

and the Act for licencing Private Bonded Warehouses disallowed. By a suspension of the standing orders, the Bill for altering the Customs Duties was read a first time, and the Council adjourned.

April 9.—After receiving some notices of motions, the Council went into Committee upon the Customs Duties Bill, the object of which was to charge the duties upon the real colonial value, instead of the invoice price of imports. The Advocate General proposed that an increase of £20 *per cent.* should be added to the invoice price, and the duty charged upon the whole amount. Mr. Singleton opposed, but Mr. Leake approved of it, and the Surveyor General considered an addition of 10 *per cent.* would be sufficient. The original proposition was however carried, making the duty now charged 6 *per cent.* upon the invoice.

April 16.—Mr. Leake presented a petition from a large body of settlers, complaining that the Government would not allow the sale of small sections of country land at the *minimum* price, but the Advocate General, and Surveyor General showing that such sales were allowed the petition was withdrawn. In compliance with Mr. Singleton's request, a return was made of the sale of Crown Lands, from which it appeared that 3280 acres of country land were sold during the year 1845-6, of which only 25 acres were paid for in cash; 4 acres of suburban land had been sold for cash, at £10 *per acre.* The Customs Duties Bill was read a third time and passed, and the Bills for renewing for three years the Squatting Act; for remitting the duty on wines consumed at regimental messes to the extent of one pint per day for each officer: and for abolishing all pilotage fees and harbour dues, were severally read a second time.

April 23.—The Governor produced the estimates for the year 1846-7. The revenue proposed was £7670, and the expenditure £7610; but, although there were several new items of expenditure amounting to £1005, the revenue had been so regulated that the actual excess over last year's expenditure would only be £79:1:3. Mr. Singleton then moved a renewal of the former resolutions of Council on the sale of Crown lands, and a confirmation of its previous censure of the high price fixed as a *minimum.* The Colonial Secretary suggested that the consideration of the question should be deferred till his Excellency had had opportunities of forming an opinion on it. The Governor intimated a feeling rather averse to the present system, but would first wish to see what the home Government intended to do, and the resolutions stood over for consideration on the 7th May. On the Squatting Bill being brought up for a third reading, Mr Leake pro-

tested against it on the ground that the license fee was four times that of New South Wales; this was denied, and it then appeared that it only amounted to less than three-fourths of it, and Mr. Leake withdrew his protest. He however opposed the Bill, but it was carried on division.

April 30th.—The Governor adverted to communications he had received from Mr. S. Moore and the York Agricultural Society, complaining of the hardships of the Customs' Laws raising the duty, indiscriminately, upon tobacco used for sheep washing as well as other purposes, but the Council decided that the law was passed, and they could not now interfere. The estimates were then brought under discussion, and Mr. Leake moved, and Mr. Mackie seconded, a resolution for adding to the expenditure an item of £200 for the establishment of regular communication with the steamers at Singapore. The Governor approving of the motion, it was carried. The only alteration made in the estimate at this sitting was an increase in the salary of the Fremantle Post-master, which was raised on the motion of Mr. Singleton, seconded by Mr. Leake, to £75; Mr. Mackie magnanimously opposing a proposition by Mr. Singleton to add £75 to his salary as Chairman of Quarter Sessions.

VINEYARD SOCIETY. — The Half-Yearly Meeting of this Society was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Perth, the Governor (who has consented to become patron of the Society) in the chair. A letter was read from Mr. MacArthur, of Sydney, (author of the "Letters of Maro,") expressing his approval of the "Manual" lately published by this Society, and after two or three other practical communications had been read, the report of the Secretary was produced. It spoke very favorably of the progress of the cultivation, but alluded to two severe disadvantages which it had had to contend against during the past season, viz:— a visitation of caterpillars, and the sudden and premature advent of summer after the cold nights of the previous season. From these causes the vintage was rather inferior to the ordinary returns, and measures were suggested to guard against the first of them for the future. Mr. Nash added that a standard vine had come under his observation, which, last season, produced one hundred weight of grapes although the vineyard was very carelessly attended to, and that Signor Caporelli, an Italian gentleman, who had recently arrived, "gives it as his opinion that both soil and climate here are superior to anything he has ever seen for the vine." The report having been adopted, a farewell vote of thanks was passed to Mr. McDermott on his leaving the colony, as also

a vote of thanks to Mr. Jones, of Guildford, for his exertions in producing olive oil, some splendid samples of which were shewn. Steps were taken for the publication of a statement of the resources of the colony for the growth of vines and olives, and the meeting dispersed.

THE REVENUE.—The statement for the quarter, ending March 31st, shews the revenue to have been £2323 : 6s. out of which the expenditure was £2123 : 8s. : 9d. There was a further expenditure of £1989 : 15s. : 2d. out of the Government grant.

GENERAL NEWS.

PERTH ROAD.—A subscription was being raised for forming a clay roadway and removing the sand from the road, from Perth to the foot of Mount Eliza. **ROTTNEST SALT.**—Propositions were put forth for exporting the Rottneest and also the York Salt to China, and it was hoped that the subject would be taken up. **PUBLIC EDUCATION.**—We are glad to find among the advertisements in the papers two projects for promoting the education of the rising race of Colonists; a Government free Grammar School at Perth, under the management of the Rev. John Gibson, B. A., and a Catholic College, also at Perth, founded by Dr. Brady, with professors of every branch of polite education, both of which are open to pupils of all sects at very moderate charges. **PUBLIC LECTURES.**—Professor O'Reilly, one of Dr. Brady's coadjutors, and the Professor of Mathematics and Philosophy in the new College, advertises a course of lectures on Saturday evenings on Grammar and Logic, to which the public will be admitted free. **PUBLIC CONCERT.**—Another Concert in aid of the Perth Church Organ Fund took place on the 15th April. **BUNBURY BRIDGE.**—A substantial bridge has been thrown across the River Preston, thus connecting the Port of Bunbury with the town of Australind. **ROADS AND BRIDGES.**—A proper anxiety for promoting public works is displaying itself. The Governor in his opening speech to the Council remarked that "nothing tends more to the prosperity of a country than the facility of intercourse afforded by good roads," and proposed a grant of £200 to the service adding that if he had funds it should have been £2000; and the farmers on the line from Guildford to Perth have voluntarily offered contributions of money, labor, or material to Mac Adamise the road throughout. **DEATH OF MR. WELLS.**—Mr. Wells the respected Cashier of the Western Australian Bank died suddenly at Perth on the 28th April, at the early age of 41. Mr. Loché the talented Editor of the *Inquirer* and Mr. E. G. Collinson are candidates for the vacant post. **SHIP CANAL TO PERTH.**—A project was on foot for cutting a Ship Canal from the Sea into the estuary at Rocky Bay,

which it was estimated might be effected by 300 convicts in twelve months at an expense of £10,000. The Governor is reported to view it favourably as he in fact appears to view all proposals for the benefit of the colony. **NEW NEWSPAPER.**—Another weekly journal is advertised to be published at Perth, price 6d. "open to all parties but influenced by none." It will, we believe be the organ of Dr. Brady's party. **OPENING OF THE PORTS!!!**—We have already announced elsewhere that by an Act of Council, 9th. Victoria, No. 10, just passed, the Ports of Western Australia are free to Vessels from all parts of the world! **KING GEORGE'S SOUND SALT.**—A quantity of Salt from King George's Sound had been carried up to Swan River by the *Thetis*, and it was hoped might prove equal to the imported Liverpool Salt in curing fresh meat, &c. **THE ROMAN CATHOLICS.**—We cannot but notice in terms of approval, (whatever may be our difference of creed), the energy and enlightened enterprise displayed by the party of Roman Catholics who accompanied Dr. Brady in his mission. The public lectures, the College, and the new journal adverted to above, are all so many indications of the intelligence and activity they are exhibiting and we are glad to find their Bishop, preserves a proper feeling in abstaining from any controversial discussion which might provoke discord, and knows his duty to his cause, and his own dignity too well to stoop to answering some paltry attempts to bring on a newspaper discussion of religious matters.

We have a file of the *Inquirer*, by this arrival, to the 6th, and of the *Perth Gazette*, to the 2nd May, but, beyond the matter stated in the summary given above, there is nothing which requires notice.

SWAN RIVER.—29 JUNE, OVERLAND!

SINCE the foregoing article was in the hands of the printer, we have received letters from Western Australia to the above date; they add little however to the information therein contained, except the following:

FROM OUR OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENTS.

The *Champion* leaves here in ten days for Batavia, to make arrangements with the Dutch Government for transmission of our letters regularly overland; if arranged, it will be of the greatest consequence to this place. S.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

BIRTH.

Wells, Mrs. R., April 28, at Perth, a son.

DEATHS.

Child, Mr. J. K., at Bunbury, June 27.
Moore, S. J., at Oakover, Middle Swan, March 19, aged 3½ years. Killed by accident.
Sutherland, Miss M. A., at Perth, April 25, aged 9.
Wells, Mr. R., at Perth, April 28, Aged 41.

Dispatches from the Governor of Western Australia were received at the Colonial Office, September 23.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS AT FREMANTLE.—H. M. S. *Champion*, Helpman, R.N., March 2, from Launceston.—*Prima Donna*, Jones, April 1, from Hobart Town.—*John Bayshaw*, Dare, from London.

DEPARTURES FROM FREMANTLE.—*Frolic*, Feb 26, for Sydney.—*Prima Donna*, Jones, April 4, for Ampanum.—H. M. S. *Champion*, Helpman, R. N. April 4, for Adelaide.—*Meropé*, Harding, April 19, for whaling.

Emma Sherratt, from Swan River arrived at Adelaide.—*John Bayshaw*, from Swan River, arrived at Sourabaya, July 20.

POSTSCRIPT.

Swan River News Office,
September 30th.

WOOL.—We withdraw our Passenger List in order to announce that in the series of Wool Sales now just closed, 137 bales of Swan River Wool were sold at fair to good ls. 4d. to 1s. 7d.—Average quality 1s. 1d. to 1s. 4d.—Inferior, 10d. to 1s. 1d.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR SWAN RIVER, (WESTERN AUSTRALIA), under engagement with Her Majesty's Government, and will have quick dispatch, the fine fast-sailing Ship, WILLIAM WISE, Burthen 500 Tons, LEONARD LOWE, Commander, lying at the Jetty, London Docks. Has excellent accommodation for Cabin and Steerage Passengers. For Freight or Passage, apply to WILLIAM FELGATE & Co. 4, Clement's-lane, Lombard Street.

TO EMIGRANTS.—GEORGE & JOHN DEANE have always on hand an extensive stock of General Ironmongery, comprising tools of every description for the agriculturist carpenter, cooper, &c. American wedge axes, felling axes, grubbing hoes, pit and cross-cut saws, shaft engines, portable forges, hoes, spades, shovels, ploughs, harrows, &c. The attention of Emigrants is particularly directed to GEORGE & JOHN DEANE'S extensive collection of tool chests, in the fitting up of which the utmost attention is paid to quality and the latest improvements. Their stock of articles adapted for domestic and culinary use, is not rivalled by any other establishment in the Metropolis; they are all warranted, and charged at the lowest possible prices.

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SOLICITORS.—MESSRS. LAWRENCE & VIGORS.

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Bills or Notes	—not exceeding 2 months,	7 per Cent. per Ann.
"	above 2 & "	3 " 7½ " "
"	3 " "	4 " 8 " "
"	4 " "	5 " 9½ " "
"	5 " "	6 " 11 " "

6 months, at discretion of the Directors.
No charge made for Keeping Cash Accounts.
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N. B.—LETTERS OF CREDIT, and BILLS at Thirty Days sight are granted in London, by the Agents, at their Office, as above.

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LAUNCESTON.—Agents..... Messrs. Gleadow & Henry. MAITLAND.—Agent..... Joseph Chambers, Esq. Medical Referee, David Sloane, Esq.

MELBOURNE.—Agent..... Capt. Geo. Ward Cole. Medical Referee, Dr. Hobson. PORT MACQUARIE, Medical Referee, Wm. Richardson, Esq. PORT STEPHENS, Medical Referee, Dr. Buchanan. YASS.—Medical Referee, Joseph Ellis, Esq.

INDIAN BRANCH.

BOMBAY.—Agents..... Messrs. Ritchie, Stewart & Co. Medical Referee, Dr. Wm. Mackie.

CALCUTTA.—Agents..... Messrs. Boyd, Beeby & Co. Medical Referee, Dr. D. Stewart, Presidency Surg. CEYLON.—Agents..... Messrs. Ackland Boyd & Co. Medical Referee, Dr. J. C. Cameron, Assistant Staff Surgeon.

MADRAS.—Agents..... Messrs. Line & Co. Medical Referee, George Harding, Esq.

No extra Premium is charged to the Assured for the whole of life, for voyage to England as cabin or intermediate passengers in approved vessels, or for residence in the Australasian Colonies in approved situations. Distance from medical advice, occupation in whale fishery, or distant voyaging, will be covered by equitable premiums; but parties may proceed from port to port throughout the Australasian Colonies in decked vessels of 100 tons or upwards.

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INDIA, CEYLON, AND CHINA.

Tables of Premiums for Assurances on the Lives of Officers engaged in civil and military service in the East Indies, Ceylon, and China, have been calculated, and may be seen at the Office of the Company.

Premiums may be paid and claims settled in India. The Premiums charged for Residence in India are immediately reduced to the English and Australasian Scale on the return of the Assured Life to England or Australasia.

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Are covered at rates as nearly proportioned to the extra risk as the information respecting the healthiness of the respective localities will admit of.

Forms of Proposals and full particulars may be had at the Office of the Company, No. 126, Bishopsgate-st corner of Cornhill.

Printed and Published by EDWARD COLYER, 17, Fenchurch-street, London; where all Communications for the Editor are to be addressed.—Agent in Western Australia, Mr. FRANCIS LOCHER, St. George's-terrace, Perth.

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