

SIMMONDS'S COLONIAL MAGAZINE.

ENGLAND'S POLICY, CONNECTED WITH HER AUSTRALIAN
COLONIES, REVIEWED.

PORT ESSINGTON.

IN the *Colonial Magazine* for May last (ante page 11), in an article on the Progress of Australian Discovery, we have the following notice:—
“ Dr. Leichardt and his exploring party started on Saturday last from Sydney, on their expedition overland to Swan River, the greatest interior adventure of the kind yet undertaken in the Colony.” This announcement is fraught with importance in the annals of discovery. The very undertaking of this exploring trip opens a new epoch to us. The public may now fairly calculate upon knowing more of this antipodean quarter of the world than it has ever yet done. The known ability of Dr. Leichardt, his perseverance and endurance, and his fitness for the important and arduous expedition in which he has embarked, as exemplified by past experience, gives singular promise of a successful termination.

England has it abundantly in her power to investigate this remote portion of the globe; to explore the territorial capacity and character—the climate, soil, and mineral wealth of this fifth continent of the terrestrial world. She has the power—now that all the civilised world is in alliance with her—and it may be esteemed a source of congratulation to the sons of enterprise that she lacks not the disposition to do so.

Loud are the assertions which continually emanate from the public press of the unparalleled wealth and prosperity of England. In many respects this is true, although Englishmen are seldom defective in vaunting their superiority in all points over their neighbours. There is, doubtless, great riches amongst us; but there are, also, pecuniary liabilities and burdens attached to Great Britain which have scarcely devolved on any other nation of ancient or modern times. An enormous debt continually hanging over her—the interest of which annually absorbed eats into the vitals of her prosperity, and, to a certain extent, cramps the springs of her wealth. Saddled with such incumbrances, she needs all the aids which her extended Colonial Empire can, under any circum-