





Als ons Parlement zit, wie kan dan onverschillig toezien? Moet niet ieder man (vrij) hebben en haast bygevoegd vrouw en kind, ofsheen zy zich liever maar niet met die zaken bemoeven moeten) welke de belangen der Kolonie ten harte neemt, de publieke daden van hen bewaken, die door hunne medeburgers yn gekozen om het publieke welzijn in al zyne takken te bevorderen. Wel, my moeten de openbare pers en het publiek in 't algemeen het recht doen om te erkennen dat de handelingen onzer wetgevers, als zij zitting, vrij nauwkeurig en tamenlyk scherp beproeven worden. De meeste menschen schynen ten volle beseft te hebben van het feit dat wetten het land veel kwad zo wel als goed kunnen doen, narmate zy zo der of met doodel zyn opgemakt; van hier de algemeene belangstelling terwyl de Bills nog de verschillende trappen, door de wetvoorzchreven, niet geheel zyn doorgestaan. Maar wien lijk als een Bill is gepasseerd schynt zy betrekkelijk aan de vergeetelheid prys te geven. Zy is eene zaak van het verleden, en zy die nog zo even zo diep van hare belangryheid waren overtuigd, schynen er zich van af te wenden als van iets dat beneden hulle aandacht is. Et toch is het eerst als de wetten zyn aangenomen, als zy alle door de Constitutie voorgeschreven goedkeuring hebben ontvangen en in werking worden gebracht, dat zy onze belangen op de eene of andere wyze kunnen aandoen. In de tusschenruime van de zittingen van ons Parlement behoort de vraag gedaan te woen, wat is er van de laatste wetsbepalingen geworden? wat goed of wat kwaad doen zy? kan het zyn dat zy volstrekt niet in werking zyn gebracht? En zo ja, komst dit dan door traagheid van den konink der uitvoerende magt, of door eene diepliggende onwetendheid, of door onvoldoende hare diepliggende onwetendheid, of door onbegunstigheid, en wordt het voorzigtig g-aacht te voor het oogenblik te laten rusten? Het is waar, wat ook de oorsaak moog zyn, dat er dikwyls eene woe klote is tusschen het aannemen eener wet en hare uitvoering. Uitgeworpen bills worden met eene antdugtheid (die wel uitoudtken wordt) by in de weg gesmoorde kinde en vergeleken, maar gepasseerde bills die men igtgen laat of slechts zwajies ten uitvoer legt, zyn weinig beter dan de doodgeborvenen. Wy geven d zo opmerkingen niet als ydele beschouwingen, maar wy wenschen de aandacht onzer mede-koloni-ten optewekken en hen te bewegen zich te overtuigen in welke opzigt zy er beter of slechter aan toe zyn door d in de laatste Parlements zitting, of liever zittingen, aangenomen Bills. Onze Regeering, daaronder begrepen de Wetgevende en Uitvoerende Magt, kost o s eene goede rede zoen, en het kan niet onbeschaamd zyn om te vragen, welk goed zy voor ons gedaan heeft? Als wy de nieuw opgelegde belastingen als productief hooren spreken, zyn wy nog niet die delyk gered om ons over dat bericht te verbyden. Alle belastingen zyn in zeker opzigt productief; zy producee en verhoed in 's lands schatkist en leegheid in de zakken der belasting-schuldigen. Maar slechts als het dus uit den privaat zak in de schatkist overgegaangeld met voordel wordt aangewend en spaarsaam gebruikt, kan men zeggen dat belastingen welklyk productief zyn. Maar als het eene kun-tniddele na het andere wordt aangevond om eene schatkist te vullen, de veel van een lek wat heeft, en waarin het geld weg smelt als yn in een ystnus waarvan de toegang niet behoortlyk gesl ten worden gehouden, dan zyn de belastingen niet productief volgens den eenigen juist zin van dat woord. De belasting-schuldigen behooren de koopliid in het achtigsten op de hoofdzaak natevolden. In hunne zaken met de Regeering behouden zy steeds het oog op het grootteek te hebben, en te oet zien dat zy waards krijgen voor hetgeen zy uitgeven. Er zyn gewoonly twee soorten van belastingbetalers; zy die zorgeloos betalen om dat, daar zy grootte profyten maken, zy bet het opgelegde kunnen mis-zien; en zy die steeds brennen omdat zy, boven hunne middelen belast wordende, de belasting als een bepaald kwaad hebben leyren beschouwen. De ryke man, vooral de koopman, behoort te oet zyn eigen best zich inspannen om de lasten der betrekkellyk ar-reen, die het grootste aantal verbruikers zyn in invoeren vormen, te verminderen. De vroylye belastingbetaler is, in welke klasse ook, een para avie, omdat terwyl de menschen zich vele k eide gemakken ontzegen om den belastingbetaler te kunnen betalen, zy gewoonly niet zien hoe zy bevoordeeld worden. En waarom zyn zy sulks niet? Omdat in de mee-te gevallen zy volstrekt niet bevoordeeld worden.

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...Southey. Met een herder als lozing en een  
...als landbouwer met de landbouw floren.  
(toelichting op reuk). Toen Solomoni in het Oosten  
...en een even den landbouw sprak, zide men "Je west  
...van 1" sture als "Je twee of drie pruyen"  
...van dan dan men alle met by de  
...onderste. (gelach). Ten slots noodigh by de  
...aanwijzen uit om hante loopen tot kolleuswen,  
...en einde den heer Southey te toonen, dat by de  
...populair sekretaris van de kolonia was.  
De toast werd met drie malen drin, en nog een  
gedronken.  
De voorzitter dankte in hartelyke bewoordingen.  
Nadat de heer Manuik "de vice presidenten" had  
voorgeleed, "de voorzitter de heer Haupt, en hielen een  
...teerlyk in praktieke speech, waarin by de  
...aansicht vestigde de aankweeking van den olyf-  
boom en aanwijze hoe de caoutchoucplant, die nu  
gevoelich als een nutloos onkruid wordt uitergeleid,  
eek kostbaar artikel van uitvoer kon worden.  
De voorzitter stelde daartoe voor de spoorwegin  
de kolonies mede te riep de toosten besloten met die  
op de "drupken" en "Lady W. de hounse en de flames,"  
waarna het geselschap kort na twaalf uur scheide.  
DONDERDAG, 26 JANUARY.  
De Ploegrijd.—Hoewel de grond droog en hard  
en des moeylyk te bewerken was, kon men niet  
...van het deugdlyke van het werk door de  
geborede Cooper verrigt. Newton deed ook goe  
werk, ofschon by een licht ploeg en paarden had die  
...gevoelich en hetting van de heer Duckitt, die  
in het belang der in de kolonijs gebouwen van ploeg  
hanteerde, de d'byonder goet werk en zal wel een  
der pruyen gekregen hebben. Er was nog een persoon  
die niet mededoch, maar een ploeg van eigen maaksel  
vertoonde, waarmede by goede diepe, hoewel niet  
regte voren trok.  
Machinerie.—De heer Kearns verbode een wind-  
molen water op een koppen wympop. De  
heer Ross vertoede een menigte landbouw-  
schap, waaronder een stel vuren Howard's ploegen,  
die veel aandacht te sich trokken; een kleine brand-  
...en een klein, e nige heksen; en een watermolen,  
die eendlyk een ketting van bespreyings pomp. Er  
waren ook enige stroom voren, een assortment  
gevoelich stalen voren, en een, bestemd om  
met de Amerikaanse te veldvuren.  
NATURLYK PRODUCTEN.—Deze producten waren  
slechts bestemd om te doen zien wat de jonge kolonies  
opleverde, in bestands uit een monster stouken; en  
monstrer suiker, bak, hout, vlas, ramm, arnowort  
en katzen. De Kolen zy schitterend zacht, het  
bwsy levendige dat zy goed branden om hitte geven.  
Wanneer de spoorwag na de mynen aangelegd is,  
zullen zy voor 15s. per ton aan de baai geleverd  
konden worden. De suiker was goe, fyk en veug.  
Hoewel de lichte voren was, hadde by noz niet  
...in gear by dit te swellend te verdoen. Het hout,  
...voren van kistje door den heer Chiappi in ver-  
toond, en dat uit 18 soorten is zamengesteld, trok  
veel aandacht. De aarden artikelen waren goe,  
en lten geen twyfel over of zy zullen elders een  
gevoelich markt vinden. Het is te hopen dat nu onze  
vrienden te Natal de meeste genomen hebben om  
aan te vuren wat zy ook al doen, er deggen onder  
...landbouwers gevonden zullen worden, die  
...trachten en alle niet alleen om hunne hore,  
...voor te streven. In dit geval zal de vrentoont  
van de Paarl bevoonden worden van niet weinig nut  
te zy geweest.  
DE VERBRANDING VAN H. M. S. "BOMBAY."  
Een private brief van Rio de Janeiro van 24  
December geeft de volgende byzonderheden ontrent dit  
ongeluk, waarvan wy in ons vorig nummer  
kortelyk melding maakten:—Admiral Elliot,  
zyne vize, sekretaris, vize-luitenant, Drew, een  
...van de vloot, en een boot en enige  
biedenden van tydens het ongeluk, maar hore  
Tegen het aanbreken van den dag, op den 14 gine  
de Bombay ontbrek zell ten einde zich in het schiff-  
...toe oefenen. Te half vier was men ongeveer  
18 mylen van Montevideo. Toen eens wacht  
weder voor de oefening op het dek geropen was,  
ontdekte de mannen by de bomkaner brand  
beoonden; alarm werd gemakkt, en in weinige  
...de brand moe ontstaan  
zy in den noordelyken van den smaken van het  
de bottery, die dit by elkander waren. De groot-  
...de brand, beoonden in stilte beoerchte. Het water  
...de brand te minste uitwerking te hebben.  
De vlammen barstten spoedig uit al de geschutz-  
...De booten werden nu allen uitgezet. Op  
dit oogenblik was de gemeenschap tussehen het voren-  
...schietschip geheel door de vlammen afg, sneden.  
De saken werden eerst in de booten gefaten; toen  
viel de grootste mast, die swaartier nadt de brand  
ontdekte was. De booten gingen toen onder water  
voor en achter steven en namen zooveel manschap-  
...op de zy konden alstoen werd berel gegeven  
om af te houden, en aan die noz op het schip werd  
gegrd om een goe beooken te zoeken. Eedige  
...saken spieren enz. overboord, en sprongen in see;  
andere die niet konden zwemmen hingen aan  
...tween langs het schip, teryl het gesmolten loof,  
...op de hgn aldroy. Spoedig kwamen de  
...naar heden en om te voren  
...de branding mela. Tereyl de rook beoonden van het  
brandende schip af lagen, hadden zy streng bevel  
om niet dicht te gaan ten einde te trachten eenige  
...der drenkelinge te redder. De joboonten gingen af  
en aan om de drenkelinge daerheen te brengen  
om dus werden Luitenant Stirling en eedige mannen  
der equipage gefat. De kapitein, de kommandant van  
de stuurman verlieten het vaartuig het laatste  
...overboord van den boez af en zwommen  
...de rook voren er geen spoor was van de  
...Bombay te zien, ontrent 16 mylen van Montevideo  
...de branding van 8 vaam water. Duzenden  
...saken stonden aan den oever om het vreeslyk  
tooneel aantezien. De booten kwamen daar te 11 ure  
aan. De Franse maaboot vertrok dat volgendes  
morgen te 8 ure met Luitenant Stirling en vize-  
...Skinner, om de depesches van Admiral  
Elliot naar de Admiraliteit over te brengen. Dr.  
Smallhorn, de heer Franklin, de bootman en 93  
...matrozen en mariniere hebben by dese geleghheid  
het leven verloren.  
In de berigten, die de City of Baltimore, uit  
Amerika overbragt, wordt te gemoet teleurstelling van  
het publiek niets nader germd ontrent de ver-  
...voorstellen, die Luitenant na zyne herkiezing aan het  
Zuiden zou hebben toegezonden. Dat by werkyk  
dargelyk voorstellen aan het gouvernement te Rich-  
mond heeft geschied, en geen vreeslyk hier niet  
beterfeld; doch men vleit zich in het minde  
...met enig vooruitzicht op de aanneminge dier voorstel-  
...door het Zuiden. Intusschen hoort men onder de  
Unionisten beoonden dat het Zuiden, ofschon byna  
gehel uilgeput, noz alleen verstand bielde in de  
stellige hoop op een spoedige interventie van Engeland  
en Frankryk. Dit hoop is huns intevie in de laatste  
dagen versterkt door de onderhandelingen, die tus-  
...den heer Seward en den Franseken gezant te  
Washington herhaaldlyk hebben plaats gehad en van  
...dat het gouvernement der Zuideliken, en van  
...bestaat op hulp van de Europeesche mogent-  
heden, zich niet geneigd zal toonen om toe te geeven.  
Welke inzichten keizer Napoleon op dit oogenblik te-  
...opzichte van Amerika heeft, is zeker alchts een  
...weinig van mischeien aan niemand bekend, doch men  
...veest met rezechil, dat de Britsche regering niet  
...voornemens is, om vooreerst van hare neutraliteit af  
te wyken. Dit byt dikwils duidelyk uit de mis-  
...de graaf Russell aan de heer Mason en Sijdeli heb-  
...gezaanden, op de memorie die zy by hem in  
...naam van hun gouvernement hadde ingeleiden  
en in antwoord waarop graaf Russell vertikant  
dat de regering, even als vroeger, de strikte neutra-  
liteit zal blyven in acht nemen.

# THE SUID AFRIKAAN.

Cape Town, January 30, 1865.

WHEN our Parliament is sitting, who can look on with indifference? Must not every man (we were about to add woman and child, though they were but better leaver such things alone) must not every man, who takes the interests of the colony to heart, watch the public acts of those who have been elected by their fellow-citizens to promote the public good in all its branches? Well, we must do that justice to the public press, and to the public in general, to allow that the proceedings of our legislature, when in session, are pretty narrowly watched and rather sharply commented on. Most people seem to be wide awake to the fact that statutes may be productive of a great deal of evil as well as of good to the community, according as they are judiciously framed or otherwise; hence the general solicitude, while Bills are passing through those stages, that must by law precede every enactment. But, strange to say! when a Bill is passed, it seems to be comparatively consigned to oblivion. It is a thing of the past, and those who but lately were deeply impressed with its importance, seem to turn their backs upon it, as something unworthy of their attention. And yet it is only when statutes are passed, when they have received all the sanctions prescribed by the Constitution, and are carried into operation, that they can affect our interests either one way or another. In the intervals between the sessions of our Parliament, the question ought to be asked, what has become of the latest enactment? what good or what mischief are they working? Can it be that they are not put in operation at all? And if so, is this owing to indolence on the part of the Executive, or to some deep design, because circumstances do not favour their immediate execution, and is it thought more prudent to let them lie dormant for the present? It is true, whatever may be the cause, that there is often a wide chasm between the passing of a law and carrying it into execution. Bills thrown out are humorously compared (though the humour is growing somewhat stale) to infants strangled in their birth; but bills passed and allowed to lie dormant, or at best feebly executed, are little better than the still-born. We do not intend these remarks as idle speculations, but we wish to rouse the attention of our fellow colonists, and to induce them to ascertain in what respect we are better or worse off for the bills passed in the last session or rather sessions of our Parliament. Our Government, including the Legislature and the Executive, costs us a good round sum, and it cannot be impertinent to ask, what good is it doing for us? When we hear of the newly imposed taxes being productive, we are not yet prepared to rejoice at that piece of intelligence. All taxes are productive in one sense: they produce fullness in the public chest and emptiness in the pockets of taxpayers. But it is when the money thus transferred from the private pocket to the public chest is profitably employed, and applied with economy, that taxes may be truly said to be productive. But when one device after another is resorted to, for the purpose of replenishing a treasury which partakes of the nature of a perforated cask, and in which the money seems to melt away like ice in an ice house of which the issues are not properly attended to, then taxes are not productive in the only correct sense of that term. Taxpayers ought to invite merchants in their attention to the main chance. In their transactions with Government they ought to have their eye constantly on the ledger, and see that they get a *quid pro quo* for whatever they issue. There are generally two classes of tax-payers: those who pay carelessly, because, making large profits, they can well afford what is imposed on them; and others who are ever grumbling, because, being over-taxed in proportion to their means, they have learned to look upon taxation as a positive evil. The rich man, especially the merchant, ought for his own sake to exert himself to reduce the burthens of the comparatively poor, who constitute the great body of consumers of his imports. The cheerful tax-payer, no matter of what class, is a *rara avis*, because while people refuse themselves many little comforts, that they may be able to meet the tax-gatherer, they generally fail to see how they are benefited. And why should they fail to see this? Because in most cases they are not benefited at all.

INTERSTATE ESTATES.—Meetings of the next of kin and creditors will be holden in the estates of: Anna E. Fisher, at the master's office, 14th March.—M. J. Burger and surviving husband H. J. Roux, at the magistrate's office, Swellendam, 16th March.—C. L. Meyer and surviving husband D. P. Marais, and M. M. van Rooyen, widow of the late J. Strydom, and formerly widow of the late W. L. Meyer, at ditto, Humansdorp, 10th March.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS.—The following candidates have passed their examination in the theory of trigonometrical surveying, viz. H. de umid, M. McEllis and R. H. Darcel.

WONDERS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.—In the *Mercantile Advertiser* of Saturday last, there is an advertisement in which it is stated that Mr. Woola d has *saxacories for a few VOCAL pupils!* After this we may reasonably expect to see parties advertising vacancies for instrumental, geographical or any other description of pupils!

THE PAARL SHOW.—The great exhibition at the Paarl took place on Wednesday last, and was attended by an immense concourse of people from all the neighbouring districts, even as far as George. Sir P. Wodehouse and lady, the Colonial Secretary, Col. Council and other distinguish-

ed officers were also present. Taking it as a whole, the exhibition was certainly a success. Although, owing to the unusually dry season and other circumstances, the show of fruit, flowers, field and garden produce was not so abundant, nor so excellent in quality, as it would otherwise have been, it was nevertheless a fair indication of what can be produced under more favourable circumstances. The display of horses was good; that of bulls, cows and heifers the best hitherto seen. The stabled oxen, pigs and sheep were of the best description. Of poultry, butter, hams, &c., the supply was unusually small. The wool exhibited could vie with anything ever seen in this colony, and such as can only be produced by the prisoners, the Brodaa and Neethlings. The samples of wine were of a very fair quality, and much more numerous than on former occasions; and the wine and potato spirits, Paarl gilt, imitation cognac, &c. of a commendable quality. Much attention was bestowed on the samples of coal, sugar, wood, flax, cotton, tobacco, &c. from Natal, exhibited by Mr. E. Chiappini. In the evening there was, as usual on such occasions, a dinner, which was attended by the Governor, and by which some very effective speeches were made by His Excellency, Mr. S. Ashley, Mr. Hare, Mr. Saul Solomon, Mr. Haupt, and others. On Friday the ploughing match and trial of machinery took place. Every thing, we are glad to say, passed off most satisfactorily.

MR. TEUBES AND THE PAARL SHOW.—With reference to the prize awarded to him, Mr. K. Teubes requests us to publish the following:—"I see that the prize has been awarded to me for the best colonial bull for draught and slaughter purposes. The judges must either have made a blunder, or have no knowledge of Dutch cattle. My bull was sent to compete for the prize for colonial bred bulls of acknowledged Dutch milk-breed. The mother of my bull has now her 9th calf, and yet yields 40 quarts of milk per day, as those who yet see who like to come. In order to enable the public to judge for themselves, I shall on Saturday next, the 4th February, at 10 o'clock a.m., exhibit my bull, with his mother and sister from father's side, on the Parade.

THE COMET.—Sir Thos. McClear has addressed the following letter to a contemporary:—"Sir.—The first occasion which has proved the vicinity of Table Mountain to be a nuisance to this Observatory has been the masking of the comet from Wednesdays evening last."

MR. HENRY SALOMON'S COMET.—The comet from his house at Sea Point on Wednesday the 18th instant, and was as kind as to report the discovery to me with the least practicable delay. On Thursday evening the upper end of the tail was visible from the Observatory projecting above and partly to the south of the south escarpment of Table Mountain. Unwilling to let another day pass without obtaining a complete view of the comet, I went to Sea Point and spent the evening of Friday with Mr. Solomon, from whose house the view was uninterrupted to the sea horizon. The evening was fine and nothing was to save the angular instrument required for securing the apparent position in the heavens. Mr. Solomon's tele-cope supplied all that was needful in the optical way. Judging from the apparent motion southward and eastward, a view of the head might have been had yesterday evening during a few minutes before the huge cloud which enveloped the top of the mountain. This evening the mountain was clear of cloud, and as twilight set in, the comet appeared in full splendor above the fourth escarpment of Table Mountain, cleared the ground towards the King's Betsack, on Devil's Berg.

At 8 hours 45 minutes Cape mean time the instrumental right ascension was 21h. 5m. 31s., north polar distance 135° 19' 10"; viz. 40° 19' 10" south declination. The head was not well defined, partly owing perhaps to the unsettled dry air in the line of sight. The tail undulated and without straggling rays projecting from it, is length about 15 degrees, in a line from the summit terminated on the same parallel of altitude with Alpha Crucis. At the upper part a slight curvature towards the north was perceptible. This comet presents nothing of the imposing grandeur of the great comet of 1843, or of the comet of June, 1851; in brilliancy it is about equal to that of Donati, as it appeared in this hemisphere in October, 1853. As this comet visits us with a month or two of the prediction of a point which would approach close to the earth and perhaps occasion some terrible calamity, people who stand in awe of such bodies may speculate on the consequences. But they may rest assured, that such predictions (viz. of comets occasioning calamities) are unworthy of a doom's consideration. I am, &c.

SIR THOS. MACLEAR, Royal Observatory, January 23, 1865.

IN our report of Dr. Changin's lecture last week it was inaccurately stated that Dr. Robertson was in the chair. There was no chairman at all to the meeting.—*Overberg Courant.*

WE understand that Dr. Robertson has given up the plan of going to Cape Town to be present at the trial of the case of the Rev. Mr. Burgers v. the Synodical Commission, which is to come on before the Supreme Court in the beginning of next month, having appointed an advocate to appear for him.—*Ibid.*

ATROCIOUS CRUELTY.—Under the excuse probably of a "practical joke," a most wantonly cruel act was perpetrated last week on a cow belonging to Mr. Hayward. The poor animal was literally beaten to death as she stood tied up in the stable. Her ribs were broken, and the bowels protruded most shockingly when Mr. Hayward went to look after her in the morning. As if this were not enough, the brute who was guilty of so much cruelty to the cow, likewise injured an old mare (which had just cast a foal), also belonging to Mr. Hayward, and although the poor beast is still alive, her recovery is very doubtful. We sincerely hope that Mr. Hayward's suspicions as to the author of these cruelties may prove correct, and we should rejoice to hear that punishment had been inflicted commensurate with the aggravated nature of the offence.—*Ibid.*

SWELLANDAM is looking up. On Saturday last there were a large number of wagons in the village, with produce from the neighbouring farms. The streets, for some hours in the morning, had quite an enlivened appearance, and the cheerful countenances of the farmers betokened that they were well pleased with the price for their loads.

THE SEASONABLE SHOWERS of rain which fell last week will restore the pasturage, which, owing to the prolonged drought, had lost all nourishment and verdure.—*Ibid.*

FIRE.—On Friday morning last, soon after daylight, a small cottage, in the valley behind Mr. Emmett's, belonging to F. J. van der Kist, Esq., and occupied by an old man named Kos Crouds, was burnt to the ground before means could be adopted for extinguishing the fire, which is supposed to have been occasioned by the imperfect state of the chimney—the sparks finding their way to the thatch, and thus setting the roof in blaze.—*Ibid.*

THE PORT ELIZABETH SHOW.—The following was received per telegraph on Wednesday:—"PORT ELIZABETH, JANUARY 25.—The show yesterday, on the whole, was very successful. The day was fine. Previous to the show being opened to the public, Prince Alfred's Park was inaugurated by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, at 12 o'clock, in the presence of the Mayor and Town Council, and several distinguished visitors; Lady Douglas and a number of other ladies were also present. Sir Percy Douglas made a very sensible speech on the occasion. The Volunteers, with their band, and the regulars, were present. The Artillery fired a salute. The Lieutenant-Governor, accompanied by the Volunteers, &c., next proceeded to the show, which was then opened to the public. The enclosure was thronged all day, the proceedings being enlivened by the Rifle band. There was a very good show of most kinds of stock. Nuggel took the prize as best entire horse. Peter Bailey for best colonial colt. Best short-horned bull, Upfill. Wool exhibited not of sufficient merit to warrant prize. Some excellent colonial grown and manufactured tobacco exhibited by Rautenbach and the Colonial linsed very good. Fine assortment of vegetables and table fruits. Ploughing matches take place this morning; cricket match this afternoon. Sale of stock to-morrow. The E.M.S. Briton arrived at ten a.m. She has on board a lot of machinery, which will be exhibited at the show if loaded in time. Business at a stand-still.

HINTS FOR AN AGRICULTURAL DINNER.—Mr. G. S. Finney, in his "Hints to Landlords, Tenants, Labourers &c." gives the following hints for toasts to be given at an agricultural dinner. As the forthcoming dinner on Wednesday next is to be a specially practical one, and intended for the farmers who visit our Show, perhaps the publication of the following extract may be of some service:—"The real object of these societies ought to be to produce the greatest amount of corn, roots, and meat at the least cost—to produce anything at a cost beyond its value is, to me, the height of folly. These societies should be for the instruction of the farmer; and who better can do this, at these dinners, than the men who gain the various prizes? Under this impression, I will just throw down a few toasts for an agricultural dinner:—

1st. The Queen and Royal Family.  
2nd. Success to the Association.

This toast should be given to a man who would base his speech on the advantages of such societies.

3rd. The Secretary.  
It would be his duty to introduce the rise and progress of the society, and the advantages that have been derived from it with its future prospects and success.

4th. The health of the judges.  
Which should be replied to in dilating on the various articles and stock that have obtained prizes; and they should point out any improvement that might benefit the locality.

5th. The first prize for the best ox.  
The gainer of this prize should reply to this toast, giving every particular of the ox and the food consumed, with his opinion of the best sort of ox to fat, and best description of food, and the best way of giving it, so that the most meat may be obtained for the least money.

6th. The first prize for the best horse.  
The gainer should reply with every particular relating to the horse, and his opinion of the best description of horse for the various descriptions of soil.

7th. The first prize for the best pen of sheep.  
This should be replied to in the same way as the ox.

8th. The first prize for the best pig.  
This should be replied to in the same way as the ox and sheep.

9th. The first prize for the best roots.  
Here is a wide field for the gainer of this prize to enlarge on the best description of root to grow—the best sort of that description—the best sort of land to grow it on—the best way to feed it—the best system of cultivating the land for it—the description of food that will grow the best quality—the best time for sowing—the best time of year for the plants to gain the most saccharine matter—and the best way and time of storing them.

10th. The best prize for the best sack of wheat.  
11th. The best prize for the best sack of barley.

12th. The first prize for the best sack of oats.  
These three toasts to be replied to in a similar way to the roots.

13th. The Chairman.  
He says what he likes, but by so doing does not waste the evening.

I think by adopting a rule or course such as the above you would much enlarge the societies, and many more farmers would rally round them, and give greater attention to their business, because they would then have the desired information thrown down before them; besides which, they are a class of men who are particularly tenacious about receiving information from any but their own body; consequently, every encouragement should be given to bring their own light out.—*E. P. Herald.*

PUNISHING CARDS.—Five men belonging to one of the cargo boats of the Algoa Bay Shipping Company were apprehended yesterday morning, and taken before Mr. Bergh, the Acting Magistrate, charged with stealing sixteen bottles of beer. It appears that Mr. Escombe, one of the clerks in the firm of J. O. Smith & Co., was on the beach early this morning, and while looking through a glass at the boat in which the prisoners were, he observed them drinking from some bottles; and a short time afterwards saw one man tampering with the cases on board. Captain Saxon came down, and Mr. Escombe told him what he had seen. With the utmost promptitude Captain Saxon procured a boat and went off to the cargo-boat, where he found beneath the stern-sheets fifteen bottles of beer stowed away. The delinquents were at once given into custody, and after a preliminary examination were remanded till this day (Saturday).—*Ibid.*

PEARSTON.—A correspondent writes:—"Many long-continued rumors say we shall lose our minister. Another rumor (without a monetary consideration this time) has been cooked up. Many have signed it, but it is mournful to reflect what a purely commercial speculation it is with many. They merely think, if we lose the minister, we lose much of our trade, the village will be retarded, and possibly it will be said as we could not retain a minister when we had one, we are not proper persons to have one. Our only hope, therefore is that when we again advertise our £300 or £350 trading ministry fund, the speculation will answer a little better than the last. But in order to do so we must enter the market

early and secure good brokers. Our chief ministry-broker has resigned.—I refer to Mr. Meijljs, who has been Elder of the Church and Prosector since the establishment of the village of Pearston. Considering his many services, the members of the congregation procured a valuable poll watch from Port Elizabeth, which they presented to him, with an address."—*G. R. Herald.*

QUEENSTOWN.—The Wages of Sin is Death.—One of those unfortunate occurrences, the results of heathenism, took place last week in the upper end of the location, which ended in the death of one individual and probable punishment of another. The facts of the case are as follows:—Two Fingos women in the absence of their husbands, made an arrangement with two men to pass the night with them in an empty hut. One of these women during the day went off to some place at a distance in search of meat, which seems to have awakened something akin to a feeling of jealousy in the mind of her paramour. After retiring for the night he began to question her as to the object of her visit to the opposite kraal, and angry words ensued but so act of violence took place at that time; and all the parties seem to have gone to sleep, but towards morning the quarrel was renewed, and blows were struck, which awoke the other inhabitant of the hut, who on getting up found the woman in a state of insensibility standing by her, who, in answer to a question from her companion, said she had killed her. By a dashing of water the woman shortly came to her senses, and was helped back to her own hut, where after a couple of hours of intense agony she died. She gave but little information to those around her except that she had been struck in the stomach by "Mene" the man she had passed the night with. Several days elapsed before the matter came to light, when the man and his companions were at once despatched to Queenstown, and on Wednesday the District Surgeon went over to Kamastone to examine the body; he found, on opening the body, a very considerable rupture of the liver, sufficient to cause death, and which fully explained the symptoms the woman complained of before her death. Her face and mouth were much disfigured, but whether from the effects of the internal injury, or from outward ill usage, we cannot say. The man is now in jail, and will, we suppose, be one of the first class for the new District Court. Mr. W. C. Hutchins, of Queenstown, has been retained for the defence. There is some doubt whether the woman had not received some previous injury in the stomach, as during a quarrel, struck her about the region of the liver with a large clod of hard clay. Still the treatment she received at the hands of Mene was very cruel, as he admitted having pushed her against the wall of the hut, and then pressed his knee upon her stomach.—*Free Press.*

Original Correspondence.

THE UNION BANK.

Mr. Editor.—It is not wonderful how the Honorable Mr. De Ronder's good wishes always find him out. The incident which recalls this to my mind is a "Vote" letter which appeared in your issue of the 23rd instant, and his reply thereto. I only hope this is a more straightforward correspondence than most of the previous political ones have been, that they may last not merely some friendly "Pump" to draw forth from his unwilling and magnanimous breast! what he has now published to the world at large,—the liberal return of his share in the £200 voted to the Directors towards increasing the dividend for 1864, and that the shareholders at their next division of profits, when they may look forward to receiving an extra 25th part of a penny per share, in consequence; for I don't think it will be more, considering the long gentleman's long-entailed absence in Europe and on the frontier. Or, what I am inclined to think more likely, is not a little electioneering dodge to secure for them, when they are to fall out at the end of the year, the Prizes of poor gullible country shareholders?—*Your's, &c.*

27th January.

NOTA VIKASOVA.

DIVISIONAL COUNCIL.

Worcester, Jan. 24th, 1865.

The usual monthly meeting of this Council took place on Saturday last. After the minutes of last meeting were read, the Chairman read a letter from the Colonial Secretary, stating that, as the Government had decided not to disburse of any Government land for the present, the moneys deposited thereon would be returned as requested. The reading of the following rich production caused some amusement among the Council, and the opinion of the public who were present. The Paarl Council must certainly have intended it as a joke. However, the Worcester Council took it in good part. Laughed, said, or thought, that their Paarl friends were the very princes of jokers, and, to every the joke out, request the Secretary to acknowledge the same, thanking them for their good fellowship, &c.; but that at the same time, they having no spare funds in hand to treat them (whether with beer, champagne, or anything else did not at the time appear), they must politely decline their good-natured and reasonable request. If all this was not said, it was meant, which is the same thing. Here is the letter in full:—

Divisional Council Office, Paarl, January 18, 1865.

Sir.—I have been instructed by this Council to represent to the Divisional Council of Worcester, that a sum of £4 0 will be required during the present year, for keeping in repair that portion of Bain's Kloof, lying in this division; and that it will therefore be necessary to establish a toll on the Pass in question; and to have the Council to be further obliged by your assistance in this matter. The Council of Worcester, which is the Council of the Pass, considering the division of Worcester receives a subsidy from the division of Robertson for the maintenance of the Worcester Road to the top of the Pass.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant, J. N. P. DE VILLIERS, Secretary.

SUB-GUARANTEES.

The following letter was forwarded to Mr. Advocate Brandt requesting his opinion respecting the liability of Worcester and the adjoining districts to pay the above tax, to which he appended his opinion:—

Divisional Council Office, Worcester, Dec. 12th, 1864.

Sir.—I have been instructed by the Divisional Council of Worcester to transmit to you a copy of a letter received from Government on the subject of the sub-guarantee to the Cape Town and Wellington Railway, and to request you to favour them with your opinion as to whether or not the Worcester division is liable for the amount charged by Government under the Act quoted in said letter. I have been requested to draw your particular attention to Sect on 5th of Act No. 8 of 1862, which stipulates, "That when the line of Railway from Wellington to Worcester or any station thereof shall have been opened for traffic, then the guarantee shall come into operation. This has not yet taken place. The Council will feel further obliged by your also taking into consideration the 1st and 2nd Sections of Act No. 8 of 1863, and to state your opinion in how far the Act No. 8 of 1862 is modified by it with regard to the sub-guarantee abovementioned. For supposing (and it is very likely) that a new line of Railway from Cape Town to Worcester, quite independent of the Cape Town and Wellington Railway—be determined through Malmesbury for instance, would not the Worcester division be subject to the sub-guarantee of the Act No. 8 of 1863, and if so, could this division be made liable for the sub-guarantee of the Act No. 8 of 1863, viz. the Cape Town and Wellington, and the Cape Town, Malmesbury and Worcester Rail-

roads? I beg to enclose the fee of £1 is, and beg the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant, J. D. Hueso, Secretary.

[Continued.]

In the Act No. 20, 1857, no mention is made of Worcester, it would consequently be held that Act no. 8 of 1862, created that liability. That Act proposed in the preamble to construct a Railway to Worcester, in communication with the Wellington Railway—then being made—and to impose a guarantee on the landed property of Cape Town, Stellenbosch, Paarl, Tulbagh, Worcester, and Robertson for the maintenance of the one half of the guarantee as well as for the construction of the Railway from Cape Town to Wellington under the Act No. 21, 1857, as for the execution of additional line from Wellington to Worcester; and for that purpose the 8th clause of said Act No. 8 of 1862 includes Tulbagh, Worcester and Robertson by the shared with the pro rata half guarantee as enacted in Act No. 21, 1857. It is by this clause that in any opinion Worcester is made liable to pay its quota in the guarantee now claimed. The 5th Clause of said Act, I observe, directs that the guarantee shall come into operation when the line of Railway from Cape Town to Paarl shall have been opened; but according to Clause 4 of said Act the line of Railway is that running through the Paarl, Tulbagh and Worcester; now the line has been opened through the division of the Paarl—it is therefore opened for traffic through a portion of the line. Held by said Act No. 8 of 1862. The Act No. 1857 does not modify Act No. 8 of 1862. It merely directs in Section 2 a survey of the line from Cape Town to Worcester; and no more; and in Clause 5 it merely postpones the construction of the further line from Wellington to Worcester. The question, whether, supposing a separate Act and independent of the Act No. 8 of 1862, the Worcester, the latter would have to pay the guarantee, would depend upon the decision of Parliament. It would think fit to authorize such a line, and amend the Act No. 8 of 1862, so that the Worcester would be liable to pay the guarantee of both lines.

Chambers, January 3rd, 1865.

The Chairman said that he had had a long and pressing the Council to meet the wishes of Government in this matter; but, after hearing the opinion of Mr. Brandt, he now felt quite justified in urging them to take the matter into their serious consideration, feeling that there was no doing, they would decide to accept the terms proposed by the Government.

Mr. Lindenberger remarked that he did not see that the Council ought to abide by the single opinion of Mr. Brandt.

Mr. Beck could not exactly understand the opinion. But at all events, he had heard that it had been said by the judges (or one of them) that if the proposition came on for (or as) could not give it in favour of the Government.

Resolved that the consideration of the matter be postponed till a meeting. In the meantime to get the opinion translated into Dutch for the benefit of those members who could not understand English sufficiently to master its contents.

A circular was read from Government respecting the Land Revenues Act.

A letter was read from W. van der Merwe, Goudinere, stating that a piece of land belonging to land adjoining his farm, was not included in his diagram; and requesting the Council to make such steps as would rectify his diagram. After some discussion during which Mr. Scharvoren Aing fully explained the matter to the Council, it was

Resolved that the consideration of the matter be postponed.

Having been stated that no reply had as yet been received from Government respecting Darling Ridge, it was

Resolved that the Secretary write again to Government, pointing out the precarious state of same; and requesting that it be put into thorough repair, before the Council take over the maintenance of the main road.

Some discussion arose as to the necessity of getting a working party on the Darling Ridge Road; and the matter was finally postponed till next meeting.

Resolved that notice be given to the "Government Gazette" of the removal of the Hex River Toll to the Hex River farm.

Resolved that Government be requested to cause a notice of the reduction of the Mince rates to be inserted in the "Government Gazette."

Resolved that £5 be given to Mr. du Toit for repair of the Goudinere Road.

As the Council seem undecided as to the best plan of maintaining the main roads, I will take the liberty of making a suggestion or two, which I think the Council will find of some interest. It appears then to be the prevailing opinion that the best plan for the Council to proceed, would be to elect a committee, consisting of Messrs. Beck, Barclay, and Lindenberger, for the purpose of taking cognizance of all matters pertaining to the roads of the division; to invite tenders for the maintenance of all the above roads; to see that the contractor does his duty! For the Council to place working parties on the roads, and to be co-operated, as it were, their own contractor, would be a ruinous system. There would be no end to the expense, and there would also be the danger of the contractor's not doing his duty when called upon to pay the rates, and to do nothing something to say about the billings and mismanagement of the Council, and in all probability, they would have cause. But, if the maintenance of the roads were contracted for by the public would know how much they had to pay for them, and things went wrong, it would be easy enough to retract, and to have the contractor's engagements, whether political or municipal, will always be the losers by taking upon themselves the superintendence of public works. We have had so many evidences of the truth of this during the last few years in this colony, that it must appear a self-evident truism to the common sense of common observers, that the Government should not be at present engaged, in any way, in the maintenance of the roads of the colony, but that they should be at present engaged, in any way, in the maintenance of the roads of the colony, but that they should be at present engaged, in any way, in the maintenance of the roads of the colony.

The Muller Agitation in Germany.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Morning Star* writes on the 16th inst



