

Shewton Leigh Hunt, 10 Wellington Street, Strand

The Leader.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos.*

Contents :

NEWS OF THE WEEK—	PAGE
Parliament	526
War in Burmah	526
The Cape War	527
Election Matters	527
Death of the Booksellers' Association	528
Progress of Association	529
Letters from Paris	530
Continental Notes	530
The Outrage upon Mr. Mather	531
More Probabilities of the Franklin Ships	532
Emigration	532
Mr. F. O. Ward, the Daily Press, and the "Leader"	532

Sir Charles Napier and the Scinde Prize Money	533
Military Interference in Elections	533
The Betting Office Nuisance	534
Life not among the Gold	534
Captain Atcherley and Mr. O'Connor	534
Miscellaneous	534
Health of London during the Week	535
Births, Marriages, and Deaths	535

PUBLIC AFFAIRS—

Malmesbury and Mather	536
Colonial Self-Government	537
The Path of the Two Wrecks	537

Inspection of Chelsea Pensioners ...	538
Taxation reduced to Unity and Simplicity	538
On the Cultivation of Flax	539

OPEN COUNCIL—

A Thought or Two on the Book Question	540
Outrages on British Subjects abroad	540

LITERATURE—

The Eclipse of Faith	541
Political Elements	542
Curtis's Lotos Eating	542
Books on our Table	543

PORTFOLIO—

Comte's Positive Philosophy	543
Passages from a Boy's Epic	545

THE ARTS—

Cruvelli and De La Grange	546
Lucrezia Borgia	546
The Musical Union	546
Egmont and the German Actors	546
Taking by Storm	547
Omniana	547
Mr. H. C. Selous's Picture of the Inauguration of the Great Exhibition of 1851	547

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—

Markets, Advertisements, &c....	547-548
---------------------------------	---------

VOL. III. No. 115.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 1852.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

RANGOON has fallen, and Martaban has been captured; with these two brilliant successes we have begun a Burmese war. The capture of Martaban was the work of two hours; Rangoon presented more difficulties to be overcome, and, in fact, three days were spent in reducing it; but the actual assault occupied only a few hours. In a thick jungle, under a burning sun, in the face of an active enemy, the British soldiers stormed the main fortress of the place, and the Burmese fled from the gates as our troops entered the breach. General Godwin and Admiral Austen have so far acted with vigour and success; a success due to British soldiers and British seamen. But the Burmese showed that they are men of mettle; and General Godwin won his victory chiefly by superior strategetic skill. The Burmese were beaten by a flank movement, which rendered their preparations for resistance from the centre of their position useless. General Godwin takes due notice of two novelties in the warfare of the Burmese, they attacked in flank, and threw out skirmishers to the front; beside this, he bears testimony to their steady and well-directed fire. These are ominous of the future difficulties of the war.

Almost simultaneously with the publication of the Indian despatches in the *Gazette*, appeared those from the Cape. Sir Harry Smith landed at Portsmouth on Sunday, and was fêted by the Portsmouth burghers on Monday. He considers the war as virtually at an end; but that is not so apparent from the despatches. Certainly the British troops have been successful in the capture of cattle, and in driving the enemy from place to place. Several daring feats have been performed, and a general hunt conducted against the Kafirs. But this, though less vigorously, had been done before, and so tenacious are the "fickle Kafirs," so incorrigible the "ungrateful Hottentots," that we expect to hear more of both before either are pacified. Sir Harry has, meanwhile, in his last despatch, defended himself with success from the charges of Earl Grey; attributing the duration of the war to the daring recklessness of the Kafirs, the faithlessness of the Hottentots, the fewness of his troops, and, above all, to the inert coolness of the burghers. But he does not say that there should have been any war "at all," had the burghers been permitted to have their own way with the Kafirs. In fact, as we have elsewhere shown, it

resolves itself into a question of local self-government.

While actual war, with blood and wounds in plenty, disturbs the tranquillity of life in the South and the East, electioneering furnishes us, at home, with contests of a civil kind. The Free traders capture Windsor, and the Derbyites are worthily honoured, by winning the suffrages of Harwich. The spring crop of the latter gentlemen, modified as free traders in the town, still continues to flourish. There is activity everywhere; in some parts of the island. South-west has initiated Manchester in starting a Radical to oppose a Radical; yet it is too much to ask a constituency which preferred the comprehensive politics of a Molesworth, to elect an Apsley Pellatt, who refused to attend a meeting at Birmingham because William Newton was also invited! Finsbury has also followed in the Manchester wake; but indifferent as may be the Parliamentary conduct of Mr. Wakley and Mr. Duncombe, they are far superior to Mr. Wyld, who has been tried and found wanting, and Alderman Challis, who has not been tried at all. Liverpool promises a fierce contest; Edinburgh goes a hunting for a candidate; while Bristol, in a fit of barbaric enthusiasm, unyokes the horses from the carriage of the liberal candidates; "independent" electors taking the place of intelligent brutes. County Down proposes to signalize its independence of Londonderry;—to elect Lord Castlereagh for Belfast, and Sharman Crawford for Down; while nearer home, West Surrey, in the person of Colonel Challoner, finds a Radical and Free trader willing to contest one of the seats.

Ministers were rather severely handled by Sir James Graham on Thursday. There was no ostentation of opposition, but it was all the keener for being covert. The Maynooth debate is again adjourned to Tuesday! These shuffling tactics are getting intolerable; and Sir James broadly hints that the reputation of Parliamentary government itself is degraded by Ministers. Rather a smart cut at the Caucasian leader!

Ireland is now bound to England by a submarine telegraph from Holyhead to Kingston. The first message which passed through the wires was "The Irish Submarine Telegraph is completed." This is a more perfect bond than the Treaty of Union.

On Friday week the Booksellers' Association honoured the pledge of its committee and dissolved itself. It was obvious that, notwithstanding the disclaimers of Mr. Seeley and the dissentients, the

feeling in favour of the dissolution was very general. Thus free trade conquers another department of commerce, and unrestricted "supply and demand" rules over an additional territory. The more the merrier. Competition, like monopoly, will work its own cure.

Opposition is the key-note of our news from France. Snubbed at Berlin in the person of M. Meschery by the veto of the Czar, pelted at home by a rain of resignations, the President eats dirt, and pockets the empire, seeking solace in *maison priée* at St. Cloud. Here and there Justice proves inflexible, and stems the swollen current of lawless oppression. The financial crisis looms darkly; the Legislative Body, mindful of the fate of Assemblies, declines to be the scapegoat of licentious extravagance, and to cover dilapidation with imposts. It has, we are told, "strangled the Budget with amendments!"

Switzerland has threatened another war of the Sonderbund: but for the moment the danger has passed, and we only hear of a dynastic restoration of Neuchâtel to its "rightful owner," the King of Prussia, under signature of the *Five Great Powers* sitting in Downing Street. Lords Derby and Malmesbury, the pacific non-interventionists, are determined to let England feel, and Europe acknowledge, the full force of a Tory Government, by rushing headlong into the toils and trammels of a new Holy Alliance. This is one side of Malmesbury's foreign policy: the other is to appraise England's honour at 250*l.*! May England bear Malmesbury in grateful remembrance! How is it that American citizens, with the scanty aid of a frigate and a steamer or two, can make even despotism respectful and courteous, whilst we, with our imperial taxation and our royal navy, are buffeted, and sabred, and dragged to the felon's gaol in the very ports where the British Ensign is flying? We forbear to press the inevitable answer, but let Conservative Ministers look to it betimes.

Early in the week, news reached Town by the Scotch papers that gold diggings had been revealed in the Lomonds by the letter of an emigrant shepherd boy; and a rush was made to the spot indicated, accordingly. Alas, it turned out that the supposed gold was sulphurous limestone of a pretty yellow colour; and so ended the bright visions of the diggers! In the real gold fields, however, "the root of all evil" still yields a plentiful crop. Young gentlemen "not badly off" live in houses where there is neither "table, chair,

nor bed;" compositors cannot be got at wages at the rate of a shilling a thousand; water carriers earn 10% a week; flockmasters are compelled to put up with native cooks and native shepherds; and ballet girls finish Highland flings amid a shower, not of nosegays, they are too expensive, but, like so many Danaës, of pieces of gold and silver!

PARLIAMENT.

BOTH Houses sat on Thursday—the Lords for twenty minutes, and the Commons for ten hours. The Lords presented petitions and read an insignificant bill a second time. The Commons did a variety of business, and assisted at one dramatic incident which occurred at the beginning of the sitting.

The order of the day was for a Committee of Supply, and before the Speaker left the chair, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER appeared in his place, and alleging the convenience of Irish members, further put off the Maynooth debate until Tuesday. In doing so, he endeavoured to impress upon the House the urgency of the bills before it; represented that despatch was of the utmost importance; while Ministers would submit nothing but measures of "urgent and paramount necessity," they hoped independent members would be actuated by the same feelings. In short, he described the notices members had prefixed to the Committee of Supply in flattering terms, as deserving the fullest attention from Government in ordinary times, and he besought the "forbearance and abnegation" of the House.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM replied in a strain of measured gravity, which must have made the gentlemen on the Treasury benches rather uncomfortable. He, on the part of honourable members generally, did think they were entitled to some forbearance on the part of the Government in respect to the measures pressed immediately on their consideration. Then he called the attention of the House to the fact that there were no less than twenty-seven "orders of the day" upon the paper for that night; and after giving a masterly detail of the whole business before the House, which would compel labour of the most arduous kind to get through, he wound up in a manner very damaging to the new-blown reputation of the leader of the House.

"We are on the 3rd of June; it is announced that there is the utmost desire on the part of the Government and of the House to bring our labours to a close. (Hear, hear.) But though I will not weary the House with further details, I have not yet exhausted the list of subjects which wait for our consideration. Surely, the time has arrived when it is not unreasonable to ask the Government to consider and state on an early day—perhaps they would do it on Monday—what are the measures they will still press on our consideration, and in what order they will take them. (Loud cries of 'Hear, hear.') I feel strongly upon the matter. I have the greatest apprehension, that if we do not take care, we shall bring representative government itself into disrepute. (Cries of 'Hear, hear.') It will appear that we cannot transact business (hear, hear), and that even the business which is before us, and under debate, we cannot close so as to come to a decision. (Hear, hear.) I allude especially now to that motion which has been twice before us, and for which the Government has just proposed a day—the motion relating to Maynooth. (Hear, hear.) The hon. member who has made that motion avows that for any practical purpose it is useless, (hear, hear), that any inquiry in the present session is impossible (hear, hear); so that a proposition for an inquiry which must be fruitless, and the discussion of which, as I believe, being fruitless, is fraught with the greatest evil to the peace, tranquillity, and concord of the country (hear, hear), is kept open, with the consent of Her Majesty's Government (hear, hear), and in that state of affairs is still allowed to occupy our attention. (Hear, hear.) I will not speak with disrespect of any regulation which the House has adopted, but as for taking a question of that sort at a morning sitting, it appears to me that if you wished to come to no decision this is the exact course you would take (hear); and the evil is greatly aggravated by the regulation adopted the other day, that at four o'clock the Speaker closes the morning sitting, and the business not then disposed of is to be put at the bottom of the list of orders of the day; in point of fact, an adjournment, in the present state of the session, *sine die*. (Hear.) If we are to have a debate upon the Maynooth question, and to come to a decision upon it—and I do not deprecate such a decision—but what I would deprecate is endless discussion, without a decision (hear, hear)—I conceive that it can never, in the present state of the session, be determined at a morning sitting. (Hear, hear.) It will occupy morning after morning; the excitement created by it, and the discord, will go on, and be aggravated; the public will suffer from it, and no possible good can arise from it. (Hear, hear.) If her Majesty's Government think it is for the public good that that question should be discussed and decided, I should say let them, even in the present state of public business, give an evening sitting for the purpose. (Hear, hear.) I am very sorry to have occupied the House at this length (hear); but, with the utmost respect and regard for the reputation of this representative assembly, I do feel that in the course which we are now pursuing, if we can come to no decision upon a question of the greatest public interest, this assembly, which has been the

great landmark of representative government and the great example of representative assemblies throughout the world, will be brought into disrepute. (Loud cries of 'Hear, hear!')

Mr. SPOONER would be content with "ay or no" upon the question—did the system pursued at Maynooth demand inquiry? Lord JOHN RUSSELL denied that that was the question before the House. What they had to decide was whether they would inquire by select committee. He should state his views on Tuesday. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he had intended to state on Monday the views of the Government with respect to public business.

The House went into Committee of Supply soon after, and voted a great many items of the Miscellaneous Estimates. The only discussion of importance arose on the Educational Vote for Ireland. Sir JAMES GRAHAM attempted to wring from Mr. Walpole some avowal of the intentions of Ministers respecting the mixed system of education; but all he could extract was the information that Mr. Walpole personally thought that it was worth consideration whether the grant might not be differently distributed. After the Committee of Supply, the House forwarded several measures, and adjourned at two o'clock.

WAR IN BURMAH.

A *London Gazette Extraordinary* was published on Monday, containing the official account of the capture of Martaban and Rangoon.

Admiral Austen, on board the *Rattler*, arrived off the mouth of the Rangoon river on the 1st of April, and on the 2nd, General Godwin, with the troops under his command. Immediately on their arrival, a flag of truce was sent up the Rangoon river, in the steamer *Proserpine*, with the intention of inquiring at Dalla, on the right bank of the river, whether any letter had been received from the Burmese Government. Captain Latter, in command of the *Proserpine*, was allowed to pass two stockades, but a third fired on him. He returned the fire, blowing up a stockade, and ably reached the anchorage.

As the Madras contingent had not reached the scene of action, General Godwin and Admiral Austen sailed to Moulmein, a garrison in the possession of the East India Company, and embarking 1500 men on the 4th, there proceeded to attack Martaban on the 5th. "Martaban," says General Godwin, "stands on a noble sheet of water, with a river line of defences of about 800 yards. Inland lies a large pagoda, a wall running along the whole front, with an ascent from the water's edge of about 500 feet, on the top of which small pagodas stand, the slope being partially covered with fine trees and close jungle." By daybreak the preparations for the attack were completed; the five steamers bearing up among shoals and violent currents, led by the *Rattler*, to cover the landing of the troops. About six o'clock, General Godwin left the *Rattler* to superintend the landing on board the *Proserpine*; at half-past six the steamers opened fire, the *Rattler* running up within 200 yards, and doing "tremendous execution;" at seven the troops were in the boats, a smart fire being kept up from the shore, under which they landed. Colonel Reignolds, of the 18th Royal Irish, who appear to have fought admirably, commanded the storming party, which, with the dashing lead of Captain Gillespie, who was first on the walls, soon captured the place. At eight o'clock in the morning, Martaban was in our hands, with the loss of only eight wounded men.

Meanwhile, Commodore Lambert, in the *Fox*, accompanied by the sloop *Serpent* and two steamers, went up the Rangoon river on the same day, burning and destroying stockades.

General Godwin and Admiral Austen returned to the head-quarters, in the Rangoon river, on the 8th of April, and found awaiting them the Madras contingent of the army. The troops now numbered 5767. No time was now lost in preparing to attack Rangoon. April the 9th was devoted to making every disposition for the landing of the troops, which by the evening were completed. The next day, Admiral Austen proceeded up the river, close off Rangoon; and on the 11th, as he was getting into position, intending to bombard the whole line of stockades on both banks of the river next day, some of the flotilla got within range of the Burmese, who fired on them, and brought on a general engagement, which ended in about a mile of shore defences being cleared away. "On Monday, the 12th, at daybreak," writes General Godwin, "the troops were ready, and by about seven I had landed her Majesty's 61st Light Infantry, the 18th Royal Irish, the 40th Bengal Native Infantry, and part of my artillery. The Bengal guns, under Major Reid, were ordered to move in advance, covered by four companies of the 51st Light Infantry. They had not proceeded far, however, when, on opening some rising ground to our

right, guns opened on us, and shortly after skirmishers showed themselves in the jungle. This," he notes, "was a new mode of fighting with the Burmese, no instance having occurred last war of their attacking our flanks, or leaving their stockades, that I remember ever to have taken place. I make this remark as they are now not only good shots, but bold in their operations and clever in selecting their ground and covering themselves. Our casualties for the past three days will prove it—our dress exposing us, and their garb and colour concealing them."

The stockade turned out to be a strong place, called, in the last war, the "White House Picket," standing right in the line of their advance. Of course, to take it was a necessity; and after the fire of four guns had done execution on the works, a storming party of four companies, under Lieutenant-Colonel St. Maur and Major Fraser, dashed through the jungle in the face of a heavy fire, and succeeded in taking the stockade by assault, Major Fraser carrying the ladders and mounting alone. He was speedily followed by his comrades. The heat of the sun was so great that Major Oakes was struck down by it at his battery, Major Griffith died carrying an order, Lieutenant-Colonel Foord, commanding the artillery, was obliged to leave the field, and two other officers suffered very severely.

The consequence was, that General Godwin found it necessary to concentrate where he was, the enemy hovering around until night. The next day the heavy guns could not be landed, and he was forced to remain until the 14th.

During the conflict which ended in the capture of the White House, Captain Lynch, commanding the steamers of the Indian navy, had been actively engaged on the river. The stockades on the right or Dalla bank had been burnt, a powder magazine exploded, the great Pagoda at Rangoon itself twice shelled with great effect, and stockades above the town taken and destroyed.

Rangoon is built on the left bank of the river, lying about a mile and a quarter from the shore. It is nearly square, surrounded by a mud wall, sixteen feet high, and eight thick, a ditch running along each side. The Pagoda, which served as a citadel, is situated on the northern side, or the farthest from the river. The old road to the Pagoda led up from the river to the south gate, and thence through the town. It was here the Burmese had elaborated their defences, having above 100 pieces of cannon in position, and a garrison of at least 10,000 men. General Godwin saw, of course, the plan of the enemy and arranged his accordingly. The men were under arms by five o'clock in the morning on the 14th. The position occupied by General Godwin was about a mile and a half to the south-eastward of the town; consequently, in order to evade the main defences and outflank the Burmese position, the line of march lay to the north-west, through a thick jungle.

"The advance," says General Godwin, "was formed of four light guns, 9-pounders, their flanks protected by two companies of her Majesty's 80th Regiment, the rest of the wing of that corps following, with two more guns, and the 18th Royal Irish and the 40th Bengal Native Infantry, formed the advance. The 51st Light Infantry and the 35th Madras Native Infantry were in reserve; the 9th Madras Native Infantry keeping open the communication with the shipping. We proceeded in this order for about a mile, when we opened the Great Pagoda, and its fire was turned on us. An excellent position for two guns was taken by Major Turton to our left flank: these were left under the command of Major Montgomery, of the Madras Artillery, who served them well. The ground to the front getting very difficult, barely admitted of the 80th and Royal Irish occupying it in close order. We had now completely turned the enemy's position, having passed their stockaded town, and got opposite the east side of the Great Pagoda, our main object. Major Turton informed me that he had a favourable position to place in battery his heavy guns; but it took some time to bring them up, a service in which the navy brigade of about 120 men, under the command of Lieutenant Dorville, of her Majesty's frigate *Fox*, assisted by the Artillery, rendered their invaluable aid, under a heavy fire of guns and wall pieces from the Great Pagoda and town, from which they suffered severely. While this was going on, the enemy's artillery had got the range of our crowded position, and their skirmishers had somewhat closed upon us, and it took 500 men to keep down their fire. The practice of the heavy battery, under Major Back, was very effective. My intention was to have stormed the Pagoda at noon, but at a little after eleven, Captain Latter, of the Bengal Army, my interpreter, assured me he felt confident, from what he could see of the east entrance of the Pagoda, on which our battery was playing, that the entrance was clear, and that he was prepared to show the way. As our people were dropping fast where we stood, I determined on an immediate assault. The storming party was formed of the wing of her Majesty's 80th Regiment, under Major Lockhart, two companies of the Royal Irish, under Lieutenant Hewitt, and of two companies of the 40th Bengal Native Infantry, under Lieutenant White, the whole commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Coote, of the 18th Royal Irish, Captain Latter accompanying the party to show the road. The advance to the east entrance of the Pagoda was of about 800 yards, which the troops crossed in a most steady manner, under the fire of the

walls, crowded with the enemy, the remainder of the force following closely. When the storming party reached the steps, a tremendous rush was made to the upper terrace and a deafening cheer told that the Pagoda no longer belonged to the Burmese. The enemy ran in confusion from the southern and western gates, where they were met by the fire of the steamers. All the country around has fallen with the Pagoda; and, I understand, the once strong post of Kemmendine has been abandoned and destroyed."

From the official returns we learn that there were 17 killed, and 132 wounded, during the operations on the 11th, 12th, and 14th; of these, two among the killed, and fifteen among the wounded, were officers. On board the fleet there were two men killed, and fifteen wounded. General Godwin warmly praises the officers of both services, in his despatches to the Government of India.

Among the Indian news we find another melancholy instance of the small dependence that can be placed on the soldierly qualities of the Bengal regular cavalry occurred in the neighbourhood of Peshawur on the 31st of March. Lieutenant Tottenham, with the 5th troop of the 7th Light Cavalry, having succeeded in getting between a party of the Momunds and the hills, immediately ordered the charge, and set the example by dashing through them himself, only followed, however, by the subadar of the troop and a single trumpeter. No reason is assigned for the dastardly conduct of the whole troop, who, it is said, had an opportunity of striking a blow more severe than any the Momunds have yet felt. This instance is not, unfortunately, a singular one; it is only a few weeks since a party of regular cavalry, on their way from Kohat to Peshawur, surrendered their horses and arms to a party of Affree-dees without sustaining a wound or striking a blow. It is extraordinary that the use of native regular cavalry, armed and seated in the European fashion, has not been superseded by that of Irregular or Silidar Horse, the latter description of force being much the more economical of the two, and generally acknowledged to be infinitely the more effective. The only opponents to such an alteration are commanders-in-chief of the old school, who imagine it essential to the prestige of our native standing army that it should be armed, clothed, and pipeclayed in strict accordance with the English model.

THE CAPE WAR.

SIR HARRY SMITH and his family landed at Spithead, on Sunday. He arrived in the *Gladiator*, which brings news from the Cape up to the 19th of April. The new governor, Major-General Cathcart, arrived at King William's Town on Good Friday, where he had a long interview with Sir H. Smith, who quitted that place on the following day on his return to England. The accounts from the seat of war state that several serious actions had taken place, in all of which the enemy had been beaten with considerable loss; still the British troops had some sharp work of it, with many narrow escapes, and had been severely harassed, losing, however, but very few men. Among those slain were Captain Gore, of the 43rd, and Dr. Davidson. These successful operations had dispirited the enemy, who had also sustained immense loss from the capture of cattle. Great regret was felt by the people of the colony at the recall of Sir H. Smith, particularly as the war was thought to be near its termination. On his way to the port of embarkation, vast crowds assembled to witness his departure, and to pay their last personal respects to him for the important services he had rendered, while placed at the head of that government. Sir Harry's farewell address to the army is dated April 11th, head quarters, King William's Town:—

"His Excellency Lieutenant-General the Hon. George Cathcart having been appointed by the Queen to relieve me, I this day relinquish the command.

"Brother officers and soldiers,—Nothing is more painful than to bid farewell to old and faithful friends. I have served my Queen and country many years, and attached as I have ever been to gallant soldiers, none were ever more endeared to me than those serving in the arduous campaign of 1851-52, in South Africa. The unceasing labours, the night marches, the burning sun, the torrents of rain, have been encountered with a cheerfulness as conspicuous as the intrepidity with which you have met the enemy in so many enterprising fights and skirmishes in his own mountain fastnesses and strongholds, and from which you have ever driven him victoriously.

"I leave you, my comrades, in the fervent hope of laying before your Queen, your country, and his Grace the Duke of Wellington, those services as they deserve, which reflect so much honour upon you.

"Farewell, my comrades!—Your honour and interests will be ever more dear to me than my own.

"H. G. SMITH."

It is said that Sir Harry Smith considers the latest operations of the troops have left very little for his successor.

A long despatch from Sir Henry Smith is published in the *Gazette* of June 1. One half of it is occupied with details of the late attacks upon the Kafirs con-

ducted under his guidance, of which the nett results are above detailed. The other half consists of a defence of his policy. He anticipates, from the "fickle nature of the Kafir," which "delights in change," and ever believes new circumstances will turn in some way to his own advantage,—a speedy termination of the war. He expresses his "deep mortification that the burghers, as a body," "should have so signally failed in their duty to their Queen, the colony, and their families." He traces the origin of the war to the Kafir Chiefs, not the people, who, he says, "were contented" with British rule, and to the treachery of the "fickle and ungrateful Hottentot."

"The Hottentots," he says, "had been taught or had imbibed the marked impression to which I have before alluded, that they were an 'oppressed and ill-used race'; and that Holy Writ, which they are very fond of quoting, taught them they were justified in fighting to regain the country of which they regarded themselves as deprived. Surrounded as I and Major-General Somerset were by these people, drawn from the eastern and western districts, one false step or untimely exercise of power and martial law would have plunged the whole into a chaos of revolution; Her Majesty's troops must have abandoned their advanced positions, and fallen back on Graham's Town; and the T'Slambie tribes would have risen as well as every curly-headed black from Cape Town to Natal."

His summary of Kafir losses is as follows:—

"During the prosecution of this war, 6000 warriors, according to the Kafirs' own statement, have fallen, including 80 chief men, all of them of some distinction; 80,975 head of cattle, and innumerable goats, have been taken from the Gaikas, Tambookies, and from Kreili, the latter having suffered an additional loss by the removal of 7000 of the enslaved Fingoe race, bringing with them 15,000 head of cattle; many arms, and nearly 900 horses have been captured; the enemy has been driven, with great loss, from the strongholds which he so determinedly held; and, throughout the whole of their locations, the crops of the Gaikas have been utterly destroyed."

After defending himself vigorously from the charges of Lord Grey, and showing that he "transfers the civil government without a single particle of business in arrears, and with a treasury without a debt," he concludes by asserting that he leaves the command of the troops when the enemy has "repeatedly sued for peace, and the war is virtually terminated."

Sir Henry landed at Portsmouth on Sunday, and on Monday the Borough Council presented him with an address, and Sir Henry replied, warmly defending himself from Earl Grey's accusations.

"Without egotism, I may say, and I do assert it, that no man was ever placed in greater difficulty than I was when first placed in command in South Africa. (Hear, hear.) I was a governor without a legislative body, and I was a commander-in-chief without an army. (Loud applause.) I will admit I was one cause of the smallness of that army; for if I had to furnish reasons whether the army should be reduced or increased, I could better have furnished reasons for reducing it than for increasing it. My wish was, as far as I could, to save the money and blood of my country from being uselessly squandered in a distant colony. I am ready to say that the Minister of the day supported me with reinforcements; I asked for none from home or from the neighbouring colonies. I was endeavouring to hold my ground, as others had recommended, feeling that if the Minister of the day wished to retain Kafaria, he would furnish me with the men to do so, whilst, if he did not want to keep Kafaria, a good retreat might be made, with less disgrace, with a small army than with a large one. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) But reinforcements arrived, and I had to extend the scene of my operations, which then assumed a formidable character; but great difficulties then arose. I had not only 30,000 or 40,000 warlike savages to contend with, but I had a large body of Hottentots, who were supposed to be our friends—if savages ever can be friends—but who now turned against us. I then stood alone in a storm, in which I maintain no other man ever did before in our own time (Cheers.) But the minister sending out forces, time should have been given me; but he, like myself, of an ardent temperament, believing I was slowly acting—though I was not asleep (cheers)—was dissatisfied. Still I was doing as much as could be done, and I speak now the opinions of a general who has been in every description of warfare. (Hear, hear.) The measures I had commenced I left to the gallant officer, my successor, who relieved me with the greatest courtesy and kindness, and I left him in command of an intrepid army, in as good a position as could be desired (hear, hear)—for the enemy had been driven over the Koi. And I still think that my measures will ultimately be those which will bring peace, tranquillity and prosperity to the colony. (Cheers.)"

We may now expect a great many speeches, dinners, and addresses to the hero of Aliwal. Lord Grey must defend himself.

ELECTION MATTERS.

LONDON.

FINSBURY.—Mr. Wakley and Mr. Duncombe will contest their seats with all comers. Their present opponents are Mr. Alderman Challis, who professes a very faint kind of liberalism, of the Whig-Radical school, and Mr. Wyld, who continues to encounter great hostility at the local meetings.

LAMBETH.—An attempt is being made to bring Mr. Harvey, draper, into the field, to oppose Mr. D'Eyncourt.

SOUTHWARK.—Sir William Molesworth addressed the electors on Tuesday; and Mr. Apsley Pellatt, the new candidate, made manifest his sentiments on Saturday. The latter comes forward as a Liberal and Free-trader. He further professes himself to be ready to "support everything calculated to extend the boundaries of civil and religious liberty."

Sir William Molesworth vindicated his votes on the Militia question, and declared that he preferred an increase of the standing army. He entered at great length into an exposure of the Spooner Maynooth motion, and wound up in these words:—

"The motion (Mr. Spooner's motion for a committee of inquiry into the course of education pursued at Maynooth) is consequently a sham, a trick, an attempt to make political capital out of bigotry and intolerance—a part of that base, sneaking, and miserable policy which upright and straightforward Englishmen will see through and despise,—I mean the policy of Lord Derby. And this brings me to the last political question upon which I shall address you—namely, Lord Derby himself. (Cheers and hisses for the noble Lord.) Lord Derby is now a political question. That name is inscribed upon the banners of certain candidates as the symbol of their political faith, as free-trade or reform was formerly inscribed upon our banners. (Cheers.) What does it mean? It does not mean the famous Lord Stanley of the House of Commons. He was an eloquent orator, the Rupert of debate, ready to carry the Reform Bill at the expense of a revolution—hot, zealous, chivalrous, but without a particle of statesmanship. For six years he misgoverned the colonies. There is scarcely a colonial grievance of any importance which may not be traced to his mismanagement. He produced a rebellion in Canada. May he not produce another? He sowed the seeds of our costly wars in South Africa. He caused the hideous demoralization of Van Dieman's Land, for he was wrongheaded, obstinate, ignorant, rash, reckless, and careless of consequences; but on the whole, frank, straightforward, and manly. This Lord Stanley is not the Lord Derby who appears on the hustings of the present day. Who is he? A Free-trader in the towns, a Protectionist in the counties (loud applause); pro-Maynooth in Ireland, anti-Maynooth in England and Scotland, saying one thing one day, retracting it the next, repeating it the third, equivocating about it the fourth—a political jockey, riding a losing horse, hoping to win by a cross—a thimbligerger, gammoning clowns and chawbacons with the pea of protection, which will never be found under any one of his thimbles (renewed applause and laughter)—a truckler to the bigotry which he intends to betray—the leader of men who have no convictions, whose only rule of political morality is success—the end and aim of whose existence are the gratification of personal ambition; men long eager for power, surprised at obtaining it, unscrupulous as to the means of retaining it; recreant Protectionists, dishonest Free-traders, hiding insincerity under the mask of intolerance; too pusillanimous to stick by their colours, not courageous enough to take up a new position. (Loud cheers.) In speaking thus of the Derbyites, I do not mean to speak of all who sit on the Ministerial side of the House, or even of all the members of Lord Derby's Government, for many of them are upright, honourable English country gentlemen, who long believed in protection, now perceive that it cannot be restored, and wish honestly to abandon it,—I speak only of the more active chiefs of the party, and of those whom Lord Derby would term "statesmen," for Lord Derby, in one of his speeches, likened a statesman to a bark which trims its sails and alters its course with each changing wind and varying breeze. This is not my notion of a statesman. I liken the true statesman and upright politician to a steam-vessel, which pursues its steady course amid storms and waves, in defiance of adverse gales and opposing tides, and straightforward reaches its destined port."

Sir William was most heartily cheered; and a resolution to support him unanimously carried.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

AYLESBURY.—Dr. Bayford and Captain West have been engaged canvassing in the borough and hundreds all the week, and with that kind of "success" which makes them look doubting and melancholy. Mr. Houghton, it is understood, has formally resigned. The field, therefore, remains open and free for Mr. Bethell and Mr. Layard, whose election is considered certain. Mr. Bethell remains in town, occupied with his Chancery suits, but he takes the liberty of apologising for his absence in a placard. Mr. Layard has been most active canvassing all the week, and will soon have completed a thorough canvass, and we are informed with a result which goes beyond the most sanguine expectations of his friends.—*Aylesbury News*.

BLACKBURN.—Mr. George Dawson, M.A., will, it is said, come forward for this borough; but we know nothing of the truth of the rumour.

BOSTON.—The Dissenters met on the 26th of May, and adopted a set of resolutions, pledging themselves to require an explicit statement from the candidates of their views on the State-Church question. Mr. Freshfield has withdrawn. The candidates are Mr. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, a supporter of the present Government; Mr. J. A. Hankey, a Liberal and Free-trader; and Mr. G. H. Heathcote, a Protectionist. Mr. Hankey is confidently expected to succeed.

BRIGHTON.—Mr. Trelawny, ex-member for Tavistock, has been invited to stand for Brighton. His radical principles are well known.

BRISTOL.—The Liberal candidates, Mr. F. H. Berkeley, the present member, and Mr. Gore Langton, were escorted on Tuesday from the Great Western Railway terminus, through the city, by a large procession, the workmen drawing the carriages. Mr. McGeachy, the Conservative candidate, is actively canvassing.

CANTERBURY.—Moved by the duel at Weybridge, the Dissenters met at Canterbury, and passed the following resolutions:—

"That the deputation appointed at the meeting of the 10th inst., to confer with the liberal candidates for the representation of this city, having stated that, in consequence of a duel between Colonel Romilly and the Hon. G. S. Smythe, they have come to the unanimous conclusion not to meet either of those gentlemen, this meeting entirely approves of the course adopted by the deputation, and hereby release them from their appointment, so far as those gentlemen are concerned; and, That the practice of duelling being opposed to the spirit of Christianity, to the laws of this country, and to the good order of all civilized communities, no person who sanctions or abets such a custom is fit to fill the high and responsible trust of a legislator; that this meeting therefore is decidedly of opinion, that Colonel Romilly and the Hon. G. S. Smythe should withdraw from their position as candidates for the representation of this city in parliament; and that we pledge ourselves not to support either of them at the forthcoming election."

CIRENCESTER.—Mr. Samuel Bowly, of Gloucester, the well-known Quaker, to come forward as Radical and Free-trader.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE (WEST).—Mr. Kingscote (Liberal) has been requested to come forward by many influential men.

HEREFORD.—Sir Robert Price and Mr. Clifford, Free-traders, will be opposed by Captain Meyrick, of Goderich Court, in the Conservative interest.

LEICESTER.—Whig, Tory, and it is said a kind of mongrel set of politicians called Conservative-Whigs, have got up an agitation to oppose Sir Joshua Walmesley and Mr. Richard Gardner. As opponents to these gentlemen, Mr. Wyld, a nephew to Lord Truro, and a son of Sir Geoffrey Palmer, have been selected. But the Radicals are expected to carry the day.

LIVERPOOL.—Messrs. Mackenzie and Turner, the Protectionist candidates, have commenced their canvass. Messrs. Cardwell and Ewart arrived on Tuesday, in the afternoon of which day both parties were simultaneously addressing the multitude—Mr. Cardwell opposite "the flags" of the Exchange, his opponents from a window facing that building—amid a clamour which drowned every word the speakers uttered.

MANCHESTER.—There is no slackening in hostilities. Mr. Bright, in his late address to the electors of Manchester, said,—"The next time Mr. Loch goes to confession, he will feel it upon his conscience to explain who paid the 5,000*l.* or 6,000*l.* that were expended at Falkirk." Mr. Loch has since addressed the "independent electors," and complains that Mr. Bright has charged him with expending 5,000*l.* or 6,000*l.* Mr. Loch says he did not pay more than 2,500*l.* to 2,600*l.*, and this upon legitimate expenses. Now, Mr. Loch polled exactly 544 votes, so that his legitimate expenses cost nearly 5*l.* a head. To win Manchester he will require something like 6,000 votes, which, at a similar rate, would cost 30,000*l.*, rather a heavy price for the honour of representing the people of Manchester.

NEWARK.—Both the sitting members retire. Lord Maidstone gives way because he is to be a convert to free trade. The names of the new candidates are Sutton and Vernon.

NORTH NOTTS is apparently to be divided between Lord Clinton (Free-trader) and Lord Henry Bentinck, Protectionist. The former is reported "safe."

NORTH SOUTHAMPTON.—The Speaker has issued his address. He makes no professions of principles.

NORTHUMBERLAND.—Sir George Grey addressed the Electors of the Northern division on Saturday. The main of his speech was about free-trade. He complained bitterly of the coalition got up between Lord Lovaine and Lord Ossulston to oust him.

PRESTON.—Mr. Townley Parker has issued an address to the electors, reiterating his adherence to Free-trade, but offering allegiance to Lord Derby.

RYE.—Mr. Alexander Mackinnon, son of the member for Lymington, a Liberal and Free-trader, has promised to oppose the Protectionist candidate.

SOUTH NOTTS is likewise at present in the hands of Mr. Barron and Viscount Newark. Mr. Hildyard retires.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Report speaks of Mr. Mather as a candidate for this borough. He addressed the electors on Wednesday, accompanied by his son Erskine, the young man who was cut down by the Austrian officer.

TWICKENBURY.—Mr. Edward Cox, in his address to the electors, affords an excellent specimen of the mode in which the Derbyite Free-traders address the town constituencies. He says—

"I repeat it. Lord Derby has abandoned all purpose of reimposing a duty on corn. My authority for that assertion is himself. On Monday night last he stated in the House of Lords that he had contemplated a small fixed duty on foreign corn, only if a decisive majority of the House of Commons should demand it. But he was now satisfied that there was no probability of such a majority. Now, my friends, I love plain speaking and fair dealing; and if, as 'An Elector' asserts, Lord Derby does not mean what he says, I, for one, will not be a party to any equivocation with you. If, after having thus intimated that he had abandoned a corn tax, Lord Derby or any of his friends should propose such a tax, I distinctly pledge myself not only to oppose it, but to withdraw my support from a Government that could be guilty of such a breach of faith. I hope this is sufficiently explicit. I am thoroughly independent. I intend to continue so. I am attached to principles, but I am not tied to party."

WEST RIDING.—We believe we are correct in stating that it is the intention of Mr. Edmd. Denison, M.P., again to offer himself as a candidate for the representation of the West Riding, and that the honourable gentleman will do so on free-trade principles, but not as an adherent of any particular party.—*Doncaster Chronicle.*

WEST SURREY.—A large meeting of the electors was held at Chertsey on Monday, to meet Colonel B. Challoner, who has consented to stand for this division of the county. As a landowner and a practical farmer, he shows the impossibility, as well as the undesirability, of returning to the system of protective duties. He was also of opinion that the State should provide for the education of the people without reference to creed or religion. (Cheers.) An extension of the franchise he considered a just tribute to the increasing intelligence of the age. As to the ballot, he confessed himself unfavourable to its adoption, thinking that the majority of his countrymen would not be ashamed of publicly recording their votes. But his friends might rely on his modifying his opinion of the ballot if he saw sufficient reason for its adoption. Though his bias was in favour of the late Government, yet he would support Lord Derby in any measure which appeared beneficial to the country. An active canvass has been commenced on his behalf.

Mr. Henry Drummond has issued an address, in which the following passage occurs:—

"The suddenness with which the corn-laws were repealed produced the ruin of many farmers, and distress to most landlords; but since the labouring classes were never so well off as at present, no minister dare attempt to reimpose a bread tax. We had a right, however, to expect that the principle of freedom from restraint, which demanded the opening of the ports for corn, should be applied likewise to articles of domestic produce; that the beverage of the people should be as free from taxation as their bread; and that since the price of wheat was diminished, the burdens upon malt should be diminished also. The promises held out on this head have not been fulfilled; the distresses of the farmers, acknowledged by the last Ministers in a speech from the Throne, were deceived and ridiculed by the members of the Manchester League, and by their followers; and all attempts by myself and others to procure compensation to the farmer have been fruitless. The Popish priests have put forth a proclamation, calling upon the electors to reject all the members of the present Parliament who resisted the recent aggression of the Pope upon the prerogative of the Crown. They have announced that 'a crusade against England has begun'; that they have resolved to break in pieces the chains under which, in the name of Liberty, Protestantism crushes our souls; that 'toleration is contrary to the canons, to the councils, to the Catholic religion, to the peace of society, and to the happiness of States'; that 'we may not err in anything, we ought ever to hold it a fixed principle that what we see white we believe to be black, if the hierarchal church (that is, the priests) so define it to be'; and that they 'owe their first allegiance' to a foreign despot. This I hold to be treason against the Queen of Great Britain. All freedom, whether civil or religious, is incompatible with such pretensions. The title of the House of Brunswick to the Throne, every institution in the country, the domestic peace of each family, can be secured only by putting down these arrogant claims. We must not be enjoined by a mock supplication for religious liberty, falsely put up by men who declare toleration to be a sin. This is not a question of mutual forbearance between Christian sects, but it is a death struggle between priestly domination and human liberty. I appeal, therefore, with confidence for your support, not merely to your feelings as Protestants, but to your sense of the rights that are common to every man alike."

Mr. W. T. Evelyn, in his address to the electors, says he will be "prepared to support the Government of Lord Derby in any well-considered measures for the relief of the agricultural interests. He is determined to uphold the Protestant principles of this country against all the aggressions of the Court of Rome; and as a Conservative, and strongly attached to the Church, and the other great institutions of this country, he is desirous of giving to the present Administration a sincere but independent support, reserving to himself that liberty of judgment which he conceives essential to the right performance of the duties of a representative."

WINDSOR.—Lord Charles Wellesley is canvassing

Windsor as the "court candidate." He is one of the Conservative Free-traders.

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH.—Mr. Campbell, of Monzie, a landed proprietor in Perthshire, nine or ten years ago the Tory representative of Argyleshire, has offered himself as a candidate. He is not brought forward by either of the Liberal committees, but he is the nominee of the Free Church party. He comes forward on "strictly independent grounds, representing no one party either in Church or State." Decidedly a desirable member! He is convinced of the soundness of the policy of Free-trade; he would resist any grant out of the Consolidated Fund for any ecclesiastical purposes whatever; and considers the educational wants of the nation one of the "clamant" [in plain English, "crying"] evils of the times. He considers the time to have arrived for amending and extending the elective franchise, and for enacting vote by ballot. A requisition has been presented to Sir James Graham, inviting him to stand for this city; the fact being overlooked that he is already pledged to stand for Carlisle, and that he will sit for no other place.

IRELAND.

The Down contest is the most prominent point of interest in Irish election matters. It is said that the Liberal electors have decided on calling upon Lord Castlereagh to come forward as a candidate for Belfast at the ensuing election. The *Northern Whig* says—"We believe that in a short time such a requisition will be presented to him as it has seldom fallen to the lot of a Parliamentary candidate to receive. We are happy to know, too, that such an appeal from a town like Belfast will meet a befitting reception from the noble lord; and that, though he has shown a disinclination to seek for public honours at present, he will exhibit the respect he feels for the constituency of this important town, by giving an affirmative reply to their requisition."

The *Belfast Mercury* denies that Mr. Vandeleur Stewart has withdrawn his pretensions to the "family seat."

The *Banner of Ulster* has some speculations on the Antrim election. The *Banner* says:—"The canvass of Mr. Jones, the independent candidate for county Antrim, is progressing favourably, and there can now be little doubt of his return, although it is still necessary that the friends of Free-trade and Tenant-right should spare no exertion in order to the accomplishment of that object. The best spirit, we are gratified to say, exists amongst the independent electors, while large masses of the tenant-farmers, hitherto driven as serfs to the hustings, are prepared to break their own bonds, and to vote for the popular candidate. Except the two county 'patrons,' none of the other great interests in county Antrim have made any attempt at dictatorial interference; on the contrary, a considerable number of the landed proprietors have honourably refused to coerce their tenantry, though a few of the minor aristocracy have exhibited symptoms of a feudal tendency. The following missive, for example, has been circulated upon the estates of the gentleman whose name it bears:—

"Mr. Hugh Montgomery hopes his tenantry will do him the favour to consult with him before they make any engagements to vote at the ensuing county election. He has no desire to interfere with the free disposal of their votes to the candidates of their choice, but he thinks the deep interest he has always shown for their comfort and improvement affords ample evidence of his anxiety for their future welfare, and he expects they believe he has their interest and that of the county as much at heart as any person. Mr. Montgomery strongly recommends to the consideration of his tenantry the address of George Macartney, Esq., to whom he has promised his vote, and in supporting him he feels confident of assisting the election of an able, zealous, active representative."

"Ballydrain."

"Mr. Montgomery has a perfect right to vote as he pleases, but he has no moral or constitutional right to circulate amongst his dependents such 'recommendations' as that now quoted. However guardedly this document may be expressed, in point of form, there can be no mistake about the meaning which it is intended to convey."

DEATH OF THE BOOKSELLERS' ASSOCIATION.

A GENERAL meeting of this association was held on Friday, May 28, to receive a report of the general committee. Mr. William Longman was in the chair. An attempt was made to exclude the reporters, but it signally failed.

The report of the committee was read, which detailed the proceedings in connexion with the late conference, and stated that the committee had no alternative but to resign its functions, and that it would now rest with the trade itself to determine upon any ulterior measures. The committee, in the position in

which it was then placed, did not feel it expedient to suggest any definite course of action.

Mr. Longman said, that the success of the association had been its downfall. Persons not connected with the association had discovered that its existence would bring their business to an end; they had applied to Lord Campbell and certain other authors, and the press had made the matter public. The committee had now only to perform their pledge, and resign their powers. He could not see that they could do otherwise than break up the association. Although he could not but regret the destruction of the system by which the trade had been so long carried on, yet he felt it his duty to state that that system involved practices repugnant to the feelings. There were always violations of pledges occurring, injurious to the honest traders, and protection to those whom no pledge could bind. He resigned his functions.

His place having been taken by Mr. Hatchard, Mr. Maberly proposed a vote of thanks to the committee, for their endeavours to maintain a uniform price in the trade. He considered the association had been defeated by unjust and immoral conduct, classing their opponents with "Robin Hood, Dick Turpin, and the Religious Tract Society"!

Mr. Chapman (his case having been referred to) bore testimony to the character of the committee, considered that they had acted with great vigour and conscientiousness, and made a speech, which could not be reported on account of the constant interruption to which the speaker was subjected. The resolution was carried.

Mr. Seeley returned thanks for the committee, and expressed feelings of shame and indignation that they had brought to a failure the great cause entrusted to them. He complained bitterly that the Lord Chief Justice had not, throughout the proceedings, displayed to them what was passing in his own mind, as, in such case, they would have been far better able to bring him to their view of the question. They had had a judicial hearing instead of a conference, and the real question, whether fixed prices were better for the trade and the public, had been quite overlooked. If the system was done away with, many retail booksellers would be ruined. He thought that another association of the kind could not be carried out, and that it was better to abandon the idea.

Mr. Bigg proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Longman, Mr. Murray, and the deputation to Lord Campbell, for the zealous and able manner in which they had advocated the cause of the trade. He stated that the majority of authors were influenced to oppose them from mistaken feelings, and that consequently they could not carry out their principles. He thought the result would be mainly injurious to the authors, and that when the principle of competition was universally applied, they would wish the association had been continued.

Mr. Effingham Wilson seconded the resolution, regretting that the association should be dissolved, and hoping that another would be formed. The resolution was carried with applause.

Mr. Okey moved, that the association, as a *protective body*, be dissolved. As honourable men they could not do otherwise. He thought that it would be for their interest to give up the restrictive system. He thought that the authors had the first right to a voice in the matter, as ink and paper were worthless without their brains. The vigilance and espionage required to carry out this system proved its impracticability. He denied the existence of such a thing as a fixed price, and believed that a healthy state of the trade would ensue, and the literature of the country be much benefited if the restrictions were abandoned. This motion being seconded, Mr. John Chapman stated that he had not undersold from unfair motives, but had been driven to it in self-defence. He did not think that the country booksellers approved of the association, and that it was unfair to presume that they did so.

Mr. Seeley, though he could not recommend a restrictive association, advised that they should mature some plan before their dissolution. Mr. Chapman's objections required more mature consideration. He suggested that the system to be adopted for the future should be referred to a body of gentlemen, and moved an amendment to that effect, which was seconded by Mr. Saunders.

Mr. Longman said that he felt bound to retire from the association, which he thought should be dissolved before they considered their future proceedings.

Mr. Rivington said, he must follow the example of Mr. Longman in withdrawing from the association. He would still support the association, whose interests he had done the utmost to protect, could he see any definite result before them. He thought that their only course was to re-model the association, ultimately

making, perhaps, some modification in the allowances to retail booksellers.

After addresses from several other speakers, the original motion, without the words "as a protective institution," was agreed to. Mr. Seeley's amendment was adopted as a substantive motion, and a committee appointed to consider the future regulations of the trade, composed as follows:—Messrs. Longman, Murray, Hatchard, Colburn, Bentley, Smith, Gilbert, T. Miles, Rivington, J. H. Parker, Nisbet, Seeley, Shaw, Walker, Moxon, Dalton, Bigg, Bohn, Nutt, with power to add to their number.

PROGRESS OF ASSOCIATION.

THE SOCIALIST UNION.

WE have received the following communication from M. Louis Blanc on behalf of the newly formed SOCIALIST UNION. We are glad to welcome this proposed organization of ideas, a hopeful substitute for the sterile propagandism of the barricades. There are none among our readers, however dissident from the opinions of the undersigned, who will not be ready to wish success to an endeavour announced by so calm, so discreet, so courageous a programme.

"It is not true that the usurpation of Louis Bonaparte has been absolved, in fact, by universal suffrage. As regards Europe, it is an imposture; as regards France, it is a calumny. At all events, France would never have desired, through universal suffrage, to give herself a tyrant. For any man to believe that, would be to suppose a *people of madmen*, as Jean Jacques Rousseau has said in the *Contrat Social*; and, as he has also said, *Madness does not make a right*."

To replace, by an independent press, the journals suppressed by the 2nd of December; as many as despotism condemns to silence, or their own cowardice to falsehood.

To light up on the land of exile a beacon that our brothers of France may perceive from afar, from out the midst of the darkness in which they are plunged.

To facilitate the search after means of employment for our brethren in proscription.

To provide an organ for all true ideas—an echo for all legitimate complaints—a refuge for intelligence oppressed by force.

To record the union of spirit and the convergence of ideas in the Socialist democracy.

To create, in a word, a centre to fix many an errant purpose—to rally dispersed efforts—and to receive, as in a dépôt, the Cahiers of another '89, those of the nineteenth century.

Such is our aim. How shall we attain it?

First, it was important to form a group of men endowed with different organizations, but animated with the same faith, having different aptitudes, but so selected as at once to combine with and to counterpoise each other. This group we have had no difficulty in forming: for a long time past our spirits appealed to each other, and a secret sympathy united our hearts. The difficulty was, how to come together. This difficulty, by a kind of providential law, proscription has solved; for almost all the undersigned are proscribed, and among them there are eight who, having been named *representatives of the people*, do but pursue, under the only form now possible, the accomplishment of their mandate.

The spirit of exclusiveness and of pride is, we know well, fit only to create misfortune: it engenders hate, it results in impotence. We invite all Republican Democratic Socialists to join in our work. If others besides us unite in a purpose similar to our own—the search after truth, the triumph of justice, the enfranchisement of the people—far from fearing our antagonism, let them reckon upon our fraternal welcome.

It is penetrated with this spirit that we have agreed to work together in the service of the people, hand in hand, under the auspices of friendship. It remained for us to establish the material means of action; it remained to give to our moral and political association, in order to put it in relation with the world around us, the character of an *industrial* association.

Here an unforeseen difficulty presented itself. The English laws render very hazardous, in an industrial sense, associations composed of a great number of persons, by the threat of a mutual responsibility, confused in its limitations, and impossible to regulate beforehand. We have, therefore, felt ourselves compelled to separate our moral and political association from an industrial association; and three amongst us, who form our committee—Citizens Louis Blanc, Etienne Cabot, Pierre Leroux—have undertaken the exclusive direction of all that concerns the management of the Journal and the Review.

It need not be added that all who thus remain unconnected with the industrial enterprise desire its suc-

cess as ardently as the three who are charged with the responsible agency.

The latter have decided, on the strength of our unanimous adhesion—

1. That the Journal and the Review shall be edited in the three languages most generally known—in French, German, and English—so as to constitute as much as possible the intellectual unity of the nations.

2. That the Review shall bear the name of the association itself—"L'UNION SOCIALISTE—(THE SOCIALIST UNION)."

3. That the title of the journal shall be "L'Europe Libre—(FREE EUROPE)."

EUROPE first! because the true republican principle, that of the solidarity and fraternity of nations: because the definitive triumph of justice can only now spring from a vast concurrence of efforts: because, when France is struck, all Europe is menaced or suffering.

EUROPE FREE! because the first right to be reconquered at the present moment is liberty.

If the enterprise succeed, the People's cause will be found to have at its service a grand and fruitful power. If the immense and exceptional difficulties of our position prevent our raising the necessary sum, we shall have accomplished an imperious duty, and the moral and political association we have formed will still survive to prepare for better days.

Profoundly convinced that the victories of evil are but transient—that only truth is really invincible—that to the scandalous orgies of despotism which now afflict France will succeed a disgust that should render their return for ever impossible: that the 2nd of December was the maddened agony of a departing world, as the pagan world was departing under the infamous reigns of Caracalla and Heliogabalus, immediately before the triumph of Christianity, we are full of faith, courage, and hope.

We appeal once more to all who partake our convictions and are animated with our sentiments. And even those who, without sharing all our persuasions, know us to be honest men, determined to fulfil loyally what we deem to be a useful work, we invite to aid us.

Members of the Committee.

LOUIS BLANC, Ex-Membre du Gouvernement Provisoire.

CABOT, Ex-Député (Côte d'Or).

PIERRE LEROUX, Représentant du Peuple (Paris).

Members of the Council.

BANDSEPT, Représentant du Peuple (Strasbourg).

J. PH. BERJEAU, Journaliste (Paris).

BOURA, Négociant (Vendée).

AUGUSTE DESMOULINS, Typographe (Paris).

CLEMENT DULAC, Propriétaire, Agriculteur, Représentant du Peuple (Dordogne).

PHILIPPE FAURE, Journaliste (Sarthe).

ERNEST LEBLOYS, Journaliste (Limoges).

JULES LEROUX, Typographe, Représentant du Peuple (Creuse).

MALARDIER, Instituteur, Représentant du Peuple (Nièvre).

MALARMET, Monteur en Bronze (Haute-Saône).

NADAUD, Magon, Représentant du Peuple (Creuse).

LOUIS NETRE, Typographe (Paris).

PELLETIER, Représentant du Peuple (Lyon).

ROUET, Propriétaire, Cultivateur, Représentant du Peuple (Nièvre).

SABATIER, Ancien Elève de l'Ecole Polytechnique (Hérault).

ALFRED TALANDIER, Avocat (Haute-Vienne).

THIERRY, Marchand Bottier (Côte d'Or).

T. THORE, Journaliste (Paris).

In our next number we shall give the articles of the "Acte de Société—(Deed of Association)," by which it is proposed to conduct the commercial enterprise. The subjoined letter will be a sufficient testimony to the character and purpose of the proposed "Union":—

London, 10th May, 1852.

TO MM. LOUIS BLANC, CABOT, PIERRE LEROUX. GENTLEMEN,—We accept the office of *Trustees* of the UNION SOCIALISTE proposed by you, under the understanding that we are not thereby considered to indicate any concurrence in your views, further than the desire that you should have the opportunity of making your ideas known, and should succeed in assisting your fellow-countrymen to support themselves in exile by their own exertions.

We are, gentlemen, yours, faithfully,

(Signed) EDWARD VANSITTART NEALE,
WILLIAM CONINGHAM.

The Socialist Union have established their offices at 5, Hart-street, Bloomsbury-square, where any information may be sought and obtained, personally or by letter.

CENTRAL CO-OPERATIVE AGENCY.

THE business of the Agency is going on most favourably. The principal inconvenience being the want of sufficient room in the premises now occupied for carrying on those operations rendered necessary by the nature of the business. To secure purity in the articles prepared by the Agency, such as coffee, cocoa, spices, &c., it is necessary they should be ground and prepared on the premises, as it would be most dangerous to entrust them for preparation to those who are ordinarily

employed for that purpose. To do this efficiently, now that the business of the Agency has so increased, requires steam power, and on the premises at present occupied, there is no room to erect a steam engine. When premises of sufficient size are secured, the Agency will not only be able to execute orders with increased efficiency, but also to manufacture many articles, such as pickles and sauces, which they are now compelled to sell without being able to guarantee their freedom from adulteration.

Mr. Jones having been invited to explain the principle of coöperative business in a few of the large provincial towns, would be glad to receive intimation from such other places as may be desirable to avail themselves of his services. Letters addressed to the Agency will be attended to.

LETTERS FROM PARIS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LETTER XXIII.

Paris, Tuesday Evening, 1st June, 1852.

THIS week we have been disputing as to the reception which M. Heeckeren met with at Berlin. In ministerial circles it is said he received the most pacific assurances from Russia, Austria, and Prussia. In other quarters the result of the Berlin conferences are looked upon as being decidedly unfavourable to the Elysée. Public opinion was much excited on this subject; but when the *revelations* contained in the columns of the *Times* became known in Paris, the agitation became still greater. The Bonapartist papers, and among others the *Public* and the *Pays*, which had all along been giving formal notice of the Empire, have suddenly ceased to mention the subject. The *Public* had gone so far as to say, in reference to the *fusion*, that Louis Bonaparte was a coward if he did not avail himself of that opportunity to proclaim the Empire. The following is a copy of the official notice which appeared in the *Moniteur*, clumsily arranged, and intended to contradict the *revelations* given in the *Times*.

"Some foreign journals endeavour to attach credit to the report that the Northern Powers, in the prevision of certain eventualities, would be ready to renew the coalition of 1815, and that they have determined beforehand the limits beyond which France would not be permitted to modify her government. This report is a falsehood; the eventualities which are the pretext of it have no probability. There is nothing to indicate the necessity for any change in our institutions. France enjoys the most complete tranquillity. All the powers keep up the most amicable relations with her, and they have never made less pretensions than at present to interfere with our domestic régime. They know that France will, in case of need, cause her rights to be respected, as she respects those of other nations; but these rights are neither threatened nor disputed. Let fallen parties rely as formerly on foreign intervention to cause the triumph of their pretensions over the national will; they will find that this old tactic will have no other result than to make them more odious to the country."

This note may certainly be looked upon as a retrograde movement (*reculade*). It declares solemnly that the Empire shall not be proclaimed, and gives the foreign powers a positive assurance to that effect. It is true Louis Bonaparte is an affiliated member (*socius*) of the Society of Jesus, and as he has omitted the sacramental *communiqué* to the note in the *Moniteur*, he doubtless feels at liberty to act as though that document did not exist. It follows, then, as this note conveys Bonaparte's formal acquiescence to the orders of the foreign powers, that the contradiction to the *Times* is ridiculous and puerile. The note in the *Moniteur* carries with it the best proof of the failure of M. Heeckeren's mission. Here are a few details of what passed between the Emperor of Russia and M. Heeckeren. M. Heeckeren was personally known to the Emperor. He was formerly a captain in the Russian Imperial Guards, but having killed his brother-in-law in a duel, he had been obliged to leave the service, and quit Russia. On seeing him, the Emperor said—"You were an officer in my Guards, and it is on that account alone that I address you; I have not had reason to be satisfied with you. You now come from France on behalf of M. Louis Bonaparte. Very well! What have you got to say?" The conversation then turned upon Louis Bonaparte. The Emperor acknowledged he had rendered service to Europe, and the Sovereigns were willing to aid him to put down the Revolutionary Party, on condition that he should still remain President. "As to the propositions made to me," added the Emperor, "we have resolved—1st, To abide by the treaties of 1815. 2nd, The treaties of 1815 formally interdict the Bonaparte family from the throne of France. 3rd, I am a *Legitimist*, seeing that my family claims to be Legitimate." The last words of the Emperor were, "Let the President beware of being guilty of any *sottises*; but I know he will not, for I have already warned him."

M. Heeckeren, at Berlin, as at Vienna, was most profuse in his assurances that Bonaparte would under-

take nothing without the sanction of the European powers.

Louis Bonaparte, however, was discouraged by M. Heeckeren's ill-success. He will make another attempt upon the Emperor of Russia. But this time the Czar will be assailed by a female diplomatist. The Princess de Liéven, the great admirer of M. Guizot, has gone over, *armes et bagages*, to the Elysée. She has left Paris for Ems, where she is to meet the Empress of Russia, with whom she is very intimate. Before her departure, the Marquise of Douglas, at Louis Bonaparte's instigation, gave her a dinner. At that dinner the Princess de Liéven sat on the right-hand of the President, who paid her the most obsequious attention. He addressed himself exclusively to her. He endeavoured to show that liberty was fatal to the Northern Sovereigns, and that if the liberty of the Press were re-established in France, a week would not elapse before there would be a continental war. That he, Bonaparte, was the only obstacle in the way of such a war; that he was Europe's only bulwark. Great powers were therefore required to keep him in that position, for at the rate at which affairs were advancing in France, he should soon find himself overpowered if the Northern Courts did not permit him to "show himself to the people with all the pomp and circumstance of royalty." The papers of to-day announce the Princess de Liéven's arrival at Ems.

While Bonapartism is going on with its intrigues and manœuvres, public opinion continues to manifest general hostility.

The committee on the Budget has done itself great honour by rejecting almost unanimously several articles of the Budget of 1853, having reference to the decrees issued during Bonaparte's dictatorship. In this manner a decree, emanating *personally* from the President, had raised the number of the army from 369,000 to 400,000 for 1852; and Bonaparte, on his own private responsibility, had decreed an additional credit of 23 millions of francs to cover the expense of this measure. The committee has rejected that credit for 1853, and by that means the decree which fixed the army at 400,000 men is virtually annulled. Bonaparte had instituted a Ministry of Police, and decreed four millions of francs for its expenses. The committee having rejected the greater part of the money, has broken up the Ministry of Police. The Legislative body, which Bonaparte had presumed to consider a sham parliament of dummies, merely intended to register the decrees emanating from his will (*bon plaisir*), have carried their audacity to the extent of overthrowing from head to foot the Budget presented by the Government. It has literally strangled it with amendments. There are more than 200 amendments presented by the deputies, and not less than 72 by the committee. Of the latter, 43 are already in the hands of the Council of State.

These difficulties have exasperated the Elysians. They are at this moment intriguing with the deputies by way of casting some doubt upon the proceedings of the committee. They have succeeded in turning M. Montalembert, the declared chief of the "Independents," who now goes about saying, it is too early to oppose the Government—that it is wiser to be prudent and temporising, and to vote the budget notwithstanding the report of the committee. The Elysians have also begun their intriguing operations in the midst of the committee itself. They are striving to get M. Chasseloup-Laubat, one of Bonaparte's ex-ministers, named reporter of the budget, and to exclude M. Gouin, ex-minister of finance under Louis Philippe, chairman of the committee. They hope by this means to procure a modification of the severity of the report. No one can tell what may be effected by intrigue, aided by fear, and backed by cupidity. As for me, I very much doubt the Legislative body will not withstand this triple assault.

The Council of State is in direct opposition to Bonaparte, in the matter of the Orleans property. I told you in my last letter that the committee of the Council of State had decided affirmatively as to the competency of the tribunals to try this case. In learning this fact, Bonaparte directed that M. Cornudet, the reporter of the committee, should be immediately dismissed. But M. Maillard and his colleagues declared they would resign if such an insult were offered to M. Cornudet. M. Bonaparte was obliged to flinch before this threat, delivered in full council. The report of the committee is about being presented to the Council of State, who will, in all probability, confirm its provisions, and decide for the competency of the tribunals. The affair of the Orleans property will then be tried before the tribunal of the Seine, and the decrees of the 22nd of January may be brought before the court, and be liable to be annulled by its verdict. This struggle will be edifying, and people are rubbing their hands at the prospect. MM. Paul Fabre and Mathieu Bodet, the legal advisers of the Council of State, have published a well-written

pamphlet on this affair, deciding against the assumptions of the Government. The motto is taken from a speech delivered by Napoleon at a meeting of the Council of State on the 18th of November, 1809, and runs thus: "Property consists in its inviolability in the person of its possessor. Even I, with the countless armies at my disposal, could not appropriate to myself a single acre of ground, for to violate the right of one is to violate the rights of all."

The official resignations are still continuing. To those of the members of municipal and general councils must now be added those of the following learned professors. MM. Leroy, professor in the College of Bordeaux; Libert, professor of History in the College of Tours; Morin, professor of Philosophy,—have had the praiseworthy courage to refuse the oath. Fresh arrests are being operated on all sides. The newspapers of the Loiret announce that "fresh arrests have taken place consequent upon the re-examination of the papers of persons compromised by the events of December, and MM. Cerveaux, Charpettet, Yaurelet, Forest, and Edme Petit, proprietors of the arrondissement of Gien, have been imprisoned at Orleans." Twenty-seven political prisoners have arrived in Paris by the railway from Troyes, to be confined in the Fort of Bicêtre. There are also fourteen more from the same locality, including MM. Labosse, advocate, ex-commissioner of the Provisional Government; Basset, solicitor, at Troyes; Cottet, professor of Mathematics; Souriau, Lemoine, Marot; Brown, of Ervy (probably an Englishman); Gauthier, proprietor, at Bar-sur-Aube; Berg, Gervais, Camus, &c. An immense crowd of persons accompanied these honourable citizens to the railway station. At the moment of their departure the prisoners raised the cry of "*Vive la République*," to which the spectators replied unanimously with the same words. The twenty-five gendarmes who escorted the prisoners immediately attacked these inoffensive persons, and struck down a certain number of them who sought to resist this arbitrary proceeding. Five persons have been arrested and thrown into the prison at Troyes.

Louis Bonaparte left for St. Cloud this morning; in imitation of the Emperor he makes it his summer residence. Also, in imitation of the Emperor, he will spend the month of September at Compiègne.

Persigny's marriage took place on Saturday. In addition to the dowry of 50,000 francs, payable in five instalments, Bonaparte, again in imitation of the great Napoleon, gave one hundred and fifty thousand francs worth of jewelry.

Foreign newspapers are now generally stopped at the frontier. The *Siecle* of Athens, containing a translation of the firman of the Porte relative to Holy Land, was seized at Marseilles. *Punch*!—your *Punch*—has had the honour of being stopped at the Paris post-office. The Belgian papers have been seized twice in three days. The motive for this severity against the Belgian papers was their having furnished revelations of the proceedings of the French Council of State. You are already aware that at one of the sittings of this body, the projected law on public instruction met with so much opposition, that the Government was obliged to give notice of its withdrawal for the present. The proposed bill, in fact, was opposed by both the clergy and the University. It satisfies neither one party nor the other. The clergy desired the total suppression of the University. The bishops and French cardinals have issued a protest against the adoption of the measure. It was this step which made Bonaparte withdraw it. Bonaparte, you know, cringes to the clergy; while they, taking advantage of his subservience, are daily making further encroachments. The audacity of the Jesuits is incredible. Within the last few days they have repurchased, at a cost of 2,500,000 francs, their old educational establishment at Monbrouge, from which they had been driven by the law of 1827. They are about to recommence the course of public teaching which they followed under the Restoration. S.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

CERTAIN dynastic arrangements are reported to have received the signatures of the Five Great Powers sitting in Downing-street. On this occasion it was not Schleswig Holstein, already disposed of, but Switzerland, its revolutionary tendencies in general, and the Canton of Neuchâtel in particular. This protocol is dated May 17. The powers jointly engage to insist, with the Swiss Confederation, upon a modification of the cantonal constitutions, in so far as they were altered by the events of 1848, and especially that the old constitution of Neuchâtel, as it existed in 1840, shall be restored. In case of refusal, an army of observation will take a position on the frontier, and menace Switzerland with a direct intervention. It is, however, hoped that the federal government will yield spontaneously to the wishes of the powers. France, it is said, has taken a very active part in the preparation of the protocol.

The Prussian Industrial Exhibition was opened on the 28th ult. at Breslau, the capital of Prussian Silesia. The President, M. von Schleinitz, was present, supported by the

heads of the civil and military provincial departments. The day was observed as a general holiday. The building has been called a Crystal Palace, but its roof is of slate. In size it is about one-thirtieth that now in process of demolition in Hyde Park.

The Emperor of Russia has returned to Warsaw; the Empress is at Schlangenbad. The Grand Dukes are on their way from Italy to rejoin the Czar in the North.

The meeting of the conservative electors and inhabitants of the canton of Friburg took place, as announced, on the 24th inst., at Posieux. Between 15,000 and 16,000 persons were, it is calculated, present; and they were divided into groups, according to their respective districts, with flags. Having arranged themselves round a hustings, M. Charles, a political prisoner still in gaol, was elected honorary president, and M. Wuillerel, an advocate, was voted to the chair. He said that the meeting knew that it was assembled to protest against the policy of the Government (Radical), and to obtain a redress of grievances; and he hoped that the gathering of such a multitude, representing all opinions, all creeds, and all interests, would have the desired effect. He called on the meeting to prove that the Friburg people were worthy of liberty and independence by maintaining calm and tranquillity. A committee was then nominated. A series of resolutions were afterwards read—the first was to the effect that “the Friburg people declare that they are assembled to declare by yes or no whether they place confidence in the Government;” but it was replaced by another, declaring that “the Friburg people disapprove of the political system followed by the Government, because it is incompatible with the material and intellectual progress of the country.” This was adopted unanimously, and the other resolutions, conceived in the same spirit, were also adopted without opposition. On the proposition of an elector, the committee was charged to endeavour, by all means in its power, to obtain the release of M. Charles, and other political prisoners. The President then, on demand of the prefect, called on the people to return quietly to their homes, and immediately the vast gathering broke up, each man joining the flag of his district, and marching away quietly. The Government of the canton took every precaution to prevent a violent outbreak, or an attack on the town. Troops and artillery were placed in the principal squares, and the shops were closed. There was, however, no occasion for the service of the armed force, though several groups passed through the town on leaving the meeting. Nevertheless, some arrests were made. On the 26th, all the political prisoners at Friburg were released by the advice of the federal authorities.

The *Spener Gazette* of Berlin exults in the entrance of Great Britain into the league of the despotic sovereigns of Europe, through the merits of the tory cabinet. The *Spener* says:—“We are able to state that the claims of Prussia on the canton of Neuchâtel have been acknowledged. But those are deceived who imagine that this recognition will lead to grave complications; it is certain that diplomatic means alone will be employed. It is worthy of remark that the attitude of Great Britain has completely changed on this question. Under the Palmerston policy Switzerland could count on the support of British diplomacy. Now, on the contrary, under the ministry of Lord Malmesbury, it is not to be doubted that England will join with the other powers in condemning the revolutionary state of things in the canton of Neuchâtel.”

In the appendix to the budget of the Minister of Marine is given a list of all the ships of war, frigates, steamers, &c., in the possession of the French Government, with a statement of the present position of the ships building. From this return it appears that the total number of vessels of all kinds and sizes in the French war navy amounts to 334, of which 24 are ships of the line, 38 frigates, 28 corvettes, 42 brigs of war, 6 *cannonieres*—brigs, 35 light vessels, and 35 transports varying from 800 to 350 tons, 1 steam ship of war (980-horse power), 20 steam frigates of from 650 to 450-horse power, 29 steam corvettes, and 70 steam avisos. Four ships of war on the mixed system (sails and steam), 1 frigate, 2 corvettes, and 1 aviso. Besides this there are 67 ships of different kinds on the stocks—namely, 22 ships of war, 18 frigates, 2 corvettes, 3 brigs, 2 steam men of war, 2 steam frigates, 5 steam corvettes, and 3 steamers of smaller size.

The patriotic press of Belgium resents warmly the gross attacks of M. Granier de Cassagnac, the lackey of the Elysée, upon the Government. The article in the *Constitutionnel*, intended to influence the coming elections and aid the triumph of the clerical party now in opposition, by inspiring the constituencies with apprehensions for the safety of the material interests of Belgium in the eventuality of a triumph of liberal principles, is producing a reaction most unfavourable to the ultra-churchmen, who are placed in the position of allies of the most formidable enemy of the country.

In East Flanders every pulpit resounds with priestly anathemas against the present liberal Government of Belgium.

Letters from Madrid of the 24th ult. express a belief that the Government had abandoned all idea of a *coup d'état*, but, should circumstances require it, Ministers were determined to have recourse to the following measures: 1, the dissolution of the Chamber of Deputies, which, however, is not to take place before the month of August; 2, the convocation of a new Chamber of Deputies, elected according to the existing law; 3, the deputies are to be invested with special powers, authorizing them to reform the fundamental laws, should the Government deem that reform opportune.

The intelligence that an Austrian loan of 2,250,000*l.* sterling had been concluded in London at 90 per cent. has been received in Vienna with extraordinary satisfaction. The *Presse* finds nothing wonderful in the fact that the English, who give 100*l.* for their own Three per Cents., should give 90*l.* for Austrian Fives. The *Lloyd*, however, persists in maintaining that it is a very great point that a sale has been found at all in England for Austrian paper.

A change is spoken of in the diplomatic representation of Austria at Paris. “M. Hubner, it is said, will be succeeded by Count Maurice Esterhazy.

The *Presse* states that the Emperor, no longer able to permit his representative at Washington to hold communication with a Secretary of State who has spoken so lightly of Austria as Mr. Webster has done, has commanded the Chevalier Hulsemann to return to Europe, leaving his government diplomatically unrepresented in the United States. The Emperor, it is added, would not have laid much stress upon the liberty allowed to Kossuth, but Mr. Webster's speeches touch his honour and dignity.

According to a return lately published, the proportional number of the confessions of various religious creeds in Austria is as follows:—In every 10,000 of the population there are 7039 Roman Catholics; 987 members of the United Greek, and 844 non-united Greek, churches; 577 of the Helvetic, and 543 of the Augsburg Protestant confessions; 195 Jews, and 34 Unitarians. The remaining unit represents the proportion of the non-classified Christian sects.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* writes, “Every possible means is adopted to conceal the real state of feeling in the different provinces from the knowledge of the inhabitants of the capital, but, in spite of preventive measures, the truth sooner or later finds its way to us. Thus a transient gleam of light broke in upon me yesterday, and from what was said it was impossible to doubt that there is a general and deeply rooted sentiment of discontent, from which even the tried and faithful Tyrolese are by no means exempt.

Edward Murray arrived at Ancona, May 16. The British Consul's application to see him in prison was refused.

The French fleet left Naples for Palermo on the 20th.

The Emperor of Austria left Vienna on the 29th ult. for Prague.

M. Berryer arrived at Frohsdorff on the 25th, and had a conference of several hours' duration with the Count de Chambord; it was attended by several Legitimist notabilities.

Madame Laffarge is reported to have been remitted the remainder of her imprisonment.

Mr. Green, jun., made a balloon ascent from Frankfurt on the 28th ult. After rising a considerable height, and remaining some time over the town, he saw a storm approaching, and resolved to descend in a field. When the cords which he threw out reached the earth a number of peasants seized them, and pulled at them violently. They then seized the hoops and lower part of the balloon. This rendered it impossible for Mr. Green to open the valves, and the consequence was that the balloon burst with a loud explosion. The peasants immediately tore the balloon to pieces, and divided the pieces amongst themselves. Five of the peasants were arrested, but Mr. Green demands an indemnity of 7,000 florins (about 17,000*l.*)

THE OUTRAGE UPON MR. MATHER.

THE holidays afford us an opportunity of printing entire the letter of Mr. Mather, which we mentioned last week. It is cut out of the *Times*.

5, Barton-street, Westminster, May 27.

SIR,—As negotiations in reference to my son's case have been declared by the Foreign Secretary to be concluded, and as I understand certain explanations have taken place to-night in the House of Peers on the subject, may I beg the favour of your inserting the enclosed two concluding notes upon it in the *Times* of tomorrow morning?

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,
JAMES MATHER.

“Foreign Office, May 24.

“SIR,—I have the satisfaction of informing you, by the direction of the Earl of Malmesbury, that, after long and vexatious negotiations with the Tuscan Government, Mr. Scarlett has succeeded in obtaining for your son a practical atonement for the unmerited and brutal treatment he received at Florence, by the payment by that Government of the sum of 1000 Francsconi.

“Although Her Majesty's Government do not consider that this sum is equivalent to the injury which Mr. Mather suffered, or to that which an English Court would have awarded him as damages for his sufferings, and although it is less than Mr. Scarlett was instructed to demand, Her Majesty's Government have reason to believe that Mr. Scarlett acted to the best of his judgment in thus concluding the controversy. There is no doubt that the anxiety he has gone through in consequence of this and other disputes with the Tuscan Government has brought upon him a most dangerous illness.

“Prince Schwarzenberg, before his death, had addressed a note to her Majesty's Government, expressing his great regret at the occurrence, and at the act of the Austrian officers, which he assured Her Majesty's Government was not dictated by any feeling of hostility to our countrymen in general, or of personal malice to Mr. Mather himself.

“The patriotic manner in which you have repeatedly expressed yourself in this unfortunate affair induces the Earl of Malmesbury to believe that you will now consider our international laws as sufficiently vindicated.

“I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,
H. U. ADDINGTON.
“To James Mather, Esq., the Grove, Westoo, South Shields.”

“TO THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF MALMESBURY, HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, &c.
“5, Barton-street, Westminster, May 27.

“My Lord,—The communication of your Lordship of the 24th inst., by Mr. Addington, reached me here to-day.
“The feelings with which I perused such a document I will not attempt to express to your Lordship.

“Now, my Lord, you will do me the favour to remember that a British subject, my son, was attacked in Florence by two armed Austrian officers, receiving the most ‘unmerited and brutal treatment,’ as your lordship has expressed it; that he was cut down by one of them, left in his own blood, his life in danger for a length of time, and his health perhaps for ever injured: and all this without any provocation, any offence, as it has been proved by evidence, not to be controverted, of the most respectable witnesses,—people the subjects of the State whose officers had so acted.

“Yet, for all this, no real redress has been obtained; that officer is still at large, and remains unpunished.

“Upon my return from prosecuting the inquiry at Florence, you demanded to know what redress and reparation I deemed sufficient for such an outrage; to that demand in my memorandum of the 6th of March I replied—

“‘1. That some marked punishment for an act, proved by the sworn evidence of impartial witnesses, to have been gross and unprovoked, should be inflicted upon the offender, such as is fitting for an act of that description, committed upon a British subject by an officer of another country at amity with Britain. What that should be it is for Lord Malmesbury, who represents British interests and British honour, and officially secures protection for British subjects abroad, to decide.’

“Whatever personal reparation you might deem proper to demand, which I conceded with regret to your lordship's express commands, as I foresaw a probable misapplication of such concession, was, as you know, to give place to the public honour.

“You now inform me that Prince Schwarzenberg, the late Prime Minister of Austria, previous to his death, ‘had addressed a note to her Majesty's Government, expressing his great regret at the occurrence, and at the act of the Austrian officers.’ The extent of such regret may be estimated by this—the Austrian officer, who stained the honour of the Austrian army by his bloodthirsty and cowardly act, has been allowed to go free and unpunished, and his conduct has been approved, at least defended, by Prince Schwarzenberg's lieutenant, the Austrian Commander-in-Chief in Tuscany, Prince Lichtenstein.

“This man I frequently saw in all the pride of military array and overbearing insolence in the streets of Florence, a public example to his brother officers and the world of the impunity with which British subjects may be treated, and the triumphant evidence of the low estimation of his superiors for British honour and British power.

“This, all the while that British statesmen and diplomatists were making urgent demands for redress, your lordship among the number.

“Has anything been done since to impress them with the contrary?

“Your lordship continued to demand redress at Florence, notwithstanding Prince Schwarzenberg's note, as I understood you. Has it been obtained?

“The offer made by the Tuscan Government, as named in your communication, is too absurd to be deemed so, and it is submitted to me as if it were felt to be most humiliating.

“It would require of itself no notice from me, but that it is an indication of the expected impunity with which an Austrian officer may outrage a British subject, and a precedent and encouragement to any one disposed to repeat such an offence; in that it is a matter of some concern.

“‘The patriotic manner in which I have repeatedly expressed myself in this unfortunate affair,’ as you are pleased to observe, has originated in feelings that induce me now to express the pain which I feel that this crime is sought to be compromised, and the indignation, as far as I am concerned, with which I reject the offer of the Tuscan Government, and any participation in such proceedings.

“I will not pretend to be a judge of what is due to the honour of England, but I know what is due to my own.

“My son, who is still abroad, will, I am sure, participate in these sentiments.

“I have the honour to remain, my Lord,

“Your Lordship's most obedient and humble servant,
“JAMES MATHER.”

Mr. James Mather, senior, has written another letter to Lord Malmesbury, in which he distinctly proves that the letter published in the *Times* of Friday week, was delivered at Lord Malmesbury's private residence, and placed on his lordship's table on the previous Thursday evening; thus convicting his lordship of something very like a direct falsehood; for it will be remembered that Lord Malmesbury stated, in his place, that the letter had not been sent to him, and afterwards he wrote that his servants could not find it.

Independently of this, Mr. Mather brings some serious charges against British diplomacy, especially for attempting, by advising the young Mathers to carry their case before the Tuscan (!) civil tribunal, to make that a personal, which Mr. Mather rightly contends was a public question—in fact, a question of British honour.

When Mr. Mather presented himself at the Foreign Office, Lord Malmesbury wished to know at *how much* he valued the injury to his son; and when Mr. Mather demurred to making it a private question, and urged redress on public grounds, he was tauntingly asked “whether he wished Lord Malmesbury to go to war for it?” Mr. Mather repeatedly urged, that the private question should be kept out of sight, but Lord Malmesbury as repeatedly thrust it in. Mr. Mather was prepared to forego his claim for damages, and to insist on satisfaction for outraged honour; Lord Malmesbury was more than ready to forego the honour, and insist on the damages. What a humiliating position for the Minister of England!

FURTHER PROBABILITIES OF THE FRANKLIN SHIPS.

THE following is a letter from Mr. Lynch, passenger in the *Renovation*, relating to the Franklin Expedition, written in consequence of a communication addressed to the Collector of Customs, Quebec, by Sir J. E. Alexander, A.D.C. :—

Prescott, May 11, 1852.

"SIR,—I was a passenger (the only one) on board the brig *Renovation*, in April, 1851, from Limerick to Quebec, Edward Coward, master; Robert Simpson, chief mate; the second mate's name I do not recollect.

"We had a very fine run from the Irish coast, and I do not recollect anything particular occurring until we fell in with the icebergs on, or in the vicinity, of the banks of Newfoundland.

"We came in view of one iceberg, on which I distinctly saw two vessels, one certainly high and dry, the other might have her keel and bottom in the water, but the ice was a long way outside her; this was, as near as I can recollect, about the 18th or 20th of April, 1851.

"I thought at the time we might have been about three miles from them, but Mr. Simpson said we were five. I examined them particularly with the spy-glass—one (the larger) lay on her beam-ends, the other upright. I said to the mate, on seeing them, that they were a part of Sir John Franklin's squadron. He said, 'Very likely; and that would be a good prize for whoever would fall in with them.' The captain did not think it prudent to give orders to attempt to board them.

"I do not recollect any one on board making any remark at the time, and, save the captain and mate, I do not believe of the crew one knew anything of Sir John Franklin's expedition.

"On examining, which I did closely with the glass, the berg, I could see nothing that I could say were boats or tents; but there were a number of hillocks of different shapes on the berg, which might have been boats or stores covered by any of the snow storms which we had at that time; but of course I do not take upon myself to say such was the case, as similar appearances were to be seen on many other bergs.

"My reasons for supposing them to belong to Sir John Franklin's squadron were, there being two ships on one iceberg; they appeared to me to be consorts, and having no appearance of being driven on the berg in distress, as the rigging and spars of the upright one were all as ship-shape as if she had been laid up in harbour; also the one on her beam-ends had no more appearance of a wreck than a vessel with her topmasts struck, and left by the tide on a beach, no loose ropes hanging from any part of her. My opinion is, that she had been moored to the berg like the other, until coming into contact with field-ice the collision threw her over in the position which we saw her. The reason which prevented Captain Coward attempting any communication by boat was, he did not think himself justified in risking the loss of the vessel, when from illness he was not able to give assistance by commands or otherwise, and two of his best men and a grown up apprentice confined to their hammocks with dysentery. Had a boat been manned, there would not have been hands enough on board to manage the brig, and all appearance of thick, bad weather coming on.

"The hulls, to the best of my belief, were all black; the masts, I am quite certain, were white.

"The vessel on her beam-ends seemed, as near as I could judge, to be about 500 tons; the other something smaller. Mr. Simpson said about 350. I did not think there was that difference in their size. So much of the hull of one was to be seen that I think it made her look larger in proportion to the size of the upright one than she really was; they had been full-rigged ships.

"It is but justice for me to say, as far as regards Captain Coward, that nobody could regret more than he did his inability to board the vessels, and to my knowledge it preyed very much on his spirits after.

"Neither he nor his mate had ever been on the North American coast before, and though I was most urgent at the time to attempt to board them, I was convinced afterwards that it would have been attended with imminent danger, and perhaps loss of the vessel, as there was a heavy sea running at the time, and the vessel so short-handed.

"It would appear uncalled for my making these remarks were it my first time at sea, but I had been at sea before for four years, and among the ice on this coast once before. On my arrival at Quebec I gave every publicity I could to the transaction, as I hope the authorities in Quebec have learned before now; as it was I filed the ship's report in Quebec.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN S. LYNCH."

"To Collector Customs, Port of Prescott, Canada."

The whole correspondence on the subject with the Admiralty has been published. Mr. Lynch is quite positive, and Captain Coward still retains his opinion, that what they saw on the iceberg was not an optical illusion, but ships. It is somewhat singular that there was no entry made in the log-book of the *Renovation*. In corroboration of the statements of Coward, Simpson, and Lynch, so firmly adhered to, we have the following from Captain Ker, dated Sligo, May 1, 1852, and addressed to the Secretary of the Admiralty :—

"There is at present in this port a brig named the *Henderson*, of Whitehaven, William Hill, master, fitting out for the purpose of conveying emigrants to Quebec. In conversation with the master I found out that he was employed in the same way last year, but that on that occasion he sailed from the port of Galway on the 3rd of April, 1851, bound to New York; that on the very day he left, a brig named the *Doctor Kneip* belonging to Wisnar, Duchy of Mecklenburgh, the master and owner of which was Edward

Lordntz, also sailed for the same destination with emigrants, but that from her superior sailing she soon left the *Henderson* far astern; that on the 20th of April, 1851, the *Henderson* was in latitude 43° 14', longitude 53° 22' D.R., and struck soundings on the edge of the bank in 30 fathoms, sand and black specs, and arrived at New York on the 3rd of May, having never seen any ice during her passage, though, from the coldness of the weather and other causes, the master thought it was not far off. That on his arrival at New York, to his surprise he found that the *Doctor Kneip* had not arrived, but that on the following day she did so, and that in a conversation with the said master of the Mecklenburgh vessel, he mentioned that he had met with a great deal of ice on the banks, and had also seen "two vessels abandoned and water-logged." When these two vessels were seen, whether after the 20th April or not, the master of the *Henderson* did not inquire, nor did he gain any further information respecting them, his attention having suddenly been called away to his own vessel; but seeing the accounts of the two vessels fallen in with by the *Renovation*, the whole circumstances of his conversation alluded to as above, recurred to him most vividly, and suggested to him the possibility that these two vessels fallen in with by the *Doctor Kneip* might be the same seen by the *Renovation*, and which, from the melting of the ice, had slipped off and got clear of it. I immediately wrote off to Galway for the names of any parties connected with the vessels, or any other information that could be obtained, and in addition to what has already been stated to be the name of the vessel, her port, and owner, I would further beg to add, that she was consigned in New York to Messrs. Logan and Collins, of 69, South-street, but that the charter parties at Galway have never heard further concerning it."

Two apprentices on board the *Renovation* have also been examined, and they profess to remember having seen the ships on the 17th of April, 1851. Of course the search for evidence will be continued, and anybody who knows anything should at once communicate with Mr. Augustus Stafford, M.P., the Secretary of the Admiralty.

EMIGRATION.

A MEETING of the inhabitants of the district of All Saints, St. John's-wood, was held in the school-rooms adjoining the church, on Monday night, for the consideration of means to be adopted for enabling the poor of the locality to emigrate to the Australian colonies. The Rev. H. W. Maddock, the vicar, occupied the chair. Resolutions approving the necessity and desirableness of emigration were moved and seconded by Messrs. Ridgway, Thornton Hunt, and W. Smith, a colonist. The practical result of the meeting was, a resolution that it was desirable committees should be formed throughout the metropolis, and in the various districts of the country, for the purpose of raising funds for emigration purposes; and the appointment of a committee for the district of All Saints and Portland Town, St. John's-wood.

On Saturday, and during the week, hundreds of applications have been made by persons of both sexes at the offices of the various commissioners in the city, and at the Government Land and Colonial Emigration-office, Park-street, Westminster, for passages to Australia. At the present time there is lying a whole fleet of ships in the various docks of the port of London, chartered for Port Philip, Melbourne, Geelong, Victoria, &c., which will sail for their respective destinations in June, and early in July, and which are fast filling with emigrants. The vessels amount to thirty, and they carry upwards of 23,000. At Liverpool, also, there are several vessels of a large size advertised for Australia.

MR. F. O. WARD, THE DAILY PRESS, AND THE "LEADER."

WE have received with much gratification, and submit to our readers' special attention, the following communication from Mr. F. O. Ward, whose position as a leading contributor to the most powerful organs of public opinion in this country, and as the recognised champion of the Sanitary Party, lends importance to everything that falls from his pen. Our acknowledgments are doubly due to him for a letter, which not only points out, but at the same time breaks through, the systematic *mutism* with which we, in common with all political pioneers, are opposed by the leading journals and reviews of the day. Mr. Ward's letter, no doubt, bespeaks plainly enough his dissent from our opinions; and his criticism of the *Leader's* earlier efforts is, to say the least, somewhat overcharged. But we are not disposed to quarrel with any portion of a testimony on the whole so honourable and so satisfactory, especially as our esteemed correspondent's views are, *au fond*, less opposed than he himself thinks them to our own.

(To the Editor of the *Leader*.)

SIR,—I observed with much pleasure in your last week's impression a leader in which you quoted my views of our London retail distributive system, and rebutted the charges of "cruelty" and "Utopianism" which Protectionist and Free-trade Journals had united, during the week, to assail me withal.

Some months ago I should have felt the concurrence of the *Leader* a somewhat equivocal support. For, under its original management, your paper always seemed to me a sort of intellectual sieve, receiving indis-

criminated all new ideas, but letting the moderate ones pass, and retaining only the monstrous ones on its surface.

Latterly, however, I have observed in your Journal, along with undiminished boldness of speculation, and unimpaired vivacity of style, less eagerness for abrupt innovation, and a juster appreciation of resistance to be encountered side by side with progress to be achieved.

It would seem that journals, like men, have their period of youthful illusion, their vigorous and influential maturity, and (possibly, also,) their decrepid and timorous old age. Without staying to seek examples of newspaper adolescence and senility, I may point at once to your paper, under its recent management, as thoroughly exemplifying journalistic virility; seeing that I find your opinions, even when most at variance with my own, always coupled with information which challenges attention, and argued with a power which commands respect.

It is, indeed, because the leading journals and reviews still affect to ignore your existence—opposing you with what a witty Frenchman, on like occasion, denounced as "the conspiracy of silence"—that I am anxious, for my part, to offer you, publicly, along with my thanks for your support, the humble tribute of my sincere esteem.

Reverting, in conclusion, to the subject matter of the controversy which called forth your able remarks in my behalf, I forward you copies of three letters, addressed, during the week, to the editors of the *Globe* and the *Herald*; in the hope that you may find time for their perusal, and perhaps also space for their insertion.

I have the honour to be, Sir, with much consideration, your obedient servant,

F. O. WARD.

THE BOOKSELLERS' COMBINATION. (To the Editor of the *Morning Chronicle*.)

SIR,—In this morning's report of the booksellers' meeting, held yesterday at Lord Campbell's house, I observe that a note of mine was selected by Mr. Seeley for special animadversion, from among eighty-nine letters on the bookselling question, lately addressed by as many authors to Mr. Parker, who has published the whole series in a pamphlet. Mr. Seeley is reported to have charged me with "an avowed desire to get rid of—to exterminate, in fact—four-fifths or seven-eighths of the present retail tradesmen; so as to reduce London to the size of Bristol, and Bristol to the size of Bedford—shipping off the surplus traders to Van Diemen's Land."

I am anxious to disclaim these imputed designs of exterminating and expatriating superfluous traders, and to show that such an improved retail system as I recommend, so far from tending to depopulate the metropolis, or to injure trade, would promote the healthy development of both.

My opinion of the retail question, as stated in my letter, and previously at the booksellers' meeting in the Strand, is that "the undue multiplication of retail shops in London lies at the root of the evil." London covers about 100 square miles, and 100 retail book-shops, planted one in the centre of each square mile, would bring a book-shop within five minutes' average distance of every man's door. Instead of this, we have above 1000 retail book-shops in London, and these so ill distributed that in many streets half a dozen may be seen clustered within a stone's throw of each other; while in other streets there is not one. Thus the London book-buyers are paying for some 800 or 900 establishments more than are needed to do the work of distribution; and these useless establishments—assuming them, for argument's sake, to cost 500*l.* a-year each on the average—constitute a charge of 400,000*l.* to 450,000*l.* per annum, which the book-buyers now pay, and which might be saved by an improved organization of the trade. Competition, pushed to this undue extreme, tends obviously not to diminish, but to enhance, the price of the commodity sold; for the profit which would suffice to remunerate 100 retailers, becomes insufficient when divided amongst 1000. Under such circumstances, prices tend to rise, till they afford the over numerous traders at least a subsistence; and the traders, feeling that they are individually ill paid, naturally tend to combine for the maintenance of their prices against the public.

"There is, I think, but one remedy for this evil—viz., to reduce the number and improve the topographical distribution of the retail establishments; and the opening of the trade will only be useful, it seems to me, in so far as it tends to bring about this result. If the number of retailers should remain undiminished, they will be fain to replace the abolished restrictions by a tacit combination, or understanding with respect to prices, amongst themselves.

"Such a tacit combination exists among the London bakers, notwithstanding that their trade is nominally free. For whereas in Paris, 601 bakers serve a million of people, we have in London 2800 bakers to a population of 2,300,000—or more than twice as many bakers as we need. It is mainly in consequence of this fact that while corn is only 5 per cent. dearer in London than in Paris, bread is from 35 to 40 per cent. dearer here than there. Not that the London bakers get individually more profit than their Parisian brethren, but that the total profits of the London retail bread-trade are divided among more than twice as many traders; or, in other words, are wasted in keeping up some twelve or fourteen hundred unnecessary establishments.

"It is a curious fact, tending, I think, to corroborate my view, that in 1807 there were 689 bakers in Paris, and their number (which is regulated by law) has been since reduced at their own solicitation—the whole body subscribing to buy up, at a fair compensation, those of the establishments which they considered superfluous, and consequently detrimental to the economical conduct of the trade.

"Now, though public opinion is certainly not ripe for such an organization of the London trade, either in bread or in books, yet the staunchest Free-trader would hesitate, I think, to recommend that the Parisian bread-trade

which now works so well, should be thrown open, as in London, to a rush of competition, involving the needless reduplication of establishments, and thus entailing on the public an increase of prices, and on the traders a reduction of profits.

"These considerations are the more important, as they apply not only to the bread and book trades, but to retail trade in every kind; so that in London alone several millions per annum are probably wasted on duplicate retail establishments."

Notwithstanding the importance here attributed to the general question of retail trade, you will observe that I expressly defer the proposal of any "plan" for its re-organization, until public opinion shall have been matured by further preliminary discussion of the subject.

Meanwhile I would remark, in reply to Mr. Seeley, that Paris is not rendered (relatively) less populous than London, nor is its development impeded, by its avoidance of 600 superfluous bakers. Paris has not, on this account, 600 houses standing empty, but only 600 houses more usefully tenanted than by unnecessary bakers. The population of Paris is to this extent more healthy (using the term in a social sense) than it would otherwise be; the cost of living in Paris is diminished *pro tanto* by the elimination of 600 needless establishments; and this diminution of subsistence-costs, like every other such reduction of charges, renders Paris more attractive as a residence, and so tends to its development. An equally advantageous organization of all other retail trades in Paris would still further reduce superfluous establishment charges, so as to accelerate the influx of residents, and the growth of the town; which circumstances, on the other hand, would create a legitimate demand for more retailers, to perform the increased distributive service.

This, it seems to me, would be a far healthier kind of development than our random multiplication of superfluous shops and traders, limited only by the *bankruptcy check* (which is to trade what the *misery check* is to population). Instead of dwarfing London to the size of Bristol, such a system would gradually expand Bristol to a healthier kind of London, and set free for useful and pleasurable expenditure the vast sums now annually absorbed in all our towns, by what may be called *reciprocal taxation*—or the charges we unconsciously impose on each other by over-crowded trades.

How these desirable changes may be brought about without injury to existing interests, is a question of transition, the immediate discussion of which would be useless, because premature. But the solution of the enigma will ultimately be found (unless I am much mistaken) in that pregnant formula of the Sanitary Reformers—"Competition *for*, not *in*, the field of supply." F. O. WARD.

THE RETAIL QUESTION.

(To the Editor of the Globe.)

SIR,—I have read with much attention your able leader against my view of the Retail question—a view in which I am glad to find myself fortified by the concurrence of Lord Campbell, Dr. Milman, and Mr. Grote. Your objections, forcibly put as they are, are hardly, I think, quite conclusive; and, with your permission, I will offer a brief reply.

First, however, let me shortly recapitulate the leading facts on which I rely:—

1. London covers about 100 square miles.
2. One hundred retail book shops, planted one in the centre of each square mile, would bring a supply of books within five minutes' average distance of every man's door.

3. Instead of 100, there are 1000 book shops in London.
4. These 1000 book shops, even supposing them planted at equal distances, 10 to each mile throughout London, would only reduce the five minutes' average distance; above-mentioned to about two minutes' average distance; so that three minutes' approximation of the householder to the book shop is the maximum distribution-benefit, attainable under the best topographical arrangements, by a tenfold multiplication of retail establishments.

[5. It is worthy, perhaps, of passing remark, that this approximation of the establishments to each other would increase in a much less rapid rate than their number. Given 100 shops over 100 metropolitan square miles, their number must be multiplied *ninefold*, that their distance apart may be diminished to *one-third*.]

6. Assuming (for comparison's sake) the 1000 existing establishments to cost 500*l.* a year each on the average, and the 100 hypothetical establishments (being larger) to cost each 1000*l.* a year, we have the difference between 500,000*l.* and 100,000*l.*—i. e., 400,000*l.*, as the annual sum paid by the London book buyers for the benefit of having books within *two* instead of *five* minutes' walk. Pare down these figures as much as you will, make any reasonable allowances for special deposits (as of medical, legal, and other class books), and there will still remain an enormous sum (say for argument's sake a quarter of a million, which is equal to a fivepenny rate on the house rental of the metropolis) as the annual payment of the London book buyers, in support of extra establishments, kept up for the sake of above-mentioned trivial benefit.

7. But even this slight advantage, this reduction of three minutes in our mean average distance from book shops, is not in reality gained. Instead of being regularly interspersed, so as to afford the utmost accommodation to the householders, the book shops are crowded irregularly in the main thoroughfares; nay, some stand in couples, next door to one another. I am not accurately acquainted with the *retail topography* of the London book trade; but I have observed enough to justify me in affirming, that the London book buyers pay their annual quarter of a million for the support of the surplus book-shops, without securing in return even the trivial benefit of the slightly lessened average distance.

Now my position is, that "so long as the number of retailers remains undiminished," these extra establishment charges must continue to be paid; that they can come

from no other source than the book buyers' pockets; and that they must form an element in the retail charge for books.

I contend in like manner that, if the 601 bakers' shops now existing at Paris were doubled in number, the total sum paid annually for bread by the Parisians must inevitably be raised by the exact amount spent on the 601 added bakers' establishments.

It is quite true, as you remark, that the price of bread is fixed by law in Paris; but, in computing the profit to be allowed to the bakers, the authorities take into account the number of their establishments and their average sales; nor could they, if they would, enforce so low a tariff on 1202, as on 601 bakers. The question of *establishment charges*, which depends on number, is inextricably mixed up with the question of price; and this by a plain arithmetical law which no human enactment can reverse.

My reliance on competition alone to proportion the numbers of each trade to the requirements of the public, and to its own true interests, is, I confess, less absolute than yours. You admit that there is an excess of hatters in London; yet the retail hatters compete desperately—so desperately that many become bankrupt every year. There is a sharp competition, also, among the publicans—yet we have the preposterous number of 5,000 publicans in London—or 50 to every square mile—a number exceeding even that of the bakers. Are beer and liquors cheap and good in consequence? On the contrary, they are adulterated and dear. Is the trade thinned by competition? On the contrary, the magistrates are overwhelmed with applications for fresh licenses, though the fact of the existing surplus is proved by incessant bankruptcies. A certain number of the superfluous booksellers will doubtless be eliminated by the same painful process; but fresh adventurers will constantly be found ready to re-open the closed establishments, to stake their fortunes in the same lottery, and to take their chance of the same blanks.

The London public, taken collectively, may be likened, I think, to a private gentleman, burdened with a host of superfluous retainers, and living in consequence at an extravagant rate in a larger house than he needs. The more I study this question the more clearly I perceive its importance, and the vast magnitude of the sums annually squandered on superfluous retail establishments. It is a waste to be reckoned, I am convinced, not by thousands of pounds, but by millions per annum. I believe it to be a strictly preventable waste; and so soon as public opinion shall appear in some degree awakened to its importance, I will endeavour to show how we may, little by little, check this exhaustive drain on each others resources—which I have ventured to call *Reciprocal Taxation*; and which I believe to exceed in its aggregate all other forms of taxation put together.

I have the honour to be, Sir, with much deference, your obedient servant, F. O. WARD.

FREE-TRADE *versus* COMMERCIAL ANARCHY.

(To the Editor of the Globe.)

"In commercial as in political affairs, the true object of Government is to increase the common enjoyment of *liberty*, by repressing the reciprocal tyranny of *license*; or, in other words, to afford to each individual governed a wider and steadier sphere of Freedom, by restraining, in his neighbours as well as himself, the discordant encroachments of fluctuating Caprice."

SIR,—The letter, of which a copy is herewith inclosed, appears in this morning's *Herald*; and as my reply to the arguments of that journal meets also incidentally several of your own forcibly urged objections to my views, I venture to ask the favour of its insertion in your columns.

I am, indeed, anxious to lay before as wide an audience as the favour of the Press may grant me, the pernicious effect of *spurious* as contradistinguished from *genuine* Competition; and the wide difference which separates well-ordered Freedom of trade from mere commercial Anarchy.

Whether measured by its vast and incessant drain on the public resources, or by the loss and misery it inflicts on the struggling traders themselves, our present retail distributive system involves evils whereof the enormous magnitude has hitherto escaped attention.

Should the liberal and enlightened Metropolitan Press so far adopt my view as to recognise these evils, and to lay them fairly before the public, the question how far they may be susceptible of remedy will come next in order for discussion; and, at the fitting time, I shall be prepared to submit for consideration remedial measures of a transitional kind, neither incompatible with existing interests, nor involving any sudden or Utopian changes.

Meanwhile, I have the honour to be, Sir, with much deference, your obedient servant,

F. O. WARD.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER AND THE SCINDE PRIZE MONEY.

MR. SERGEANT BYLES, on Monday, moved the Court of Queen's Bench for a *mandamus* against the East India Company, commanding them to pay to General Sir Charles Napier the sum of 20,198 rupees (2,019*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*)

In the year 1843 Sir Charles Napier was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Queen's and the East India Company's forces in Scinde. During the ensuing campaign a large booty was taken, amounting in the whole to between 4,000,000 and 5,000,000 rupees. By a royal warrant the Crown granted that sum to the East India Company, in trust, to be distributed among the officers and soldiers who served in that campaign. The pay to which Sir Charles was entitled as Commander-in-Chief was 14,300 Company's rupees a month. It has been provided by Act of Parliament that her Majesty's troops in India should generally be paid by the

Company. The prize money was distributed in two dividends, the first of which was paid in 1848, and the second in 1849. But in the following year, the Indian government, finding that certain charges debitable to the Scinde prize money had not been deducted therefrom, the pay of all the officers was stopped to make up the amount. It was on account of the amount so deducted from Sir Charles Napier's salary that the *mandamus* was applied for.

In May, 1850, Sir Charles Napier presented a protest to the Indian government, objecting to the deduction, on the following grounds among others:—That the government could not legally make such deduction without giving a detailed and specific account of it. That the prize money had been distributed in confidence in the correctness of the calculations made by the government. That as a considerable number of the officers who had shared the prize money had since returned to England, and some had died, and as the government did not venture to apply the same treatment to the Sepoys, the burden fell unjustly on a portion only of the officers. That such conduct deprived the officers of all security for prize money or pay.

This protest, as well as another application to the Company, was ineffectual. Sir Charles Napier was induced to make this application, less on his own account, than for the sake of other officers who were not in a position to maintain their rights. The questions to be considered were—1, Whether the Company had any right to recover back any portion of this prize money after it had been distributed. 2, If the Company had the right, whether they could stop it out of the officers' pay? 3, If they could not, was there any other remedy for recovery than by *mandamus*, and would that writ lie?

Lord Campbell intimated that the main question being whether the writ would lie, they might assume, for the purpose of the present argument, that the Company had wrongfully withheld the pay.

Mr. Sergeant Byles cited the 3rd and 4th Victoria, cc. 36, 37, and the 33rd George III., c. 52, s. 120; and after some argument, the Court took time to consider their decision.

MILITARY INTERFERENCE IN ELECTIONS.

Last week, Mr. Sharman Crawford brought a charge against General Thomas, of having attempted to intimidate an elector at Enniskillen. In the *Northern Whig*, we find the following documents: the first from Major Beaufoy, commanding the pensioners at Enniskillen; the second from the sergeant alleged to have been intimidated.

"Major-General Thomas did not inspect the enrolled pensioners on the day on which he inspected the quarters at Enniskillen. The general did not put his fist into M'Kinley's face, but spoke to all the men who served with him in the 27th in feelings of regard and kindness. There were thirteen pensioners of the 27th present, and the general gave them two sovereigns to drink his health, and which sum amounted to about 3*s.* each man. M'Kinley declared in the presence of the general, Major Beaufoy, and others, that he was coerced and ill-treated by his own family, and he had no choice of his own. The Enniskillen enrolled pensioners will not be called out for drill exercise before the middle of June; consequently, they could not have been inspected by the general on the day named. Mr. M'Kinley never saw a shot fired, having always been employed on the recruiting service. He is a good and respectable man, however, and I am sure was always soldierly and brave."

"B. BEAUFLOY.

"May 25, 1852."

"Statement of Sergeant M'Kinley, late of the 27th Foot, at present on a pension of 2*s.* 0*d.* per day.

"That on the 19th of May, 1852, having received directions from Major Beaufoy, staff-officer of pensioners at Enniskillen, to collect the pensioners of the 27th Regiment of Foot in the barrack-square of Enniskillen, as General Thomas was to be in Enniskillen on his round of inspection, and would be glad to see them, Sergeant M'Kinley accordingly collected twelve pensioners of that regiment, and accompanied them to the barrack-square; when he received directions in the square to bring them into Major Beaufoy's office, which is situate in the barracks. He did so; he saw the general in the office, who was accompanied by Colonel Cole, Captain Corry, adjutant of the Fermanagh Militia, several officers of the 91st Regiment, and Major Beaufoy, staff-officer. General Thomas said he was glad to see them, and inquired where they had served. After they had informed him, he (the general) then handed two sovereigns to Sergeant M'Kinley, and desired the pensioners to drink his health, and then said that if any of them had votes, he would like them to give them to his friend, Mr. Whiteside, at the ensuing election, in preference to a common attorney.—Major Beaufoy then replied, that none of the pensioners then present had a vote except Sergeant M'Kinley. General Thomas then asked Sergeant M'Kinley to give his vote to Mr. Whiteside, when M'Kinley stated he had voted for Mr. Collum at the last election, and from the treatment he had received for doing so, having had his family ill-treated by a party that broke into his house, he did not intend to change his mind. The general then said, would he not give it to Mr. Whiteside at the ensuing election, and let by-gones be by-gones. To this M'Kinley made no reply, when Major Beaufoy directed him to give the general an answer; M'Kinley then said, he was sorry he could not give a satisfactory one. Immediately after

which, the general, accompanied by the others, left the office. Some time after, M'Kinley and the other pensioners left the office and went into the barrack-square, where General Thomas was, with some other officers. The general, on seeing the pensioners, turned round and came in the direction of M'Kinley and shook his clenched fist in a most violent manner at M'Kinley, and said he (M'Kinley) was a disgrace to the name of an Enniskilliner, and unworthy to be classed with the name of an Enniskilliner. Dated 26th May, 1862. The foregoing is a correct statement.

"F. M'KINLEY (copy.)"

"Present at the foregoing statement,
"James Hamilton."

THE BETTING OFFICE NUISANCE.

SIR,—In my last letter I called your attention to the rise and progress of the betting offices, the general character and previous histories of many of the men who keep them, their immense profits and the gullibility of their victims.

It really seems superfluous to point out the fearful evils all this gives rise to. Our prisons and our convict ships will tell the tale already, though the evil is as yet in its infancy; if not nipped in the bud by the most uncompromising and immediate measure, much greater harm will ensue. Before Parliament is dissolved some strong powers should be given to the magistracy for this purpose.

I shall run the risk of seeming exaggeration, when I tell you that there are few journeymen or apprentices, few clerks or shopmen, few domestic servants, who have not yielded to the temptation held out by this flatteringly easy way to fortune, which becomes a road to ruin to all. How many have robbed employers and cheated masters to invest their dishonest gains on some fancied certainty for the last great race that has just been decided? how many are now, when too late, bitterly repenting their folly, and execrating the betting offices?

Unfortunately, too, all this class generally back one or two horses, as the opinion of Lord —'s coachman is circulated among all the neighbouring flunkies, and from them to others, so that generally they are all on the same animal, and when, as I mentioned in my last letter, that particular horse wins, they see no more of their friend the betting office keeper, and their hard earning, or their dishonest gains, disappear with him.

When first these offices were established, a small cigar shop was generally the scene of action, and a modest announcement, "A list kept here," was all that arrested the passer by. Grown more bold, the cigar trade is relinquished, and "Betting Office," in large gold letters, in defiance of all our boasted national morality, appears over the window. It has been stated that in one town in the north 50,000*l.* was lost on a great race this month, nearly all of which came from the very poor, many of whom pawned even their bedding to pay for the ticket at the betting offices to receive the odds if "Nancy" won. These are very great evils; another and a smaller one is, that it affords greater facilities for dishonesty in the various racing stables, whose *employés* can always obtain liberal rewards for any dishonesty to their masters, from the keepers of these offices.

It is the interest of every true sportsman, and of every well-wisher to "the Turf" in England, no less than the duty of every Christian gentleman in the country, to join in the cry for the abolition of these nuisances. I fear I have been too prolix in my letter: I could add more, I could tell you of professional men of *all professions*, who, allured by the secrecy of the thing, have lost hundreds at these offices, which they would have been ashamed to have openly risked—but I feel that I have said enough. I find other far abler writers in the field on the same subject; and I hope that Government will see the thing in its truly serious light, and act with the prompt vigour the necessity of the case demands.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, 6

LIFE NOT AMONG THE GOLD.

A YOUNG man who is living in the house of a friend near Melbourne, wherein he writes "there is neither table, chair nor bed," sends home some curious traits of life, not at, but near the diggings.

"We are in the midst of a complete *bouleversement*. The population of this city, and, indeed, of the whole colony, are mad with excitement; provisions and fuel are frightfully high. It is almost impossible to get anything done for love or money; the police have all resigned, and refused to re-engage under 10*s.* per day. The compositors are off to the diggings, although offered a shilling a thousand, and in some instances fifteen pence, and this, too, guaranteed for twelve months. Men with water carts are earning 10*l.* per week. As to the gold diggers, it is impossible to tell what they are doing.

"The escort from Mount Alexander brought in last Thursday upwards of a ton weight of gold; the value, at 3*l.* per oz., was 78,000*l.* More than as much again comes in by private hands. The earnings of the men average, it is computed, 10*l.* per week. I saw a man brought before the magistrates for furious driving, and who was merely a common labourer, who had a bank book in his pocket by

which it appeared he had 4,000*l.* at his credit. Some of the persons by our ship have returned with sums varying from 200*l.* to 10*l.*

"Of course, there are reverses to the picture; many are doing wretchedly, and the tone of society is anything but agreeable; robberies, brutal assaults, and even murders are becoming prevalent. The gold-diggers seem to act on the principle of 'lightly come, lightly go.' There are public-houses in Melbourne where a man might drink for a month at the expense of others; and I myself saw at the theatre the other night a ballet girl who had danced the Highland fling (and very badly she danced it too) rewarded with a shower—not of bouquets—but of sovereigns, half-sovereigns, and silver.

In another letter, dated from Geelong, we have some other specimens of want in the midst of plenty.

"When I got home, I found all well; but as the end of the year drew on almost all my people giving me notice that at the conclusion of their engagements they meant to leave me; and here we are now—the cook left, though I offered her 40*l.* a-year to remain, and our domestic servants are reduced to little F—and J. M—who is still a mere child, a native black to cook, and a native boy to wait at table, &c. In the men's hut, where we used to have from eight to twelve men who attended to the dressing the sheep's feet, and did all the other work, we are reduced to two, who get their rations, and 22*s.* 6*d.* a-week—22*s.* 6*d.* each. My sheep, which used to run in flocks of 1500 to 2000, are now, or will next week be in four flocks of about 5000 each—one under the charge of the gardener and his wife, who happens to be under engagement to me till May next; one under charge of a native black, and the other two with the former shepherds, whose times are not yet out. My late overseer, together with three men who were shearing for me in November, and three others, made a party and went to the diggings. In seventeen days they took out of 16 feet square of ground 140*lb.* weight of gold, value between three and four thousand pounds."

And thus it is that people are not "badly off" for gold, but quite denuded of the ordinary comforts of European existence.

CAPTAIN ATCHERLEY AND MR. O'CONNOR.

WE couple the names of these gentlemen together on no other principle of classification than the obvious and simple one, that they are both eccentric publicly, Mr. O'Connor being not quite so methodical as the well-known captain in his vagaries.

The Westminster County Court was crowded, on Wednesday, to hear and see Captain Atcherley, who, as his own lawyer, sought to recover sums of money, in the shape of penalties, from the defendants, Sir Alexander Cockburn (Attorney-General), Mr. Smedley (the High Bailiff for Westminster), and Mr. Bowen (Chief Clerk of the Exchequer), for an infraction of the stamp laws, by placing certain seals upon legal documents, contrary to Act of Parliament.

The captain, who appeared in the witness-box with an imperial yard measure, a pile of documents, and sundry books containing the Acts of Parliament from the time of Queen Anne down to the present moment, stated that the first case was for an infraction of the Weights and Measures Act, which he was necessitated to bring as a matter of relief to his conscience, he himself being a sworn in officer of the Crown. (Laughter.) Mr. Smedley, as high bailiff, was defendant in this case.

The Judge: What is your claim for, sir?

The Captain: I would ask Mr. Smedley if he recognises that stamp?

The Judge: But you must first state your claim.

The Captain: Under the Act 5th and 6th William IV., c. 63, s. 31, he has no right to place a certain stamp upon any summons issued from this court such as I have in my hand, and, therefore, I claim under the Weights and Measures Act. The captain went on to cite various other Acts in pressing his claim.

The Judge: The mode in which to recover the penalties is to sue for them before two or more justices of the peace.

The Captain (eagerly): But, sir, this is an instance wherein I am sworn in on the statute of weights and measures. I was sworn in in 1837, and I find it necessary now to save my conscience, and (turning to an Indian in the rear of the court) to keep faith with that chief, who belongs to the American settlements, to bring this case before the government.

The Judge: Before I can interfere I must find out that the Act under which you sue gives me a jurisdiction. I have none whatever under this section. (Laughter.)

The Captain: By the last Act you are in the position of the Court of Exchequer.

The Judge: What Act is that?

The Captain: The original County Court Act. (Laughter.) And Mr. Smedley has no right to put his seal to any of your records. The captain then proceeded to say that he had upon one occasion subpoenaed the Lord Chief Justice Lord Campbell to this court, and had received a polite letter from Mr. Cuff, the chief clerk, informing him that the 7*s.* 6*d.* paid for the subpoena would be returned, upon application for that purpose.

The Captain, in reply to the Court, said: I could not receive that back, because it would be compromising myself. Besides, the case was brought before the Court as a relief to my mind. (Renewed laughter.) And I mention it now as an additional relief to my mind from compromising a felony. (Roars of laughter.)

The Judge: It is utterly useless to go on with the case, for I have no jurisdiction—that is quite clear.

The Captain: Then I'm in an unfortunate dilemma, which I wish the government to rectify. The police magistrates have no power at all, and I come to the highest authority, which is the Court representing this deed.

The Judge (emphatically): I can make no order.

Mr. Smedley: Your honour, I beg to apply for costs in

this case, and to request that, if awarded, the amount may be given to the poor-box. I make this application to show Captain Atcherley that he is not to call public officers from their duties, besides wasting the public time in this way, with impunity.

The Judge: I make no order for the plaintiff, and as an officer of this court I am afraid you cannot claim costs.

Captain Atcherley: Then, sir, I must request you will allow me to go on with the next case, which is against Mr. Bowen, of the Exchequer; and my claim in this is for placing a stamp upon the imperial yard, which does not agree with the deed that accompanies it.

The Judge: The Act does not give me any power to act in this matter.

The Captain (shaking his head): Begging your pardon, I think it does. I've paid 700*l.* to government merely to do my duty.

Mr. Bowen: Well, that's your own fault, captain. (Laughter.)

The Captain: Why should not the Crown officers be obliged to do their duty?

The Judge: All I can say is, I have no power to interfere.

The Captain (turning over an Act): You see, sir, under this Act you are a justice of quorum. (Laughter.)

At last the captain, finding himself defeated, the second case being dismissed with costs, retired, in company with his friend "the chief," whom he called "Peter," and declined to go into the case against Sir Alexander Cockburn.

Mr. Feargus O'Connor made a successful effort to enliven the dulness of our law courts at Westminster, on Tuesday. He began with the Court of Exchequer, making his way to the attorney's table, where he seated himself. After earnestly listening to the argument for some minutes, he began waving and kissing his hand to the bench, laughing so heartily that he effectually stopped the proceedings. As the judges were considering what could be done, he cried out to the chief baron, "How do you do, Sir Frederick Pollock? Very glad to see you looking so well, Sir Frederick; you're a noble fellow; I like you, I do; you're a good fellow." The honourable member took his departure, laughing and bowing to the bench, just in time to avoid a forcible expulsion. He then made a similar display in the Common Pleas, where he shook hands with several of the counsel, talking merrily of his trip to America. He burst into uncontrollable laughter at some principle of law laid down by Mr. Justice Maule, remarking, at the conclusion of each sentence of the judge, "Ah!" "To be sure." "Very strange." He paid his respects to the other courts, not excepting the Lord Chancellor's, in the same way, on one occasion slapping a Queen's counsel on the back, and calling him "a jolly good fellow." Finally he escaped, and sauntered to his hotel.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Preston held a feast on Monday last, and erected a statue in honour of the memory of Sir Robert Peel.

Mr. J. H. Foley, A.R.A., has received a commission to execute for the Houses of Parliament a statue of Selden.

Lord Eglintoun and his Countess have been visiting Malahide Castle, the seat of Lord Talbot of Malahide, this week.

Certain gentlemen [who respect the Marquis of Lansdowne for his public conduct, have requested him to sit for his bust, which they wish to present to him as a testimony of respect.

Mr. Ward has been employed by the Fine Arts Commissioners to decorate the Commons corridor in the New Houses of Parliament. His subject is "The Execution of the Marquis of Montrose."

Last week we published a rumour that Mr. Manning's return from the Catholic Church to the Church of England was expected. Mr. Manning has given official contradiction to this statement.

The Reverend John Eddowes Gladstone, who officiated in an unconsecrated chapel as a clergyman of the Church of England, after the Bishop of London had withdrawn his license, pleaded his cause by counsel, in the Arches Court, on Wednesday. After hearing arguments on both sides, Sir John Dodson deferred judgment until next court day.

The submarine electric telegraph between England and Ireland was completed on Tuesday. It is sunk from Holyhead to Kingstown.

The band of the Life Guards plays now, between four and six, every Tuesday and Friday, in Kensington Gardens.

Batty's Hippodrome, built last year at Kensington, was again opened on Monday. A balloon ascent opened the evening's proceedings. When will this folly be put down?

The Indian Collection exhibited at the Crystal Palace last year is about to be sold by auction. The first sale commences on Monday.

There was a great influx of excursionists into Liverpool on Monday, to "see the sea and the ships." Cheap trips on the Mersey were also arranged for the visitors.

Orders have been received at Cork from the Admiralty to have additional moorings laid down for eleven men of war—the Channel fleet—which is to visit Queenstown harbour during the progress of the Exhibition.

It is stated that a fund has been collected amongst the English Tory and Protectionist party, amounting to 100,000*l.*, to "work" the Irish elections. According to the reports, Lord Derby has contributed 50,000*l.*, and a noble duke, who has recently joined that party, has subscribed 10,000*l.*

The "locomotive power, carriages, and rolling stock" of the Preston and Longridge Railway have been seized, and sold under a warrant of execution!

Only twenty public acts have received the Royal assent, and thirty-four local acts, in the present session, which commenced on the 3rd of February—just four months.

The *Staats Courant* of Amsterdam announces that on the 27th a treaty was signed between France and Holland for the suppression of the piracy of literary and scientific publications.

A church-rate was refused at Cambridge, on Thursday week, after a tremendous squabble in the vestry. The reason urged by the opponents of the rate was, that rates already collected had not been applied to the purposes for which they were levied.

The *Ipswich Express* of Saturday says, that not a single person was admitted into the Ipswich Union-house last week, and the number of inmates now in the house (202) is 47 less than in the corresponding week of last year. The able-bodied paupers are happily so scarce as to be almost curiosities.

The following hue and cry is from the *Hobart Town Gazette* of the 23rd January, 1852:—"From his residence near the Dog's Head, Lake Sorrell, in the district of Campbell Town, on the 3rd of January, Thomas Francis O'Meagher, per Swift, tried at Clonmel, 21st October, 1848—life—a law student, 5 feet 9 inches, age 28, complexion fair, hair brown, eyes light blue, native place city of Waterford. Reward 2*l.*, or such lesser sum as may be determined upon by the convicting magistrate."

Lord Hatherton presided over the twenty-sixth annual meeting of the Cruelty to Animals Prevention Society. The legacies during the year had also been numerous, and they included one of 1,500*l.* from Mr. T. Dickinson, of Upper Holloway, who had left them a further sum of 3,000*l.* upon the death of a lady. The total receipts had been 1,816*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* (including a balance of 491*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*), and the expenses 1,263*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, leaving a balance in hand of 552*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*

The Liverpool Corn Exchange was filled with a greater assemblage than is usual on Tuesday's market, when a large portion of the floor in the centre of the building gave way through the "striking" of the centre arches. A large number of the persons present fell a distance of eight or nine feet, but none of them were dangerously wounded, though severe bruises were received. But two of the labourers at work on the building happened to be beneath the floor at the time of the accident. When discovered, after half an hour's search, one of them was dead, and the other survived but a few minutes. Two other workmen have since been missed, who are supposed to have been buried under the ruins. Diligent search has been made for them, but as yet it has proved unsuccessful.

The body of a male child was found in Hyde Park, dead, on Monday.

A man was killed on Sunday in a pugilistic conflict near Bradford. The fight arose out of a tavern brawl.

Six men, masked with black crape, and armed with blunderbusses and pistols, broke into the house of a Mr. Owens, at Liverpool, on Wednesday morning, at two o'clock. After cruelly ill-using Mr. Owens, and securing property above 80*l.* in value, they amused themselves at the pianoforte some time before retiring.

A man was killed at the Starveall coal pit, near the now famous Kingswood, by a case of gross neglect. He was being drawn up in a bucket without the "bonnet" or shield to protect him. A stone fell, and he was instantly crushed to death.

A mariner, named James Evans, 60 years of age, was at work, on Tuesday morning, in the upper part of the rigging of the *Duke of Clarence* steamboat, off St. Katherine's Dock, when he lost his hold and fell to the deck. Conveyed to St. Thomas's Hospital he was found to have sustained great injuries both external and internal. He died soon after. About the same time, on board the *City of Hamburg* steamer, at Hoare's wharf, Wapping, a young man, named Frederick Shalvey, when ascending the main-yard missed his footing and fell a depth of 60 feet. He was considerably injured, but seemed likely to recover.

Mr. Henry Mort, son of a merchant and manufacturer, was passing along Scotland-street, Sheffield, alone, soon after twelve o'clock on Tuesday night. Suddenly a man seized his neckerchief behind, and pulled him to the ground. The neckerchief was drawn too tight for him to make any outcry or make any resistance. Another man then took from his pockets a gold watch and some money, about 2*l.* The robbers then took flight, and though Mr. Mort did not lose his consciousness, yet he could not trace them any distance. There were many persons near, but the cowardly feat was so quietly performed, that no one's attention was attracted to the spot.

Thomas Collyer, alias Cullen, aged 79 years, was observed by a detective officer perambulating from one house to another, his appearance exciting a suspicion that his intentions were "anything but honourable." After he had called at ten different houses, entering each with the greatest ease of deportment, he went into the house of Mr. Hunt, an auctioneer, in King William-street, and in a few minutes returned with a bundle, which, on an inquiry of the officer, he said contained some clothes of his own. On finding that the officer had seen him enter and quit the house, he said, beseechingly, "For Jesus Christ's sake, forgive me. If you do not you will be the ruin of me." The contents of the bundle were recognised by the lady of the house as clothes of her own, of the value of 4*l.* Collyer was committed for trial.

Two Irish labourers, Thomas Murley and Daniel Coveney, on Monday morning, between one and two o'clock, were, with some others, amusing themselves in Brown Bear-alley, Upper East Smithfield, having just left the Crown public-house in the neighbourhood. A Spanish girl of bad character, named Angelina, accompanied by Giuseppe Ramaroni and Manuella Antonio, both Italian seamen, came out of a house of bad fame in the court, took offence at an Irishman, upon which Antonio struck Murley and Coveney upon the head with a short cane. Murley returned the blow, having taken the cane from Antonio. The Italians then retreated to the house, and returned to the charge armed respectively with a poker and a pair of tongs; but still the Irishmen, though un-

armed, had the mastery. Ramaroni then resorted to a large case-knife, and stabbed both Murley and Coveney, although it does not appear which of them he wounded first. Murley put his hand to his side, staggered, and fell, exclaiming, "I am stabbed." On exposing the part, a frightful wound appeared, from which the bowels protruded, and the blood flowed abundantly. Another Irishman, named Connelly, received during the affray a severe blow on the head with the poker. The occurrence was witnessed by several persons. The prisoners were remanded till Monday next. Murley has since died, and Coveney and Connelly are still in great danger.

Three men from on board a ship lying in the dock at Newport, went ashore about 10 o'clock in the evening of Friday week, and had a quarrel on the Queen's-parade, which resulted in blows. One of them, named Nicholas, who appears to be a foreigner, took flight to his ship, and soon after returned; apparently in great excitement. Meeting with one of his antagonists, named Godfrey, he rushed at him furiously with a large knife, and although Godfrey parried the first thrust with his arm, at the second the knife went deep into his side. While the victim was carried away shrieking and bleeding profusely, the assassin quietly walked off to his ship. Godfrey soon after died. Nicholas is committed to take his trial for wilful murder.

The first race of the London Yacht Club came off on Monday amid continuous rain. The boats were all of light tonnage. It was won by the *Romp*, 9 tons, Messrs R. and J. Knight.

Captain J. Goodridge, jun., says the *Hants Advertiser*, commander of the *Courier* steamer, having stated on Monday week last a belief that he could work his yacht *Nelson*, of ten tons, which is rigged à la America, against the wind up the river Itchen (a tortuous navigation), without using a rudder, oar, or boat, the possibility of doing so was denied by some crack yachtsmen, and eventually Captain Goodridge agreed to perform his undertaking the next day. The affair became known, and bets were heavily made against the captain's success. At the time appointed a perfect gale blew down the river, and the captain, with the assistance of a boy only, hoisted sail and slipped from his moorings, opposite the residence of R. Wright, Esq., at Itchen Ferry, and sailed down to the revenue cutter moored off Weston, when he turned back, head to the gale, without rudder, oar, or boat, came up the Itchen again, and picked up his moorings, to the astonishment of the blue jackets and numbers of persons assembled at the docks and other places to witness the feat. It only occupied thirty minutes from the time of starting to the return.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

THE Return for the week that ended last Saturday is a proof of considerable improvement in the public health. The deaths registered in the second week of May were 1070, in the following week they declined to 943, and last week they fell to 883. In the ten weeks corresponding to last week of the years 1842-51 the average was 877, which, if raised in proportion to the increase of population, will be 965. The mortality of last week is therefore less than the calculated amount by 82.

In comparing the results of the last two weeks it will be seen that there is a decrease in zymotic diseases from 228 in the preceding return to 205 in the present, in diseases of the respiratory organs from 131 to 115, in tubercular diseases (including phthisis) from 189 to 177, in diseases of the nervous system from 120 to 104, and in those of the digestive organs from 59 to 50. Taking particular heads in the zymotic class, the cases in which hooping cough was fatal, declined from 42 in the previous week to 31 in the last, those of croup from 10 to 4, of typhus, &c., from 41 to 31. On the other hand, the mortality caused by small-pox, measles, scarlatina, diarrhoea, and erysipelas, does not vary, or only to a trifling extent, in the two returns.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 27th ult., at Ickleford House, near Hitchin, the Hon. Mrs. Frederick Dudley Ryder: a daughter.

On the 28th ult., at the Manor House, Swindon, the wife of Sherlock Willis, Esq.: a son.

On the 29th ult., the wife of Stanley Harris, Esq., solicitor, Barnet, Herts: a daughter.

On the 1st inst., at Bow, Mrs. John Furzo: a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 24th ult., at the British Consulate, Bayonne, Fitzherbert Ducre Lucas, second son of the Right Hon. Edward Lucas, of Castleshane, Monaghan, to Laura Adelaide Scudamore, only child of Lieutenant-Colonel Scudamore, of Kentchurch Court, Herefordshire.

On the 27th ult., at St. Pancras Church, Augustus Hain, Esq., of 35, London-street, Fitzroy-square, professor of the German language and literature, to Eliza; sixth daughter of the late Thomas Philip Gardner, Esq., of Victoria Park.

On the 27th ult., at St. Pancras Church, William Poole, Esq., of Stoke-sub-Hamdon, near Yeovil, Somersetshire, to Miss Louisa Dare, of Warren-street, Fitzroy-square.

On the 1st inst., at Palgrave, Suffolk, Stroud Lincoln, second son of Robert Cocks, Esq., of Ladbroke-terrace, Notting-hill, to Lucy Sophia, second daughter of Martin Howe, Esq., of Palgrave, Suffolk.

DEATHS.

On the 12th of April last, while gallantly seconding and following his brave chief, Major Fraser, up the ladder at the Whitehouse Stockade, Rangoon, Lieutenant Leverton Donaldson, Bengal Engineers, fell mortally wounded, and died within two hours after in the hospital, "perfectly happy and resigned," in his 22nd year.

On the 12th of April, by a stroke of the sun, at the capture of the Whitehouse Stockade, Rangoon, after successfully covering, with his howitzer guns, the advance of the storming party on the works, most gallantly defended by the enemy, Brevet-Major Augustus Oakes, Director of the Madras Artillery Depot, and fifth son of the late Thomas Oakes, Esq., senior member of Council, in the 44th year of his age.

On the 24th ult., at his residence, No. 8, Albert-terrace, Knightsbridge, the Hon. John Coventry, brother of the late George William, Earl of Coventry, in the 63rd year of his age.

On the 24th ult., at 24, York-place, Edinburgh, in her 77th year, Lady Grant, of Rothiemurchus.

On the 30th ult., in Upper Brook-street, Ann, Lady Colville, widow of Admiral Lord Colville.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

All letters for the Editor should be addressed to 10, Wellington-street, Strand, London.

Communications should always be legibly written, and on one side of the paper only. If long, it increases the difficulty of finding space for them.

[The following appeared in our Second Edition of last week.]

Postscript.

SATURDAY, May 29.

THE case of Mr. Mather was brought before the HOUSE of LORDS last night, in an incidental way. The Earl of FITZWILLIAM pointed out a discrepancy between a statement made the previous evening, by Lord Malmesbury, and the letter addressed to Mr. Mather senior by Mr. Addington, from the Foreign Office. The former had stated that the compensation given to Mr. Mather was equal to the remuneration which he would have obtained for such an outrage in an English court of justice; whereas, in the letter of the latter, it was distinctly stated that the compensation could not be considered equivalent. Lord MALMESBURY'S reply is curious.

"My Lords, I am not surprised at the view which the noble earl has taken of this subject, for he has clearly misunderstood what I stated last night. I said that Mr. Scarlett, acting to the best of his discretion and judgment, had recommended that a sum should be given to Mr. Mather equivalent to that which he conceived that Mr. Mather would receive for a similar injury from an English court of justice; but Mr. Scarlett probably took a different view of the value of money in Italy and in this country. 240*l.* in Italy is a much larger sum than 240*l.* in this country: and Mr. Scarlett, to the best of his judgment, took 240*l.* as the sum which he thought would be awarded by an English jury as damages for such an injury. But, at the same time, Mr. Scarlett gained another boon from the Tuscan Government, which he thought that he ought not to throw away when he had a chance of obtaining it. The Government of the Grand Duke of Tuscany stated that if Mr. Scarlett and Mr. Mather were content with receiving the sum awarded to him—which is much smaller than the sum which I instructed Mr. Scarlett to demand—the Grand Duke would consent to set at liberty two English gentlemen who were then imprisoned, and had been long imprisoned, for political offences. Mr. Scarlett then acted on his own judgment, perhaps not logically, but I cannot say unwisely. He immediately accepted the Grand Duke's offer, and had the two gentlemen conveyed forthwith on board of one of Her Majesty's ships. I have not since heard from Mr. Scarlett. He has been dangerously ill, and almost on the point of death, and has not been able to write me more than the facts. I think it fair, my lords, to say this much, because Mr. Scarlett appears to have had good grounds, in his own opinion, for acting as he has done, although, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, the compensation which he has gained is not equal to that which he was instructed to demand."

Subsequently Lord MALMESBURY promised to lay the correspondence respecting this affair on the table of the House.

After a discussion on the Law of Quarantine, which led to nothing, an incident occurred of a singular character. Lord BEAUMONT presented a petition from Constant Derra de Maroda, the prayer of which his lordship did not state, but entered, instead into the notorious Von Beck case, calling everybody who had a share in it very hard names. The magistrates and others concerned found extraordinary defenders. The Marquis of SALISBURY called the narration of Lord Beaumont a "lame story." The Earl of ABERDEEN, on the contrary, had never "heard a story more completely on its legs." The "fact, were disgraceful to a civilized community." The LORD CHANCELLOR had no doubt the circumstances were such as must shock any person of ordinary humanity; but, at least, the magistrates did not merit the strong censure heaped upon them. Lord CARLISLE said the case was "one of the most revolting, the most incredible, that had ever come under his notice." The Earl of ELLENBERG called it a "flagrant case," and a "gross perversion of the law." How would the gentleman, the itinerant orator, who called himself Governor-General of Hungary, have liked to have been locked up in a solitary cell, by somebody who did not like him, on the ground that he was not the Governor-General of Hungary? Lord CLANRICARDE attacked "the authorities" for not having taken notice of this case, which had occurred so long ago as the 30th of August. His lordship was properly met by Lord DERNY, who said that Lord Carlisle and Lord Clanricarde were both in office as authorities, at the time. Lord DERNY thought that if there had been any neglect, the late Lord Chancellor or the late Home Secretary, a man so remarkable for his

humanity and respect for the laws, could explain it. But after this lapse of time, while the question was pending in a court of justice, it was a most extraordinary interference for two noble lords, members of the late Cabinet, to say that this case had been neglected. Lord CLANRICARDE explained that he always had an idea that some charge would be made by somebody somewhere, in this matter; but it was not his duty. Lord CARLISLE followed him. Both disclaimed all idea of making a charge of neglect against anybody. The latter had only heard of the case within these three weeks. In like manner Lord TRUBO knew nothing about it. He defended the magistrates, however, especially as a trial was pending. All the speakers regarded the matter adversely to the men of Birmingham; and seemed to be acquainted with only one side of the facts.

In the House of Commons, Maynooth again occupied considerable time. In stating the course he proposed to take with regard to public business, Mr. DISRAELI said—

"With regard to the motion respecting Maynooth College, it was his opinion, after all that had taken place, that it was expedient that that question should be brought to an issue (hear, hear); and, with that view, he should propose that the debate be continued next Friday morning, and he hoped there would be a determination on both sides to bring the question to a conclusion on that day. (Loud cries of 'Hear, hear.') These were the prospects he had at present to hold out to the House. Several subjects of great interest and importance were likely to engage their attention, which he thought might be dealt with in the morning sittings. It would be requisite after that to consider the necessities of the public service, and to proceed with supply. He trusted by these arrangements the result might be arrived at which he believed all the members of the House at present desired. (Hear, hear.)"

A discussion arose on this statement. A great many members, like Mr. Labouchere, looked upon the decision of the Government as very unsatisfactory; encouraging as it did the idea that an inquiry, which, as proposed, must be a delusion, could take place within a fortnight of the prorogation. Nearly all the members concurred in regarding some inquiry as unavoidable, now that the matter had gone so far in that House. Mr. KROGH attacked the conduct of the Government on this question, for the thimble-rigging course they had pursued. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER justified the Government, observing that it would indeed be a farce and a mockery if the House should refuse to entertain such a question as whether the national intentions in founding the College of Maynooth had been fulfilled—an inquiry into which the House might enter without at all prejudging the question. With respect to the proposition of Mr. Goulburn, which had been already made by Lord J. Russell, he (Mr. Disraeli) had objected that an inquiry by a Royal Commission, which could not compel the attendance of any witness, would not be satisfactory, in the present state of public opinion; on the contrary, nothing could be more calculated to disgust the people of this country, than transferring the inquiry from the hands of the House of Commons into those of the Cabinet. It was because it was a question upon which that House should have an opportunity of expressing its opinion whether an inquiry should take place or not, that he had taken the course he had done, with no other object than to fulfil his duty, and the consciousness of having done it sustained him under the attacks he had experienced.

Mr. HORSMAN called attention to the statement made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer as to the result of the Government inquiry into the case of Mr. Bennett, the vicar of Frome—namely, that, according to the opinion of the law officers of the Crown, redress might be obtained under the Clergy Discipline Act. The complaint, Mr. Horsman observed, was against the conduct of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, and he had ascertained that, although as against a clerk there was a nominal redress under the act referred to, as regarded a Bishop who instituted a presentee to a living, whatever the religious opinions of the presentee, there was no law under which any redress could be obtained against the Bishop. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL admitted that Mr. Horsman had stated the law correctly—that if a bishop abused his discretion in the institution of a presentee, there was no legal remedy. Under these circumstances it was useless, as the Chancellor of the Exchequer had stated, to issue a commission of inquiry.

Nothing more arose from this discussion. A good deal of miscellaneous work was afterwards done. Mr. Anstey being unable to obtain the consent of the House to an adjournment on the New Zealand Bishopric Bill, said "it would be his painful duty to keep hon. members out of their beds for two hours, which he would occupy in speaking against the bill. ('Oh, oh!' and laughter.)"

He kept his word, gained his point, and the debate was ultimately adjourned.

The House then adjourned, without having voted any supplies, at a quarter to three, until Thursday next.

A telegraphic despatch from Marseilles this morning, announces the arrival of the Indian mail, with papers from Bombay of May 3, and Calcutta, April 22.

Rangoon and Matarban, with 130 pieces of cannon, are captured, at a loss, on our side, of 150 men killed and wounded.

The nomination for a successor to Mr. Grenfell took place at Sandwich on Thursday. The show of hands was in favour of Lord Clinton, and the friends of Captain French demanded a poll, which opened yesterday, and closed with the following result:—

Lord Clinton	439
Captain French	251
Majority	188

Yesterday, a numerous meeting of the publishers and booksellers of London took place at Exeter Hall. The committee of the combination resigned their functions, accompanied with many expressions of extreme regret for the untoward termination of their labours, and expressed their convictions that the booksellers are a misrepresented and injured body. After an irregular discussion and struggle of four mortal hours, the combination itself expired by suicide. The act was forced upon it by a threat from Mr. William Longman, who deserves praise for his firm and straightforward manner throughout the proceedings. Mr. Chapman spoke in favour of the motion of dissolving the combination, and met with constant interruption.

Epsom races concluded yesterday. For the Oaks there were fourteen starters. They got off about a quarter past three: betting 2 to 1 against Songstress. Red Hind, who was very restive at the post, delayed the start at least a quarter of an hour, and when the flag was dropped, jumped round and lost at least one hundred yards. The lead at starting was taken by the Infidelity filly, followed by Lady-in-Waiting and Plumstead, Sally, Gossamer, and Bird-on-the-Wing, Songstress lying in the rear with Plot and Kate. They ran only a short distance in this order, the running then being taken up by Gossamer, attended by Lady-in-Waiting, Sally, and Trousseau; next them Bird-on-the-Wing, with the ruck laid up. On making the bend, Bird-on-the-Wing drew up to the front, and at the Banstead-road took the lead, Gossamer following her, Trousseau third, with Sally, the favourite, Lady-in-Waiting, and Kate in their wake. Songstress took the third place in the bottom, headed Gossamer at the distance, caught Bird-on-the-Wing at the stand, left her a few strides from home, and won very cleverly by a length; two lengths between Bird-on-the-Wing and Gossamer, Kate a bad fourth, Trousseau fifth, and Lady-in-Waiting sixth. The race was run exactly in three minutes. The race, like the Derby, went into John Scott's stable by the assistance of Songstress, who has thus added another laurel to the wreath of the celebrated Irish Birdcatcher, whose produce, after winning the Derby, were to-day first, second, and third. Frank Butler, who rode his first Derby winner on Wednesday, has now won the Oaks six times, and four times in succession.

There was a good attendance; the weather was favourable; fashion and rank swarmed in the Stand, and along the course; and altogether it is reported as the best Oaks day for many years.

Letters have been received from officials at St. John's, Newfoundland, respecting the ships alleged to have been seen on the ice by the captain and crew of the *Renovation*. As no whalers were lost last year, the ships are considered to have been a "deceptive appearance which icebergs assume under some peculiar action of the atmosphere."

The *Globe* regrets to announce the death of Mr. Scrope Davis, who had been for many months in bad health, and who died suddenly, on Monday last, at his apartments in the Rue de Duras, Paris. Mr. Davis was educated at Eton and Cambridge, and at the time of his decease was Senior Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. He was the intimate friend of Lord Byron, who had the highest opinion of his critical taste, and dedicated one of his poems (*English Bards and Scotch Reviewers*) to him.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Journal of Commerce* says:—"I fear that Congress and the country will soon, very soon, be called upon to bestow funeral honours on one whom they have long honoured in life. Mr. Clay asked very earnestly when his son, Mr. John Clay, of Kentucky, would arrive. He was pleased to know that he would soon be here. On Sunday he asked Dr. Jackson, of Philadelphia, whether his death would be a painful one, and whether it would not be by suffocation, which he had feared. Dr. Jackson replied that his death would not be by suffocation—that it would be perfectly easy—that his nervous energies were entirely destroyed, and nature would yield without a struggle. Mr. Clay has been perfectly cheerful throughout his protracted illness, and is still calm and in full possession of his mental faculties. He talks of death with no regret at its approach. He has neither expected to recover, nor expressed any anxiety for it. He was anxious for some weeks to get to the Senate Chamber once more, intending to express his views on the subject of intervention, but this was denied to him. He has left dying injunctions to his countrymen against all the doctrines and the measures that would involve the country in foreign broils or in domestic dissensions, and is ready to depart."

The Leader

SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 1852.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—Dr. ARNOLD.

MALMESBURY AND MATHER.

"CROMWELL would not have passed over this," says a military correspondent on the Mather Outrage; but the days of Cromwell are past. The worst symptoms of our national atony are not to be sought in the immense pauperism which presses more upon our repute for public wisdom than upon our poor-rates. It is not the 1,200,000 adults dependent upon charity within the year, nor the million of starving heathen children;—it is not the depth to which gambling has eaten into society, even when we find we know not how many betting-house keepers suddenly evading the claims of their overwhelming constituency;—it is not the want of administrative power which makes us impotent to deal with the Australian crisis, sinking as much under the weight of gold in the colony, as we do under redundant labour at home, without the power of remedying the reciprocal overbalance;—it is not the precarious position of our empire in India with Madras Sepoys refusing to march, and Bengal Cavalry leaving their officers to charge alone;—it is not even the effeminate habits exposed by the most popular of the middle class daily journals, and exemplified by the puny carriage of our trading and professional young men; but it is rather in the dastardly sentiments avowed in the very highest places that we find the most ominous decay of English heartiness.

We do not take advantage, indeed, of the equivocations of Lord Malmesbury, under the cross-questioning of party opponents, nor do we rest even on the indignant appeals of the outraged victims. On Thursday week, the representative of England before Europe, the Earl of Malmesbury, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, declared that the result of the negotiation with the Tuscan government in the Mather affair had "terminated in their giving to Mr. Mather a pecuniary remuneration equivalent to the amount of damages which he would have received from an English jury in an English court of justice, if he had appealed to a jury for the redress of such an injury."

On the previous Monday, in a letter written to Mr. Mather by the direction of Lord Malmesbury, Mr. H. U. Addington declared that Her Majesty's government had not considered that this sum was equivalent to the injury which Mr. Mather suffered, or to that which an English court would have awarded him as damages for his wrongs; but it was less than Mr. Scarlett was instructed to demand. On the Friday, when cross-examined by Earl Fitzwilliam touching this letter, Lord Malmesbury declared that Mr. Scarlett had "recommended that a sum should be given to Mr. Mather, equivalent, &c. &c." That Mr. Scarlett probably took a different view of the value of money in Italy and in this country, a thousand francs, or 240*l.*, being a much larger sum in Italy than in this country; but that Mr. Scarlett acted on his own judgment, perhaps not logically, but, continued the Earl, "I cannot say unwisely." It is not on these discrepancies that we are disposed to rest any argument, ugly as they are in themselves. We brush them aside as trivialities, equally with Lord Malmesbury's suggestion, that Mr. Scarlett has been dangerously ill through diplomatic anxiety. We must regret Mr. Scarlett's illness, we can sympathize with him in the feelings of humiliation that caused it, but we are not the less surprised that the British minister should be blind to the real sting of the charge against him. When he says that Mr. Scarlett obtained in the money bargain the liberation of two English gentlemen, who had been long imprisoned for political accusations, we can as little admit the satis-

faction which some Peers were indiscreet enough to confess. If the British gentlemen had a right to demand liberty as a matter of justice, and of deference to this country, there could have been no necessity to accept their liberation as a make-weight in a bargain at the expense of Mr. Mather. It should have been sufficient that their cause was just, and that this country had determined to support it; but we do not rest much even on that act of gross indiscretion. Still less do we accept as a make-weight Prince Schwarzenberg's "expression of regret at the occurrence," that is, at the cutting down of Mr. Mather. The value of such regret may be estimated, to borrow the words of Mr. Mather's father, by the sequel:—"The Austrian officer who stains the honour of the Austrian army by his bloodthirsty and cowardly act, has been allowed to go free and untouched." But we repeat, it is useless to balance these discrepancies, these make-weights, and these concessions. The one startling fact is, that the representative of the British Empire cannot obtain justice in the name of the nation which he claims to represent, but is fain to accept a money compromise; nay, worse;—he does not seem even to understand the cause of indignation which his conduct has excited, and imagines that Mr. Mather's anger arises from the insufficiency of the payment!

The last paragraph of Mr. Addington's letter implies a desire to silence the persevering James Mather, the father, by flattering him on "the patriotic manner," &c. Public spirit, it is presumed, will induce an English gentleman to hush up a great public wrong. "Were you not very uncomfortable," asked a friend of Pauline Bonaparte, the Princess Borghese, "at sitting naked to an artist as a model?" "Oh, no!" replied the princess, "there was a fire in the room." You are a patriot, says Lord Malmesbury, by his subordinate, Mr. Addington—you are a patriot, and therefore will put up with a small money compromise, in this case, considering, that besides your satisfaction, we have bought off two English subjects who were in jeopardy. And this is the man whom the British nation permits to be its representative before the world!

It is not, we say, the pauperism pressing upon the country which marks its degeneracy; it is not the incapacity of its public servants to conduct its colonial or Indian affairs; it is not the craven bearing of its young men, its betting-house demoralizations, that impress upon it the worst stamp of disgrace—its principal stamp of disgrace is Malmesbury.

Unluckily, however, there are Malmesburys even in the body of the people, and we are fain to use an argument for which we might blush. This conduct is not only craven, but it incurs the risk both of danger and of expense; that the Imperial Government is willing to compromise an insult, when the insult is, unfortunately, bruited before the world, is a fact, and not to be forgotten by other nations. Mr. Mather is correct in describing the arrogant demeanour of the soldiers who appear as conquerors in so many states—he is correct in saying that the English Government ceases to be regarded as one which seeks immunity, or even justice for its subjects—nay, even for its military servants. A British soldier has been marched in chains at Leghorn: an insult to a British subject has been compromised by a British Minister at Florence, and to extenuate that last cringing act, we are told that the man who was the immediate instrument for perpetrating it, has turned sick, and gone to bed! With such facts as these before the world, with such doctrines avowed as these, which have been uttered by statesmen of lofty bearing in both Houses of Parliament—aye! and echoed by popular orators, it is not surprising that the brutal soldiery of foreign states should now begin to regard the English people as one that may be hounded with impunity. We do not say, indeed, that it will always be so. The spirit evinced by our correspondent, "A Retired Officer," and by "James Mather," is not altogether extinct to the nation, though it is paralyzed for the time by the crawling connivance of a Malmesbury; but in the meanwhile foreign servants will measure English toleration by the acts of its public servants, and the sport of worrying Englishmen will be indulged with an increasing zest. We shall have more of these outrages in proportion to the abjectness of our present submission. They will go on until they become intolerable. In the interval, it is impossible to say

how much injury may be done to British interests, and even to British property. The next step will be, not to stop at the person, but to commit an outrage on the property; and, perhaps, some outlying English bank; some company of merchants resident abroad; or, perhaps, even some British merchant ship, may test the toleration of our Government, and the passive acquiescence of Manchester, to a degree of tension that will strain to bursting the spirit of retribution. But, if so, how much more will it cost in labour, in blood, and even in money outlay, to recover the prestige which England is daily forfeiting by the unworthy conduct of her foreign affairs?

Cromwell wrote sharp letters, and hanged a Spaniard; and, if it had been necessary, he would have hanged an Austrian officer in the chief square of Vienna; and the consequence of his resolute energy was, that the moral influence of his diplomacy was powerful and sufficient.

We have a quarrel to pick even with the more spirited of our countrymen. Here is Mr. Mather writing letters full of English feeling to the Foreign Minister; but we should like to know what is the conduct of that same Mr. Mather in his capacity as elector? We should like to know what steps he has taken for an appeal to the spirit which he feels in his own bosom, and which he must know to be smouldering amongst his countrymen? We sympathize with the "retired officer" who wishes for a Cromwell that Austrians may be taught how to behave to Englishmen; but what is our correspondent doing within the sphere of his own influence to awaken the feelings of his countrymen? how far is he abstaining from the paltry politics of the day, and letting the state drift whither it will, under the guidance of a compromising Malmesbury?

True Englishmen who hold back while their country is helpless, and in the hands of untrue Englishmen, are more to blame than the bad statesmen and false patriots who have forgotten what it is to uphold the honour and the influence of their country.

COLONIAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

We may be sometimes accused of magnifying the traits of colonial exasperation, but the reader may take three passing instances in proof of our frequent assertion,—that the mismanagement of distant provinces from the centre is exasperating the colonists to the last degree of impatience, and is provoking feelings extremely adverse to the continuance of British rule.

In the quiet little district meeting of All Saints, St. John's Wood, last Monday, Mr. Smith, of Sydney, a plain business man, confessed that the feelings of the colonists, under the pressure of their painful crisis, aggravated by the neglect of the English Government to send labour in return for the emigration money already lodged with the Government, has produced feelings of which it will be very difficult to foresee the consequences. Mr. Smith spoke guardedly, but plainly; and intimated very distinctly that although he might uphold the British connexion, his brother colonists could not be expected to do so.

In a letter to the *Times*, Mr. Francis Hincks, alluding to the sudden overturn of arrangements made between the British American Colonists and the late Colonial Secretary, Lord Grey, makes this startling declaration:—

"I have reason to believe that Mr. —, the avowed opponent of the colonies, is in communication with parties actuated by motives of the most anti-British character. Communications have been made to the Colonial office on the subject of this railway, hostile to the views of the Governments and Legislatures of the three provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, supported as those views are by the Queen's able representatives in those provinces. No communication of these papers, the existence of which I only know by current rumour, has been made to us. Our position has been in no way recognised by Her Majesty's Government; and I cannot but express my conviction that such withholding of confidence has not conduced to the interests of the Queen's service."

The merits of the case to which Mr. Hincks alludes, are not fully before us; but we well know that Canada has, more than once, been thwarted by official caprices and delays; that she has sought refuge in rebellion, and that she has succeeded in obtaining by that process what was denied to her in the name of justice.

In his latest despatch, brought home, it may be said, by himself, Sir Harry Smith, the late governor of the Cape of Good Hope, declares how much he was embarrassed in his military operations by the political discontent amongst the British subjects; many of the Hottentots, he says, possessing just sufficient education to make them mischievous and capable of observing what occurred at public meetings held within the colony,—"to resist and oppose every measure of the Government, which the colonists regarded as the exercise of constitutional rights, though in point of fact, such proceedings approached the brink of anarchy and confusion"—were encouraged, to conspire with the Kafirs beyond the frontier.

"When the war broke out," he says, "I relied most fallaciously on the inhabitants rallying around her Majesty's troops, but, as they did not turn out *en masse*, to resist the torrent, I encountered a revolt, as I have already shown, most unexpected, of nearly the whole of the eastern Hottentot population, formerly so useful against the Kafirs."

We all know how that discontent has been created—by the fast and loose conduct of the Downing-street officials and their local representatives, in the matter of the constitution; by the attempt to break faith with the Cape colonists in forcing convicts upon them, and above all, by preventing the colonists from dealing with the savages on the frontier, border fashion; and so entailing upon them the inconveniences, the losses and disasters of accumulated war.

In all these cases, we see the supremacy of Great Britain endangered by a violation of local government. Permit Australia to regulate her emigration affairs for herself, and every colony would have, in this country, its own commission, selecting emigrants, and shipping them off to the place where labour is in demand.

Endow the British American colonies with full powers, or, if the Imperial Government interposes in their affairs, keep faith with them, and one way or other we should have railways established throughout the provinces, and so remove that contrast with the neighbouring republic which is so exasperating to the British colonist.

Untie the hand of the Cape colonist, and he would know how to deal, as he has before dealt, with the vermin that infests the border. The reason for the disaffection is as plain as its existence. The want of local self-government is, in every colony, abating the affection for the Imperial Government.

THE PATH OF THE TWO WRECKS.

WERE the two ships alleged to have been seen on an iceberg about the middle of April, 1851, really seen from the deck of the *Renovation*, or were Captain Coward, Mr. Simpson, and Mr. Lynch deceived by an "optical illusion?" and if really seen, were these ships the *Erebus* and *Terror*? The controversy on these questions is great, and instructive also, as it shows that neither time nor failure can weaken the deep interest felt by every Englishman in the fate of Sir John Franklin.

We incline to think that the ships seen were real ships, and not optical illusions. The accounts given by the persons alleged to have seen them are clear, consistent, and only sufficiently contradictory on some minor points to guarantee the absence of collusion. Add to this, that Captain Coward describes the air as being "very clear" at the time; and further, that there was "no appearance of foggy or threatening weather." Captain Coward is an old seaman, Mr. Simpson, the mate, is a clever and promising young one; Mr. Lynch is described by commander Herbert as a "very intelligent person," "conversant with ships," "careful not to exaggerate," and "prepared to affirm all his answers." Beside the evidence of these three credible persons, there is that of two apprentices, who also saw the ships, although they did not minutely examine them.

In opposition to their testimony, is the opinion of three gentlemen engaged in commerce at St. John's, Newfoundland; especially that of Mr. Thomas, President of the Chamber of Commerce at that place. He thinks the ships were "deceptive appearances," and he argues that it is "almost impossible" but that, if they were real ships, on an iceberg, so large as that described, the iceberg must have been seen by some of the numerous vessels constantly intersecting the ice-field in March and April. It is obvious that the

"almost impossible" of Mr. Thomas, cannot be set in opposition to the positive assertions of practised seamen. No amount of conjecture, made at a distance, can upset an affirmation made by a credible person on the spot. There is every reason to believe the ships were seen. But if so, why was the fact not entered in the log of the *Renovation*? and why did not Captain Coward send out a boat to search the ships? The former is an unexplained fact; the latter is answered by another question—Is it unusual that men should prefer their own safety to embarking in an ice-field on a questionable and dangerous enterprise?

Captain Coward does not explain the absence of a record from the leaves of the log; but Captain Coward and Mr. Lynch both explain why a boat was not sent. The *Renovation* was an old ship, the captain was sick, he feared his boat might be lost, and of course the boat's crew with her, and, above all, he heartily desired to arrive safely in port. So far that is explained.

Leaving the ships on the iceberg, floating off Cape Race, in April, 1851, let us turn to another story of "two ships."

A vessel, named the *Doctor Kneip*, left Galway on the 3rd of April, 1851, and reached New York on the 4th of May following. The ship was behind her time, and the master, to account for the delay, said that he had met with a good deal of ice on the banks, where he had seen "two vessels, abandoned and water-logged." Now, it has yet to be ascertained whether these two ships were seen before or after the 20th of April, 1851. If before, they could not have been the ships seen by the crew of the *Renovation*; if after, is there not every probability that they were the same two ships, especially as Mr. Gaspard Le Marchant asserts that there were no sealing or whaling vessels from St. John's lost in the spring of 1851.

Assuming, then, that we have the two ships clear of the ice, abandoned and water-logged, off the Newfoundland Bank, let us see if we can discover traces of them further southward. Of course, if the ships seen by the *Doctor Kneip* had been some time "high and dry" on an iceberg, they would not sink at once, but gradually; and especially if they were the ships of the Arctic Expedition, their timbers would be pretty dry, and the interior appear comparatively new and bright. Now, it is very strange that in April, 1851, as the *Benjamin Elkin*, a homeward-bound ship, coming from Australia, was passing the Western Islands, floating pieces of wreck were observed by the crew and passengers. The captain at the time remarked that they must have been some time in the water; and a passenger pointed out, what was certainly very remarkable, that the cabin fittings looked quite bright and new? These pieces of wreck were drifting from the Newfoundland Bank. Is it not, at least, possible that the ships seen by the *Renovation*, the *Doctor Kneip*, and the pieces of wreck observed by the *Benjamin Elkin*, were identical? And if we have succeeded in tracking the path of the two wrecks across the ocean, does not the very peculiarity of their last appearance make it probable that they were the ships of Sir John Franklin? Stranger things have proved true.

INSPECTION OF CHELSEA PENSIONERS.

MUCH talk has there been of late about the enrolled Chelsea Pensioners. Parliamentary orators, who believe these islands are sufficiently defended by our "standing army" and our navy, and who trust in the good faith of Louis Bonaparte, have largely counted on the pensioners as defenders of their native soil. When the smallness of the numbers of our home forces has been put forward by the advocates of a national militia, the retort came glibly enough—"Why, haven't you the pensioners?" When the utterly unorganized and undisciplined state of the mass of the people was pointed out, the objectors to a militia, on the score of expense, cried out, "Why don't you increase the standing army?" Now, it is something new to find in the ranks of English Radicals this insane reliance on a hired soldiery, who may become hired janisaries. But we set that aside, remarking, that it was not with a standing army that Washington won American Independence, or Dumouriez drove back the best marshals of old Europe over the frontiers of France. We leave the great question between a standing army and a militia on one side, and turn to the next substitute, the pensioners.

Who are the pensioners? They are a body of men who have served their country for a limited time, who have given the best days of their lives to assert its power, and maintain its honour. Many of them have shed their blood in the fields of Spain and Belgium, and India, and wear on their breasts medals and stars as marks of honour. They have done the duty demanded of them, and they are paid a small sum per diem by way of acknowledgment and recompence. They are a rough, but a soldierly looking set of fellows, and, on the whole, much the worse for wear. Now, we ask the owners of property, are these the men upon whom they would like to rely for active service in case of an invasion?

Last Wednesday they were reviewed in Hyde Park by the Duke of Cambridge. Feeling some curiosity on the subject, we walked into the Park to "assist" at the spectacle, and we saw just the set of men above described. They marched, wheeled, formed into squares, fired, deployed into line, and went through all the exercises usual on such occasions. We have no wish to find fault with them; they did their best, and, taking their age and infirmities into account, they did well. But they were not for one moment to be compared with a large body of Guards who, in their smart white fatigue dresses, were exercising in the hollow ground nearest to Kensington Gardens. It was quite clear, even to the eye of a civilian, that the pensioners would be knocked up with two days hard service in the open field. When they came on to the ground and piled arms, two-thirds of them were, in five minutes, smoking short pipes. Many brought their wives and daughters with them, and before the whole formed into line, the wooded table land of the Park presented the ordinary phenomena of a picnic party.

Such are the facts of Wednesday's display. And the conclusions we draw from them are, that we have no right to expect great services from these men who have served their time, and whose present pay is but a small equivalent for toil and wounds undergone; and that they are unfit for field service, and valuable only as a reserve, or as defenders of fortified places. They would be easily defeated by a less disciplined body of men, who possessed youthful spirits, ordinary British pluck, and elastic limbs. And our moral is, that if discipline, once acquired, is so potent through life as to enable a body of worn-out men to present an appearance so formidable, what might not be accomplished if the whole virile strength of the nation were regularly disciplined from youth to manhood, and rendered capable of acting with steadiness, rapidity, and unity? No man was ever the worse for having his limbs perfectly under command; and no kind of exercise is so efficient for that purpose as military drill. Combine it with education, even the present ordinary education of the people, and you add tenfold strength to the nation, not only for active warfare—which we abhor as much as any man—but for the common purposes and everyday wants of life. Depend upon it, discipline of the body, as well as discipline of the mind, is essential to make a great people.

TAXATION REDUCED TO UNITY AND SIMPLICITY.

III.

No system of taxation can be framed so as to avoid entirely the cost of collection; the question between different systems is, on this point, one only of comparison.

Unlike, however, what takes place in respect of all other expenses, the cost of collection is not here suffered to remain a simple question: the incidental effect of a tax is always included in the discussion. But why should this be done in respect to taxation—that is, payment for protection—when it is not done in respect to rent, insurance against fire, the purchase of clothes, service, instruction, or anything else? There seems to be nothing in the service, or in the necessary conditions or mode of its remuneration, which should draw a difficulty into one that is not found to exist in the other.

The ideal of perfection, in this view, seems to be that the total amount drawn from the people, should just equal the nett cost of the working of the government, with the mere expense of collection superadded. But it is universally agreed, that this effect is not attained by any system of indirect taxation; for besides the cost of collection, there is also the effect of a tax on the construction, manufacture, commerce, consumption, or use of the article taxed; and a system of indirect taxation is chargeable, not only with its own

cost of collection, but with the cost to the people of the disadvantages or deprivations which are its more remote but not less certain effects.

On the other hand, a tax on property, considered simply as property, has no such ulterior consequences. It occasions no preference or prejudice in respect of any object; it leaves choice of design or pursuits absolutely free; it is neither more nor less than a cost incident to the very nature of property: it gives more than it takes away.

Perhaps it is only of late that we have approached to a just estimate of the disastrous effects of taxation, which are attributable to indirectness alone. For generations we heaped imposts on every variety of objects, until, indeed, to accomplish the difficult invention of a new tax, was to earn the gratitude of the minister of the day. We have at length, however, to some extent, removed these burdens; and the new elasticity discovers the unsuspected injury of past repression. Taxation had been made a science entirely through its indirectness; it had equally been made a curse.

We find on every hand examples to confirm our views. The Crystal Palace suggests and almost answers the question, whether the conception of such a structure may not long since have anticipated the possibility of execution. How many thousands of letters remained unwritten under a heavy tax on postage? How many starving mouths have been fed by the repeal of the tax on bread?

We cite the taxes on food; for, although in official systems of thought, we may classify imposts as those of revenue, and those of protection, there is, in reality, no difference of effect between them. The tax will work according to its nature, call it what we may; and perhaps the remoter grievances of indirect taxation are nowhere more clearly exposed than in the history of our happily condemned corn laws.

These remoter effects are due not so much to taxation, as to indirectness of taxation. An equitable tax on all property would interfere but little with the use of any particular kind of property; the burden borne equally by all, would be light on each. But taxes with special weight on particular articles prevent, to a great extent, the enjoyment of those articles, without giving additional facilities, in any sensible degree, to the use of the many articles exempted. If an insurance were regulated by the number of candlesticks in a house, the candlesticks would soon disappear, without any addition of importance to the rest of the furniture.

The bare cost of collection is, then, not the only datum required for answering the question,—how much does any particular system of taxation take from the people, beyond the sum required for the nett expenses of the Government? For the consequences of an indirect tax may take from the people, without giving it to the Government, more than a large cost of collection, nay, more even than the tax itself. Mere cost of collection is one out of the many considerations which affect the question; but it is only one.

Contrariwise, in the direct system, the cost of collection is the sole consideration. No special consequences result to it from concentration of the burdens of the State on particular articles. A tax as simple as it is complete, applies without escape or exemption to everything alike; and the cost of protection to property differs in no respect, as to its effects, from the cost of its insurance, its removal, or its repair.

It has, indeed, been said, that a tax on property would, in a succession of years, amount to confiscation. Here is, however, an error. If the tax be greater than the annual realized result of the property, no doubt the tax would, in time, absorb that property: but if it be less, the property will suffer no positive decrease from taxation.

In the case of any particular property, it can be no consideration with the rest of the community, who join in the common cost of protection, whether the annual result of the property to its owner be or be not greater than the tax.

Whether, in the case of any country, the total taxation requisite for a certain average degree of safety, be or be not greater than the annual nett realized value, must depend on considerations of great moment, from certain other points of view, but on which we cannot now enter. Let it suffice to say, that, where property is so perilously situated, that the cost of Government protection is greater than the annual advantage of its use, either the property will be abandoned, for a lower and less costly security must and will satisfy the claim of the owner on the aid of the State. In the latter case, the Government is relieved of responsibility: men defend themselves more, and call on the State less, as may be seen in many countries.

In sketching a system of direct taxation, we may first observe, that the remarkable simplicity of practical arrangements which commonly attends the adoption of a sound principle, is strikingly brought out here.

Setting aside for the present a personal tax, and confining our attention to a tax on realized and tangible property, the first and chief principle is, that property should be taxed in the hands of its actual possessor, irrespective of questions of title, participation, or incumbrance. That which may ordinarily be seen by a servant, or valued for insurance, may be seen and valued for taxation without violation of privacy. Concealable property, if it has not been declared and taxed, ought to pay a heavier tax on occasion arising for the action of the State on its account—that is, in the event of theft, violence or litigation, where the higher power steps in. Deeds, mortgages, rent charges, bonds, loans, bank notes, and securities in general, are only representatives of property already taxed in other hands. Money, in actual coin, is always of inconsiderable amount compared with the total value of other property; and, except so far as it is the express object of commerce, it is held in very variable amounts at different times by the same person; it may, therefore, be exempt from taxation, unless, indeed, under the rule which applies to concealable property. Ships and cargoes, to whomsoever belonging, would pay like other property for the time they remain under cover of our laws. These seem to be the chief considerations requisite for regulating the practical details.

Under such a system, every movement would be perfectly free. Exports, imports, inheritances, bequests, education, locomotion, industry, enterprise, and enjoyment of every kind, would suffer no greater impediment from taxation, than from natural and inevitable costs of any other kind.

Nor on such a plan could changes of fiscal policy disturb, as now, the value of property. Two or three generations ago, we laid heavy imposts on bricks, timber, and windows. Recently we have abolished some of these taxes, and have sensibly reduced the others. Houses built under the old system, will soon have to compete disadvantageously with those erected under the new. We know not how soon some State necessity, or change of opinion, may bring fresh unforeseen changes, and again disturb the relations of property; it may easily happen, on existing principles, that a new burden may be laid, where, on the occasional pressure passing away, its retention or remission may equally work evil. Not so if property, *as property*, were taxed: the only question would be the amount to be raised, and the consequent ratio of contribution for the year.

The last-mentioned consideration discloses the extreme simplicity of fiscal legislation on this plan, with the proportionate abridgment of the labours and differences of legislative bodies. One question, or at most a few, would represent the endless multiplicity of our financial debates. Given the year's expenses and the known amount of realized and taxable property, and the whole question is that of the rate for the year, or at most of a few rates, if diversity in cost of governing for different kinds of property should establish practically the justice of a difference.

How much the substitution of a single question for endless agitations on window-tax, malt-tax, taxes on knowledge, &c., would gain for the consideration of deep and vital questions in relation to justice, right, and safety, we are perhaps not in a condition to calculate; but we know that instances daily occur of wrong sustained through the complexity, costliness, or want of adaptation of our legal processes—that on every hand the practicable development of industry meets with obstructions from mistaken policy or obscure perceptions of right in the laws themselves; and that everywhere the law is not so much a rule of conduct (for it is too cumbrous to be thoroughly known even to its licensed expounders) as a trap bristling with penalties: these things no one ignores, nor desires; we cannot therefore but include amongst the evils of indirect taxation that absorption of the time and thoughts of our legislators, which distracts them from the radical cure of evils, endured only because we have become blunted by usage to their oppressiveness. We can get but a meagre and nibbling reform of Chancery, none of the obstructive laws of partnership, and worse than none of the general order and frame of our laws, because beer, malt, paper, timber, sugar, and the rest, have each an annual fit of restiveness under imposts. Give us direct taxation, and with it we shall gain some attention to the vast social necessities for the sake of which alone taxation itself exists.

We have yet to pursue briefly other views of the subject, especially the practical application of the principles we have advocated to our own national taxation.

ON THE CULTIVATION OF FLAX.

V.

It is now time that we should revert to the purely agricultural portion of our subject, having treated that of the manipulation of flax thus early in our remarks in order to exhibit as fairly as we could some

of the profits likely to result from its culture, and thus to lead intelligent farmers to give that consideration to the subject which its peculiar advantages appear to us to demand.

Although no doubt the alluvial deposits of rivers will furnish the fibre best suited for the manufacture of *fine* yarns, there is scarcely any limit to the variety of soils in which flax is found to flourish, as will be readily perceived on reference to the following table, the result of the labours of Sir R. Kane and Messrs. Mayer and Brazier, and quoted by Mr. M'Adam in his interesting lecture:—

Per Cent. of	RUSSIA.		BELGIUM.		HOLLAND.	IRELAND.	
	Livonia.	Lithuania.	Hesbret.	Duffel.		County Derry.	County Anagh.
Silica	79.34	85.09	75.08	92.78	60.94	64.93	73.72
Lime	Traces	.89	.35	.35	.36	3.04	1.67
Alumina...	11.62	2.24	2.10	.48	5.62	6.65	8.97
Iron	Traces	Traces	3.29	1.20	6.04	.60	.31

However true this may be, it is by the judicious treatment of the soil, *mechanically* as well as chemically considered, that the agriculturist arrives at the most perfect results. Although not nice as to the quality of its food, the flax plant is somewhat tenacious as to its *quantity*; and the more it is developed in its inorganic constitution the more largely will it be capable of assimilating those constituents of the atmosphere which almost alone contribute to the formation of a pure fibre. Hence we are led to the conclusion that, apart from the deep drainage, without which no plant will really flourish, a *deep tillage* is especially desirable for this crop; and, at the risk of offending the well-worn prejudices of large farmers, we pronounce at once, and without reserve, in favour of either spade or fork cultivation in preference to the plough, and for the following reasons:—

With all respect for this time-honoured implement of agriculture, a pair of stout horses and a well constructed plough will give a tillage varying in depth from six or seven to at most nine or ten inches. At the bottom of this tillage the plough leaves, in most strong soils, what is termed a "pan," or hard crust, through which the fibrous roots of delicate plants find some difficulty in penetrating. The roots, consequently, strike out in a lateral direction, and the plant becomes stunted in growth from lack of food. Break through this crust with the point of a spade or fork and the finest roots descend to a depth nearly equal, in many cases, to the height of the stems above the ground. It is true that by the free use of the *sub-soil plough* this facility may be given, but it is weary work, dragging along a heavy implement through a tenacious clay, and farm horses bitterly complain of being called upon in this case to perform what might be more efficiently done by the men who drive them. Let us see how the account would stand as far as money expended is concerned.

A sub-soil plough requires, in ordinary land, from four to six horses to draw it, with a man to guide it, and at least one boy to drive the team; frequently another attends to clear away roots, &c. from the coulter. After this operation is effected, the ground has to be levelled down by heavy drags, rollers, clod-crushers, and the thousand and one implements in which agricultural machinists take their delight at county exhibitions. Then it has to be re-ploughed, harrowed, and rolled—the seed sown and harrowed and rolled again. (Our readers must remember that we are not describing the ordinary mode of preparing land for flax with the common plough, but that we are speaking of the operations usually adopted by farmers when it is necessary to arrive at a tillage of from fourteen to eighteen inches by *sub-soiling*.) We believe we are within the mark when we fix the cost of all these operations at 30s. per acre at the very lowest, without charging for wear and tear of horses or implements.

We have already said that flax rejoices in a sound loam or a clay subsoil. The former we will suppose to be about ten inches in depth, and the latter to be of a friable nature, capable, after exposure to the atmosphere, of being, by gradual cultivation, mixed up with it—the depth, agriculturally considered, being unlimited. Now for our estimate of the cost of digging an acre of this land with a fork weighing seven-and-a-half pounds, with three stout prongs fourteen inches long, and steeled at the points.* We shall not be dealing illiberally with the labourer if we require him to earn, by piece-work, 2s. in ten working hours. An able-bodied man will turn over, to the full depth of the fork, on the average, ten poles of ground per day, and, at 2½d.

* Our readers may learn where to procure this fork by applying to Mr. John Sillett, of Kelsale, near Saxmundham, Suffolk.

per pole, the price at which we have ourselves procured the willing services of stout Middlesex labourers, a man's daily earnings will amount to 2s. 1d., although by working extra hours, which he will readily do if permitted, he may, in some soils, make a considerable addition to his gains, which the farmer ought not to grudge. At this rate, the cost of a fourteen-inch tillage, in which every clod is broken and every weed-root thrown out, will amount to 1l. 13s. 4d. per acre, or only 3s. 4d. over that of the laborious and often inefficient operation of subsoiling. As there are 160 poles in an acre, it will take a man sixteen days to finish it, or, in other words, sixteen men will dig an acre in ten hours. Here there is no hard crust left at the bottom of the work. The point of the fork *crumbles* such of the subsoil as it does not bring to the surface, and the roots descend through it, and through the myriads of imperceptible crannies and holes formed by the labours of the insect world, in search of nutriment and life.

It is no less by a process such as this than by the fattening qualities of the linseed that Sir James Graham truly stated that flax is "peculiarly adapted to increase the fertility of the soil." It is the additional five or six inches of subsoil brought up to be blended with the surface which increases and freshens the whole staple, and augments the produce of the farm. It is thus, indeed, that "in the sweat of his brow shall man eat bread."

We recommend this operation to be performed on land intended for flax, shortly after harvest, and at any rate before Christmas;—during that pinching season when it is the fashion to reduce wages—when the harvest earnings are well nigh spent, and the workhouses begin to fill—when the "odd hands" are directed to be discharged, and when horses, costing 1s. per day for maintenance, are preferred to honest English labourers, ready to work as hard for the same or even a less amount. Then is it that the hitherto inert subsoil should be thrown upon the surface to receive the "treasures of the hail" and the vivifying influence of frost and snow. Here let it lie, untrodden by man or beast, until the first spring vegetation appears in the long-hidden seeds of weeds and natural grasses. Then clean the land by getting more men to "point" it over with the same implements, at 1d. per pole, six or eight inches deep, thus bringing up a little of the original surface-soil once more.

By this time the clod-encumbered field will have assumed the appearance of a garden, and in this condition what will *not* grow in it? Flax certainly *will*; and if there is an additional outlay of 10s. or 15s. per acre on this portion of the farm, is there not a crop to be harvested which can well afford it, or more? But it is not to this crop alone that we look for reimbursement. It is also to the extra quarter of wheat, or the five tons of Swedes, or the extra load of clover per acre, that we look with at least as much confidence as that, in all human probability, the sun will rise early tomorrow morning. The effect is as certain as the cause is just—not more just in the principles of agriculture than in those moral principles which seem to argue a blessing to the master when the man is fairly waged. And when we reflect that this is a process which should be repeated, at least, once in five or six years upon the same land; and that, in the ordinary rotation of crops, the entire farm will participate in its accompanying advantages, who shall venture to place a limit to the producing powers of English land? This is the true way of preventing a recurrence of such scenes as that described in last week's *Leader* of a Bedfordshire labourer—his wife with a child at her breast, and three more youngsters—all emaciated, and the children alone careless—flying from their country and 7s. per week as if from a pestilence! Talk of over-population! If our theory is as correct as study and practice teach us it is, the country is not *half* populated to carry it into effect!

In one of the half-arable, half-grazing, or hay-producing parishes in Middlesex, the poor's-rate amounted, two or three years back, to 4s. 6d. in the pound. Labourers in regular employment submitted to a reduction from 12s. to 10s. per week, and the workhouses were crowded with the unwilling idle, while the jails were crammed with poachers and petty thieves. The farmers complained no less of the price of hay than of that of wheat. Many able-bodied men, while they rejoiced in, and were grateful for "cheap bread," lacked the wherewithal to purchase it. Would this state of things have happened—will they ever happen again, if the men of Middlesex will cultivate their land as Nature intended, and adopt the growth of flax as an excuse, if any be required? The remedy is simple. Let any three or four influential landlords, or large farmers, in this or any other county, adopt the motto, for the nonce, of "*flax versus wheat*"—let them publish their accounts in the London or local journals, and

speak of their profits in the market place. A bait like this would be more tempting than whole volumes written in praise of the Ballarat gold diggings, and butter at half-a-crown a pound!

Our argument goes to prove that one-sixth of the plough horses used in England might be converted into the mutton pies current in the bye-places of London, or pounded up into the as popular Bologna sausage; and yet, for all that, British agriculture would not become a bye-word or a disgrace among the nations. It will, we think, follow, that the diminished demand for oats and hay will lower their market value, and that, therefore, more land will be devoted to the production of other crops whereby man "has his being." This is the consummation we so devoutly desire to achieve; and we humbly ask pardon if we have jumped to a premature conclusion in the opinion of agriculturists in general. That we are right in our proposition of substituting fork for plough husbandry, in many cases, receives no mean confirmation from the eminent position which Flemish agriculture still maintains, and in which our adopted implement, or its almost equally worthy representative, the spade, plays so conspicuous a part. Intelligent writers on husbandry advocate its use for the *small* farmer, well knowing the results which invariably follow the permanent deepening of the staple soil. In short, we are not proposing any new theory, except in its application to the particular crop under consideration, whose peculiarities lead us to recommend fork husbandry in its culture, both because the outlay will be immediately refunded, and because deep tillage is very essential to its full development.

As to the impoverished labourer, whose condition excites our warmest sympathy, the word has gone forth to the ends of the world, that "the poor shall never perish out of the land;" and the example of the most prosperous countries forms no exception to this rule. But there are degrees in poverty as in everything else, and the existence of God's fiat is no excuse to us for refraining from pointing out the means by which that poverty may be alleviated; leaving its existence to be manifested only in those doubtful specimens of humanity who are constantly crying for "a little more slumber, a little more folding of the hands to sleep."

We have occupied the entire space allotted to us this week, in treating the cultivation of flax as a question affecting the condition of the suffering labourer, to the manifest prejudice of the equine species, and we have done it advisedly. We are not impelled to this from having lost our money on "Hobbie Noble," for we never bet, although we are ardent admirers of horses in their right places; but man should be "lord over the beast" in more senses than one, and we are weak enough to confess that our hearts burst within us when, in a country ramble, we witness the care and attention lavished on a pair of plump plough-horses at work in a field, while the care-worn, ill-clothed, starving British labourer evidently envies their happy lot from the adjoining hedge!



Open Council.

[IN THIS DEPARTMENT, AS ALL OPINIONS, HOWEVER EXTREME, ARE ALLOWED AN EXPRESSION, THE EDITOR NECESSARILY HOLDS HIMSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR NONE.]

There is no learned man but will confess he hath much profited by reading controversies, his senses awakened, and his judgment sharpened. If, then, it be profitable for him to read, why should it not, at least, be tolerable for his adversary to write.—MILTON.

A THOUGHT OR TWO ON THE BOOK QUESTION.

SIR,—Your commendable habit of calling things by their right names, to say nothing of large and enlightened views in the discussion of social and political questions, is a very good claim for the admiration and support of your now, I trust, largely expanding circle of "constant readers." It is my misfortune more than

my fault, that I am not of the latter class. I have thus probably been deprived of the benefit of much useful comment on the interesting book question, now under discussion, and possibly suggestion the first, which here followeth, may lack novelty. But pray permit me humbly to suggest that the "republic of letters," by which facetious penmen are pleased to designate collective authorship, should for the future be read "the slave-mart of letters."

Let the famous conveyance of *Paradise Lost*, which lately, I hear, has become national property, be forthwith framed and glazed, and hung over the porch of our Minerva's temple in Bloomsbury, as a mark and proof of the bondage of our craft and the boasted progress of this nation in rewarding intellect. It will be, perhaps, a consolation to our hereditary bondsmen, to know that they bear the yoke which John Milton bore.

It may be, for the reason above hinted, that I have not read in your thoughtful pages some suggestion for an experiment of the great idea of association as a means of, in time, emancipating men of letters from a degrading servitude to the traders in literature. Uncle Jack's notable scheme of the "Anti-Publishers' Association," which all the world knows ended in considerably lightening the pockets of too-confiding Mr. Austin Caxton, may have read very visionary and mirth-exciting to philosophers in purple and fine linen, who cry "Utopia" against everything which rises above common-place; but memory fails me very much if the creator of the speculative optimists did not derive the notion of mine uncle from a real scheme for an author's publishing and self-defensive association, which a few years ago made a slight step beyond a "project." Probably some of the more constant readers of the *Leader* may be able to correct me if I err in statement of facts, or to supply more accurate information. My recollection only goes to this extent: that the *Westminster Review* propounded the plan in a paper written by Mr. John Robertson, then editor of that periodical; that the suggestion was followed by the formation of an association composed exclusively of literary men; that funds were subscribed; that differences arose among the projectors, which led to indifference in others better qualified to act the part of business men; finally, that the project sunk into the tomb of all the "projects," this only serving to distinguish it from the imaginative creations which have given a too great notoriety to that most memorable of dissyllables; that funds still rest in some bankers' hands, waiting the earnest union of men of action, who will not allow personal considerations to mar a well-designed effort to elevate their order. This is the short history of the Anti-Publishers' Association, as I have heard it related.

I must leave to abler pens to point the moral, and the best means of adapting the principles of association to the great end of securing to the literary toiler the just reward of his labour. I may, however, just be permitted to hint at an error in the constitution of the association to which I have referred: in composing it exclusively of literary men.

Authors, as a rule, are not famous for knowledge or experience of the common business affairs of life. A literary financier is now a nine day's wonder. Besides, we are an irritable race; and we must sit for awhile yet at the feet of the doctors of the Peace Society before we can look out for the millennium.

But this is not exclusively an author's question. Is the author to be elevated by an association which shall secure to him a due reward for his genius, or talent, or learning, the "reading public" must share in the profit which makes him richer and more independent, and therefore the better fitted to discharge his duty as a public instructor. Why then should not men of experience in the commercialism of life, repay with practical aid, and business advice, some portion of the instruction or entertainment they have derived? It seems to me, if a very young student of the new social science may be permitted to make the remark, that the chances of success for any considerable effort to adapt associative principles to the emancipation of authorship from this trading serfage, would be increased by making the interests of producers and customers identical, and by enlisting the aid of the latter in the native management of the enterprise. Is there any reason why representatives from the universities, the professional schools, the professions, and even from the unincorporated sections of the reading public, should not have a seat at the council table?

Returning now to the general question; it seems to me, sir, that there is now a much better chance for successful experiment of co-operation, than at the time the Author's Association went to sleep. Association has since become one of the greatest and most significant facts of our time; and there is a better trading field to work on, in the innumerable book and reading societies which have, in recent years, sprung up in all corners of the land. Are not the probabilities in favour of the

supposition that these societies would rather deal directly with the author-producers, paying a just remuneration, than continue to swell the exorbitant gains of "the trade."

This is a cause which should arouse the immediate and active exertions of every man, who has the misfortune—without the luck of a "name"—to be dependent on his pen for daily bread, while public attention is interested in the subject. If men of letters will only resolve to be self-dependent, the public of these enlightened days will second their effort, and give a death-blow in good time to the "sweating system" in authorcraft, as well as tailoring.

With these hasty observations, I hopefully am content to remain, waiting the good time,

AN OBSCURE ONE OF GRUB-STREET.

May 14, 1852.

OUTRAGES ON BRITISH SUBJECTS ABROAD.

London, Friday, May 28th.

SIR,—I have just read, with feelings of deep humiliation, the speech of Lord Malmesbury, in the Lords, and Mr. Mather's letter to his lordship.

You know me to be an ardent supporter of Lord Derby's ministry, and to be actuated by no factious motives; but this is too much.

Rightly, indeed, did old Wagner say England was to be valued only for her money, if her Foreign Minister values her honour, in the person of a British subject, at 1000 *francesconi*.—Were it a million, it would be the same.

Was it for this that our army fought at Blenheim and at Waterloo, that the always-defeated Austrians might insult Britons with impunity? The men who were routed at Marengo, Austerlitz, and Wagram, and saw Napoleon enter Vienna in triumph; the nation that owes its existence to England, is now to plead its *rules of service* for wanton insults to our countrymen!

Did an officer in our service *draw, or offer to draw*, on an unarmed civilian, instant and severe would be the punishment. No wonder the Austrians are so constantly thrashed, if these are their cowardly rules of service.

With this we have nothing to do. We are insulted and trampled on in the person of our countryman, Mather; and unless we are to become the despised of all Europe, we must be up and stirring. Cromwell would not have passed over this; but, either for fear of interrupting the *sale of cotton*, or lest we should quarrel with the despotic governments of Europe, we are now to submit to any insult!

Is the name "Englishman" to be a disgrace? Would France—would the much-abused President of France—see his subjects treated in this manner, and *insulted* by an offer of money as a compensation? Let the coward who struck the blow be dismissed the service; and let the Austrians learn from us proper rules of service, as they have been taught by us (although they are not apt scholars) how to fight.

I am, Sir, yours,
A RETIRED OFFICER.

TALKING IN SLEEP.—Sometimes, in the case of a person liable to somnambulism, it is possible to direct the thoughts of the dreamer to any given subject, by acting on the external senses. Smellie, the writer already quoted, gives the subjoined instance:—"Mr. Thomas Parkinson, then a student of medicine in the university of Edinburgh, was accustomed to talk and answer questions in his sleep. This fact was known to his companions. To amuse ourselves, two of us went gently into his chamber while he was asleep. We knew that he was in love with a young lady in Yorkshire, the place of his nativity. We whispered her name repeatedly in his ear. He soon began to toss about his hands, and to speak incoherently. He gradually became more calm and collected. His imagination took the direction we intended. He thought he was stationed under the lady's window, and repeatedly upbraided her for not appearing and speaking to him, as she had so often done on former occasions. At last he became impatient, started up, laid hold of books, shoes, and everything he could easily grasp. Thinking his mistress was asleep, he threw these articles against the opposite wall of his chamber. By what he said, we learned that his imaginary scene lay in a street, and that he was darting the books and shoes at the lady's window, in order to awake her. She, however, did not appear; and after tiring himself, with frequent exertions, he went quietly into bed without wakening. His eyes were nearly shut; and although he freely conversed with us, he did not seem to perceive that any person was present with him. Next day, we told him what had happened; but he said that he had only a faint recollection of dreaming about his mistress."—*Chambers's Pocket Miscellany*, vol. iv.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

WHAT PLINY'S witty friend was wont to say of Life is very applicable to Literature: "It is better to be idle than to do nothing—*Satius est otiosum esse quam nihil agere!*" We are all apt to waste our energies in restless inactivity, instead of enjoying the serene repose of godlike *far niente*, and similarly we squander the thoughts which might have brooded in silent meditation over great or happy themes, in a certain restless quest of novelty, naively believed to lie within new covers. How is it we all pounce upon the last numbers of Magazines, and are as indifferent to the preceding numbers as if they were the fashions of last year? They rarely tell us anything that is new, yet, though incessantly disappointed, we are incessantly lured. Here is June, 1852, and the Magazines, like butterflies in the June sun, entice us.

Blackwood propounds its ponderous defence of dead Protection, bristling with "facts" and tables, and sesquipedalian splendour of phrase, alarming to weak nerves; and side by side with this there is scholarship and flashing humour, like echoes of the old days, in *Carmina Lusoria* (Verse Playthings), and in *Thoughts upon Dinners*, to bring water into the mouth of gustatory readers. Skip Protection and trust yourself to these articles; then turn back and read the curious historical fragment, *Ferguson the Plotter*, interesting as a biographical sketch and as a figure observed in history.

In *Fraser* you may read a clear and satisfactory history of the whole Bookselling Question recently agitated; or, if your taste lies in Natural History, turn to the amusing paper on eels, sturgeons, narks, and ranæ, in continuation of a former one on sharks and their cousins. *Hypatia* and *Captain Digby Grand* are continued, and the *History of the Hungarian War* is concluded.

Tait has some sixteen articles; among them one really gay and humorous, called *An Ode to a Female Mummy*, the opening stanzas of which we will lighten our columns with:—

"Poor dingy, dismal sister mine,
What lawless hosts of thoughts combine
To fluster me the while
Thy long-unrolling shroud I scan,
That old original suggestive Pan-
Orama of the Nile.

"As the indomitable Layard,
In kingdoms old with names to say hard,
O'er ruined towns might ponder,
I view that breast no more that pants,
And of its old inhabitants
I wonder and I wonder.

"The loves and hates, the joys and cares,
The whirl of human hopes and fears
In human hearts e'er seething—
Those matron fears that made thee sad
When little Tsoph the measles had
Or baby was a-teething—

"Or when, at noon or close of day,
Thy cherubs hungry come from play,
Dirt-pies and gutter grubbles,
To weep alone you fled upstairs,
Smit with eternal flesh-pot cares
And bread-and-butter troubles—

"Where be they now? I can't suppose
These human and these household woes
Extinguished with thy life;
Haply, to us come down, they bore
Poor Mrs. Jones, our neighbour, or
Obstreperate my wife.

"Howe'er that be, 'tis very clear
No more they'll persecute thee here;
Those limbs, that trembled all
At loving glance or stern reply,
Supremely passive still would lie
Were sun and moon to fall.

"Wer't otherwise, I could disclose
That tuneful Memnon's lost his nose;
And as to thy belief,
We've no respect for beetles now,
And only worship ox and cow
As sausages or beef."

The *People's Illustrated Journal* is what the correct style calls a "new candidate for public favour." The first part contains an astonishing amount of excellent wood engraving, and of useful information on Arts, Manufactures, Practical Science, Antiquities, &c. Although a cheap—a very cheap—work, this has none of the inferiority or carelessness which its cheapness might imply. The wood engravings are all executed with extreme care, many of them of great beauty; and the literature is solid, plain, direct—only inferior when it swerves occasionally from its broad path into such bye-lanes as that on the drama, or into personalities.

THE ECLIPSE OF FAITH.

The Eclipse of Faith; or, A Visit to a Religious Sceptic.

Longman and Co.

WE believe that no "constant reader" can have any doubt of our undeviating recognition of whatever is strong, generous, or notable in the writings of our religious antagonists. It has been with us a matter of system no less than of temper. If—as in the recent instance of the Patagonian Missions—we may seem to have been in contradiction with our avowed antagonism to all theological systems, it can only have seemed so to those who have misapprehended the animating spirit of this Journal. Our own convictions are too deeply rooted, and too plainly expressed, for us to share the vulgar fear which dictates so much of party misrepresentation.

This, by way of preface, to the notice of a book we cannot in any way approve; a book which, because it is directed against modern scepticism, we must not pass by in silence, lest that be misconstrued; a book which will be a source of much chuckling and rejoicing to alarmed orthodoxy, though to all persons in the least competent to appreciate it, presenting a most insignificant figure. Not that it is deficient in power; the writer is not a common theologian in thought nor in style. He is sarcastic, but not virulent. His misrepresentation is probably unconscious, though abiding; it never rises above the tone of legitimate controversy. But with all its sarcasm, its eloquence, its ingenuity, and its logic, the book is profoundly false, and wholly useless if it be meant to touch sceptics. Profoundly false, we say, because the writer has entirely failed to place himself for one moment at the sceptic's real point of view. He has read Parker; he has read Newman; he has read Foxton, and has heard of Strauss "and the Germans." But as a vindication of Christianity against these writers, his book is perhaps one of the most incompetent we can name. No man whose faith has been shaken by Newman and Parker can have it steadied by such writing as this; for ridicule and constant quotation of phrases and detached sentences will not penetrate the question.

The writer must permit us to tell him that he does not in the slightest degree understand the Sceptic; and he shows this by falling into the vulgarest of ignorant commonplaces—viz., that scepticism proceeds from moral disease.

"It is too often the result of thoughtlessness," he says; "of a wish to get rid of truths unwelcome to the heart; of a vain love of paradox, or perhaps in many cases (as a friend of mine said) of an amiable wish to frighten 'mamas and maiden aunts.'"

That he did not feel his cheek burn with shame as he wrote that unworthy sentence is owing to the common prejudice, that sceptics are essentially mournful, miserable, unsettled beings, who try to stun conscience with arguments. When Socrates parted from the beliefs of his forefathers, he did so from a love of vain paradox—a desire to get rid of truths unwelcome to his heart; when Spinoza passed out of the synagogue he did so from an amiable wish to frighten the old ladies of Amsterdam; when Newman struggled through the Christian labyrinth, he did so because he was frivolous and thoughtless. Does any one seriously believe this? The author of the *Eclipse of Faith* regards scepticism as disease—a more profound psychology would have taught him that denial of Christianity is mostly the form in which another belief expresses itself. A. believes the Bible to be the word of God; B. disbelieves it—i.e., believes that the word of God is written in broader and more unmistakable characters: "in the heavens above, the earth beneath, and the waters under the earth." To call B. a sceptic would be as correct as to call a Newtonian a sceptic because he disbelieved in Hipparchus. Yet listen to this author:—

"Of all the paradoxes humanity exhibits, surely there are none more wonderful than the complacency with which scepticism often utters its doubts, and the tranquillity which it boasts as the perfection of its system!"

If he is no better versed in the paradoxes of humanity than that, he is not far advanced. To dissipate the paradox we have only to substitute the word "beliefs" for "doubts." The Christian is complacent; no one calls that a paradox: he believes in his belief. The Sceptic (i.e., the Anti-Christian,) is complacent from the same cause: he believes in his belief.

This writer throughout argues solely from his own point of view; he never quits it to pass over to that of his adversary, and naively says—

"What may be expected in a genuine sceptic is a modest hope that he may be mistaken; a desire to be confuted; a retention of his convictions as if they were a guilty secret; or the promulgation of them only as the utterance of an agonized heart, unable to suppress the language of its misery."

Yes, that is what you, the orthodox alarmed at doubts, would desire; but Truth? . . .

For example, Christianity, with much both in its history and its doctrines that we all reverence and accept, is presented as a Theory of the Universe which the Intellect is called upon to accept with all its consequences. But the Intellect, using its freedom in this as in other questions, appreciating this Theory as it appreciates that of Newton, discovers that the System is based upon two propositions, which stripped of all that may disguise them, stand somewhat thus: 1st, God made Man; he made him liable to err, and as the strength of an iron bar is according to its weakest part, this liability to fall soon manifested itself in the Fall. God condemned the race to eternal perdition for acting according to the natural tendencies he had created. 2nd. In an hour of "mercy" God undertook to give fallen man a chance of "salvation." He did not pardon; he gave an opportunity to the race to purchase its pardon for a crime committed by its progenitors. For this purpose he adopted a strange plan—viz., that of assuming manhood, and dying on a cross in Judæa—belief in which would purchase forgiveness; although the very fact must necessarily have remained unknown to millions (damned for their ignorance), and questionable to millions (damned for their want of faith).

These two propositions the Intellect is called upon to accept. These we refuse to accept. We refuse, because they are repugnant to our belief in God; we refuse, because they do not harmonize with all our other

ideas, and no amount of "historical evidence" or "exegetical erudition," no amount of eloquence or ingenuity can disguise their inherent falsehood. This being the case, shall we regard our convictions as "guilty?" Shall we keep them in trembling secrecy, or shall we utter them as the agonies of our heart? No; to the belief in these propositions as true, we oppose our belief in their falsity; and that not, we hope, because our heart is corrupt—assuredly not because our heart is miserable, for few hearts are lighter!

The *Eclipse of Faith* is useless, because it never once touches the real centre of the question: it will flatter one party, but it will convince no one, strengthen no one.

POLITICAL ELEMENTS.

Political Elements, or the Progress of Modern Legislation. By Joseph Moseley, B.C.L. J. W. Parker and Son.

ALTHOUGH we cannot say that Mr. Moseley has the clue to a science of politics, such as we conceive to be not only possible but inevitable, yet this thoughtful volume will not be unwelcome to the student. The silent revolution, which, he truly says, has been changing this country during the last thirty years, has been owing to certain principles, the presence of which he undertakes to indicate. "Not France, with all her commotions," he says, "has undergone so complete a change as we. There they have but altered the name, the form of government, the dynasty on the throne—here we have had revolutions in the opinions, in the sentiments, in the material interests of the people." If any one wishes to see how striking is the change, let him read Miss Martineau's *History of the Thirty Years' Peace*.

Mr. Moseley, in seeking for the principles of this silent but mighty revolution, is first led to consider the principle of Reform, which he vindicates as the instinct for Perfection—the craving for progressive development implanted in the human race.

"This was the means by which all that higher destiny which awaited him was to be worked out. And it has been. All that surpassing excellence in religious, moral, and intellectual well-being which he has achieved—every comfort that he enjoys above that of his earliest state, has been obtained by the impulse of this longing. The essential distinction between man and the inferior orders of beings, consists in this, that they are content to think, and to act, to eat, drink, and to sleep, as now, so ever, and so on for ever; whilst man is urged by an ever-renewing, never-to-be-satisfied desire to ameliorate his condition—to add something of the comfortable, of the noble of to-day to that of yesterday. The doctrine of contentment—the proverb of "leave well alone," and such like, acting exclusively, is peculiarly that of the lower grades of the Creation. In its full extent it is at variance with this first principle of the physical temperament of man in the individual—and if carried out, were fatal to the destiny of man as a race. He had not yet left the caves where he first dwelt, if he had yielded to it."

And he also sees that no amount of political action so produced is to be undervalued, because, perhaps, the instruments were insignificant or worse:—

"Doubtless, there are other, secondary motive powers, as it were, that have operated in this political change, besides that referred to. A disposition to change is a matter of physical habit, a fidgettiness, a nervous affection, with some—though in this sense, perhaps, it is only an undue operation of the principle we speak of. In others, the desire for political alteration is a vanity for imposing their own theories upon society; in others, a means of thrusting themselves upon the theatre of events; a standard under which political adventurers, like soldiers of fortune, enlist and fight their way to honour and power. And even by parties, by whole bodies of men, it is not unfrequently held in this mean view. But an abstract truth is not affected by this—that men see it in a false light; nor is the unity, the identity, the absoluteness of truth, destroyed by this—that men worship it through a thousand different shrines. Even religion operates on different men in different ways; with some it is a fear—with some a hope—with some a veneration for the Omnipotent Being; with others a mere means of gain, and with not a few a mere vanity—a display. And so, too, with morality—fear of what the world says—dread of what the law may do—conviction that on the whole it is the best policy, and many other such mean motives, are the impulses of its action on many minds. But for all that, religion and social morality are not the less true in their general results—neither is political morality. By it all men are led to the same end that is ordained to them, though by different ways. Even if we grant progress or reform to be a series of operations, originating in and carried out by a series of political combinations of men, with a view to serve their own ends, this will not render it the less, what we have above contended it to be—the natural impulse which mankind has to ameliorate his condition. For in so doing, those combinations must have been actuated either by their own innate instinct of love of perfection for that which was best in the institutions of the country; or else, by a conviction that the public mind was impelled by such an instinct. In either case, it was the desire of man for his well-being which was the moving power."

Nor does he less clearly recognise the function of that apparently antagonistic principle of Conservatism which claims a party for its expression:—

"The very first principle of humanity—of every living thing—is that of self-preservation. It is in accordance with this instinctive impulse, that man ever finds himself urged by an innate fear of what he does not know—what he does not comprehend. He refuses to take as nourishment things he has not tasted of before—to enter into places where he has not been—or in anything to trust to what he has no experience of. If he does, it is because that he is not in reality ignorant of what he trusts to—that he knows it by the analogy it bears to something that he was acquainted with before; and even then he confides in it by degrees—with a fear, a trembling, with a caution proportionate to his inexperience. And as he has a dread of the new, so also he has a rational clinging to the old—to that which he is acquainted with and comprehends, and so need not fear; for, do as he will, he must always be dependent upon what is about him. He calls this the actual—the real, and the disposition towards it, contentment. And so it is with society: what the instinct of self-preservation is to man in the individual, that of self-conservation—of conservatism—is to man in the aggregate. Mankind, like man, not only finds itself urged by a tendency to preserve itself from direct injury and annihilation, but by a feeling also to anticipate such occurrences. Society, also, fears to take any

new nourishment—to adopt any unknown remedy for relieving those maladies it is subject to—to follow any new course of life—any new rule of action of which it is ignorant. And in so doing, man, in the aggregate, is actuated by an intuitive perception of that profound truth that lies at the bottom of all instinctive impulses, just as man in the individual is.

"But, again, there is a conservatism of the sentiment. It is in some—perhaps, in most—a passion of the imagination for the past. In this sense it is the train of ideas and feelings which an Englishman feels for the institutions of his country. It is like those which the scion of some long old family feels for the mansion-house; or those which we all experience when beneath the gothic arch of some cathedral. Veneration—a wonder that astonishes—a pride that makes it all our own, and a sweet sense of gratitude that at once repays the debt—the vastness that receives and protects all, if all do not officiate—the righteousness of proportion as a whole even though some parts be too prominent—the beauty of detail, if it has its rough portions—the ages it has stood—the assaults that have wasted their little strength upon it—the marvel it has been in all ages, the model it is now—the bold minds that conceived it, and the lives that wore their weary selves away upon the work, and which now sleep quietly beneath it—how is it possible not to be conservative of such a structure as this?

"And in such sentiments there is truth. For wonder at that which is vast, admiration of that which is beautiful—even though it be not perfect—are true. And gratitude is truth. Such sentiments are but the short cuts by which the feelings, stealing a march on the reasoning faculties, arrive at just conclusions before them. And as true, so useful. No truth rises and passes away idle—without having performed the functions assigned to it. It is these sentiments that attach us to our institutions; and since they exist in us, and are dependent on us, it is these sentiments, therefore, that give them stability. And since those institutions have and shall contribute so essentially to our well-being, those feelings—those emotions—contribute powerfully to our welfare."

Having laid down and illustrated these principles, Mr. Moseley next proceeds to consider the position of political parties—of Progress—the Elements of Legislation. Public Opinion and its Evidences—Legislative Science and the functions of a Legislator; but we cannot follow him through these chapters. Enough has been said to indicate the purpose and the style of the work, which occupies ground too little cultivated by our writers.

CURTIS'S LOTOS EATING.

Lotos Eating: a Summer Book. By George William Curtis. Author of "Nile Notes," &c. Bentley.

THERE is one peculiarity in modern literature wholly unlike anything we can find in ancient writers, namely, the deep and abiding sense of Nature speaking symbolically to Man of his hopes, his aspirations, his sorrows, and his troubles. Critics have endeavoured by the terms Classic and Romantic, and by the terms Ethnic and Christian, to draw the distinct line of demarcation, but on examination the Romantic element is found animating Grecian Literature, as the Classic lives in the modern. In the one peculiarity to which we allude, Greek thought stands as remote from European thought, as the Acropolis from St. Paul's. We have, on a former occasion, compared the introduction of this new element to the introduction into music of *moving basses*, by Carissimi,—the greatest modification ever made in music,—without which all those stupendous orchestral effects, and all those subtle, intricate harmonies which in the great composers ravish the ear, would have been impossible. Think of what Literature would be were all those passages effaced which speak of Nature as if its phenomena were but reflections of the poems "written on the red-leaved tablets of the heart!"

Like everything else this feeling is exaggerated, and Literature reflects the exaggeration. It is not a healthy symptom that few writers now can speak of Nature without rising into rhapsodies; and that *description* loses itself in *interpretation*. For one man who can paint a scene, we have thousands who can give lyrical utterance to the emotions they did not feel in the presence of that scene, but which they desire you to believe they felt.

The merit and the fault we touch upon are both illustrated in the little volume before us. It announces itself as a Summer Book—as a dreamy Lotos eating,—and bears the same relation to Literature as lolling on a sunny slope under the chequered branching shade of some old tree, with a rivulet running at your feet, and birds and insects musical around you, bears to active life. It is a reverie, and let us add, a sweet and pleasant reverie, wherein the misty forms of the Hudson and the Rhine, of Niagara and Saratoga, of Lake George and Trenton Falls, pass before the half closed eye of "Idlesse in her dreaming mood."

Mr. Curtis is an American, a travelled American, an agreeable companion, a poetic nature, an eloquent writer; he has made a summer tour, and written a sort of journal of his reveries during the tour. He first compares the Hudson with the Rhine while sailing on the former, and after speaking eloquently of the German river, says—

"The Hudson, however, is larger and grander. It is not to be devoured in detail. No region without association, is, except by science. But its spacious and stately character, its varied and magnificent outline, from the Palisades to the Catskill, are as epical as the loveliness of the Rhine is lyrical. The Hudson implies a continent behind. For vineyards it has forests. For a belt of water, a majestic stream. For graceful and grain-goldened hills it has imposing mountains. There is no littleness about the Hudson, but there is in the Rhine. Here everything is boldly touched. What lucid and penetrant lights, what broad and sober shadows! The river moistens the feet, and the clouds anoint the heads, of regal hills. The Danube has, in parts, glimpses of such grandeur. The Elbe has sometimes such delicately pencilled effects. But no European river is so lordly in its bearing; none flows in such state to the sea."

The ground he travels over has been so often trodden before that we can only look to him for novelty of style. Here is a favourable specimen from his chapter on that inexhaustible subject, Niagara; from it the reader will gather evidence of all we have said about his little book:—

"The beauty of Niagara is in its immediate neighbourhood. It is upon Goat Island—upon the cliffs, over which hangs the greatest verdure—in the trees that

lean out and against the rapids, as if the forest were enamoured of the waters; and which overhang and dip, suffering their youngest and softest leaves to thrill in the trembling frenzy of the touch of Niagara. It is in the vivid contrast of the repose of lofty trees and the whirl of a living river—and in the contrast, more singular and subtle, of twinkling, shimmering leaves, and the same magnificent madness. It is in the profuse and splendid play of colours in and around the Cataract, and in the thousand evanescent fancies which wreath its image in the mind as the sparkling vapour floats, a rainbow, around the reality. It is in the flowers that grow quietly along the edges of the precipices, to the slightest of which, one drop of the clouds of spray that curl from the seething abyss is the sufficient elixir of a long and lovely life.

"Yet—for we must look the Alpine comparison which is suggested to every one who knows Switzerland fairly in the face—the Alps are more terrible than Niagara. The movement and roar of the Cataract, and the facility of approach to the very plunge, relieve the crushing sense of awfulness which the silent, inaccessible, deadly solitudes of the high Alps inspire. The roar of an avalanche heard in those solemn heights, because beginning often and ending beyond the point that human feet may ever tread, is a sound of dread and awe like that of the mysterious movement of another world, heard through the silence of our own.

"Besides, where trees grow, there human sympathy lingers. Doubtless it is the supreme beauty of the edges of Niagara which often causes travellers to fancy that they are disappointed, as if in Semiramis they should see more of the woman than of the queen. But, climbing the Alps, you leave trees below. They shrink and retire; they lose their bloom and beauty; they decline from tenderness into toughness; from delicate, shifting hues, into sombre evergreen—darker and more solemn, until they are almost black, until they are dwarfed and scant and wretched, and are finally seen no more. With the trees, you leave the sights and sounds and sentiment of life. The Alpine peaks are the ragged edges of creation, half blent with chaos. Upon them, inaccessible for ever, in the midst of the endless murmur of the world, antemundane silence lies stranded, like the course of an antediluvian on a solitary rock-point in the sea. Painfully climbing toward those heights you may feel, with the fascination of wonder and awe, that you look, as the Chinese say, behind the beginning."

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

A Manual of Metallurgy, or Practical Treatise on the Chemistry of the Metals. By John Arthur Phillips. Illustrated by Engravings. J. J. Griffin and Co.

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS'S treatise on the methods of extracting the metals from their ores—originally published in the *Encyclopædia Metropolitana*—is here republished in Messrs. Griffin's valuable cabinet edition of that encyclopædia. It is a technical book, addressed only to those who need practical instruction, of which its pages are full; but the curious reader will also find "useful information" on several points connected with chemistry and chemical manufactures. The diagrams are numerous and excellent. An index is added.

Life and Times of Francesco Sforza, Duke of Milan; with a Preliminary Sketch of the History of Italy. By William Pollard Urquhart, Esq. 2 vols. Blackwood.

THE principal materials used in piling up this monument of twaddling pedantry have been derived from no more recondite sources than a couple of volumes of the *Rerum Italicarum Scriptores*, a mine already tolerably well wrought by some previous writers not quite unknown to fame, and notably by one Sismondi. The *History of the Italian Republics*, by that author, gives, in a lucid and pleasant form, fully as much information about the founder of the ducal family of Sforza as is smothered up in the slovenly, yet pompous verbiage of Mr. Urquhart's volumes. Having neither any new facts to relate, nor the art of presenting old facts in a novel or agreeable light, why did Mr. Urquhart write at all?—or, having written, why did he print? *Ex pede Herculem.* Judge, reader, what may be the vocation for writing history, by nature and art imposed upon a gentleman, who begins a work of no humble pretensions with such a sentence as this:—

"The narration of the life of any eminent public man, the investigation of the circumstances which contributed to his rise, and the exhibiting the individual qualities which enabled him to turn them to account, is generally supposed to afford a tolerably good exposition of the age in which he lived, and of the people among whom his lot was cast."

Vasari's Lives of Eminent Painters, Sculptors, and Architects. Translated by Mr. Jonathan Forster. Vol 5. (Bohn's Standard Library.) H. G. Bohn.

THIS fifth volume completes the work. Of Vasari it is needless to speak; of his translator we have already spoken with praise; and of this volume we need simply say, that the notes selected from German and Italian commentators are truly illustrative and useful. A copious index to the five volumes is added. Mr. Bohn never omits that indispensable accompaniment; and we can assure him all students are grateful to him for his care in that matter. We are not tired of repeating, that an index makes all the difference between the usefulness and uselessness of many works.

Ovid's Works, literally translated into English Prose, with copious Notes, by H. T. Riley, B.A. Vol. 3. (Bohn's Classical Library.) H. G. Bohn.

OVID is now complete in a prose version. This volume contains the *Heroides*, the *Amores*, the *Ars Amatoria*, the *De Medicamine Faciei*, and the other minor works. Of this version we have already spoken; but the present volume offers a peculiarity. It is tolerably well known that classic writers did not put trousers on the legs of their pianofortes, but indulged rather copiously in "after-dinner talk." It is also known that, with a view to the morality of youth, these improper passages are expunged from school-editions, and collected all into one cloaca of an appendix, where the scavenger curiosity of youth may revel at pleasure. Something of this compromise we find in Mr. Riley's version. "It has been thought advisable," he says, "to leave the more objectionable passages in the original Latin. The reader, if he is classical, will be able to translate them for himself; if he is not, he may rest assured that he sustains no loss." Does not this procedure bring out into unnecessary distinctness the very passages it is desired to conceal?

Lectures and Miscellanies. By H. James.

School Economy. By J. Symons.

The Two Books of Francis Bacon.

Tracts on the Finance of Trade. By R. Torrens.

Christian Examiner.

The Disowned. By Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Bart.

The Fortunes of Komarom. By Colonel Sigismund Thaly.

The White Chateau: a Tragedy.

Lotus Eating. By G. W. Curtis.

The Life of King Alfred. By Dr. R. Pauli.

Anna Dolorosa. By Mrs. Romer. Two Vols.

O. Hall.

J. W. Parker and Son.

J. W. Parker and Son.

Chapman and Hall.

W. Crosby and Co.

Chapman and Hall.

James Maddox.

William Pickering.

R. Bentley.

R. Bentley.

Portfolio.

We should do our utmost to encourage the Beautiful, for the Useful encourage itself.—GOETHE.

COMTE'S POSITIVE PHILOSOPHY.

By G. H. LEWES.

PART X.—On the Influence and Methods of Physics.

THE very destination of Positive Philosophy being that of influencing the whole intellectual system of man, who moves through life by its aid, I must not omit to give Comte's summary indication of the part played by Physics in that action.

In the first place its influence is necessarily less profound than that of the two terminal sciences, Astronomy and Biology. These two sciences standing at opposite extremes, directly determine our ideas respecting the two universal and correlative subjects of all our conceptions—the world and man; and hence, from their very nature, they must spontaneously influence human thought in a more decided way than can be done by the intermediate sciences, Physics and Chemistry, however indispensable the intervention of the two latter may be. The influence of Physics and Chemistry, however, on the general development and the definite emancipation of human intelligence is nevertheless decided. To speak only of Physics, it is evident that the fundamental character of absolute opposition between the positive philosophy and theology or metaphysics made itself very strongly felt, although it is in reality less complete than in the case of Astronomy, by reason of its inferiority in scientific perfection. For this comparative inferiority, of which vulgar thinkers are little sensible, we doubtless have a full equivalent, so far as the present question is concerned, in the much greater variety of the phenomena embraced by physics. In fact, the intellectual history of the few last centuries makes it manifest, that physics has been the principal scene of the general and decisive struggle of the positive spirit against the metaphysical; in astronomy, the discussion has been less marked, and there positivism has triumphed almost spontaneously, except on the subject of the earth's movement.

There is another important fact to be noticed here. It is in Physics that *natural phenomena first begin to be really modifiable by human intervention.* This power of modification was impossible in astronomy; but we shall see it manifesting itself more and more in all the others of the encyclopedical series. If the extreme simplicity of astronomical phenomena had not necessarily permitted our carrying scientific prevision in their case to the greatest degree of exactness, it would have followed from our impossibility of interfering in any way in their accomplishment, that their radical enfranchisement from all theological and metaphysical supremacy would have been a very difficult process. But this perfect prevision effectually served this end in a different way from the small virtual action of man upon all the other phenomena of nature. As respects the latter, on the contrary, this action, however limited it may be, obtains by way of compensation, a high philosophical importance, on account of our inability to bring the rational prevision of them beyond a slight degree of perfection. The fundamental character of all theological philosophy, as I have already remarked, is the *conceiving of phenomena as subjected to supernatural volition*, and, consequently, as eminently and *irregularly variable*. Now, the public cannot enter into any profound speculative discussion respecting the superiority of the different philosophical points of view; and those theological conceptions can only be subverted finally by means of these two general processes, whose popular success is infallible in the long run: *the exact and rational prevision of phenomena*; and *the possibility of modifying them*, so as to promote our own ends and advantages. The former immediately dispels all idea of any directing volition; and the latter leads to the same result under another point of view, by making us look upon this power as subordinated to our own. The first process is the more philosophical, and can best carry popular conviction with it, when it is completely applicable, which however has scarcely been the case hitherto, except with celestial phenomena; but the second, when its reality is very evident, meets no less necessarily with universal assent.

Illustrations will occur in abundance to any well stored memory. I will mention, as an obvious and striking example, the destruction of the theological theory of thunder by Franklin's discovery. If man could thus take the lightning in his hand, and direct its course as he pleased, it could not long be believed to be the flashing wrath of a deity.

Passing from this topic to that of the Method of Physics, considered in its hierarchical position, Comte bids us remember that the speculative perfection of a science is to be principally measured by these two distinct but co-relative properties—co-ordination and power of prevision; the latter being the most decisive criterion, as it is the principal object of every science whatever.

Now, in the first place, whatever may be the future progress of Physics, it must evidently continue, under both points of view, very inferior to Astronomy, from the variety and complexity of its phenomena. In place of that perfect mathematical harmony and unity which we have admired in the science of the heavenly bodies, physics presents us with numerous branches almost completely isolated from each other, and having frequently no other connexion than a feeble and equivocal one between their principal phenomena. And then, instead of the rational and precise prevision of

celestial events at any period whatever, made from a very small number of direct observations, our foresight here is quite limited in its range, and, when certainty is desired, scarcely ever admitting of our leaving present circumstances out of view.

For similar reasons, the speculative superiority of physics over the rest of natural philosophy, is equally incontestable. It has also to be observed that the philosophical study of physics, regarded as a general means of intellectual education, possesses a special utility, not to be found elsewhere to the same extent; it enables us completely to apprehend the fundamental art of experimenting, which we have seen is particularly adopted to physics. It is there that true philosophers, whatever the peculiar object of their habitual pursuits, must always go, to understand what constitutes the true experimental spirit, to learn the characteristic conditions requisite in experiments that are capable of showing unequivocally the actual laws of phenomena, and finally to form a just conception of the ingenious precautions by which we may prevent any interference with the results of a process of such delicacy. Every one of the fundamental sciences presents the essential characteristics of the positive method, which are necessarily manifested in them in a degree more or less decided; but besides this, each of them as naturally shows some philosophical indications belonging peculiarly to itself, as we have already remarked in the case of astronomy; and it is always at their source that such conceptions of universal logic ought to be examined, under pain of forming an imperfect estimate of them. It is to Mathematics alone that we are indebted for our knowledge of the elementary conditions of positivism: Astronomy characterises with precision the true study of nature; Physics specially presents us with the theory of experiment; it is from Chemistry that we must borrow the general art of Nomenclature; and finally, the science of Organized Bodies can alone unfold to us the true theory of Classifications.

Newton's assertion, *Hypotheses non fingo*—I make no hypothesis, has been incessantly repeated by men who fancy themselves Baconian thinkers when they restrict their incompetence to what they call "facts." I need tell no reader of these papers that such ideas of science are utterly irrational. Newton himself gives it no countenance. His own great discovery was an Hypothesis at first, and only became a Theory after verification. Kepler made nineteen hypotheses respecting the form of the planetary orbits, and abandoned them one by one till he settled on the elliptical form, which, on verification, proved correct, and then was no longer an hypothesis.

Every one who has made any original scientific researches, must have a vivid sense of the indispensable utility of Hypothesis as an artificial aid, accompanied by an equally vivid sense of the necessity of distinctly understanding its purpose and limits; and to this end I emphatically urge the reader to study what Comte and John Stuart Mill (*Logic*, Book iii. ch. xiv.) have written on the subject; the more so, as Dr. Whewell in this, and indeed in so many other respects, betrays the essentially *metaphysical* condition of his mind. Mill's *Logic* the reader has, or ought to have, at hand. Comte teaches thus:—A law of nature can only be discovered by Induction or Deduction. Often, however, neither method is of itself sufficient without our previously making temporary suppositions regarding some of the very facts of which we are in search. This indispensable mode of proceeding has been most fruitful in its results, but from neglect of the condition on which it can be rightly used the progress of true science has been much obstructed. This condition, but vaguely analyzed as yet, may be thus stated:—that we must never imagine any hypotheses which *are not by nature susceptible of a positive verification* sooner or later, and which shall have exactly that degree of precision ascertainable in the study of the corresponding phenomena. In other words, truly philosophical hypotheses must always present the character of *simple anticipations of what experience and reasoning are capable of at once discovering* if the circumstances of the problem were more favourable.

But if we would pretend to attain, by means of an hypothesis, anything that is in its nature altogether inaccessible to observation and to reason, we should overlook the fundamental condition of all hypothesis, and our supposition, transcending the real sphere of science, would become misleading and dangerous.

It would become dangerous because every positive thinker agrees that our scientific enquiries are restricted to the analysis of phenomena to discover their *Laws*, and in no sense to discover their *Causes*, essential or final. And how should a pure supposition, such as an Hypothesis, have a deeper plummet line to fathom the unfathomable? Therefore every hypothesis which traverses the limit of positive science can only lead to interminable discussion, never to solid agreement.

The different hypotheses still employed by natural philosophers are clearly distinguishable into two classes: the one, as yet small in extent, simply refer to the laws of the phenomena: the other, which plays a much more extended part, relate to the determination of the general agents supposed to produce the different kinds of phenomena. Now, according to the rule just laid down, the first class is alone admissible; the second, essentially chimerical, has an anti-scientific character, and can only obstruct the real progress of physics. In astronomy, the first kind of hypothesis is alone employed; the use of the second was long ago exploded. We no longer suppose the existence of chimerical *fluids* to explain the movement of the heavenly bodies. Why, then, in physics use hypotheses without the requisite precautions, and imagine fluids and ethers, invisible, intangible,

imponderable, and inseparable from the substances to which they impart their virtues, in order to explain the phenomena of heat, light, electricity, magnetism? The very fact that the existence of these pretended fluids is, from their nature, incapable of negation or affirmation, shows that they are beyond the reach of positive control. You might as well admit the existence of the elementary spirits of Paracelsus, of angels, and of genii! The assumption of these entities in science, so far from helping to *explain* phenomena, has the very reverse effect; it increases the number of things requiring explanation. For whence come the properties of these fluids? On what do they depend? It is evident that *they* demand explanation as much as the phenomena they are introduced to explain; they are the tortoise-back upon which the world is supposed to rest. Newton could not conceive attraction otherwise than through the agency of an ether. No one believes in that attracting medium now; yet men of science, especially in England, will be up in arms at the heresy of supposing that light, heat, or electricity, can be robbed of their mysterious fluid. Because it will sound heretical, I strengthen Comte's position by the following passage from John Mill:—

"The prevailing hypothesis of a luminiferous ether I cannot but consider, with M. Comte, to be tainted with the same vice. It can never be brought to the test of observation, because the ether is supposed wanting in all the properties by means of which our senses take cognizance of external phenomena. It can neither be seen, heard, smelt, tasted, nor touched. The possibility of deducing from its supposed laws a considerable number of the phenomena of light, is the sole evidence of its existence that we have ever to hope for; and this evidence cannot be of the smallest value, because we cannot have, in the case of such an hypothesis, the assurance that if the hypothesis be false it must lead to results at variance with the true facts.

"Accordingly, most thinkers of any degree of sobriety allow, that an hypothesis of this kind is not to be received as probably true because it accounts for all the known phenomena; since this is a condition often fulfilled equally well by two conflicting hypotheses; and if we give ourselves the license of inventing the causes themselves as well as their laws, a person of fertile imagination might devise a hundred modes of accounting for any given fact, while there are probably a thousand more which are equally possible, but which, for want of anything analogous in our experience, our minds are unfitted to conceive. But it seems to be thought that an hypothesis of the sort in question is entitled to a more favourable reception, if besides accounting for all the facts previously known, it has led to the anticipation and prediction of others which experience afterwards verified; as the undulatory theory of light led to the prediction, subsequently realized by experiment, that two luminous rays might meet each other in such a manner as to produce darkness. Such predictions and their fulfilment are, indeed, well calculated to strike the ignorant vulgar, whose faith in science rests solely on similar coincidences between its prophecies and what comes to pass. But it is strange that any considerable stress should be laid upon such a coincidence by scientific thinkers. If the laws of the propagation of light accord with those of the vibrations of an elastic fluid in as many respects as is necessary to make the hypothesis a plausible explanation of all or most of the phenomena known at the time, it is nothing strange that they should accord with each other in one respect more. Though twenty such coincidences should occur, they would not prove the reality of the undulatory ether; it would not follow that the phenomena of light were results of the laws of elastic fluids, but at most that they are governed by laws in some measure analogous to these; which, we may observe, is already certain, from the fact that the hypothesis in question could be for a moment tenable. There are many such harmonies running through the laws of phenomena in other respects radically distinct. The remarkable resemblance between the laws of light and many of the laws of heat (while others are as remarkably different,) is a case in point. There is an extraordinary similarity running through the properties, considered generally, of certain substances, as chlorine, iodine, and brome, or sulphur and phosphorus; so much so that when chemists discover any new property of the one, they not only are not surprised, but expect, to find that the other or others have a property analogous to it. But the hypothesis that chlorine, iodine, and brome, or that sulphur and phosphorus, are the same substances, would, no doubt, be quite inadmissible.

"I do not, like M. Comte, altogether condemn those who employ themselves in working out into detail this sort of hypotheses; it is useful to ascertain what are the known phenomena to the laws of which those of the subject of inquiry bear the greatest, or even a great analogy, since this may suggest (as in the case of the luminiferous ether it actually did) experiments to determine whether the analogy which goes so far does not extend still further. But that in doing this, men should imagine themselves to be seriously inquiring whether the hypothesis of an ether, an electric fluid, or the like, is true; that they should fancy it possible to obtain the assurance that the phenomena are produced in that way and no other; seems to me, I confess, as unworthy of the present improved conceptions of the methods of physical science, as it does to M. Comte. And at the risk of being charged with want of modesty, I cannot help expressing astonishment that a philosopher of the extraordinary attainments of Mr. Whewell should have written an elaborate treatise on the philosophy of induction, in which he recognises absolutely no mode of induction except that of trying hypothesis after hypothesis until one is found which fits the phenomena; which one, when found, is to be assumed as true, with no other reservation than that if on re-examination it should appear to assume more than is needful for explaining the phenomena, the superfluous part of the assumption should be cut off. It is no exaggeration to say that the process which we have described in these few words, is the beginning, middle, and end of the philosophy of induction as Mr. Whewell conceives it. And this without the slightest distinction between the cases in which it may be known beforehand that two different hypotheses cannot lead to the same result, and those in which, for aught we can ever know, the range of suppositions, all equally consistent with the phenomena, may be infinite."

Comte clearly shows how this conception of Ethers is only a remnant of the Metaphysical stage, and remarks that the metaphysical origin of this false method of proceeding cannot but be easily detected by every impartial mind who will consider the *fluids* as having taken the place of the *entities*, the transformation of the latter being simply by *materializing* them. What,

in reality (put what interpretation on it we will), is Heat, conceived as existing apart from the heated body? Light, independent of the luminous object? Electricity separated from the electrical body? evidently nothing but pure Entities, just as much as Thought is, when considered as possessing an existence independent of the thinking body; or Digestion when isolated from the digesting body! The only difference distinguishing them from these ancient scholastic Entities is this, that these essentially abstract existences have been replaced by imaginary fluids, whose corporeity is very equivocal, since, by their essential definition, we deprive them of all qualities capable of characterizing any kind of matter whatever. Indeed, we do not even leave room for our regarding them as the ideal limit of a gas indefinitely rarefied.

The fundamental character of metaphysical conceptions is to look on phenomena as independent of the objects which manifest them, and to attribute to the properties of each substance an existence distinct from its own. What matters it, then, whether we make spirits or fluids of these personified abstractions? Their origin is always identical. It constantly springs from that inquisitiveness into the hidden nature of things, which marks, in every race, the infancy of the human mind, and which first inspired the conception of gods, who then passed into spirits, and have finally been transformed into imaginary fluids.

Agreeably to the law of development, Physics had to pass through this transitional stage of metaphysics. Astronomy did the same. There the metaphysical suppositions of Descartes, which were as ably supported as similar suppositions in Physics have been, gave way when the true nature of positive Astronomy was established by the discoveries of Newton. In like manner these metaphysical notions have been driven from the more advanced parts of Physics. No man of any note has, since the days of Galileo, propounded a hypothesis to explain the fall of bodies. But the less advanced parts of Physics, as Light and Electricity, still suffer from this metaphysical influence. They do so from the same causes which affected the others, and will, like them, be gradually emancipated.

Comte next occupies himself with the division of Physics into its principal branches. This division is, of course, based on the degree of generality of corresponding phenomena, on the extent of their complication, their relative states of speculative perfection, and also their mutual dependence. Accordingly, the science of the phenomena of weight (*Barology* as he calls it,) ranks as the first branch by universal consent; and on the other hand, the science of *Electrical phenomena* ranks last. The former is most allied to Astronomy; the latter forms a natural transition to Chemistry. They are at the two extremes of Physics, not only as respects generality and the other qualities just mentioned, but also in regard to their present states of positivity. Between these two extreme terms we have, first, Thermology, next Acoustics, and then Optics.

Having thus indicated the main points in his general considerations on Physics, I have passed over that portion of the ground which, from its abstract nature, will have had less interest to minds not specially versed in these subjects, than those which are to follow. Next week we will enter upon Chemistry.*

PASSAGES FROM A BOY'S EPIC.

I.

SOME thirteen years ago, when yet a boy,
I sang of Ariadne and her woes,
I sang of Theseus, and the mighty deeds
Of men that die and of the enduring gods.
'Twas a boy's epic and a boy's mistake,
Yet the kind world that shapes itself to song,
And scorns no verse that has a noble aim,
May hear and pardon passages like these.

ARIADNE AND PHÆDRA.

There was a valley in the Cretan isle,
Not far withdrawn from that great labyrinth,
Which Dædalus, the lord of many arts,
Built for the pleasure of the island king.
Throughout the valley branches of tall trees
Against the watchful sky and wandering clouds
In wavering garlands hung, while nearer earth,
Through emerald loopholes crept the shadowy gleams
Of liquid lustre playing on the leaves.
Amid this luxury of light and shade
The moulding hand of nature had contrived
A secret bower, where many branches met,
And with transparent grass and coloured moss,
Had cushioned the white roots of antique trees.
A spot it was of cool and green delight,
That ever fair yet now at fairest seemed,
For in its sylvan temple it enshrined
Two lovely forms, like marble goddesses.
They, arm in arm and hand in hand enwreathed,
Sat silent, till at length low silver tones

Sighed in the air and grew to earnest speech;
"O Phædra! O my sister! I have heard,
Nor heard in vain thy voice like murmuring brook
Among thick summer leaves; for I will weep,
And sob out all my passion in thine arms.
Men say that sorrow will look beautiful,
If love but clothe her as wise sculptors clothe
Pale marble images. Then let me speak."

II.

ARIADNE.

"Yet gleamed the stars in all the changing skies
When first the gates I past, but now the sun
Stood on the sea, treading with radiant feet
The level billows, while his golden head
Looked out of heaven, and to the shouting waves
And to the wondering earth revealed the god.
The winged clouds that on the morning wait,
Paused in their flight, and died for very love
Of him and of his beauty. Then I turned
To gaze, and as I gazed I worshipped him.
And now amid the odours of the morn,
Its odours and its melodies I passed
Through woodland ways, where stately trees put forth
Their pensile boughs, while all their whispering leaves,
By undulations of the sunlight toucht,
Rippled and brightened on the morning breeze.
Here as I gazed a gorgeous vision rose!
A band of warrior youths, gold-panoplied,
Stood with uplifted eyes and sung aloud,
Praising Apollo. When their voices ceased,
The silver-sounding trumpet, far and wide
Ran down the breeze, till all the listening hills
Gave clear response, and in each deep recess
The spirit of the valley caught the sounds,
And with a merry mockery gave them back.
Now nearer drew the youths with golden shields;
From midst of whom, and fairest of them all,
Stept one, who thus in gentle phrase began;
'Our homes, O lady, o'er the sounding seas
In Athens lie, but we for noble ends
Have won these shores, and gladly anchoring here
Now seek the palace of the Cretan king;
Vouchsafe fair guidance.' 'Theseus,' I replied,
'The gods that in ambrosial houses dwell
Have led thee hither.' But what more I said,
And how I gave the goblet, sword and clue
To him, sole champion named, I pass untold;
Untold I leave the many weary thoughts,
The patience and impatience, hopes and fears
Which haunted me until the evening fell.
Then to the Athenian strangers wine was served,
And song and feast went round in echoing halls.
So peace was made with Athens, and long days
Dwelt Theseus with the king, till he had seen
Our Cretan cities, seen our temples, towns,
Our fields and forests, and the lovely shapes
Wrought by the wise magician Dædalus,
In wood and marble, gold and iron.

III.

ARIADNE continues.

"Time fled and the vernal blossoms fell,
In the long grass, and on the level lake,
And to the days and to the hours, concealed
Amid the thick leaves of departing spring,
I told my fancies wild and passionate,
From dawn until the taller shadows came;
And when the moon above the mountain top
Hung like a silver shield, I lingered still,
Still mid the solemn pause and dream of night,
My spirit travelled, clothed with starry thoughts,
Through trackless paths in gleaming worlds remote.
One day, while buried thus in foliage deep,
I heard a sudden noise of rustling leaves,
And as a child awakes so wakened I
To joy and wonder, when the parting boughs
A regal shape disclosed, most like that god,
Who, from the conflict with the giant snake
Returned victorious, and from orbs divine
Lightened effulgence, while a silent scorn
Lay beautiful upon his smiling lip.
O Theseus! O fair Theseus! false and fair!
He with the step and bearing of the god
Approached; he stood by me; he clasped my hand;
He uttered words that were like burning fire,

* For the Comte Subscription Fund I have to acknowledge the receipt of 20s. from Mr. W. J. Birch, and 5s. from Mr. J. A. Langford.

For they were words of love. O love, love, love!
 O thirst, O passion, withering life away,
 Why didst thou pass into my brain, why glide
 So like a liquid flame through heart and soul
 For sweet and subtle ruin, till I felt
 That without love there was no life for me,
 No beauty, no delight, no universe.
 O sister! I am nearly blind with grief,
 Let me I pray thee make an end of it!
 One morn I stood beside the sheltering cove,
 Where the tall Attic ships were wont to be;
 I looked but saw them not. I looked again,
 I climbed a rock, and over the waste sea
 And the wild heaven did send imploring eyes,
 And spread my arms for some receding sail,
 Then leaping madly from the rock I rushed
 Back to the palace, calling him aloud;
 But only mocking echoes answered me
 With 'Theseus, Theseus,' till men came and told
 That he had fled with all his stately ships."

M.

The Arts.

CRUVELLI AND DE LA GRANGE.

ON Saturday I went to see Cruvelli's *Amina*, which her admirers consider a masterpiece. I was struck with two things in her singing—the improvement in the delivery of her voice, which is less nasal than it used to be, and the greater precision and variety of her execution; but it also seemed to me that her voice was fatigued, and that screaming was beginning to tell upon it already, as it assuredly must tell before long. As to her acting, frankly I do not understand the praises bestowed on it. A colder, harder, more ungenial, less naive, less joyous *Amina*, I have not seen on German or Italian stage. The pertinacity with which she avoided looking at and listening to her lover was almost amusing; and in lieu of the playful touches of coquetish affection mingling with the deep and girlish tenderness of *Amina*, she gave us the most stagey of stage coquetties and no tenderness whatever. There were many points in her singing worthy of hearty praise, but her acting wanted every quality demanded by the part. *Sic cogitavit Vivianus*.

After *Sonnambula* we had Gnecco's amusing farce, *La Prova d'un Opera Seria*, which lives in the pleasant memories of all who remember Malibran and Grisi. Lablache, magnificent as ever, kept the house shaking with uproarious mirth, and Madame De La Grange made a decidedly better appearance than she did in *Lucia*. The reason is simple. The part is one of mere vocal display, and for astonishing *roulades* I have already said she is remarkable; "but unpleasant"—let me still add. Her voice, seldom agreeable, is very flexible, and the *staccato* passages were touched with a lightness and precision reminding one of a violin, and also reminding one of Johnson's "Madam, would that it were impossible!" for it was not singing but a singing lesson. I thought of the eternal complaint, old as Aristophanes, raised against the substitution of *means* for an end:

Εἰ δὲ τις αὐτῶν βωμολοχεύσαι' ἢ καμψίην τινα καμπὴν
 Οἷας οἱ νῦν τὰς κατὰ Φρυγίαν ταύτας τὰς δυσκολοκαμπούς
 Ἐπετριβετο τυπτομενός πολλὰς ὡς τὰς Μούσας ἀφανίζων.

"And should any one dare the tune to impair, and with intricate twistings to fill,
 Such as Phrynis is fain, and his long-winded train, perversely to quaver and trill,
 Many stripes would he feel in return for his zeal, as to genuine music a foe."

and while "wondering" at this execution I sighed for one expressive phrase, or one delicious note, such as should make my nerves tremble with delight. Yet her success was enormous, the audience enraptured! I hope you observe that I am always careful to record my opinion as an individual opinion, and one often contradicted by the applause of the public; by this means I preserve independence without unfairness, for you may reasonably say, "After all, if it pleased the audience it may please me, whatever VIVIAN may think." Only I give you fair warning, if you don't agree with me—you are wrong!

LUCREZIA BORGIA.

THERE was an immense audience at Covent Garden on Tuesday. The opera was *Lucrezia*, a favourite, with Grisi and Mario, the favourites of favourites, and Ronconi in the small but important part of the Duke; and after *Lucrezia* came the third and fourth acts of *I Martiri*, in which Tamberlik, as usual, thrilled the house with ungovernable enthusiasm. Grisi was very grand in *Lucrezia*; her acting, perhaps, finer than ever, and her singing still the most delightful singing to be heard when Alboni is not present. Mario reserved himself somewhat; using the falsetto more than was satisfactory, but abandoning himself to the two great duets of the second and third acts, and dying with even more effect than heretofore.

THE MUSICAL UNION.

THE third concert, on Tuesday, was delightful. Herr Laub, the Bohemian violinist, leading in satisfactory style, and Herr Pollitzer, on the tenor, being a decided acquisition. Mendelssohn's lovely quartet in D (No. 3.) has rarely been better played; Beethoven's incomparable sonata in C minor, for piano and violin, severely tried the powers of Herr Laub and Madlle. Clauss; but although the violinist was not irreproachable in his mechanism, he was in feeling and style—they both played in what for me is a better word I must call the true Beethovenish mood. Mozart's quartet in A, I found rather tiresome in its simplicity: especially coming

after two such lovely pieces as those of Mendelssohn and Beethoven. Had it opened the concert one might have liked it better. Madlle. Clauss wound up with Chopin's *Nocturne*, not altogether in Chopin's style, and with Heller's *Chasse*—an opportunity for display of fingering. People, who like these imitative compositions, and want music to be *descriptive* instead of *emotive*, may enjoy *La Chasse*. I don't. You may hear in it the clatter of hoofs on the frosty ground; you may see the red coats flashing in the sun; you may hear the Tallyho, and smell rum and milk in those modulations—if you like! It is as easy as thought. Imagination has boundless sway. And if you are a sportsman, you will say that's something like music! I prefer music itself.

EGMONT AND THE GERMAN ACTORS.

ALTHOUGH not a good play in any theatrical sense, *Egmont*, like every work of that immortal writer, retains a deep hold on the mind that has once read it: the qualities demanded in a scenic picture of life, may be found more prominent and vigorous in far inferior writers; but the profound humanity, the organic creation, every touch of which speaks the poet, and, finally, the bright happy life that animates this work, make it something higher and deeper than an amusement.

Egmont was written in two strange and culminating epochs of Goethe's life. It was commenced and sketched out in 1775, when he had just broken away from Lili; it was finished in Italy, when he had broken away from the turbulence of youth, and commenced his great career of serene and noble life. Can one not hear something of both epochs in the accents of this play? He had parted from Lili—why I will some day endeavour to explain—but his heart still yearned towards her. He lingered about her house, of nights, wrapped in his cloak, mournfully happy if he could but catch a glimpse of her shadow on the curtain as she moved about the room. One night, as he stood there beneath the stars, he heard her singing. What was her song? It was the one he had written to her in the fresh morning of their love!

"Wherefore so resistlessly dost draw me?" &c.

Her voice ceased. She rose and walked up and down the room, little knowing how her sorrow was shared by him that caused it—little knowing who stood beneath her window struggling with his feelings; struggling but conquering, as his victorious nature ever did.

Goethe always sought consolation in Art. With *Egmont* he cheated sorrow; and, although *Egmont* is a tragedy, how little tragic emotion there is on the surface! To find *that* you must pierce deep. For Goethe—as the noodles tell you—was "so cold!" Noodles who never penetrate beyond surfaces!

Egmont is not, properly speaking, a tragedy; nor is it, as commonly said, a great historic play: it is a profoundly human play. Had Goethe been an historic mind he would certainly have produced a great painting of history here, in lieu of the individual, human picture it has pleased him to paint; for the time was pregnant with historic impulse. Frederic the Great—over whom Carlyle now ponders—was resting on his splendid laurels. Catherine of Russia, that great Empress, towered in the North. Paoli had struck for liberty. Washington and Franklin had achieved it. But Goethe, absorbed by Man, had little or no thought of the universal life which moves through History. "I and my immediate circle," he says, "did not meddle with the news of the day: our affair was to study Man: men in general we allowed to go their own way." An indifference which draws forth from politicians like Mazzini a burst of passionate scorn; a scorn any one can understand, who contemplates Mazzini's splendid and disinterested life, or who gazes on the "victorious sadness of his countenance" (to use the beautiful epithet applied to him by an exquisite friend of mine) but a scorn, nevertheless, which I take to be one-sided and unwise. It is idle to quarrel with so great a nature as Goethe's because it was not *different* from what it pleased God to make it.

And, frankly, what amount of historic insight and local colouring could be accepted in lieu of such deep poetic insight as we have here in *Egmont* and *Clara*? Suppose the play a political manifesto—would any one, except in hours of commotion—and genius creates for all times—prefer that to the drama of the brain and heart acted here? No. The free and joyous and almost godlike carelessness of *Egmont* is worth a whole tribune of patriotic orators, for in him we see Humanity, not a mood. But I will not argue this point. Let me rather turn to the German troupe whom Mr. Mitchell has brought over for the delectation of a *blasé* public.

The house was overflowing; the audience in ecstasies; the success of the experiment unequivocal. I was sure it would be so. Novelty, fashion, and a legitimate curiosity, were not bad things for a manager to speculate upon; and considering how ignorant the public is, how incapable of appreciating Art, how willing to take for granted that foreigners must be artists, there is no reason to suppose that any deficiency in quality will interfere with the monetary success of this speculation. I am glad of it: for Mr. Mitchell, above all managers, deserves to succeed: he is enterprising, generous, and keeps faith with the public.

But you want to know what I think of these Germans? As far as I could gather, there were only three persons in the house who shared my opinion; but this imposing minority satisfies me; and not being accustomed to take my opinions from any higher authority than the Big Wig who holds his court in my breast, I shall "fearlessly declare" (as writers say when they are under no sort of peril whatever) that my admiration of the acting was that which one feels for mature mediocrity—mediocrity without crudeness,—ripe, perfect, untroubled by a hope of future development!

Herr Emil Devrient is accredited as the greatest tragic actor now living in Germany. I saw him years ago with very mitigated admiration, and last night that feeling was not changed. He is a fine looking, not ungraceful man, with a hatchet face and a good voice. He treads the stage as "to the manner born;" speaks with an agreeable accent, and a cultivated intelligence, so that you feel you are listening to a gentleman, and one who understands what he is saying. He is never great; he has no flashes of genius; he never thrills you; but he is free from rant, extra-

A MOST Favourable Opportunity is offered to parties willing to embark (free from liability) either a small or large sum in an important undertaking, which, by reports from Practical and Scientific men is shown to promise very profitable results. Full particulars will be sent in answer to letters (free), enclosing two postage stamps for the reply, directed to J. T. S., 6, West Street, Finsbury Circus, London.

THIS DAY, 2 vols. post 8vo, cloth, 21s.

PERSONAL ADVENTURES OF

"OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT"

IN ITALY.

Showing how an active Campaigner can find good quarters when other men lie in the fields; good dinners whilst many are half starved; and good wine, though the king's staff be reduced to short rations.

By MICHAEL BURKE HONAN.

"These volumes are original, and not a reprint or *réchauffé* of my Correspondence from Italy to the 'Times.'"—Preface.

Cheap Edition of Mr. Dickens's Christmas Books.

Now publishing, in Weekly Numbers, price 1½d.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL.

In Prose.

BEING A GHOST STORY OF CHRISTMAS.

By CHARLES DICKENS, Esq.

These Works will be published Weekly and Monthly, uniform with the Cheap Series of Mr. Dickens's Works.

London: Chapman and Hall, 193, Piccadilly.

Price 3s. 6d., bound in cloth.

HOW TO LAY OUT A SMALL GARDEN.

Intended as a Guide to Amateurs in Choosing, Forming, or Improving a Place, (from a Quarter of an Acre to Thirty Acres in extent), with reference to both Design and Execution. By EDWARD KEMP, Landscape Gardener, Birkenhead Park.

By the same Author, price 2s.

THE HAND-BOOK OF GARDENING.

For the use of all persons who possess a Garden of limited extent. The Tenth Edition, enlarged and improved.

Bradbury and Evans, 11, Bouverie Street.

This day is published, price 4s., cloth, with plates,

THE BRITISH WINTER GARDEN. A

Practical Treatise on Evergreens; showing their general utility in the formation of Garden and Landscape Scenery, and their mode of Propagating, Planting, and Removal, from one to fifty feet in height, as practised at Elvaston Castle. By WILLIAM BARRON, Head Gardener.

Bradbury and Evans, 11, Bouverie Street.

This day is published,

THE POETICAL WORKS

OF

D. M. MOIR, (Delta).

EDITED BY THOMAS AIRD.

WITH A MEMOIR AND PORTRAIT.

2 vols. small 8vo, price 14s.

II.

A New Edition of

SKETCHES OF THE POETICAL LITERATURE OF THE PAST HALF-CENTURY.

By D. M. MOIR, (DELTA). Second Edition, revised. Fcap. 8vo, 5s.

William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh and London.

Just published, crown 8vo, price 7s. 6d. cloth,

HISTORY OF the COUNCIL OF TRENT.

From the French of Bungenier, author of a "Sermon under Louis XIV." &c. &c. With the Author's last Corrections and Additions, communicated to the Translator.

Thomas Constable and Co., Edinburgh; Hamilton, Adams, and Co., London.

In one thick vol., the Tenth Edition, much enlarged, price 16s.

MODERN DOMESTIC MEDICINE: A

POPULAR TREATISE, exhibiting the Nature, Symptoms, Causes, and most efficacious Treatment of Diseases; with a Collection of approved Prescriptions, Directions for Diet and Regimen; the means of affording Assistance in Accidents and other cases of emergency, Management of Children, Doses of Medicines, &c. Forming a comprehensive Medical Guide for the Clergy, Families, and Invalids, in the absence of their Medical Adviser. By T. J. GRAHAM, M.D., Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

"One object is prominently evident—the author's sincere desire to benefit his suffering fellow-creatures. To recommend a work like the present to our readers, is only to manifest a proper regard for their welfare."—LITERARY JOURN. Feb. 1843.

"It is altogether deserving of permanent popularity."—LONDON WEEKLY REVIEW.

"Undoubtedly the best medical work for private families in the English language. It is invaluable."—LITERARY TIMES, April, 1852.

Published by Simpkin and Co., Paternoster Row; Hatchards, 187, Piccadilly; and Tegg and Co., 85, Queen Street, Cheapside. Sold by all Booksellers.

"This is the Medicine of Nature."—SIR JOHN HILL, M.D.

RE-ISSUE of the SECOND EDITION of TWO THOUSAND OF DR. SKELTON'S "FAMILY MEDICAL ADVISER," on Saturday, June 5th, price 2s. 6d.

Also, the First and Second Numbers of the Monthly "BOTANIC RECORD AND FAMILY HERBAL," price 1d. May be had of all Booksellers in Town and Country, the first Saturday of every month.

Published by Watson, No. 3, Queen's Head Passage, Paternoster Row, London.

In the press, and shortly will be published, price 1s. 6d.

A PLEA FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE VEGETABLE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

NEW PICTORIAL WORK.

THE

PEOPLE'S ILLUSTRATED JOURNAL,

OF

Arts, Manufactures, Practical Science, and Social Economy.

The First Monthly Part, embellished with NEARLY ONE HUNDRED BEAUTIFUL ENGRAVINGS, is now ready, price Elevenpence!!!

Also Publishing in Weekly Numbers, price 2d.

OFFICE, 11, BOUVERIE STREET.

This day, Octavo, 1s.

SPEECH OF THE RIGHT HON. W. E. GLADSTONE, M.P., on the Second Reading of the New Zealand Constitution Bill, May 21, 1852. Corrected by the Author.

London: John W. Parker and Son, West Strand.

SOCIETY OF THE FRIENDS OF ITALY.

The FIRST ANNUAL MEETING of this Society will be held in the Music Hall, Store Street, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, June 9, at half-past 7 for 8 o'clock. The Chair will be taken by P. A. TAYLOR, Esq., and the meeting will be addressed by M. MAZZINI, GEORGE DAWSON, Esq., M.A., and other speakers. Tickets, admitting members and their friends, to be had gratis by members at the Society's offices.

Just published, price 2d., the Society's Tract No. V., containing PROFESSOR NEWMAN'S LECTURE on "The Place and Duty of England in Europe," and an address by M. MAZZINI. To be had, with the other publications of the Society, of Kent and Co., Paternoster Row; E. Wilson, Royal Exchange; C. Gilpin, Bishopsgate Street; and all booksellers; also at the Society's Offices, 10, Southampton Street, Strand.

DISTRESSED NEEDLEWOMEN

SOCIETY.—The additional object of this Institution will be forthwith completed through the assistance of the real benefactress, supported by two noble ladies, and accommodation afforded for 60 inmates.

This establishment is founded on the principle of a finishing school similar in its methods to the Governesses' College, where teachers of proficiency are engaged to instruct in the various branches, such as millinery, dressmaking, embroidery, and all fancy needlework. A subscriber of one guinea is entitled to send a pupil for one month, who will be found board and lodging, combined with all the comforts of a parental home. Young persons leaving their situations can go into the home on the recommendation of a member. Should a situation be obtained the first week, the subscriber's claim upon the home will be considered fulfilled.

Benevolent persons who have no protégé of their own, and subscribe to the Institution, such contributions will go to the apprentice fund, the Committee having power to grant sums for orphans and others unable to find the means.

Further particulars will be announced in a few days. Already 200 ladies have requested their names to be added to the Committee. Needlewomen of every description wanted. Apply to Mr. Roper, founder of the Society. Office, 22, Newman-street, Oxford-street. To prevent disappointment observe the number.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY.—ASCOT

RACES, Tuesday the 8th, Wednesday the 9th, Thursday the 10th, Friday the 11th, of JUNE, 1852.

SPECIAL TRAINS will run from Waterloo Station to Windsor during the Forenoon of Tuesday and Thursday, commencing at 8 A.M., and from Windsor after the Races until 11 P.M. Fares:—

Single Journey—First Class, 4s. 6d. Second Class, 3s.
Double Journey— " 6s. 9d. " 4s. 6d.

Double Journey Tickets can be obtained, on and after Monday the 7th, at Messrs. Tattersall's, Hyde Park Corner; at the Universal Office, Regent's Circus; Swan with Two Necks, Gresham Street; Spread Eagle, Gracechurch Street; Bolt-in-Tun, Fleet Street; Golden Cross, Charing Cross; Green Man and Still, Oxford Street; and at the George and Blue Boar, Holborn; any day (Sundays excepted) until Friday, the 11th June.

Carrriages and Horses will only be conveyed on Tuesday and Thursday by a Special Train, leaving Waterloo at 7 A.M., and returning from Windsor at 10 P.M. A day's notice required, in order to secure Horse Boxes and Trucks.

Omnibuses are continually running at moderate and fixed fares. Superior Conveyances can be procured at Windsor during the Races, to convey parties to and from the Course.

WYNDHAM HARDING,

Waterloo Station, May, 1852.

Secretary.

ASCOT RACES.—By South Western Rail-

way, to Windsor. CHAS. VEAL and J. BARWICK, purveyors of Carrriages, &c., to the Company, beg to inform the nobility and gentry that they have superior CARRIAGES AND POST HORSES in attendance on the arrival of the Trains, to secure which early orders are solicited; and, to prevent disappointment, orders should be addressed to Charles Veal, South Western Railway Station, Windsor, or Joseph Barwick, South Western Railway, Waterloo Station, on or before Saturday, the 5th June.

CHARGES.

Carrriage and Single Horse, Tuesday	22	2	0
Ditto, Wednesday and Friday	1	1	0
Ditto, Thursday	3	3	0
Carrriage and pair of Horses, Tuesday and Thursday	4	4	0
Ditto, Wednesday and Friday	3	3	0

OMNIBUSES will meet every Train to convey to and from the course:—Fares, there and back—Tuesday, 5s., Wednesday, 4s., Thursday, 7s., and Friday, 4s.

Windsor, May 24th, 1852.

THE ROYAL EXHIBITION.—A valuable

newly-invented, very small, powerful WAISTCOAT POCKET GLASS, the size of a walnut, to discern minute objects at a distance of from four to five miles, which is found to be invaluable to Yachters, Sportsmen, Gentlemen, and Game-keepers. Price 30s., sent free.—TELESCOPES. A new and most important invention in Telescopes, possessing such extraordinary powers, that some, 3½ inches, with an extra eye-piece, will show distinctly Jupiter's Moons, Saturn's Ring, and the Double Stars. They supersede every other kind, and are of all sizes, for the waistcoat pocket, Shooting, Military purposes, &c. Opera and Racecourse Glasses, with wonderful powers; a minute object can be clearly seen from ten to twelve miles distant. Invaluable, newly-invented Preserving Spectacles; invisible and all kinds of Acoustic Instruments for relief of extreme Deafness.—Messrs. S. and B. SOLOMONS, Opticians and Aurists, 39, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, opposite the York Hotel.

HEAL AND SON'S ILLUSTRATED

CATALOGUE of BEDSTEADS, sent free by post, containing designs and prices of upwards of 100 different Bedsteads, and also their Priced List of Bedding. They have likewise, in addition to their usual Stock, a great variety of PARISIAN BEDSTEADS, both in wood and iron, which they have just imported.

STEAM TO INDIA, CHINA, &c.—

Particulars of the regular Monthly Mail Steam Conveyance and of the additional lines of communication, now established by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company with the East, &c. The Company book passengers, and receive goods and parcels as heretofore for CEYLON, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, PENANG, SINGAPORE, and HONG KONG, by their steamers, starting from SOUTHAMPTON on the 20th of every month, and from SUEZ on or about the 8th of the month.

The next extra Steamer will be dispatched from Southampton for Alexandria on the 3rd October next, in combination with an extra Steamer, to leave Calcutta on or about the 20th September. Passengers may be booked, and goods and parcels forwarded by these extra steamers, to or from SOUTHAMPTON, ALEXANDRIA, ADEN, CEYLON, MADRAS, and CALCUTTA.

BOMBAY.—The Company will book passengers throughout from Southampton to Bombay by their steamers leaving England on the 20th July, and of alternate months thereafter, such passengers being conveyed from Aden to Bombay by their steamers appointed to leave Bombay on the 14th of July, and of alternate months thereafter, and affording, in connexion with the steamers leaving Calcutta on the 3rd of July, and of alternate months thereafter, direct conveyance for passengers, parcels, and goods from Bombay and Western India.

Passengers for Bombay can also proceed by this Company's Steamers of the 29th of the month to Malta, thence to Alexandria by her Majesty's steamers, and from Suez by the Honourable East India Company's steamers.

MEDITERRANEAN.—MALTA.—On the 20th and 29th of every month. Constantinople.—On the 20th of the month. Alexandria.—On the 20th of the month. (The rates of passage money on these lines have been materially reduced.)

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.—Vigo, Oporto, Lisbon, Cadiz, and Gibraltar, on the 7th, 17th, and 27th of the month.

N.B.—The Steam-ships of the Company now ply direct between Calcutta, Penang, Singapore, and Hong Kong, and between Hong Kong and Shanghai.

For further information and tariffs of the Company's recently revised and reduced rates of passage-money and freight, and for plans of the vessels, and to secure passages, &c., apply at the Company's Offices, 122, Leadenhall-street, London, and Oriental-place, Southampton.

NOTICE.

THE "LEADER" NEWSPAPER.

THE Publisher is compelled to give Notice, that Messrs. Clayton and Son, of No. 265, Strand, have for many months ceased to be connected with the publishing department of this Journal. He is therefore in no way responsible for irregularities over which he has no control, and he would suggest that those Subscribers who do not regularly receive their Copies of the "LEADER" Newspaper, should procure the Paper direct from this Office, or through any respectable Bookseller or Newsvender in Town or Country.

10, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, 10th May, 1852.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE MOORE, (of No. 3, Portland Place Kensington, in the County of Middlesex,) at the Office of Messrs. SAVILL and EDWARDS, No. 4, Chandos Street, in the Parish of St. Paul, Covent Garden, in the same County; and Published by THOMAS LEIGH HUNT, (of Broadway House, Hammer-smith,) at THE LEADER OFFICE, No. 10, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, in the Parish of the Savoy, both in the same County.—SATURDAY, June 5, 1852.