that any Convicts be transported to this new Settlement.

“ 9. The Government will be administered by Captain Stirling, of the Royal Navy, as Lieutenant Governor of the Settlement; and it is proposed that a Bill shall be submitted to Parliament, in the course of the next Session, to make provision for its Civil and Judicial Administration.”

Colonial Office, 13th Jan. 1829.

On comparing these Rules with those to which succeeding settlers are subjected, we find that only half the land which was offered to the possessor of a certain capital by the old Regulations can be obtained under the new, and that the time allowed for effecting the requisite improvements is materially shortened, and the fine for not making them to a satisfactory extent more than doubled. And this proves most decidedly the increased value of the Colony in the estimation of those who are in authority, and in the opinion of the public also, or else who would now emigrate to the Colony. And when we consider the circumstances under which the Colony was established, the difficulties which it had to contend with, and the numerous and unfounded re-

ports which were circulated to its prejudice, our surprise is, not that it has made little progress, but that it has succeeded so well. It was not founded at the public expense—nor established under the patronage or promised assistance of Government, but by individuals, at their own responsibility and with the aid of their own capital alone. The first settlers were greatly disappointed at finding the land near the sea-coast unfit for cultivation, when they had been led to suppose that it was naturally fertile. The first ship unfortunately anchored in Gage's Roads (instead of the safe harbour of Cockburn Sound), at the time when the Roads were most unsafe from the winterly winds. The loss of the Marquess of Anglesea, and damage sustained by other vessels, in a tremendous gale, gave almost a death-blow to the infant colony. The fictitious statements of the "dreadful accident-makers," who more than once caused accounts of the starvation of the settlers to appear in the public prints, and the report of those settlers who were chagrined and disappointed at not meeting with all their too sanguine expectations induced them to anti-

cipate, have led the public to look upon the Settlement rather with an eye of pity, than with a generous satisfaction at its promising success. But, notwithstanding all this, the Colony not only exists, but it increases. Intelligent men have gone out to form their own opinions upon its capabilities—several very opulent persons have emigrated thither—ships have gone out, and returned without sustaining any damage—letters have been received from persons of sound judgment, expressing their opinions of the ultimate prosperity of the Colony, and hence emigrants are still anxious to sail for the Swan River, though they know well that they cannot obtain land upon terms half so favourable as if they had arrived there in the year 1830. Nor can any one, with justice, complain that the new Regulations are less liberal to the capitalist than the old. It is right that those early settlers, who risked their all upon the probability of success—who cheerfully encountered and surmounted every difficulty—who felt and prepared the way for those that now follow them, should be fully rewarded for their anxieties, and receive an ample

recompense for the toil and privation which they must have experienced upon landing in a country where there was no hand to welcome, no roof to shelter, and not an inch of ground yielding food for man.

The intention of Government not to send convicts to this Settlement, has given it that respectability which otherwise it would never have attained, and unquestionably has, and will be the cause of inducing many persons of property and high character to proceed thither, who otherwise would never for a moment entertain a thought of emigrating to it. Prejudice is ever too general, and rarely ceases to exist. Though a generation has passed away since convicts were sent to the United States of America, and though, perhaps, not one tenth of its inhabitants are the descendants of persons banished from this country, the illiberal and the scurrilous will still point to "the blot in the escutcheon," they will still sarcastically refer the North American to the Newgate Calendar for the pedigree of his family. Hundreds of persons of irreproachable character have esta-

blished themselves in the convict settlements in Eastern Australia, but it will be long before the native of Sydney or Hobart Town will be readily received into good society "at home;" and assuredly thousands would have emigrated to these parts since the peace of 1815, if they had not been deterred by the fear of being subjected to the annoyance and depredations to which a residence amongst persons of undeniable bad character in all probability would expose them; and and as it is extremely difficult to engage or retain domestic servants and labourers in those Colonies who have not been sent thither as convicts; moral and religious persons are most averse to employ notorious offenders, or subject their children to the hazard of having their minds corrupted, by those who have been banished from their country for their vices and their crimes. Yet, without being obstructed by prejudice, and the great disadvantages which these Colonies sustain in many respects, from the influx and employment of convicts, they continue to flourish, and have for some time carried on no contemptible commerce with the mother country. It appears from the public

prints, that the amount of the revenues collected in one of these settlements is equal to the charges attendant upon it. If thus these Colonies, which scarcely were in being at the commencement of the late war of unexampled duration and extent, flourished during its continuance, notwithstanding the stigma which is attached to them, is it too much to expect that the Colony on the Swan River, possessing superior natural and commercial advantages—founded in the time of profound peace, not by convicts, without money, but by respectable persons, with capital at their command, will increase and flourish with greater rapidity and success? May we not cherish a hope, that the period is not far distant when it will be doubtful whether Western or Eastern Australia exceed each other in population, opulence, and commerce?

At present, the government of the Settlement is in the hands of Captain Stirling, who gives evident proofs that his zeal for the Colony is equalled only by the sound judgment and justice with which he exercises the power entrusted to

him. As soon as the arrangement of matters of more importance will admit, there is no doubt that a code of laws will be promulgated for the civil administration of justice, which is much to be wished, if it were only to relieve Captain Stirling from the great, and, perhaps, in some cases, unpleasant responsibility of office and power, which have not been defined by the legislature.

I have next to lay before the reader a "Copy of Government Notice," containing "GENERAL REGULATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS RELATIVE TO CROWN LANDS."

"1. The territory is progressively to be divided into Counties, Hundreds, Townships, and Sections; each Section is to contain one square mile, or 640 acres; each Township 25 Sections; each Hundred four Townships, and each County 16 Hundreds.

"The Counties, Hundreds, and Townships will be designated on the maps by names, and the Sections by numbers; the numbers will begin

and count from left to right on the upper row, looking to the North; and in like manner in each subsequent row.

“ 2dly. In each County, the Crown will reserve 200 Sections for the liquidation of expences of a general character; 200 Sections for the erection, endowment, and support of schools and churches; and 200 Sections for meeting the expenditure of the county, in the construction of high-ways, bridges, gaols, the prosecution of offenders, and the maintenance of constables and other county officers, and for the sites of towns, race-courses, and other similar uses.

“ 3dly. Counties will be open for location as soon as they shall have been surveyed and mapped, and the Surveyor General will declare, from time to time, the Counties in which free grants of land may be obtained by the public. No free grants of land will be given, beyond the limits of counties declared to be open for location.

“ 4thly. Grants will be made in complete

Sections of one square mile ; persons requiring smaller quantities, or fractional parts of Sections, will not have permission to select those quantities, but will receive such only as the Government shall award.

“ 5thly. All complete Sections will be bounded by lines, having a true North and South, West and East direction, and will contain an exact horizontal superficies of one square mile. Such Sections, however, as are situated on the banks of rivers, or on the sea-shore, will probably be incomplete or broken Sections, whose boundary lines will not preserve the general direction, and such Sections will be marked and numbered on the maps as broken Sections accordingly.

“ 6thly. No allotment of land will be allowed to have a frontage, on any considerable river, of more than about a fourth part of its exterior boundary line ; and the amount of frontage, in any particular case, will be awarded agreeably to the report and recommendation of the Surveyor General.

“ 7thly. No person will receive a grant of land, until he shall have fulfilled the conditions relative to cultivation and improvement, on all other grants which he may have previously received. •

“ 8thly. No grant will be made to servants under indenture, nor will persons receive grants who shall appear to have come to the Settlement at the expence of other individuals, without sufficient assurance of their having fulfilled the conditions of any agreement under which they may have come.

“ 9thly. Such places as may be reserved by Government as the sites of towns will be laid out in lots; these will not be granted in fee simple, but will be let on lease upon such conditions as may, from time to time, be established and made public.

“ 10thly. The area reserved as the site of the Town of Perth, will comprise an extent of three square miles, and will be divided into building

lots, generally containing 9-10ths of an acre each. Some of these lots may now be obtained by individuals desirous of building, and the remainder will be thrown open to selection as circumstances may permit. The ground plan of the future Town of Freemantle, near the entrance of Melville Water will be laid down without delay, and as speedily as the town-lots therein can be marked off, individuals will be permitted to select and to build thereon. By instructions from His Majesty's Government, the building lots in these towns will be granted on a lease for 21 years; but the right of resuming such lease is reserved by Government, if it should be rendered necessary by the urgency of the public service. Government, in such case, paying to the grantee the appraised value of the ground and buildings at the time of resumption. After the expiry of 21 years, if no such resumption should take place, the right of property will be vested in the grantee or his assigns, who will at all times possess the right to sell, or to transfer his right of property in the lot, such transference being duly registered. All town lots thrown open

for selection, must be built upon in such time, and according to such conditions, as the Surveyor General may point out; and they will also be liable for their proportion of the expense which Government may incur, in making and repairing the roads and lines of communication within the town. The Surveyor General will be directed to exhibit to applicants the ground plans of the towns, and point out such lots as may be selected.

“11thly. Whenever the site of any town may be determined on, and a sufficient reserve of land for that purpose shall be set apart, an additional quantity of land, in the immediate vicinity of such site, will be set apart, and will be granted only in small portions, not by lease, but as free grants, to persons making application, for the same; and the rule as to the extent of land to be allotted to every individual wishing to possess a grant of this description, will be, that each person shall be considered entitled to claim land so situated, in the ratio of one acre for every thousand acres which he or she may

possess, or be entitled to possess, in the Settlement at large.

“ 12thly. Persons entitled to receive from Government half-pay or pension, for wounds or services, will be admitted to claim land, in the ratio of 40 acres for every £3. of annual amount of such pension.

“ 13thly. Officers belonging to the civil or military establishment of the Settlement, will be admitted to claim and receive grants of land on the same conditions, and by the same mode of proceeding, as private individuals, provided the quantity be reasonable, and on the understanding that their public duties are not to be neglected for the management of their private affairs.

“ 14thly. Every grant of land will be duly described and registered before delivery, and, by the terms of the grant, no transfer or alienation will be legal until the same shall be registered. The registered owner of every grant or portion of land will be the legal owner, and thus certainty

and security will be afforded to land-holders, as well as to persons advancing money on such security. Land which may at any time be occupied without a grant and proper registrations, will be taken as belonging to the Crown.

“ 15thly. All persons acting as the agents of absentees, for the purpose of acquiring, managing, or registering grants of land, will be required to produce their credentials, and to follow the same course of proceedings as if the grant were for themselves, with the exception of that part which relates to registration, which must be effected in the name of the real owner.

“ 16thly. The Surveyor General will afford claimants for Crown Lands every information in his power, and will exhibit to them such maps as they may desire to inspect, and give them instructions in the mode of describing accurately, in their report of selection, the lands they may desire to obtain.

“ 17thly. The mode of proceeding by which

land may be obtained, will be understood by attending to the following instructions.

“ All persons who may be desirous to receive allotments of land, are to make application to the Lieutenant Governor, according to a form which will be furnished to them at the office of the Colonial Secretary. If the application be admissible, it will be referred to the Board of Commissioners for the Management of Crown Property, who will report to the Lieut. Governor the extent of land to which the applicant may appear to be entitled, upon a strict examination into the value and description of property imported by him.

“ The kinds of property on which claims may be founded, are such only as are applicable to the improvement and cultivation of land, or necessary in placing the settler in his location ; and the value thereof will be estimated by the Commissioners, according to such fair standard of reference as they may see fit to adopt.

“ On receiving the report of the Board, the Lieutenant Governor will accord permission to the applicant to proceed to select such land, to the extent recommended, as may suit his particular views, and, having selected, the applicant is to make his selection known to the Surveyor General, by filling up the form which may be attached to the permission to select. This report of selection will be examined by the Surveyor General, and transmitted by him to the Lieut. Governor, with such remarks as may be necessary to enable the Lieut. Governor to decide on the propriety of the allotment being made ; and, if no prior claim to the land in question, or other objection exist, the applicant will receive a grant thereof, in the usual form of a primary conveyance.

“ Land thus granted will belong in perpetuity to the grantee, his heirs and assigns, to be held in free and common sociage, subject, however, to such reservations and conditions as may be stated in the conveyance.

“ The nature of these reservations and conditions will be to the effect of hereinafter following—

“ PERMANENT LIABILITIES OF ALL GRANTS.

“ First. All transfers of the whole, or any part of allotments, are to be registered within a reasonable time, not in any case exceeding one year.

“ Secondly. Allotments shall be liable to all assessments for the benefit of the county or township in which they be situated, and the same shall be paid in due course upon order of the magistrates of the county, or the county officers authorized to make such assessments.

“ Thirdly. The right of making roads in and through allotments being reserved by Government, as well as a right to construct canals, bridges, churches, schools, and works of defence, on any part of them, this right shall not be contested, nor opposition be made to the taking of indi-

genous timber, or materials necessary for such purposes.

“ Fourthly. On failure of appearance of a legal claimant to an allotment, or his agent, within one year after due notice be issued by the Surveyor General, the same shall revert to the Crown, and may be resumed without further process. .

“ Fifthly. All lands granted on the shores of rivers, which may be found desirable by Government to render navigable, or to improve the facilities which they may offer for navigation, are to be held liable to pay their allotted proportion of the expense necessary to effect such improvements, in the ratio of the extent of frontage which these lands may have upon such improvable rivers.”

“ LIABILITIES WHICH ARE NOT PERMANENT.

“ First. The intention of the circular notice

issued by His Majesty's Government, and dated *Colonial Office, 13th January, 1829*, and hereunto appended, being, that the property imported and made the foundation of a claim for land, shall be duly applied to its cultivation and improvement; any evasion of this principle, by re-exportation or otherwise, if proved within three years of the date of the grant, will render it subject to forfeiture—or if, within that term, it be proved that the statements made by applicants in obtaining grants were not substantially true, the same shall revert to the Crown.

Secondly. A right will be reserved to the Government, acting on the Report of the Commissioners of Crown Property, to assign, within three years, the proper boundaries of grants; and if the quantity of land be thereby lessened, an equivalent in extent shall be awarded within the same county.

Thirdly. It being the intention of Government that every allotment shall be improved to the extent of *1s. 6d.* per acre within three years of the date of the grant, grantees are bound, on pain of

forfeiture, to make such improvements in that period as may be agreed upon between themselves and the Government at the time of obtaining the grant; and if a fourth part of these improvements be not effected within the three first years, the grantee shall be liable to pay on demand to the Government a fine of 6*d.* per acre.

“ Fourthly. It being also the intention of Government, that the power of alienating allotments shall not rest with grantees until they shall have effected the improvements above-mentioned, to the extent of 1*s.* 6*d.* per acre, and shall have proved the same to the satisfaction of the Lieut. Governor, and shall have obtained from the latter a certificate to that effect, grantees shall not alienate their allotments until such certificate be obtained, on pain of forfeiture of their grants. Grantees or their representatives shall not quit the territory until they shall have obtained the certificate of cultivation and improvement, and thereby completed their title; on pain of forfeiture, except in cases where permission to that effect shall have been obtained from the Lieutenant Governor.

“ Fifthly. Allotments will be subject to maintain all settlers who may have been brought to the Settlement at the expense of the grantee, if such Settlers shall have become chargeable to Government within three years after their arrival.

“ Given under my Hand at Perth, in Western Australia, this 28th Day of August, 1829,

(Signed) JAMES STIRLING,
Lt.-Gov.”

“ *By Command of His Excellency,*

(Signed) P. BROWN,
Secretary to Gov.”

These “ Regulations and Instructions” will affect the persons who may arrive in the Colony after the expiration of the current year, as well as those who are already established there; except in those cases wherein they are superseded by the Regulations subsequently issued from the Colonial Office, for example, under the head of liabilities which are not permanent, for eighteen pence an acre, the new comer must read, three shillings; for ten years—four years

Although, from each of these counties containing 1,024,000 acres, they will be considerably larger than most of the counties in England, they will, in fact, from being squares, be much more convenient for their local administration and dispatch of public business. Several of the counties at home are sixty miles in extent, and the larger ones considerably more; but the counties in Western Australia will be about 40 miles square.

The reservation of land for the endowment of schools will be extremely gratifying to every benevolent and pious mind, and ought to excite the gratitude of each inhabitant of the Settlement. During the infancy of a colony, the means of instruction to children are generally very limited. Schoolmasters are established in few situations within any convenient distance of several families. Parents are too frequently so unavoidably engrossed in raising the necessaries of life, as to have little leisure for cultivating the minds of their children; and, from necessity, the children themselves are employed in such occupations as their strength will permit, at earlier ages than is

customary in districts where population is numerous. Under these circumstances, it is very pleasing to observe the parental care evinced, by the appropriation of land for the support of institutions which will not fail to promote the moral and intellectual welfare of the children of the Settlement.

But, as a Christian and a priest, I cannot refrain from expressing my joy and exultation at the reservation of land, instead of tithes, for the endowment of churches. In this country, although land was originally granted with the payment of its tithes charged upon it, (and thus tithes are the most ancient inheritance in the kingdom) and although the land has been held for more than a thousand years* with this tax upon it, it cannot be denied that tithes, or payments in lieu thereof, are rendered with the greatest reluctance, and by many considered ra-

* Councils were assembled of the spiritual and secular powers of England, in the year 786, where an ordinance was passed *de decimis dandis*, and thus the payment of tithes became the law of the land.—*VIDE Toller on Tithes, 2d Edit. p. 7.*

ther as a burthen upon the public, and a tyrannical tax upon agriculture, than a rent charge upon each particular farm. The landed proprietor rarely considers that his estate was purchased at a lower rate, in consequence of this legal incumbrance upon it. The tithe-payer does not seem to be aware, that if tithes were abolished the public would derive no advantage, and that he himself would only be nominally benefited, for his landlord would undoubtedly increase his rent to the amount of the payment from which his farm would be relieved. If a landlord raises his rent, little is said, unless it be to a greater extent than the yearly value of the land. But if an incumbent attempt to increase the payments which his predecessor has received, even if these payments are only one-fourth of the actual value of the tithes, the whole neighbourhood will exclaim against his "unsatiable avarice" and "illegal extortion." In nineteen parishes out of twenty, even Rectors do not receive more than a tenth of the amount of rent and parochial payments instead of a tenth of the *produce*, to which the law entitles them. And yet the public prints

report the revenues of the Church to be “enormous,” and the weathercock writer and lecturer of the day, tells the labouring classes how much *they* are oppressed by the tyrannical imposition of tithes. These are not the only evils. The law of tithes is, perhaps, less understood by the laity than any other law in the kingdom; and hence (for I will not attribute it to obstinacy or a wish to defraud) arises that litigation, so very unpleasant to any man, much more to a clergyman; so ruinous in expence to both parties, and such a fertile source of various evil passions, diametrically contrary to that Gospel which teaches us meekness, justice, brotherly love, and “to render to all their dues.” Far be it from me to condemn the payment of tithes for the support of the clergy. It is that which God himself laid upon his own people Israel; it is that which the laws of this country, for many hundred years, have recognized and upheld; but I cannot avoid lamenting the consequences which too commonly arise from a system in itself equitable, both to priest and people.

The member of the Church of England and the sincere Christian of any denomination, will indeed rejoice at the ample appropriation of land for the erection of churches, &c. and the maintenance of the Ministers who officiate in them. Land which is given either to any body of men, or for any religious or charitable purpose, cannot be any burden upon the community, to whom it must be of little consequence whether an estate be held by a Bishop or an Earl. The reservation of land for the support of the clergy is the most equitable in itself, and more advantageous to them than any other mode of remuneration for their service.

I thank God that the appropriation of land for the support of the clergy in Western Australia, will prevent all evil feelings and litigation between them and their parishioners respecting their dues: and I pray HIM that they may ever look upon each other with feelings of kindness and respect, and may there never be but one contest between them—never decided but always doubtful—a contest whether the clergy best perform their duty

to the people, or the people theirs to the clergy and their God.

But to return:—The proprietor or occupier of land in this Settlement will not only hold it discharged from the payment of tithes, but freed also from those county charges which press so heavily upon the farmer at home. The reservation of land to meet these expences, and for other purposes, is certainly a bonus, and a saving also either to the Colony or the United Kingdom. If they were to be defrayed by a tax upon the county, it would be felt severely by the landholder at present; and murmurs would undoubtedly arise if they were paid out of the public purse of the mother country.

As every one may unquestionably do what he will with his own, the Crown has a right to grant lands under such conditions or restrictions as it thinks proper to impose; and settlers solicit grants under certain “Regulations” with which they are fully acquainted, and they have no more

right to be dissatisfied at the reservation of half a county for Government purposes than a farmer can justly complain, that a landlord will let him only a part of his estate, and retain the remainder for his own use. It might have been reasonably expected that as all the land in "Western Australia" belonged to the Crown, a large portion of it would have been reserved for the private revenue of the Sovereign, but *all* is most generously given up to the Colony ; not an acre is reserved but for the public good.

The restriction of grants of land to those counties which may be prepared for location, will condense the inhabitants of the Settlement within proper bounds, and they will thus be enabled to render that mutual assistance and protection to each other, which, if they were more widely scattered, would be totally out of their power. And if persons were permitted to take up their grants wherever they pleased, in any unallotted part of the Settlement, the whole country would be interspersed with patches of land, greatly in the way of any extensive capitalist, who would

naturally wish to take up his grant in one place, without the annoyance of having it intersected by the estate of another ; and it is most probably for this reason, that those who are only entitled to a part of a section are obliged to accept it wherever the local Government may appoint, for a whole district would be greatly deteriorated, if the most valuable parts of it were engrossed by petty proprietors, to the no small loss and inconvenience of those who are entitled to considerable allotments, which, on account of their extent, must include land of inferior quality, as well as of the best description.

The straight lines by which the complete sections are bounded, will, in fact, become the boundaries of estates ; and hence much of that dispute and litigation which is caused by the vague and irregular boundaries of property in other countries will be avoided, and settlers, by having their land marked out by straight lines, will take up their grants with much more regularity and proximity to each other than otherwise might be the case. Besides, the allotment of land in

squares is the most equitable means of dividing it. Persons must then "take rough and smooth together," and thus prior or more knowing claimants will be precluded from selecting all the most valuable and easily-cultivated spots, to the manifest injury of those who were obliged to content themselves with what they considered not worth their selection.

The Regulation relative to the extent of frontage upon a river, will prevent a few from engrossing all the (at present) most valuable land in the Colony, which they soon would, if they were permitted to take the number of sections to which they were entitled in continuation along the bank of a river, by which means their estates would be daily becoming more valuable, and all those who were obliged to take up their grants in the interior would, in more senses than one, "remain in the back ground."

The reservation of land for general and county purposes, is, in fact, a bonus to the settler to the value of the charges from which he will be thus

exonerated. As population increases, and land is progressively taken up, the Government reserves may readily be let upon leases, and as they expire, may be re-let upon rents which will meet the increasing expenses of the county.

The refusal to grant land beyond the limits of counties opened for location, will be attended with the three-fold advantage of making the march of colonization advance in regular order—of condensing the population to their mutual protection and assistance—and preventing land being taken up in spots in the interior of the country to the inconvenience of those who might come up to them in the general progress of allotment.

The irregular boundaries of estates at home are attended with great inconvenience in many instances, and sometimes are the fruitful source of expensive litigation; but here the division of the land into sections by straight lines, will at once benefit the owner of the property from its compactness, and also prevent the boundaries from becoming the cause of dispute. It may perhaps

appear hard that the settler, whose means will only authorize him to claim less than 640 acres, should be obliged to take it wherever it may be marked out for him, while the greater capitalist is permitted to select his grant. But here, as in other cases, private interest must give place to public good. Great injury to the community would be sustained if the allotment of extensive grants were impeded by patches of small estates, and these, doubtless, consisting of the choicest spots which could be found. We are, however, warranted to suppose, from the tenor of all the "Rules" and "Regulations," that every settler will be treated with equal justice, and that the advantage of the claimant of 100 acres will be as carefully regarded as that of the capitalist who is entitled to 10,000.

If persons were permitted to take their grants in any direction they pleased, all the most valuable land on the bank of the River would be engrossed by narrow yet extensive allotments, which would render the land to the rear of little value, and place those who possessed it at the mercy of

those who might refuse to grant them that access to the river, which is so important. A fourth of the circumference of an estate of any magnitude being bounded by a river will be amply sufficient to afford it every advantage which can be derived from navigation or water for cattle.

The refusal to allow a person a second grant, until he has fulfilled the conditions of improvement upon his first, will have the beneficial effect of obliging him to keep a greater proportion of capital upon his allotment, than he would if permitted to remove his stock, or apply the receipts of his produce, or remittances to the acquisition of an additional grant. It is better to cultivate an hundred acres *well*, than five hundred indifferently. Settlers naturally wish to obtain as large a grant as possible, and that altogether; but it may be questioned whether it would not be highly advisable for the settler at *first* to content himself with one fourth of the number of acres to which his claim has been admitted by the Board of Council, and thus employ four times the capital upon it with industry and spirit. His returns would be great and

speedy. He would acquire an accurate knowledge of the country, and might, when experience suggested, and opportunity offered, take up the remainder of the land to which he is entitled in such other part of the Colony which he is convinced is peculiarly valuable, either from its fertility or its situation; and the price he would receive for his small but well cleared estate, would enable him to cultivate his new and more extensive grant with much more spirit and effect. I am fully persuaded that by this system he would, at the expiration of twenty years, be a much richer and more extensive proprietor than any of those who possessed equal capital and industry, but who at first grasped at every acre they could claim, and for the period of probation found their best exertions must be devoted not for the comfortable support of their families, or for the acquisition of wealth, but to make those trifling yet general improvements, without which their land will be forfeited. I make this remark with confidence from a passage contained in a recently-received communication from him whose letter the narrative is compiled from. "His Excellency the Governor has this month opened another district

about eighty miles to the South of the Swan River, at Port Leschenault, where there is better anchorage for shipping, a river (the Preston) clearer from impediments, and the soil better than upon the Swan and Canning. The good soil is found here even within a mile of the sea-shore, and continues inland for ten or twelve miles. I mention this not from hearsay, but from personal observation; the Governor having done me the honour to take me with a few other settlers in his boat on an exploring expedition to this port. We were absent three weeks, and consequently had the opportunity of surveying it with attention, and judging of its capabilities. I am so much pleased with all I saw, that I intend, with my brother, to remove, and take up my permanent grant there. The Governor has already sent down twenty-six settlers, seventeen privates, and four women, with a surgeon. It is his intention to take up a ship now lying in Gage's Roads as a Colonial vessel, and she is now loading with goods and passengers, who are to sail immediately for Port Leschenault. I have no doubt that, with proper industry, we shall all do better there than in the country round about Perth, for the climate is cooler and cer-

tainly the land preferable, and therefore on both accounts better adapted to the growth of vegetables and corn ”

It is necessary that servants and labourers should be under the reasonable control of their employers, and that a code of laws should be framed to punish the evil-doers ; but at present it is understood that those who are in authority in the Settlement have but limited power, and numerous complaints have reached us, that many of those labourers who were taken out by thoughtless employers, without any regard to their moral or religious characters, have been idle and refractory in consequence of the non-existence of summary or effective laws to compel them to fulfil their contract; and it cannot be denied that the scarcity of working hands, and the consequent high price of labour in the Colony, prompt the labourer to grumble at those conditions which he once joyfully accepted ; and by idleness, perverseness, and other ill-conduct, to urge his master to dismiss him, that he may obtain greater wages at the usual prices of the Colony.

While we hope that laws will speedily be enacted for the administration of justice in the Colony, we must admit that the 8th Regulation provides a most effective check upon the conduct of the working classes, by a refusal to allow them a grant till the prescribed period of their servitude be expired ; nor even then, if they have not fulfilled the conditions of the contract under which they were brought to the Settlement.

It may at first sight appear singular, that the building lots in the town of Perth shall be confined to less than an acre, but on consideration we must commend that policy which at present prevents the monopolization of large portions of the intended site, and the subsequent sale of them in small lots at very high prices ; under the present system, each lot is of sufficient extent for the erection of a house and such other buildings as are usually erected in towns, and also to form a garden as large as can reasonably be desired for a private family ; and from the smallness of these lots, the houses which are built upon them will be nearer together, and thus the appearance of the town will be greatly improved, and general con-

venience and protection be more readily afforded. The reserves of land in the neighbourhood of towns will be a great accommodation to those who might wish to have a few acres in the vicinity of the capital or a market town, for general purposes, or for the erection of a villa, when increase of wealth should induce them to leave their allotment up the country for relaxation or pleasure ; and here again speculation and monopoly are both prevented ; for these lots will be awarded in the small proportion of one acre to each thousand possessed by the applicant ; and thus every settler who desires it, may have a small but valuable property in the immediate vicinity of any town his inclination or advantage may point out.

The admission of persons entitled, from half pay or pension, to grants in the Settlement, will probably induce military and naval officers to emigrate thither ; but it may be doubted whether they will derive much advantage from the possession of land, for the cultivation of which it may be presumed they are not adapted, either by previous habits or experience ; but though they cannot be expected at first to derive *any* profit from their

agricultural labours, they may certainly find amusement and occupation, and obtain a partial subsistence from their gardens or farm;—their cattle will multiply, their grants will gradually become more valuable, as the population of the Colony increases, and from the annual remittances to which they are entitled for their past services, they will, with common prudence, be enabled to make some provision for their families, which the expences attendant upon a residence in the United Kingdom would not permit them to save.

Persons who are employed in the Colony under Government enjoy great privileges from being permitted to take grants on the same terms as those who hold no official situations. And though, from the attention they are required to pay to their duties, they are not permitted to reside upon their allotments, they may, by means of a faithful steward, improve their land to advantage, greater perhaps than if they superintended it themselves.

The division of town lots into small quantities, will at once benefit the community by the restriction thus imposed upon monopoly—improve the

appearance of the town, and promote the convenience of the inhabitants, by the contiguity of the houses to each other. The letting these lots upon leases, will save the enormous expence of purchasing any freeholds which may be eventually required for public purposes or improvement.

The distribution of small lots in the vicinity of towns will effectually prevent the most valuable land from being engrossed upon speculation, and perhaps, in a short time, retailed at an immense profit to those who are eager to obtain a little land near a town. The indispensable registry of sales and mortgages of land, which is so desirable in every country, will be of great importance and utility here; fraud and litigation will be alike prevented. Titles to estates can be made with greater facility, and it may be presumed that it will not be necessary to make the expensive and redundant conveyances which appear to be required in the transfer of real property at home. It has been supposed from the term "absentee," in the 12th Regulation, that persons who are resident in England may send out capital and agents to obtain and manage land in the Colony. If this

were the case, we should have joint-stock companies and speculators in abundance, who would dabble in land as well as in "the Alley." Persons who intend to become bankrupts—I beg their pardon—to become "unfortunate in business," would dispatch their emissaries to obtain an allotment, and build a house for their reception as soon as the usual certificate would cancel their obligations to their creditors. But upon inquiry at the Colonial Office, I was informed that no person would be permitted to obtain a grant in the Colony unless he applied for it in person. When he has obtained it, he may appoint an agent to act for him, and then absent himself from the Settlement, provided he obtains the Governor's permission, (see the 4th Rule of the "liabilities which are not permanent,") which we may presume will not be granted, but upon reasonable grounds nor even then for a permanency.

It may properly be observed that, with respect to the property which may entitle a settler to an allotment of land, it will be estimated by the Commissioners, as is said in the Regulations, by a fair standard of reference, such as they may see fit to

adopt ; and it may be a natural enquiry how that estimation will be made, whether by its actual cost and freight out, or its value when in the Colony ? As this is a point not absolutely and in express terms defined, a conjecture that the price, cost, freight, and other charges, which may be attendant, will be the scale that may actuate the local Government, as it is believed that this would be a fair mode ; and from every thing that has hitherto characterized the Government, the greatest liberality may be expected in considering what shall be styled property as a “ capital ” to procure an allotment, and how an estimation shall be made of the same.

But, strange to say, money will not be considered as “ capital ; ” for otherwise, a number of settlers going up in succession with the same bag of sovereigns, might take up half the land in the Colony.—When the claimant has ascertained the number of acres to which he is entitled, he may select his grant in any district which may be opened for location, wherever the land be not reserved by Government or taken up by prior applicants. The advantage of this is self-evident ;

and the privilege of selection silences every complaint which disappointment may utter of the barrenness of the soil, or the inconvenience of situation. The settler chose it for himself, and therefore can only blame his own want of judgment, or of diligence in not fixing upon a more eligible spot.

In regard to the “permanent liabilities of grants,” all that need be said is, the first affords additional security to the grantee and subsequent purchaser of an estate. The second is just, and the third is understood before hand, and therefore cannot be considered as a hardship, or the ground of the slightest complaint. The estates which are on the banks of rivers are very valuable in themselves, and will be rendered more so in proportion to the improvement of the navigation of rivers by which they are bounded, and the increase of traffic upon them; and it is only reasonable that every estate should be charged with a fair proportion of the expence of the improvement which has so greatly added to its value.

Among the “liabilities which are not perma-

ment" we find every precaution to prevent fraud, and to excite industry; and I would particularly urge the settler to have, if possible, the clearest understanding as to the nature and *extent* of the improvements which he may become bound to make.

If the estates of settlers were not chargeable with the maintenance of the persons who have been brought out and located upon them by their owners, the Colony might be burdened with aged and helpless persons sent out by parishes in England, who would be glad to pay the emigrant a handsome sum for decoying them beyond the probability of their return, and be thus relieved from the expence of their support. As this liability will exist only for three years after the arrival of each person brought out, it presents no check to the importation of labourers, but a useful caution to the settler, to take out those only who are healthy, and not more than middle aged.

And now, Reader, from a minute and deliberate consideration of these Regulations, allow me to

ask, if you were permitted to emigrate to Western Australia upon your own terms, could you make any more conducive to your real interest than those before us? Is there any harsh condition or unjust exertion of power? All is laid before you candidly and honourably. If you choose to proceed to the Colony, it must be at your own risk, responsibility, and expence.

An allotment of as much land as you can possibly cultivate, or reasonably wish for, will be given you upon this most generous condition, that you will improve it for your own advantage, otherwise it will revert to the Crown. This proviso, so far from being a hardship, is the greatest kindness which can be conferred upon the settler; for if he were to receive his grant without being obliged to improve it in a given time, he might injure his family by inactivity or procrastination.

SECTION III.

Of the unfounded Statements which have been circulated relative to the Colony and its natural Capabilities.

IN no part of the globe do we find a country free from natural or artificial inconveniences, so salubrious in its climate as to prevent disease, so immaculate in its Government as to defy complaint. Some foreign countries may be eligible in some respects, either from the low price of provisions and labour, the lightness of taxation, or the facility of acquiring gain. Yet it cannot be denied, that in every one of them there is much to deter the Englishman from abandoning the comforts of his home, for a residence amongst those whose habits are dissimilar to his—whose laws are at variance with the equitable spirit in which those of the United Kingdom are framed—where the climate may be injurious to his health, and the only land he can conveniently obtain, of

very moderate fertility, or at an immense distance from a mart for its produce.

The commencement of a residence amongst foreigners is almost always attended with serious inconvenience and mistakes, which commonly arise from the stranger's non-acquaintance with the language and customs of those with whom he sojourns. He is liable to be imposed upon by his not understanding the currency of the country, and by those who will eagerly take advantage of his inexperience in the value of the commodities he wishes to purchase, or the weights, measures, and customary dealing by which they are sold.

His ignorance of the laws of the country may subject him to punishment for unintentional transgressions, and his whole property may be lost by his investing it in the purchase of an estate from one, who could not, or did not legally convey it to him.

And a long time after his arrival he must feel himself alone ; every one looking upon him with a

jealous or suspicious eye, and he regarding them with the natural apprehensions which all men entertain towards strangers. But in the Colony on the Swan River none of these disadvantages or inconveniences exist. The currency, the administration of justice, the Governor himself, are all British. The Englishman, on landing in the Settlement, finds himself among his own countrymen; in one he sees the native of his own county, in another perhaps a friend. In short, in Perth and Freemantle he may make himself at home.

When this Colony was first established, under the most flattering representations and favourable auspices, we looked forward with sanguine expectation to its ultimate success: we eagerly received the reports which reached us from the newly-arrived Settlers, trusting that they contained a confirmation of our hopes, and an assurance of their well doing. But, to our great surprize, the soil, described by Captain Stirling and Mr. Frazer as generally productive, was declared to be a barren sand: the harbour was represented not as a safe anchorage, as we were led to believe, but another

Yarmouth Roads or Bristol Channel; and the Settlers, who sailed in the expectation of meeting with abundance, were stated to be perishing from want.

Deeply sympathizing with those who bewailed their miserable disappointment, we were naturally anxious to ascertain how far these statements were correct, and whether they might not have been exaggerated. Inquiries were made in every quarter, from whence information could be obtained, and some fortunate coincidences having occurred by which the accounts from disinterested persons of an opposite nature were corroborated. I have taken no little pains to ascertain the grounds and causes of complaints of disorderly labourers, disappointed Settlers, and real state of the alleged or supposed dangerous harbours.

Although great advantage is expected to result to the Colony from convicts not being sent to it, yet the present high price of labour induces many of the Settlers to wish the restriction removed; and from the idle, dissolute character of the people taken out as labourers, who for the most part were

of a very discontented disposition, and, most probably, no inconsiderable number of them have saved this country the expence of their transportation. Such being the free labourer, who, from not being bound by indenture, possesses the liberty to work for whom he chooses, or not to work at all, if he can get a livelihood by any other means, (honest or not) and which, from the abundance of fish, wild fowl, &c., if he has been a poacher in England (a class of persons from which our gaols are abundantly supplied) no work will he do, which renders him an incumbrance rather than a benefit to the community, and makes him a worse member of society than the convict, because he is more useless; the only difference between them is, one has been transported, the other has transported himself—to escape the sentence of a court; and the convict, being compelled to work, gives the balance for utility in his favour. I do not wish it to be supposed that this is the character of all labourers at the Colony, but that it is of many, I think there is little doubt from the accounts of their disorderly conduct, which has obliged the Lieutenant-Governor

to appoint magistrates and constables to protect the persons and property of the honest and industrious from the depredations of the other class.

There is another cause which operates very prejudicially to the labourer from this country ; if he is a man of industrious habits, a voyage of five months, during which time he has not an opportunity of exercising the vocation to which he has been accustomed, and is placed in a situation so different from what he has hitherto experienced, completely unnerves him, for a time at least, after his arrival ; and should the person who takes him out be one of that class, of which I fear there is a majority, who expect to find roast beef and plumb pudding upon trees ; fountains of old Port and rivulets of Geneva, running through valleys, producing spontaneously all the luxuries of life to those, who have no trouble but to gather and collect them ; but who, on their arrival, have these very pleasing delusions swept away ; they will find, in their stead, that they must depend on their own exertions, and the sweat of their brow, for even the common necessaries of life.

This home truth so disgusts them with the Settlement, that instead of making a virtue of necessity, and falling to work with the means they have taken with them, and immediately employing themselves and labourers to produce those necessaries, which they expected to have found ready provided, and by those efforts to shake off the lassitude produced by a long voyage ; instead of adopting this most rational mode, they have set themselves down on the sands of Freemantle, and there vented their spleen in magnifying to the utmost every disadvantage under which the Settlers labour, not even allowing a single drop of water to be found in the Colony fit to drink ; they represent the soil to be incapable of producing any thing, the harbour so dangerous as to deter vessels from bringing supplies from other countries to save them from starvation, which they positively assert will be the fate of all who remain. All these dreadful calamities and prognostics, enough to daunt the stoutest emigrant, if true, are only laughed at by men of mere common sense (a), and especially when they ascertain the class of persons from whom these representations proceed.

They are of various descriptions ; one set are those who, in England, were grocers, drapers, man-milliners, liquor merchants, &c. who have started in trade with a private establishment, equal to what they might reasonably expect to be able to support after twenty or thirty years application to business : these have soon found it necessary to compound with their creditors, or otherwise "have cut and run," as they call it, that is, have collected as much of the effects, justly their creditors, as they could without exciting suspicion, and then eloped to some other country. America has been hitherto the "land of refuge" for this set, but some will find their way to the Swan River, and, most probably, a few have already arrived ; but what are they to do there, without a knowledge of how to plant properly even—a potatoe? This they never thought there would be any necessity for their doing, but expected to have again commenced a career of idleness and dissipation, depending on their labourers to cultivate their land, and the labourers themselves picked up from the loose and disaffected of some manufacturing town ; whilst the master was to amuse himself in shoot-

ing the numerous varieties of water and other fowl—catching fish, of which there is such abundance, of excellent quality—or hunting kangaroos. And his wife (should he have one) was to enjoy herself in visiting, card parties, assemblies, &c. These are the persons whose cry is the loudest against the Colony.

Military and naval officers, retired from the service or on half pay, who have seldom much practical knowledge of reclaiming land from a wild state, Attorneys, Doctors, and Music Masters, form another class, who must not be surprised at finding their expectations of the place not fully realized. A third class of persons, and who have a facility of spreading any report they may wish to propagate to a greater extent than almost any other, is composed of merchants, traders, and speculators, who have imported various goods, under the impression of “making a good hand of them” with the colonists; but, from having made a wrong selection, have not been able to dispose of them, and therefore lose money, instead of making the great gain they had anticipated. One person

speculated in blacking and olive oil! as though men employed in felling trees, digging the ground, and other laborious occupations, would consider it necessary to see their faces reflected from their shoes by Hunt or Warren's "Real Jet Blacking;" or that their stomachs were so fastidious that they could not eat their fish or salads, without oil to give them a relish.

This "venture" not succeeding, the agent employed to sell, wrote to his employer a most deplorable account of the situation of the settlers at the Swan River, and assured him that "the soil was of so unproductive a nature that nothing would grow on it; the water so bad as to produce disease among the cattle, and, consequently, pernicious to man." And all this he positively asserted without seeing more of the country than the mouth of the River, where all the idle and disappointed were remaining, instead of going farther up the country in quest of better land; and he furthermore desires his employer "by all means to dissuade all persons from going to the Swan River Settlement, but, if they are determined to emi-

grate, to do so to Hobart Town;" and why? because the aforesaid person has a large stock of goods *there*, which he finds almost as much difficulty in disposing of as he did at Freemantle.

Having paid a good deal of attention to the intelligence from the Swan River, communicated through the newspapers and other periodicals, and having seen some private letters also, I find that the chief part of the discouraging accounts reach this country from Sydney and Hobart Town. A gentleman at the latter place, in a letter to a friend in England (received a short time ago), gives a most flattering description of the Hobart Town Colony, and says, "the land is of the richest quality, producing every thing in profusion, and that they have every facility for conveying produce, goods, &c. both by water and land; that they have all the comforts and luxuries of life in abundance, and that any person going with capital, sufficient to take with him some good mechanics and labourers (of which they are much in want) would be secure of making an ample fortune in a very short time, for raw materials they have in

abundance, and at very low prices, but when manufactured excessively dear." After very fully enumerating all the advantages an emigrant would derive from settling at Hobart Town, he just as it were recollects, that intelligence had lately been received from the Swan River of the most disastrous nature, and from a person who had been there on a *trading voyage*: then *follows* the old story of the barrenness of the soil, badness of the water, dissatisfaction of the people at Freemantle, whose report is taken as that of the whole Colony.

The same intention to disparage the Swan River Settlement may be discovered in almost every communication that has been received either from Sydney or Hobart Town, from whence the greater portion of intelligence has been received; but surprise will not be excited when the situation of the three Colonies is taken into consideration.

In the first place the Swan is situated 2,000 miles nearer to England, I may say to the greater portion of the commercial world, than Hobart Town,

and 3,000 miles nearer than Sydney. Should the new Colony succeed, the good folks of Eastern Australia and Van Dieman's Land, are well aware that the balance of the trade now carried on with those places, will be in favour of the Swan River Settlement. Another good and sufficient reason for the jealousy of these people is, that the same things that are most essentially necessary at this time at the Swan, viz. capital, and good mechanics and labourers of every description, are also considered the sole requisites to raise Van Dieman's Land to the summit of prosperity; and most probably would *not* be *rejected* in Eastern Australia.

There is still another cause operating *sorely* on some adventurers at Sydney and Hobart Town. Soon after Captain Stirling's arrival at the Swan, a swarm of them appeared there, with the intention to secure the first choice of allotments, and to select the best and most advantageously situated, under the impression of being allowed to become land-jobbers and retailers at an enormous profit to those who might afterwards arrive from this

country. This speculation was defeated by the regulations Captain Stirling took out with him, and his determination that nothing but fair play should be allowed; and sent away the speculators in high dudgeon, but not until his Excellency had been *severely reprehended* by them, for not having had the whole of the intended Settlement very correctly surveyed, planned off, and submitted to their inspection. These persons, in consequence of the disappointment of their expectations at the Swan River, have not been sparing of bad reports, which have *seemingly* dropt into the mouths of all the idle and knavish at the Colony, and who are principally stationed on the coast; where, like sharks, they watch the arrival of new emigrants, of whose inexperience they will take advantage by every artifice in their power. How strange it is, that from all those who have arrived at the Colony, as men ought to do; that is, after making every inquiry at home of the probable nature of the soil, climate, and production of the country, and rather *under* than *over* rating their good qualities—having property, and knowledge of the cultivation of the soil—resolution and industry to bring both

into operation, no complaint has been received. These persons, although their expectations of the Settlement were somewhat disappointed, have, almost to a man, in their communications to their friends, expressed a conviction of succeeding, in spite of the malevolent reports of those who, from not having the necessary resources in themselves, are so woefully disappointed, and who so bitterly express it.

“’Tis strange, passing strange!” that the accounts we hear for the most part of New South Wales and Van Diemen’s Land should be, that the soil is so productive, the water good, the climate beautiful, and every thing else so very favourable, save the convicts and natives being now and then a little troublesome; and yet, on the other side of the island, almost in the same latitude, and where the natural productions are the same, the soil is represented as merely a barren sand, the water deleterious, and the place itself wholly incapable of *supporting* other than human nature in its wild state. Prejudice, envy, and selfishness must be deeply concerned in this.

There may be, and is, considerable difference in temperature under the same latitude; for instance, Newfoundland, almost the whole of which is situated nearer the Equator than the most Southern part of England, is yet in a colder climate than England; but this is very satisfactorily accounted for by naturalists, who give as one reason for the greater degree of cold at Newfoundland, the immense tract of country to the W. and N.W. of the former island being covered with woods, through which the rays of the sun rarely reach the earth, and from this obstruction, the atmosphere not being warmed by their reflection, and the winds for the most part coming through these woods, produces the intense cold experienced in Newfoundland; but no such difference from situation exists in Australia; in fact, it may be presumed that no more difference exists there than between the Eastern and Western parts of England, between Lincolnshire and Cheshire; nor can it yet be said whether the Eastern or Western parts of Australia most abound with those natural qualities, from which are derived the necessaries, comforts, and luxuries of life. This has to be

proved, and when it is considered that there are at this time more settlers and more stock and goods at the Swan River than there were at Sydney four years after its settlement, no doubt can be entertained, but a short time will determine, whether there are the necessary capabilities at the Swan River, or not.

A most desirable piece of information, to those who feel any interest in the well doing of the emigrants at the Swan River, would be, the number of really competent persons, out of from 1400 to 1800, now at the Settlement. The persons most competent to benefit the Colony must be those possessed of the information of most vital importance, *i.e.* a knowledge of the capabilities of land, and how to bring them into action; next to these are the constructors of these implements requisite to effect this purpose, and some few conversant with trade; but a very few of this class will for some time be necessary, for it will be impossible that the man, whose whole capital and time *must* be occupied in raising the absolute necessaries of life, can be a customer to the

silversmith or the watchmaker. The watch he has taken with him from England, though ever so plain, will be sufficient for *his* purpose, whose occupation will require his rising with the sun, and whose labour will cease with its setting. Neither will the dealer in superfine broad-cloths, kid gloves, silk stockings, china or cut-glass, or any other than the seller of the most plain and serviceable articles be any other than a logger to the infant Colony. But I fear the odds are enormous on the useless to the useful, and have good reason to believe that on board vessels sailing from this country to the Swan River with 300 or 400 passengers, out of that number not more than ten or a dozen have known much about the cultivation of land. I of course do not allude to the vessels that conveyed Mr. T. Peel or Col. Latour's settlers; but I fear many of the others would be found as I have stated.

The information received from those who have gone out as cultivators of the soil, and have taken up their grants, is, that although the capabilities of the country have been overrated, yet they have

no doubt of there being, for those properly qualified, and who have nerve and industry enough to meet those difficulties which must always be expected in an undertaking like the one they are embarked in, a good prospect of success. It is not from this most *useful* class that the murmurs of discontent reach us; and as they are possessed undoubtedly of the most accurate information of the interior of the Colony, so far as it is at present known, the reports of those who have only "touched" at the mouth of the River on a *speculation*, and have received accounts from those, of whom there are considerable numbers, who have likewise been disappointed in their chimerical expectations, and who have not been more than a very short distance from thence; the reports of these people are not, and *cannot* be, entitled to credit.

If credit may be given to the captain of a vessel who returned to this country a short time since, from taking emigrant passengers to the Swan River, and who has no interest in the Colony whatever, and may therefore be supposed to speak

of the place as he found it, we may infer that there is not the disparity in the soil at the Swan River and Sydney, as the interested have represented. In a trip up the Swan River to Perth, he saw some land superior in quality to any he saw in passing eighteen miles up the river at Sydney, and the water which is represented to be so bad, is obtained by merely digging a hole in the sand, a very short distance from the banks of the river, out of which they lade it with a bowl. Water in the vicinity of the Swan River, or any other river as far as affected by the *tide* and obtained in this manner, if it were good, would certainly excite very great surprise; and as much surprise might reasonably be expected, if wells were sunk at a distance from the river so as to avoid the possibility of any communication of its water with them,—it would be very singular indeed if water should not be found fit to drink, at all events it is so found at Sydney, where every unfavourable appearance *now* seen at the Swan River, met the view of the first settlers at Port Jackson. In short his description of the appearances of the country at the Swan River, corres-

ponds so closely with what the appearances at Sydney were to the first settlers there, that no doubt can remain on the mind of a dispassionate reasoner, that the settlers at Western Australia will, by a proper application of capital and industry, soon be in a situation to vie with their neighbours on the other side the island in producing and enjoying all the necessaries, comforts, and some of the luxuries of life.

The cultivation of hemp (and flax) might probably be introduced into the Colony to the greatest advantage, as the duty of 4*l.* 15*s.* per cwt. upon dressed hemp brought into England, would of course not be laid upon any imported from Western Australia, as the hemp grown in New South Wales is admitted duty free.

The farming settler ought to turn his attention particularly to the cultivation of those crops which are most suitable both to the soil and climate, and it is very likely that one reason why those who are gone to the Swan River were disappointed at the non-success of their labours in the first in-

stance, was because they adopted the English mode of husbandry, and were more anxious to raise European than Australian crops: because they expected that land which had been in an uncultivated state from the creation of the world, would from one digging, be made fit for the reception of grain, which in their own country is sown as much as possible in a pulverized soil, free from sticks, roots, and masses of coarse grass. When they found that the first crop did not come to maturity, they abandoned the ground where it was planted in despair: but experience, it is to be hoped, in time will teach them better, and urge them to patience and renewed culture of that ground which can scarcely be expected to be rendered productive at once. Much of the most useful land in England was once a barren sand or burning gravel. Yet patience and industry have produced fertility and added to its value ten fold.

When the Colony increases in capital and labouring hands, may we not believe that the land between Freemantle and Perth, now described as a barren sand, will be enriched by manure, and

improved by cultivation? The sand which is so much complained of, is probably the accumulation of ages from the strong coast winds, and underneath it may be found a soil which will correct its sterility. With the sea on its edge, and the Swan running through it, with lime rocks in the vicinity, above all with the animal and vegetable matter which the sea and its beach affords, this plain, once the source of disappointment, will doubtless be made to repay the labours of the spirited farmer, and, from its situation, become more valuable than some of the land now so greatly prized.

There is a general report that the harbours both of Gage's Road and Cockburn Sound are particularly unsafe, but they are so only during five months of the year, at other times vessels may ride in them with perfect safety. Cockburn Sound is stated to be a better harbour than Gage's Roads, and Government have done much to lessen the dangers of navigation upon a coast as yet imperfectly known, by placing buoys and beacons where necessary.

Port Leschenault is said to be superior to Cockburn Sound for anchorage and safety, and that even in the Winter months there would be much less danger, but experience must prove this.

Persons who are unacquainted with navigation and commerce, know very little of the comparative safety and excellence of the harbours, even of their own country, and some of my readers may be surprized to learn that many of the harbours of England are unsafe even now, notwithstanding the immense sums which have from time to time been expended upon their improvement. The entrance to the port of London is so much obstructed by shoals, that it is necessary to have a pilot to conduct every vessel through them—nay a ship does not pass through the Straits of Dover without a pilot.

It has been repeatedly stated in the public prints, that the harbours in Western Australia are obstructed by bars, and of such shallow anchorage, as to be almost useless for the purposes of navigation. Admitting that these statements are not

exaggerated, do they think that “ bar harbours, with only a few feet of water at low tide, are unimportant: but if their attention were drawn to the numerous towns on our own and the French coast, to the miserable streams upon which Calais, Boulogne, Dieppe, Rye, Dover, New Haven, Shoreham, Chichester, Little Hampton, &c. are built, they would feel their conclusions were erroneous, from the sensible importance of such trivial inland communications. Let them, however, go a little wider in their range of enquiry, and ask what is the formation of the rivers of the Baltic, upon which the great trading towns of Stettin, Rostock, Wiemer, Dantzic, Elving, Königsburgh, Liebau, Der Windaw, Stockholm, &c. &c. are situated? These are all bar-harbours, with shoal-water entrances from seven to fourteen feet, having, however, generally tolerably safe roadsteads: their convenience for traffic need not be noticed—the wealth and population of these parts speak sufficiently clear.”

SECTION IV.

*Miscellaneous Observations, and Advice to
Emigrant, Passenger, and Settler.*

THE emigrants at the Swan River are reported to be much dissatisfied on their arrival with the Settlement, but not a word is said of the expences and disappointments they experience in this country before their setting out, caused by the vessels in which they have taken their passage not sailing at the appointed time. No mention is made of the waste of the little they have saved from the wreck of a property once sufficient to support them respectably; but which the depreciation, which has affected all kinds of property, has reduced to such an extent as to be totally insufficient to afford them support *here*. No mention is made of the loss of funds contributed by friends; nor of the situation of a father who has hitherto supported himself and family by honest industry; but which, from feel-

ing confident he cannot continue to do with a reduced capital in this country, he determines to emigrate, with the hope of succeeding elsewhere ; and what his feelings must be on finding his little property, with which he had hoped to realize this praiseworthy expectation, rapidly decreasing by a prolonged residence in London, occasioned by the vessel, in which he has taken his passage, not sailing at the time positively announced by a public advertisement, and this delay is protracted under repeated assurances, for *weeks*, and, in some instances, *months*, until the little cash which he reserved for his expences on his landing in the Colony is exhausted by his protracted residence in town ; and the labourers whom he engaged to accompany him become demoralized by their continuance in idleness and exposure to evil company, and perhaps are induced by the high wages which labourers receive in the metropolis, to abandon him at the very moment the vessel is going to sail.

At present all I can advise the emigrant to do is to find a vessel which is chartered by res-

pectable persons, to engage berths for himself and those who are to go out with him. Then let him send all his goods on board and return home, taking the key of his berths, and never mind what the advertisements say, but as soon as he learns that the vessel has really left the docks, then, and not till then, let him and his people set out immediately and join the vessel at Gravesend or Portsmouth, or any other port where she may touch in her way.(b) Any thing is better than to remain in London month after month in idleness and serious expence.

A person about to emigrate will make his purchases of necessaries to much more advantage in London than in the country, if the vessel in which he takes his passage, sails from that port. He will also find his advantage in having his packages made strong, and of good materials ; the attempt to save a trifling sum, by putting goods into old decayed boxes and cases, often subjects the owner to loss and damage, equal to ten times the amount of saving between a good package and a bad one : not only so, but in a Settlement of very recent

establishment, where a man must first build a store-house before he can secure his goods from the weather and pilferers, he will find the advantage of a good strong chest, made as near water-proof as possible, and so firmly put together, that no part of it shall offer an opportunity to a pilfering knave to introduce a wrench, and thereby abstract part of the contents.

As goods are liable to damage from salt water, or exhalations rising from it, it is worth while to have the boxes or cases lined with tin. By adopting this mode, and taking care to have all things in a *thoroughly dry* condition when packed, the passenger will have the satisfaction of landing them in good condition, while he who has been less careful and eager to save a trifle in the expence of his packages, will find to his dismay, all of his effects more or less injured, some totally spoiled.

It would be well for him to consider, that on his arrival in the Colony, and for some time after he may not be provided with chairs, tables, and

other things, which are considered to contribute to comfort; and to obviate the inconvenience, have his packages of such a shape, as to serve as substitutes; for instance, a strong chest 6 feet by 3 feet, (°) and any height he may consider convenient, and in which he might place his most valuable property, would serve as a temporary table, and should he not be provided with a bedstead, his chest might be made to answer that purpose. So other packages, might serve as substitutes for furniture which at first he cannot obtain. He may have his bedstead in his cabin made of a chest of drawers.

When his purchases are all made and packed, he must number them, and put a mark on each by which they are to be entered in the vessel's books. The usual way is to enclose the letter or letters in a square or triangle thus "[A] No. 1," the next No. 2, and so on to the whole number of packages.

He must then deliver to the Broker to the vessel an account of the number of his packages,

and their description, whether chests, cases, casks, trunks, &c., how marked, and a general description of each of their contents, and their value; which list the Broker will "pass" through the Custom House.

I subjoin a list, which will make it more clearly understood by the reader, who has not met with any other book upon the subject of emigration.

List of Goods belonging to T. A. to be Shipped on board the Lotus for the Swan River.

	£.	s.	d.
[A]No. 1. Chest Ironmongery	17	10	6
2. Case, Drapery	19	14	9
3. Trunk, Wearing Apparel	21	11	0
4. Cask, Provisions	22	0	0
5. Ditto, Biscuit	4	3	6
6. Box, Books	15	8	6
7. Ditto, Linen	5	0	0
8. Iron Plough	4	0	0
9. Truck	12	0	0
10. Chest, Drapery & Hosiery	31	15	6
11. Cask, Garden Seeds	7	0	0
12. Box, Glass	9	17	3
13. Puncheon of Rum	20	19	0
	<hr/>		
	£191	0	0

It will rest with the person shipping the goods, to insure or not as he may feel disposed. The price of insurance has been 4*l.* 4*s.* per cent. it possibly may now be less, from the coast off Freemantle being better known, and the danger to vessels going there less.

However necessary it might have been for the first settlers to take out with them every article which they might require on their arrival or location, the emigrant must remember that an ample supply of goods has been brought into the Colony, and consequently he will find it answer his purpose better to keep far the greater part of his money in his pocket, and on his arrival at the Settlement, he can purchase *what* he wants, and *as* he wants them. Without a warehouse for the shelter of his goods, and with a great difficulty of carrying them either by land or water to his location, he will find every package an incumbrance.

Let him therefore provide nothing but necessaries, which will absolutely be required upon his

arrival, and avoid all speculation whatever, unless it be in a few tierces of beef or pork which, if he cannot sell, he may eat. He should by all means take out a sufficiency of these meats, and of hams and bacon most carefully packed by those who understand it, for the subsistence of himself and party for twelve months. Corn and flour for seed or bread may be obtained in the Colony from the dealers who have imported them. Clothes for two years of strong though light materials, and agricultural and mechanics' tools for the use of the party will be useful.

Since writing the foregoing pages I am informed that implements adapted for colonial agriculture are made at Sydney and Hobart Town, and of course are among the exports to Freemantle. If he prefers articles of English manufacture, he can purchase plenty in the Colony from the "green-horns" who have brought them out, and know not how to use them.

Garden seeds should be taken out perfectly dry, and not stowed in the damp hold of the vessel,

but in the passengers' cabin, in which I would recommend him to put every article he may require upon his voyage, for when packages are once put in the hold it will be a matter of difficulty to get at them, even if it were permitted to attempt it.

Passengers in general blame the Captain on every cause of complaint, but they ought not; all he has to do is to take charge of the vessel and convey it to its destination, according to the direction of the owners; and if the allowance of water or provisions be shortened, or the vessel does not proceed on her voyage on the appointed day, the Captain is no more to blame than a stage coachman is deserving of censure for the badness of the horses. The ship's steward is the person who has the charge of provisions and water, the owners, not the Captain, keep the vessel in the docks.

As the berth of a passenger is so small, he should make the most of it by packing every thing in the smallest possible compass. If he

should have any vacancy, he might fill it up with a few ginger-beer bottles of water, (with a piece of charcoal in each) and vinegar, which he will find very refreshing while the ship is in the Torrid Zone. Let him take also plenty of carbonate of soda and tartaric acid closely corked in proper bottles.

He ought by all means provide an ample supply of medicines of the simplest and safest kind, and the proper doses and disorders for which they are efficacious written down by some medical man who knows his constitution, and is of long experience in his profession.

A lamp with plenty of oil for it, will be very useful during the voyage.

Books, of course, upon the best and most instructive subjects should not be forgotten, and among other religious works, I would decidedly recommend "Doddridge's Family Expositor," in one large vol. 8vo. published at 1*l.* 1*s.* but sold by most booksellers for less.

There is a newly-invented lanthorn now sold on reasonable terms for common use, its sides instead of being made of horn are of wire, platted closely together; it gives a better light than the common horn lanthorn, and it is not near so liable to be injured by accidents. This the Settler would find as useful upon his arrival at his allotment, as the pewter plates and dishes he ought to provide.

Tents are generally recommended to emigrants; they look very pretty in a shop, and a pretty price is charged for them, but they are very far inferior to a good tarpaulin, and of a large size too. The tent is useless to the Settler as soon as he has built his house. The tarpaulin for many years (with care) will be useful for a variety of purposes.

A cast net (and if it can be afforded, a draught net) with plenty of twine to mend it, must by no means be forgotten. Fishing-tackle will be of little use to those who ought to be better employed, than to waste their time in angling, when

important work is to be done—but a few hooks for night lines may be of service.

On the subject of guns I have not the vanity to offer any opinion to professed sportsmen, but to those who may not have much experience therein. Gunsmiths may pretend what they please, but in a general way, a gun of two feet four inches in the barrel will not kill so far as one of two feet eight or ten inches, unless the bore be less than a fourteen. Guns for the length of the barrel should always be in proportion to the bore, so says Col. Hawker. Light guns, with short barrels and small bores, may do very well in covers, or in well stocked preserves, but there is no doubt that at the Swan River they will be found far inferior to stout guns that will carry a large charge and bring down at a long shot. By the way, great mistakes prevail about the “charge” of a gun, and its shooting; some use from two to two ounces and a half of shot in a common gun, fancying that by a greater number of pellets they do more execution; but the reverse is the fact, a gun when over-shotted can never shoot so strong as when

the weight of shot is in just proportion to the powder, but if there be a heavy charge of powder, to give the proper impulse to the additional weight of shot, the recoil will be severe, and the discharge perhaps attended with danger. But it is not the number of shot which kills the bird, but the force with which they are driven; and for want of this consideration it is, that the inexperienced are taken in, by those who are "up" to selling a gun. They will shew a sheet of paper cullenderized with shot thrown fifty or sixty yards, taking care to put a little oil to the shot before charging the gun with it. But when you go to buy a gun, have it shot against twelve sheets of brown paper, and instead of amusing yourself with counting the number of pellets which have perforated the first sheet, take the trouble to count those that have pierced the twelfth; for one shot driven with force enough to go through the twelfth sheet will have more effect than six that have only hit the first, these six would probably only wound the bird—the one would bring him down. Take care that the vendor, while pretending to count the holes in the paper, does not add to the num-

ber with an awl which he *quite accidentally* may have in his hand.

But why not order a gun at once from a respectable maker? because a gun equally good (perhaps of his make) may be bought at half the price in a second-hand shop. There are many very respectable dealers in London, who have an extensive stock in hand, and good guns may be purchased from them at moderate prices. Many of those who have second-hand guns upon sale have places where they may be tried; and will send any one which may be approved of to the maker, to satisfy the purchaser that it is not one of the many spurious guns, which have the names of "Manton," "Purdy," or "Mortimer."

But however excellent the guns of these far-famed makers may be, I would not recommend the emigrant to buy one, even if he can spare an extra ten pounds, for the pleasure of having a London built gun. For common purposes, one safe hard shooting gun is as good as another, and when he is upon his allotment, he will have mat-

ters of more consequence to attend to than to clean his Joe Manton every day that he shoots. A common gun will answer his purpose as well as the most highly finished, and for the same reason a *flint* will be much better than a *percussion*; the latter requires cleaning much oftener than the former, and not only so, but in case the caps should be all used, or damaged by the voyage, that gun is useless. When you meet with a gun that pleases you in every respect, before purchasing it, have the breeches taken out, though it is certified that Mr. Manton made it himself; for since he sold it, rust may have made many flaws in the barrel, though it may be beautifully bronzed without, and if the inside of the breech and barrel be as smooth as glass and as bright as silver it will do. If you do not know a good lock from a bad one, by all means make the purchase under the advice of some experienced friend; but, if it can be avoided, never send him to purchase one for you; for in the choice of a gun or a wife, every one will be more satisfied to choose for himself.

A duck-gun should not be less than three feet

in the barrel and of ten guage, and as it will have to carry not less than from two to three ounces of shot, and powder in proportion, it is needless to say that it ought to be heavy, or both cheek and shoulder will suffer from the recoil.

Of rifles (which are much prized at the Swan River) I can say but little, except that in consequence of their being scarcely ever used in this country, they are not commonly met with, and therefore are selling in the shops at much more than the fowling pieces. The best rifles (it is said) are made in America and Germany ; one of them will be a desirable acquisition if it can be met with, but then it ought to have an English lock ; for in this article none equal the English mechanic. Mr. Riviere, of Oxford Street, is a celebrated maker, and doubtless can supply a purchaser with English or foreign rifles, which will neither disgrace his name nor his recommendation.

GUNPOWDER.

This essential article, without which guns will

be useless, and by which the new settler may obtain animals and fowls, which will contribute considerably to his support, must be purchased of the best sort, and secured with particular care from taking damage on the voyage, and in such packages as on its arrival at its destination may secure it from damp, which must be carefully attended to.

Tin cases containing a pound each and made *air tight*, will answer the best purpose, and as it is the usual mode of selling the powder, it will be easily obtained, and the cost of the cases ample compensation to the purchaser by the good condition of his powder on its arrival ; and the cases may also be of use to keep small garden seeds in, or to make into drinking cups.

The emigrant should take with him a few bullet moulds to correspond with the bore of his guns, and as few of them are made so smooth inside as they should be, to remedy this defect hold each cup over the flame of a candle for a minute, taking care that no particle of grease touches the cup, the smoke from the candle will fill up every

inequality, and the bullet will be turned out of the mould perfectly smooth.

SHOT

for common guns ought to be No. 4 or 5 ; for the duck gun No. 2 or 3.

WADDING

is of more importance in shooting than is generally supposed : it ought to be of substance in proportion to the bore of the gun ; and in common guns I would not recommend it to be thinner than a half-crown : in duck guns it ought to be considerably more. Paste-board and leather answer very well, but there is a superior wadding now sold upon reasonable terms punched out of felt, of various sizes, to suit all kinds of guns.

The " Saints," who pretend that it is a sin to kill game, but give evident proofs that it is none to enjoy its flavour, and those who either from want of qualification, opportunity, or inclination never take out a gun, may lift up their hands in

holy indignation that a clergyman should think of guns, and with all pharisaic humility and meekness condemn him for writing about them.

But, when "tea and bible" ladies accept the office of Treasurers and Patroness, and Secretary on the express condition that their names are not published in Periodical and "Report;" and when lay and clerical gentlemen attend religious societies some thirty miles off, on the positive assurance that they will not be noticed in the Newspapers' account of the meeting, and will consent to speak a few words on the extorted promise that no clapping of hands or thumping of umbrellas shall excite their vanity or tickle their pride, I will assuredly take care that the next edition of this work shall leave the emigrant to choose his gun from the "Instructions" of Col. Hawker.

Having explained the causes of the misrepresentations of the state of the Colony, and described the persons and motives from whence they proceed, it is right to point out the natural

advantages which it possesses. They are submitted to the judgment of the reader, who is neither biassed by prejudice nor led away by report.

If we look at the map of the world, we shall at once perceive how admirably this part of Western Australia is adapted to become the focus of the commerce of the Southern hemisphere. "I subjoin an estimate of the passage which would probably be made by a fast-sailing vessel, between Cockburn Sound and various parts of the World.

" FROM COCKBURN SOUND TO

" Place.	Distance.	Winds.	Time.
" Tisnor	1500	S. E.	12 days.
" Java	1700	—	13
" Madras	3400	—	30
" Ceylon	3100	—	28
" Mauritius	3400	—	28
" Cape of Good Hope	5000	—	30
" England, the passage may be made in			84
" Van Dieman's Land	2200	S. W.	42
" Port Jackson	2500	—	50."

Captain Stirling's Report.

“Nautical men know how to appreciate this important document, as to the eligible geographic position of Cockburn Sound. The only remark we would suggest to a commercial person is, that Captain Stirling alludes to a *fast-sailing* vessel ; therefore an allowance should be made between such a one and a *fair-sailing* merchant ship.”— About four months is the length of the voyage in a trader from London to Cockburn Sound.

As a considerable and increasing^(d) trade is carried on with the ports of New South Wales and Van Dieman’s Land, is there not reasonable ground for the conviction that in a short time the merchant will find ample encouragement and opportunities for embarking in business at Fremantle? The situation of this port is more favourable for commercial purposes than any in the convict settlements ; because it is six weeks nearer to England than even Hobart Town. It may be added also, that the same articles of export and import, in all our Australian Colonies, will be nearly the same.

Admitting that the report of the soil being unfit for the growth of corn, and that upon the sandy land the heat of the sun destroys vegetation, still there is ample encouragement for the investment of capital upon it: there are extensive tracts of land in most countries which, though they are rejected by the farmer, the grazier will prize.

Flocks of sheep are depastured upon the sun-burnt plains of Southern Africa, much nearer to the Torrid Zone than any part of this Colony, and as the flocks in our other settlements in the Southern hemisphere have rapidly increased (e), who can deny that, under proper management, the sheep will be as profitable as the plough? Though the graziers, on the opposite side of New Holland, neither possessed the capital nor the facility of introducing many of the best bred sheep into the country; and though their management of cattle may be presumed to be careless and defective, the Australian wool is now selling in the London market at two shillings and sixpence per pound, and some of the finest sort for considerably more.

The emigrant may consider how far it might answer his purpose to form an arrangement with some person in London, previous to his departure, to whom his wool may be consigned, and whom he could direct to purchase with the proceeds any articles he might require. Indeed, when cultivation has a little extended, and capital increased, it will be well worth the attention of the settler to import some of the very finest-woolled sheep he can procure, and to pay them that particular attention, without which the sheep will degenerate and their wool become coarse. It may be added, that while foreign wool pays a duty, Australian wool is admitted *duty free*.

Under existing circumstances, I would by all means caution the emigrant not to take out any species of live stock from England. Let not the vanity of introducing a superior breed of cattle or sheep induce him to sink any portion of his capital in the purchase of animals which, after all, may not thrive in the Settlement, or may soon degenerate far below their present excellence. If he is not deterred by the charge of 60*l.* for the passage

of a horse, and from three to five guineas for a sheep, let him consider the probability of their surviving a voyage of four months. In the ship in which our adventurer sailed, there were eight horses and one hundred and one sheep, and only four horses and forty-eight sheep were landed in the Colony, though no blame can be attached to those who had the care of them. Mr. Henty (who has a very extensive grant) took out with him several blood and draught horses, yet, of the latter, one only survived. At all events, animals of every description must be injured both in health and condition by the voyage, and therefore will be of no use to their owners for some time after they are landed. They will be a fruitful source of dispute during the voyage with the passengers and sailors, who are annoyed by their incumbrance and stench ; and after all, if these creatures are taken out, it ought to be by those who are well accustomed to the management of them on board-ship, and not by persons who never trod a deck but in St. Katherine's Docks, and neither know the sort or quantity of provisions best adapted for their sustenance during the voy-

age, nor the medicines or treatment they require when seized with any of the distempers so common among cattle in a ship. Even supposing that they are all landed alive and well, and that both climate and pasturage agree with them, still the necessary avocations of a settler on his taking up his allotment, will prevent his paying proper attention to these animals which (including their freight) have cost him a considerable sum. Till a field is properly fenced in (a work of time and labour, when trees are to be felled and posts and rails cleft and put down) it will unquestionably require one person to attend them, and his time, according to the usual wages of the Colony, is worth five shillings per day. Let the settler first erect a hut to dwell in; let him next sow corn for the subsistence of his family, and when he has enclosed some fields, if he must stock them with English cattle, let him purchase them from those who, having more money than experience, have brought them to the Settlement. But if he is wise, he will content himself with purchasing those animals which are imported from Cape and Hobart Town, and which are sold on as reason-

able terms as stock is at home. He may in the course of time improve their breed by crossing them with others of superior "blood," as opportunity may occur.—As yet the settlers are too much occupied in clearing the ground, and providing the means of support, to spare time for the cultivation of what is not necessary to existence. But as soon as the clearance of land invites superior culture, and abundant crops afford the means of speculation, the husbandry of the Colony will become extensive. Tobacco will be planted; and coffee and the sugar cane be made the subject of experiment. If the former herb has been introduced in Ireland with success, are we assuming too much in expecting that it will flourish in a climate so much more congenial to its growth? The temperature at Freemantle is the temperature of Virginia, equally celebrated for the excellence of its tobacco and the disasters of its first settlement. "Three of the companies of adventurers which emigrated thither perished through hunger and diseases, or were cut off by the Indians. The fourth was reduced almost to the same situation, and, being dwindled to a feeble remainder,

had set sail for England in despair. But in the mouth of Chesapeak Bay they were met by Lord Delaware, with a squadron loaded with provisions, and with every thing necessary for their relief and defence. At his persuasion they returned; by his advice, prudence, and winning behaviour," they were stimulated to renewed efforts, and raised the Colony, from the lowest state of distress and despondency, to permanent prosperity. And now the Norfolk of Virginia is as celebrated for its opulence as the once-barren Norfolk of England, is for the size of its farms and the excellence of its husbandry.

It is commonly reported that the corn which has been hitherto sown in the Colony has not arrived at maturity, being scorched by the sun in its earliest growth. It is fully admitted that nine-tenths of the settlers already arrived, knew very little of the farming of this country, (f) still less did they know the proper time and management necessary for the cultivation of corn in a climate and latitude very different from their native land. Can we wonder, then, that corn sown by strangers

to the soil, and strangers to cultivation, should fail of success. The corn which was reported to be burnt up by the sun was sown in the midst of the Australian Summer, and I would ask the farmer whether wheat sown in June in England would produce a crop? The settlers appear to have made no calculation of the difference of soil or climate. But unless they and every other occupier sow at the proper period, their labours will be in vain. Time and experience will point out the month best adapted for the sowing of every seed, and till then we can form no idea whether this Colony is adapted to the growth of European produce or not. As crops of wheat are obtained at Sydney, and in abundance at Hobart Town, we may reasonably suppose that they may be grown in Western Australia. If wheat should not succeed to the extent expected, a most valuable substitute may be found in Indian corn, which produces great crops at Sydney, and in all warm climates. This grain will make excellent flour; is good for all kinds of cattle, and its leaves will supply them with forage.

The Swan River is in the same latitude with the Cape of Good Hope ; as at the latter place vines are cultivated with great success, there is reason to believe they would flourish in the neighbourhood of Freemantle. If the soil be as dry as it be represented, we may infer that it is adapted to the growth of the grape. In the event of wine being made in the Colony, we may be sure that Government will, perhaps by a bonus, but certainly by a lenient duty, give encouragement for its exportation to England ; and I doubt not this wine, under proper management, will be of far better quality than " Cape ;" for the African wine-presser is said to be not very particular as to the ripeness or rottenness of the grapes he indiscriminately mashes, and hence the Cape wines are so much inferior to the sherries of Spain.

Even among those who form the most favourable opinion of the Colony, there are few who are aware that it affords the means of establishing a whale fishery with the certainty of success, and, comparatively speaking, small capital. The fishery in the North Seas requires the stoutest

ships and the most able seamen. The length of time employed by the outward and homeward voyage and whale cruise is attended with a great consumption of provisions and stores. But these expences will not be necessary here. The whales may be caught at the very mouth of the harbour. Boats may tow them in, and the blubber can be cut up and boiled upon the beach. The oil and whale-bone may be sent to England by homeward-bound vessels. Nor are those too sanguine in their expectations who look forward to the Colony's becoming, in a few years, a favourite resort of invalids from India. The healthiness of the climate, the bracing atmosphere of night and morn, will recruit the shattered nerves and invigorate the debilitated constitution. Chalybeate springs have been already discovered, and hotels and lodging-houses will be erected as fast as the want of accommodation excites enterprize. And many who can neither spare the time or afford the expense of a voyage to England will gladly take a trip to Freemantle for the recovery of their health, or to place their children in an eligible school. But Freemantle will not only become a

Cheltenham or a Leamington to the invalid of a certain class. It is also well adapted for the refreshment of those who are exhausted by naval or military service. Cöckburn Sound, and even Gage's Roads, are safe and commodious harbours for six months in the year. Towns are rapidly increasing, and barracks and hospitals may, as required, be erected for soldiers or crews of ships. In all probability, whenever a detachment or a ship's company suffers from hard service or exposure to an unhealthy climate, it will be sent to recruit at Freemantle, and an equal force may be detached from thence to supply its place. Should this plan be adopted, and naval and military stations be formed here, it is impossible to calculate the immense saving of lives, stores, and other expences which will accrue to the Mother Country.

And let the emigrant be determined to take out none but persons of approved good character. He is going to a country which at present is very thinly inhabited, where the seat of justice may be far from his residence, and the means of access to

it weary and tedious ; under such circumstances, the punishment of offences cannot be conveniently obtained, and the criminal will frequently escape the penalty of the law he has violated, except in those cases of great magnitude which demand more than common exertion. Bars, bolts, and keys will be of little use at the Swan River, where walls are yet to be built, and the property of the Settler, for some time at least after he takes up his grant, will be more than partially exposed to depredation.

If, when obliged to leave his property, even for a short time, in the hands of a servant, it will be a great relief to the Settler to reflect that it is in the charge of a person of acknowledged integrity, in whom he can place confidence unalloyed by suspicion.

Although no sincere Christian would wish to impose any religious opinions against the conscience of another, or cherish any ill-feeling against any one whose creed differed from his own, it is much to be wished that the emigrant would as

much as possible select his attendants from those who are of his own persuasion, otherwise much discussion and strife may arise from conflicting tenets.

As an allusion has been already made to the expediency of taking out the natives of Ireland or Scotland in preference to Englishmen, it may be observed that the latter have always been accustomed to a certain degree of comfort which they feel bitterly if they are deprived of:—when unable to obtain work, they apply to the overseer for subsistence and obtain it with little exertion. However honest and faithful in their engagements they may be, they will by no means submit to any alterations of the system to which they have been brought up without great trouble, altercation, and complaints of the injustice with which they are treated. Now, either from forgetfulness or miscalculation, the settler may not have laid in provisions to maintain his party till he raises subsistence from his farm, and the remote distance which he may be situated from a market, and more than all, the want of cash, may prevent his

obtaining a supply. In such cases the party must be maintained by the net and gun, and any wholesome substitutes for bread and meat which they can procure.

But when the beef-barrel is empty, will the English labourer willingly submit to live for a month upon fish and kangaroos? When biscuit and flour are exhausted, will he good humouredly satisfy his hunger with rice? Will he who for his whole life has slept in a bed, and had a house to shelter him, contentedly lay down to rest on the ground with a tarpaulin to shelter him from rain and wind? I know my countrymen well, and honour them for their many good qualities, but cannot deny that they are by no means calculated either by habit or inclination to submit to inconvenience or any change of system when in the service of another. On the other hand, the Irish and Highland labourer, are perfectly contented with a hut hastily composed of turf and sticks, because it is as comfortable as the cabins they have lived in. They are well pleased to live upon rice and fish, who for months together have

been supported by potatoes and oatmeal. The poverty as well as the habits of the lower order of Irish and Scotch have created in them those feelings of respect and submission to their employers which the English labourer never feels.(g)

May the hand be paralyzed which would pen any suggestion for the crushing of the dependent, or the imposition of harsh or unfair burthen upon the poor, but it must be admitted that the English are most unwilling to work for a moment after hours, or to forego, but upon the most lucrative reasons, their privileges and customs for a day. But, when the Settler commences his residence upon a spot where all is in a state of nature, and every thing is to be done—where valuable property is exposed to the open air—where there is not even a shed to lie down in—it will not do for the hireling, when desired to perform some trifling office, to reply—“this is not my work,” or “it is six o'clock, and I will not do a stroke after hours, unless I am paid for it.”

On the other hand, the Irish and Scotch, having

been accustomed to consider their Chief's will as law, will instantly execute any reasonable order which may at any time be given. Let us hope that a cheerful obedience on one hand, will always be met with kindness and forbearance on the other, and that those who patiently submit to the yoke, may never receive a greater burthen than justice consents they should bear.

Having merely suggested these observations, the emigrant must allow me to assume a higher tone in giving my advice as to the sort of persons whom he should take out with him.

There are many who think of emigrating and say "I wish that man would accompany me, none can throw or cast a net better, few can bring down a long shot like him!" If, reader, you are going to take possession of an extensive estate with deer parks, fisheries and preserves, an individual with these qualifications will be the very man whom you ought to engage at any price; but if it be your intention to emigrate as a farmer, and take out persons to assist you in your

labours, common sense will suggest that this man is the very last whom you ought to engage. His acuteness will enable him more successfully to defraud his master, and yet escape detection ; that skill in the destruction of game which appears to enhance his value, will tempt him to throw down the axe or spade when his master is out of the way, and amuse himself with the gun and the trammel. And in all probability his conviction of being able to maintain himself by his poaching practices will induce him to give his employer a few days chace in the woods to the rear of his estate, in grateful acknowledgment of his kindness in conveying him to a country where there is no gamekeeper to watch, and no constable within a day's ride. Those whom it would be most advisable to take out, are plain honest men, who, being of good principles, are willing to do a fair days work, and are not above being told how to perform it. Such persons are cheap at any wages ; the saucy, idle rascal is dear at his maintenance. The emigrant should by all means engage none but persons of approved good character, and tempt such with liberal offers, otherwise he will

scarcely prevail upon them to accompany him, for a respectable man finds employment at home, and as the daily wages of a labourer in the Colony are five shillings a day, and his maintenance, it needs no argument to prove the necessity of taking out as many of this class as the means of the employer will allow. A carpenter should be among them by all means, and a bricklayer, if a dozen men be taken out.

As labour, from the scarcity of workmen, is so extravagantly paid in this Colony, "labouring persons" who are taken out will be tempted to leave their masters, when they find that they can obtain much higher wages than he agreed to pay them. It is therefore highly necessary that every person who is taken out should be bound by an agreement for ——— years, drawn up and signed by both parties previous to their embarkation. The labourer ought to be bound to serve his employer and his assigns, for the settler may be very glad to raise a little money, by sending the man to work for another settler. The labourer is to receive his wages either in money or provisions

with which he may commence business at the expiration of his servitude.

The sanguine settler is impatient to take up his allotment as soon as possible. But experience proves, that a hasty choice is most injudicious. With little inquiry, and almost without deliberation, the first settlers fixed upon Garden Island as the scene of their operations, but in twelve weeks they abandoned it; their loss of time and labour failed to urge them to search diligently for a more fertile soil, and better situation; they merely crossed the harbour to Freemantle, and, after finding the soil there little better than at Garden Island, they proceeded up the Swan and Canning Rivers.

The land upon their banks is ascertained to be tolerably good, yet there are other parts of the Colony lately discovered which are much more eligible, from situation and natural fertility.

Under these circumstances, I would decidedly recommend every person who may be entitled to

over the property of his master to protect his own. Arrangements might be made for preventing the possibility of dispute, and it may be remarked, that the more numerous the stock thus encreasing to the tenant (to be), so much the better will it be to the landlord. It is an object to him that every farm should be occupied by persons of as much capital as possible. Although the maintenance of stock belonging to the labourer will cost nothing to the proprietor on whose land they are kept, still a remuneration could be paid him which he might honourably receive, and the labourer well afford to give. For instance, if he buys a breeding mare, the master might work her, except when she was suckling her colts. If he purchases a few sheep, the master might be allowed the fleeces and the wether lambs, or part of them, as might be agreed upon.

The more this is considered, the more evident the advantage of both parties will appear. In fact, the proprietor will be improving his pasture by the grazing of the other man's stock, and the labourer himself will be accumulating a property

consequence of the sudden overflowing of a river to an unexpected height. In those districts where the art and labour of man have not deepened the channels of rivers, and removed those impediments which obstruct the current, the water will in the rainy season overflow the banks far above the expectations of the stranger, and, perhaps, to his irretrievable loss.

The reader will pardon the introduction of these remarks, some of which may be considered out of place, or perhaps foreign to the subject altogether ; but as this book is not like Peter Pindar's razors—"made to sell;" but published with the sincere intention of affording useful information to the emigrant, it is believed that these hints, penned nearly as they occur to the writer, may prove as essentially useful as if they followed each other in regular succession.

When the Settler arrives on his allotment, his first task will be to erect a temporary habitation, which he must complete with the utmost dispatch, that he may perform those other operations which

houses have lately been manufactured in London for the use of those emigrants who are proceeding to uninhabited districts. They are so constructed that they can be taken to pieces and screwed together again in a few hours. Now, however pleasing these buildings may be in theory, I fear they will be found very expensive and inconvenient in practice. The emigrant must be reminded of the heavy charge of freight, and that the owners of vessels have the option of charging either by the ton weight or measurement.(§) The cost of one of these houses is no inconsiderable sum; what the freight of it would be I cannot imagine. But of this we may be assured, that two men would build a stout "log hut" of double the size, with timber growing upon the spot, in half the time which must be employed in conveying this ready-made house twenty miles up a river, the navigation of which is impeded by trees and shoals—to say nothing of the labour of lugging it piece by piece from the river to the location. The settler will have full employment in conveying real necessaries from the sea-side to his grant, without encumbering himself with what

he does not absolutely want. Assuming that he may require some information relative to the best and most expeditious method of constructing a dwelling with any timber which he may find upon the spot; the following quotation from "Ellis's Polynesian Researches" merits his attention, and will doubtless induce him to adopt it for his model. "The timber being prepared, they planted the long posts which support the ridge pole, about three feet deep. The piece forming the ridge was nearly triangular, flat underneath, but raised along the centre on the upper side, and about nine inches wide. In the top of each post, a groove about six inches deep, and an inch and a half wide, was cut: in this was fixed a strong board, eight or nine inches broad, bevelled on the upper edge, forming a kind of wall-plate along the side of the house.^(h) The rafters were put on next. The foot of the rafter is partially sharpened, and about eighteen inches from the end a deep notch is cut, which receives the bevelled edge of the wall-plate, while the upper extremity rests upon the ridge. The rafters are generally ranged along on one side three feet apart, with

parallel rafters on the opposite side, which cross each other at the top of the ridge where they are firmly tied together.”

The walls of the house can be speedily constructed, with pieces of wood like rails fixed to the posts, having the interstices plastered, within and without, with clay mortar, in which there is a considerable quantity of chopped grass—women can perform this part of the work very well. If clay cannot be conveniently procured, moss or grass, forced into the crevices, will answer the purpose for the present. The back-woodsmen of America use neither nails nor pegs in the walls of their huts; they cut a deep notch near the end of each log, and let the other lay upon it, and thus the two cross, and lock each other on the outside of the post. If the Settler intends to have a fire in his hut, he must be very careful to build his chimney of stone for fear of fire, or if stone and lime cannot be obtained without considerable labour and expence, let that part of the fire-place and chimney which are exposed to the heat be built of stone, and the upper part of the

chimney can be made of clay and grass like the mud walls in England.

I would particularly impress upon the mind of the Settler, that "time is money." Every hour which he wastes in idleness, or in unnecessary delay will inevitably be attended with loss, and certainly in many cases with privation and serious inconvenience, if his labours are retarded, or the sowing of his seed postponed to an unseasonable period. Let him be diligent, prudent, and frugal, at first, and in a little time he will be enabled to "rest upon his oars" with the pleasing reflection that he has acquired a competency, and can bequeath an estate to his children, daily increasing in value, which has been made what it is by his own honest and laudable industry.

I hope that, in his prosperity, he will cherish a heart-felt gratitude to God, "who hath done such great things for him." I trust he will not be unmindful of his obligations to those friends who assisted him in his out-fit, and to the Government, under which the Colony was established and up-

held. And when the increased strength and opulence of the Colony enable it to contribute to the exigencies of the State, let him cheerfully pay his share of the duties which may be justly imposed upon him—it is a pepper-corn rent for the land he possesses. If he should be unwilling to “render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar’s”—if he be unwilling to contribute his portion of the necessary expences of the Government, which exists as much for his protection as for any other of His Majesty’s subjects, let him at the same time be consistent, and resign to the Crown the large estate it so liberally gave him.

Let him above all things remember, that without God’s blessing he cannot prosper. He may be permitted to acquire wealth—“to add house to house and field to field”—“to call the land after his own name,” and “to have man servants and maid servants, and very much cattle ;” but whose shall all these things be when his soul is required of him ? What will it avail him to be an Abraham in herds and dependents, if he have not the faith and the piety of Abraham ? What will

it avail him to be a Job in riches, if he be not a Job in patience and resignation to the will of God. Let him be industrious as a man, but let him seek after righteousness also. While his temporal labours are attended with success, let him also strive, and pray that he may be enabled "to lay up treasures in Heaven;" that the Spirit of God may enable him to abound in every good word and work, to assist him in the performance of every moral and religious duty—to increase his faith in Christ his Saviour, and to make his repentance sincere; and then, and not till then, may he descend into the grave, full of years and full of comfort.

In conclusion—as I have endeavoured to mislead none, but to afford some useful information to those into whose hands this book may fall, so I have stated nothing with a wish to give pain to the feelings of another. Like the great and good King George, "born and educated in this country, I glory in the name of Briton"—firmly attached to the institutions of the Empire from principle, I love my church and honour my king, and cannot

therefore, look with approbation upon those who are anxious to cry down all that is venerable, pious, and excellent amongst us. I cannot listen in silence to those whose idleness and extravagance have reduced them to embarrassment, and now endeavour, by finding fault with their country, and railing against its administration and its laws, to excuse their own bad management and to conceal their imprudence and their vice.

While I have ridiculed such persons as undeserving of grave argument, and exposed the persons and the motives of those who, from pique or disappointed selfishness, represent the Colony in the most gloomy colours—I hope that no expression of mine has hurt the feelings of the honest man who has suffered from misfortune, or the frustration of good intentions. Still less would I give pain to the unhappy tenant of a rapacious landlord, who for years has been compelled to pay an exorbitant rent, not from the produce of the farm he has the misfortune to hold, but from his annually-decreasing capital. His industry and management may entitle him to praise, but they

cannot enable him to contend against low prices and heavy payments. In vain does he look to his landlord for justice and compassion ; *he* is too anxious to keep up his own petty grandeur in the sight of the county—too desirous of vying with others of three times his income, to listen to the voice of conscience, or reflect that his luxuries are provided by the capital of his tenant, and not from a share of his profits. And why does the tenant continue in the occupation of the farm to his serious and, perhaps, irretrievable loss ? Because the farmer is of all others the least adapted, by previous habits and experience, to embark in any business but his own. And, in consequence of the extent of the population which is fast increasing, though the acre-age of England remains the same, it is a matter of extreme difficulty to find another farm (except either out of condition or at an enormous rent), especially as his annual loss of property may excite the supposition that he no longer possesses the means of cultivating the farm to which he might wish to remove. Though he sees his capital yearly decreasing, can we wonder that this man is the slave of circumstances

and is fettered by necessity? If such a man should wish to make one effort to extricate himself from increasing embarrassment and final beggary; if he should look to Western Australia, not like some in the hope of becoming a fine gentleman, but, with the wreck of his capital, to transport himself thither, and by his own industry to acquire the present means of supporting his family, and of eventually bequeathing them an inheritance, acquired by his bodily exertion;—to such a man, I say—Count the cost, weigh well the hardships, privations, and inconveniences attendant upon the four months voyage to the settlement, and your first year's residence in it, of which at present you can only form a figurative idea. You will leave your country, your friends, your neighbours,—you will abandon the haunts of your childhood, and, what is harder still, the hearthstone of your fathers, in all human probability never to behold them again. Consider also that the courses of crops, and mode of cultivation to which you have been accustomed, will be out of place, and perhaps impracticable in a climate and upon a soil very different from that of your own

country. Instead of growing turnips, you must turn your attention to Indian corn ; instead of planting cabbages you must cultivate tobacco. At first, you must expect that, with all your industry, your ignorance of seed time and the nature of the crop may produce serious loss ; but experience will slowly yet surely enable you to retrieve the loss occasioned by failures, and to sow almost upon a certainty of reaping an abundant return. Think of these things,—look upon the *dark* as well as the *bright* side of the prospect, and if you are still desirous to emigrate to Western Australia, go ; and may the blessing of God go with you. If any information contained in these pages has corrected one error of opinion or practice,—if it leads the emigrant to provide himself with one little comfort, which otherwise he might have forgotten,—if it lessens the fears of those who have dear friends now settled in Western Australia as to their ultimate success, “ the labour which has been bestowed ” in the composition of this volume, “ will not have been bestowed in vain.”

In this publication “ I have not been able to

satisfy myself, neither can I hope to satisfy you. I have done as well as I could, and know not that it will be in my power to do better—more extensive ideas rise before me, but planning and executing are very different things ; accept such as I can give, and pardon errors and imperfections,” and take the will for the deed.

The following Regulations have been recently published for the Disposal of Crown Lands in New South Wales and Van Dieman's Land.

“IT has been determined by His Majesty's Government, that no land shall in future be disposed of in New South Wales or Van Dieman's Land, otherwise than by public sale ; and it has therefore been deemed expedient to prepare, for the information of the settlers, the following summary of the Rules, which it has been thought fit to lay down for regulating the sales of land in those Colonies :—

“ 1. A division of the whole Territory into Counties, Hundreds, and Parishes is in progress. When that division shall be completed, each parish will comprise an area of about twenty-three square miles.

“ 2. All the lands in the Colony, not hitherto granted, and not appropriated for public purposes, will be put up to sale. The price will of course depend upon the quality of the land, and its local situation, but no land will be sold below the rate of five shillings per acre.

“ 3. All persons proposing to purchase lands not advertised for sale, must transmit a written application to the Governor in a certain prescribed form, which will be delivered at the Surveyor-General's Office to all persons applying, on payment of the requisite fee of 2s. 6d.

“ 4. Those persons who are desirous of purchasing will be allowed to select, within certain defined limits, such portions of land as they may wish to acquire in that manner. These portions of land

will be advertised for sale for three calendar months, and will then be sold to the highest bidder, provided that such bidding shall at least amount to the price fixed by Article 2.

“ 5. A deposit of ten per cent. upon the whole value of the purchase must be paid down at the time of sale, and the remainder must be paid within one calendar month from the day of sale, previous to which the purchaser will not be put in possession of the land ; and, in case of payment not being made within the prescribed period, the sale will be considered void, and the deposit forfeited.

“ 6. On payment of the money, a grant will be made in fee simple to the purchaser, at the nominal quit rent of a pepper-corn. Previous to the delivery of such grant, a fee of forty shillings will be payable to the Colonial Secretary, for preparing the grant, and another fee of five shillings to the Registrar of the Supreme Court for enrolling it.

“ 7. The land will generally be put up to sell in lots of one square mile, or 640 acres, but smaller lots than 640 acres may, under particular circumstances, be purchased on making application to the Governor in writing, with full explanation of the reasons for which the parties wish to purchase a smaller quantity.

“ 8. The Crown reserves to itself the right of making and constructing such roads and bridges as may be necessary for public purposes in all lands purchased as above, and also to such indigenous timber, stone, and other materials, the produce of the land, as may be required for making and keeping the said roads and bridges in repair, and for any other public works. The Crown further reserves to itself all mines of precious metals.

“ Colonial Office, Jan. 20, 1831.”

Let the reader compare these Rules with those issued from the Colonial Office “ for the information of Settlers proceeding to the New Colony on

the Swan River." Let him give them that attentive consideration which they both deserve, and then let him judge whether it will be most to his advantage to purchase land (for ready money) under the competition of auction, or receive it as a free gift. Whether he would rather live among banished convicts than among free men. Whether he would prefer continual exposure to the deprivations and atrocities of the bush ranger, to a residence in a Colony as yet unpolluted by murder and violation.

These new Regulations will promote the interest of the Western Australian Colony, more than grant after grant from the Treasury, for the improvement of harbours, and the removal of shoals. They will induce many to emigrate thither who intended to proceed to the convict settlements. The adventurers who are now at the Swan River, thus have the value of their land greatly increased, and receive a great and unexpected encouragement for their industry and perseverance. Although they were disappointed at finding that the reports of Governor Stirling and Mr. Frazer,

made from an inspection of the country at one period of the year only, were in some respects unavoidably erroneous; yet experience proves that, though these reports were rather high-coloured, the correct information they contained was enough, and more than enough, to justify their expectations, that the ultimate success of the Colony was not doubtful, and that it will form a very valuable appendage to the Mother Country.

FINIS.

NOTES.

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^a In a short letter from our adventurer, written six months after his arrival in the Colony, in which he still expresses his sanguine expectations of success, he says, "A great many of the emigrants, after settling here, have reshipped in disgust of the place (Freemantle) for Sydney, Hobart Town, and the Cape of Good Hope. No doubt their reports will be very unfavourable, and before this reaches you I am afraid you will be grieved by them. I will soon send you fuller particulars respecting the state of the Colony. I am confident we that stay shall have some 'roughing' yet, but of that we care not a groat, as I fully anticipate those that persevere in support of the Colony, will find it to answer their purpose in a few years. Stock is very numerous of all kinds already, and good bargains may be made from those who are leaving the settlement." "If Government will step forward, and assist us in some shape or other, as they have done to other Colonies, I do not hesitate in saying that in a very short time those that have left will be induced to return, and likewise many will emigrate from England."

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^b The usual charge for a cabin passenger is £60.; for a man and his wife, £110, who mess at the captain's table, and have a liberal allowance of wine and spirits. For a steerage passenger £25, who have the same rations as the crew. Children are

taken at half price.—A considerable reduction will be made if several persons engage their berths together, or if one takes out a party.—Full information may be obtained from the Brokers who advertise for freight and passengers.

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^c Packing cases should, if practicable, be six feet long and three wide, because the sides are ready-made doors, when the chest is taken to pieces,

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^d Exports of New South Wales, in 1827, amounted to £76,314; in 1828, to £90,050; increase in one year, £13,736.

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^e The stock of New South Wales, in 1819, consisted of 3,572 horses, 42,789 horned cattle, and 75,369 sheep;—in 1828, we find them multiplied to the astonishing number of 12,479 horses, 262,860 horned cattle, and 536,391 sheep.

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^f A letter was received by a resident of Canterbury, from a gentleman of property, who went out with some of the earliest settlers. He complained bitterly of the *badness* of the soil; for although the wheat he had sown grew *luxuriantly*! yet the produce was nothing but *smutty* corn. The farmers of England will be greatly obliged to this gentleman for his important discovery that the smut is occasioned by the ill quality of the soil, and not from any defect in the grain with which it is sown.

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^g If the emigrant is really desirous of taking out Irish or

Scotch labourers, he should search the files of newspapers, published in the ports of Ireland and Scotland, to learn if a vessel is chartered from any of them to the Settlement. If so, he had better send his goods by some vessel in St. Katherine's Docks, directed to himself at Freemantle. He need not be afraid she will arrive there before him. Then let him, by a newspaper agent, advertise for the persons he wants, and a few days afterwards arrive at the port, he may then bargain with those whom he may approve of, and he will find it cheaper to live at this port till the vessel sails than in London.

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^s The ton by measurement is forty cubic feet.

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^b Instead of a board, which may not be easily obtained, I would recommend the wall plates to be made of a straight young tree, split in two, and fastened to the top of every post with spike nails, or long and stout wooden pegs, and the ends of the rafters might be fastened upon them in the same manner.

—EDITOR.

ADDENDA.

No. 1.—The 87th page of this work was printed before the peasantry of England disgraced themselves and their country by their riots and unparalleled destruction of property. The Editor most sincerely hopes that the future conduct of the people will remove the stigma they have brought upon themselves, and that long, very long it may be truly said that they “are peaceable,” and that every man in England “may retire to his rest without fear” of open violence or secret fire.

No. 2.—The emigrant will be allowed a drawback upon many of the articles he takes out, upon which the Custom-house or Excise duties have been paid. For instance, upon raisins of the sun, 38s. per cwt.; upon figs, 19s. per cwt., and upon currants, 40s. per cwt. For other drawbacks, see “Nyren’s Account of Duties and Drawbacks,” price only 3s. 6d.

ERRATA.

P. 80, top line, *for* have all of them produced disappointments, *read* has been destroyed by disappointments.

P. 96, line 5, *dele* ”

————— 10, *after* amusement, *insert* ”

————— 4 from the bottom, *dele* no.



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