

of the Committee of the Legislative Council appointed to consider the best means for the promotion of immigration. This we have reprinted entire in page 29 of our present number, as it is an authentic and official statement. After receiving the report of the Committee, the Session of the Council was declared to have terminated. In the same day's paper, we find the report of the meeting of the York Branch Agricultural Society, which took place on the 20th October, and at which stock to the amount of £800 was disposed of, and the usual prizes were awarded to farmers, &c. We give the current prices elsewhere, but it was understood that they gave symptoms of a rise. Captain Blackwood of H. M. S. *Fly*, was a guest at the members' dinner in the evening, and took occasion to speak most favorably of the colony, declaring that "he saw abundant reasons for congratulating the colonists on the successful progress they had made, evidence of which was everywhere around him." The next day, the settlers of the York district, in imitation of their metropolitan fellow colonists, held their first attempt at a racing meeting, which consisted of a horse, pony, and hurdle race, and went off creditably. On the 25th October, a grand entertainment was given at Fremantle to the colonists, by Captain Blackwood and the officers of H. M. S. *Fly* and *Bramble*. Temporary buildings were erected for the occasion, decorated with flags and ensigns, and the ball and supper, at which upwards of 100 persons were present, were on a grand scale. We find that a sample of colonial cured pork has been sold at 10d. *per lb.*—the same price as the imported Irish commodity, to which it is stated to be much superior. If this be followed up, it will be the means of annually retaining considerable capital within the colony, and it is, therefore, to be hoped that Messrs. Armstrong, the preservers, will meet with success, and other farmers be induced to follow their example. A church is about to be commenced in the Vasse district, and it is believed the site is fixed at Busselton. The inhabitants, however, appear to prefer its being erected at Wonnerup, which they represent is more central, but as the Government has decided on the former townsite, it seems likely that the district will have two churches. We have before accounted for the non-appearance of the Registrar of Births' annual report for 1843, but from a letter which appears in the *Inquirer*, we find that it shewed the average rate of mortality in Perth, as being 1 in 65. Two wool ships were advertised direct for London, the *Napoleon* and the *Shepherd*, both of which were expected to sail before the end of the year.

We make the following extracts from the Perth papers:—

**THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.**—The heavy rains of the past season have proved highly beneficial to the crops, which throughout the colony, are looking exceedingly well. We are told that the wheat is taller and stronger than usual, and though not yet arrived at ear, gives promise of abundance. There is every prospect that flour will be cheap next season. All kinds of farming stock are now very plentiful, and, of consequence, are much reduced in price; there is, however, a constant demand for butchers' meat; and fat wethers, barren ewes, and horned cattle, fetch good prices, and obtain a ready sale.—*Inquirer*, 25th Oct.

**THE SHIPS "FLY" AND "BRAMBLE."**—H. M. S. *Fly* and *Bramble* are still in our roadstead. Both officers and men have spent much of their money on shore, and the colony will have long cause to remember this visit with pleasure. We are happy to hear that they, on their part, are not dissatisfied with their reception.—*Ibid.*

**VINEYARD PROSPECTS.**—The vineyards give promise of an abundance of fruit, and we trust that some good wine will be produced this season, so as fully to justify the sanguine expectations entertained in the colony upon this desirable article of export.—*Ibid.*

**PRICE OF STOCK,** at the York Agricultural Sale.—Horses from £25 to £40, according to quality; cows £8 8s.; cow and calf £9 9s.; fat oxen, weighing about 500 lbs., £13; the only ewes actually sold consisted of a lot of culls, for which the price was 7s.;—these were very inferior, but the price for good ewes may be quoted at 25s. Several lots of wethers fit for the butcher, were disposed of at £1 a head, but this price was refused in more than one instance. For good wethers, weighing from 50 to 60 lbs., the price may be quoted at £1 5s.—*Ibid.*

**NATIVE TIMBER.**—We have been exceedingly gratified at the sight of some specimens of several of our native woods worked up into boxes, and other objects of use and ornament. The material out of which these specimens have been produced, was forwarded to England by A. H. Stone, Esq., and, through the intervention of some friends of that gentleman, was brought under the notice of the turners at Tonbridge Wells, so well-known as the producers of the celebrated Tonbridge ware, and by them converted into various articles, which equal in beauty any thing we have seen of similar production. The woods sent home by Mr. Stone were the mahogany, banksia, and raspberry jam woods, and, so far from being carefully selected, were mere pieces taken at hazard from among his firewood, yet even under this disadvantage, the great natural beauty of the several woods is strongly shewn, and, for high polish, depth of color,

and variety of shading, they equal the best Spanish mahogany we have ever seen. The raspberry jam wood, too, works up most beautifully, resembling very exactly the Brazilian wood, for which such a high price is given; with this great advantage, that our wood is highly and deliciously scented, and the Brazilian entirely without smell.—*Ibid*, 1st November.

*King George's Sound—October.*

Letters from the Sound state that every thing is very dull, and that money is particularly scarce, the place having been "clean swept by the Adelaide importers." The season had been much colder than usual, the thermometer being generally at 54 in a room with a fire in it. At the commencement of last month there were only three whalers lying in Princess Royal Harbour—the *Autumn*, *Black Warrior*, and *Angelina*; the two former American, the latter French.—*Inquirer*, 8 Nov.

*Australind, 12th November.*

IMPORTANT FROM AUSTRALIND.—RECALL OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER!—The last letter of our Correspondent, received in February, prepared us for an event of much importance, which has since occurred, but, as we were not authorised to do so, we abstained from making known his communication in our last, as it was stated to be "a profound secret at present." From the following extract, however, from the Perth papers, it will be seen that Mr. Clifton, the Chief Commissioner of the Western Australian Company at Australind, is recalled. We understand that this step has been rendered necessary by the general depression of colonial matters, and the absence of emigration; but it is reported that the son of Mr. Clifton will still be retained by the Company as their agent in the settlement: "DISMISSAL OF MR. CLIFTON AND HIS STAFF.—We have to make an announcement which we are sure will occasion great surprise to our readers. The powers of Mr. Clifton, as Chief Commissioner of the Western Australian Company are to be immediately recalled. We understand that this measure is the necessary result of a resolution of the shareholders of the Company, passed at their annual meeting, for discharging the whole of the Company's officers and men at home and abroad, and reducing the total expenses of the Company at Australind to £200 *per annum*. We need not add that such a resolution has not arisen from any disapproval of Mr. Clifton's and the other officers' proceedings, but from the disastrous state of the Company's affairs, which are represented as hopeless; the last call having been made on the shareholders, and no land having been sold."—*Inquirer*, 22nd Nov.

HEAVY GALE AND TOTAL LOSS OF THE SCHOONER "ELIZABETH."—On the 9th Nov. the *Elizabeth* schooner, which was moored near the East Beach, (Port Leschenault) for the purpose of taking on board the oil recently purchased by Mr. Leake, parted a chain cable and let go another anchor. On Thursday night it blew a tremendous gale, and on the morning of Friday, about 8 o'clock, the *Elizabeth*, being in the ground swell of the beach, parted her cable, and drifted towards the shore. A boat was lowered from the *Parkfield*, but could not approach her, as she was by that time in the breakers of the beach. Her last anchor dragged on till she struck heavily, and falling over to leeward, was soon a perfect wreck. The sea beat over her tremendously, and the oil casks in her hold, floating, broke up her deck, and made a breach in her bottom. The Government resident was on the spot to afford assistance and rescue the people, all of whom got on shore in safety. The mate was not on board at the time of the accident, and the top-gallant mast was left standing. We fear that nothing but a portion of the oil, and that not to any extent, will be saved. Even the chronometer was lost. During the whole gale, the *Parkfield*, *Timbo*, and *Venus* cutter rode safely. The *Parkfield* had her top-gallant masts up, and did not let go a second anchor till Friday afternoon, when a fall of the barometer indicated further bad weather, which passed off in a heavy squall that brought the wind round to the S. W. All Saturday it blew hard, but to day it has moderated. The secure and easy way in which these vessels rode out the gale, which was of unprecedented violence for the season, says much for the security of our port and its excellent holding ground.—*Ibid*.

CUSTOMS' LIST

Of Exports to Western Australia, for the month ending March 26th.

BRITISH.—27th Feb., W. Hotchkiss £50; Thomas and Co. £1000.—5th March, Felgate & Co. £10.—6, Ashley & Co. £120.—9, J. Towne £100.—11, Allsopp and Son £113.—16, Gaskell & Co. £80; Allsopp and Son £75; W. Andrews £500.—18, R. Pulford £40.—19, J. Thompson £10; E. Hoole £10.—20, J. Mason £20; C. M. Hullah £50; W. Andrews £15.—21, Shariwood & Co.; £350; Buckles & Co. £200. Patten & Co. £10.—22, W. Tripe £36; E. A. Jones £60; Felgate & Co. £500; Bass & Co. £10.—25, Devitt & Co. £235.—26, Milne & Co. £40.

FOREIGN.—6th March, J. Barugh, 150 qs. oats, 180 c. flour, 150 c. tea.—11, H. Harvey 50 g. port, 50 g. Spanish wine; C. M. Hullah, 100 c. flour, 50 c. biscuits.—14, Ruck & Co. 1600 g. brandy, 600 g. Geneva, 1300 g. rum.—15, Todd & Co. 30 g. French, 100 g. Spanish, wine.—18, Thomas & Co. 130 g. brandy, 150 g. Spanish wine.—21, W. Andrews, 112 lb. tea.—23, W. Price, 400 g. brandy.—25, C. C. Nelson, 100 lb. tea; W. H. Scarnett, 240 g. brandy.—26, W. H. Scarnett, 240 g. brandy.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

**BIRTH.**  
Roe, Mrs. J. S., 23rd Nov. at Perth, a son.

**MARRIAGE.**  
Bedingfeld, Mr. T. F., of Australind, to Miss Elizabeth Boys, at Perth, 8th November.

**DEATH.**  
Hamilton, Mr. R. G. B., at Australind, 5th Oct., aged 20.

Date of the last advices from Western Australia, 4 Dec.  
Date for the dispatch of the next mail . . . . . 15 Apr

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

Arrivals at Fremantle—*Water Witch*, Bowness, 11th Nov., from King George's Sound.—*Timbo*, 21st, from Launceston, and *Parkfield*, Whiteside, from Sydney.—*Annie*, Potter, 23rd, from Launceston.—*Venus*, Thomas, 25th, from Launceston.

Departures from Fremantle—*John Pirie*, 22nd Oct., for Adelaide.—*H. M. S. Fly*, Blackwood, 29th, for Hobart Town.—*Elizabeth*, James, 2nd Nov., for Leschenault.—*Pacific*, Harris, 3rd, for Rio Janeiro.—*Venus*, Thomas, 5th, for Leschenault.—*H. M. S. Bramble*, Yule, 12th, for Hobart Town.—*Armata*, Browne, 28th, for Batavia.—*Parkfield*, Whiteside, 5th Dec., for Ceylon.

Arrivals at Australind—*Timbo*, 9th Nov., from Portland Bay.—*Parkfield*, Whiteside, 10th, from Sydney.

*Elizabeth*, James, of Swan River, totally wrecked at Port Leschenault, 9th November.

*Madras*, Kitching, from Swan River, arrived at Adelaide, 12th Sept.—*Annie*, Potter, for Swan River, sailed from Launceston, 20th Oct.—*Pacific*, from Swan River, arrived at Mauritius, 5th Dec.—*Parkfield*, Whiteside, from Swan River, arrived at Ceylon, 10th Jan.

*Hooghly*, Bayley, loading at Bombay, for Swan River, 28th Dec.

*Trusty*, Elsdon, from London to Swan River, spoken 31st Jan., Lat. 4, N., Long. 20, W.

Passenger per *Elizabeth*, from Swan River to Leschenault, Mr. W. N. CLARK.

Passenger per *Bramble*, from Swan River to Hobart Town, Mr. B. M. ROBINSON.

Passengers per *Parkfield*, from Swan River to Ceylon, Mrs. WHITESIDE, and Mr. CARGILL.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. N.—We have received a second letter from this Correspondent, and are much obliged by his suggestions. The subject to which he alludes is already under consideration, and we hope shortly to propose some means for remedying the evil. We are not in possession of any returns of Imports and Exports for the years required; the only ones which are ascertained will appear in our series of statistics to be commenced next month.

The continuation of A SKETCH OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, and the contributions of J. S. M., A COLONIAL MERCHANT, and ALPHA, are unavoidably postponed till our next.

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TO EMIGRANTS.—AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—Mrs. MARY WEDLAKE, widow of the late THOMAS WEDLAKE, at 118, Fenchurch-street, City, informs Emigrants and others, that she continues to manufacture those Agricultural Implements for which her late husband was so extensively patronized by the Settlers of South Australia, Van Dieman's Land, Swan River, New Zealand, and other British Colonies. May be inspected daily as above. The following articles made in a very superior manner are kept on sale at the London Warehouse, 118, Fenchurch-street, viz.—

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For a more detailed list, see Johnson & Shaw's Farmers' Almanack for 1844.

Please to be particular in the address, MARY WEDLAKE, 118, FENCHURCH STREET, LONDON, OR ORIGINAL IRON FOUNDRY, HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.

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