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PREFACE.

DURING the first seven years of the existence of the Dublin Statistical Society, such of the papers read at its meetings as the Council judged deserving of publication were printed each in a separate form, and so circulated among the members and Corresponding Societies. This mode of publication, though possessing some advantages, has been found very unfavourable to the preservation of the papers; and the Council have therefore determined to publish for the future a series of selections from the Proceedings of the Society periodically in the form of a Journal, of which the present is the first number.

The Council wish it to be understood that, while they select the papers to be published in the Journal from a belief that the matter contained in them is worthy of attention, they do not vouch for the accuracy of the statistics or the soundness of the reasonings in any of those papers, for which their authors alone must be held responsible.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Report of the Council at the Opening of the Eighth Session of the Society	3
Address delivered at the Opening of the Eighth Session of the Society.	
By JONATHAN PIM, Esq., one of the Vice-Presidents	6
What a Perfect Income Tax of Ten Per Cent. would produce. By W.	
NEILSON HANCOCK, LL.D.	35
Statistics (with some Additions) given in Evidence before a Select Committee of the House of Commons on Public Houses. By JAMES	
HAUGHTON, Esq.	39
Proceedings of the Society for 20th November and 18th December, 1854	53
* A Plan for Extending the Jurisdiction for Selling Incumbered Estates to cases where a receiver has been appointed over a life estate. By	
W. NEILSON HANCOCK, LL.D.	55
On the Present state of the Savings' Bank Question. By W. NEILSON	
HANCOCK, LL.D.	58
Russian Serfs and British Labourers. By HENRY WYNNE, Esq.	62
The Utility of Standing Armies as a means of defence in an advanced stage of civilization. By WILLIAM H. JEMISON, A.B.	73
Factory Education. By P. J. M'KENNA, Esq.	78
The Workhouse as a mode of Relief for Widows and Orphans. By W.	
NEILSON HANCOCK, LL.D.	84
Proceedings of the Society for 29th January, 19th February, and 19th March, 1855	92
Notices respecting Barrington Lectures	93
List of Corresponding Societies in connexion with the Dublin Statistical Society	93
On the effect of the limitation of Parliamentary title to Ireland, in promoting purchases of land by English and Scotch Capitalists. By W.	
NEILSON HANCOCK, LL.D.	95

Maritime Captures and Commercial Blockades. By T. E. CLIFFE LESLIE, Esq.	97
The relative expediency of defraying the expense of War by Loans or by Increased Taxation, considered with reference to the present financial system of the United Kingdom. By R. HUSSEY WALSH, LL.D.	106
Excessive Mortality of British Residents in India, as affecting the choice of the Civil Service of the East India Company as a career for Young Men. By W. NEILSON HANCOCK, LL.D.	115
On the Connexion between the origin and localization of Diseases, whether usual or epidemical, and the over-crowding of buildings in our Cities. By RICHARD DOWDEN (Richard), Esq.	120
Malthus. By FREDERICK G. EVELYN, Esq.	125
On Partnership with Limited Liability. By P. J. MCKENNA, Esq.	136
Proceedings of the Society for 16th April, 21st May, and 18th June, 1855	146
Barrington Lectures for the year 1855-6	147
Notice respecting the Social Inquiry Fund	148
Notice to Corresponding Societies	148
Report of the Council at the Opening of the Ninth Session of the Society	149
Address delivered at the Opening of the Ninth Session of the Society. By MOUNTFORT LONGFIELD, Q.C., LL.D.	153
A Plan for the Reduction and ultimate Extinction of the National Debt. By WILLIAM POLLARD URQUHART, Esq., M.P.	165
Observations on the Gold Crisis, the Price of Silver, and the Demand for it; with an answer to the Question : " What becomes of the New Supplies of Gold ?" By RICHARD HUSSEY WALSH, Esq., LL.D.	175
Proceedings of the Society for 19th November and 17th December, 1855	220
Is Fire Insurance a proper subject for Taxation ? By W. NEILSON HAN- COCK, LL.D.	221
The Effect of War on Prices. By JOHN E. CAIRNES, A.M.	223
Condition of the Labouring Population of Jamaica, as connected with the present state of Landed Property in that island. By RICHARD HUSSEY WALSH, LL.D.	238
Sir Robert Peel's Bank Act of 1844 explained and defended. By W. NEILSON HANCOCK, LL.D.	261
On the Criminal Jurisdiction of Courts of Quarter Sessions in Ireland. By P. J. MCKENNA, Esq.	276
On the General Principles of Taxation, as illustrating the advantages of a Perfect Income Tax. By W. NEILSON HANCOCK, LL.D.	285
Proceedings of the Society for 21st January, 18th February, and 17th March, 1856	301

	PAGE.
Notices respecting Barrington Lectures	302
The Expediency of a Cheap Land Tribunal. By JAMES A. LAWSON, LL.D.	303
The Private and Local Business of Parliament. By JOSEPH JOHN MURPHY, Esq.	311
On the Advantages of Policies of Insurance terminable at the age of 63, or at Death, instead of at Death only. By W. NEILSON HANCOCK, LL.D.	321
Education the surest Preventive of Crime, and the best Safeguard of Life, Property, and Social Order. By JAMES HAUGHTON, Esq.	324
On the Bank Charter Act of 1844. By S. M. GREER, Esq.	335
Notes on the Société Générale de Crédit Mobilier. By RICHARD HUSSEY WALSH, LL.D., Professor of Political Economy in the University of Dublin	350
Proceedings of the Society for 21st April, 8th May, 19th May and 16th June, 1856	359
Notices respecting Barrington Lectures	360
The Progress of the Colony of Victoria. By ALFRED WEBB, Esq.	361
Observations on the Present Export of Silver to the East. By RICHARD HUSSEY WALSH, LL.D., late Whately Professor of Political Economy in the University of Dublin	372
Effects of Emigration ; Can it be made a means of Relieving Distress ? By REV. THOMAS JORDAN	378
Deductions from the Statistics of Crime for the last Twelve Years. By RICHARD HUSSEY WALSH, LL.D.	385
Free Trade Resolutions of the Council General of the Hérault	393