The following is an account of the arrivals and departures in 1836.

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| **Inwards. Outwards.** |
| From Great Britain 60 32 |
| British Colonies 124 106 |
| United States 3 |
| Foreign 82 126 |
| 269 264 |
| Tonnage 65,415 ..62,834 |

Prior to 1817, the currency consisted principally of the private notes of merchants, traders, shopkeepers, publicans, and the amount was sometimes as low as sixpence. In this year the Bank of New South Wales was established, with a capital of L.20,000, whose notes superseded this objection­able currency. In 1825 the Bank of Australia was begun, with a capital between L.300,000 and L.400,000, of which L.45,000 is paid up. The Bank of Australasia was estab­lished in 1834, with a capital of L.200,000. There is also the Commercial Bank. All these banks have carried on a prosperous business, having paid a dividend from twelve to twenty per cent. The following is the amount of their respective circulation in 1836.

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| Bank of New South Wales L.25,665 |
| Bank of Australia 29,245 |
| Commercial Bank 32,731 |
| Bank of Australasia 11,846 |
| L.99,487 |

The whole amount of British coin in the colony is esti­mated to amount to L.445,000.@@1

From the preceding account of this prosperous and inte­resting colony, it will be seen that it has taken root in the country, and that it will progressively and rapidly increase, until the whole island be overspread with a civilized popu­lation. At the same time, those who have explored the in­terior of New South Wales do not bring back a good report of the land. The general testimony is, that the good land is chiefly confined to the banks of rivers ; and, with the ex­ception of these, it bears a small proportion to the poor and barren tracts. Many parts are but indifferently watered, and in general water is not abundant ; and during the long droughts to which the country is liable, great distress must frequently ensue from this cause. To contend with these disadvantages, which will be the lot of succeeding genera­tions, will require the full exercise of European skill and industry ; and still the country, from its nature, will never support a dense population.

As in all new colonies, there is a scarcity both of labour and capital, and consequently a high rate of wages and pro­fits ; which, however inconvenient in some respects, must operate nevertheless as a powerful stimulus to internal im­provement. The hire of mechanics is from six to eight shillings per day, and of common labour in proportion. The colony thus presents a decidcd contrast to the mother country, where the market is overstocked, where the great difficulty is to find employment for labour, and where, from the low rate of wages, the labourer can scarcely main­tain himself and his family. The want of labour in New South Wales could be speedily supplied from the over­crowded community of this country, to the great benefit of both ; but the expense of the voyage entirely prevents the emigration of the poorer class. In this case, there cannot be a wiser policy than to assist them with the necessary funds, and to this purpose rigidly to apply the sums that are received by government for the sale of lands in the colony. This system has been so far adopted ; but the colonists complain that the emigration fund, as it is termed, which amounts to between L.100,000 and L.200,000 annually,@@2 is diverted from this paramount object, to others less im­portant. So essential is an adequate supply of labour to the improvement of the colony, that the whole sum re­ceived for the sale of lands, they insist, should be laid out in facilitating emigration. The time however is fast ap­proaching when the internal administration of this country must be committed to a legislative assembly of its own in­habitants. They are the best judges of their own affairs, and have the deepest interest in the public welfare ; and it is only by a free constitution that abuses can be corrected, and that the colony can possess any security for the upright and careful management of its concerns.

Of late years, British colonies have been established on the western coast of New South Wales, at Swan river, and on the southern shore, on the Gulf of St Vincent, at Port Adelaide ; and farther west, a new settlement has been be­gun at Port Philip, opposite to Van Diemen’s Land. It was in 1829 that a number of settlers left England for Swan river, and located themselves on the banks of the Swan and Canning ; and by the end of the year, the new resi­dents amounted to 850, and the non-residents to 440. The settlers received grants of land in proportion to the capital which they had to invest ; and Mr Peel received 500,000 acres on condition of conveying a certain number of emi­grants to the colony. Many difficulties and hardships were at first experienced. The land near the coast was found poor and sandy ; but in the interior, fine pastoral and agri­cultural tracts have been discovered. Thus Western Aus­tralia seems to be of the same character as the eastern coast. A border of inferior land, diversified with rich tracts near the principal rivers, is bounded on the east by a range of primitive mountains, rising between 3000 and 4000 feet above the level of the sea, and occasionally show­ing the bare granite. Beyond these appears a level coun­try, superior to the coast district, without however being anywhere highly productive, but covered with excellent pasture, where stock, and especially sheep, thrive well. The colony which has been established on this western coast, having overcome the first difficulties, now begins to prosper and to increase. Several townships have been established, namely, Freemantle, Perth, and Guildford, on the Swan river, and Augusta at the mouth of the Black­wood. There are several hotels, with excellent accom­modations, and the state of society is well spoken of. Sir James Stirling was the founder, and is the governor. The coast abounds in excellent harbours, several of which are much frequented by sealing vessels. The temperature is warm and dry, and the climate salubrious. The governor has an executive and a legislative council to assist and to advise him, and there arc about thirty magistrates in the colony. Several thousand sheep and fine cattle are depas­tured in different parts. Roads have been formed, and public buildings erected ; and a newspaper, first published in manuscript, now issues every week from the press, which is in full operation on the banks of the Swan river. Wool of a superior quality, plaster of Paris, and timber, have been exported to England.

The coast of South Australia, deeply indented with various inlets and commodious harbours, presents several advan­tageous situations for a settlement ; and accordingly a charter was granted in 1834, to a colony to be established between east longitude 132° and 141°, and 26° of south

@@@, See Tables of the Revenue, &c. of the United Kingdom and its Dependencies, p. 85.

@@@\* It amounted in 1337 to L.120,427. See Account ordered by the House of Commons, 27th August 1839.