SUDDEN DEATH.—A man of about 60 years of age, of the name of John Young, weaver, New Row, was found dead in his bed on the morning of Tuesday last. The deceased retired to rest on the previous evening in his usual health.

CEMETERY.—Improvements have lately been going on in the Grey Friars burying ground. A walk has been nearly completed through the centre of the ground from the gate, with branches leading off to each side. These walks, when completed, will afford access to the greater part of the ground, without the necessity of wading through the wet grass, and clambering over the numerous obstructions which lay in the way. The walks have been calculated to facilitate the passing of the dead, and to lessen the painful feeling of awe and veneration associated with the burial of the dead. It is a pity that the whole inclosure was not so laid out, and arranged in the manner of the Dundee cemetery. The present juncture affords a favourable opportunity of accomplishing such an improvement, as the harbour contractors are at a loss for a place to deposit the excavated sand.

CHEAP READING.—The Perth Reading Society, at a general meeting on Tuesday evening, have, in accordance with the prevailing desire for the spread of useful knowledge, agreed to admit the public to the use of their library, without the usual entry money, which has hitherto proved such a formidable barrier to the circulation of their extensive collection of books.

IMPRUDENT JOURNEY.—On Friday afternoon, the wife of a tradesman in Dundee, on her way to visit her mother in Edinburgh, by Perth, was taken in labour at the road-side at Barnhill, and before she could be removed from the spot, was delivered of a fine boy. The infant and mother were immediately taken care of by the neighbours. The conduct of Captain Monerieff and lady is highly creditable to their feelings of humanity; and the interesting notice of what had occurred, a body was prepared, and the woman removed to a place of greater comfort, where she has been carefully attended to by the kindness of Mrs Monerieff, with every thing her situation required.

THE WEATHER.—The late wet and boisterous weather has swollen the river so much as frequently to stop several of the public vessels stationed on its banks. The losses at sea, during the late gales, have also been immense. It is gratifying, however, to observe, that the excellent steam-ship Tay, has been able regularly to perform her passage; even when scarcely a sailing vessel could venture on the harbour of Dundee—this proving her excellence not only as a river steam-ship, but as a sea-going vessel.

SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS.—We regret that Mr Ramage means to close his sale of philosophical, optical, and mathematical instruments, to-morrow. Such an extensive and varied assortment of scientific apparatus has, perhaps, never before appeared in Perth. Those who have taste for these matters, or require articles in the line, may afterwards regret, if they allow this intelligent optician to depart without inspecting his excellent stock.

NATIONAL BRIDEWELL.—Last week, Mr Crawford, inspector of the British jails, examined the Depot to ascertain the fitness of these buildings for the purposes of a National Bridewell, or Penitentiary. This gentleman, who lately visited the United States, for the purpose of acquiring information respecting the prison discipline adopted in that country, reports favourably of the plan of converting the Depot into a Bridewell for the whole of Scotland, or for the three countiesof Perth, Fife, and Forfar; and as being well adapted for this purpose. Mr Crawford also visited the jail, the plan of which he considers bad, and altogether inadequate to the purposes of a prison. The new police Bridewell received more of his approbation; being, in point of arrangement, a model of what such a prison ought to be.

FEVER.—These some weeks past, a virulent fever has prevailed in town. On Sabbath last, nine bodies were interred in the Grey Friars' burying-ground, indicating a proportionate mortality than prevailed during the worst period of the cholera.

LAUNCH.—A sloop of about 60 tons, named the "Dunkeld of Perth," was launched from Mr Brown's building-yard on Saturday last. We observe with pleasure that there are in progress in the building-yards, four vessels, one of them 169 tons, and three above 80.

DINNER TO ADMIRAL SIR C. ADAM, M.P. AND K.C.B.

A large and respectable number of the constituents of Admiral Adam met on Friday, and invited him to a public dinner in the Green Inn, Kinross, on Friday the 13th current, in testimony of their approbation of the independent and liberal manner he had acted as their representative, and in honour of the enlightened Ministry of which he is a member. John Henderson, Esq. of Turfhills, was in the chair; and J. Beveridge, Esq. of Kinnesten, was croupier. Among the number of guests invited on the occasion, there were present—Col. Abercromby, J. Hunt, Esq. of Pitteuchrieff, and a number of others.

The toasts having been asked by the Rev. Mr Hay, and the usual loyal routine toasts having been given from the chair, the Chairman at last rose to give the health of Sir Charles Adam, who had increased in their esteem and regard the longer they had become acquainted with his character; and who had ever evinced, since his connection with the country, an anxious desire to discharge all his public duties in an independent manner. The mark of his honourable and country's gratitude, which had recently been conferred upon him, was, with great appropriateness, alluded to by the Chairman, and the health of the honoured guest was received by the meeting with the greatest enthusiasm.

Sir Charles rose, affected with the burst of congratulations which were paid him, and gave a short but clear exposition of the principles which had guided his conduct and that of the Ministry, of which he is a member, and also of the prospects which they had before them in the ensuing session of Parliament.

The health of Colonel Abercromby, and the independent and liberal electors of Clackmannanshire, was given by the Croupier, in a speech replete with eloquence, in which the brilliant services conferred upon our country, by the family of which the gallant Colonel is such a distinguished branch, was pointed out.—To this the Colonel replied with his accustomed force of language, displaying alike a head and heart worthy of his family.

A great number of other appropriate toasts were given in the course of the evening, preferred by excellent speakers; by several gentlemen connected with Kinross, which concluded the evening to the great satisfaction of the company, who seemed to be in a happy manner which gratifies the best feelings of the heart. The dinner was served up by Mrs Thomson in an excellent style, and the entertainment was enhanced by a present of two red deer by Mr Douglas of Blackhall.

The Kinross band of music was in attendance, and enlivened the evening with appropriate airs.

DOUNE COURSING CLUB.

The Doune Coursing Club held their annual meeting upon Tuesday, the 17th current, James Smith, Esq. of Deanston, in the chair. Major Graham of Meiklewood was elected Preses for next year. A Gazette of coursing was run for in the forenoon, on the lands of the Earl of Moray, the result of which was as follows:—

FIRST CLASS.

Hon. John Stuart's bk. b. Needle, beat Mr Burn Murdoch's ns. bk. b. Bell.—Hare killed.

Lord Moray's br. d. Rob Roy, beat Mr Stirling's br. s. Marion.—Hare killed.

Mr H. Stirling's bk. b. Vesta, beat Mr Graham Stirling's fn. b. Needle.—Hare killed.

Mr Murray's ns. bk. b. Needle, beat Mr Smith's bk. b. Ben.—Hare killed.

SECOND CLASS.

Hon. John Stuart's Needle beat Lord Moray's Rob Roy.—dr.

Mr Home Binning's Vesta, and Mr Murray's Lady, undecided.

Mr Home Binning's Vesta beat Mr Murray's Lady.

THIRD CLASS.

Hon. John Stuart's Needle beat Mr Home Binning's Vesta, and won the stakes.

MATCHES.

Mr Home Binning's wh. d. Major beat Mr Stirling's y. d. Derby.—Hare killed.

Mr Stirling's br. d. Lottery beat Hon. John Stuart's Fly.

Mr Lennox from Falkirk, Tryer.—The day was fine, the hares strong, and the running excellent.

MARRIAGE IN HIGH LIFE.—On Friday evening, Dunnikier House presented a gay and animated appearance, in the occasion of the celebration of the nuptials of Miss Frances Oswald, the fourth daughter of Lieutenant General Sir John Oswald, G.C.B., and Mr John Murray Drummond, eldest son of Admiral Drummond of Megginch. The house itself was filled with the immediate relatives of the parties; and soon after ten o'clock the carriages of the neighbouring county gentry began to drive towards it. The ceremony was impressively performed by the Rev. John Marshall. Immediately after, the happy pair set off in a carriage and four for Megginch Castle, amidst the cheers of a numerous population, and numerous party assembled. The guests then sat down to a sumptuous collation, and the festivities of the evening were kept up until a late hour. Among the company were, Mr and Mrs Murray Macgregor; Admiral and Miss Drummond, and the Rev. Robert Drummond; Captain Balfour, &c. The Duke and Duchess of Athol was invited, but absent, from a recent bereavement, by the death of her nephew, the Hon. John Perles.

THE PERTHSHIRE ADVERTISER, THE PERTHSHIRE COURIER, AND MR PETERKIN.

Our cotemporary, with the view of bolstering up the false statement advanced by him, that Mr Peterkin left the *Perthshire Advertiser* rather than give his support to the Voluntary principle in Church matters, has been at pains to get up a letter from Mr Peterkin on the subject, which appears in his last week's columns, and in which Mr Peterkin is pleased to contradict our assertion, that the cause of his dismissal was simply his giving support to the then existing system of Church Patronage; and avers that the real cause was, "because I would not truckle to the dictation of their Voluntary Church allies, (in other words, would not support them."

Having had quite enough of Mr Peterkin in our time, to wish to renew a close acquaintance, we mean here to dispose of his epistle, and of the comments of his friend the *Courier*, very briefly.

In the *first* place, we *reiterate* our assertion, that the high opinions entertained by Mr Peterkin in favour of the then existing system of Church Patronage, were *the sole cause of his being discontinued as a Editor of this Journal*. In the worst view of the matter, therefore, the public have before them our assertion on the subject upon the one hand, while they have just Mr Peterkin's contradiction on the other; and it will be for them to judge between the two.

But, with deference to Mr Peterkin and our cotemporary, there are one or two facts which support our assertion, and evince that in denying it as he does, Mr Peterkin forgets the whole circumstances of the case.

1st, It is notorious that, however much the Proprietors of this paper may respect the Voluntary party in this country, and admit the sincerity of their motives, they have never given support to their doctrines, and do not belong to them. Now, therefore, it can be supposed that they discontinued Mr Peterkin, as Editor because he would not give *his support to* the Voluntary principle, is what we cannot conceive, and what will not, we presume, be readily understood.

2dly, Mr Peterkin admits, that the date of his ceasing to be Editor was the end of October, 1832; and we find, that on the 11th of that month, he had written, in the Perthshire Advertiser, an article reviewing the proceedings of the Greenock Anti-Patronage Society. A passage or two from that article, will sufficiently shew the *strength* of Mr Peterkin's opinions in favour of the then existing system of Patronage, and probably form some clue to the cause of his dismissal. In a report made up by the Committee of the Greenock Association, they had dared to state that the law of Patronage had contributed more than any other cause to corrupt and alienate the Establishment, and to spread moral desolation over many parishes of the land, and that it had driven from the Church the Erskines and Gillespies of former days. Upon this, Mr Peterkin is pleased to observe:—

"Here again we say that these good folks take for granted the very thing which it is incumbent on them to prove. They seem to forget that patronage, with very slight modifications, has been part and parcel of that system which they laud so highly, from the first dawn of the Reformation in Scotland down to the present day; with the exception merely of the years that, as a conquered country, it was under the iron yoke of the usurper Cromwell, and his republican saints, when the people had the choice of their clergy. And as to the moral desolation which they talk of, as resulting from Patronage, it is a sheer fudge and rant. They might well ascribe it to the Reform Bills—and if Patronage be the only stumbling block to the followers of Trajine and Gillespie—or entering the Church, what should hinder the good folks of Greenock from stepping outwards over the threshold, and joining themselves to those who are not afflicted with such Patronage as exists in the Church? By this very simple expedient they would get quit of all difficulties, and escape from the great inconsistency of appearing, (and probably is the same breath, a system of Church polity, founded on, but not expressly sanctioned in all its parts by, Scriptural authority, and of which Patronage has been an essential ingredient from the earliest period of its existence.

"The Committee's report is followed by an oration from a Mr M'Farlane, who proceeds in the same absurd strain: "I need not occupy your time with quoting those passages of scripture which clearly show that it is the indisputable right of the Christian people to elect him who is to be over them in the Lord." Our answer to this is very brief; let all who think so exercise this indisputable right, by choosing their own pastors. No one hinders them. But they cannot do so in the Church of Scotland—for the laws of the land, and the usages of that Church, have not been framed on this reading of the Scriptures. No one desires to encroach on these supposed privileges of "the Christian People,"—and it is a pious fiction, though all the anti-patronagers in Greenock are agreed in it, "that the necessity of Patronage is a very grievous yoke on the Members of our National Church, and a moral deformity on the face of our Zion." This is all very fine sounding talk, but it is downright nonsense—for every man who is averse to Patronage may leave the Church when he likes, and join the "Christian People," and choose half-a-dozen pastors to his own taste, either in succession or altogether. But the pastors of their choice have no rights to the parish, glebe, or stipend, or land and manse of the parish. Perhaps, however, it may also be "clearly laid down" in Scripture, that he has—and, perhaps, too it is "unnecessary" to show this. Is this "sound reason" at Greenock?"

Now, this article, written on 11th October, 1832, was the last which Mr Peterkin penned in the *Perthshire Advertiser* on Church matters; and we leave the public to judge whether, with the opinions which the proprietors, in common with the great bulk of the community, entertained of Patronage, held on the subject of Church Patronage, it is unlikely that that article was the cause of Mr Peterkin being discontinued as editor, as he confessedly was, *immediately* thereafter.

CONSUMPT OF TEA.—We find that there is more than double the quantity of tea consumed in the United Kingdom than in the United States and Europe. The the proportions are—

In United States,	8,000,000 lbs. a-year.
Russia,	6,500,000
Holland,	2,800,000
France, Germany, &c. about	3,000,000
Great Britain and Ireland, nearly	40,000,000

TURNIPS.—The turnip crop of England has been a total failure every where. We understand that many of the extensive graziers and cattle-feeders in the south of England are using wheat as a substitute, and it is found to succeed wonderfully well. After thrashing, it is boiled in a boiler, and the wheat has been winnowed, chaff is mixed with it. There is no doubt but that it is the most nutritious and the cheapest food which can be given.

IRON RAILROADS.—The first iron railroad was laid down at Colebrook Dale, in 1786. Near Newcastle there are 250 miles of iron railway above ground, and nearly the same beneath. In Glamorganshire there are 300 miles from different coal-works and mines to quays.

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH.—The Presbytery met yesterday, when the presentation to Mr Miller to King Street Chapel was sustained; and the Rev. Gentleman was taken on trials, previous to ordination. A short discussion followed, whether there should be any moderation of the call, but it was ultimately overruled, and Mr Miller will be inducted into the charge by the form of ordination alone.

SCOTTISH UNION INSURANCE COMPANY.—The Annual General Court of Proprietors of the Scottish Union Fire and Life Insurance Company, was held in the Waterloo Hotel, Edinburgh, on Wednesday last, the 18th instant—The Right Hon. the LORD PROVOST in the Chair.

The Manager submitted to the meeting a very favourable Report on the affairs of the corporation, exhibiting the progress made during the last year, and combining the result of the Life business transacted in the ten preceding years. It recommended that a dividend of Six and a Quarter per Cent. should be declared, and that a large guarantee fund should be retained, to insure a continuance of the same dividend in future years, and to meet the outstanding risk of existing policies.

On the motion of Adam Black, Esq., seconded by Chalmers Izett, Esq., the Report was unanimously approved, and the dividend declared payable on the 2d day of January next. The thanks of the meeting were unanimously voted to the Manager and Directors for the ability with which they had conducted the affairs of the Corporation, and also to the Board of Directors in London, for their zealous superintendence of the business in the Metropolis.

The following Board of Directors was appointed for the ensuing year:—

GOVERNOR,

The Most Noble the Marquis of LOTHIAN.

DEPUTY-GOVERNOR,

The Honourable Lord COCKBURN.

DIRECTORS,

Extraordinary.	*Ordinary.*
John Hope, Esq.	Capt. J. D. Boswell, R.N.
Sir Henry Steuart, Bart.	James Pillans, Esq.
Sir Wm. Maxwell, Bart.	James Duncan, Esq.
James Keddie, Esq.	Alex. Hamilton, Esq.
Sir W. C. Trevelyan, Bt.	Thomas Allan, Esq.
General Graham Stirling.	Thomas Mansfield, Esq.
Sir F. A. Mackenzie, Bart.	Wm. Wilson Dullin, Esq.
North Dalrymple, Esq.	John S. Wood, Esq.
James Hunter, Esq.	Hugh Brown, Esq.
Sir David Milne, K.C.B.	Lt.-Col. W. Macdonald.
John Jardine, Esq.	Chas. Jas. Fox Ore, Esq.
John Borthwick, Esq.	David Sandeman, Esq.
Lieut.-General Balfour.	John Learmonth, Esq.
The Lord Provost.	Robert Ker, Esq.
E. Douglas Sandford, Esq.	John Macfie, Esq.

SUTHERLAND MANSION HOUSE, Esq. *Manager.*

The thanks of the meeting were carried by acclamation to the Lord Provost for his able conduct in the Chair.

Price of Stock, Edinburgh, Nov. 21, £1, 6s. 3d. per share.

TOWN COUNCIL.

On Tuesday the Council met, when a letter was read from Mr Malcolm, W.S. requesting that a deputation of the Council would attend a meeting to be held in Cupar Fife, on Thursday, (this day) to take steps for getting a proper survey for a railroad between Kirkaldy and New burgh.

Bailie Graham thought railroads were coming too fast upon them, and that they ought to pause a little until they saw how those in hand would get on.

Mr Robert Greig thought this the most important line of any lately under consideration. It would lay open such an immense field of coal and lime for the supply of Perth, that he thought they should give it their attention, and vote L.50 to forward the survey.

Mr Ballingall held that their line of conduct was plain. Let those primarily interested finish their survey and their arrangement, and then the Council would be able to judge how they should act.

Mr Greig's motion not being seconded, it was understood that the Council, for the present, were not to interfere.

A letter was then read, from the Reverend George Miller, resigning his office as Chaplain to the Jail, and returning his best thanks to the Council for the kindness and courtesy which had been uniformly shown to him.

Provost Pringle knew well that Mr Miller had been very efficient in discharging his duty; but the duty of the Chaplain, owing to the Bridewell, would be much more onerous. It required to be a most benevolent man visiting each individual in his cell; and if good could be done any where, by spiritual instruction, it would be in such a place.

Mr Ballingall hoped that their Chaplain would be appointed as a committee to correspond with three of the county gentlemen, for appointing a new Chaplain in room of Mr Miller.

Mr Martin moved, as an amendment, which was seconded by Mr Mount, that the consideration of this subject should be delayed in the meantime. He saw no good it could do. Much as Mr Miller had erred himself, it could not be followed by any good effects, whilst there was no classification of the prisoners. They ought not to vote a sixpence for such a purpose, until the Commissioners for inspecting the Jails had reported to Parliament.

Provost Pringle was astonished to hear such an argument. He was convinced the Bridewell had done much good, and it was their bounden duty to persevere.

Mr Dewar was one of those who took a warm interest in what had been done, and he considered it of the utmost importance, and right and proper to say and now when they had got the Bridewell in operation, the Chaplain would have an opportunity of visiting the prisoners in their cells, where they had no company but the Bible. He was sorry to see such a motion, and he thought the Chaplain's attention should be wholly devoted to this service, and he ought to be restricted from lecturing in any of the churches on the Sabbath evenings, and his salary should be augmented.

Mr Greig had heard both sides of the question, but still he was afraid Mr Miller's services were lost in the Jail. Some good might be done in the Bridewell.

Mr Martin was decidedly against throwing cold water on such a subject. He was convinced much good had been done; and he thought, in their choice, if they found a man eminently qualified for the office, they should retain him, although he was a Seceder.

Bailie Graham said, those that had turned their attention to the subject, could not but observe that much good had been already done. He had seen many pleasant instances of individuals returning from Bridewell much better members of society than when they went in.

Bailie M'Leish was convinced that the good that had been done, would appear many days hence. He did not like to hear such arguments brought forward against the measure as had just been stated.

The Council, after Mr Ballingall's motion was carried by great majority, only four voting for the amendment, appointed the Provost, Dean of Guild, and Bailie Graham, to meet with three of the county gentlemen, and to report to Parliament. The election should be alternate by the Town and County, and that they should draw lots for the first choice.

The next business brought before the Council, was the petition for the removal of the Circuit Court from Perth to Dundee.

Mr Mackenzie stated that a letter had been sent to the Provost of Dundee requesting information, but as yet no answer had been received.

On some members proposing that they should delay a little,

Mr Reid said, that instead of waiting for an answer from the Lord Provost of Dundee, one moment ought not to be lost in applying to the Secretary of State, the Member for the County, and the Lord Advocate. It was most preposterous in the people of Dundee, to imagine that the interest of the public should be sacrificed for them. They had got a Sheriff-Substitute, now they wanted to have the Circuit Court, and by-and-bye they will be for the Court of Session to sit in Dundee. Only imagine, for a moment, the expense of carrying jurymen and witnesses from the far corners of the County of Perth to Dundee, whilst the Dundee people can reach Perth by the steamers in less than three hours.

Mr Halley said, they ought to be zealous in their duty, and resist such an innovation. If the Dundee people wanted a Circuit Court of their own, let them apply for it; but he would oppose to the utmost any attempt to remove the Court from Perth.

It was then agreed to correspond with the different gentlemen proposed.

Sheriff Barclay's deliverance, on the petition from the Tutors on the Moncrieffe estate, praying for an interdict against the Magistrates and Council to stop the laying down of earth on the Sand Island, was then read, which was to the effect, that the Magistrates and Council were not the proper body to interdict, as the operations were carrying on by a responsible body, acting under a special Act of Parliament.

On the forenoon of Sabbath the 16th, an excellent and appropriate sermon was preached in the parish church of Crieff, by the Rev. Mr Clark of Methven, from 2d Corinthians, vi. 2, when a collection, amounting to £20, 6s. 9d., was made in aid of the funds of the Crieff Female Society.

DUNDEE.

A meeting of the Gentlemen to the proposed Railway between Dundee and Perth, was held in the Guild Hall, Dundee, on Saturday last, Lord Kinnaird in the chair. After the communications with the Magistrates of Perth, and other public bodies, were read, Bailie Baxter ship addressed the meeting, congratulating them on the smallness of opposition they had to encounter, and, in reference to the claims of the Road Trustees, held, that the Proprietors and Road Trustees had certainly a right to look after their own interests. They had become responsible for a debt on the turnpike roads, and it was certainly a very natural desire that they might secure themselves against loss by the completion of a railway, which might have the effect of hurting the road, and thereby entail on the trustees and proprietors a burdensome tax. They had appointed two gentlemen to the Committee, who were perfect friends of the proprietors in other parts of the country had had on turnpikes, and he had no doubt, from the well-established fact of turnpikes running parallel to lines of railway having been benefited thereby, that the Committee would return an opinion favourable to the progression of the railway. It was useless to discuss this matter at the present meeting; it would be for the Committee, after its formation to arrange with the Proprietors and Trustees. He was sure that the Company would have no wish but to act fairly towards all parties interested in the prosperity of the country.

Mr Hunter observed, that in the case of the Dundee and Arbroath Railway, a similar demand made on the road trustees had been rejected.

Mr Buchanan said, that since the date of his last report, he had examined more minutely into the details of the estimate. He had since taken sections of the line himself, and he was satisfied the estimates were too low—more particularly with regard to the sea-walls from the Harbour to Invergowrie Bay. He found that Mr Findlater had allowed too little for the quantity of work; so that he had no hesitation in asserting that the sum would require considerable addition.

Provost Kay again said, he would like to hear Mr Buchanan, to have his opinion as to what the undertaking would cost, that the existing might be enabled to fix the capital of the Company.

Mr Buchanan said, he should be inclined to say more, chiefly on account of those sea-walls; and in regard to these, he did not think that a sum less than £30,000 additional would be required to complete the works; that was £155,000 altogether. It might be safe, however, to fix the capital sum at £150,000, which he considered adequate to cover every expense.

Mr A. Symon.—For instance, the Magistrates of Perth wish the depot of the railway to be removed to the other side of the river, which would render a large addition to the original necessary.

Mr Buchanan said, nothing had been reckoned for passing to the south side of the river.

The Company was then formed accordingly, and a Committee appointed to superintend preliminary arrangements.

Mr Buchanan was then called upon for his opinion as to which of the three lines proposed should be adopted by the Company to which he observed, the first line, which passes along the river side, is called the south line; from the levels, without considering the country trade, it is decided by far the best line, because it traverses the country almost on a dead level, there being only sixteen feet of ascent from Dundee to Errol, and that at so uniform a rise that it could hardly be known; and because it descends only about eight feet to Perth. This line would have been the best had no obstacle hindered its adoption; but the serious objections on the part of the landed proprietors has rendered it necessary to look to the merits of another line. The north line passes a good way more to the north, along the base of the Braes. It rises three feet above the Docks. It would require a good deal of cutting to bring it to this level. This would make an excellent line; few equal to it. From the highest point to Perth the line would be extremely level. Some difficulty would be felt in carrying this line before Mr Ker of Seggieden's house, where it would require to be kept fifteen feet above high water mark. The south line would have obviated this inconvenience, because it passes Seggieden on a level nearly with the water's edge. It would require to the centre line, it rises about four feet above the Docks; and the cutting would be so enormous that I consider it out of the question. There is another centre line as a lower line, which I prefer, near Admiral Drummond's park, and would meet with decided opposition. It remains with us to choose between twixt those lines. In regard to the north line, I may state that little or no opposition could be made to it.

After some remarks concerning the manner in which the railway would pass the turnpike roads,

Mr Cahman moved, that the north line should be adopted.

Mr William Cobb seconded the motion.

Messrs Matthew of Gourdie Hill, and Hunter of Blackness, expressed themselves in favour of the south line, and objected to the north from its passing over the moors of Megginch, where no solid bottom could be had.

Mr Buchanan answered this objection by stating, that the line could be taken either right or left to avoid any soft parts, as that part of the country was extremely level.

Mr Cahman said, that the north line would command the trade of the Carse, while the south would only have the traffic between Dundee and Perth, and proceeded his motion; which being put to the vote, carried unanimously.—Mr Matthew protesting against its adoption.

NEGRO OPPRESSION.

(Communicated.)

A crisis has come when the friends of humanity are again called upon to interest themselves in the wrongs of the Negro population in our West India Colonies. It is now beyond a doubt, that the Emancipation Act comes far short of answering the end for which it was framed. With a few exceptions, the privations and sufferings of the Negroes are as great as ever they were. There is reason to fear, that, in many cases, their condition is in reality worse than it was before that celebrated first of August, as to which we thought we had such ground for joy. The disappointment is owing, partly through want of precision in its details, and partly through the perversness of planters and others, is working so ill, as to realize all the fears of those who strenuously opposed it when under legislative discussion. By the assiduity of the zealous committees of the London Anti-Slavery Society, the friends of the Negro, throughout the empire, are furnished with authentic information, which has filled them with surprise and sorrow, and constrained them to buckle on the armour which they hoped they had put off for ever. Subjoined is a small specimen of that information; it is submitted as preliminary to a public meeting, of which, in a few days, notice will be given, when the Inhabitants of Perth will be requested to concur in a memorial to his Majesty's Government, to take any other constitutional measure which a sense of what is due to humanity may lead to be adopted. Britain is again in motion for the relief of the oppressed; and this is not a cause in which any country, notorious for humanity, is to be indifferent.

What follows is taken from the appendix to a memorial presented to Lord Glenelg in August last, and entitled "Extracts from Authentic Documents in possession of the Metropolitan Anti-Slavery Committee":—

JAMAICA.

Extract of a despatch from the Marquis of Sligo to the Right Hon. T. S. rice, dated 13th August, 1834:

"From what Colonel Macleod has informed me, I am confident that as soon as the apprenticeship is got rid of, they (the negroes) will be quiet, *unless forced into rebellion by the conduct of the overseers, and, I am sorry to say, many of the magistrates and stipendiary attorneys.* My letters by yesterday's post have confirmed this opinion, as there have been several petty disturbances, attended with cases of punishment, in St James's, Westmoreland, and St Elizabeth, in *almost every instance caused either by the intemperate conduct of the overseers, or exaction by the proprietors or managers.*"

Extracts from observations by a stipendiary magistrate, on the working of the apprenticeship system:

"Overseers and book-keepers are not only adverse to the new system, but interested in defeating it. It has deprived them of authority; in a few years it will deprive them of bread. Their irritation, no longer to be vented in actual violence, is exhibited on every trivial occasion in expressions of invective and abuse.

"The vexatious the negroes endure, consist in withholding the necessary allowances of salted provisions, rum, and sugar; or where they are continued, of exacting from the negro such extra labour as the law has allotted for the necessary cultivation of the negro gardens. It is in vain that the Attorney-General has invoked the spirit of the law where it has been deliberately violated, to secure for the apprentice the continuance of their usual allowances, and those privileges which the old law afforded to the slaves of exemption from field labour, for those women who had six children living on a property, or the allotment of lighter work for those in the last months of pregnancy, the substitution of sufficient time from their masters for the necessary performance of the offices of nature, which was formerly permitted to the mother on the field.

Extract of a communication from Jamaica, Feb. 5.

"*The altering of the hours of working in each day, from nine to eight hours, gives the half day in five separate fractions,* during which they (the negroes) cannot get to their grounds to work for themselves, therefore the time of the day is frustrated, and they cannot go to market on Saturday."

Extract of a letter dated, Jamaica 28th May, 1835.

"On a property of my relatives, confirmed, creole-managed estates, they began from the 1st of August, a system of teazing annoyance to the negroes, which I thought when I wrote to you before, the real and secret history of former times. They turned off a number of the negroes, with more than the children alive, who, during slavery, were always exempt from labour, or at least any thing more than nominal labour, such as attending poultry, or nursing infants, to the field. Another cruelty is, that of depriving the *working and suckling* mothers of the assistance of those old women who used to attend them, and to carry under the shade in the field, in order that the mothers may come and occasionally suckle them.

"To the best of my knowledge, that in some instances, they forced them to work all day with the children *tied on their backs!*

"Another annoyance was, their not allowing them the usual number of cooks to prepare their food in the field, as by this means they were employed in preparing it. All the time they should otherwise be resting. Again, they would not let the usual calabashes full of water be carried into the field by the old women for the children; all these, and many other annoyances, they devised in order to force them to work the former number of hours." *(To be continued.)*

DUNDEE AND PERTH RAILWAY.

To the Editor of the Perthshire Advertiser.

SIR,—In the line of direction through the Carse of Gowrie of this proposed Railway, what I anticipated and still anticipate, is a great deal of opposition from the proprietors of the Carse, and the trustees of the turnpike roads, on the ground that it will injure the trifling local advantages which would result to the brae and north side of the Carse, by the adoption of the north line, which would be nearer the middle of the north line, and the more strips of land; that by being worked by a pony, and passing the turnpike at nearly right angles, would require no raising of the turnpike at the crossing. To those acquainted with the carriage and point of cutting and mounds, the expense of the branch will appear very low; I believe not more than the difference between that of the north and that of the south line. The adoption of the south line, would be a great and the most extensive local improvement, would, on the contrary, considerably increase it. Were the north line to be followed, the trade of Errol, amounting at present, I am told, to 20 tons per annum, would be carried to considerable portion of the south Carse, which not be looked for as they have water conveyance at hand. Whereas, were the south line adopted, the trade would be secured; by stretching the net at the mouth of the outlet we would bag the whole fry.

Independent of its use as a railway, the south line possesses an advantage of no inconsiderable importance to Dundee. *That of being the cheapest and most convenient waterduct for the support of that city.* From its lower summit level (about 14 feet) it would be infinitely preferable for the purpose of a waterduct. If the Railway Company should extend their capital to L.250,000, be at once a rail and water company, and bring the water from the Perth Blaising cisterns, which lie about the line of the rail.

Now, as regarding the Dundee and Perth railway are now before the public. Differing from every individual at the late meeting, I have thought it necessary to enter more fully into my opinions on the subject. I hope the men of Dundee will recognise this railway as the legitimate child of their magnificent harbour. I trust they will see its infancy, that its tender developing limbs will be not allowed to be twisted and distorted, or otherwise injured, by fear their extreme natural beauty. I hope and trust that the engineers, Messrs Stevenson, will—the quickest conveyance between Dundee and Perth—any thing rather than with the Fife and Strathearn proposed rails—the line of utility—the south line will be followed:

PAT. MATTHEW.

Gourdy-hill, Nov. 23, 1835.

P.S.—Another line widely different from any of the preceding, has been thought of, which I shall propound for the amusement of the speculative:—by a second cut in the middle of the Perth, along the south side of the Magdalene Yard to Magdalan Island. Although at first view this may seem wild, yet there can be no doubt of its economic practicability. With the exception of a few hundred yards at the two ends, it begins and ends the wide space between this line and the north shore, is several feet, in many places six feet above low water mark. This of course could only be accomplished by the gradual deepening (twice tide) scour, and being allowed to do so for their extreme natural beauty. I hope and trust that the engineers Messrs Stevenson—the quickest conveyance between Dundee and Perth—any thing rather than with the Fife and Strathearn proposed rails—the line of utility—the south line will be followed:

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P. MATTHEW.

To the Editor of the Perthshire Advertiser.

SIR,—As a helper and successor is about to be appointed, in the Parish of St Martins, to the Rev. Mr Constable; and as I am one of those who think it right to be consulted in the matter, I observe it is natural, I feel somewhat anxious that those members of the Church whose wishes in the matter will now operate materially in the decision, should conduct themselves judiciously.

The patronage being vested in the Crown, his Majesty's ministers can, with consent of the present incumbent, appoint any person they choose, unless a majority of those persons whom the General Assembly lately conferred the privilege of a *veto*, shall exercise it.

Let these parishioners, therefore, respectfully request of their present minister that he would give them an opportunity of hearing *several* candidates, (which I am sure he will never refuse), and after they have made a choice, let them intimate it to the Crown, in the manner which they think most proper, and which is most in accordance with their wishes. Two of the principal heritors, Mr Macdonald and Mr Cooper, have very handsomely expressed their intention of giving weight to the most numerous and respectable candidate. By the whole of these parties, therefore, uniting in a memorial to his Majesty's Ministers, (judging from their conduct on a similar occasion) I have no hesitation of their granting the parishioners the man of their own choice. I would only add, that unanimity in all their proceedings is indispensable to their being successful.

Trusting, Sir, you may honour these few hints with a corner in you popular Journal, and that they may meet with some attention from my fellow parishioners,

I remain, Sir, yours respectfully,

A PARISHIONER.

THE BRITISH LIBRARY BOARD.