[CONTINUED.]

From the Observer, Dec. 22.

He was not anxious for a sudden change of the whole system. Time and reflection were necessary for the accomplishment of such as undertaking; for by them they could obtain the opinion of the people and proceed with safety, as a gradual change in a system that had been so long acted upon, was the safest and the best.

In all countries where capital punishment is inflicted frequently, crime is common as in those countries where the rigour of the law is not so severe. The too frequent in fliction of punishment never did tend, nor ever would, in his opinion, tend to the suppression of crime. It hardens the feelings and society becomes so habituated to executions, that, although the minds of many may revolt at the exhibition of criminals expiating their offences, yet there are others in whom they strike no terror from their frequency.

whom they strike no terror from their frequency.

In Russia and under other despotic governments, the law has undergone various sudden changes for the better; but in a government like our own, it would be better to be better to be better to be sufficiently selected of our efficients. However, there were cases which might be gone into without endangering the safety of person or property. By the present law in many cases, the inan who commits a light offence, is subject to the same punishment as he who commits a gross offence. The man who steals a horse or a cow is subject to the same punishment as he who commits murder!! Was it right? did it comport with refined feeling, with wisdom or the spirit of revealed religion; to inflict the same degree of punishment upon the man who stealeth an animal, as upon him who slayeth his brother and sheddeth human blood? He was sure no hon, member would assert that it was,—Yet this has been the practice in this province since its formation. But he rejoiced to state, that owing to the midness and humanity of the Executive, and the policy of our law which placed so merciful power in the representative of monarchy, few. (if any) of those unfortunate individuals who had been found guilty of what he (Mr. W.) considered minor offences, were executed. Indeed he might say, as was justly remarked

of those unfortunate individuals who had been found guilty of what he (Mr. W.) considered minor offences, were executed. Indeed he might say, as was justly remarked by the learned Attorney General, that no man could suffer death in this province, but one that justly deserved it.

But, were honorable gentlemen convinced that this merciful rule would always be pur sued by the head of the government? Or, that it would be sound policy to continue it? He was sure, and he did hope that every member in the house, and every individual in the community, was satisfied, that if the punishment was commensurate with the crime, it would tend more to the suppression of offences and reclaiming of the wick ed by its certainty of being carried into effect, than that law, which, from it severity, cannot be put into execution, without exciting public diapprobation, and wounding the feelings of him in whom is invested the power of mercy. By the unerring council of the Almighty God they were taught that different degrees of punishment were awarded for different affences. The Divine legislator says an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth; and he who shedeth man's blood by man shall his blood be shed. But they could not find it recorded in any part of Holy writ, that the blood of him who stealeth a man's properly shall be shed for that offence. Yet this is the law of this Province, countenanced and supported by the worshippers of HIM who teacheth us and commandeth us to act differently. He thought the house was bound to interfere in many enactments and wipe off the foul stigma of cruelty which was attached to the Province by the severity of its laws. If they were to pass a bill for the establishment of a tread mill in the town

alting the high character in the exercise of the more amable, praise worthy, and distinguished virtues of the heart) does not so effectually operate to the suppression or prevention of crimes, as the imposing a punishment not exceeding in degree the merciful dispensation of justice.

Resolved, that an abatement of the rigour of the criminal laws of this Province, is loudly called for, and may with proper precaution be ventured upon with safety.

The Attorney General, after complimenting the hon, mover for his humanity, said, he did hope that the hon, gentleman would have been induced from the debate that took place on a previous day, to defer the mea-

been induced from the debate that took place on a previous day, to defer the measure till next Session of Parliament. In England the measure was submitted to a select committee and not to a committee of the whole, who examined evidence and submitted their observation on the subject to the mouse.—The course pursued in England was the proper course to be adopted here. The hon, gentleman confined himself to general observations, and did not bring in any particular case, if he had, then they could take it up like the bill that came down from the Upper House: he thought the resolutions were not warranted; the reflections cast upon the criminal code of this Province were unjust. There was no discontent manifested in this Province against the criminal code. The arminal was not repealed in Linguistant to was only put in force when done maliciously to injure the owner; and he thought in such a case there could not be a greater of fence against, morality, and they would not be agreened to require the amount of the malicious of the province against morality, and they would not such a case there could not be a greater of fence against morality, and they would not be warranted to reduce it to a wisdemeanor, as the terror of capital punishment puts a stop to the commission of the crime, no person could suffer any evil by the law as it is now carried on, and it should be allowed to remain so till time and opportunity were given to enquire into what laws were necessary to be repealed, in order to submit them in a digested manner for the consideration of parliament. He thought it was unfortunate to take up this subject at the moment that parliament. He thought it was unfortunate to take up this subject at the moment that they were reforming the criminal code of England, and when they had not any of the bills introduced into the British Parliament for that purpose before them. The Union of the Province, which might in all probability take place, was another objection to the proceeding. He thought it was a hasty interference in the criminal code of the country and would oppose it. If the hon, gentleman would bring in a bill to repeal or amend any particular act or acts he would be happy to particular act or acts he would be happy to discuss them one by one; but to go into the criminal code as a general measure, he could ever assent to it.

Mr. Wilson said he felt hurt at bringing

the measure forward; it ought to have fal-len into abler hands; he had his eye upon the measure forward, it can be the measure forward, it is eye upon the learned A. General, and did hope that he or some of his brethren would have introduced it; but finding that these hon, gentlemen never intimated their intention of taking up the subject, he felt it his duty to bring it before the house for the purpose of collecting opinions and drawing from hon members their opinions upon the policy of an alteration in our criminal code. He did not wish to press the question; he was not prepared to go into it, nor, from its magnitude, to express the tenth part of his mind. He was not for a sudden change neither did he wish offenders should escape punishment—hyshed them to be punished but not too severely.

wished them to be punished but has the verely.

The public feeling was agitated—Infamous acts had been frequently committed upon persons and upon the property of individuals; and the perpetrators of those officies, in consequence of the extreme severity of the punishment and the humane feelings of the injured, have never been brought to trial It would be beneficial to society to alter the law in many cases; for whilst they remain

with the jumps and militated so much against the prisoner, that a necessity did exist to alter that part of the law, in order to do justice to all parties, by giving the same power to the prisoner's counsel as that possessed by the counselfor the crown.

Mr. Hamilton hoped that the learned gendlemen on the other side would express their pinion upon this subject. The laws were so severe that they counteracted themselves, and if was necessary that an alteration should ake place for the benefit of society.

Mr. J. Jones was not prepared to go into the question generally he wished some of the hon, gentlemen to introduce a measure that might be carried.

Mr. Hagerman did not think the hon, gendleman adopted the propen course, and hoped he would drop it, as in act it would be toing nothing to debate upon the resolutions.

loing nothing to debate upon the resolutions proposed. There were however parts of the code that might be done away with alto-

gether.

Mr. Wilson was happy that the learned gentleman treated the subject as he did, he would not press the resolutions against the sentiments of the house, but would comply with the suggestion of the hon, gentleman. He moved that coursel have power to address a jury as fully and as freely as counsel for the crown, and that a bill be introduced

MISCELLANEOUS.

From a Loidon Paper of the 17th Nov.

At the Manchester Sessions, on Saturday se'ennight, three men, named Samuel Shore, David Hughes, and John Grattan, were charged with having picked the pocket of Mr. Thomas Moss, of Bolton, on the 23d of August last, it that town, of a pocket-book, contaming one bank of England note for one pound, and two promissory notes. The Jury acquitted Grattan, and found Hughes and Shore gunity. The Chairman, (Thomas Starkie, Esq.) asked of the officers present, if they kin w any thing of Shore and Hughes? James Battye, one of the town's beadles, said, that they were both very bad characters: Hughes, he observed, had had a brother that was hung; when Hughes, casting a ferocious look at the officer, exclained—"what's that to do with the question?"—The Chairman referred to the black book, and reminded the two prisoners of their various previous offences, and the sentences which they had undergone; remarking, that lenity, instead of working a reformation, appeared only to inflame their passion for crime. Under all the circumstances of the case, the court thought it an imperious duty which they owed to the community, to prevent the possibility of a recurrence to their depredations. The sentence of the court was, that they and each of them be transported JUSTICE.

possibility of a recurrence to their depredations. The sentence of the court was, that they and each of them be transported beyond seas, to such place as his Majesty, in his wisdom shail think fit, for the term of their natural lives. At the conclusion of this sentence, the countenance of the prisoner Hughes assumed a direful & freuzied as pect; with the fury of a tiger he flew at the dicer, Battye, who unfortunately stood on his right hand in the bar, and felled him, ith a tremendous blow, to the ground, that bug gars description, and few officers, at the moment, being on the spot, Battye had nearly gars description, and few officers, at the moment, being on the spot, Battye had nearly been murdered. He lay in the dock in a state of insensibility, receiving the kucks of the infuriate transports. Officers leaped into the dock, which was crowded with prisoners, male and female, and the battle grew motter and hotter. The two prisoners fought like manuacks, reckless of consequences, and, apparently, careless of life. The fearful screams of the female prisoners, and the shouts of the men, rendered the place like a den of hungry wolves. The chairman sat in mute astonishment—the barristers briefi like manacks, reckless of consequences, and, apparently, careless of infe. The fearful stratement is too true; alth screams of the temals prisoners, and the shouts of the men, rendered the place like a shout of hungry wolves. The chairman sat men and the men an

in all the present state, they must prove the work of the control of sigms of creatly the state state of sigms of creatly the state of sigms of creatly the state of sigms of creatly the state of the present state, they must prove the control of the state of the sta

was counsel for the prisoner, but the lan-guage of learned gentlemen weighed so much with the jurps and militated so much against he prisoner, that a necessity did exist to al as was his partner in guilt. This man was flogged by another officer, who appeared better versed in the science of flogging than the other. The 60th lash found him still obdurate and unyielding; when, finding from his manner, that no infliction of botilly suffering would force him to confess the pain of his punishment, and thus work a salutary effect on the mind of the prisoner's spectators, the officer was desired to stop. His shirt being put on for him by the officers present, he waiked down the steps of the terrace into the yard, with an assumption of carelessness, and, meeting his previously sconred brother, he extended his hand to him, and asked him how he was? "How many have you had?" said he.—"Four dozen," replied Shore. "I have had five," rejoined Hughes.—Manchester Gazette.

Most honorable restitution.—A singular mark of individual uprightness and integrity has lately been evinced by the will of Mr. Barnard Smith, formerly a Sheriff of this city, and whose death we some time ago announced. It is well known that unforeseen occurrences in his earlier life, introduced his name into the periodical list of bankrupts, and that in the course of years he afterwards became possessed of cousiderable property. With the honourable feelings of an upright mind, he immediately resolved to make good every deficiency between himself and the public. deficiency between himself and the public. An arrangement was entered upon for the laudable purpose; but, before he could carry his designs into effect, he received his summons to the mausions of eternity. Mr. S. however, had prepared for his creditors even against this awful visitation, and had ordered in his will, that all his creditors should be paid to the utmost farthing (free of the legacy duty.) together with lawful interest on the respective sums from the day of his bankruptcy to the hour of payment. This most honourable arrangement has, we understand, been strictly attended to, and, in our opinion, it is too creditatable to all the parties for us to pass it over in silence. parties for us to pass it over in silence.—

The impenetrable prepared cloth for lining shoes, cloaks, oc. for which a patent lining shoes, cloaks, &c. for which a patent was recently got, has proved eminently successful. A pair of shoes, which have lain soaking in water, in a shoe-shop in Trongate, for the last nine weeks, is in the inside, completely free of the slightest degree of moisture. There are only two considerable objections to the general use of this prepared cloth. One is the excessive high price. The quantity requisite to line a pair of shoes, which would cost 11s to 12s, raises the price to 20s, and even at tine a pair of shoes, which would cost 11s to 12s, raises the price to 20s, and even at that rate the additional trouble is so great, that a shoe-maker has more profit on a 12s article. The other objection is the disagreeable gaseous smell which the preparation has white new; but this, we are informed, goes off after being worn some time, and exposed to the air.— Glusgow paper.

Riego's Family.—It was stated in a Morning paper, a few days past, that the wile and brother of Riego were living in London in very indigent circumstances. There is good reason to believe that this statement is too true; although a sort o contradiction of it was afterwards published in the same paper. Miguel Riego, who is a Canon of the Roman Church,

over European nations. Porto Bello and Nicaragua will be in some years the staples, where all America bordering on the Atlantic, and probably all Europe itself, will go to put the Sea Indian mer handise. This change in that great trade will produce one as considerable in the relative wealth and power of states as that of the discovery of the Cape of Good Hope. The Americans themselves will take to Bengal and China the metal which they furnish to Europe for maintaining this trade. The day when commerce shall take this new direction, and that day is not so distant as many suppose, will be that of distant as many suppose, will be that of the independence of the nations of Asia as well as of America, not to mention those innumerable advantages which necessarily result from the shackled commerce. The Americans of the United States have carried on the East India trade, for more than fifteen years past, with greater relative profits than the English. Those of Colombia will have only a third of the distance to sail, and

will navigate on cheaper terms.

Nor is this all: the Atlantic will be joined to the South Sea by more than one canal. Nine easy communications between them are winted out by M. de Humboldt, in his political essay on New Spain. Since 1789, boats have sailed up through the ravine of La Raspadura to Choco, by which they have passed from the Pacific Ocean into the sea of the Antilles. A canal across the Isthmus of Panama would be a matter of no great difficulty. An Isthmus of only 30 miles between two An Isthmus of only 30 miles between two oceans, cannot be an insuperable barrier to the inventive genius and perseverance of man in the presentage; and the ground is generally thought by late travellers to be more suitable for an enterprise of this kind, than the academicians have reported. Colombia is bounded on the north by the province of Costa Rica in Guatimala and the Carribean Sea; on the east, by the Atlantic and British Guiana; on the south by Portuguese Guiana; the river

the Atlantic and British Guiana; on the south, by Portuguese Guiana; the river Maranon, and Peru; and on the west, by the Pacific Ocean. It thus extends from the 12th degree of northern latitude, in its eastern portion nearly equal to the equator, and in its western, nearly to the 70th degree of southern latitude.

The eastern portion of this vast region was formerly called Venezuela or Caracas; the mastern portion. New Grenada or

was formerly called Venezuela or Caracas; the western portion, New Grenada or Cundinamarca; and the south western extremity of the latter, Quito. The whole is now united in the republic of Colombia.

The Cordillera of the Andes crosses the country from the north to the south, a length of 4,200 miles. In Colombia, the section attends of the Andes is consistent attends of the Andes is consistent.

the greatest attitude of the Andes is conjectured to take place nearly under the jectured to take place nearly under the equator, where the one of Chimborazo rises to the amazing hight of 7147 yards above the level of the sea; but the Cordillera of Caracas, which is, on the average, 4,500 feet in height, occasionally exceeds 8000. The mountain of Quida is 8465 feet above the sea.

Columbia has several lakes, particularly the lake of Maracaibo which is 130 miles long, 90 broad, and communicates with Gulf of Venazuela. Its rivers are large and numerous, particularly the Orinoco.

and numerous, particularly the Orinoco.

The total population of Colombia, is 2.644,600 persons.

LOCAL RULES AND HINTS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The hours of attendance are to be made known by the superintendent. As it is a rule that the School shall be opened

a rule that the School shall be opened and conclude with prayer, it is necessary that the children should be all present at the school in good time.

Any children being absent from the School unless by the reasonable desire of their parents, (of which notice must be given) or by permission of their teachers, will be liable to reproof; and if absent three successive Sundays, without a satisfactory cause, will subject themselves to be dismissed the School.

Every child who does not come to school clean and decent, or is found guilty of lying, swearing, stealing, fighting or otherwise misbehaving, must be expelled, if after repeated reproof there is no reformation.

No book belong ng to the Institution shall be taken away from the School with-

out permission.

A complete list of the books in the Libary, shall be regularly numbered and placed in a conspicuous situation in the School room. A number shall be marked on each book to correspond with the number in the list, and the books placed in

the Library according to the numbers. The name of the School to which the book belongs, shall also be stamped on it or written in it.

All persons, who may be disposed to meet together under the direction of the Society, for reading and reciting the Holy Scriptures, shall have access to the Library.

Holy Scriptures, shall have access to the Library.

All persons, having books out of this Library, must return them the following Sunday, or bring them to be entered. If they neglect this, they shall be liable to be deprived of their privilege.

If any Scholars or persons shall commit any fault deserving of such punishment, they shall be deprived of their privilege for a limited time, or entirely, as the Committee (or Superintendant) shall judge most proper.

It is earnestly recommended to the parents or friends of the children to set them proper examples, to orge them to attend to their own improvement and frequently to question them on what they have recited and read; thus to second the wishes and exertions of the teachers, who cannot hope for much success in their welfare, or an example contrary to the Colonist 2 vols. 8vo. pp. 1817. London, 1823.

Our author has a sensible and well-written introduction on the subject of the loan and the recognition and colonization of Colombia, its mineral and agricultural riches, &c. Of the commercial advantages which the country presents, he says—

'Their independence once established the Colombians will not delay opening a trade with Japan, China, and India. Their coasts, bordering on the Pacific Ocean, give them great advantages in such a trade