

be done justice to by the pen of another "Knickerbocker."

Mr. Batman had, through his dealings with the natives, appropriated for the association, two large tracts of land, which took in the best parts of the country, surrounding the harbour of Geelong, and the river Barwon in one place, and that surrounding the cove of Hobson's Bay, and the river Yarra Yarra on the other.

In imitation of other early adventurers, Mr. Batman had fixed his principal station on the central position of Indented Head, from which commanding point, he could survey the whole bay, and be made aware of all arrivals; no sooner had he been apprised of the entry of a strange sail, than, of course, its movements were anxiously watched. Upon its making for Hobson's Bay and entering the river Yarra Yarra, an officer was dispatched to warn its crew against any settlement, on the grounds of the Company, but although the Messrs. Jackson and others proceeded to the interior, and set up their tents with their flocks at a lawful distance from the acquired territory of the association, Mr. Fawcner chose to make his homestead on the smiling banks of the "ever flowing"* river. Fearing lest his prior right might be injured by such unwarranted intrusion on his domain, Mr. Batman made haste to remove his establishment to the same locality; he erected his fortress, on the spot where the Superintendent's office now stands, while Mr. Fawcner "bigged" his lair on the eminence on which the present Police Office is built. This was the origin of the fair town of Melbourne, and of the important discussions anent the rights and jurisdictions of the two rival chiefs. Mr. Batman was honoured to the day of his demise, with the title of "King John,"

while Mr. Fawcner's admirers ennobled him by the style of "the Father of Melbourne." The former had sheep in the vicinity, kept during his life a store, from which he supplied meat, flour, and groceries, wholesale and retail, but died in 1839, leaving the undisputed title to "King Johnny the second," who continued to wax in importance and substance until the occupation of the territory by the Government. Mr. Fawcner then continued under the laws of the territory, a licensed publican, first in a wooden building, which, since its removal to its present site in the rear of the Club House, has been converted into a printing office for the PATRIOT newspaper, and afterwards in the building, known as "Fawcner's Hotel," now occupied by the domestic establishment of the Melbourne Club. Mr. Fawcner subsequently tried to bring into existence a little paper, called the ADVERTISER, which, in consequence of the proprietor's disability to comply with the Government regulations respecting newspapers, ceased after a life of a few months. It was, however, resuscitated under the name of the PATRIOT, and holds now a very respectable place in the local literature of Melbourne. Mr. Fawcner retired from his last business of bookseller, in 1840, and went to live on his estate at Pascoeville, the neighbouring village of that name, having been founded by himself, in honour of one of his own christian appellations. The monetary confusion that shortly ensued involved him in the general distress, and he returned to business in Melbourne, where he continues to thrive in the trade of a local agent.

In 1836 the Government set about taking the preliminary steps for the regular occupation and controul of the territory. Mr. Stewart, Police Magistrate of Goulburn, was despatched in the Revenue Cutter *Prince George*, to inspect and report upon the eligibility of the

* The meaning of "Yarra Yarra" in the aboriginal dialect of the tribe occupying that neighbourhood.

place for a Police, Customs, and Surveying Establishment. It was in June of that year that Mr. Stewart met the inhabitants of the incipient township, which was destined to become the rudiments of Melbourne, and having made arrangements with them in public meeting, for the good order and protection of their little community, and for preserving a pacific understanding with the natives, the Magistrate returned to Sydney. At this interview of Mr. Stewart with the inhabitants of Port Phillip, which, by reference to memoranda in the writer's possession, took place on the 1st of June, 1836, it appears that the great houses of Batman and Fawkner in deference to the opinion of their followers, joined issue of their several right to precedency, by electing in common with the other settlers, a gentleman of the name of Simpson as the provisional magistrate of the settlement, and umpire over the affairs of its settlers. This gentleman, now so well known to the whole dependency, was one of the original members of the association, of which mention has already been made at large. At that period Mr. Simpson was conducting his own sheep station on the Salt Water River, about twenty miles from the settlement, having left Van Diemen's Land, in which colony he had successively filled the situations of Police Magistrate at Campbelltown, and Chairman of the Land Board at Hobart Town, to join and share in the fruitful emprise of the new country. On the arrival subsequently of His Excellency Sir Richard Bourke, Mr. Simpson was made a magistrate of the territory, being thus the oldest resident Justice of the Peace for New South Wales in that dependency. The position in which Mr. Simpson was placed at that early period, as at once the confidential organ of the people and the Government, he has since continued to maintain with honour to himself and

satisfaction to his patrons. During the first years of Melbourne, Mr. Simpson fulfilled the duties of a Director in the Bank of Australasia, and Managing Director of the Port Phillip Steam Navigation Company. He is now also President of the Melbourne Mechanics' Institute, and has very lately been appointed by the Government to the station of Warden of the District Council of Bourke. Although from his grave and disciplined nature, Mr. Simpson is the last person to show or side with disaffection to men in authority, yet the unwarranted insults of the late Resident Judge to himself and to those gentlemen whom Mr. Simpson most respected, urged him to take the lead against Mr. Justice Willis in the remonstrances which were made by the residents at Port Phillip against the since degraded official. The administration of justice was righted by the removal of Mr. Willis, and Mr. Simpson remains a Burgess of the Borough of Melbourne, still equally esteemed by the Government and the people. Towards the close of the year, a Police Magistrate, Captain Lonsdale, was sent with a small detachment of military, under the command of Lieutenant King, Mr. Constable Hooson, and some prisoners, to reside at Port Phillip; a surveying staff consisting of Messrs. Russel, Darke, and D'Arcy, was added for the purpose of preparing the waste lands for sale, in town, suburban, and country lots; an Officer of the Customs, Mr. Webb, was sent to controul the commerce of the port, which was already of considerable importance from the number of vessels employed in conveying sheep from Van Diemen's Land; and a Missionary, Mr. George Langhorne, for the aborigines. Dr. Thomson, of Geelong, now a member of the Legislature, at the request of Government, accepted the medical charge of the establishment. In the month of April of the following year, His Excellency Sir

Richard Bourke visited the Settlement in H. M. S. *Rattlesnake*, when the townships of Melbourne, Geelong, and Williamstown, previously planned and allotted, were approved of, inspected, and named.

His Excellency during his stay, made an excursion into the interior the distance of seventy miles, crossing the summit of Mount Macedon. He was accompanied on this trip by a man named Buckley, whose very singular fortunes deserve a passing notice. He was originally one of the youths (prisoners) composing the expedition of Lieutenant Governor Collins, which visited and abandoned Port Phillip in 1804. With some other prisoners he escaped, but alone surviving, he had lived with the natives, adopting in every respect their habits, language, and manners. So altered was he that it was with difficulty he was recognized by some shepherds of Mr. Gellibrand, when that gentleman's sheep were first landed at Williamstown. He was, of course, rescued from his state of semi-barbarism, and clothed and main-

tained by Mr. Batman. Colonel Arthur, taking an interest in his fate, procured for him His Majesty's unconditional pardon, and the New South Wales Government appointed him a constable for Melbourne. Upon his expressing a reluctance to remain in the district, a situation was obtained for him in the police at Hobart Town, where he continues to reside. He appears an intelligent man, and is of an active and powerful frame, but his extreme reserve renders it almost impossible to learn any thing from him of his past life, or of his acquaintance with the aborigines.

While the *Rattlesnake* was in Port, a survey of Port Phillip and the Harbour of Geelong was completed, much to the advantage of commerce. His Excellency having finished the objects of his visit, returned to Sydney, leaving the charge of the settlement in the hands of Captain Lonsdale, as the chief organ of Government in the District.

DISRUPTION OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

DE LOLME in his celebrated work on the British Constitution, has rightly described the British, as a nation whose revolutions have been characterized by the influence of moral principles, rather than effected by the application of numerical force or physical means.

By the employment of mental agencies it was that the Reformation was brought about, that the revolution which established the Protectorate succeeded, that the restoration of the Stuarts was managed, and that the Protestant dynasty in the persons of the Orange Princes was substituted for the abdicated throne of the Roman Catholic line of monarchs.

It is, too, mainly by the continuation of this lofty national characteristic of the Briton, that the great changes in established politics and religion, which result from the progressive spirit of the age, have been either achieved or are in a state of advancement. It was by enlightening the mass of the people as to their powerful position and collective influence, and by stirring them up to prove their qualifications for a larger share in the government of their country, that Parliamentary, Municipal, Church, and Educational Reforms were peaceably but fully secured. Even the impetuous and unreflecting people of Ireland are discarding the low

doctrine of physical superiority, and by the usage of temperance, together with the more careful and general instruction of the people, are working themselves slowly but surely forward to the attainment of a separate and locally responsible National Legislature.

The Disruption of the Church of Scotland, which has just presented itself to the colonial public, fresh with the opinions and strong from the movements of the seceding Scotch Presbyterians, is the most recent of those wide and powerful changes which owe their origin and success to the moral influences of reformation that pervade the individuals and associations of the British people.

Judiciously Conservative as is the administration of the Peel and Stanley Government, and secretly as it is inclined to the extremes even of Toryism, yet it is obliged to acknowledge the vast momentum given to the public mind through the moral influences so astutely depicted by the French Economist and Commentator; and while it firmly rejects the meanness of pandering to the prejudices, or tampering with the sympathies of the lower and less educated classes of the people, it accedes gradually but certainly to the desire of the national spirit, to examine minutely and to reform in time. The present Ministry has shewn most reluctance in moving with the public mind on the questions of Repeal in Ireland and of Church Independence in Scotland. It has properly resisted in England, as formerly in Ireland, the uncurbed and uninformed dispositions of an inflamed rabble, both as regarded the grant of the Charter and of Repeal. But every day are the Irish disproving the stain which at first rested on their characters as a factious and unreasonable class of subjects. Ireland has rapidly advanced of late years in moral and religious order, and in animal subjugation, through the means of Education and the admirable

wish to prove themselves morally and mentally entitled to the direct self-government which they request. If the movement of Repeal continue to gather force only through the intelligent and unselfish representations of the inhabitants, and if the people persevere in the national improvement so happily indicative of their original virtues, no Ministry can long with reason refuse that mode of government which Ireland and the Irish unanimously declare to be best for their happiness, and the most stimulative to their industry and pride.

The question of Church Independence in Scotland has, like Repeal in Ireland, been long coming to maturity, and has evidently been principally neglected rather than opposed by the British Ministry, owing to the want of some comprehensive and striking moral demonstration, such as has now taken place.

The early history of this startling schism is given, we observe, in a Port Phillip paper, by a Scots Minister, resident at Port Phillip, of the Non-Intrusion school; and, excluding its more violent opinions, it is sufficiently faithful as a record to be inserted for the elucidation of our article at this stage of its construction.

“Arrivals by the *Wilsons* have brought us intelligence of one of the most important events that have taken place in modern times—the separation of the Non-Intrusion, or Evangelical Party, from the Scottish Ecclesiastical Establishment. To most, this can scarcely be an unexpected occurrence, though many hoped that it might be averted. Some thought that the Legislature would interfere, and heal the differences between the Civil and Spiritual Courts; some, that the assertors of the Church’s prerogatives would succumb to the secular authority, and preserve their manses and stipends. All such expectations are now falsified, and all speculation on the subject is completely set at rest. The papers we have received do not enable us to give a minute detail of every circumstance that has taken place, but we shall be able to furnish a sufficiently full narrative for colonial