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## NOTICE.

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THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST. Anid \#ictoria (Thronicte.


The Reform Agitation in Great Britain.
The death of Lord Palmerston re.
The death of Lord Palmerston re-
moved the Ministerial barriers to re-
form; by that form; by that event the floodgates
were loosened, and a political delage now sweeps over the length and
breadth of the Island. Reform, Civil breadth of the sland. Reform, Civil
and Pelitical Liberty, Extension of
the Franchise, and the Working Rights are the batuleceries, The citement of the public mind on this
engrossing subject is represented as being great, and the notions upon the sabject very ansettled. The excitement, bowever, will oventually prove beneficial, and the crude notions wil
be matured into riper reasonings. To be matured into riper reasonings. To
earry into execution great changes i
national institutions, with national institutions, with faultle
temperance on one hand, and witho any interested resistance on the other Wonld be tol great a perfection it is the true patriot's duly to be a
ready to resist the deatructive a
tempts of those who, with the eacre name of liberty in their mouths, hav
intent intents of anarchy in their hearts, a
it is to join in overcoming all selfis it is to join in overcoming all selfisb No ideas and definitions are more dis tinguishable than those of civil an
political liberty. Civil liberty is no
thing more than the thing more than the impartial admin
istration of equal and expedient laws which we have long enjoyed nearly to as great an extent as can be expected
under any human establishment. Paley under any human establishment. Paley
begins his excellent chapter on civi begins his excellent chapter on civi
liberty with the following definition
"Civil libe "Civil liberty is the not being re duces in a great degree to that publio welfare." Political liberty may be
defined to be the security with whe from the constitution, form, and na ture of the established government,
the subject enjoys civil liberty. This species of liberty has probably more than the rent-natural, or moral, or
civil-engaged the attention of mankind, and particularly of the people of to perpetuate these inestimable bless. ings of civil liberty, consider that on reforms, or what they deem improve
ment in the coidition of the ment. Men of such opinions and dis wished there will be, in all times. But before any serious expt riment is made we ought to be convinced by litlle less
than mattematical demenstration that We shall not sacrifice substance to
form-the end change present possession for tar prospects. If it is agreed that the
very essence of the Bet very essence of the Bitish (or any
other) oonstitution coneists in lod in the supreme power in three indep nd ent branches of legislature; then, to be the inderenty a truism to say that, it branches were destrojed, there would even the authorits of Locktution; bu cient to prove that there must, in such

