

gain a reputable and comfortable livelihood. Private benevolence might effect as much good in this country, where private benevolence so often takes these matters out of the hands of the Government, especially if it were aided by the co-operation of the state in the appointment of a clerical superintendent. Under such management, an institution of this kind would be more than self-supporting; and it is peculiarly adapted to Westera Australia, whose climate and soil are calculated to raise those valuable products in the culture of which the labor of children would be used with profit, such as the mulberry, vine, olive, hemp and flax, wheat, tobacco and a variety of others.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Lincoln's Inn, Dec. 26th. H. E.

[The remainder of this correspondent's suggestions shall appear as soon as we can make room.—ED. S.R.N.]

ANOTHER SUPPLEMENT EXTRAORDINARY TO THE "SWAN RIVER NEWS" was issued on the 1st of last month, on the receipt of intelligence to the 14th September from Western Australia, announcing the discovery of copper. This Supplement was, immediately on the arrival of the news, printed and dispatched at once to all the London daily and weekly papers, and (although the publication of the paper was already completed), to all our Subscribers whose names were known at our office, gratis. The *Morning Chronicle*, *Morning Herald*, and *Daily News* of the next morning, the *Sun*, *Globe*, *Standard*, *Express*, and *Shipping and Mercantile Gazette* of the next evening, and the *Times* of the morning following, contained a reprint of our Supplement. And it was also duly copied into all the leading tri-weekly, bi-weekly, and weekly newspapers in London and throughout the kingdom.

STEAM TO WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—While preparing the present number for the press we have received the prospectus of a projected "India and Australia Mail Packet Company, (*via* Egypt)," in which we find it is proposed to "run a monthly packet from Plymouth to Alexandria, to correspond with a steamer from Suez to Ceylon, &c.," and another packet from Ceylon to Sydney direct, with branches to the other Australian settlements. Thus, if this scheme is carried out, as it seems likely to be, although Western Australia will not be placed in the direct line of the arrangements as she ought to be, she will not be excluded from participation of their benefits.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BISHOPRIC FUND.—By a typographical error in our last it was stated that Her Majesty the Queen Dowager

had presented £80 to this fund. The amount should have been stated as £50.

THE BLUNDERS OF THE "TIMES." The *Times* of December 6th, contained in its Shipping List the announcement of the arrival of the "*Emu*, from Swan River, at Gravesend, Dec. 5th." From whence this startling information was gleaned, we cannot discover; all we know is that it is another of those gross and entirely unfounded mistakes which have so often excited our admiration.

THE SHIP "WILLIAM WISE," Captain Byron, for Western Australia, is expected to leave the London Docks this day; the passengers, Mrs. and Miss Butler and Mr. and Mrs. Denzil Onslow, embarking at Gravesend.

CONTEMPORARY OPINIONS.

THE FATE OF THE "SWAN RIVER NEWS."—It is with concern and disappointment that we observe in the number of the SWAN RIVER NEWS for last month, a notice complaining of the non-payment of subscriptions, and stating that though Proprietor, Editor, nor Contributors seek any emolument, the publication cannot be carried on beyond the end of the year, unless the arrears &c. are discharged. We really, looking at the merits of the NEWS, should have thought such a failure impossible. There must be a sufficient number of parties, immediately interested in these great and growing colonies, to support a much more expensive serial than this, not to mention the general public; and we trust that the appeal now made will not be made in vain.—From the *Literary Gazette*, of November 7th.

SALE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SANDAL WOOD AT SINGAPORE.

By the Overland Mail, *via* Marseilles, we have received reports from Singapore, dated November 6th., announcing the sale by Messrs. Spottiswood and Connolly, of 44¼ pieces of Sandal Wood, carried from Fremantle by the *Lightning*, and weighing 71 piculs, or about 9500 lbs. The price realized was 2½ dollars or 11s. *per* "picul," or £9, 5s. *per* ton. The merchants to whom the shipment was consigned, and by whom it was disposed of make no remarks upon its condition or the prospect of future shipments.

MR. LOCHÉE, THE INQUIRER AND THE SWAN RIVER NEWS.

THE general public knowing little of the conductors of the newspapers they read, care little about the personal affairs of the press,

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and under ordinary circumstances it would be unnecessary to allude to changes in the management or proprietorship of public journals. But, in the case of the colonial press, the case is somewhat different, inasmuch as the editorship is not anonymous but generally avowed in legible characters enough on the last page, so that there is no necessity for delicacy in speaking of the guiding spirit *in propria persona*. Moreover we have a debt of gratitude to discharge which is strong enough to make us run the risk of being reproached with adopting this course. It has long been publicly known that Mr. Francis Lochée was the editor of the *Inquirer*, Perth newspaper, from its foundation down to the present time; his name has also long been printed as the agent of the SWAN RIVER NEWS. In the former character we leave the public to express their own thanks for the talent he has uniformly exercised, and the spirit and enterprise with which he has always conducted a journal started and carried on under extraordinary circumstances, and which has been so greatly instrumental in bringing about whatever of good has fallen to the share of the colony during the last five years. In his character of agent to the SWAN RIVER NEWS we cannot allow the occasion to pass, of his withdrawing from the press without a word or two. Mr. Lochée has been, from the establishment of this journal, one of its principal Correspondents in the Colony, and the character which it has acquired for priority and originality of information is entirely attributable to his indefatigable zeal and general and varied talents. But both offices—as agent and correspondent to this journal—have been from the first entirely honorary; he has never accepted a farthing's remuneration for his never tiring attention to our interests, and although we know he is averse to public praise we should neither be doing our duty to him, ourselves, or to our readers, if we neglected to acknowledge the disinterested exertions he has made to promote our success. Repudiating all personalities, he has never, either in his communications to us or his management of the *Inquirer*, hesitated to assume the championship of the public cause, and the history of his connexion with the press presents one of those rare characteristics, that, unallied to any political party, but keenly alive to the interests of the many, he never allowed a single circumstance to escape him which deserved his condemnation nor lost an opportunity of awarding praise when it was due; while his public career has, we believe we may add, not caused him to lose a single friend, but has acquired to him a host of admirers of his zeal and talent. The result of the election which so triumphantly returned him to a post

for which he is so well qualified, although it is yet below his deserts, shows in bright colors the estimation in which he was held in the Colony: it is seldom that the editor of a newspaper, surrounded by such embarrassments as cling to him in a small community, secedes from the press with the acclamation of all parties so unequivocally expressed.

The *Inquirer* has passed into other hands: its present editor has already appeared before the public on several occasions, in a very favorable light, as an active and able friend of the Colony; and it might be a compliment to any man but is no more than the new editor deserves, to say that he is worthy to succeed to such a predecessor and to guide a paper of such honorable fame as the *Inquirer*. The friendly alliance which has so long existed between that paper and the SWAN RIVER NEWS, lives on through the change of management, and the same sympathy in our opinions and unanimity in our purpose.

REPORTED RETURN OF GOVERNOR CLARKE.

OUR readers will be as grieved to hear as we are to communicate, the report which we fear is only too well founded, that His Excellency Governor Clarke has resolved on tendering his resignation to the Government, and in fact that it may already be in the hands of the Colonial Minister, the state of his health being unequal to the arduous duties of his office. It is stated in quarters likely to be well informed, that Earl Gray has abandoned the ancient prejudice against nominating a resident to the exalted post of Governor, and it is not improbable that a relaxation of this exclusive rule will be made in favor of Mr. Marshal Waller Clifton.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

Champion, Helpman, R.N., from Singapore for Swan River, arrived at Anjeer, Sep. 24th.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The following communications will all appear in our next if possible—if any of them are excluded we will certainly make room for them in No. 39. Letters on "the Colonisation of Western Australia" by A. SUBSCRIBER, MR. WHITE, and W. J. on "the Western Australian Society," from J. W.; on the "Language of the Aborigines" from R. B. S.; on the "Statistics of Western Australia," from L.; on "Steam to Western Australia" from MR. F. C. SINGLETON; and several other communications. Our Correspondents must not suppose that we undervalue their favors or treat them uncourteously in this delay, it being unavoidable and caused by the peremptory pressure of other matters.

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