

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.*

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 1853.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

LORD CLARENDON has despatched a messenger to St. Petersburg, bearing instructions to Sir Hamilton Seymour, who will demand of the Emperor Nicholas an explanation of the proceedings in Moldavia and Wallachia, which have just come to the knowledge of our Government. It is but a few short weeks since any representation that Russia intended to incorporate these Principalities was scouted and set down to Russophobia. It is indeed but a few short months since Lord Clarendon declared that he relied upon the word of the Emperor. The Emperor declared that he intended to make no war upon Turkey; to commit no territorial appropriation. It now appears that not only has he advanced his army in strong positions towards the inner frontier of Turkey—the Danube; but that he has superseded the Hospodars, appointed commissioners to govern in their stead, seized the revenues, and discharged the allegiance of the Moldavians and Wallachians from their lawful sovereign, the Sultan. Great pains have been taken in London as well as in other places, to represent that the Slavonians of Turkey were highly favourable to the Russian Government, and we may well understand that numbers of these races have been bought over; but we are well aware also that the Slavonians entertain projects of their own by no means dependent upon the intentions of the Czar, and that subserviency to Russia has not become a national feeling is shown by the coercive measures which his officers have found necessary to take. Some of the young Boyards who had signified their dislike to the invader, have been seized and impressed into the service of the Russian army.

It is natural that the Turks should resent these gross outrages upon their national independence and honour. They have been mustering in considerable numbers, and they are anxious to attack the enemy. The proceedings of the Emperor are totally at variance with good faith and the usages of an armistice; they have thrown discredit upon the counsel given to the Sultan by his Western advisers, and British influence has been damaged by the turn of affairs. The Sultan has an increased difficulty in keeping back the impatient Saracens from a new combat with their ancient enemies.

It would seem that events are marching faster than the somewhat tardy manoeuvres of the Four Powers. While they are chopping red tape at Vienna, the Czar is striding on, and it would

seem that his advances are by no means limited to Turkey. Denmark has already been shaken by his intrigues, Sweden is threatened with an army which is mustering on the Northern frontiers.

But we are not at all sure that his newest and most active intrigues are not pushed beyond the visible limits of ostentatious aggression. Without desiring to put constructions too wide, let us simply observe facts. The Princess Olga has come to England with her husband, for her health; so has the Duchess of Leuchtenberg, the Emperor's most diplomatic daughter. She has been received by Baron Brunow, and, as is natural with a person of her rank, she is at once welcomed at Court, and surrounded by the representatives of good society in England, Lord Aberdeen being amongst that select number.

An anecdote has been afloat, and it reaches us, not for the first time, through a channel which appears worthy of credit. It is to this effect: Lord Aberdeen caused Mr. Cobden to receive an invitation to make a Peace movement in Parliament, and it is said that Mr. Cobden declined, on very intelligible grounds,—that if he succeeded, Lord Aberdeen would reap all the credit, but that if he failed, the Peace doctrine would incur all the discredit. Mr. Cobden's reply shows a due sense of the current of public feeling at present. Lord Aberdeen's invitation, if it is truly reported, shows a strong, and not a national, tendency in his own mind.

For gossip of this kind we cannot vouch, but what we observe is, that our Government has been extraordinarily slow; that it is awaiting the suggestion of Austria,—a power which would compromise any interest rather than take a decided position against Russia, or risk an European movement. We observe that our Government has carried forbearance to a point which we do not like to characterize; that it has counselled Turkey to forbear until that Power seems likely to have worn out the patience of its own subjects, and to risk its own existence. We observe that our Government, through all these phases, if not insincere,—if not sharing in the delusions which have been practised, has been the victim of them.

The explanations given in both Houses of Parliament by Lord Clarendon and Lord John Russell, have been the most important subjects in Parliament; for the record of the week is not particularly interesting. A fact indeed of corresponding importance is Sir James Graham's declaration,—very handsome in him to make and very useful to the country,—that he was deceived in supposing that there was not sufficient

ardour in the population for volunteer enlistment in the militia. The volunteer principle has worked so well there, that the ballot is superseded, and Sir James Graham, who doubted the Militia plan, now relies upon the same principle for his own coast-guard volunteers—an enrolment of seafaring men on the coast, to be trained during twenty-eight days in the year to the use of the great guns, and thus to be prepared for enlistment in active service, with a bounty, should necessity arise. Although we do not believe that a Militia can be relied upon for marine purposes, as it can for land service, yet the proposed reserve is likely to be of great use in the event of hostilities, and we have no doubt that every appeal to the national feeling in this shape will meet with a practical response, the only obstruction to which has consisted of that hateful economy which has combined penny wisdom at all price, with limited Radicalism.

As a general rule, the Government measures are getting on without let or hindrance, and amongst them it is especially incumbent upon us to notice the Royal assent to the abolition of the Advertisement duty. A number of Bills have been turned over to next session, with more or less of present assent to their principles, and a probability that they, or something like them, will come to pass before many years are over. Of this number are Mr. Adderley's Bill for the industrial correction of juvenile offenders, Lord Blandford's for placing episcopal and capitular property under the management of paid lay officers, to the great relief of the present spiritual managers, and the great advantage of the property; the Bishop of Oxford's Bill for the better regulation of the Church in the colonies, giving the members of the Church the faculty of self-government and establishing synods; another Bill emanating from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, to appoint missionary bishops—that is to say, persons with episcopal authority over missionary clergy, where they have no territorial footing; and in this class, too, may be reckoned Mr. Plinn's Bill to secure personal freedom to the inmates of religious houses.

The Charitable Trusts bill proceeds with an amendment, exempting Roman Catholics from its operation. The bill would have brought under legal notice some trusts which, under the statute of superstitious uses, are strictly illegal. Lord John Russell proposed a general exemption: by an amendment of Mr. Headlam's, the exemption is limited to two years; sufficient to allow time for enabling the Romanists to revise their own regulations, or to modify the statute if necessary.

The House of Lords has lent its connivance to

Government in rejecting, for the twentieth time, the claim of the Baron de Bode. The Baron is the representative of a gentleman who possessed estates in Lower Alsace; the French Revolution broke out, and his property was confiscated; that gentleman was the son of a German father and an English lady; he had property in this country, and was confessedly an English subject. After the Restoration, the French Government granted a sum of money to compensate all English subjects whose property had been confiscated. The Baron claimed to be of that number, but his name was excluded from the list by a mistake of the Commissioners, who regarded him as not being a British subject. From that mistake sprang a series of errors, and the Baron is to be excluded from his property in spite of authenticated admissions of his claim by the House of Commons, by the select committee of the Lords, by a Court of Law on two occasions, through the impossibility of overcoming the accumulated and complicated blunders of the official people. But to these mistakes the present Ministers add another; the claim has lasted so long that they cannot pretend to unravel it. The Baron may perish without his own, because the official people have been so much in the wrong, and for so long a time, that it is hopeless to set them right. A nice plea for a constitutional government.

The British working-man will be slow to join in the cry, "Thank God there is a House of Lords." Last night these hereditary foes of the rights of labour, and sentimental patrons of labourers, actually rejected the bill which places workmen on a footing with their employers in regard to combination. So much for equality before the law!

The cases at law upon the social relations of woman continue with considerable multiplicity, and so do the outrages of violence brought before the police courts. In one case, a worthy husband has been exercising his traditional right of flagellation, after repeated punishments. It would seem as if Mr. Fitzroy's bill failed to check the crimes it punishes. That it has some effect we do not doubt. That its effect is complete we doubt very much, but as we have already said, perhaps the fault lies with the system of society which deprives the humbler classes of excitement, turns their fiercer passions inwards to their homes, and at the same time softens the natural resentments which used to be visited on the offender summarily.

The Earl of Guildford, after enjoying an estate as a collective pauper, under the title of Master of the Hospital of St. Cross, has been at length called upon to account for the monies he has received since the date of the information. It is a pity that the Master of the Rolls could not legally extend the term of the account to the whole term of the Mastership of this Reverend Peer.

At Warwick Assizes, Constant Derra de Moroda, the friend and companion of the so-called "Baroness Von Beck," a spy, has obtained damages against George Dawson, and three others of the benefactors whom the Baroness deceived at Birmingham, by a trial and a verdict that have excited astonishment and disgust in those, not limited to Warwickshire, who know the character of the case, and of the principal defendant. But we are promised a communication on the subject next week, which our readers will be glad to see; and we understand that George Dawson's more intimate friends are impatient to gather round him at an opportunity which will offer itself in Birmingham next Monday.

THE WEEK IN PARLIAMENT.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

ADDITIONAL declarations of the present situation of this dispute were made by Ministers in both Houses on Monday. The following took place in the House of Lords.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE rose and said:—

"My lords, I rise to put a question to the noble earl, who I see in his place, respecting some reports which have

lately been received from the Danubian provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia. From the accounts in the newspapers, it appears that the Russian military authorities have taken entire possession of that country, and have proceeded to administer the government thereof. The reports to which I allude go on to state that the Commander-in-Chief of the Russian forces has ordered the Hospodar not to transmit any tribute to Constantinople, and it has been stated in one report that he went so far as to say that any tribute paid to the Sultan would require to be paid over again to him. Moreover, it is stated that those to whom the local administration of the country has been intrusted have been ordered to hold no communication with Turkey. This, my lords, is a virtual and real assumption of the sovereignty of that country by Russia. It is impossible that such an act as this can take place without leading directly to a terrible war. It is, therefore, of the highest interest to the country and to your lordship's House, that we should have whatever information can be afforded us, without inconvenience, at the earliest moment, because it is a matter of the greatest importance. I hold that it is impossible for Europe, or for France or England, to submit to such an extension of territory in that direction by Russia, and such a diminution of the Turkish empire, without the gravest and most fearful consequences. The matter is of the utmost importance, not merely to the political balance of Europe, not merely to the honour of this country, which is a party to treaties with Turkey, but also to the material interests affecting the welfare of all classes of persons, above all in Germany, in France, and also greatly in this kingdom. It is a matter upon which your lordships must all desire to have the fullest information that can with propriety be given, and, therefore, I trust the noble earl will not think I am indiscreet if I ask him whether any such accounts as the reports to which I have referred have reached him officially, and whether he can inform your lordship's House how far it is true such an assumption of sovereignty by Russia has really taken place?"

The Earl of CLARENDON answered:—

"My lords, so far from thinking that my noble friend has committed any indiscretion in the question he has put to me, I can assure him I take so entirely the same view that he does as to what would be the result not only to France but to Europe, and more especially to this country, of any permanent alienation of the territory, to which he alluded, from the Turkish empire, that I am glad he has put this question, in order that I may satisfy the public mind, so far as I am able, by giving him all the information I possess. By a despatch, dated the 17th of last month, I learn from Lord Stratford de Redcliffe that a communication had been made by the Consul-General of Russia to the Hospodar of Moldavia, informing him that his relations with the Ottoman empire were to cease, and that the tribute usually transmitted to Constantinople was to be placed at the disposal of the Russian Government, upon the ground, as it was stated, that during the military occupation of the province, the sovereign power was necessarily, though temporarily, suspended. I have to state also that the Turkish Government expected to hear similar information from the Hospodar of Wallachia; but I have received a despatch this morning from Mr. Colquhoun, our Consul-General at Bucharest, dated the 22nd of last month, in which he says that, up to that time, no such communication had been made to the Hospodar there. However, such a communication was naturally expected by the Porte to be made to the Hospodar of Wallachia, and it was the intention of the Porte, as soon as it received that communication, to order the Hospodars to withdraw and cease their functions. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe further added, that, in such an event, he should consider it highly improper that British Consuls in the Principalities should continue to exercise their functions, and I lost no time in communicating to him the entire approval of her Majesty's Government in his adopting that course. I can only further inform your lordships that I shall, by the messenger who leaves London to-night, instruct Sir Hamilton Seymour to demand from the Russian Government those explanations to which we are entitled upon a matter which I view in the same light as my noble friend."

In the House of Commons, Lord DUDLEY STUART, alluding to the postponement of Mr. Layard's motion, said to Lord John Russell:—

"I do not wish to ask my noble friend to state at present, or to fix a day, when this subject may be discussed; but what I would wish to ask is this: whether he will, before the prorogation of Parliament, which cannot be very long delayed, set apart a day when my honourable friend may make his motion—when the subject may be discussed, or at least when the Government would be prepared to lay a statement before the House and the country, and explain the present state of our relations with the different powers of Europe."

Lord JOHN RUSSELL: "On the last occasion when this important subject was mentioned, the House concurred with her Majesty's Government in thinking that it was not desirable to have a discussion in the present state of the negotiations on the subject. I am quite ready, however, to give to my noble friend and the House all the information which it is, at present, in my power to give. When the ambassador of his Majesty the Emperor of Russia left Constantinople, it appeared to her Majesty's Government that it was desirable that there should be a conference of the representatives of all the Great Powers of Europe, in order to endeavour to arrive at terms which might put an amicable termination to the differences between Russia and the Sublime Porte. It was the opinion of the Government of Austria that it was not desirable to have any such conference while the matter remained in the state of diplomatic relations, and that it would not be desirable to have such a conference unless the Emperor of Russia, by invading the Principalities, should, for a time at least, put an end to the *status quo* in Europe. When that event occurred, the Government

of the Emperor of Austria, in conformity with its previous declaration, declared its willingness to hold a conference, and at Vienna summoned the representatives of the four other Great Powers of Europe to attend, for the purpose of a conference on the affairs of Russia and Turkey. The Minister of the Emperor of Russia did not attend, but the Ministers of England, of France, and of Prussia attended that conference. Certain terms were then agreed upon, which, in the opinion of the representatives of the four Powers, might be accepted with honour by the two Governments of Turkey and Russia. Those terms have been assented to by the Governments of England and of France, and, according to our belief, have been transmitted from Vienna to St. Petersburg and to Constantinople. In this state of affairs, I think the House will feel as strongly, if not more strongly than it did before, that it is quite impossible for me to say that it is desirable, at the present time, to discuss these affairs, or to fix a day for their discussion. I can assure the House that, as the time for the prorogation approaches, her Majesty's Government will be ready to give every information which it may think proper to give consistently with their duty to the public service."

Mr. DISRAELI: "I wish to inquire of the noble lord, with respect to the question addressed to him by the noble lord the member for Marylebone, whether there is any particular time when her Majesty's ministers are induced to believe that an answer will be returned from St. Petersburg?"

Lord J. RUSSELL: "I should not like to be responsible for naming any particular time, for I do not know exactly how many days the Russian Government may take to consider the proposition made to them. I think the proposition left Vienna probably on Sunday last, therefore the right honourable gentleman can calculate for himself."

Mr. DISRAELI: "There was a phrase in the noble lord's answer to the question of the noble lord the member for Marylebone which appeared rather obscure to honourable members on this side of the House. The noble lord said that the proposition was agreed upon at Vienna, and that it received the approbation of the Governments of France and England. I inferred at the time that it received the approbation of the Governments of Prussia and Austria also. I call attention to the point, in order that there may be no misconception."

Lord J. RUSSELL: "The proposition was an Austrian proposition, though it came originally from the Government of France, and no doubt the Government of Prussia is likely to consent to it."

THE INDIA BILL.

In our first edition of last week we left Sir Charles Wood objecting to Mr. Bright's proposition to unite the offices in Leadenhall-street and Cannon-row. The amendment was defeated by 100 to 72. Sir Charles Wood met with a similar fate, when he proposed that the salaries of the Chairman and Deputy-Chairman should be 1500*l.* each, and of each Director 1000*l.* a-year: 99 to 83 rejected his proposition. The salaries were therefore fixed at 1000*l.* a-year for "the chairs," and 500*l.* a-year for each of the Directors. The bill then passed amid loud Ministerial cheers.

The Scottish Universities Bill passed through Committee on the same evening. An attempt to introduce the words, "on the true faith of a Christian," in the declaration by Professors, was defeated by 81 to 37.

The second reading of the Government of India Bill was moved, last night, by Earl GRANVILLE, who explained at length its provisions. He was followed by the Earl of MALMESBURY, who criticised the Bill both as regarded its principle and its details.

The Earl of ABERDEEN briefly defended the measure against the attacks of Lord Malmesbury. The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, without opposing, objected to the Bill, directing his arguments especially against the double Government. He, in some measure, agreed with the plan of the Government for reducing the number of the Court of Directors, but objected that the reduction had not been carried out in the right direction. The Government had not availed themselves of the opportunity they possessed of dealing largely with the question of the government of India, but had wasted their efforts on mere details.

Several other noble lords addressed the House, among others the Duke of ARGYLL and the Bishop of OXFORD. The Bill was then read a second time.

A CASE AGAINST "THE COMPANY."

Certain Parsee merchants advanced large sums to the Nizam, as security for which they received a mortgage upon certain districts. That mortgage was executed with the full knowledge of the English resident at the Court of the Nizam, and deposited with him for safe custody for the purpose of being placed among the records of Berar. After some time, without any notice or cause assigned, the Nizam dispossessed the merchants of these districts with violence and cruelty, destroying many of their servants, and repossessed himself of the land. The East India Company, through their servants, were repeatedly applied to for protection and redress. They denied both. They shortly refused, on the ground that their invariable policy was not to interfere in any money transactions between native princes and their subjects. They themselves had money transactions with the Nizam, originating from the same cause as his money transactions with the

merchants—viz., the advances of money for the payment of the contingent. When they found it impossible to obtain money from the Nizam, they induced him to give security for his debt, and they took, in satisfaction of it, the districts previously mortgaged to their own subjects, the present petitioners. The interference of the resident in the case did not amount to a legal guarantee; but if ever there was a moral guarantee this was one. It was a guarantee that the petitioners should enjoy quiet possession of their security. Although the Nizam is nominally an independent prince, nothing can be more complete than his dependence upon the Government of India. With regard to the relation existing between the Government and the Nizam, there is a despatch from the Court of Directors to the Governor-General, of January, 1824, in which they said, that they considered a system of non-interference, founded on a regard for the rights of the native sovereigns, would have great advantage, provided that the irresistible strength which their protection afforded to the native Governments were "not converted to the oppression of the people."

The redress of this wrong is now sought by the Parsee merchants ("Jevanee Merjee and Pestonjee Merjee"); and their case was stated before the House, on Monday, by Mr. JOHN GEORGE PHILLIMORE and Mr. JOHN ABEL SMITH.

The motion (praying an examination of the case by the Privy Council) was resisted by Sir CHARLES WOOD. He explained, that there was no guarantee whatever given by the British resident; that those Parsee merchants were warned against lending money to the Nizam; that the debt itself was a matter of dispute, and that it is a misdemeanour in a British subject to lend money to a native prince. Sir JAMES HOGG also pointed out that this was but one case out of many. Several others had lent money to native princes and had not got it back. Mr. BRIGHT, in support of the claim of the merchants, pointed out the peculiar position of the Nizam, not as an independent monarch, but as a puppet in the hands of the Company, and supported by the Company; and showed that the law making it misdemeanour to lend to native princes applied only to Britons born and not to British subjects born in India. But Mr. MANGLES showed, in reply, that the Nizam is not under the power of the Company, that the loan was voluntary and the interest 18 per cent. The motion on behalf of the merchants was rejected by 111 to 69.

THE CHURCH IN THE COLONIES.

In amendment of the bill for the regulation of the Church (passed in the House of Lords), Government propose a form of clauses. They will materially reduce the bill in size, and will clearly set forth two principles. The first principle is to establish the most perfect religious equality amongst all sects and religious denominations in the colonies; and the second is, that the colonies should be left in the most free and uncontrolled management of all their affairs, both ecclesiastical and civil. It is merely wished to cut the chain which ties the Colonial Church to the mother Church, but to give it none of the benefits arising from the endowments and privileges of the latter. The object of the bill, in fact, is to relieve the colonial churches from the imputation of violating the law by carrying it on on the principle of voluntary consent and mutual government. It was explained by Lord JOHN RUSSELL that we have to consider whether the Church of England in the colonies ought to be merely in the same position as any sect. Even if the Church of England in the colonies is not an establishment, is it to be deprived of the rights of a voluntary establishment? If the various religious communities in the colonies are to be on a footing of equality, and none of them have any establishment, it is but just that the Church of England should have the same privileges as the others; and if there are any acts of Parliament which deprive it of that liberty which it ought to possess they should be modified.

Mr. GLADSTONE also explained the bill:—

"The question we have to deal with is, whether or not the Church of England in the colonies shall be stripped of the privileges which belong to her as an establishment, and if so, whether she shall not be allowed to fall back on the natural liberty enjoyed by members of every other denomination. It has been proved over and over again, that the disabilities under which the Church in the colonies labours are neither imaginary nor light. One effort has been made by a most energetic bishop, the Bishop of New Zealand. The bishop, finding himself in a society the aboriginal inhabitants of which had been converted to Christianity by the zeal of missionaries, wished to make certain regulations indispensable, in his opinion, with the due carrying on of Church government in the colony. Accordingly, he convened a meeting of the clergy, and a set of regulations were drawn up and sent home for approval; but, owing to the state of the law, those regulations were found to be invalid, because unlawful. We are, in fact, between two difficulties—we may either give the Church in the colony freedom to make its

own regulations, which is the rational mode, though it is said to be liable to the objection that the effect of this would be, which I do not believe, to split up the Church of England into a multitude of differing churches, and the other difficulty is the apprehension felt against anything like the creation of an establishment in the colonies. I think the question could be settled, not by any complex or detailed legislative going into particulars, but that a bill could be drawn up in a single page, which would be not only adequate to meet the difficulties, but which, from its brevity and simplicity, would be the best law that could be passed on the subject—a law declaratory that no law or statute at home should prevent the regulation of the Church in the colonies."

It was then agreed that the Bill should stand over to the next session of Parliament, in deference to the very general feeling expressed by various members against any further promotion of the Bill.

THE CONSTITUTION OF JAMAICA.

The Government and the House of Assembly in Jamaica are at variance—the Assembly wishing reduction of official salaries, and the Government resisting the retrenchment. The quarrel is facilitated by the peculiar constitution of the House of Assembly. In voting money, the practice has been, not to vote it at the request of the Crown, but at the will of independent members of the Assembly. Its disposal is likewise under the control of the members of the Assembly, in their capacity of Commissioners of Accounts. To reform this state of things Government propose (according to Lord JOHN RUSSELL's statement to the House on Thursday (following the Duke of Newcastle's explanation in the Lords), that there shall be a permanent revenue for the permanent salaries of certain public officers; that the initiative of money grants shall rest with the representatives of the Crown, and that certain members of the House of Assembly, or certain persons entitled to appear before that house, shall be the persons responsible for the proposal and expenditure of public grants. By guaranteeing the Jamaica debt, and a new loan, the home Government will still further aid the Jamaica authorities. Sir JOHN PAKINGTON expressed approval of the Government proposition.

VOTING AWAY THE PUBLIC MONEY.

Various grants of money for public purposes were made on Thursday night in committee of supply; and some sharp shooting at abuses and perversions of funds was kept up by independent members.

The management of the British Museum was denounced by Mr. HUME. The catalogue for instance, is 1200 volumes; it has already cost 100,000*l.*, and at the present rate of manufacture will take forty-four years to complete it. Sir ROBERT INGLIS said that more books were wanted, and more space for the present books.

The disgraceful dilapidation of the mansion of the English Embassy at Paris was stated by the Government as a reason for the vote of 5820*l.*, and was emphasised by the Opposition, led by Mr. DISRAELI, as a sign that the former grants, of which no clear account has been given, have been mysteriously wasted—successively expended without any good effect. After a cloud of inquiries on the subject, rather briefly and insufficiently answered by Mr. WILSON, the objections by various members ceased, and the money was voted.

To the vote for the expenses of election commissions some slight objections were made. The money voted for capturing slaves on shore in Africa gave rise to more ineffectual dissension from Mr. BRIGHT and others. But the chief array of objections arose on the new vote of 70,000*l.* for the new Houses of Parliament. One member thought the building never would be finished while Sir Charles Barry lived. Another anticipated a final cost of 2,000,000*l.*; we have voted 1,600,000*l.* The body of flame kept between the roof of the building and the ceiling of the House causing a heat of 140 degrees, and charring the roof; the windows painted over with strange beasts, and not made to let in the fresh air; the inefficient machines for ventilation beneath the floor of the House; the lights on the back benches destroying people's eyes, were topics of querulous declamation by various members, who baited Sir WILLIAM MOLESWORTH with questions, the official zeal of that Minister being admitted on all hands, but Sir Charles Barry being pointed out as an Opposition always successful in defeating successive administrations. Explanations were given, but nothing decisive was agreed to, except the proposed vote of seventy thousand pounds.

ELECTION PETITIONS.

The corrupt practices arising out of the presentation of pretended election petitions, especially the late Norwich petition, were brought before the House, informally, by Mr. DUNCOMBE. One hundred and thirty-three petitions were presented during the present Parliament; of these fifty-nine have been withdrawn or "paired off," and five are now pending. In any alteration in the law which the Government may propose,

effectual care should be taken to prevent this system of "pairing off"—so that no petition, when once laid on the table, could be withdrawn, or, at all events, that no petition should be withdrawn without another petition, in which the reasons for such withdrawal were set forth and signed by those who signed the original petition. Such documents might be referred to an officer of the House appointed for that purpose. A most desirable alteration might also be made in the system of recognisances; for instead of the present clumsy, cumbrous, and unsatisfactory mode of references to the examiners of recognisances, the petitioners should deposit, in lieu of recognisances, 1000*l.* in the Bank of England, not to be withdrawn without the leave of the Speaker, nor until all parties were satisfied. If another general election took place, and the law remain in its present state, similar scandalous proceedings will occur all over again. The gross defects in the present state of the law require a speedy and an effectual remedy. "I do not blame Mr. Brown. He was the solicitor and agent of the Carlton Club, and it was the excess of his zeal for the party in whose service he was engaged that lured him into the indiscretions of which he had been guilty in the case of the Norwich election petition. Mr. Brown worked energetically and incessantly for his party, and when his friends succeeded to power, they testified their gratitude by conferring on him the valuable appointment of solicitor to the Board of Control. If the right honourable gentleman the member for Stamford, who was President of the Board of Control, were now in his place, I would not hesitate to ask that veteran statesman whether he had in the whole course of his political career ever heard of any more profligate or indecent appointment than that of an election agent of a party club to the responsible office of solicitor to one of the great public departments. If Mr. Coppock had received from the present Government the appointment of solicitor to the Treasury, or any other such valuable office, we should never have heard the end of it."

Much the same view of the general question was taken by Lord JOHN RUSSELL. He agreed with Mr. Duncombe, that there was a great abuse with respect to the withdrawal of election petitions, and that it was an abuse which ought not to be suffered to continue if the law could prevent it. The matter should, undoubtedly, receive the serious consideration of Government; and, indeed, a bill for the amendment of the present state of the law had been already drawn up, and would be introduced at the commencement of the ensuing session.

CHURCH PROPERTY.

A discussion on the Episcopal and Capitular Estates took place on Wednesday, on the motion for the second reading of the Marquis of Blandford's Bill for the better regulation of this property. Mr. WIGRAM and Sir ROBERT INGLIS opposed the second reading on many grounds. It is too late in the session to consider the bill; even the Archbishop of Canterbury's bill on Colonial Churches was postponed the other day. The bill would clash with the commission at present inquiring into the state of collegiate churches and chapels. The bill is also objectionable in transferring all church property to three laymen sitting in London, and giving to bishops fixed incomes which might decrease in value; for instance, 4000*l.* per annum now might only be worth 2000*l.* or 1000*l.* in some years, when gold would decline in market value. In many other ways the transfer would jeopardise the property of the Church. Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT also urged postponement of the bill, on the grounds that the session was advanced and a commission sitting. But he was far from approving of the present system; the bishops are made land agents, and even if they do not yield to temptation, the appointments give rise to scandal. Mr. VERNON threw in a word for Convocation, showing how useful it would be to express the opinion of the Church in the present case.

In defence of the bill, the Marquis of BLANDFORD stated its principle, and pointed out its necessity. The principle is, that the property of ecclesiastical persons should be placed in the hands of laymen. Fixed instead of fluctuating incomes are most befitting the spiritual character of bishops. There is no need of further inquiry; a commission has already reported on the subject. Under the proposed bill the commissioners will pay the incomes to the bishops out of the estates of the Church, and thus remove from the prelates all cares of landed property, giving them more time to attend to their spiritual duties. It is not intended to take away any property from the Church. Sir BENJAMIN HALL brought up a new batch of church abuses—

"The reverend gentleman, who was prebendary of Leighton-Buzzard, and who sold the property by public auction at Garraway's for 32,000*l.*, was never in the Church more than once a year, and the chancel, which he was bound to repair, was left in a miserable state of ruin. The present Bishop of Durham (Dr. Maltby), who had

been in the enjoyment of 19,200*l.* per annum, was to have 8000*l.* a year, and to pay the residue (11,200*l.*) to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The moment the proposition was made there was a correspondence, which reflected anything but credit upon the bishop. It was a trial of skill between the bishop and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners—whether the bishop would pay less or the commissioners receive more. At length the commissioners were firm, and notwithstanding his protests that he would be ruined, and the see would not yield the 8000*l.* a year, they made him pay, and the net average of the see for the last year, so far from not being sufficient to pay the 8000*l.* actually produced 24,000*l.* (Loud cries of 'Hear, hear.') Then, again, take the case of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. That body own fifteen houses in Great Stanhope-street, Mayfair, and they are worth 8000*l.* per annum. But in consequence of the enormous fines levied on the houses, the dean and chapter only receive 150*l.* a year, whereas, if the property were in the hands of an individual it would produce 8000*l.* a year. There is also the case of property at Rickmansworth, in Hertfordshire. The Bishop of London ran his life against the lease, and the property fell in. One or two churches were built upon it. The tithes amounted to 1400*l.* a year, and surely it would have been better to have used that property to endow the churches necessary for the spiritual wants of the district. But what was the result? When the lease fell in, the bishop very naturally granted a lease to trustees for his own use, or for that of his family, for twenty-one years, and by this means the Church has been actually robbed of the money."

Lord JOHN RUSSELL advised the postponement of the bill, and expressed his reluctance to be compelled to vote directly against its second reading, because such vote might convey a false expression of his opinion on the bill. "I am far from saying that the principle of the bill is not the principle which Parliament ought to adopt." But the question being grave, and this period of the session late, the bill ought to be postponed. Provoked by Sir Benjamin Hall's remarks, Lord John then explained, that Bishops are not as bad as they seem. The differences between them and the Estates Commissioners really arise from the difficulties of commuting fluctuating into fixed incomes. Sometimes the bishop received less than the income fixed by Parliament, and sometimes more. In the case of Dr. Maltby, the bishop acted under the advice of Mr. Gresley, who had stated that the income of the see could not afford the deduction insisted upon by the Commissioners.

In deference to the general wish of the House, the Marquis of BLANDFORD (whose good intentions were praised by members at all sides), then withdrew the bill—promising to lay it on the table of the House next session.

CHARITABLE TRUSTS.

All charitable trusts are in future to be managed by certain commissioners appointed by the Crown. One clause provides that whenever money is left for the support of the Christian religion it shall be presumed to be intended to benefit the established church. This was opposed by Mr. MIALL, but was carried by 71 to 39.

It is proposed to expressly exempt Roman-catholic trusts from the operation of the Bill, as it is feared that, if not so exempted, they might come under the illegal description of trusts dedicated to "superstitious uses." It is too late in the session to frame a bill legalising Roman-catholic trusts, besides that such legalisation would introduce, for the first time, a recognition of the Roman-catholic Church. Therefore it is proposed to omit, by name, all Roman-catholic trusts from the control established by the Bill. Sir FREDERICK THESIGER strongly objected to this, as a continuance of the unprotected state in which Roman-catholic charities are placed, their mal-administration not being capable of redress, for the law does not recognise them at all. There is no danger of the law being applied to them as "superstitious uses," but there is danger that the Cabinet mean to continue to the Roman-catholic Church the privilege of having their charitable trusts exempted from the control of the law. Lord JOHN RUSSELL showed the necessity of the express exemption. By law, at present, a bequest for masses for the dead could be made void, on the ground that it was for "superstitious uses;" therefore it is necessary to protect Roman-catholics from that danger. On a division, 87 to 76 carried the exemption.

JUVENILE OFFENDERS BILL.

The object of this bill is the permissive establishment by counties or boroughs, or by counties and boroughs conjointly, of reformatory schools for young criminals where they shall be taught some industrial trade, and be supplied with parental care and home influence, instead of being subject to the rough and unsatisfactory treatment of a short imprisonment in our common gaols. The evil which the bill seeks to remedy is a great one, no less than the existence throughout the country, and especially in large towns, of an immense class of children, who, by the absence of parental care, fall into criminal habits of life.

Mr. ADDERLEY moved the second reading of the

bill. Lord PALMERSTON briefly stated the points of the question, and asked to have the bill postponed for better consideration. He said:—

"The object in dealing with crimes and offences may be said to be threefold—in some cases the object is example, in others the object is a combination of example and reformation, and in others it is altogether that of reformation. With regard to crimes of great violence and atrocity committed by full-grown persons, the interests of society require that the punishment should be exemplary and penal—that they should deter others from the commission of similar crimes. In such cases reformation is out of the question. The greater number of crimes committed by adults are of a mixed character, in the punishment of which example is required for the purpose of deterring others from imitation, but with respect to which hopes of reformation are not to be abandoned. With regard to them, therefore, the objects of punishment should be of a mixed and twofold character. But I am quite ready to admit that, with regard to children, you must consider reformation to be your object. The punishment of them, with the view of deterring other children from committing similar offences, is of secondary importance. I think that the general principle recommended by the honourable gentleman is one deserving the greatest consideration, and I trust that a measure upon the subject may be passed next session. The details of the measure would require very mature consideration. I think that we might combine this with that measure which came down from the House of Lords with respect to the treatment of destitute children. There is other business of practical importance before the House, and it would not, therefore, be wise to prolong the present discussion. I think the best thing which honourable members can do in this matter is to read, during the recess, the evidence taken before the committee referred to by the honourable gentleman. If they do that we shall be able, when Parliament meets again, to enter into a discussion of the question, with a view to some immediate and practical measure."

After some approving remarks from Sir JAMES GRAHAM, and thanks to the Government from Mr. MONCKTON MILNES, the bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed this day three months.

MERCHANT SHIPPING.

When a Queen's ship saves the merchandise or crew of another ship, no claim for salvage is to be allowed in respect of any damage done to her Majesty's ship, or any loss of stores, in consequence of the exertion. This is the effect of a new clause in the new bill regulating the merchant service.

The Queen's ships have at present a right to take from any merchant vessel any number of volunteers. The power is but little exercised, though existing in full force. At all the different stations in the course of the last eighteen months only 170 men have volunteered. The question has been treated as a question of morality, but it is also a question of humanity. It affects most beneficially the condition of the men upon a long voyage. Of the 170 cases, 10 were volunteers from ill-usage, 8 from bad provisions, 7 from bad usage and bad provisions, 13 from having had quarrels with their masters or officers, and 61 from discontent generally. Out of the 170, 155 had been replaced, and only 40 left without the consent of their masters. Considering, therefore, the value and the age of the right, the absence of any injustice in asserting it, and the compensation which it makes, it is a measure alike of expediency, humanity, and equity to the seamen in the merchant service. In reply to Mr. HUTT, and many other representatives of seaport towns, who pressed the Government to abolish this power, as being unjust and injurious to the merchant service, Sir JAMES GRAHAM and Mr. CARDWELL thus defended it. Its retention was affirmed by 129 to 49.

The funds arising from tolls, light dues, and such charges, are in future to be applied to the execution of services tending to diminish the expense of the services defrayed at present by such fund. The amendment to this effect was proposed by Mr. CAIRNS, and assented to by Mr. CARDWELL.

NAVAL VOLUNTEERS.

The voluntary principle used in the Militia is to be applied to the new coast volunteers for the naval service. In our rivers and in the coasting trade there are a number of men who will accept with avidity the bounty of 6*l.* a man, which this bill offers, and to them we should look for making up the complement sanctioned by this bill. It is proposed in the first instance that 10,000 men should be raised, while it will be stipulated, that the men should not be taken more than 50 leagues from the British or Irish coast. The period of training is limited to 28 days. The men will receive the pay of able seamen in the navy, and be called out for five years; but in case of special emergency they will be obliged to serve for another year, and if the danger continues, and is imminent after that period, then the volunteers will be called out for an additional year, receiving an addition of 2*l.* a day to their pay, and being obliged to go 100 leagues from the coast. It is in contemplation to appoint one commanding officer to superintend the training over the whole of the

United Kingdom. On the motion of Sir JAMES GRAHAM the Bill passed through committee on Monday, the only material objection made being by Admiral WALCOT. He objected to the words, "in the case of an invasion;" they might give offence. But the gallant Admiral's apprehensions were tranquillised, and the clauses of the Bill were agreed to without amendment.

On bringing up the report on the Bill Sir JAMES GRAHAM stated that he had "considered" Admiral Walcot's objection, and that for fear of giving offence he would omit the words, "in case of an invasion." He would substitute the words, "in case of an apprehension of national danger."

IRISH TENANTS.

The right of the landlord to distrain growing crops has been struck out of the new bill—Lord MONCK having moved an amendment to that effect. Sir WILLIAM VERNER fiercely opposed the alteration—denouncing the bill as encouraging ribandism, repeal, and several other abominations. Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER HAMILTON also opposed the amendment; but it was carried by 90 to 74.

In case the landlord proceed to eject, not for non-payment of rent, or for breach of covenant, but at his own pleasure, the tenant shall be allowed time to put in his claim for compensation. A clause to this effect has been added by Mr. KEOGH to the Tenant Compensation Bill. Sir ARTHUR BROOKE took occasion thereupon to denounce the reckless way in which English members voted away the rights of Irish property. Lord JOHN RUSSELL denied the charge, and mentioned, with high praise, Mr. Napier as the originator of the present bill. A proviso, enacting that the tenant shall file, within twelve months, a declaration of his claim for improvements, stating their value, so that the landlord may know the particulars of the claim, was also added on the motion of Mr. KEOGH.

COFFEE AND CHICORY.

A minute issued by Lord Derby's Government prohibited the mixture of chicory with coffee. Lord Aberdeen's Government have repealed this minute, and allow chicory to be mixed with coffee if the mixture is stated on a label affixed to the article sold. The coffee planters of Ceylon have complained through Lord TORRINGTON that the consequent consumption of chicory instead of coffee seriously diminishes their trade, and that the British revenue itself is injured by the consumption of chicory in preference to coffee. In the year ending June last the consumption of coffee had diminished by 668,000*lbs.* as compared with 1852, and nearly 700,000*lbs.* as compared with 1851. The shopkeepers now charge the people 1*s.* for an article which does not cost them more than 3*d.* or 4*d.*, and they realize at this moment the enormous sum of 1,200,000*l.* out of chicory sold among the poorer classes of the people. After Lord Derby's treasury minute there was an increase in the consumption of coffee, but after Lord Aberdeen's treasury minute the consumption decreased.

A defence of the new regulations was made by Lord ABERDEEN. Chicory is not unhealthy; some like their coffee pure, but many like the mixture of chicory. When such mixture is stated distinctly on the label no fraud is committed. The difficulty with traders of keeping chicory for separate sale is, that ground chicory after any length of time becomes caked, and cannot be mixed until ground again. Therefore it is a great convenience to dealers to be allowed to keep the coffee and chicory mixed together. Several peers took part in the discussion—Lord MONTEAGLE opposing the Government view of the question, mainly on the ground that the revenue derived from coffee would be diminished by the preferential consumption of coffee.

THE BARON DE BODE.

This gentleman, though of foreign family, is a British subject, having been born in England. He possessed property in Alsace at the time of the revolution. It was confiscated. At the restoration the French Government arranged to make compensation to the owners of all properties confiscated, and a joint English and French commission was instituted to investigate claims. By a mistake on the part of the commissioners full evidence of the baron's right to compensation was not received, and his claim was not allowed. He has again and again petitioned Parliament for redress, and prayed that his claim might be satisfied out of the surplus that remained of the funds placed at the disposal of the commissioners for the liquidation of such claims. A committee of the House of Lords was at length appointed, and it recommended that the claim of the baron should be paid. No action, however, was taken on this report. Therefore Lord LYNCHURST revived the question on Monday night in an eloquent and perspicuous exposition. The LORD CHANCELLOR opposed any allowance for the claim, on

the grounds that the real possessor of the property was the father of the Baron de Bode, and not the Baron de Bode himself—the cession of the property to the son at the time of the revolution being of doubtful legality. A jury had, it is true, decided that the claim was good, but a jury sitting in 1844 on facts that occurred in 1791 were not very competent judges. The claim would now amount to about a million and a half sterling, and it would require a special act of Parliament to charge it upon the Consolidated Fund. Lord LYNDEHURST pressed the case to a division, but was defeated by 16 to 6.

COMBINATION OF WORKMEN'S BILL.

Lord KINNAIRD, last night, moved the second reading of this bill, in favour of which numerous petitions have been presented from the working classes. He did not deny that some persons might think that the bill would give them a greater power to combine; but he was authorized to state, on the part of the promoters of the bill, that their object was not in any way to alter the present law, but merely to define it more clearly. Different constructions had been put upon the law by high legal authorities, and it was necessary that it should be well understood. He hoped their lordships would allow the bill to be read a second time, in order that it might be considered in committee.

Lord TREURO denied that the bill was called for to reconcile the different opinions of high legal authorities as to the interpretation of the existing acts relating to workmen. No such differences of opinion had prevailed in the legal tribunals, and if they had, there was nothing in the present bill to explain the existing law. The present measure authorized workmen to enter into an agreement binding each other as to the rate of wages, the hours of labour, and so on. They were to be allowed to meet, combine, or associate, for that purpose; but there was another section which provided that persons should not, by threat or intimidation, or coercion, obstruction, or molestation, force, or endeavour to force, or induce other workmen to form a club or contribute to a common fund, or pay obedience to any regulations which might be made by any club. Further on it was enacted, that "peaceable persuasion should not be deemed obstruction or molestation." Peaceable persuasion might be carried to an extent which might amount to force and coercion. It was impossible to say what form of words would come under the term peaceable persuasion.

The LORD CHANCELLOR suggested the withdrawal of the bill.

The Earl of HARDWICKE also opposed it as offering a premium on combination, for which there were already, it appeared, ample facilities, as they had recently seen a strike to which Parliament itself had had to make concessions.

Lord KINNAIRD consented to withdraw the bill, and it was accordingly withdrawn.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In the House of Commons, at the morning sitting, the Pilotage Bill passed through committee. The Customs Acts Consolidation Bill passed through committee, and the Betting-Houses bill was considered, and ordered to be read a third time on Monday.

The business of the evening sitting commenced with the committee on the South Sea and other annuities; Provision for Payment bill, which, after a desultory conversation, in which the old topics of discussion were renewed, until the Chancellor of the Exchequer was out of all patience and lost his temper, the bill passed through that stage.

The House then went into committee of supply, and the rest of the evening was occupied in details and short but smart discussions.

Incidentally Sir JAMES GRAHAM stated that he had increased our naval force in the Chinese Seas, and that happily, whatever the internal disturbances in the Chinese empire there was no probability of commerce being interfered.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.—Lord DUDLEY STUART complained of the cost, the inefficiency, and the offensive conduct of this force. The cost is larger by 100,000*l.* than it was a few years since; and the expense to the metropolitan parishes is greater now by thirty-nine per cent. than it was when the metropolitan parishes were formed. The metropolis is not now better watched than it used to be when there were fewer policemen, and the expense was a great deal lighter. The people of Marylebone contribute one-fifth of the whole cost of the metropolitan force. The cost of watchmen in the parish of Marylebone used to be 10,000*l.* a-year, and Sir R. Peel used to speak of it as a model parish in such matters, whereas the expense of police is now 25,000*l.* a-year. Formerly there were 251 watchmen in the parish; there are now 211 policemen, and yet the expense is twice as great.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES BILL.—A bill to extend to Irish corporations the privilege of founding public libraries out of a special rate has been passed through the House of Lords.

STRANGERS AND DIVISIONS.—Strangers are now

allowed to be present at the divisions in the House; and the time allowed for members to enter the House after the announcement of the division is "two minutes."

ELECTION FEASTS, BANDS, AND COLOURS.—Colonel SIBTHORP was in high style on Wednesday. He denounced the bill to prevent music, processions, and dinners at elections, as "a mean, low, dirty bill; a dangerous, delusive, and entrapping bill." He might himself be convicted of bribery for giving a shilling to a sick man. As regards his attachment to the House, he would not much care to be turned out; but he would not like to part from his constituents. In Committee several members objected to the provisions of the bill, as too stringent against music and bell-ringing; and a very general feeling was shown to set the bill aside, without directly negating the principle it involved. Sir JAMES GRAHAM said, drily, that the House had better proceed to the next order of the day—"the treatment of lunatics." The attempt to defeat the bill was resolutely opposed by Mr. CRAVEN BERKELEY, who appealed to "the common sense of the House—not, of course, including the honourable member for Lincoln." And referring to Sir James Graham's defence of music, and objection to flags, asked why the Carlisle folk might not have a banner inscribed, "Jemmy Graham and Consistency," as well as play the "Black Joke." (Roars of laughter.) Colonel SIBTHORP said, he treated Mr. Berkeley with contempt. Sir JAMES GRAHAM interposed to hope good humour would be preserved. Addressing Colonel Sibthorp ("my leader on this occasion"), he excused Mr. Berkeley—"He loves not music as thou dost, Antony." In this jolly way the debate was continued, members repeating over and over again their objections to the prohibition of the bill—one Irish member expressing for his countrymen a partiality for music and "all kinds of innocent pastime." Finally, this persevering opposition carried its point by breaking off the consideration of the Bill in committee—the renewal being fixed, a month from last Wednesday.

A DEPUTY-SPEAKER.—In case of the Speaker's illness, the Chairman of Committees is to take his place, according to a new rule passed on Thursday, amid the approval of the leading members at both sides of the House. Observations against late sittings, and in favour of winter sessions, were also made.

LETTERS FROM PARIS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LETTER LXXXIV.

Paris, Thursday Evening, August 4, 1853.

THIS week has been signalized by a succession of episodes in the Eastern question. After the protest of Turkey against the entry of the Russians into the Danubian provinces—a protest drawn up, it is understood, by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe himself, and considered in Paris tame, spiritless, and wanting in dignity (*peu digne*); after this protest came the project of arrangement proposed by M. de Bruck at Constantinople, adopted by the four ambassadors, and accepted by the Sultan. This project, which committed the mistake of arriving after that joint *ultimatum* of France and England, in which they majestically declared that they should "take further measures" (*qu'elles s'aviseraient*), was very ill received by Bonaparte. The Emperor read it aloud on Tuesday last, in the Council of Ministers, and after having commented upon it, expressed himself with considerable vehemence against the concessions which had been introduced into it, adding, "that we had gone far enough in the way of weakness, *if not of pusillanimity*, and that, for his own part, he positively refused to assent to this arrangement, and never would assent to it." Just after this stormy sitting, which created a great sensation in Paris, the *Constitutionnel*, the journal of semi-official communications, received orders to insert the following note:—"The conditions of arrangement brought by the *Caradoc* are not assented to, either by the Cabinet of Paris or by the Cabinet of London; nor even, it would appear, by the Cabinet of Vienna. We believe we may guarantee the exactitude of this assertion." Only imagine the terror of the men at the Bourse when they read this paragraph! The evening before, they had operated for a rise: all was over comfortably—with shame and dishonour, what did it matter? The question was solved, the result was all they looked at; "The Porte has accepted the arrangement on which the Emperor of Russia had been unofficially sounded beforehand."

The very day after the Bourse said all was over, out came one of the organs of the French Government with the declaration, that neither France nor England, nor even Austria, accepted that arrangement. Why, the Bourse was panic-struck. Everybody, not excepting the diplomatists themselves, was in commotion. M. de Kisseleff, the Russian Ambassador, hastened to the Emperor to ask for explanations." Bonaparte replied, "that he was not the editor of the *Constitutionnel*, that the *Moniteur* was the official journal of the Government, that the *Constitutionnel* was not, and therefore, it did not concern him." M. de Kisseleff went away, declaring to Bonaparte, "that he did not expect to find him so warm a partisan of the liberty of the press." In the meantime, news came of the conferences at Vienna. On the 25th ult., the Ambassadors of the four Western Powers had agreed upon a form of collective *ultimatum* to be addressed to Russia, in which,

1. A part of Russia's demands is conceded.

2. The concessions demanded exclusively in favour of the Greek Church are generalized, and applied to all the Christian communions.

3. These concessions to be made under the collective guarantee of the four Powers of the West.

4. Russia is called upon to engage herself towards the said Powers not to avail herself of the present concessions for the purpose of interfering in the internal affairs of Turkey, and infringing the rights and the sovereignty of the Sultan.

5. Three days delay accorded to Russia to decide.

6. If Russia accepts, she is to evacuate the Principalities by a given day.

7. If she refuses, the eventual consequences lie with her, the four Great Powers having resolved to proceed to action.

Such, I have reason to believe, was in substance this collective *ultimatum* sent from Vienna. Drawn up on the 24th it was despatched on the 25th to St. Petersburg and Constantinople simultaneously. All the rumours in circulation on the Bourse on Monday contributed not a little to arrest the panic which the *Constitutionnel* of the day before, and of the same morning, had produced. This accord of the four Powers and their firmness of language reassured everybody. That evening all the men of business were busy calculating the forces which the four Powers might bring together against Russia, and at the head of these forces they were hard at work fighting away on a scale more or less colossal their *Russian campaign*. The next morning (Tuesday) matters looked still more promising. They had gone to sleep in the arms of the victory, and the humbled Czar was begging peace; his courier had arrived that very night bringing the acceptance of the Czar, who implored the gentlemen of the Bourse to spare his life. On this a grand rise, a rise of one franc! In vain you tried to persuade these maniacs that the Czar could hardly have got the *ultimatum* by to-day (August 2nd); they wouldn't hear a word. "Nicholas recedes; he is afraid of us;"—such was the answer that fell from elated jobbers upon those who remained sceptical and hinted doubts.

Yesterday the wind changed. News came of the arrogant conduct of Russia in Moldavia and Wallachia. The Hospodars had been forbidden to pay the ordinary tribute to the Porte; indeed, they had been *quasi*-suspended from their functions; and a council of three members had been appointed by the Czar to administer each province in their name. The Russians were about to convoke the national assemblies of the two countries for the purpose of sowing the germs of revolution in those bodies, and thereby preparing for the future frequent pretexts for re-entering the Principalities in case they should be compelled to evacuate them immediately *now*. They had promised to pay for all their provisions in cash; but as the presence of 120,000 men, concentrated on certain points of the territory, had created a rise of a third in the price of provisions, they declared that they would only pay for them at the current prices of last June. This giving rise to numerous quarrels between their troops and the inhabitants of the country, the Russians determined at last to take what they wanted without paying anything; and this system they decorate with the description of "contributions in kind." All who refuse to pay this heavy impost are whisked off and forcibly incorporated into the Russian army.

This last news has almost opened the eyes of the blind to the designs of Russia. It is now clear enough to all that the design of Russia is to render the government of the two provinces absolutely impossible for the future. It begins to be generally perceived that the acts to which Russia resorts in the Principalities do not manifest any very decided disposition to retire from them; and it is now feared that it may be necessary to resort to force to compel her to do so. Another symptom: the *Moniteur* announced, with a certain emphasis, that, on Saturday last, there was a Cabinet Council at London, and that its deliberations were long and animated. From this it was concluded that a change of policy was imminent in England, and that temporising vacillation was to make way for activity and decision. All these rumours and symptoms exercised a startling influence upon the Funds. The rise of the preceding evening had been one franc; the fall of yesterday was one franc. To-day is occupied with sombre provisions, and the Bourse has just closed with a further fall of fifty centimes.

Indeed, the Eastern question absorbs the whole of public attention. All affairs are in suspense: that one crisis is the sole pre-occupation of all minds, as if no other events were of possible occurrence. All is tranquil enough here in appearance. The examination of the conspiracy of the Opera Comique is being prosecuted, but hitherto with no result, notwithstanding the great number of arrests which have been effected. This week there has been a fresh rise in the price of bread,

in spite of the official denials of the fact; and this has raised fresh murmurs. But, by way of compensation, the authorities, I am informed, have arranged to produce an artificial fall on the 15th of August, the day of Bonaparte's fête. Preparations are being made for that day. Illuminations (I need not say official) of a new description are in preparation. Behind powerful jets of gas will be placed multiplying reflectors, revolving with wonderful rapidity: between these reflectors and the gas will be placed coloured multiplying glasses, equally movable. By this means will be obtained prodigious effects of light from all the colours in succession. It is the city of Paris, with its 165 millions (of francs) of debt upon its shoulders, which will have to pay for all these new *feux de joie*. Moreover, the Tuileries is being restored. You remember, six months ago, some ten millions (of francs) were expended on that palace. It seems that it is now to be all redecorated and regilt. Orders have been given to have all ready for the 15th of August, the day when his Majesty is to do the Parisians the honour of sleeping at the Tuileries. Meanwhile, Trianon, too, is being refurnished—the Trianon of poor Marie-Antoinette—for the consort of his Majesty. I hear of rural tastes (*goûts champêtres*) having developed themselves rather suddenly in our amiable Empress of late; and it is even proposed to reconstruct the Swiss dairy. Whether we shall hear of disguised (imperial) dairy-maids, I do not hear; but the idolizing husband has amiably consented to all the caprices of the beloved one, and as I write the masons are busy at Trianon. Who's to pay? Certainly not the purse of the august pair: if I am not mistaken, the civil list of twenty-five millions of francs (1,000,000*l.*) has been long devoured and dissipated. For three months past economy has been the principal resource. The house has been swept out; chamberlains, equerries, ladies in waiting, ladies of the bedchamber, and, in fact, all the *haute domesticité* of the château have been sent about their business. And after the high has come the turn of the low. It has been the office of M. Fould, in his capacity of a child of Israel, to prune all these superfluous parasitical expenses. The Court has lived of late "on tick." When the purveyors and other tradesmen ask for payment M. Fould offers them—the Legion of Honour. All this only makes us laugh, you may well believe.

I have now to announce an important piece of news. The Virgin Mary has appeared in Provence. Several people have seen her; others have spoken to her, and she has answered them in *patois*! Think of the commotion in those countries—women and children deserting in hot haste their infants and their schools to betake themselves in procession to the highly favoured *cabane* of Mounans, near Cannes, the celebrated residence of Lord Brougham.* Unfortunately the sub-prefect of Grasse, who no doubt has been a reader of Voltaire, gave orders to the *commissaire de police* at Cannes to pull down the cabane, which was incontinently done. The next day, instead of 1000 people, there were about 10,000 on the ground. The sub-prefect is now in deliberation with the *gardes champêtres* (rural police) of the canton about what he can pull down next in order to prevent these riotous assemblages of the "faithful." S.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

THE all-engrossing Russo-Turkish question leaves the rest of Europe a blank. The few scraps of news worth noting may be condensed into a very small compass.

In the north of Europe the squadron of Russia, which has moved from Cronstadt, is beginning to attract the anxious observation of the lesser Powers. The accounts of the ravages of cholera at Copenhagen are still distressing. On the 29th ult. the medical report was, sick, 279; dead, 149; total 4413 cases, of which 2323 deaths. The king had, it is said, proposed that an extraordinary health officer should be appointed, with dictatorial powers, so that the various clashing committees and authorities (his Ministers included) should submit to his directions. There being in Copenhagen, as in some other cities we could mention, an army of boards and commissioners, and committees, and abuses, but no energetic unity, this step has also been demanded by the whole press, of all colours.

The Queen of Prussia (sister to the Emperor of Russia) has started for Ischl and Vienna.

Notwithstanding the conferences of the four Western Powers at Vienna, under the auspices of Austria, it is difficult to believe that, in the event of the gravest contingencies, Austria will be able or willing to co-operate with France and England against Russia. The deep obligations to the Czar, and the overhanging dread of revolution, paralyze the initiative, and stultify the traditional policy

* We trust the noble lord who, if only as the biographer of Voltaire, is so well calculated for such an inquiry, will on his return to Cannes prosecute researches into this mysterious apparition. But it may be apprehended that the bare announcement of the versatile and venerable Lord's return to those favoured and classical shores will induce any virgin who "answers questions in *patois*" to make off; or at least to abate her pretensions to a more than terrestrial origin.—*Ed.*

of Austria in the east of Europe. Prussia, doubly exposed to the inroads of Russian ambition, is scarcely less afraid of revolution than Austria, and consequently scarcely less averse to risk the chances of a conflict with Russia, the great patron of European Order. Any real co-operation between the four Western Powers is, as we said last week, an impossibility in the present condition of Europe. Diplomacy is never more contemptible than when it congratulates itself on having, by its long-suffering towards Russia, conciliated the combined support of the two German Powers. Of course, when we speak of Austria and Prussia, we mean the Courts of Austria and Prussia, the nations being out of the question altogether—

—*delirant reges, plectuntur Achivi.*

In 1849, Austria, aided by Russia, destroyed her own chief bulwark against Russian aggression. Prussia rejoiced, and England connived at the subjugation of Hungary. Is it to be believed that in 1853 Austria and Prussia will act with France and England against Russia? The Nemesis of nations and the fatal logic of events forbid it. Diplomats may draw up notes in common, but England and France can only act with Austria and Russia at the cost of the most ruinous humiliations to Turkey, and sooner or later, to themselves. No man knows this better than the Earl of Westmoreland at Vienna, and Lord John Russell, when he talks complacently of the four Western Powers in concert, knows as well as Lord Palmerston that he is lending his official tongue to a delusion.

The recent arrests in Vienna include several ladies of high distinction.

The King of Piedmont recently scraped the rocks in the Bay of La Spezia, and was obliged to get on board another steamer for safety.

The Austrian military commandant of the city and port of Leghorn has published a sentence by court-martial, dated the 27th ult., condemning three porters and a boatman respectively to 12, 10, 7, and 3 months' imprisonment in irons, for having on the 29th of May last hoisted a tricoloured flag on the wall of Saint Cosimo, and let off a quantity of squibs in the adjacent streets on the occasion. Three more have been dismissed for want of sufficient proof, and one acquitted.

Only four applications have hitherto been made to the fund of the 400,000 francs subsidy voted by the Sardinian Parliament on behalf of the Lombard exiles whose property had been sequestered by Austria, and these applications are only to the amount altogether of 8700 francs.

The King of Naples, who has long ceased to see his capital, and lives in the strictest seclusion, fenced by guards and spies, is now at Ischia, in great alarm at the prospect of a war.

The Austrian official journals talk very grandly about the satisfaction to be demanded of the United States for the affair at Smyrna. On the other hand, letters from St. Petersburg, published in German papers, state that the Czar, upon hearing of the Smyrna affair, advised the Austrian Government to wind it up as soon as possible, and do anything rather than open a door to the interference of the United States in European affairs.

The Czar is reported to have a great respect for the United States Government, whose policy is at least intelligible.

The Madrid *Gazette* of the 30th announces officially that the Queen is in the fifth month of her pregnancy. The Ministerial crisis is adjourned.

We have a few notes to add to the intelligence upon the Eastern question, to be found in other parts of our paper.

While diplomatists are busy about accommodation, Russia is steadily and actively pursuing her warlike preparations.

"On the 20th of July (says the *Times*), a ukase was published raising a levy of seven men per 1000 on the population of the eastern half of the Empire, which is supposed to amount to 23 millions. At the same time the arrears of men (three per 1000) who had been excused on the last levy, are called up, so that in some districts the conscription will amount to 1 per cent. Some pressure has begun to be felt for money to support these enormous military preparations, and the Executive Government applied to the Minister of Finance for permission to use a portion of the gold reserve deposited in the fortresses of the Crown. But this gold is the basis of the Russian paper currency, and the Minister of Finance raised strong objections, which were not for the present overruled, to the appropriation of any part of this fund. The Emperor then applied to the Sacred Synod for a loan of 60 million rubles." The Synod expresses its readiness to comply, but its desire to be excused. This last demand indicates not only a great want of ready money and a severe demand upon the resources of the State, but also a decided intention to make the forthcoming conflict a religious war. The Turks, it is true, may play the same game, and with equal effect.

But what renders these several ukases the more remarkable is that even those districts which had been exempted for a certain time from the recruitment, in consequence of bad harvests, are called on to furnish their contingent, as are the Jews. The above ukase was accompanied by language in the *Abelle* of St. Petersburg (where, it must be remembered, all journals are subject to censorship) of an exceedingly warlike nature, which the French journals have been interdicted to publish. The following is a specimen:—"Russia fears nothing. In spite of calumny she pursues her course in the interest and for the greater glory of the orthodox faith, and will in the end scatter like dust all her enemies." It is worthy of remark, too, that at the date of this furious tirade the Czar had received the proposition of France and England.

While our Court is entertaining two Princesses of the Imperial family of Russia, the Czar is not less ostentatious, it would seem, in his expressions of personal regard to the representative of St. James's at St. Petersburg.

A letter from St. Petersburg, of the 24th ult., in the *Patrie*, says:—"The evening before last the Emperor gave a grand fête at his palace of the Hermitage. On this

occasion, the ambassadors of France and England, it was remarked, were the object of particular attention from his Majesty."

Letters from Jassy and Bucharest to the 14th and 19th of July give details respecting the Russian forces, who are fortifying themselves in a formidable manner in the Principalities. Every day there are arrivals of artillery intended for the works of defence established in the strongest points of the country. The Russians are forming three entrenched camps, which are intended to protect all their lines, and which are to be rendered impregnable.

Accounts from Odessa of the 17th July announce that the Grand Duke Constantine, lately named Grand Admiral of the naval forces of Russia, had just arrived in that city. He was to proceed forthwith to Sebastopol, to inspect the two naval divisions in the Black Sea. He was accompanied by a considerable suite of naval officers and by several engineers, who are about to make hydrographic surveys along the shores of the Crimea.

The Grand Duke Constantine peculiarly represents the old Muscovite and fanatical party, with whom Russian domination is an article of faith.

La Presse, in noticing the important *personnel* of scientific officers accompanying the Grand Duke Constantine, adds the following significant remarks:—"The respect due to the public and solemn declarations of the Russian Government would induce us to believe that nothing but a survey of the coasts of the Crimea is in fact intended; but we cannot help recalling, in relation to this inspection, a piece of news which we derived more than a year ago from the *Gazette de Cologne*, long before the mission of Prince Menschikoff was talked of." A rumour has recently been spread, says the *Gazette of Cologne* of July 25, 1852, that a number of Russian engineers and officers are at the present moment traversing Serbia to map out and study the military situation of the country. The Porte having ordered inquiries to be made, it has been discovered that eighteen Russian officers have traversed the north-east of European Turkey, taken plans of Widdin, Schumla, Ruttchuck, and Varna, and were at present in the Balkan examining the principal passes of that range."

This exploration of the Balkan undertaken last year speaks ill for Russia, as it undoubtedly tends to the recent acts of that Power the character of premeditation.

Turkey and her allies are not remiss in preparations. There is great risk, however, of a precipitated *dénouement* of the long suspense, by the fanatical levies under Omer Pasha taking the war into their own hands, and attacking the Russian forces, in spite of diplomatic attempts at accommodation. The exasperation of the Mussulmen is necessarily increasing with every fresh delay, and fears of an insurrection or of an attack on the Christian population are entertained; the more so that Russia contemplates such a contingency with particular eagerness, as she would then assert her Protectorate with something like a cause.

The Governor of Damascus has summoned the principal Christians and Mahometans, and strongly urged them to live in peace together. The Governor of Aleppo, who is renowned for his energy, has seized some thirty fanatical Turks, and locked them up in a fort between Alexandretta and Latakia.

On the 14th ult., Admiral Dundas, with all the captains of his fleet, made a reconnoissance as far as Gallipoli. On his return he inspected minutely the fort of Chenek, which is the most important that the Turks possess on the Asiatic coast. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe was expected at Besika. Admiral Dundas was to accompany his Excellency on his return to Constantinople.

The *Portafoglio Maltese*, of the 16th ult., announces the arrival at Malta of the French steamer *Ajaccio*, with fifty-two French superior officers on board, who are to enter the Ottoman service. It also states that the French steamer *Leonidas* left Malta on the 15th for Constantinople, with 120 chests of muskets on board.

The Egyptian fleet is now in the Turkish waters. Letters from Trebisond announce that Abdi-Pasha has organized there a corps of 20,000 men.

The *Moniteur* records with evident delight the unprecedented event of a French horse having won the cup at Goodwood. The names of the sire and dam of the winner, Sting and Currency, sufficiently betray, however, the Saxon lineage of Jouvence, although she was born upon French soil. Besides, the *Moniteur* forgets, or probably is ignorant, that French horses are treated almost as hacks in England, being allowed 21 lbs., equivalent to a start of about a mile and a half. Nevertheless we should see no cause to regret even if, *par impossibilité*, a real French horse, ridden by a real French jockey, were some day to win the Derby. In these days of unrestricted competition it would be an immense stimulus to our stables!

THE CAMP.

THE Queen visited the Camp on Thursday, again riding a black charger, and displaying an animated interest in the proceedings. The charges of cavalry were brilliant and well managed. The troops then defiled before the Queen. Around her stood her husband, her children, and the Prince of Wurtemberg, son-in-law of the Emperor of Russia. The *Morning Post* is, as usual, particular in its record:—"The Queen exhibited great interest, and replied with much animation to the numerous questions put to her by the young princes, whose attention seemed much attracted to the Scots Greys and the 8th Hussars. As the 97th marched past, her Majesty, who was in excellent spirits, bent time with vivacity to the lively air of 'Rory O'More,' so gaily played by their band, and paid both the 7th Fusiliers and the 88th (Comaught Rangers) the compliment of specially directing the Prince of Wurtemberg's attention to them." The attention of his Im-

perial father-in-law might be usefully called to the same.

On Saturday there were some extensive movements, chiefly remarkable for a masterly retreat. It may be remembered that towards the east front of the Camp the lower part of Catlin's valley becomes swampy, and that a bridge has been thrown across, which, when the first division was under canvas, was made subservient to a very brilliant field day. Then the object was to throw the troops across the bridge, the low grounds being supposed impassable, and to withdraw them again to the south side when in retreat, making the marsh itself a strong line of defence against the further advance of the enemy. The last manœuvre was repeated with the new division on Saturday, and, as on the previous occasion, was exceedingly effective. Before the enemy, checked in its advance by the cavalry, had reached that part of the valley where the Guards were drawn up, Sir Richard England's and Lockyer's brigades, diminishing their fronts, had already passed over the morass, the south side of which they lined, ready to cover the retreat of the division. The artillery also, crowning the heights on the same side, opened a tremendous cannonade, and as the cavalry retired across the marsh, the Guards, by battalions extended in line, and skirmishing, stoutly held the enemy at bay. The *coup d'œil* of this manœuvre is certainly finer than anything else of the kind witnessed by us during the encampment. Its novelty of effect was somewhat marred by repetition on Saturday, and we missed here, as elsewhere, the Rifles, who did their work so appropriately and well in the old division; but still there was the same brilliant military condensation and the same amphitheatric effect. As the Guards slowly withdrew from the north side of the marsh, the two other foot brigades from the south side deployed into line and opened upon the enemy a tremendous flanking fire. The artillery blazed away from the heights, and the eastern end of the valley was wrapped in smoke. At length the whole of the division had safely passed over, and established itself in overpowering strength immediately below the head quarters. Had Colonel Vicars persevered, he might have captured Lord Seaton and stormed "the Magnet," but he satisfied himself with his success so far, and, not seeking to provoke fortune more, the evolutions terminated, each regiment gallantly took its way back to camp, with its band playing; and shortly afterwards the crowds of spectators who had assembled to witness the operations were returning to town again, highly gratified by all that they had seen.

In lieu of the usual strategetic manœuvres, Chobham, on Tuesday, "saw another sight," a splendid and spirit-stirring charge.

On the whole, Heaven has been on the side of the 'Sappers' during the late war. They have won many a memorable field. But, on Tuesday, Lord Seaton, after some manœuvring and retreating, showed fight. The whole line of the Guards delivered a steady series of sustained volleys. The reverberations of their deadly fire were in a moment drowned by the wild shouts and loud hurrahs of the whole brigade as, with levelled bayonets, it charged furiously down the slope, driving the enemy's left before it in the wildest disorder, and halting on the edge of the morass in the valley, over, or rather into which, a due regard for the spotless white trousers of the men prevented them from charging. Next, the Highlanders raised their war-cry, the 19th and 97th adding to it their loud dissonant shouts, and the whole brigade swept down the hill at the *pas de charge*, and the enemy's centre was all but annihilated. The 88th (the Connaught Rangers) next raised a thrilling cheer, loud and ominous to the foe as that which once shook the sierras of Busaco; the 7th again, as at Talavera, took up the victorious shout; and the 35th, remembering Maida, added its loud huzza; the last two thousand bayonets glittered and flashed a moment in the sun, and the enemy's left was in full retreat. The whole line of infantry now advanced in double quick time, the cavalry and horse artillery on the left, and a field battery in the rear of each infantry brigade. Over hill and dale the enemy retired before this imposing array of forces.

The mechanical character of modern war is remarkable at Chobham. One consideration that must strike all visitors is the effectual deathblow there dealt to all those notions of personal heroism which, from the time of Homer downwards, have constituted the romance of war. Modern history has not neglected to point out this great change, but we who never see military evolutions on a great scale have some difficulty in realizing the truth that even the shield of Achilles would now be no protection, that brigadiers and generals in command do not meet in hand-to-hand encounters, and that the days when individual prowess could earn distinction in the field are over. The camp will at least undeceive those to whose heated imagina-

tions battles are a succession of single combats such as we see fought at the Surrey against desperate odds for the sake of some distressed petticoat. Minie rifles extinguish warriorship, and we find in reality, as we have often been told, that an army is made up of soldiers as solidly, regularly, and substantially, as a house is made up of bricks. In truth nothing can be conceived more cold, systematic, orderly, and mechanical, than that gigantic power to which not only the rights and the interests, but even the passions of nations are confided. A modern army has a great deal of the locomotive about it, tremendous in its power, unreasoning, unfeeling, but yet easily subject to control. It is singular how the mechanical spirit of the age has overtaken and subdued this like everything else. As the farmer depends upon his implements, the merchant on the rail and the steamship, the manufacturer on the iron fingers at work for him untiringly in his mill, so rifle and battery, skilful evolution, and steady discipline, are doing away with the rough and desperate extremities of close quarters, cross bayonets, and hand-to-hand encounters. Sham fights would be contemptible as pageants if they did not bring out and present for contemplative observation the immense progress which is still making in the art of war, and the high state to which it has already attained.

It is currently reported in the Camp, and the statement may be relied upon, that Lord Seaton's command in chief terminates on the 14th proximo, and that for the rest of the time during which the Camp will last, H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge will command.

INCIDENTS AT SPITHEAD.

OUR "blue jackets" are having pageants of their own, and experiments with an eye to real service. On Tuesday morning, at eight o'clock, the ships sent up royal yards, dressed ship, and ran the life-lines out, ready for manning yards, on the occasion of her Majesty's return to London. At about twenty minutes to eleven o'clock, the Queen passed inside the fleet, when a grand general Royal salute was fired, with yards manned. This was participated in by the Prussian frigate and corvette, and a more splendid spectacle it were impossible to witness. The weather was brilliantly fine, and a vast multitude of people thronged the shores, attracted by the cannonade. After the firing had subsided, the cheers of the men upon the yards were heard.

An experiment with gunboats took place on Tuesday evening. All the gunboats of the fleet, numbering upwards of forty sail, were piped away, manned, and armed as for an engagement. They stretched from Fort Moncton to the Blockhouse Fort when ranged in line, and were guided by signals from the senior officer. They came off the Platform Battery, and there hoisted masts and manœuvred in the harbour channel, apparently prepared to "board" batteries; they then came out of the harbour with masts struck, and ranged off the Platform Battery, and commenced a heavy general cannonade from their bow guns; this, coupled with the scaling of the great 64-pounders of Blockhouse Fort at the same time, formed a nautical spectacle not seen upon the like scale during the past ten years. Each boat carried a white or blue ensign, and, altogether, they made a flotilla of the most formidable character. After opening fire upon the Platform Battery (apparently), the force ranged in divisions, got up masts, up sails, and made for their respective ships; the wind, however, falling light, they struck masts soon after, and pulled across the spitway to the fleet, presenting a moving marine panorama of the most pleasing and picturesque description, which was eminently enjoyed by many thousands of spectators who manned the walls of the town, among whom were a large proportion of visitors from London.

The Royal Dockyard Battalion was exercised on Monday. The boat brigade of this important and efficient force, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Davies, went on board her Majesty's ship *Excellent* for shot practice from the lower deck 32-pounders of that ship, and the 24-pounder gunboats of the brigade, at targets moored for the *Excellent's* service. After the sixth shot from the gunboats, the poles of the target were shot away, and the target reduced to not more than one-third its original dimensions, notwithstanding which, there were eighteen shots put into it in its lesser shape, and two through the bull's-eye. The firing from the lower deck of the ship, if possible, eclipsed this; eight shots pierced the target at 800 yards' range, two of them through the bull's-eye, and so accurate was the aim taken, that the second shot through the bull's-eye went clean through the hole made by the first, and the target poles were also shot away. Such skilful gunnery as this is worth praise.

AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES ABROAD.

THE recent instructions from home to American representatives abroad were given substantially in the *Leader* some

weeks ago. The *Times* (Wednesday, August 3), expands the information, and characterises the directions with its ordinary ability, and a fairness extraordinary on an American topic. We reprint the exposition:—

"In the first place, the new Government of the United States has decided upon withdrawing all subsisting instructions relative to the costume of its diplomatic servants. The directions in this respect are, very wisely, not made obligatory upon the American envoys, and it is still left to their discretion 'to regulate the matter according to their own sense of propriety.' As far, however, as is practicable, the Government of Washington desires that the appearance of American Ministers at foreign Courts should be made in the simple dress of American citizens, and, in cases where this could not be conveniently done, 'the nearest approach to it compatible with a due performance of duty is earnestly recommended.' As to Consuls, their privileges of costume seem to be cut short at once. 'All the instructions,' says the circular, 'heretofore issued from this department in relation to Consular uniform are hereby revoked. Neither the propriety nor the utility of any regulation on this subject is perceived. No law prescribes to civil officers at home, no usage warrants, any such mere external distinction, and it could not be assumed by functionaries at home without offence to the public taste.'

"Directions of a more practical character next follow, and it is impossible to withhold approval from the instructions issued. American Consuls are strictly charged to employ, wherever practicable, American citizens only in their several offices. This order is not given in any spirit of monopoly or narrow-mindedness, but on sound principles of policy. The usual motive for employing natives of the country in these duties is the desire to obtain useful interpreters or linguists. But it is very properly considered that this arrangement must diminish the obligation of the Consul to acquire this kind of knowledge for himself, whereas it is manifest that such information on his part is in the highest degree desirable. Moreover, as the chief business of every American Consulate is presumed to lie with American citizens, it must be more agreeable to those citizens to deal with fellow-countrymen than with foreigners, differing from them in manners and in language. Finally, strangers employed in these offices inevitably acquire some insight into matters not pertaining to them; and such results, it is fairly argued, are not to be approved. We discern the true spirit of Anglo-Saxon cosmopolitanism in the assurance given to Consuls, that 'in most foreign countries young Americans will be found desirous of such employment as can be afforded them, and in all respects capable of performing the duties required.'

"Equally appropriate are the observations made upon passports and *visés*. America, like England, knows nothing of the passport system at home; but, unlike England, she assumes all the responsibility of mitigating its operation abroad. 'Unlike the custom,' says the circular, 'observed at the British Foreign-office and at the Prefectures in France, passports are given by this department to our citizens free of cost. This is also the rule at our legations, at which no charge is permitted to be made for *visés*.' It appears that in some countries American Consuls, if they did not demand fees themselves, connived at certain practices of local authorities which created incidental occasions of payment. These proceedings are severely reprimanded, and all American Consuls are strictly charged not only to put every facility in the way of their fellow-countrymen abroad, but to see, as far as possible, that no wrong is done to them by foreign functionaries. As to the Frenchified terms of *Chancellerie* and *Chancellerie*, a check is very promptly put to such usage. 'This is done,' proceeds the document, 'without any warrant in law or by instructions; it is not in harmony with the usages in the Consuls' own country. If led to it by a desire to imitate what they see abroad, the motive for it is as reprehensible as the practice.'

"But, if Consuls are not to wear cocked hats and play the diplomatist, what are they to do? On this head the circular is tolerably explicit. They are to keep their offices open for the transaction of business from nine a.m. to three p.m.; they are to obtain no leave of absence, except in urgent cases, and for short periods; they are to attend to the requirements of American citizens, as in duty bound; and they are 'requested to communicate freely and frequently with the Department of State in all that relates to scientific discoveries, to progress in the arts, and to general statistics in foreign countries.'

It is stated that the American Government has it in contemplation to publish annually a volume containing extracts of this description from all the consular despatches. "Such," adds the *Times*, "are the views taken by the New Administration at Washington of the Consular service of the United States, and such, in substance, is the 'first diplomatic note' of the recently elevated 'Premier.' If all the communications of this high functionary display equal common sense, they will sustain a very favourable contrast with any 'State-papers' of the age."

"THE HOUSE OF NOBLE POVERTY."

A STORY of an old wrong has been brought to light. The Hospital of St. Cross was founded in the twelfth century by Henry de Blois, Bishop of Winchester, and the House of Noble Poverty was founded by the Cardinal de Beaufort in the year 1446. The original charter of the Hospital was dated in the year 1151, and although not in existence now, is fully authenticated by the early references made to it. This charter, after stating fully the object of the charity, goes on to say that, in addition to the thirteen poor men, who were to reside in the hospital and receive an allowance from its funds, 100 other poor men of modest demeanour, and in the most indigent circumstances, were to receive sustentation from the charity. As well as these trusts, there were also certain other charitable purposes specified to which the revenues of the charity were to be applied. In 1185 the patronage of the hospital was transferred from the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem to the Bishop of Winchester for the time being; and in 1189 a charter was granted by Richard I. to the Knights of Jerusalem again, and in this charter the trusts and objects of the charity were again set forth and recited. In 1332 a sequestration and commission took place; and an inquiry was instituted as to whether the hospital was established for the "cure of souls." At this period, and for some time previously, continual and most barefaced irregularities seem to have characterised the government of the charity, the masters of which appropriated the revenues to their own use, and to the exclusion of all the trusts of the charity and the

original intention of its founder. To stem such abuses, William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, came forward and put forth his claim to the patronage and visitation of the Hospital. He was opposed, in every way, by William de Stowell, the then master of the so-called charity, and upon his death by Sir Roger de Cloud, his successor; when the dispute was referred to the Pope, who condemned Sir Roger in costs, and decided in favour of William of Wykeham, a good and learned prelate, to whom the country is indebted, not only for this, but for many other great and good actions. In 1561 a transaction took place, which goes far to prove that the trusts of this charity were at that period fully comprehended and known. A suit having been commenced to make the hospital contribute, under the statute of Henry VIII., its first fruits and tenths, it was pleaded against such statute that the funds of the charity were appropriated to charitable purposes and to the use of the poor; whereupon the Court directed the bishop to examine the archives of the hospital; and the bishop, having done so, reported that the funds were so applied; and the Court decreed the charity to be exempt on these grounds. By a statute also, passed in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, after reciting that the hospital was founded for charitable purposes and for the relief of the poor, and that certain leases had been granted by Dr. Reynolds, one of the masters, it was enacted that all such leases should be void, and that no future master should have power to grant the same, and that the funds of the charity should thenceforth be applied for the sustentation of the poor. Yet, since that time, for a period of 200 years, the masters of the hospital have continually succeeded in diverting the revenues of the charity to their own use. In 1696 a most extraordinary and nefarious deed was passed; (this deed is what is known as the "*Consuetudinarium*." It commenced by stating that, after diligent search, no deeds or documents had been discovered for the government of the charity. And yet, at this very time, and in the face of such assertion, the master and brethren were in possession of the original deed of the charity, a copy of the bull of the Pope, a copy of the proceeding under the statute of Henry VIII., the statute itself of Queen Elizabeth, and the document of the House of Noble Poverty, all of which clearly proved the trusts of the charity. The *Consuetudinarium* then proceeded with the same effrontery to state that the charity had been governed from time immemorial by custom, and that such custom, unless finally settled, might create confusion and dissension, and, in conclusion, proceeded to ask the bishop to countenance the arrangement proposed, which the bishop did under certain conditions and qualifications, although the proof of such custom, stated as existing, depended solely upon the evidence of a steward attached to the hospital for a period of thirty years. A more barefaced and shameful deed was never framed, and a more wicked and wilful perversion of a charity carried out. Under this glaring and discreditable deed the charity has since been carried on.

But, lately, the wrong was brought into Chancery, and redress was sought. That redress has been promptly given. An injunction has been granted to restrain the granting of any leases or fines of the property of the charity, and an inquiry will be directed as to the leases now existing, and as to the present state of the institution and the appropriation of its funds. The master, (Lord Guildford,) the chief perverter of the funds, will be called upon to account for all the rents received by him, and for the expenses of keeping the buildings in repair.

WAGES AND WORKMEN.

THE demands of workmen for advances of wages have taken place in many parts of the country—in some cases accompanied by reprehensible violence. The present wages of the carpenters and joiners of *Leeds* range from 20s. to 26s. a week, and their hours of work extend to five o'clock on Saturday. They have reasonably asked 1s. a-week advance and an hour's leisure on Saturday, "to go on the moor to hear the band play." The masters have given a joint refusal, but several have separately made the concession. The general strike in *Wales* is very formidable: sixteen furnaces at Dowlais have been blown out, and thousands of men are meeting on the hills. They demand an advance of 7½ per cent. A partial and exorbitant demand for 20 per cent. advance (following on a late advance of 13 per cent.), made by some mill hands in *Manchester*, has been checked by the general body of the operatives. This shows sound judgment. But the *Manchester* dyers have behaved like ruffians; they have assaulted the men willing to work and the masters who refuse the required concession. The extra labourers at the *London Docks*, at present paid 15s. a-week, "ask for more," and are out on strike. The metropolitan compositors continue their protracted and apparently reasonable resistance to the reductions attempted by the *San* newspaper. The cabmen of *Edinburgh* demand from their masters 12s. instead of 10s. a-week. The garden labourers at *Tulham* ask 10s. instead of 14s. per week: they are rather disorderly in their conduct. The carpet weavers of *Kidderminster* are still at variance with their masters,

although an attempt at compromise, kindly offered by the masters, was near putting an end to the strike. The obstinacy of some of the men, however, stopped the reconciliation. The *Tyne* seamen make two demands—one, that the ships be well stored—a proper demand; the other, that the number of apprentices to each ship be limited—a highly improper claim. The engineers and stokers of *Ashton* are organizing a short-time movement; and the mill hands of the same place have sent a well-worded address to their masters, respectfully asking for Boards of Arbitration.

The successes are few, but one is extensive. In *Stockport*, the operatives have gained a great victory. The masters have granted the ten per cent. advance to the spinners, and the men have readily returned to their work. The weavers, offered five per cent. advance, as yet hold out, but a general settlement is expected. The stone-masons of *Marylebone*, lately paid 4s. 6d. a day, have now got their wages advanced to 6d. an hour, and their labourers have obtained 3d. per hour.

The general well being of the craftsmen is indicated to us by various facts. From *Ireland* it is reported that "wages keep up to the recent advance, and that employment is abundant in all parts of the country." The Register-general reports, through his deputy, from *Cheshire* and *Lancashire*, that "the operative classes are all well employed, and although the prices of various kinds of provisions are on the advance, there appears a general disposition to increase wages in proportion." Some "local charities" in *Manchester* have been stopped, the people's prosperity doing away with their necessity. And in many parts of the *Metropolis*, debating societies, formed of working men, are taking the place of the old card playing societies. We may also note here, as a development of industry and trade, the opening of a new Exchange at *Nottingham*. On Wednesday the inauguration was celebrated by a festival in the town, and Mr. Walter, proprietor of the *Times*, congratulated the company on the convivial custom, forgetting, doubtless, how his editors satirise charity dinners and public feasts.

GOOD SENSE IN BAD ENGLISH.

THE following letter from a foreigner, more clear in his ideas than in his English, has some good suggestions on the cab question:—

"To the Editor of the Times.

"SIR,—The Cabman question has been spoken in Your journal, and the condemnation of a Cabman, having asked 5sh. for a short fare, which has much contributed to the Cab-owner's public offence and crime on Wednesday, is not so alone standing, as great number of people is believing.

"For the Stranger 'tis a fortune that the robbery of these 'Wegelagerer' has become an end. The undersigned German, in the first time of his being in London, not knowing the laws for cabman, has regularly been robbed of this men, then he has must pay for a fare of 2 miles 4sh.—for a fare of 3 miles 6sh.—in the manner, that seldom he has had a fare under 3sh. He 'co'n't good speak english, and for not would have scandal in the street he must pay as much as these rubbers were asking. When he was saying, 'having heard, that the fare were only 3sh.'—the cabman responding, that were true, but 'he must enough become the back fare to his station.'

"It would be good for the great number of strangers visiting London, that in every carriage for public use were published the laws and conditions under which the carriage-owner was authorized for public service, and by the great number of strangers, who can not understand english, it should be, that this publication were also in french and German language.

"But these rubberies are not alone standing; a number of taverns are no better—at example, the great Tavern at the entrance of Regents park, the York and Albany-tavern. The undersigned, coming from the zoological gardens in Regents park during raining weather, and having cold, maked give himself 10—12 drops (½ little glas) of rum and a cup of coffe without milk. The rum was bad and the coffe not good! But the wrongest was the prize of them.

"'6 pence for the coffe'—paid! 'The Waiter, Sir'—paid 1d. '6 pence the rum, Sir!' This I would not pay, meaning that the rum were paid with the coffe. But I must, would I not have scandal.

"This, Sir, are only two facts of my experiences, and such facts are not plaising the stranger, which is coming to England in the meaning that the free people of England also would be a honest people! The last give much to wish!

"If I publish these facts, 'tis not on account of me—no, 'tis only for do the service, that such things may become an end, and for love to the people of England, for what I wish, that it should be great in every manner.

"I have the honour, Sir, to remain,

"A POLITICAL FUGITIVE FROM GERMANY.

"London, 20 July, 1853."

The suggestion to affix to each cab the fares and regulations in French and German is a very proper hint. To make our city agreeable to strangers would be good policy as well as good taste.

THE CABMAN'S RETURN.

THE late act left unregulated the time-fare after the first hour. A new clause provides that sixpence for each quarter of an hour shall be the fare after the first hour. It is also fixed that the circle of four miles' radius shall have its centre at Temple-bar, and not at Charing-cross.

Before the police-courts the cabmen are resuming their custom of conquest. It has been decided that a cabman can refuse an intoxicated fare, and that if the said fare insists upon being driven to the police station, the cabman must be paid for the drive. Several cabmen have been summoned for not giving tickets to the hirers, but none have been convicted. Not a single charge of incivility has been made against a cabman during the

week; and in several cases of dispute the civility of the cabmen was evidenced by the riders.

Facility in finding out the proper fare of a cabman is afforded by a new map, published opportunely by Messrs. Smith, booksellers, Strand. It is divided into half-mile squares, diagonally placed, and it is very easy to ascertain any given distance. In addition, the new cab regulations are printed on the margin, and altogether the map is a neat and serviceable pocket-companion.

A GAUGE OF PROSPERITY.

THE social statistics supplied by the Registrar-General daguerreotype, in a bare and uncoloured style, the changes in English homes. The facts of the two first quarters of this year are suggestive.

The marriages are on the increase—35,014 marriages were celebrated in the first quarter of the year, or 2081 more than were celebrated in the corresponding quarter of 1852. The increase in the marriages is most conspicuous in London, in the seaports, and in the manufacturing towns; in Northamptonshire, Devonshire, Cornwall, Gloucestershire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Cheshire, Lancashire, the West Riding of Yorkshire, Westmoreland, and Monmouthshire; in Portsmouth, Plymouth, Southampton, Bristol; in Northampton, Bath, Stroud, Wolverhampton, Dudley, Birmingham, Nottingham, Chester, Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, Merthyr Tydfil. In all the most prosperous districts of the country the marriages increased. In Dover, in Brighton, in St. George, Hanover-square, in several other districts, and in the eastern counties, the marriages declined.

The births, instead of the increase that might be expected from the gradual increase of marriages, show a slight decline. They were 159,138 in '51; 159,136 in '52: and 158,718 in 1853.

The deaths show an increased mortality. In the first quarter of this year they were 118,241, compared with 106,682 and 105,446 in the corresponding quarters of the two preceding years. During the quarter ended June of this year, they were less than in the spring quarter, but still 8000 more than in the corresponding quarter of 1851. Some of the increase in mortality may be attributed to the dearness of provisions. The price of provisions during the quarter was considerably higher than the ruling prices in the corresponding months of the year 1852; wheat was sold on an average at 44s. 6d. a quarter; beef, by the carcase, in London, at 4½d. per pound; mutton 5½d. per pound; potatoes (York regents) at 127s. 6d. per ton. The price of wheat was 10 per cent., beef 22 per cent., mutton 31 per cent., potatoes 31 per cent. higher in April, May, June, 1853, than in the corresponding months of 1852. Still it is a startling fact, that the number that died during those months in 1853 is the highest that has ever been registered before in the corresponding season, and exceeds by 7048 the deaths in the spring quarter of 1852. The rate of mortality in England is highest in the winter, lowest in the summer quarter; while the mortality of the spring quarter holds an intermediate rank, near the average of the year. This average is exceeded by the present return, which shows a mortality at the rate of 2·383 per cent. per annum; higher than the rate in the corresponding quarter of every year 1843-52, except the spring quarter of 1847, when the population was infected by scurvy, and its attendant disease after the great failure of the potato crop in 1846. The rate of mortality was then 2·506; in the autumn influenza broke out, and cholera followed on its footsteps in 1848 and 1849. The mortality of the quarter was above the average both in the town and in the country districts; the annual rate of mortality was 2·606 in 117 districts, comprising the chief towns, and 2·196 per cent. in 508 districts, extending over the rest of the kingdom. The population of England is, there is reason to believe, collectively healthier than any equal amount of population in any other kingdom; but the rapid increase in the proportion of the town population—in which the mortality is 27 per cent. higher than it is in the country, and the sickness, the suffering, the debility, the physical degeneracy of race, are in an equal excess—makes this question of the health of towns and the fertilization of the surrounding fields one of pressing importance. The deaths to every thousand persons living in town is 258 in the year, while but 203 out of every thousand persons living in the country die in the same time. The lives destroyed by the "matters which are poisons in houses, streets, and streams, but are fertilizing manures in fields," are 55 in the year. In London the mortality has considerably exceeded the average, and it is chiefly due to diseases of the respiratory organs, typhus, hooping-cough, diarrhoea, and violence of various kinds. Twelve deaths were referred to privation, 26 to poison, 88 to burns and scalds, 86 to hanging and suffocation, 81 to drowning, 171 to mechanical injuries of various kinds, 83 to wounds; and in nearly all those cases the numbers ex-

ceed those returned in previous years. The violent deaths, including a few from intemperance, want of breast-milk, and privation, in London, increased from 1296 in 1840 to 2140 in 1852; and in the last quarter the excess in deaths from violence alone over the deaths of 1852 was 131. The increase of steam vessels, railways, omnibuses, and new mechanical forces of every kind, as well as the obstructions of the streets, may partly account for this loss of life, as well as for the numerous injuries and mutilations not fatal—in the battle of every day. The mortality in the South-Eastern Counties has been above the average, and the greatest excess has occurred in Godstone, Croydon, Bromley, Dover, Eastbourne, Lewes, the Isle of Wight, and Alverstoke.

Balancing the deaths and births, we find that the population has had a gross increase of 50,857. But taking into account 115,959 emigrants who left the United Kingdom during the time, we find that the country has lost 36,139 inhabitants.

THE VON BECK AFFAIR AGAIN.

THE facts and fictions of this case have been repeated before a Warwickshire jury. George Dawson, Mr. Tyndall, Mr. Peyton, and Mr. Ryland have been sued for damages by Constant Derra de Moroda, the secretary to the deceased woman. Some new evidence was produced. "Lieutenant Gorski" and "Deputy-Commissioner Kaszonyi" testified that Von Beck was really a recognised baroness in Hungary, and had been employed on political missions. On the contrary, Paul Hajnik, a Magyar noble, and Kossuth's Minister of Police, swore, that from his observance of the position in Hungary, and the personal manners of the woman, he was "sure she was in a subordinate position"—in fact, the servant of another spy. He saw her waiting in an ante-chamber while Kossuth transacted business with the lady to whom Von Beck was evidently a servant. "Her manners were those of an illiterate person." In their defensive statements, Mr. Tyndall and Mr. Dawson stated, that they acted with the advice of the magistrate, and had no malicious motives, and that, from Hajnik's testimony, they believed Von Beck and Derra de Moroda to be impostors. The judge charged clearly against the defendants. He dwelt, incidentally, on the harshness of their conduct towards the baroness, on the "prejudiced" character of Hajnik's evidence, and on the fact that Kossuth was not produced to testify that the woman was an impostor. The jury brought in a verdict of 800*l.* damages and costs.

This decision might have gone among our "Curiosities of Justice."

CONSPIRACY TO KILL NAPOLEON III.

THE Prince de Joinville received two letters from Edouard Raynaud, a person unknown to him. In the first letter, after dwelling upon the interest which he took in the welfare and happiness of the prince's family, and the feeling of hatred which he entertained, in common with his oppressed countrymen, towards "Napoleon the Little," who had deprived the prince and his family of their just rights to the throne of France, the writer proceeded to say:—

"I leave for Paris. My journey is for you, and for you alone. I swear it on the grave of my mother and father. My life is a burden to me. I cannot suffer it, my prince. My wife, who is 17 years of age, I wish to place under your protection. I have found an excuse for my voyage, and she consents. But the poor child will be the only victim of my project. I do not sleep. I must alone take charge of the infamous wretch. He and his people must perish. It is a terrible thing for me to be an assassin, but it must be, if I sell my last shirt. I am now writing in the absence of my poor wife. I must hasten to finish. May you read in my heart the sentiments I have for you and your dear family. Adieu, my prince. All I desire is, that you may soon be upon the throne, making the people happier, and all France loving you.

(Signed) "RAYNAUD DE QUETTEVILLE."

In the second letter there is the following passage:—

"I again take the liberty of writing to you these few lines previous to my departure. I have collected the little money due to me, but it will not suffice in carrying out my views. I alone undertake to blow up the tyrant and his accomplices, and all those around him. I will give my best guarantees for the advances you might make me. I leave my furniture. I leave my wife, who is possessed of the value of 12,000*fr.*, besides her venue in a business. I employ several workmen. Your royal highness, it is money I require, but not a heavy sum—I must have 20*l.*; and I give the right to any one to stab me anywhere, wherever I may be, if I do not change the French Government."

Prince de Joinville appeared in the police court on Wednesday to state that he had received the letters. Raynaud, who has been arrested, admitted the authorship, and excused himself on the ground of his intellect being affected by ill health. He was committed for trial.

PAINFUL SCENE AT NIAGARA.

THE bitterness of waiting slowly in the presence of death was fearfully exaggerated in a late incident at Niagara. Three men went boating on the river; the boat was swept towards the falls, overturned, and two were whirled into the surge. The third, a man named Avery, caught on

some rocks not far from the dreadful precipice of foam. A log of wood, apparently wedged tightly between the rocks, and crossed by another, still higher out of the water, was his resting place. Here he remained, half clinging to and half perching upon the log, from which he would occasionally slip down and walk a little on the rocks, which were only a short distance under water. A few feet in advance was a small fall of about four or five feet, and here and on each side of him the waters rushed wildly on at a speed of about forty miles an hour. A raft was constructed, formed of crossed timbers, strongly fastened in a square form, a hoghead being placed in the centre. The raft was strongly secured with ropes on each side, and was floated down to the rocks upon which Avery was stationed. As it approached the spot where he stood the rope got fast in the rocks and the raft became immovable. Avery then appeared to muster strength and courage, and descending from the log walked over the rocks to the place where the rope had caught, and laboured long and hard to disengage it from the rocks. After some time he succeeded, and then with renewed energy, inspired by the hope of rescue, he pulled manfully at the rope until he succeeded in bringing the raft from the current towards his fearful resting-place. Avery now got on to the raft, making himself fast thereto by means of ropes, which had been placed there for that purpose, and those on the land commenced drawing it towards the shore. It had approached within thirty feet of one of the small islands, towards which its course was directed, when suddenly it became stationary in the midst of the rapids, the ropes having again caught in the rocks. All endeavours to move it were found to be in vain, and much fear was entertained that the strain upon the ropes might break them, and occasion the poor fellow's loss. Various suggestions were now volunteered, and several attempts were made to reach him. One man went out in a boat as far as he dared to venture, and asked him if he would fasten a rope round his body, and trust to being drawn in by that. The poor fellow, however, shook his head despondingly, as though he felt that he had not strength enough remaining to make himself secure to a rope. At length a boat was got ready—a life-boat, which had arrived from Buffalo—and was launched. Seeing the preparations, Avery unloosed his fastenings, with the intention of being ready to spring into the boat. Borne on by the rushing waters, and amid the breathless suspense of the spectators, the boat approached the raft. A thrill ran through the crowd—the boat lived in the angry waves—it struck the raft—a shout of joy rang forth from the shore, for it was believed that he was saved—when suddenly the hope that had been raised was again destroyed; a moment's confusion followed the collision, and in the next the victim was seen in the midst of the waters, separated from his frail support, and struggling for life. For a minute or two the poor fellow, striking out boldly, swam towards the island, and the cry echoed from shore to shore that he would yet be saved. But soon the fact became certain that he receded from the shore—his strength was evidently failing. Gradually he was borne back into the fiercest part of the current, slowly at first, then more rapidly. Swiftly and more swiftly he approached the brink of the fatal precipice, the waters had him at last their undisputed victim, and madly they whirled him on to death, as though enraged at his persevering efforts to escape their fury.

A sickening feeling came over the spectators when, just on the brink of the precipice, the doomed man sprang up from the waters, clear from the surface, raising himself upright as a statue, his arms flung wildly aloft, and, with a piercing shriek that rang loudly above the mocking roar of the cataract, fell back again into the foaming waves, and was hurled over the brow of the fatal precipice.

The melancholy and awful fate of poor Avery will add another to the many fearful local incidents already related by the guides at the Falls, and for years his critical situation, his hard struggles, his fearful death, will be the theme of many a harrowing tale. And visitors to the mighty cataract will seek the scene of the terrible catastrophe with a shuddering curiosity, and the timid and imaginative will fancy, in the dusk of the evening, that they still hear above the waters' roar the fearful shriek that preceded the fatal plunge.

JOURNAL OF RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

ONE of the recent deaths by accident took place in consequence of a special train unexpectedly running on the line, and killing Charles Cannon, one of the railway servants. The Hon. Mr. Scott, the chairman of the Company, and Mr. Beattie, the superintendent, were in the special train. The coroner's jury charged them with manslaughter. On this they were tried at the late Croydon Assizes, and acquitted.

A railway accident shocked the passengers from the north to London on Friday of last week. The passenger train ran into a luggage train, and broke several of the luggage vans. Both trains were injured, and the line suffered some damage. The passengers who had calculated on reaching London at eleven o'clock on Friday evening, were kept until four o'clock on Saturday morning. The cause of the accident is as usual inscrutable, and as no lives were lost, the inquiry, we presume, will be slight and hurried.

On the South Devon line the goods train, instead of standing aside to let the express pass, stood, after the usual manner of railway engines, directly in the way. The ordinary accident took place: the express train smashed into the goods train, and much damage was done. But "only one person was seriously injured." The injuries to the others, like all railway accidents, were, of course, comical and unaccountable.

At Preston railway station the gas burst on the approach of a light to a chandelier, and a man who was examining it was blown from the ladder, his waistcoat, shirt, and trousers set on fire, and his face and hands dreadfully burnt. The explosion extended through the station. The doors of the waiting-room were torn away, shattered in pieces, and flung across the platform. Windows were smashed through, the framework scattered in bits, and the

paper in several rooms was blackened with the flames. The luggage in one waiting-room was dashed against the door of another, and a deal-box was wheeled into the ladies waiting-room, and there left on fire. Several persons had hair-breadth escapes of serious injury, the whiskers of many gentlemen being scorched away.

Stepping out while the carriages were in motion, a gentleman travelling on the Brighton Railway was crushed to death. In the darkness of the night, he thought the train had stopped.

CURIOSITIES OF JUSTICE.

SOME incidents of the administration of justice throw light upon the working of our laws, and illustrate the domestic "manners and customs of the English." We note a few, reported this week.

Mrs. Waters, a married lady, had property of her own, and her husband asked her to allow it to be charged with security for one of his debts. She consented, and executed the assignment in about sixteen days after her confinement, when, however, the medical attendant said she had recovered, though she was still in her room. She now says she knew it was a security, but did not know the effect of what she had done, or that she was enabling any one to sell her property, and she told the nurse, after executing the deed, that she did not know anything about it, any more than the child beside her, and this the nurse confirmed. The person, however, who witnessed the execution, said he proposed to read it over to her, but she refused, because, as he thought, she did not like to let the nurse hear it. A question has been therefore raised as to the validity of the deed. The Court said that it thought the lady was entitled to its protection, so far as to see that she was not imposed on, and particularly in a case where the loan was to the husband; but she must as to this property be treated as a *feme sole*, and "any one who knows anything of the world must be aware that giving property to the wife to her separate use, without an anticipation clause, is giving it to the husband." But notwithstanding this, he could not permit the wife to avoid the deed in this case; for, if he did so, he would be allowing her to do an injustice, instead of protecting her against one. That is, to prevent an "injustice" to her husband's creditor, a deed wrongful in itself must be maintained.

The trial of insolvents before the Commissioners usually present a great variety of revelations. When creditors oppose the relief of an insolvent, all his offences are "set in a note-book, conned by rote, and cast into his teeth." In the case of Richard Dunn, the insane Irish barrister who persecuted Miss Coutts, we have a tiresome story of his stupid perseverance. The Commissioner truly testified of the annoyed lady that "she is one who goes about doing good without ostentation." He has been ordered to remain in prison for ten months "from the vesting order." A strait waistcoat would seem the only vesting order suitable for the man. In the case of Henry Wheeler, the insolvent fictitiously transferred his furniture to save it from the creditors. He subsequently offered it up, but that rigid Rhadamanthus, Commissioner Phillips, ordered him six months confinement. We have some pity for this man, a poor clerk, as the debt was incurred by becoming surety for his brother. In another case of fraud Mr. Phillips was lenient. The man had bought a piano without paying for it, and had pledged it. But he had a family in distress, and he was remanded for two months only. In the case of a newspaper proprietor, Mr. Phillips was also indulgent. The printer and publisher opposed, showing that the newspaper had no probability of success; but it was decided that they gave their goods and labour on the usual trade risk; and the insolvent was liberated. Edward Moore Adams, the proprietor of the *Tradesman's Journal* (another failure in publication), became insolvent from a strange cause. "One of the causes of his insolvency was the death of his wife and seven children." Why, in the case of the piano-pledger, the living wife and family led to insolvency. We cannot see how the elimination of "encumbrances" (see advertisements) could cause the same. An Irish case, of appropriate magniloquence, appears this week. Mr. Jasper Wheeler Rogers, an engineer, owes 17,866*l.*, and to meet it has assets worth only 14,495*l.* But "the Irish Amelioration Society" (a society for making turf into a hard fuel as good as coal) "owes him 70,000*l.*," which may be true. But he has been discharged, although we do not see that the claim has been expunged, the report in the morning papers being brief, and not clear. Probably some arrangement, in view of the establishment of the claim, has been made.

A postman in Bridgewater had original notions on the subject of the post-office. (They might have arisen from his very extraordinary salary of 1*s.* per week.) He walked along the country road in a careless way, some letters sticking out of his pockets, and others in his hand. Meeting some persons claiming letters, he used to sit down on a grassy bank, spread out all the letters, and tell the claimants to select their own. One day he came back to the office, and a letter was seen sticking out of his pockets. He was asked why it was not delivered, but could give no excuse. On searching him, sixteen other letters were found on him, and for this gross offence he was "reprimanded." In a few days after a young lady, walking along a country road, found (to her delight, we may imagine) several letters scattered about the road. She took them up, and found them mostly torn. The postman was indicted for having torn them, but his counsel argued, that being unfit for his duties he had dropped the letters, which were torn up by little boys. The man was convicted, but the judge, on the ground that he was an unfit person for the situation, sentenced him to the light punishment of six months imprisonment.

A decision in Chancery, on Wednesday, seems strange in a Court of *Equity*. The point lay in the disposal of property left by a testator, and the intention of the testator was disputed. The Lord Chancellor said that his decision would, without doubt, defeat the will of the testator, but "consistently with the authorities," he should give it against the persons to whom the property was

specially bequeathed, and for the heir-at-law. In the case of Mathew Gosling, the nebulous nature of law language was powerful. The Master of the Rolls said, that even the lawyer who drew the will would be utterly unable to explain it. Yet "justice" was administered on such grounds.

Two late Gretna-green marriages were of men married before; they have been severally imprisoned for twelve and four months, the latter light sentence being on a man who got leave from his first wife to marry the second. It was stated in court on the trial, that the toll-bar keeper (the present priest of Gretna) has so much to do, that if the run of business thus continues, he will have to get assistants. The judge gravely condemned the facilities for marriage afforded by the Scotch law.

Two courts are at issue in a simple case of larceny. Bridget Connor, a little Irish girl, was some time ago charged with pawning clothes belonging to the customers of her mistress, Mrs. Durham, a laundress. Bridget pleaded that she never stole the things, but that she pawned them at her young mistress' direct command; and that the Durhams were in the habit of thus pawning their customers' goods. On being investigated, the Hammer-smith magistrate found that this statement was true, and the girl, unstained in character, was liberated. Her story was afterwards confirmed by several complaints against the Durhams for keeping the linen of respectable families, and a warrant was issued against them, but they could not be found for some time. The magistrate then heard that, instead of being a prisoner, one of the Durhams was going on with a second prosecution against the Irish girl. He sent to the Middlesex judge, informing him of his belief in the girl's innocence, and of the facts against the prosecutrix, Durham. But the Middlesex judge said, "The magistrate does not know so much about Connor [the girl] as I do; if he did he would have a different opinion of her." And so Connor was sentenced to three months in gaol. The magistrate, when he heard of it, said he *did* know all about the matter; that he believed Connor to be innocent, and that at least he knew more about the Durhams than did the Middlesex judge. The Durhams are in gaol, waiting to be tried for the illegal pawning for which the girl has been already convicted.

Lieutenant Treven, of her Majesty's ship *Vulcan*, was charged with being asleep on his watch. "He did not answer my call when I stood within five feet, and his face was resting on his knees. At the second call he awoke, and denied that he had been asleep." Several witnesses who were with the Lieutenant on the watch, swore that he kept walking about save for a few minutes before being relieved, and the Lieutenant himself swore that he never slept, that for a few minutes he sat down to unbutton his boots, and asked was it likely that he should sleep on the open poop on a night when his clothes were drenched with rain, and within a few minutes of being relieved from his watch. A host of witnesses circumstantially corroborated this defence, and a crowd of testimonials from officers spoke to Lieutenant Treven's unvarying vigilance. Yet the court-martial formed the odd verdict of "partly proved" and adjudged the prisoner to be "severely reprimanded and admonished."

An odd case occurred at Liverpool. Gore forged a check, obtained on it 300*l.* belonging to Simpson, and was transported for the offence. Simpson was then charged with having stolen the 300*l.* in the form of gold dust from the ship *Lady Flora*. The warrant arresting Simpson was a London warrant, and Simpson, by counsel, contended that it had no force in Liverpool. But being backed by a Liverpool magistrate, the warrant was held good, and Simpson is in gaol.

A demure widow called on Mr. McCulloch, who wanted a housekeeper, and after a few inquiries, the steady air and becoming deportment of the widow induced Mr. McCulloch and his wife to take "Mrs. Smith," and place great confidence in her. Shortly after, Mrs. McCulloch called on a jeweller to ask why "her brooch," sent by Mrs. Smith, "was not sent home." "I have no brooch of yours," replied the jeweller; "but I wish you would pay me for the plate you have hired." "Plate hired!" said the astounded lady. The statement was repeated, and Mrs. McCulloch went home to inquire of Mrs. Smith. That demure lady admitted, after delay, that she had pawned her master's plate, and had hired plate so like it that it passed for the same. "My God! Mrs. Smith," exclaimed the lady, in the usual English manner of introducing sacred names on small occasions. A knock at the door was heard: it was "the master." "Come into the library, ma'am; I'll explain all; I did it for the best, but you had better not let the master know of it." Mrs. McCulloch repudiated secrecy, and told her husband. He instantly ordered Mrs. Smith to quit his service. She first begged forgiveness, but suddenly changed her tone. "I pawned the plate for my mistress, and I pity you." "What do you mean?" asked the angry gentleman. "With great distinctness and emphasis she thereupon 'revealed' that Mrs. McCulloch was 'no better than she should be,' introducing as an accomplice of 'the mistress' the name of an East Indian gentleman visiting at the house, whom she vehemently called 'a black demon.' Next day she was arrested; and in her box was found 53 duplicates for other property, showing that her system of pawning had been extensive. On the trial the unwarrantable insinuation against the lady was fully refuted by Mr. McCulloch. Its truth was impossible: he allowed his wife 200*l.* a year pin-money—more than she expected before marriage; and happiness and affection had been the result of their union. It was proved against 'Mrs. Smith' that, so far from being a decent widow, she is a person of bad life, having been the keeper of an infamous house at Paddington. 'But we cannot punish her for that,' said the Judge, knowing in English law. For the illegal pawning, she was sentenced to imprisonment for one year.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

We proceed to record acts of legal offence and of moral guilt, not that we like the practice, but that it may be

useful to dissect those social sores which indicate deep disease.

A case, painful, but we fear not singular, was tried at the Middlesex Sessions on Monday. A man named Harrison was convicted of obtaining goods under false pretences. After conviction the story of his life was told. For a former offence of the same kind, he was sentenced in 1848 to 14 years' transportation, and in 1853 a petition for his liberation was got up by his eldest brother, who promised in it that if the prayer were granted he would supply him with the means of leaving the country immediately he was restored to liberty; upon the faith of this promise, combined with the excellent character he had borne while at the hulk, the Home Secretary caused Harrison to be released in March last. On arriving in London he found a temporary home with his sister, a widow with six children, expecting to leave England in a week or ten days at the most, but, to his painful surprise, on an application being made to his brother, he found him unwilling to perform the promise he had made to Lord Palmerston. Harrison then made every effort to obtain employment to support himself, but without success. His sister was too poor to afford him the means of support, and she applied to her brother, but he refused to keep his word, saying that he had procured him his liberty and should do no more. He found himself in consequence thrown upon the world an outcast, penniless, friendless, and without character, and, being in want, his health became impaired and spirit broken, his mind sunk under the accumulated weight of sorrow and disappointment, and for weeks he wandered about in a state of semi-derangement, and he averred that he really knew not what he was about when he did that which led to his being sent to prison. He has two other brothers who now, hearing of this late offence, undertake to provide him with an outfit and place a sum in the hands of the captain of a vessel to take him away from this country. He solemnly assured the Court that he should never have returned to London dependent on himself, as his character was utterly gone, and as he had an excellent opportunity of being sent to Australia with good reports from the authorities of the hulks where he has been, and asked, "Is there not any philanthropic or other reformatory society in this Christian country, whereby an unfortunate outcast and true penitent may find employment and redeem his character?" He referred to the Home-office in verification of his statement about his brother and the promise made by him, and after imploring that his two other brothers might have the opportunity of sending him with his wife and children abroad, he said, "and if your Lordship cannot, consistently with your public duty, listen or accede to the proposition of my two brothers, then, my Lord, let me earnestly pray and beseech of you to pass upon me the extreme penalty of the law—namely, the sentence of death—and order the execution as early as the law will allow, for which I will offer up my prayers of profound gratitude and praise." He was sentenced to be transported for seven years.

A little drama in real life was acted in Hoxton on Friday. On returning from his official duties to his home in Clinger-street, Mr. Wyles met his wife in an adjoining street. She told him that she had just left home, and handed him the key of the street door, as it was her intention to "spend the evening with a friend." On leaving his wife, Mr. Wyles, doubtless pensive as well as lonely, proceeded directly to his residence, and having admitted himself with the key, he entered the front parlour. He had scarcely taken his seat when he distinctly heard the sound of footsteps in one of the upper rooms. Hastening to the end of the passage, he observed "a man" in the act of stealthily descending the stairs. On asking him who he was, and demanding his business, the stranger coolly said that he had been requested to wait for a parcel by a gentleman who had opened the door with a latch key, and who would, no doubt, return in a few minutes. Mr. Wyles timidly suggested that he had better step into the back parlour to await the arrival of the gentleman, to which the stranger cheerfully assented, and having deliberately seated himself in an arm-chair, commenced conversing with an air of easy indifference upon the current topics of the day. After a short time Mr. Wyles, getting uneasy, requested to be excused for a few moments, and the cool stranger having politely bowed an acquiescence, Mr. Wyles quietly made his way into the street, where he remained till the arrival of a policeman, with whom he returned to the house, and gave the intruder into custody. He then proceeded to search the place, and on reaching the landing where he first encountered the stranger, he found several articles of dress, and personal ornaments, wrapped up in a silk apron belonging to his wife; and on entering the front bedroom he discovered a large bag upon the floor, completely filled with wearing apparel, and other valuable property, including his own watch, and two mahogany writing-desks, the whole of which had been abstracted from different drawers and boxes in the apartment. He also missed a gold watch, two pairs of bracelets, and other property, from the chamber of a young lady who was there on a visit, and as neither of the latter articles had been found in the house or on the person of the stranger, it was quite evident that the robbery had been perpetrated with the assistance of some of his confederates, who had escaped with that portion of the booty. On being called upon in court for his defence, the arrested stranger smilingly replied that he did not consider it at all expedient, at present, to contend with the evidence, and he should therefore decline saying anything.

A dentist practised several impositions on the inhabitants of Kidderminster and Bromyard; getting money for furnishing teeth he never made, and obtaining valuable sets on pretence of repairing them. He has been sentenced to transportation for seven years to his great surprise and horror.

At Monmouth Assizes a woman has been sentenced to two years imprisonment for concealing the birth of her child. The child was found dead, and that she murdered it is strongly suspected, but it could not be proved.

At the same Assizes a curious case of disputed

property arose. An issue in Chancery depended on the legitimacy of an ancestor of one of the present disputants. One party alleged that the parents, Andrew Aitchison and Eleanor Embleton, had not been married, while the other party asserted that a marriage had taken place. A search was made, but in the parish where Eleanor lived, the registers had been burned in a fire. The clergyman, however, preserved the half burnt fragments, and on prosecuting the search through these, a part of a leaf was found having on it the names, half obliterated, of Andrew Aitchison and Eleanor Embleton, with part of the word "married," and the date "17—," the rest of the figures being blotted out. This was conclusive, and the olden marriage was established.

The plea of a "promise"-breaker last week was that he was not strong enough to get married. This week Mogg, the saddler of Street (a village in Warwickshire) first courted Miss Frampton, the village milliner; and afterwards refused to marry her, saying *she* was not strong enough. He has been sentenced to pay 150*l.*

A burglar broke into Richard Holder's house at Aston, but Holder resisted bravely, even though fainting from the fierce blows given by the burglar, a most truculent fellow. Fifteen years transportation has been accorded to the offender, and 10*l.* reward to the man for his courage.

William Maynard, a well-known waterman plying at the Lambeth-stairs, who has lost both his legs near the hip joints, heard a scream, as if from some one who had fallen in the water from the Lambeth-pier. He rowed towards the place, saw a girl sinking, and succeeded in catching hold of her as she was about to sink for the last time. Not being able, from his crippled state, to drag her into his boat, he called out lustily. Fortunately he was overheard by a Mr. Lett, who, seeing the position in which Maynard was placed, jumped into the water, and aided in saving the girl. She was removed into the "Star and Garter," and the necessary means having been used judiciously, she was restored to consciousness. She was brought before the Magistrate, but was too weak and exhausted to answer for her conduct. Her story was told by the gaoler. Her name is Clara Kibble. She has been seduced by a man who has been the cause of her losing three respectable situations in which she had been as servant. He afterwards robbed her of her money and clothes, and when he found she had nothing else to give him, he proposed that she should turn prostitute to keep him, and that he would act as her "bully." On Saturday night she was so low spirited on account of this proposition that she was determined to destroy herself; and although her seducer was with her when she threw herself in the water, he did not attempt to save her. The fellow presented himself to the court. He admitted being present when the prisoner attempted to drown herself, and, with great effrontery, attempted to explain his conduct. The Magistrate ordered him out of court, and the poor girl was sent away with her mother. Such was the strict administration of "justice" in this case.

An incident, similar in the main cause, occurred at the Regent's park canal, on Tuesday. Mary Anne Barnard jumped into the canal. The poor girl, late a housemaid at Gloucester-road, Hyde-park, was pregnant, and had been in a distressed state of mind. Some people at once leaped in to save her, and she was brought to the Marylebone baths and wash-houses, where a surgeon did all he could to bring her to life. Finding their efforts useless, he tried to save the child, by performing the Cæsarean operation, but both the mother and the child died. The inhuman conduct of Mr. and Mrs. Foote, the superintendent and wife, in delaying admittance to the baths, and in frustrating the efforts of the medical men, has excited great disgust.

A terrible and disgusting crime has been committed by a Jewess. She was delivered of a child, and immediately she murdered it by cutting up its limbs and placing the head upon the fire. Her name is Lipman, and she is in custody.

The fortuitous concurrence of knaves and fools is as frequent as ever. A Dutchman, a stranger in London, was accosted at the London Docks by an agreeable, portly, middle-aged gentleman, who entered into an animated conversation about the shipping. The friendly talk led to joint refreshment at a public-house, and two other agreeable persons joined the pleased foreigner. The portly gentleman, in course of conversation, let out the secret of his own benevolence: he was rich; he wished to give to the poor; would the Dutchman be his almoner for "the poor of Holland?" "Certainly," said the Dutchman. The portly benefactor said he would like to have security, or to be fully satisfied of his almoner's respectability. "Have you any money about you?" The Dutchman showed seven sovereigns and a note for 500 guineas. "You keep that badly—the London thieves are bold and cunning," said one of the English companions. "I'll give you a purse to keep it." Taking the money, the generous adviser stowed away the cash in the presented purse. A slight confusion somehow arose. "Here is your purse," said the donor. But it was not the purse with his money. The Dutchman at once seized the portly man, and accused him of robbery. A struggle ensued, but the Dutchman was tenacious, and the intending benefactor of the poor of Holland (William Preeco) is in gaol waiting his trial.

If the "intelligent foreigner" so often supposed to inspect England, accompanied Sergeant Bell to Corpus Court, Shoreditch, at ten o'clock on Tuesday night, he would have an opportunity of judging of the common treatment of many English women. He would have seen "a woman in a fainting state, bleeding from the mouth, and complaining of the injuries she had sustained from her head having been dashed against shutters and against the pavement; her hair streaming loose, her dress torn and disordered, and her appearance altogether pitiable." Her husband had thus injured the woman; and when another woman interfered he beat her also, and kicked her upon the chest. It is not for want of punishment that such offences still increase. The husband was sentenced to "twelve months' imprisonment" for both assaults. But remem-

bering doubtless who would suffer most from the separation, he cried out to his wife in a "vindictive" tone, "I hope you are satisfied now." She must be satisfied, to starve—in peace. The general fact that the operation of Filtzroy's Act has not diminished the number of assaults on women, is particularly confirmed by a case tried on last Saturday. John Wagstaff came home drunk to dinner, and on his wife making an observation as to the children having nothing to eat, he struck her violently and left the house. He returned at midnight, dragged her from bed, and flung her in her nightdress into the street. She stole into the house again, but he caught her and beat her until she fainted beneath his blows. He was sentenced to four months' imprisonment. But this man has been already imprisoned nine months for four separate brutal assaults on his wife. Two or three other worse cases of wife-beating are narrated in the papers of the week.

Those daring crimes called "garotte robberies" are boldly done of late. At his own door a clergyman in Worcester was caught by the throat and flung to the ground, two men choking him until he became insensible. They then tore away his watch and purse. His own servants looked out, and in the darkness of the night saw their master struggling with the men, and thought it was a drunken row. A quarter of an hour after they heard a knocking at the door, and a feeble voice, which they mistook for that of a drunken man, and it was with some difficulty that Mr. St. John made them understand that it was he who was knocking. On their opening the door they saw their master with his face covered with blood, and he was so much injured and exhausted that medical assistance had to be called in. Mr. St. John is still very ill. Another case has occurred this week:—A countryman named William Hopkins came into Bristol with 15*l.* in cash, and deposited it in a breast pocket. While taking some refreshment in a public house, a female came in and forced a conversation with him, which ended in her prevailing upon him to accompany her to her lodgings near the Newmarket-passages. On their way to this place she placed her arms round him, immediately upon which two men, who had been observed in the act of following, came up to them. One, without saying a word, knocked the countryman down, and the other immediately threw himself upon him, seized him by the neck, and squeezed him till he became insensible. A man named Richards saw the two men, a woman, and a third man who had joined them, in the act of emptying Hopkins's pockets, which they rifled of everything they contained. The robbers are in gaol, but the woman escaped with the money.

At Croydon Assizes, Mr. Atkinson, an attorney, seeks damages against Mr. Baldwin, formerly M.P. for Totness, for seducing from him the affections of his wife. Mrs. Atkinson's servant swears to gross and guilty acts. Baldwin is an old man of sixty-five, and is married. Mrs. Atkinson is young and handsome, and Mr. Atkinson is about forty. Baldwin's counsel makes the usual dextrous defence; firstly, that his client is not guilty, secondly, that if he be, Mr. Atkinson allowed the improper intimacy with the disgraceful intent of making money by his grievance, and thirdly, that Mr. Atkinson was a cold and neglectful husband.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ONCE more Queen Victoria has visited the camp. On Tuesday she sailed through the Spithead fleet, amid salutes and cheers. On Thursday, she visited the army at Chobham, and, in semi-military costume, rode down the lines.

On Wednesday, she acted as sponsor to the infant son of Earl and Lady Constance Grosvenor; and afterwards she received the Prince of Wurtemberg, the son-in-law of the Emperor Nicholas.

We may remark, too, that on the same day, the Queen of England received visits from the ex-Queen of the French, and of the Duchess of Orleans, the mother of the Count of Paris, a pretender to the throne of our ally, the Emperor of the French.

The Crystal Palace is rapidly advancing to the completion of the more important structures of the building. The huge scaffolding that spans across the great transept, about seventy feet wider, and proportionately higher, than that of the old Palace, was sufficiently rebuilt by Thursday last to be ready for the raising and fixing of the first rib of the iron work yesterday; and the same day being, fortunately, the anniversary of the raising of the first column, the double event was celebrated by a dinner amongst the directors in the Palace, and a fête amongst the men at Beulah Spa. It was interesting to see these artisans, marching along, all dressed in their best, and headed by a band of their own—English, French, Italians, and Germans, all fraternally exulting in this fresh triumph of engineering skill and industrial energy.

A large amount of work has been done this session. The bills and papers already amount to 900.

General Anson intends to retire from the representation of South Staffordshire.

The Ministerial whitebait dinner—the invariable forerunner of the close of the parliamentary session—is fixed for the 13th instant.

The borough of Sligo seems a hot-bed of bribery and petitions. Three new petitions are to be presented. The continued contests may lead to the desirable consummation of the disfranchisement of the borough.

The Canterbury Commissioners have reported that direct money bribery took place at the last Canterbury election, and at previous elections, but the only candidates they convict of cognisance of such bribery, are the Hon. Mr. Smythe, and Mr. H. P. Gipps.

The Directors of the East India Company have resolved on accepting the new Bill, their suggested amendments having been duly considered and their power over their servants being unimpaired. This resolution was submitted to the Court of Proprietors, but not assented to. Mr. Holt Mackenzie proposed a string of resolutions against the Bill, but after some discussion, these were withdrawn, and with the consent of the chairman of the directors, a petition to the House of Lords against the Bill was finally agreed to.

The charge against Lord Fitzwilliam, of aweing electors into voting for "his candidate," and of punishing those who did not, seems proved by items of this week's evidence before the Committee. Robert Lee, a farmer, deposed that before voting for Walley at the last election he received as much as 40*l.* a-year for the supply to the Fitzwilliam bailiffs of drilling and thrashing machines, but that now he received nothing. He would not vote for the Fitzwilliam candidate (Mr. Cornwall Lewis), and Earl Fitzwilliam's bailiff (Gibbs) on paying him his last bill said "he was determined to stop it, and that he would not employ any one who voted against the Earl, and that he was ordered so to do, and would have nothing of that sort done against the Milton interest while he held the situation." Mr. W. Pentney, printer and stationer, of Peterborough, refused to vote for Mr. Cornwall Lewis. Mr. Wilkinson, a steward, afterwards read him a letter from Earl Fitzwilliam, the substance of which was as follows:—"Mr. Wilkinson is perfectly right in informing Mr. Pentney that he is at liberty to continue in the house provided he pays an advanced rent; but if Mr. Pentney exercises his franchise offensively, or uses the press and prints and circulates anything offensive to me or my friends, I shall feel bound to have him removed."

The Countess of Minto, mother of Lord John Russell, and wife of Lord Minto, died at Nervi, Piedmont, on the 22nd of last month.

The Customs revenue of Bristol is increasing at the rate of 160,000*l.* a year.

Farms in Devonshire, lately sold, obtained 41, 36, and 32 years purchase.

The manufacture of goods for Australia is very active. Leg-irons and hand-cuffs form a considerable item, and a large quantity of coffins have been ordered.

One million six hundred thousand pounds has already been voted to defray the cost of building the new Houses of Parliament.

The shipment of goods to New York is so active at present, that merchants are forced at Liverpool to cast lots for ship room. The rate of freight is now 5*l.* per ton.

To bring Australia within fifty-five days of London is the aim of the Australian Direct Steam Company. Its capital is one million, and it has just got a charter.

The specie received in London from New York, the West Indies, and Australia, on Monday and Tuesday of this week, amounted to 560,000*l.*

Fenchurch-street and Kew are now connected by a circuitous railway 18½ miles long, completing the half circle round London, leaving the Thames near the Tower, and terminating at Kew-bridge.

The best pupils of University College were severally rewarded on Monday by the distribution of prizes. The proceedings were interesting. Austen H. Layard, M.P., was in the chair, and spoke highly in praise of the Institution, giving credit to Lord Brougham and Mr. Grote for their kindness and liberality to the College. He expressed pleasure at the introduction of Sanscrit among the languages, especially in view of the late reforms in Indian appointments.

Dublin is crowded with English visitors. At one popular *café* dinner is laid for 600 guests every day.

Dr. Higgin, Bishop of Limerick, is named as successor to Dr. Whately at the Irish National Board.

Mr. Francis B. Beamish is the new Liberal candidate for Cork city (vacated by Serjeant Murphy's appointment), and Colonel Chatterton, in the Conservative interest, has published his address.

The Queen's visit to Ireland is to take place on Monday, the 29th of this month. She will stay in Dublin until the following Saturday, and then leave for Balmoral, touching on route at the Giants' Causeway.

The Irish Exhibition is now "in apple-pie order." Everything is well arranged, and the display is very perfect. The "English invasion" of tourists continues, and foreigners swell the stream. Public balls and private parties give the Dublin folk a welcomed gaiety.

Some London clergymen went to Limerick to preach against Romanism in the open streets. The people got excited, and hooted, pelted, and insulted the missionaries. The magistrates advised them to give up open-air preaching. They said they would.

Over ten millions' worth of Irish land has been sold under the Incumbered Estates Act. This property was owned by 1081 insolvent proprietors; it is now owned by 5000 steady and solvent landlords—mostly skilled farmers or intelligent capitalists.

The vicar of Clara entered his study at eleven o'clock at night. He had a lighted candle in his hand, and he stood for a moment at a desk. The window was open; through it some assassin fired, and the bullet narrowly missed the clergyman, who it is said is an inoffensive person. Clara is in the King's County, Ireland, and the vicar is the Reverend William Turpin.

The dissension in the Irish Board of Education threatens to lead to separation in the schools. The guardians of the South Dublin Union have withdrawn their schools from the control of the Board, and have further resolved that the children of different creeds shall be educated separately under the control of the guardians of each persuasion. This latter resolution the Poor Law Commissioners refuse to sanction.

The relations between Mexico and the United States forbode serious differences. The journals of both countries talk in a warlike way.

All the newspapers, English and American, are now prohibited circulation in Cuba.

The noted slave-ship, the *Lady Suffolk*, has at length been seized by the British man-of-war brig *Daring*.

For a world's testimonial to Jenner, the great physician who mitigated the terrors of the small-pox, the United States has subscribed sixteen hundred dollars.

A "new element of difficulty" is said to have arisen in the Fisheries dispute between the States and the British Provinces. The matter must, it is thought, be referred to Congress.

News from India and China reached town on last Saturday. From Burmah the intelligence is that no advance is to be made on Ava unless our troops or civil servants are molested; and our present position there is to be maintained. Many officers have died. The Empire of China is divided, and Nankin is independent of the Tartar dynasty. Great anxiety was entertained for Canton, and a rising was daily expected there.

Seventy thousand persons are living at present at Melbourne, and the crowd causes disease. The town besides is filthy and ill-drained, but 200,000*l.* is to be spent on its sewerage. Food is still comparatively cheap, the low tariff keeping the market well supplied. (The import duties are 7*s.* per gallon on spirits, 1*s.* per gallon on wine, 2*s.* per lb. on tobacco, 3*d.* on tea, and 10*s.* per cwt. on coffee.) Farm and dairy produce continue very dear. In Melbourne cab-bages are 1*s.* each, potatoes 3*d.* per lb., and butter 3*s.* At the gold fields eggs sell readily at 10*d.* each (!), onions at 1*s.* 3*d.*, and potatoes at 6*d.* per lb. Land near towns is very dear. Melbourne lots average 2000*l.* per acre, and country townships from 50*l.* to 200*l.* per acre. The Australian post-offices are sadly mismanaged; not one-half of the letters sent from England ever reach the parties to whom they are addressed. About 90,000 persons are now at the gold fields, 20,000 of whom are women and children, 10,000 storekeepers, government officials, and tradesmen, and 60,000 miners. An ounce per man per week is the average earning. [The *Times* and other papers, in condensing the late news from Australia, stated the earnings at an ounce per man *per day*; but in the very column containing the error, they might have read the right account from the *Sydney Empire*, a respectable paper.] Railways from Melbourne to Hobson's Bay, to Geelong, and to Mount Alexander, are talked of. Two pounds per week for a two-roomed cottage, is the rate of rents in Melbourne. Immigrants are to be taxed 5*s.* per head; the proceeds of the tax will be devoted to a sanatorium for persons arriving in ill-health. County-courts have been established in most of the leading towns; and "concerts, evening lectures, restaurants, and public schools," have been established at the gold fields.

A portrait of Pitt (by Hoppner) has been presented to the National Gallery.

The scull-rowing contest for "Doggett's Coat and Badge," took place on Monday on the Thames. It was a close struggle, and was won by Fennis, of the Tower.

The first ascent of Mont Blanc this season has just been made by two Englishmen. They experienced no great difficulty as the weather was fine.

A mat factory in Southwark took fire, and was consumed. The conflagration was great, the fire ranging for one hundred feet along the factory and adjoining houses.

A lady on visiting the Houses of Parliament on Saturday was struck to the marble pavement dead, by one of the doors swinging back.

The fine old parish church of Kegworth is being restored in all its antique glory of splendidly-dyed windows and Gothic architecture.

At Cardiff now stands a colossal statue of the Marquis of Bute: erected by the county as a testimonial to his worth. It is draped in the robes of the Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

On a Liverpool ship coming from Shanghai, the mate quarrelled with the captain, and being angry, snatched up a cutlass and ran the captain through the body. He then jumped overboard and was seen no more.

The inhabitants of Kingston went to law with the Duke of Cambridge, for stopping a customary road on the Coombe Warren estate. It was shown that the right of way arose incidentally in the erection of a telegraph station, and was not legal, and it was decided that a footpath was legal, but not a carriage-road.

The corpse of a strange young woman was found in a field near Littleport, Cambridgeshire. The corpse was marked with a penknife wound in the neck, and stone wounds on the head. Poison was found in a bottle near the body, and prussic acid was found in the stomach. She was seen the night before with a young man, also a stranger, dancing in a booth. In the words of a popular author, "the whole affair is involved in mystery."

The Vegetarians held their sixth annual meeting, and a banquet in celebration of it, at which three hundred guests were present, in the Town-hall, Salford, on Friday, the 28th ult. We are informed that the society now contains 800 members, all abstaining from the flesh of animals for periods extending from that of a few months to forty-five years, eighty or ninety of whom have been abstaining from every species of flesh, fish, or fowl the whole of their lives. There are already to be found healthy children of the third generation of vegetarian practice.

The betting on the last Goodwood races was heavy. In amount it has seldom been surpassed. At Tattersall's on Monday, room, terrace, and yard were crowded. That it had been a smiling meeting for the fielders was very evident, but "the true joy is when the money comes;" and what with the late attendance of some parties, the total absence of the accounts of others—heavy betters, too—and the disappointment caused by three or four "hit and missings," one of whom used to be deep in commissions, and whose *locus standi* in future is likely to be in that paradise of defaulters, Boulogne, there was a fruitful source of vexation and complaint.

The widow of a navvie was remarkable among the people of Goolo for her miserable life and penurious habits. She denied herself the necessities of life, and refused to give

anything to her brother, who with his family was nearly starving. She died the other day, and on searching her house, gold, "yellow, glittering gold" turned up in odd corners. One bag had 500 sovereigns; at the bottom of a chest were 150 sovereigns; in a butter-pot 500 sovereigns, and in notes and other documents more than 2000*l*. In all 4,250*l*. was found in the house of the wretched old woman.

Young Mr. Keene bought a cottage in Meere, Somersetshire, and having a taste for flowers, built a wall round the ground in front, and made a pretty flower-bed in the place. Mr. Keene is a staunch Free-trader, and therefore was not liked in Meere, where the inhabitants are a simple and primitive race of the Protectionist creed. They looked with horror on Free-trade principles and Free-trade flowers, and so knocked down Mr. Keene's flower-garden wall. They said he encroached upon the highway. Mr. Keene went to law. The judge decided that he had illegally encroached upon the highway, and so the Free-trade in flowers was nipped in the bud.

A strange discovery—as strange as that of Ginevra in the old chest—was made lately, in New York. In the unloading of the ship *Columbus*, from Liverpool, the dead body of a soldier, with the name of "E. Russell, 33rd Regiment," marked on his clothes, was found among the bales. It is supposed that the deceased secreted himself among the cargo for the purpose of desertion, and that a number of bales had been stowed away after he had hidden himself. As the hatch was secured and caulked, and the ship crowded with emigrant passengers, his cries could not be heard on deck. The body was much decomposed, and appeared to retain none of its original features.

At Dover, the town porters claim as a right to carry every passenger's bag to the Custom-house, and even if the traveller perforce carries it himself, they charge him sixpence. Mr. Downing Bruce resisted this imposition on lately landing from France. The porters assaulted him, and were prevented from further outrage by the display of a life-preserver. The incident led to a trial at the Dover Petty Sessions last Monday, when the magistrates decided that the demand of the porters was illegal. The corporation, under whose authority the porters act, had to pay 5*l*. costs, they having, through their town clerk, defended the imposition. This is remarkable, for the people of Dover should note that *they* are obliged to pay because the town porters are extortionate.

A manufacturer at Leicester, a Mr. William Harris, got into difficulties, and, in consequence, was much distressed in mind. He left the town suddenly, and in a few days his brother received from him an incoherent letter, saying,—"I now feel that I have offended every friend, and also my God. What is to become of me? For a year and a half I have thought of nothing but death. Oh! dear brother, there is no hope of me. I cannot face my creditors. I am mad, and have been for a long time. I shall be found at Carmarthen." Thither went the brother, and in a hotel-room found his brother in bed, the bed-clothes quite smooth, drawn up to his chin, his clenched hand leaning on his chest, his legs straight, his face very pallid—quite dead. A bottle marked "poison" was on the table; it had contained prussic acid.

A private soldier of the Grenadier Guards, named Lancaster, spoke disrespectfully to one of the lance corporals. Lancaster was subsequently tried by a court-martial, and was sentenced to a term of punishment which he considered greater in proportion than the offence he had committed. He was just being removed from the court when he encountered his prosecutor, struck him a blow, and felled him to the ground. For this offence, he was farther sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his back, and, in addition, to be imprisoned in the House of Correction for four months. The first part of the sentence was carried into effect on Saturday, in the mess-kitchen of the barracks, where the halberds were fixed, and on Lancaster being firmly tied thereto, he received the first forty lashes from two drummers, each giving him twenty. A third drummer was then called in, and administered the final number. On being released, Lancaster called out as loud as he could, "Bravo! I have stood it like a man."

The weekly railway traffic of this year on English railways is 51,503*l*. greater than that of last year. The amount received for seven months of this year was over 9,000,000*l*.

Nux vomica is a most bitter and poisonous drug. In 1840 there were 540 *pounds* of it imported into England, while last year there were 540 *tons* of it imported. What is the cause of the increase?

The exports of Russia are 13½ millions, so that the 62 millions of Russians have less trade than the 28 million Englishmen. The value of our exports to Russia has been stationary for the last ten years, and the Russian shipping entered inwards 10,255 in 1840, was but 10,598 in 1848.

A very novel plan for a Central Railway Terminus in London has been published by Mr. Henderson, of the famous firm of Fox, Henderson, and Co. The building is to be erected over the Thames, upon a kind of island in the air, supported by columns. Mr. Henderson states that the level of the structure proposed would be such as not to interfere with the traffic on the river and on the bridges. Its supports would not injure the views from White-hall-gardens, Northumberland-house, the Adelphi, the Temple-gardens, &c.; and far from being open to any reasonable objection, the structure erected would form an ornament to the metropolis, and the London central terminus station would thus, without any unnecessary interference with existing property, satisfy in the highest degree the great and urgent requirements of the public service. The station so constructed would divide the river into three parts, viz.—one central portion, covered by the railway station, and supported on columns (so arranged as to form distinct channels for traffic, without offering any serious impediment to the passage of barges and small craft); and two ample waterways, one on each side of the river, for the passage of the steamers, without interfering with the accommodation for passengers at the various piers and jetties.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A TIN-PLATE-WORKER'S remarks on "State and Church Morality," will receive constant illustration at our hands.

QUESTOR.—The position taken is useful, but is not pointedly enough put.

J. B. H. (Birkenhead).—We are unable to satisfy the inquiries of our correspondent.

A LIGHT-DRAGON.—We shall not lose sight of the subject of your letter.

The Leader

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 1853.

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.

AMERICA VERSUS RUSSIA.

WE appear to be on the verge of a war with Russia. There is in Europe a large portion of Governments half inclined to trim, and certainly to side with the victorious state. England has recently suffered her show of influence and strength to decline in Europe; Russia is the power that has gained a signal victory the most recently. In determining the part taken by the waverers, the degree of strength, resolution, and effective alliance likely to be possessed by either side will be a grand consideration. In Austria it has been remarked that the only power which has shown vigour in the East is the United States.

Russia has employed the time allowed by the Allied Powers for pacific negotiations, in measures to strengthen her position and increase the start which she has been permitted to take; her arrogant pretensions have outrun the indulgence even of her fastest friends in this country; and the influential paper which has most conspicuously furthered Russian interests, has felt itself compelled by national feeling to point out the impolicy of permitting further time to the arch enemy of Europe.

It is under these circumstances that we are astounded to perceive in the columns of the *Times* a studied attack on the President, the people, and the institutions of the United States. The occasion is the opening of the Crystal Palace in New York. We take a few specimens in order to show that we do not put any forced construction when we describe the article as offensive; our abridgement of the whole being only made to save space.

"In the first place, the smartest nation in the world has failed in the prime condition of success—it has not kept time. Having prudently postponed the Exhibition from 1852 to 1853, it has been obliged, after all, to defer the opening from May 1 to July 15, and, meanwhile, had acquired so much credit for procrastination that the opening at last has really taken people by surprise. 'It will be impossible to complete the whole work,' we are told, 'including the machinery department, in less than three or four weeks.' In fact, the additional structure required for it will not be finished till then. England has kept time, as usual, having sent Lord Ellesmere in a frigate so early as to give his Lordship rather too much time, for, as often happens when people have time to spare, he only arrived from Quebec on the day of the opening, and had caught a fit of his old enemy, the gout, which, after all, prevented his being present at the ceremony. Perhaps, like the rest of the world, he thought the conductors of the affair had been crying 'Wolf' so often that the Exhibition would never open. The national vessel of France is still on her way, and that of Holland, we are told encouragingly, will almost immediately follow. So far, all is behindhand, and the speakers on the occasion make it up with promises. As for the proceedings of the day, we can only say that Royal pageants are much more punctual, convenient, and creditable than Republican; and that Queen Victoria understands her business, and does it with much less fuss, and much more to the satisfaction of the public, than 'Mr. Pierce.' Her Majesty, as everybody knows, entered our Crystal Palace punctually as the clock struck, after bowing without intermission to half a million of her loyal sub-

jects filling the two parks. She then stood about an hour, and passed through various ceremonies and made numerous recognitions. She then walked in procession through all the principal gangways of the building—being almost exactly a mile, and then returned home with much the same ceremony. Had Her Majesty not appeared for three-quarters of an hour after time her subjects would have thought something seriously amiss. Mr. Pierce had made his own punctuality dependent on that of a train from Washington. He entered 'worn down with fatigue,' and had 'to take a chair and enjoy a few moments' rest;' though why he should be in this state after a railway journey we cannot divine. After a speech, which might have taken two minutes, and the substance of which was far from exhaustive of the matter or the man, Mr. Pierce had then to encounter some real hard work. It was stated some months since that the worthy President was literally chased from city to city by a determined body of ten thousand place hunters, who followed him in full cry the instant he showed in public. It would appear that the unsatisfied portion of the pack took tickets for the opening, for the instant Mr. Pierce had closed his speech a rush was made for the platform, all anxious to take the opportunity to shake him by the hand. Those near him in vain entreated the crowd to desist from pressing upon him, and it was for some time feared that in the immense throng he might sustain bodily injury. After great exertion, however, he was rescued from his friends without sustaining any harm, but excessively fatigued by the zealous attentions bestowed upon him. He was carried to Astor-house, where 'he sought the repose necessary for his health,' as he was evidently labouring under severe physical debility. . . . We cannot help asking, why twenty millions of the cleverest people in the world cannot choose a President at least sound in wind and limb, able to travel from Washington to New York without knocking up, and able, also, to make a better speech than an average common councilman in this city."

There is something ludicrous in the care with which even the short-comings of foreign nations are pressed into service, for the purpose of getting up a show of disparagement against the Americans. But the writer appears to be in ignorance of some facts that destroy the force of his diatribe. In the first place, "the nation" had not staked its repute; for the Crystal Palace at New York is a private and not a national speculation, although it may be said to have national approbation, sympathy, and patronage. The cut at the Americans for unpunctuality falls on a callous place—the Americans will own their fault—nay, they proclaim that it is their vice to be never in time, because their impatience makes them antedate practicabilities. Lord Ellesmere's punctuality is a joke, when he was absent; and if France is behind her time in crossing the Atlantic, do we forget that she was so in crossing the Pas de Calais, to meet Queen Victoria in Hyde Park? But at once the most offensive and the most unfounded attack is that on "Mr. Pierce." It is presumed that the man elected by an enormous body of free citizens can be surrounded only by "place-hunters"—yes, that is the word; and the thousands of independent patriots who were there, and at whom the word is levelled, will not readily forget it. Was it intended to alienate them from England?

The man who commenced his Presidential career with the most masterly *résumé* of public policy, heard for many a day, is the object of a sneer for a plain and unpretending speech. Queen Victoria is held up with flattery for her physical vigour, in contrast with the man who volunteered to shoulder a brown musket in the cause of his country, and who returned, after a brilliant campaign, as a general, to receive the thanks of Congress, for his share in a great conquest. And the citizens are taunted for not choosing a President "sound in wind and limb"—meaning that man! The man, too, whose energetic foreign policy is making his countrymen feel the protecting power of the star-girt eagle, is compelling even Austria to acknowledge the power of the United States in Europe, and is redoubling the anxiety of true Englishmen to retain the alliance of that powerful young republic, the real unfaltering champion of freedom.

Two days later, the *Times* makes some amends by a paper, acknowledging the ability, decision, and practical care of the American Government, in issuing the instructions to its consuls abroad, to inculcate republican plainness of costume, diligence, and proper attention to the claims of Americans, whether for employment at the Consulate in preference to foreigners, or for

facility and protection. But what is this care and activity in the Consular department save a part, and a very small part, of the energy which combines close attention to details with the most prompt and resolute conduct of the general administration of the foreign affairs; and to whom is that character of administration to be imputed if not to "Mr. Pierce" himself? In short, it is by his boldness, foresight, and national feeling, that Franklin Pierce has identified his own name with that of his glorious country, insomuch that at this moment he, as well as the republic, is the object of the fear and machinations of the servants of absolutism, from the Danube to the Neva, from the Black Sea to the Atlantic.

The *Times* might almost have complained that the second speech of the President was based on only one idea; it may be said to have been, from beginning to end, a strain of generous compliment to England, and of aspiration for the cordial union of the two countries.

The attempted disparagement of the *Times* does not express the English feeling. That is shown by the cheers of the South Shields seamen, when they resolved that Americans should be considered *the same* as English seamen. In society the strongest annoyance and surprise has been felt and expressed at the first article in the *Times*, and perplexity to divine the motive of a composition that could serve no purpose except to disgust Americans with England, and to divide from us that ally which is the great counterpoise of Russia. The second article, complimentary to the republic, probably marks a sense that English feeling had been outraged, and that to reconcile the readers to the journal, it was necessary for the journal to set itself right with the republic.

COBDEN ON THE RANGOON.

THE Judge who said that he never felt any difficulty in deciding a case until he heard the other side, would have delighted in Mr. Cobden as leading counsel; especially, if, as in the case of his new pamphlet, professing to give an account of the way in which the Burmese war was got up, the other party were kept out of court. The Burmese war is one of the most cumbrous and costly follies into which subordinate officers ever dragged this country, even in India; and the case on that head is clear enough. Certain British dealers were subjected in Rangoon to every species of oppression and extortion—imprisoned and fined on the most ridiculous pretences—such as that of ill-using men at sea, those men being themselves of a piratical genus; of disobeying local regulations; or even of having unfaithful wives! If a "British subject" could be got to trump up the story, so much the better; and the Lascars, Coolies, or mongrel Mongols that frequented that port well knew where a charge might be welcomed for the sake of the fine. These practices were long a nuisance, and Lord Dalhousie at last interfered; but instead of sending a force to break the heads of a few officials and soldiers, and seize property enough to compensate the aggrieved Englishmen, he sent an expedition with instructions to use no "hostilities;" but to prefer a pompous claim for redress. Thus instructed, but reading his instructions by the light of the binnacle, with a sense that your steering must depend partly on wind and tide, Commodore Lambert paid little heed to the landsman's chart. He first became entangled in Chinese-like "negotiations," in which the invisible Governor was ever promising redress, but never giving it; and then, in a fit of spleen he began those forbidden "hostilities" which dragged us into a war and the occupation of a territory that the King of the Golden Foot will neither defend resolutely, nor surrender formally. All this is very foolish, and very wrong, and very mischievous; and it did not need Mr. Cobden's pamphlet to make us think so.

But, indeed, when we look into that notable production, we are struck with the skill that an able one-sided man may have in damaging a case by lopsided arguments and "proofs." To Mr. Cobden all that is Burmese is venial, fair-spoken, *bond fide*, and commendable. The English grievances are no grievances. The damages claimed by the sea captains whose injury caused the intervention were pared down by one-half—a common fate with damages; yet Mr. Cobden insinuates that there was no case.

A man who had some mineral of alchemic virtues, and who refused to give it to the Governor, was charged with theft and flogged so that he died. Another was fined 150*l.* for the alleged faithlessness of his wife. A third was fined 100*l.* for an irregularity committed by his men in digging for some buried money; he having detected and reported the offenders. Mr. Cobden calls this an "absurd list of grievances;" evidently confounding the grounds of the original charge with the result, and slighting the tragedy on account of the farce with which it began; or on account of the Burman authorities being against the list. For, throughout, he receives almost without question the Burman statements.

No doubt such grievances should be "received with caution," but Mr. Cobden receives them with disbelief: and the same affectionate partiality haunts him, even in discussing perfectly authenticated statements. The Governor of Rangoon is told that a deputation from Commodore Lambert is coming to wait upon him; whereupon he straightway goes "to sleep!" Quite naturally, says Mr. Cobden. The ceremonious ideas of the natives rendered it an important question how to receive persons of rank, especially on horseback, or on an elephant; and so the Governor, to avoid that embarrassment, went to sleep—the custom of the country at the hour improperly selected for the visit; and to say that he was slumbering was equivalent to the English courteous evasion of saying "not at home" to an unwelcome visitor. That the Governor should tell a white lie rather enhances him in Mr. Cobden's view; but that the English officers should "ride into the Governor's compound" (courtyard) shocks his sense of decorum; which is thoroughly naturalised to the Burmese standard. The Governor reported to his Majesty that "the British officers were drunk;" a charge which Mr. Cobden passes by "as unworthy of notice;" but "they had no right, being subordinate in rank, to a formal reception;" he blames them for want of "tact and temper," and, finally, warming with his subject, he finds an excuse for the aspersion: "What should we think of an American deputation which required us to dispense with our Lord-Chamberlains, Gold-sticks, and beef-eaters, and to receive them after the simple fashion of the White House at Washington? Might we not probably doubt if they were sober?" Captain Fishbourne had the choice of standing in the sun, or in a shed allotted to common people, and the Anglo-Burmese pamphleteer is amused that this can be made a grievance. This is evidence of his thoroughly Burmanized view: being "subordinate in rank," why should the outside barbarians object to standing with honest Burmese; and as to sun, what is it to stand a quarter of an hour in its glare? Nothing to a Burman, when he is used to it, or compelled; and evidently the golden-footed Cobden cannot perceive the hardship.

But in vengeance for these insults, the British seized "the yellow ship," belonging to the King of Ava, and blockaded his ports; and when the Burmese attempted to impede the removal of the vessel, four days later, the British squadron retaliated, doing "great execution" among the 3000 of the resisting force. At this Mr. Cobden is thoroughly outraged. The Burmese resisted, but they did so in fear of their heads, should they let a king's ship be towed off; a line of argument which implies that at Waterloo, for example, notwithstanding the British fire, Napoleon ought to have withheld a return, because if our men had not done their duty, most assuredly they would have been brought to court-martial, and probably shot. The Burmese fired upon us, which was venial; moreover, they killed nobody; but when we returned the fire, Mr. Cobden says, that "in the eyes of God," every life sacrificed must be regarded as "a case of murder." To be bad soldiers redeems what there was of questionable right in the Burmese hostility, but to do effective execution is a crime. This is the Peace version of the complaint, libellously and unjustly ascribed in ridicule to the Neapolitan soldiers, that "the French soldiers fired with real bullets, and actually killed!" Mr. Cobden would agree with the Neapolitans, quite seriously.

He harps much upon the supposed American parallel, but it does not apply. The United States are a civilized and powerful people, able to command respect; the Burmese are a rude, barbarous people, who have no right to the respect which must be shown to the Americans. It is a part of civilized politics to estimate relative

powers, and to come to a conclusion upon the estimate without the trouble or cost of using those powers; but the Burmese have not attained that point, and force must be used against them in its raw state.

But let us retort the American parallel. Suppose great complaints at Washington of injury on American fishers about the Bay of Fundy. Mr. Cobden being Governor of New Brunswick. A Commodore Wilkes is sent out with a squadron to ask restitution, and a semi-official goes before to tell Governor Cobden that the Commodore is coming. "I would rather transact all the business through you," says the governor to the messenger. "Impossible," replies the messenger; "Governments like those of America do not dispose of these matters by verbal messages; besides, the Commodore is on his way." Now, Cobden is perplexed how to receive the Commodore. Shall he wear a shooting-jacket or a civil uniform? If he wear a uniform, it will be, perhaps, too profound a reverence to Wilkes, especially as Cobden does not know his standing in the American navy. If he wear a shooting-jacket it may be an unpoliteness, and these questions are the essentials of international relations; the fishermen being low people, whose complaints are always absurd. But Governor Cobden hits upon a bright expedient: when Wilkes comes, he is kept in the court of Government-house, and told that Cobden is "Not at home." "Not at home!" cries Wilkes, enraged; "well, then, show me into a room, and I will wait for him." "No; Cobden is a great man, and you cannot enter his parlour without leave; these ceremonies must be considered." "Well," cries Wilkes, with an eye to practical considerations, "it is awfully cold, this early winter day, and it sleets cats and dogs; you don't mean to keep me a quarter-of-an-hour in the sleet?" "Oh! no. You see those poor people in that shed; you may stand up there." Wilkes, however, thinks a wet skin not so bad as compromised dignity, so he waits a quarter-of-an-hour, goes away in a rage, and seizes an English ship. "Good gracious!" writes Cobden to his Sovereign: "what could he take offence at? I only sent out word that I was not at home—the custom of the country, you know. He positively complains that I kept him a quarter-of-an-hour in the rain: a pretty sort of complaint for a man! But the fellow was drunk; and having, like a thief, taken your Majesty's property, he had the brutality to kill some of your unoffending people who made a show of resisting. However, there is no fear that the Americans will go to war with us on these frivolous pretences; they must be satisfied now. But if they should, do not be under any fear, for I can make speeches at them till they are tired out." Mr. James Buchanan is coming to England, and we have no doubt that if Mr. Cobden asks the question, that excellent authority can tell him whether or not Commodore Wilkes would contentedly wait a quarter-of-an-hour in wind and rain, while Mr. Cobden was being "Not at home."

As Mr. Cobden totally objects to the Lambert mode of treating Burmese, we may infer the course which he would pursue. Had he been the Commissioner in lieu of the Commodore, he would, of course, have treated the complaints of British subjects as they deserved. He would have received the Burmese excuses in all good faith, and, of course, he would not have neglected ceremony. Quite alive to the customs of the country, he would not have gone in the middle of the day, but perhaps at nine o'clock in the morning; he would not have ridden into the governor's compound, either on a horse or an elephant; for there is a time for all things, and every true Burmese knows when to put an elephant between his legs, and when not to do so. Having won his way into the governor's presence on some appropriate animal, he would perform the Burmese equivalent of the *ko-tou*, which is not to be confounded with, *to kalon*,—a thing *not* in Mr. Cobden's province. The Burmese, however, do not, like the Chinese, knock their foreheads against the floor, and Mr. Cobden, of course, would know better than to put such an affront upon the Burmese governor. We are not so versed in the ceremony as he is, but, probably, some honourable member will ask him, whether the fitting observance is not to stand upon one leg with the arms stretched out like the wings of a sea gull, and three times to touch the outer corner of the left eye with the little toe of the right

foot? Thus qualified to speak in the name of the British nation, Commissioner Cobden would, of course, state the predicament in which he stood—compelled to approach the magnanimous governor, *stans pede in uno*, in order to present to him the absurd complaints of British ragamuffins claiming preposterous damages; all of which he would respectfully submit to the better judgment of the governor. Then, the governor would utter some of those wise and humane sentiments which Mr. Cobden so reveres in the Burmese mouth; and perhaps, in consideration of Cobden's painful position, perceiving, too, the respectful manner in which he still remained suspended on the Burmese judgment, the governor would put his hand into his pocket, give Cobden five shillings, and send him away rejoicing that he could export Burmese instruction for the benefit of the English people, and save his country from the guilt of making war upon so estimable a people. In such case, no doubt, we should avoid Burmese wars, or Burmese contests of any kind; and we should probably also be relieved of any dependencies, with all their embarrassments; being reduced to that workshop of the world which might so properly be governed by Foreman Cobden civilly waiting upon any customers who pleased to look in.

THE NORTHERN DYKES AGAINST THE RUSSIAN FLOOD.

THE importance of the Danish elements in the great and multiform Russian question, is now recognised almost universally. It is probable that the perception of the intrigues going on in the heterogeneous dominions collected under the Danish crown may have stimulated the anxieties of our own Ministers, and have thrown a fresh light for their dim sight upon proceedings in the south. After using his Danish subjects to commit wrong upon his subjects in Schleswig-Holstein, the King of Denmark is now attempting to commit robbery upon the rights of the Danes. Although more resembling in its character the will of the Sovereign by whom it was made—Frederick the Third—than a law; and although relating exclusively to the kings, without bearing directly upon the people, the *Lex Regia* by which the succession of the Danish throne has been governed is of a peculiarly emphatic character; and its adoption and observance by the Crown and State of Denmark have given to it the solidity and force of law. It cannot be altered; it must be directly broken, because it contains a distinct and binding clause, precluding any alteration, and putting all successors of Frederick the Third under the obligation of obeying it in every particle. It even goes so far as virtually to release the people from all obedience to any king who shall in any respect depart from or alter it. Every king of Denmark, up to and including the present, on his accession to the throne, has sworn to obey it in all its provisions.

In discussions upon this subject, comparatively slight attention has been paid to the main point—that relating to Schleswig-Holstein, although that is for Europe scarcely less important in a political view, than the Danish branch of the subject. We have ourselves been guilty of an inadvertence, which most of our readers may perhaps have been able to correct, in ascribing the promise that the Duchies should not be divided, to the late king, Christian the Eighth, who died in January, 1848. Such a promise was never given by him. It was under his reign that the first attempt was made to disunite the Duchies, and to secure a fictitious integrity for the Danish dominions, in spite of laws and territorial boundaries, in 1846. King Christian the Eighth issued the letters-patent (*Offener Brief*) already mentioned, declaring the indivisibility of the Danish monarchy as far as the Eider, and thus attempting to separate the Duchies, who strenuously opposed the attempt by all legal means in their power. The matter was ripe in 1848, and exploded when the Danes took the initiative, by resorting to a force which was resisted by force. The Duchies never resorted to revolutionary means. They never declared themselves independent of the Danish king, their "Duke." In all their acts they always took care to acknowledge him, "The Duke," as their Sovereign. They resisted the Danish King; they fought his troops; but they remained most scrupulously loyal to the Duke. Both were unfortunately united in the same person, and in 1848 and 1849 the king was under the complete

control of the then all-powerful revolutionary party, whom he subsequently, like all other kings, sent about their business.

The declaration of King Christian the Eighth was openly repeated by the revolutionary leaders in Denmark, in 1848. It was against those revolutionary leaders that the Schleswig-Holsteiners rose in arms, and it was by a mob-coercion at Copenhagen that the assent of the present king was extorted. Troops were ordered to march into the Duchies, and then, *and only then*, the Duchies rose, were at first defeated, then victorious, then aided for a time by Prussia and the German Diet, till the revolutionary party of Denmark obtained the help of Russia, Austria, and England; and the German forces, sent to the Schleswig-Holsteiners to assist them, actually did all they could to prevent the Danes from being beaten; thus converting their help into something worse than a sham. Having beaten the Schleswig-Holsteiners by the help of trimmers and absolutist allies, the king, as we have already said, sent his revolutionary coadjutors about their business, and fell back upon the support of Russia and England. The share which England has had in the transactions of Denmark make it desirable that the British public should understand a little more of this question, especially in the Schleswig-Holstein branch. In 1466, the representative powers of both Schleswig and Holstein, then united, the assembly of nobles, by their own free choice, elected the King of Denmark their "Duke," under the condition that the Duchies should for ever remain united—"Scholde ewig tosamen bliven ungedeelt," as the low-German text of the covenant says—that their laws and institutions should remain unaltered; and that the *agnatii principle* should rule the succession of their sovereign. It was, in short, a relation exactly upon the same principles as that in which formerly England stood to Hanover. These conditions were sworn to by the then King of Denmark, as they were sworn to by every one of his successors down to the present king.

They are now acknowledged, fully acknowledged, by the Powers, as is shown by the London Protocol; and more emphatically by the recent notes interchanged by the different Governments; and they are especially recognised by Russia in Nesselrode's note to Baron Urgern-Sternberg, dated May 11, 1853.

But it is found expedient to alter them; it is found requisite by the "Powers," and by England, too. We need not dwell upon the motives of Russia, which we have already defined. That Austria should support them is but natural. Prussia has no principle but that of a dog bullied or coaxed into obedience. France does not understand the question at issue, and is always ready to support any measure tending to restrict and lower any truly national German state, be it a republic or an empire. England, it would appear, has not heretofore deemed it convenient to oppose Russia in anything; and so for the mistakes of this diplomatic England of Downing-street, real tax-paying, working England, has to pay, now that, after all, the Great Bear must be muzzled. For we did not speak unadvisedly when we said that Denmark is the Turkey of the North; and the Duchies offer the only opportunity to prevent Russia from converting the Baltic into a Russian lake. But the Sultan of this Northern Turkey, unlike his Southern prototype, is one of the traitors content to be the tools of Russia.

It would be superfluous to draw inferences from all this. They are patent to every one who has followed Russian policy during the last ten or twenty years. That policy is slow, but sure. "Have you bought a Russian dictionary yet?" is the question asked by the German patriot of the Schleswig-Holsteiner or the Dane. The question for an Englishman is, whether these dispositions of states, this shuffling of territorial authority, which has proved so profitable to three or four men, the crowned bullies or the crowned fools of Europe, is to continue. "In the present epoch," said our contemporary, the *Daily News*, a few years back,—

"In the present epoch there is no way of founding empires and of settling countries—those at least which are within thirty or forty hours of London and of Paris—save by respecting the rights, consulting the interests, and gaining the adhesion of the people of those countries. Partitioning and parcelling out of countries, like a Christmas cake, between King This and King

That, with so much as an appanage for a son, and so much more for the dowry of a daughter, was all very well four hundred years ago, when the people were the princes' property as much as their own dominions and chattels. But in our age, and in such longitudes, this will no longer do."

We are assured that the whole of Holstein, and the greater part of Schleswig, would never submit to any such disposition; and we are confident that we only anticipate the judgment of the British public in saying, that in this country we can have no interest in forcing upon the Schleswig-Holsteiners any alien holders, least of all a Dane who is betraying his own state, or a Russian who is trying to steal from Europe its territories as well as its freedom.

THE CHURCH IN THE COLONIES.

LITTLE did we believe, when we first lent our humble support to the movement in favour of honest churchmanship, when we had to chronicle the freezing antagonism of the archbishops to what we believe to be the honest, because the only logical, principles of Church polity, that the day would come when Dr. Bird Sumner and Dr. Musgrove would advocate the application of those principles to the Church in the colonies. We remembered how hostilely Mr. Gladstone's bill was received; and although there were signs of concession during the last sitting of the Convocation of Canterbury, those signs were somewhat counterbalanced by the proceedings of a northern potentate, Dr. Musgrove, Archbishop of York. All this time, however, the two archbishops actually had a bill in their desks for conferring, not only a constitution, but a thoroughly democratic one, on the colonial churches. Why they produced that measure so late in the session does not appear; but our readers already know that, last Monday week, the Lords passed a bill for the regulation of the Church of England in the colonies and British possessions. That bill provided for the meeting of assemblies of lay and clerical representatives, members of the Church of England, elected by a constituency composed of all members of that Church who had signed a declaration to that effect, and had attained their twenty-first year. These assemblies, under the presidency of the bishop, were empowered to make regulations for the management of their own affairs, but binding only on actual ministers and members of the Church. It was also provided that the votes of the three orders, as we may call them, in the Assembly, should be taken separately, and, therefore, the bishop had practically a veto. Moreover, the regulations might be disallowed by the archbishop and the Queen in council; and the Assemblies were expressly forbidden to pass any regulations at variance with the Prayer Book, the Thirty-nine Articles, or the oaths at ordination. Thus, there were special and ample checks to the operation of the bill.

The Lords, after some opposition from Lord Harrowby, agreed to the bill, and sent it down to the Commons. But meanwhile Lord Harrowby had conjured up a fatal and facile enemy to the measure in the person of Sir James Stephen. The necessity of the measure is described as urgent by its friends. In point of fact the Church in the Colonies labours under disabilities from the construction put on imperial acts, and it is unable, in consequence of doubts, to regulate its own affairs. For instance, the Bishop of New Zealand finds that he cannot legally make arrangements for the convenience of the native converts in his diocese. Other colonial bishops, notably in Canada and Australia, experience the same difficulty. Anyway, if there be constructive imperial stumbling-blocks, common sense will dictate their removal.

Not so thought the Low Church and Dry Church party. They saw in the bill an attempt to relieve churchmen in the colonies of those burdens so grievously felt at home. They saw an effort to emancipate the Church—a great experiment in Church liberty—and they resolved to frustrate it. So Sir James Stephen was got to write and give the bill a bad character. What did he do? With his well known powers of sophistication he misstated the purport and bearing of the measure; he declared that it was an attack on the "sacred principle of colonial self-government;" he put forward such reasoning as this—the bill copies the technical phraseology of royal charters, and those royal charters give law-making powers, and contain

restrictions on imperial laws, therefore this bill gives law-making powers, and is identical in design with those charters! And he infers that the lawyers would so interpret the bill. Heaven help the lawyers, then; and the clients who entrust such persons with their business! The bill was intended for a specific purpose; the words are clear to that effect; the operative powers of the bill only bound members of the Church of England, as such; and the whole tenour of the bill kept it clear from the colonial Legislatures. Another weapon he used was the argument that as we have set up the principle of local self-government, we ought to confer on the colonial Legislatures the power to enable the Church to regulate her own affairs. This is nearly as untenable as his other position. We presume that Sir James Stephen is a member of the church of England; and in that capacity knows that the churches in the colonies are regarded as offshoots of the church at home. Therefore there is an imperial obligation to relieve them from imperial disabilities; while there is no colonial obligation to do so. Confer the power on the Colonial Legislatures, and they may not exercise it. But that is no reason why the spiritual subjects of the head of the church should suffer wrong. Then, he says, there would be a disturbance in the colonies; but that could only arise from such misrepresentations of the power and scope of the Bill, as those of Sir James Stephen.

His letter had its effect, however, and was aided materially by the "lateness of the session." Its introduction to the Commons had some good effects. It led to the admission of Lord John Russell and Mr. Sidney Herbert that some such measure was needed. It led to the momentary triumph of Mr. Arthur Kinnaird, a respectable low churchman; but we are mistaken if this victory, like some others equally facile, is not the prelude to defeat. The real reason of the rejection of the Bill cannot be concealed. It embodied church principles *which might succeed*; that was the grievance. If these principles succeeded in the colonies, who could resist the argument for their application at home? The low church shuddered; wondered how its pet archbishops could have been deluded by Mr. Gladstone and the Duke of Newcastle, brought its Stephen to bear, and nervously threw out the Bill.

We have always said that the Convocation movement was democratic. We have now presented our readers with proof. When the bishops had to decide on a constituency they naturally went to first principles—they found universal suffrage. No churchman could say, "I am holier than thou." There was no help for it—universal suffrage and no property qualification must be the basis.

If these be essential in matters spiritual, of so much more moment we are told than matters temporal, are they not equally essential in the latter?—for the greater comprehends the less. How, after this, can churchmen decently oppose universal suffrage?

RUSSIAN ADVANCES—USURPATION OF THE SOVEREIGNTY OF MOLDAVIA.

LETTER IX.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—The audience attends the *dénoûment* of the political plot which now has Europe for its stage. The rogue of the piece is in the ascendant, and the poor unfortunate of the drama suffering from his perfidy and his success. Where the protector of the oppressed, and the righter of the wronged has got to just at present, does not seem quite clear. One moment this Nemesis is at Vienna, another rotating round Constantinople, and anon, in all the European capitals at once. All efforts have failed as yet, of course; but unless the hypothetical justice of the drama be greater than the real justice of fact, too *bizarre* a supposition to be entertained, the end has yet to come which is to "point the moral and adorn the tale."

But events have marched with ominous precipitation to a final crisis. "By a despatch dated the 17th of last month," the Earl of Clarendon "learned from Lord Stratford de Redcliffe that a communication had been made by the Consul General of Russia to the Hospodar of Moldavia, informing him that his relations with the Ottoman Government were to cease, and that the tribute usually transmitted to Constantinople was to be placed at the disposal of the Russian Government." The excuse for this preposterous

act follows the declaration of its accomplishment, and is, of course, conclusive—"that during the military occupation of the provinces, the action of the sovereign power must necessarily be suspended." The occupation itself being illegal, we may be permitted to suppose nothing resulting from that occupation can derive legality from an illegal source. The British ministers have therefore plucked up a show of courage to protest against this logical seizure of the Government of the principality; and should the Hospodar of Moldavia refuse to proceed to Constantinople on the arrival of the Sultan's expected requisition, the British Consul will lower his flag, and diplomatic relations will cease. An ultimatum has also been agreed upon by the four Powers, and forwarded to St. Petersburg. In case of the rejection of this ultimatum, are the ambassadors at St. Petersburg instructed to demand their passports?

Every declaratory paper issued by the Czar and his agents, events have falsified. If we dared apply to monarchs the vulgar vituperation we employ to more humble individuals, the coarsest, and the briefest monosyllable in our vocabulary would be the most applicable. Following the misstatements of Menschikoff, the invasion of Moldavia was accompanied by a proclamation in which Prince Gortschakoff promised that he would not interfere with the Government and internal administration of the provinces. Thereupon he seizes the post, and appropriates the civil administration, orders away the Moldavian army as pickets on the Danube, and as guards at different points, and finally directs the Moldavian tribute to be paid into the strong box of St. Petersburg, instead of the coffers of Constantinople. It is then asserted that the Porte must, as a matter of reasonable concession, defray the expenses of the invasion! Similar news of complete incorporation is expected from the principality of Wallachia. Thus, sir, Russia has grasped the granary of Moldavia, and thus she threatens to grasp the sister province. No principle of right, no dogma of justice, has stayed her hand. Events, rapid, forcible, and striking, have demonstrated an iron will and an inflexibility of purpose, which cast Louis Napoleon's Second of December into shade. So far from the hesitations indicated in despatches having really taken place, we learn from ministerial explanations that the purpose has not once faltered—that it has even sharpened the impression of its sincerity by its brusqueness, and has resorted to insulting indifference where acts of unparalleled aggression would provoke in reply nothing but requests to negotiate, and nothing but empty and valueless protests. We are assured, "that diplomacy has done its utmost, and that if it fails at last, the want of success will only prove that it was useless; not that it was injudicious." This diplomacy was, in plain English, disgraceful timidity, and a singularly base subservieney, which read no lesson in the past, and which shrank blear-eyed from the premonitions of the future. This diplomacy, by deceiving the Emperor as to the real resistance he was to meet with, has encouraged him to proceed to the last extremities of insolence. The deception is not alone on his side, and should the allied powers of Europe determine to support Abdul Medjid, Machiavelli himself could scarcely have devised so righteous a cause, to have encouraged an enemy to commit acts of more unjustifiable aggression, or have induced an enemy to outrage more completely the rights and laws of nations, and to place himself without the pale of civilized mankind. This is the result of accident, and flows from the imbecility, not from the determination, of the Western Powers. But should the present moment be lost, and the stormy season compel the retirement of the fleets, the strategic position of Russia will be perfect. Supported and supplied by her navy, there will be nothing but the Turkish levies to prevent her advance to the capital. If the European powers temporize longer, they are lost, and it is doubtful, even now, whether the fanaticism of the Moslem will not seek the readiest and most decisive solution of the crisis.

But the importance of the South has caused us to overlook the clouds gathering in the North. It is not alone in Persia and Turkey that the Czar is endeavouring to obtain a rich province to bound his empire. Troops have been long concentrating in Finland; and intrigues in Denmark, and the extraordinary strength of the

Baltic squadron, point to the Sound, and Copenhagen, or Bornholme, as plainly as the movements on the Danube point to Constantinople. The imminence of the danger has even caused the immediate recal of the Swedish squadron, which is now on its way home. The overweening confidence of Nicholas (justified too well by dynastic sympathies of Courts, by the connivance of statesmen, the complacency of diplomatists, the sordid apprehensions of counting-house Utopians, and stock-broking philanthropists,) comprehends all Europe, from its most northern to its most southern limits. At this instant he has not one single avowed ally, however many crouching and double-faced adherents. But very soon the autumnal gales will drive our fleet from Besika Bay, and leave him undisputed master of both sea and land. If we seize the moment ere it be past for ever, this Russian Colossus must succumb to united Europe: and if we do succeed in placing shackles upon the monster that threatens to desolate the world, they must be strong and enduring ones. Russia must be made to pay so dearly and so terribly for this movement, as to make her utterly unable to stretch her bruised and wounded members for years to come. The giant, whose feet lie extended within the limits of eternal snow, and whose head rests pillowed upon the holy altar at Jerusalem, may even yet become a dwarf.

ALPHA.

"A STRANGER" IN PARLIAMENT.

"THE best preparation for war," said Lord John Russell, the other day, in answer to Mr. Layard, thinking he was making a phrase, and imagining that he was a dignified British statesman, "is to exhaust all the means of preserving peace;" and as every conciliatory, and respectful, and too considerate effort would now appear to have been used to divert Nicholas from his purpose, and used with no result beyond rendering England little and ludicrous, it is not extraordinary that the talk last night about the Houses of Parliament should have been assentive to the argument that war must now soon be declared. When the Archduke Constantine, who, with a Louis-Napoleonic faith in a name, believes that he is to be the founder of a new world-empire at Constantinople, takes command of the Russian army of Turkey, matters begin to look serious, and even Lord Aberdeen must begin to lose faith in the politeness of the Czar. Nevertheless, our Government seems resolved to be mild to the last. You could see, from Lord Clarendon's attitude and manner the other evening, when replying to Lord Clanricarde's query, and announcing that he had—the dignified British statesman—ventured to ask explanation of Russia's dictation about revenue to the Wallachian Hospodar, that the noble earl was profoundly convinced that he was taking a very resolute and daring line of policy. But when this Cabinet believes that it is being bold in merely begging for an explanation, it is the inevitable inference that this self-governed nation is not to be allowed to fight if the governors can help it. The governors are very probably mistaken in supposing that they will gain popularity by escaping the war. Undoubtedly the governed do not care about the "cause" involved in this instance; there is very little indisposition to see Turkey crased from the map. But the inert and indifferent English people are not likely to endure beyond a certain point the national dishonour of the present diplomacy. England is understood by Englishmen to be pledged to defending Turkey, a pledge which may be a mistake at the outset; and it would appear that, in the event of Russia not evacuating the Principalities, a declaration of war against Russia would be hailed with British satisfaction. There are two reasons which keep the peace of England—general fear of the expense of war; and general fear of disturbing trade: but neither of these reasons have force in this question. To conquer Russia—completely to destroy her in the East—would cost less than it cost England to subdue the Kafirs. And, as to the trade at stake, it has lost more by the negotiation than it would have lost by a direct war: furthermore, the commercial classes are beginning to comprehend that their commercial interests are against the establishment of Russia at Constantinople. Usually, these two are good reasons against war, and will keep England a peace-loving nation—until she is destroyed; but they are no reasons against a war with Russia. It is known, on a calculation of cost, that we should financially feel a war with Russia as little as we feel a war against the Burmese. There is no realizing the notion that England is afraid of war. England dislikes the notion of a French invasion; the question of that sort of war comes to our hearths and homes, and even to our lodgings. But in a war with

Russia, England would not fight: her fleet would fight; and we can sleep at home at ease while Jack is making mince-meat of Sebastopol horse-marines. To keep a fleet fighting costs no more (with the exception of the gunpowder, which is now very cheap) than to keep a fleet moored or on a cruise; and stories of naval battles (particularly when they are successful) fill newspapers, and interest an inert public. The corn trade might suffer, as it does already, by suspense; but there is a wonderful American harvest; and other trades would gain. Birmingham would double its wealth in a long war; and not a firm in Liverpool but would fit out privateers for prizes in the hemp and tallow trade. All these are thoughts in course of thinking by the public, which is beginning to understand something about Russia and the East; and such considerations suggest that, on the whole, a war with Russia would now be popular. With or without France by our side, it would be a safe war; we should be sure to win; and skilful diplomacy (which ours in the East never will be, so long as routine and timid Redcliffe is with Abd-ul-Medjid) could readily render a war worth our while. Nicholas maintains that France is bribable; and why should not we argue that way, too?—that we might get Egypt as a colony, with hereditary viceroys in the present Pasha's family, and secure a Greek empire, with a liberal tariff, at Constantinople. Our statesmen tremble at the idea of Russia getting into the Mediterranean; but it is an old lady's fear; if England choose to let loose the Republicans, Russia would be harmless in Europe. Therefore, bribe Nicholas away from Constantinople by letting him into the Adriatic. He wants eyes for his empire, he says: give him Mazzini to look at, opposite that coveted port almost in sight of Italy. Obviously a great struggle is coming, above and beyond the grasp and the ken of these old diplomatists who now rule England; and the capacity of Englishmen to save England by a sweeping policy, may soon be tested. Englishmen must do it themselves. Lords Aberdeen, Palmerston, Russell, Clarendon, Lansdowne, Redcliffe, Westmoreland, and Cowley, all average 70 years of age; and men of seventy seldom build or bulwark an empire—particularly an unwarlike empire. Russia has gone so far only because she saw that the English protests against her proceedings have been in the trembling handwriting of over-old and over-courteous lords.

The "intelligent foreigner"—Nicholas included in the class—cannot suppose that English attention is at all fixed on Russian affairs, if they read our Parliamentary reports. The *Moniteur* makes much of the fact, that there was a Cabinet council on Saturday, which sat four hours; but against that fact Russian diplomatists will set another—that the House of Commons sat an average of fourteen out of every twenty-four throughout the week; and that only once, incidentally, was the "difficulty" on the Pruth and the Danube referred to. What can the "despotic system" apprehend when it sees its favourite aversion, Palmerston, placidly engaged in contesting whether he should "go on" with a Truck Act, or "withdraw" a Smoke Nuisance Abatement Bill? Can Aberdeen be supposed to be active as to Turkey when he is found making the longest and profoundest speech which he has delivered this session, on the subject of chicory admixtures? Can Gladstone be considering the state of the East when he is furtively attempting to pass a Colonial Church Regulation Bill, or openly exhibiting his anxiety to get the session over as soon as ever his Budget is quite through? Can Cardwell really mean resistance to Russia when he refuses to accept Captain Scobell's amendment on the Pilotage Bill—intended to keep foreigners off the command of swift British steamers? Graham may be really nervous or conscientious about Russia, for he is making the navy efficient, and his work lies in a defensive and preparative direction. But, watching other Ministers just now, the intelligent foreigner would come to the conclusion that England is doing anything but calculating on war. The aspect of Sir William Molesworth, for instance, during the week, particularly when asleep, has been highly pacific; for even when awake he is only describing the inroads of French fleas upon the British embassy at Paris, or questioning the financial genius of that great artist in confectionary, Sir Charles Barry. And as to Sir James Graham's Secretary, the once lively and vigorous Bernal Osborne, he made his first appearance for the summer on Thursday, and then only to suggest—even in that showing an original turn of mind—that not a bad way of ventilating the House of Commons would be to open the windows—an idea which never occurred to any of the scientific "authorities"! In fact, looking not alone at Ministers, but at the confident industry with which the House wades through potty details of "business," how is the Emperor of Russia to suppose that we are paying any attention to his movements, or how is Abd-ul-Medjid to believe that

a people so careless about a question which affects Europe so deeply can really mean to save him in his extremity? The trifling nature of the work of the House of Commons last week was moralized upon in this place with proper effect; and some reason was shown for the argument which assumes that the plan of the French Chamber to class secondary "subjects" into large committees, is very preferable to the system of talking about everything and effecting very little which we continue to adopt. But this week the evil is more flagrantly conspicuous; and the House of Commons looks less and less dignified. The House has devoted a large share of the week to silly drivel, all about itself; at the very end of a wasted session members affecting to set about putting their house in order. Intelligent foreigners might pay us the compliment of supposing that the discussion on Thursday, in supply, on the lighting and ventilation of the chamber, had a hidden meaning; and that the Radicals were attempting by innuendos to advance the cause of reform. For instance, what Mr. Bowyer said—that there was always a residuum of foul air in the House, in consequence of the close way in which it was kept; and what Mr. Osborne said about throwing open the doors and windows, and about the lights under the galleries being (at 11 P.M.) only fit for Vauxhall or Cremorne; and what various other gentlemen said recommendatory of a thorough cleansing and purifying of the establishment:—might easily be converted by those wonderful Frenchmen who dilate on English manners, into a debate of *double entendre* significance. But we, at home, know that all these unaffected platitudes of helpless M.P.'s are sincerely of but a single tendency; and the inevitable suspicion arises that the body which cannot light or ventilate its own sitting-room cannot be perfect for the regulation of the million's households of the empire. But in various other ways has the House been confessing the absurdities of its constitution and management. Lord John Russell agrees with any one and every one who says or states anything to bring the House of Commons into contempt—which is a fine trait in the leader of it. For instance, he led a good cheer when the Chairman in supply on Thursday, came to the vote of 30,000% for the Commissions of briefless barristers who have been inquiring into "corrupt practices" at various places. The barristers have been paid by the day, and, sensible fellows, they have spun the inquiries out with great adroitness; and the House was rather delighted than not at having to pay them 30,000%. It's a sum to suggest that the House (which doesn't pay all the taxes) is really in earnest in trying to get purity. Then, on the same subject, it was incidentally mentioned that, in consequence of the refusal of the House to issue certain writs, the constitutional complement of members will be short through the recess by sixteen; and Lord John was asked if that wasn't very dreadful: at which Lord John smiled, and said, with a laugh, he didn't know; but that he supposed it wasn't to be helped, if the House wouldn't issue the writs. Then, again, when Mr. Thomas Duncombe made a motion about the constitution of Election Petition Committees, stating, in a parenthesis, the enormous number of petitions against members during this Parliament, Lord John quite agreed with Mr. Duncombe, and was not at all shocked at the hideous array of shameful statistics. All this is very strange in the Leader of the House: and the opportunity may be taken to point out, again, how completely Lord John Russell has abnegated the functions which attach to his official or quasi-official position. It was his business as Leader, as it was his tactic as contingent reformer, to use all the materials which the election petition committee's proceedings gave him for the furtherance of real measures to redeem the character of the House in the country: and throughout the session Lord John Russell has lazily left the whole question of electoral corruption to accident; as, on Tuesday and Thursday, idly patronising the struggles of independent members, and loosely endorsing any sort of plan or moral, and always evidencing a very lax indifference to the whole question about which, next session, he is, as party man, to be so professionally anxious. Of the enlightened constituencies of England he leaves eight or ten unrepresented, because they are so inveterately corrupt that they cannot be entrusted with their constitutional privilege; and we are paying briefless barristers at the rate of 1000% per week for taking evidence to confirm a conviction; and when the astounding fact is forced on his attention, Lord John gently grins and raises that collective Parliamentary hilarity which stenographers report as "a laugh." Laughing at the vice is, in this day, the best way to get at the Reform; but what Lord John laughs at is the idea of his being at all active in doing his duty; it not being, this year, a party necessity with the Whigs in the Cabinet to raise a Radical cry; and even of a good simulation of earnestness next year there

cannot be much hope, after the systematic conduct of Lord John, during these six months, in leaving everything to chance. Lord Brougham interjects a hope, in the Lords, that his noble friend does not mean a "large measure" of Reform; to which hope all the coalition lords said, hear and hear, and to which the extremer Whig lords who haven't got their cue say nothing; and Lord Brougham is very likely to be gratified. Lord John himself is not very eager to change the character of the club which cultivates politeness and so endures him; and of the tendency of his Peelite colleagues there was an unexpected illustration in the treatment which Sir James Graham extended, on Tuesday, to Mr. C. Berkeley's skill for forbidding music and banners in election contests. Sir James was astonished at such an attempt to deprive the British subject of his immemorial privilege to run candidates like jockeys—by colours—and to uphold free and independent spirit by villainous music; Sir James was, in fact, in his way, as indignant as Colonel Sibthorpe, who was very wrath; and, accordingly, Sir James leading the Ministerial side at the moment, Mr. C. Berkeley was snubbed and put down. What could the intelligent foreigner have thought of *that* debate? One half the House of Commons maintaining that this enlightened country went mad, at election times, under the influence of red silk and trumpets; and the other half of the House contending that the enlightened country liked this sort of thing, and ought not to be deprived of this—one of its public amusements!

But, finally, what would the intelligent foreigner have thought of the speech, and consequent laughter, of Sir G. Brooke, on Monday, after the division on a clause in an Irish land bill? Sir G. Brooke complained, almost with tears in his eyes, that it was shameful—that it was—for the House of Commons to divide without even having heard the debate! The intelligent foreigner could hardly understand the plaint without being present; but had he been (as he could have been on Monday, when strangers, myself among them, first saw the operation), he would be bewildered at one of the workings of representative institutions. Take the division in question. The clause had been discussed by a House of twenty; ten Irish "liberal" members, who affect to bother the Government that has bought them, and ten Irish Orange members, who vote continuously against the people, and oppose every concession to the tenant, as antagonistic, which he is in Ireland, to the landlord. Each of the twenty had spoken ten times (it is in Committee), and then they agreed to divide. "Division!" roar the door-keepers; the Sergeant-at-Arms rings a bell, which rings (by electricity) a dozen other bells; and "Division—division" is the cry in every room of the building. The clerk at the table puts a heavy sand time-glass on the table; it is a two-minute glass, and when the sand has run down, the doors are to be closed. But two minutes is enough. As the bells ring, members rush in, in dozens, in twenties, in fifties, in a rapid stream of M.P.-dom. Some of them have been chatting about the lobbies or in the ladies gallery, others have been in the library, and it is only a few have been in the dining-room, but it is nine o'clock, and therefore most have been in the smoking-room. As they rush in, they are ignorant of what has been going on and what they are to divide about; but as they run they learn; a whisper or a word, as they pass some trusted friend or official, is enough, and they take the lobby that belongs to them by an instinct. On this occasion, a few Irish Orange members are opposing the Government, and for guidance to the Coalitionists, it is enough that they see where Hayter stands. Past the smiling Hayter they trot, in confidence—touchingly confident—submission. In the lobby, when they have decided on their vote, they ask and hear, "What's the question?" And so well understood is the Freemasonry system of winks and nods that few have ever to regret their choice, or to record a regret. And as it was on Monday, so it is on all divisions: the majority, disgorged of the smoking room, are ever in blissful ignorance of the debate. Sir G. Brooke was a simpleton to complain of the established system of an enlightened senate: and it was natural that Lord John, rising as leader to answer the taunt of a freshman in that knowing club, should raise a laughing cheer when he said that he should be sorry to see the day when members of that House would not thus always testify their confidence in their selected chiefs. It is well understood, in and out of doors, that only once in a decade does a debate influence a division; and it would be a mere farce for all those who vote to sit through the dreary talk of over-conscientious senators, who are bores, and worse than bores, in July. But that being so, why continue the lunatic arrangements developed for the first time to the uninitiated on Monday, and carried out, to their great amazement, through the week? It's perhaps premature, though the age of talk

is getting over, to suggest that senatorial orators should write their speeches and send them, unspoken, to the *Times*, and *Daily News*, and *Morning Chronicle*. But, at least, why does not the House come to an agreement to avoid those ludicrous trots past Mr. Hayter? The farce is confessed: and why not therefore a common system of proxies,—or votes by telegraph,—or by post? The House could then sit till September, and yet be on the Moors or the Rhine, or the Mediterranean. To keep a House, you only want 40 members; and Mr. Hayter could pick up that sacred number from the Irish patriots who vote with Keogh.

Certainly, if a country, with not too many public amusements, cannot make up its mind to give up House of Commons oratory, which does provide us with occasional passages and parenthetical scenes that are more than amusing, we could afford to do without what are called debates in the House of Lords. Observe the proceedings last night, in that august but supererogatory assembly. The India Bill stood for a second reading, and the House was unusually full—that is, in addition to the steady attendance of seventeen old peers, there were ten or twenty middle aged peers, and ten or twenty more quite young peers, who, you could see, by the attention they directed from the old peers to the young peeresses, were there more in compliment to ladies than to lords. That was a House collected for the revision of Commons legislation upon the government of the 150,000,000 fellow-subjects, Sir. But what did it do? Why, it said, "Hear, hear," when Lord Truro, wofully worn out in body and mind, talked an ancient lawyer's routineries on that question of the supply and demand world, which he hasn't a notion of, as it was involved in the Combination of Workmen Bill—just up, and in Lord Kinnaird's timid hands, from the Commons. Lord Truro, obeying a tendency to consult the aristocratic suspicions of the audience he always failed with, considered it a dangerous bill; and the old peers, middle aged peers, and young peers, who didn't know anything about the matter, were ready to agree with Lord Truro—on matters they don't know anything about, the House of Lords always agreeing to follow the grey-headed law lords, who are supposed to form a sort of link between the peers and mankind. They had no doubt whatever that the first grey-headed law lord was right when a second grey-headed law lord (the Lord Chancellor) rose, and from similar motives and analogous ignorance abused the bill; and the result was, that an excellent measure, embodying a good principle, and promising to act as the basis for future better measures in the same direction, was thrown out; after which the class of capitalists cannot say that the class of landowners is unsympathetic. Well, if that debate could have been prevented by an arrangement which should keep peers at, instead of in, their seats, the peers would have been, this Saturday, more popular with the democracy; for the result, without a reason offered, would have been a less impertinence to the people, and to the Commons, than such a result with such inadequate and *malapropos* reasons. Then, of course, it is obvious that it would have been an advantage to the public and to the steady attendance of old lords, if such a debate as there was last night on the India bill could have been prevented. We submit without much murmuring to the Lords voting on what the Commons have voted; but is it not too bad to the most constitutional of us to expect us to read how the Lords debated what the Commons have already exhausted? The Commons had not left the Lords a fresh word to say on the India Bill; and yet at the India Bill the Lords went last night, as if the subject had suddenly turned up, quite new, and there was an intense eagerness to hear all about it. Constitutionally, the fiction is akin to stage asides, that the Lords never know what has passed in the Commons; and the consequence of keeping up so insane a delusion, is the farce which, neither to their dignity nor credit, the Upper House, last night, performed. Their Lordships might take this hint: that they have only one chance of prolonging, or, rather, renewing their vitality; and that is by getting rid of the fiction—acknowledging the fact, and dividing the topics of the day with the Commons; in other words, by anticipating the Commons in one half of its privileges—of being interesting. This lenient British age only requires its Governors to amuse it; and the Lords could be as ludicrous as the Commons, if they would only try.

A STRANGE.

WENDELL PHILLIPS'S REPLY TO THE LETTERS OF "ION" ON THE AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY LEADERS.

THE reader may remember, that a few months ago three articles appeared in this place, upon the Anti-Slavery agitation and the Anti-Slavery Leaders of

America. "The War of Ideas," the second of the three articles which appeared in *Leader*, No. 138, was reprinted in some of the American journals, and notably in the *Liberator*, a celebrated Abolitionist paper, which has always followed the manly rule of quoting adverse criticisms in its own columns,—not that the article bearing the signature below was adverse, but it was so understood, and therefore quoted in the *Liberator*, and replied to by Mr. Wendell Phillips, in the Boston Melodeon on January 27th ultimo (at the twenty-first annual meeting of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society), in a speech as long as that of Mr. Gladstone's introducing the Budget. The American Anti-Slavery Society has published his speech from the phonographical report of J. M. W. Yerrington, and Mr. Richard Webb, of Dublin, has done the same in this country, adding to it numerous and instructive notes necessary to readers on this side the Atlantic. Mr. Wendell Phillips has a reputation of being the first speaker in the United States. Theodore Parker, no mean authority, lately said, when speaking of Edward Everett, some time since American Minister in England, "he (Everett) has an eloquence—it is surpassed only by one voice"—pointing at the same time to Wendell Phillips.

It is not possible for us either to quote, or to reply adequately to, so protracted a speech as that now in question, occupying thirty-six pages of an octavo pamphlet, and it is on this account that we have so far described the Orator and his Oration, in the hope that any who may have been in any way influenced by our view of the question, as expressed in previous articles, may be induced to obtain the speech,* and judge for themselves.

Mr. Phillips maintains that our observations have been answered many times. So far, however, from their being irrelevant, he appears to admit the only objections upon which we dwelt. Probably our third article† has not come under his notice, which indeed constitutes the reply, so far as a reply is needed to Mr. Phillips's present oration.

Mr. Phillips's words are (p. 5)—"Ion's charges are the old ones—that we Abolitionists are hurting our cause—that *instead* of waiting for the community to come up to our views, we fall at once, like children, to abusing everybody and everything."

Again, page 12, he remarks—"It is said that in dealing with slave-holders they (the Abolitionists) indulge in fierce denunciations, *instead* of appealing to their reason and common sense by plain statements and fair arguments;" and presents a vigorous enumeration of other things which they are said to have done *instead* of what they ought to have done. The error of this enumeration consists in the one word "instead." Mr. Phillips entirely misunderstands us. We did not say that the Abolitionists denounced "instead" of reasoning: we said they denounced *as well as* reasoned, and that their denunciations inflamed the passions, so that their reasonings were often lost upon the persons to whom they were addressed.

There are passages of Mr. Phillips's speech at which we feel disappointed, at being so misunderstood. Writing in favour of the Abolition of Slavery in America, is something like writing in favour of Temperance in England. Unless you agree *entirely* with the Temperance reformer you had better not write at all, and unless you *entirely* agree with the Abolitionist he is very apt to regard you in the light of an enemy. "There are some," says Mr. Phillips, "who come upon our platforms, and give us the aid of names and reputations less burdened than ours with popular odium. * * These men are ever parading their wish to draw a line between themselves and us, because they must be permitted to wait—to trust more to reason than to feeling—to indulge a generous charity. * * I reject with scorn," exclaims our impetuous and indignant orator, "all these implications, that our judgments are uncharitable. These lectures, to which you, sir, (addressing the chairman,) and all of us, have so often listened, would be impertinent if they were not rather ridiculous, for the gross ignorance they betray of the community, of the cause, and of the whole course of its friends."

If this language is addressed to the writer of these articles it is founded on a misapprehension, both of the spirit and texture of his argument. This language, however, shall not repel our sympathy, or suppress our opinions. The cause of the oppressed is the common cause of the human family. It is not the monopoly of any Society. The humblest man has a right to make what contribution he can to the furtherance of liberty, and to give that opinion which he thinks most likely to effect that object, and to stand up, equally against the fallacies of the Slaveholders, and the denunciations of the Abolitionists.

It happens that the author of the criticisms Mr.

* Published by Tweedie, Strand, price 3d.

† Vide *Leader*, No. 146, page 39.

Phillips replies to, has not been the most successful person, in selecting causes to champion utterly free from "popular odium," and great is the mistake in supposing that he would draw any line between himself and the right party, even though they took the wrong method. He would ever prefer the side of freedom, with all its faults ten times magnified, to standing on the side of oppression, with all the proprieties in the world in its favour. The maddest, wildest, rudest, grossest right is nobler, far, than the courtliest, gracefulest wrong. Not that the Abolitionists of America are mad, wild, rude, or gross. This is not meant to be implied. The question raised is, why should right be ever wrongly urged, and wrong rightly advocated?

We deny that our observations were quite gratuitous "impertinences," or generated of "gross ignorance." Mr. Phillips expressly owns, (p. 6:) "Neither would I be understood as denying that we used denunciation and ridicule, and every other weapon that the human mind knows." This is precisely what we said. It was the inutility of this indiscriminate warfare upon which we insisted, and we do not see in what way our arguments are answered, by the admission of the fact. We laid an information, to which Mr. Phillips pleads guilty, and considers it a reply. Mr. Phillips, indeed, justifies the course which he pursues. He says, eloquently, "the clients of the Abolitionists are three millions of slaves, standing, dumb suppliants, on the threshold of the Christian world, with no voices but those of the Abolitionists to demand justice for them." It is on this very account that we ventured to say, that the "only" friends of the slave should take care that what they say shall be calculated to diminish the wrong. By "every weapon the human mind knows" Mr. Phillips, who is not less honourable than eloquent, means it to be understood, every weapon "an honest man may employ." But we deny that every "honest" weapon is a *useful* one. Ridicule and denunciation, for instance, like the bows and arrows of savages, or the firearms of the last century, are worn out, or very much superseded. But these points we will not re-argue. We have stated our case. The public of England and America, so far as these papers may reach them, must judge between us.

Here is one of Mr. Phillips's most animated passages:—"We warn the living that we have terrible memories, and that their sins are never to be forgotten. We will gibbet the name of every *apostate* so black and high, that *his children's children shall blush to bear it*. . . . We will teach caution to the living by dealing out *relentless* justice to the dead. . . . We will insist on explaining the chance expressions (whispered in a corner for liberty) by the tenour of a long and *base* life."—Vide p. 11. This passage would, we fear, be immensely applauded in the Melodeon, but its effect on a brave man would be different from what the orator expects. You feel so much resentment at this language, that you would rather, as you read it, be a Slaveholder than an Abolitionist. Common manliness disposes you to stand out against such a menace, and in spite of yourself, your sympathies go over to the side of those who are thus attempted to be dragooned into the cause of humanity. You hate tyranny wherever it rears its vindictive head. We still stand on Mr. Phillips's side, for intrinsic reasons of humanity and liberty; but Slaveholders must either be very cowardly or very noble, and possessed of wonderful self-government, not to stand up with pride in their own defence after listening to such a passage.

One instance further, and these strictures shall cease. Mr. Phillips says,—"We must plead guilty, if there be guilt in not knowing how to separate the sin from the sinner." Now, the ability to do this we take to lie at the root of all sound reformation. To say this separation is impossible, proceeds on the assumption that men are infallible—it proceeds on the assumption that all who err know it, that conscientious error is impossible, while it must be obvious on reflection and by a slight appeal to history and common experience, that good men continually abet error, not knowing it to be error. In all such cases, the sin is wide apart from the sinner. If sin be not separable from the sinner, argument is utterly unnecessary in advocacy, and denunciation is the first, the second, and the third, and the sole weapon of rhetoric.

It would be easy to defend our own views at far greater length, and with augmented instances, but we would rather be supposed in the wrong than appear to wish to put the Abolitionists in the wrong. We will aid them if we can, and offer suggestions of our own right, whether they will or not. Deprive them of an atom of just sympathy we never will, and we beg them to believe, whether they regard or denounce us in return, that we honour them for their courage, their devotion, and their cause.

ION.

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*.

"MAGAZINE DAY" is one illustration of the wide-spread culture of our age, and a reader forced into the presence of this quarterly and monthly avatar of intellectual activity in England, is amazed at the quantity of learning, sense, wit, style, and originality, ready to "supply the demand." It is no light matter to read the whole of the Magazines; for there is no single number that comes under notice which does not contain matter worth reading. In the quarterlies we look, of course, for essays; and we often meet with essays which, under other circumstances, would have been books; in Germany, they would unhesitatingly have been so. For example, the *North British Review*, always distinguished by thought, learning, oftentimes originality, has in this current number an article on *Theories of Poetry*, which is almost a treatise—and an admirable treatise too! Carried a little further into the branching details of its wide-spreading subject, it would have been a treatise, and a text-book. It is a review of Mr. DALLAS'S *Poetics*, and also of ALEXANDER SMITH'S *Poems*; and although the style is often cumbrous, and occasionally perverse in what may be called the *dissonance* of its imagery, it contains more sustained thought and glancing light of suggestion than any review article of the kind we can remember. The writer begins by ranging all discussions on the nature of Poetry under the "imitation-theory" of ARISTOTLE, and the "imagination-theory" of BACON; and decides in favour of the latter. It seems to us that the starting-point of such an inquiry, as in all philosophic inquiries, is first to settle the general question,—What is Art? and thence proceed to the specific question,—What is the speciality of Poetic Art? In such an investigation, it would be found that Art is primarily and essentially *not* an Imitation, but a Representation; and the question of imitation, therefore, can only be considered with reference to its *representative necessity*. If the purpose of the artist be to *represent* reality, he must of course *imitate* reality; but only when he works with such a purpose, and only in proportion as *that* becomes his aim, can the standard of reality be applied. This falls in with what the Reviewer teaches—implicitly, if not explicitly,—and we quote his definition of the imaginative faculty:—

"The poetic or imaginative faculty is the power of intellectually producing a new or artificial concrete; and the poetic genius or temperament is that disposition of mind which leads habitually, or by preference, to this kind of intellectual exercise. There is much in this statement that might need explanation. In the first place, we would call attention to the words 'intellectually producing,' 'intellectual exercise.' These words are not needlessly inserted. It seems to us that the distinct recognition of what is implied in these words would save a great deal of confusion. The phrases 'poetic fire,' 'poetic passion,' and the like, true and useful as they are on proper occasion, are calculated sometimes to mislead. There is fire, there is passion in the poet; but that which is peculiar in the poet, that which constitutes the poetic tendency as such, is a special intellectual habit, distinct from the intellectual habit of the man of science. The poetic process may be set in operation by, and accompanied by, any amount of passion or feeling; but the poetic process itself, so far as such distinctions are of any value, is an intellectual process. Farther, as to its kind, it is the intellectual process of producing a new or artificial concrete. This distinguishes poetry at once in all its varieties, and whether in verse or in prose, from the other forms of literature. In scientific or expository literature the tendency is to the abstract, to the translation of the facts and appearances of nature into general intellectual conceptions and forms of language. In oratorical literature, or the literature of moral stimulation, the aim is to urge the mind in a certain direction or to induce upon it a certain state. There remains, distinct from either of these, the literature of the concrete, the aim of which is to represent the facts and appearances of nature and life, or to form out of them new concrete combinations."

Among the profoundly appreciative sentences devoted to ALEXANDER SMITH, the reviewer, after noticing the "damnable iteration" observable in the young poet's topics, says,—

"It is easy to make a mock of anything, and particularly easy to mock in a case like this. But Mr. Smith cannot give up the stars and the sea—no poet can—without ceasing to be a poet. The starry night, the sea, love, friendship, and the like, are the largest entities in the real world and in real experience; they bear the largest proportion in bulk to the whole real universe; why should they bear a smaller proportion in the universe of the poet? Whoever does not think, ay, and speak, more of the stars than of roses, that man's soul lives in a conservatory; whoever does not think and speak more of the sea than of his inkstand, that man's soul lives in a counting-house. Part of the greatness of the old Greek poets, as compared with some modern poets, consisted in this, that they had a more proportioned eye for the objects and presences of nature, speaking less of the wings of insects and the interior of blue-bells, and more of the sky, the hills, and the roar of the *Ægean*. Let not Mr. Smith mind the critics very much in this matter. If they plague him much more on the point of his 'topics,' we advise him to retaliate by a satire. If what the critics have said, however, shall have the effect of inducing him to extend the list of his 'topics,' so as to diminish somewhat the impression of sameness in his imagery, well and good. For our part, though we think the world has had more splendid men in it than Marc Anthony, we withdraw our veto on the use of that Roman's name, whenever it may be poetically convenient to mention him. Only we suspect Mr. Smith's liking for Anthony proceeds from a latent longing for the society of Cleopatra."

There is more than humour in that humorous sentence at the close; there is insight into ALEXANDER SMITH'S poetic tendency.

Turning from the *North British* to its companion and rival, the *British Quarterly*, we direct attention to a paper on *Electricity and Magnetism*,

which only wants a definite purpose and constructive aim, to make it another illustration of what we were just alluding to. It is an historical sketch of the science, at once popular and philosophical. Here is a passage which, though not new, deserves iteration:—

"There is a curious popular desire to attribute great advances in knowledge to accident, and hence we have the discovery of the means for determining specific gravity by Archimedes, of the law of gravitation by Newton, and of chemical electricity by Galvani, constantly attributed to fortuitous circumstances, whereas we have the evidence in these, and in most other similar examples, of a close system of inductive research leading up to the final result. As a general proposition it may be affirmed that there are no accidents in science. In those cases even which assume the character of accidental circumstances, it still requires the observation of a well-trained mind to develop the truth. The same set of circumstances may occur repeatedly before the eyes, and under the hands of ordinary men, without attracting their attention; and even when this is the case, their transient curiosity leads to no inquiry. But that mysterious power, which belongs as an exclusive privilege to genius, seizes the indication, howsoever slight it may be, and advances at once on the path of discovery."

We must give another passage, that we may protest against its two-fold inaccuracy:

"The investigations of Galvani, of Humboldt, of Aldini, and more recently the delicate researches of Matteucci, Du Bois-Reymond, and others, prove beyond all doubt, that every motion of the body, and every motion of the mind reacting on the material organism, produces an electrical disturbance, the weak manifestations of which can be measured by the delicate galvanometers we now employ. During life, the struggle of antagonistic forces to maintain the requisite equilibrium produces a continual change of state, and consequently as continued an indication of electrical pulsation. When life has ceased, and the full play of chemical disintegration has set in upon the body, lying 'in cold obstruction,' this all-diffusive power is still detected in its wondrous workings,—it is no less energetic in the disorganized mass than it was in the form in its full beauty of organization. So far from our philosophy leading us to the conclusion that life—vitality, is electricity, every step of our inquiry shows us that the physical force is infinitely inferior to that mysterious principle which human science cannot reach. Whether we examine life in the vegetable or in the animal worlds, it so evidently lies beyond the pale of the physical forces which human intellect may try and test its powers upon, that each true philosopher feels the strength of the words—'Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further; and here shall thy proud waves be stayed.'"

"LIFE is beyond the search of the most exalted human intelligence. VITAL FORCE in its lowest development is infinitely superior to electricity in its highest manifestations, and it requires no great penetration to perceive subtle powers, which are not yet 'dreamed of in our philosophy,' beyond these physical forces with which we are, as yet, so imperfectly acquainted, and these still inferior to that approach to spiritualization which we call *life*."

The inaccuracy is, as we said, two-fold: as a matter of *fact* the researches of MATTEUCCI and DU BOIS-REYMOND, show precisely the *reverse* of what is here stated. MATTEUCCI contends that the "muscular current" of electricity rapidly decreases, after the death of the animal, being most rapid in the first eight or ten minutes; and DU BOIS-REYMOND'S experiments lead him to assert that the diminution of the muscular current is *proportional to the diminution of the excitability of the muscle*: both have the same termination in the *rigor mortis*. The phenomenon of the muscular current, therefore, he considers as only possible in the *living tissue*. The current which has once vanished, in consequence of the *rigor mortis*, never returns.

As a matter of philosophy, the inaccuracy lies in the assumption of a "vital force" infinitely "superior" to electricity. The notion of identity between the two is absurd, we admit; vitality is vitality, and *not* electricity; but vitality itself is not a specific *thing*, it is a specific *condition*—a condition dependent not on electricity, but on a series of prior conditions, the *law* of which we believe we have discovered, and which will be announced in a forthcoming work, viz., *Comte's Philosophy of the Sciences*. Be that as it may, philosophical accuracy demands that, instead of separating "vitality" from all other phenomena, as some specially "mysterious principle," we must declare it mysterious, indeed, but not more so than the "principle" of crystallization, or of chemical affinity. Why two dissimilar metals, one of which is oxidized by the solution in which they stand, should present the phenomenon of electricity, is as mysterious as *why*, when an organic cell is placed in a proper medium, it absorbs nutriment, divides itself, by spontaneous fission, and reproduces a cell, in every way similar to itself. Familiarity may blunt our keenness of appreciation, but philosophy teaches us that *all* is mystery when we pass beyond phenomena. We lift the veil, but mortal eye can only *project* images upon the background of darkness, it cannot see what shapes are there!

We have only left ourselves space to indicate in a sentence the review of *Hypatia*, and the paper on *Horace*, in this same number. The first a learned and thoughtful commentary, the last an amusing and somewhat startling glimpse of HORACE from the "London" point of view. NIENHUIS illustrated ancient history by a perpetual reference to modern history, and this writer tries to make the life of the Roman poet intelligible by *Londonizing* Rome, not seriously, but with sufficient piquancy to make the old story interesting.

We must run rapidly through the Magazines, pausing to recommend *Blackwood's* articles on *The Narcotics we indulge in*, and on *The New Shakespeare Readings*. In the former a defence is set up for our "Sooty Bacchus," as CHARLES LAMB called it, the divine weed, maligned, but not less cherished:—

"Extensively as it is used, it is surprising how very few can state distinctly the effects which tobacco produces—can explain the kind of pleasure the use of it gives

them—why they began, and for what reason they continue the indulgence. In truth, few have thought of these points—have cared to analyze their sensations when under the narcotic influence of tobacco—or, if they have analyzed them, would care to tell truly what kind of relief it is which they seek in the use of it. 'In habitual smokers,' says Dr. Pereira, 'the practice, when employed moderately, provokes thirst, increases the secretion of saliva, and produces a remarkably soothing and tranquillizing effect on the mind, which has made it so much admired and adopted by all classes of society, and by all nations, civilized and barbarous.' . . . With some constitutions it never agrees; but both our author and Dr. Christison, of Edinburgh, agree that 'no well-ascertained ill effects have been shown to result from the habitual practice of smoking.'

Every smoker will read this paper with great interest.

Fraser has various attractions this month, we must pause to quote this:—

NERO.—A PICTURE.

"Unnatural light awakes the midnight sky!
The faces of the marble Gods of Rome
Flush and turn red around each lofty dome,
And Tiber's current glimmers hideously!
And now the portals of the night
Start asunder with flashes bright!—
Frantic figures, to and fro,
Rush through the golden hell below!
Flames wrap the city, like a new-born sea,—
The Mistress of the World shrieks in her agony!
What mortal fiend holds orgie at this hour?—
Hark to yon harp, whose chords no cry can drown,
Swayed by a naked maniac in a crown,
Who sits, midst rolling clouds, upon a tower!
Forward he bends with flying hair,
And tiger clasp of limbs all bare;
Splendours, terrors, clamours, screams,
Make real his devouring dreams;
The while, with voice that pierces through the roar,
He sings of burning Troy and Death's insatiate shore!"

Space compels us to postpone till next week *Bentley, Tait, Hogg's Instructor*, the *British Journal*, and the serials.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

History as a Condition of Social Progress. By Samuel Lucas, M.A. John Murray.
Bipeds and Quadrupeds. By Harry Hieover. F. C. Newby.
On the Imminent Depreciation of Gold, and How to Avoid Loss. By William Austin. E. Wilson.
Life of William Lord Russell. By Lord John Russell. Fourth Edition. Longman and Co.
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BURTON'S SCOTTISH HISTORY, 1680—1748.

History of Scotland, from the Revolution to the Extinction of the last Jacobite Insurrection, 1680—1748. By John Hill Burton. 2 vols. Longman and Co.

MR. BURTON has produced a solid and lucid work on an important, although not strikingly interesting portion of Scottish History; those sections of it, such as the Jacobite insurrections, which have a more dramatic and universal interest, being the portions of Scottish History which, from memoirs, novels, and disquisitions, have lost much of their freshness and charm to the public. He has performed his task, however, with great and impartial ability; research in his hands never degenerates into pedantic trifling; history never loses its dignity in pamphleteering,

or *ad captandum* encroachment into the province of the novelist. If not brilliant, he is never dull, always readable, always worth reading. The facts are well massed, the narrative threading through them in an easy unforced manner. An excellent index facilitates reference.

In judging of the execution of this work we judge as one of the public; no means have we of settling its absolute value in point of historical fidelity; but those better versed than we pretend to be in Scottish History assure us Mr. Burton's learning is as sound as it is extensive. What Mr. Burton seems to make clear beyond dispute is the *national* nature of the movement towards the Union of Scotland with England, and the want of evidence for that "corruption" said by Jacobite writers to have been so largely practised, and to have been so preponderating an influence. That there was much money spent, and great exertions made, are undeniable; but it is not clear that corruption, in any strict sense of the term, was much of a determining influence.

He also clears away much of what Romance has woven mythically around the Jacobites and their cause; but here, as elsewhere, the reader will be struck with his calm impartiality.

To give an idea of his style we select from his account of the famous Cameronians, or Hillmen:—

"The ruling principle among these men was the simplest and the broadest of all human principles—that which has more or less guided mankind in all ages and all conditions of society—in despotisms, oligarchies, and democracies—among Polytheists, Mohammedans, Jews, and Christians. It was the simple doctrine, that I am right and you are wrong, and that whatever opinion different from mine is entertained by you, must be forthwith uprooted. By another way of describing the relative position of parties, the Cameronians were the select people of God and his chosen instruments; while all who differed with, or opposed them, were the children of perdition. They took their creed from the New Testament, but their associations and religious revellings were all in the Old; and if the tone of their writings were held as a sufficient indication, it might be said that they coldly adopted the one as a formal test, but that their souls yearned after the older dispensation, as a practical embodiment of their own proud, fierce, and exclusive tempers. They loved the parallels which it afforded them, in the day of oppression and bondage, followed by that of victory and extermination; and though their faith bound them to the milder dispensation, their sympathies ever unconsciously fell back on those self-sufficient and tyrannical attributes, which the principles of toleration have counted antagonistic to Christianity instead of fundamental to it.

"The Hillmen, as they were isolated by the Privy Council and the dragoons from the social intercourse of their kind, isolated themselves by a far stricter spiritual cordon. The more bitterly showered on them the torrent of temporal penalties, the more sternly did they retaliate, by cutting off the wicked, and doom-ing them, on principles satisfactory to themselves, and with a perfect assurance of their judgment being effective—to perdition. Gradually they drew the circle narrower and narrower. Popery, the original enemy against whom they inherited an old feud from the early Scottish reformers, was, like Buddhism or Mohammedanism, too far off to be deemed practically a hostile power. Prelacy was nearly in the same position in a religious sense, though its close practical position, and the actual bleeding wounds daily received from it, made it beyond a doubt a practical grievance. What they were more deeply concerned with, however, was the class of presbyterian clergymen who had lost their own souls, and the souls of their unfortunate followers, by accepting the Indulgence granted in a sort of penitential alarm by the persecuting government, when it found that men could not be sent from one church to another by command, like troops changing quarters. But there was a left-handed defection, which grieved the righteous souls of the Hillmen even more than the acceptance of the Indulgence, because it came closer home to them. This was found among the class who, though they might be earnest, even to stripes, and bondage, and blood, for liberty of conscience to themselves, admitted the soul-destroying principle of toleration, and would give like liberty of conscience to the rest of mankind—yea, even to their persecutors—and open a door to blasphemy and heresy, and all the corruptions which they had in common, with the testimony of their blood, sworn to extirpate. A considerable number of the presbyterian party were ready at least to tolerate the moderate episcopalians, and were thus extremely offensive to the Cameronians. But there was still a nearer circle of enemies, severed from them by a very little distance, but that distance disclosed a chasm. These persons thought that the presbyterian system was that appointed by God, and that it ought to be supreme, and all others should be trampled under it; but, while holding this ecclesiastical opinion, and not on principle disinclined to execute it, if they had the power, they were not ready, at that precise moment of feebleness and humiliation, to come forward as the arbiters of the world's destiny, and, smiting with the sword all who opposed them, reject toleration for themselves, while they denounced its extension to others, and dealt with every government not strictly covenanting, as a government contrary to God's will, which ought not to be permitted to exist. This was, however, what the Cameronians deemed their immediate function, and in its performance they isolated themselves from the rest of their countrymen, throwing defiance in the teeth of all parties, and firmly believing that, like the Jews in the wilderness, they were some day soon to march in triumph to an entire supremacy over the nations of the earth.

"The name of this party lives in the present day, associated, oddly enough, with a dashing regiment inheriting a long history of brilliant exploits. Even in its early days, however, its warlike character was, as we shall find, supreme. Peace and submission were far from the habits and thoughts of Cameron's followers. With all their deeply seated devotion, it must be noticed that they were by no means docile followers of spiritual teachers. They were the kind of church which constitutes itself, and selects a clerical representative, not that which, acknowledging the separate and superior order of the priesthood, humbly obeys its directions."

And this also from the account of

THE CLERGY OF THE REVOLUTION.

"Before concluding this sketch of the religious settlement of the Revolution, a few words may be offered on the social and intellectual character of the Revolution clergymen. A glance at their literary position discloses the sad intellectual havoc of the age of persecution. The ministers of the Revolution were no more a fair specimen of the literary fruit of the presbyterian system, than the fugitives of a routed force are a fair specimen of the discipline and morality of an army. To

neither branch of the protestant church did the wretched conflicts of the time permit sufficient peace for the cultivation of letters. It is not that high and fierce controversy generally leaves a church intellectually barren; on the other hand, it sometimes fosters the highest powers, and draws their harvest into prominent light. It seems to have been the petty local character of the dispute, with its low malignity and sordid motives, that left the age so barren of distinction. In the great conflict of the Reformation, Scotland came forth with bright lustre, in the genius and high acquirements of men like Knox and the Melvilles, Arbuthnot and the elder Spotswood. All the universities of Europe attested the intellectual growth of the Scottish Reformation in Buchanan and Scrimgeour, the Johnstons, Craig, Napier, Gordon, Boyd, Jack, and a host of other names whose fame reached foreign lands from Scotland, or was sent home to their native country from the continental seats of learning which they adorned. All this glory was departed, and Scottish Protestantism had scarcely a representative in the republic of letters. Of the inferior, but still eminent, generation who followed the first reformers, and made the age of the Covenant, all the ablest men were gone.

* * * * *

"It was, perhaps, from the very causes which made the church so barren in the fairer intellectual departments, that in another, of a far less pleasing character, the party which had been persecuted stands forth almost unrivalled. This is in the literature of complaint, remonstrance, and castigation, shown in the various testimonies of the sufferers, and their declamations against the tyranny to which they were subjected. Occasionally such remnants of this class of documents as protruded beyond the Revolution are quoted in these pages, and may afford a faint idea of a curious department in the world of letters, not without its attractions to those who admire a terse, strong, effective style, turned to the purposes of rapid and powerful declamation. These documents are rarely matched in earnestness and strength. The words are sonorous and abundant, yet never too many to enfeeble the stern fierceness of the writers' thoughts. There is a luxuriance of imagery—frequently scriptural—but it is always apt and expressive; and however coarse or irreverent it may be, it is never allowed to degenerate into feebleness or incoherence.

"Along with this literary growth of persecution and controversy, is another of a sadder and sweeter character in the histories of those who suffered for the cause of conscience in the long dreary age of persecution. It required no literary merit to give interest to such narratives, and none came to the task. The best of them were written by a pedlar, whose unadorned descriptions of suffering and heroism convey a lesson to the heart which no genius or learning could strengthen. And herenaturally we are brought to the name of one who, in the opinion of many, is sufficient in himself to withdraw from the church of the Revolution Settlement the reproach of being illiterate—Robert Wodrow, the voluminous historian of *The Troubles*. Of the value of his labours there can be no doubt. He set himself to the task of covenanting martyrdom with a single-hearted zeal, and a protracted patience, to which the sustained literary ardour of a Gibbon or a Niebuhr could only furnish a parallel. He well-earned the title of 'The indefatigable.' Besides his great work, he wrote an abundance of biographical memoirs, and set down his fugitive opinions and the more remarkable events of which he heard from time to time, in a diary or series of notes, second only to Pepys' diary in garrulous interest. The note-book of Wodrow, indeed, derives its peculiar flavour from the same source which confers so lively an interest on the journal of the candid secretary to the Admiralty. It was the repository of his own secret communing with himself, and was not intended to meet the public eye. The great source of entertainment in both, is in the weakness rather than the strength of the writer. Wodrow does not, of course, adorn his pages with the moral shortcomings which censorious human nature delights to find in the experiences of the well-intending but frail secretary. His weaknesses are intellectual rather than moral, and consist in an inordinate credulity and avidity for the marvellous. His pages are crowded with ghost stories, dreams, visions, prophecies, portents, and miraculous interventions, which, like those in the lives of the saints, always have a tendency to elevate the cause he loves, confer substantial benefit on its champions, and overwhelm with calamity and dismay its opponents. His prejudice is as intense as his credulity; there is no height of excellence on his own side, and no depth of depravity on the other, to which he does not give instantaneous and intuitive credit. Indeed, according to his principle, all people of the episcopal persuasion are by nature blasphemers and profligates—cheats, drunkards, and incontinent—just as, on the other hand, all zealous presbyterians are children of light and purity. Yet with all his bitter prejudice, few works are more truthful than his *History of the Troubles*. Apart from the imputation of motives, and portraiture of private life, he spoke to matters which were before the day, and could not safely be discoloured. And it was his fortune that no language, certainly none within his capacity, could make the history more tragic to the one side, and scandalous to the other, than a bare narrative of events rendered it. The most valuable feature of the work is the quantity of documents it contains. But to its value literary merit contributes nothing, for it is difficult to conceive anything more destitute both of literary solidity and decoration than the style of the indefatigable Wodrow.

"In several shapes, as will appear from time to time in these pages, the dearth of intellectual power in the church was felt throughout Scotland. One shape in which it seems to have acted in unison with the re-actionary influence of a heightened fanaticism, was in filling the junior church with what might be called petty heresies. The students in divinity have no high intellects to overawe and direct the tendency of their studies and opinions, searched and thought for themselves, and frequently discovered what it was not intended or desired that they should discover. Hence in Wodrow's notes, and in the contemporary correspondence of the clergy, there is a perpetual tremour about lapses into infidelity and heresy. The departure of the old days when great men ruled absolutely over the intellect of the church is lamented, and they are sadly compared with the right-hand compliances and left-hand defections of the day. The stiff-neckedness and conceit of young men, puffed up with ill-digested carnal knowledge, who audaciously set forth new doctrines unsanctioned by the fathers of the church, are sadly mourned over. There was nothing in a quiet, moderately-endowed church, slumbering in the exhaustion of strong excitement, to call into existence a new host of commanding intellects; and so the inferior race went on with little earnestness of purpose, generally conforming, but in some measure prying about, and finding occasion to carp and doubt. The seeds which, in their ripening, brought on the Church of Scotland the reproach of lukewarmness, if not of a slight degree of scepticism, were thus sown in the re-action against stern fanaticism; and, indeed, it is apparent that for the first twenty or thirty years after the Revolution, many of the students in divinity had found their way to an imperfect belief, if not to infidelity."

LIFE AND TIMES OF DE STAEL.

Life and Times of Madame de Stael. By Maria Norris.

D. Bogue.

WHEN will writers learn the felicity and infelicity of Titles? Many a work gets snubbed by critics, and thrown aside by the public because it introduces itself under false pretences; an amateur who sings agreeably will be heard with pleasure if heard as an amateur, but let him claim professional rank and his incompetence is resented. Sounding titles are dangerous introductions; and the *Life and Times of Madame de Stael* will raise expectations which Maria Norris (Mistress or Miss?) is unhappily in no condition to fulfil.

Let any one for a moment imagine what such a title implies. There is first the French Revolution, with Necker (her father), as an important actor; then comes Napoleon, with whom she is in active antagonism. So much for the historico-political themes. Then there is Coppet, and her residence there, animated by the presence of Schlegel, Montmorency, Chateaubriand, Benjamin Constant, Madame Récamier, and others—what a topic for a pen such as St. Beuve's! After that, think of her visit to Germany—the scenes which a writer would have delighted to paint, between her and Goethe, Schiller, Jean Paul, not omitting Bettina, who cordially hated her! Of her visit to England, with the abundant anecdotes about Coleridge, Byron, Macintosh, &c. Such a succession of pictures from the "times" of De Stael! Or, supposing the biographer to have had another aim, what a fine subject De Stael offers for an exposition of the rise of the *Ecole Romantique*, and the introduction of German Literature into France.

Whichever way we turn we see how fertile is this field—*Life and Times of Madame de Stael*! But on reading the work just published our disappointment is excessive. Maria Norris has written a sensible, but somewhat dull *Memoir*, that is all; and as De Stael's life does not furnish material for an interesting story told memoir-wise, all we can say of this work is, that it belongs to the class of books which parents are fond of presenting to young ladies, but which the parents themselves are but moderately disposed to read.

HOME LIFE IN GERMANY.

Home Life in Germany. By Charles Loring Brace.

Bentley.

MR. BRACE is an American, who has already proved his ability as a writer of travels by his *Hungary* in 1851, and who now presents us with the results of his experience of German life as seen under its more familiar domestic aspects. Those who have lived in Germany will testify to the general fidelity of the picture, and will not be sorry to have their own impressions recalled. Those who have never been there will get a tolerably distinct idea of the forms of life peculiar to Germany as they present themselves to a sensible Englishman or American. Mr. Brace speaks kindly, heartily, yet discriminately, and we have enjoyed his book almost as much as a rapid trip into the old localities dear to memory.

Mr. Brace is astonished, as all strangers have been, at the "swearing" permitted in society:—

"In colloquial language, nothing will so utterly surprise the stranger—yes, shock him—as the universal profanity among the ladies. In the best circles of Germany, I have heard more oaths in one evening, than I would in the same time from a ship's crew. *Ach Gott! Mein Gott! mein Gott! Jesus Christus!* rung over and over at the veriest trifles.

"It was some time before I could accustom myself to it. Of course the words have no irreverent sound to them, and are used like the French *Mon Dieu!* still how so foolish a habit could have become so general among sensible people surprises one.

"It is singular, in the usual literary conversation, how little is said of modern German literature. Göthe and Schiller are classics now; and Jean Paul is even quite *passé*, so that few of the young people know anything about him, except his inextricable sentences. This would not be so strange, for the great teachers of a nation are seldom discussed in common talk; but among all the many romances read, there is scarcely one of the German. And an American is surprised to find himself discussing the naturalness of Johanna (Jane) Eyre's character, or the morality of Bulwer, or laughing over the remembered jokes of *Böts* (Boz), as they call him, just as he did at home. Cooper and Irving I find everywhere, and the children all know 'Leatherstocking,' and the Indian chiefs perfectly, and have confident hopes of meeting him, if they should ever cross to the New World. In fact, the English and American novels are the mode at present in Germany, and there has scarcely appeared one of any worth for several years without being speedily translated into German. But the foreign work, which, of all others, has been read most eagerly by thinking men in Germany these late years, and which is exerting a most happy influence, is Macaulay's *History of England*. And if Macaulay never does any other good through it, than what is effected in this land, he will have accomplished a great work."

But he is hasty in saying Göthe, Schiller, and Jean Paul, are not talked of. They are quite as much as Shakspeare, Byron, and Wordsworth are with us, perhaps more so; and if he did not hear them so frequently named, it must have been because his friends supposed he was not familiar with them.

The following is an instructive illustration of

PATERNAL GOVERNMENT.

"It appears on the 31st of March, last year, a child was born at Seehausen in Prussia, which the father wished to be baptised under the name of Jacobi Waldeck, each name being that of a distinguished democrat. The officiating clergyman refused to baptise the child under such detested names. The father was determined it should be baptised as a democrat, or nothing else, and accordingly was letting it grow up without the rite. Such a heathenish state of things was not to be permitted, and he was summoned before a court, and a guardian appointed to the child, who was empowered to baptise it with or without the names desired by the father, according as the consistory (of clergymen) should determine. They decided that it should be baptised with the usual names. The parents still refused to send the child, and the guardian was proceeding to administer a forced baptism, when the mother with her babe suddenly disappeared, and could not be found.

"A long search was made, and at length they were both discovered by the police in the neighbouring village of Arendsee. They were immediately transported by the gend'armes to Seehausen and put into prison. From there, at the command of the Bürgermeister, the child was taken by the soldiers, packed away in a basket, to the church, and with closed doors, the Bürgermeister and gend'armes as witnesses, it was introduced into the great Christian family; and in a few minutes was carried back to its surprised parents a thoroughly baptised Christian child! This was not the end of the matter. The mother, says the legal reporter of the *Vossische Zeitung*, 'has been summoned before the court, for resistance to an officer of the Government, in the lawful performance of his duty, and has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment.' From later accounts, it seems she has appealed to a higher court, but the sentence has been sustained!"

"Nothing has occurred for years, better fitted to throw light over the whole system of law in Prussia, and the feelings of certain classes as connected with it. Clergymen so horrified at democratic names, as to be willing to baptise at the point of the bayonet! And courts able to decide what name a child shall have, and sentencing a mother to the cell of a convict for objecting!"

This also is worth noting:—

GERMAN AND AMERICAN STUDENTS.

"Whatever our colleges may have done, they have certainly in one respect proved a failure; they have never succeeded in producing any genuine intellectual enthusiasm whatever, among the mass of the students. I never yet met a set of collegemen in America, who took any deep interest in their pursuits. The idea with most is, that college-life is a kind of wearisome sea-voyage—the great object lying beyond—and that their first duty to the studies is to get rid of them. With some of the best minds, half of the most laborious efforts of the four years are spent in gulling tutors, and rushing through recitations on small capital. If the lesson is broken up, or the lecture put off, it is considered a victory. The teacher is the student's natural enemy in our colleges. Those who do study, work so mechanically for honours, or under some equally unworthy motive, that it is hard to imagine any high intellectual interest in the pursuit. The thing is the more remarkable, as in all the intellectual pursuits of active life we find in America the most absorbed enthusiasm and activity. But the moment we enter a college, even among men no younger than those without, it is all changed. The student's business is a bore—a task—a punishment—and the sooner it is over the better.

"There are exceptions to these remarks; but I am sure that in their general truth, I shall have the agreement of the mass of college graduates throughout the country, whether they care to express it or not.

"The appearance of things in a German university is utterly different, and one sees at once that the common idea of their pursuits is quite another from that of our students at home. There is the deepest attention in the lectures. There is as much enthusiasm among them for an abstract theme, or a scientific subject they are investigating, as there is among the politicians or the business men without, in their pursuits. This studying is their business, their profession, and they know it; and the mass of them would no more think of shirking lectures, than a botanist would of getting rid of his flowers, or a lawyer of his briefs.

"The feeling towards the teachers, too, is very different. With less outward deference than with us, there is a far deeper love and reverence—a feeling that these are great men among them, who are helping them on to higher stages of knowledge, and that any assistance from them is a kindness, and that their intercourse and instruction is a privilege to be received with gratitude.

"The great and prominent reason of this difference is in the fact that the German system is, from beginning to end, a voluntary system. No student is obliged to attend lectures. No account is taken of presence or absence. No strict supervision is maintained over him with respect to his studies. The whole matter is left to his own sense of respectability, or his interest in the subjects taught. He is treated at once as a man—as a reasonable and responsible man. And the effect is, with a few exceptions, what we might expect—he acts like one. The idea is not in any way brought before his mind, that the studies are a task—a burden, placed on him by another. He can stay away or attend, as he chooses. The whole impression left is that study is a privilege, an intellectual pleasure."

As an American, Mr. Brace was naturally struck with the absence of prudery in German women; an absence creditable to their understandings and their modesty. In England, among the best and most refined circles, you may speak to a woman of everything a man need speak to her about, provided always that you do so naturally, directly, without misgiving, as without pruriency.

"In another respect, it is a specimen of what I so much like in European society, the free, unassailable manner, in which a refined lady will speak of such subjects. That universal prudery, which so hampers a man in America, and makes him ignore half the facts of life, for fear of treading on some unknown delicate sensibility, is never seen in European circles. It is boldly assumed, what every one knows to be the fact, that both sexes are equally aware of a great variety of things; and where the allusion is natural, no one troubles himself about it.

"There were in our company, this evening, two who were invited as betrothed, and I was very much struck with their manners towards one another. I think in an Anglo-Saxon company, the fact would have been dropped out of view as much as possible, and certainly the slightest expression of their feelings would have been intensely dreaded by the parties.

"But here there was, the whole evening, an unconscious beautiful expression of affection and confidence, which really, I think, gladdened the whole company.

"You never thought of watching them for it, but you never thought of anything else with them. Love seemed to speak out as naturally from their tones and glance and manner, as friendly feeling did with us. Nothing else would have seemed in place. It was above criticism—above surprise, even—though if any other of the young bachelors were like myself, they retired with a sufficiently vivid appreciation of the woes of bachelorhood.

"I often have observed this naturalness of expression among the Germans. It is more apparent in the families, of course. There are not in all my memories, pictures so warm and glowing, as of some of those families in North Germany; families where the look and language of affection were not blurred by that everlasting formalism, and coldness, and selfishness which hangs over our households; where love was without dissimulation, neither worn for duty, nor worn for effect; where mutual kindness and self-sacrifice and affection had so long been, that the very air and aspect seemed to welcome and sun the stranger."

We agree with Mr. Brace in his admiration of this natural expression of feeling. To English tastes it is certainly offensive; all expression of tenderness in presence of others is regarded as ridiculous, if not unpleasant; but, like Mr. Brace, we always felt gladdened at the sight of happiness so naturally expressed: it may be ridiculous, but it may also be exquisitely beautiful.

Portfolia.

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

ARIADNE'S DREAM.

WHAT shape of sorrow slowly comes this way?
What phantom pale of deadly loveliness,
Parting the thick boughs of the tangled wood
Walks ankle-deep in moss and primrose leaves?
Misery in human form were not more sad,
And Deity were scarce more beautiful.
Nor right nor left it moves but noiselessly
To yonder fountain glides that glitters pure
And cold as polisht steel; the writhing boughs
Of gnarled trees, all blotcht with lichens old,
Drop over it a solid roof of leaves.
Mid rushes, palmy fern and blistery plants,
Stiff with a monstrous and unnatural growth,
Stands Silence with one finger on her lip,
And there the shapeless family of Night,
Suspicion, Fear, and Solitude abide.
Gray trees, the giant fathers of the wood
Keep watch around. Still, pale, and passionless,
Hang from the branches of the kingly oak,
Visions like clustered bees; while calm and fair,
On the tall elms sit dreams that lovers have,
Hither her random steps that spectral form
Directs, and underneath a roofing elm
Finds shelter, giving soon her eyes to sleep.
Then a fair Dream, in self-obscuring light,
Dropt from a bough, and folding rainbow wings
Over its cloudy semblance, near her stood.
Till thus a faint and inorganic voice
In whispers came: O, maiden, I am sent
To build up, in this airy world of Dream,
Thy past and coming life. Behold this veil.
She lookt, and reaching into endless space
Beheld a veil whereon were charactered
Such shapes as men half think that they have seen,
Yet know not when, nor where, nor what they are.
She gazed, till fairer far than Day, appeared
One like Apollo, when on Delos isle
Self-risen on the breast of the great sea,
He leapt to light and glorified the earth,
And glorified the ocean, and the air.
Confronting him One likest Evening stood,
Not Beauty's self more lovely when alone
She woke the royal Shepherd in his tent,
And brightened all the murmuring summer air
That flowed round fountained Ida, night and day.
One look, one smile, one short swift sobbing cry,
One clasping of white arms round whiter necks,
When lo! the vision darkened suddenly,
And on the level shore of their delight,
Broke like a wave, a cold imperious voice:
"O waste not thou in love-dreams, thus it cried,
Hours that belong to the majestic Gods,
But leave the lovely maiden of thy thoughts,
And with heroic deeds enrich the world."
Then over Ariadne sleeping crept
A sudden shiver, such as in broad noon,
When summer days are longest, visits men,
As some cold hand had toucht them unawares.
But now appeared a stately ship afloat,
And fancy heard the shouts of answering men,
The whistle and the cry of mariners,
With splash of wave and strain of creaking mast.

And noise of fluttering sails and coiling ropes.
She saw the oars uplifted; she beheld
One like a king, with lingering step yet firm,
Ascend the vessel's side; she heard him speak
And knew he gave the signal to depart.
Then as the white waves flasht around the keel,
She watcht the vessel shake her snowy wings,
Until it past beyond the utmost star
Which the sea touches, running round the sky.
But soon with melancholy step she left

The doleful barren shore, where seabirds scream
Round baffling cliffs; and took her lonely way
Thro' the brown shade of overhanging woods,
Nor lingered until near an ample lake,
Her steps were stayed. Here towered a regal elm
Pictured distinct in the transparent flood.
And where above the mossy ground it spread
Thickest and heaviest a green roof of leaves,
The mourner paused, and with a sudden cry,
Fell prone as one that hath no friend but Death.

M.

OFFICIALISM is habitually slow. When non-governmental agencies are dilatory, the public has its remedy; it ceases to employ them, and soon finds quicker ones. Under this discipline all private bodies are taught promptness. But for delays in State-departments there is no such easy cure. Life-long Chancery suits must be patiently borne; Museum-catalogues must be hopelessly waited for. Whilst, by the people themselves, a Crystal Palace is designed, erected, and filled, in the course of a few months, the legislature takes twenty years to build itself a new house. Whilst by private persons, the debates are daily printed and dispersed over the kingdom within a few hours of their utterance, the Board of Trade tables are regularly published a month, and sometimes more, after date. And so throughout. Here is a Board of Health which, since 1849, has been about to close the metropolitan graveyards, but has not done it yet; and which has so long dawdled over projects for cemeteries, that the London Necropolis Company has taken the matter out of its hands. Here is a patentee who has had fourteen years' correspondence with the Horse-guards before getting a definite answer respecting the use of his improved boot for the Army. Here is a Plymouth port-admiral who delays sending out to look for the missing boats of the *Amazon* until ten days after the wreck.—*Westminster Review* for July.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

In the week that ended on Saturday 1004 deaths were registered,—a result which, though not unfavourable as compared with the usual mortality of the season in London, again gives indication of that increase which is characteristic of the summer mortality of towns as distinguished from that of the country. The deaths returned in the last three weeks were successively 904, 971, and 1004.

In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1843-52 the average number of deaths was 1068, which, with a correction for increase of population, gives a mortality of 1175. This series of weeks embraces the high mortality from cholera in 1849, and the average is therefore greater than it would be if derived exclusively from years less remarkable for epidemic disease.

Last week the births of 769 boys and 752 girls, in all 1521 children, were registered in London. The average number in eight corresponding weeks of the years 1845-52 was 1344.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.696 in. The reading of the barometer decreased from 29.66 in. at the beginning of the week to 29.62 in. by 10h. p.m. on the 24th; increased to 29.70 in. by 9h. p.m. on the 25th; decreased to 29.67 in. by 9h. a.m. on the 26th; increased to 29.81 in. by 9h. a.m.; decreased to 29.63 in. by noon on the 28th; increased to 29.78 in. by 9h. a.m. on the 29th; decreased to 29.62 in. by 9h. a.m. on the 30th; and increased to 29.74 in. by the end of the week. The mean temperature of the week was 60.3 degs., or 1.8 degs. less than the average of the same week in 38 years. The highest temperature was 72.8 degs., the lowest 51.7 degs., both on Monday. The greatest difference between the dew-point temperature and air temperature was 16.8 degs., on Saturday; the mean difference of the week was 7.8 degs. The highest and lowest temperatures of the Thames were 64.7 degs. and 62.3 degs. The wind blew from the south-west.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 29th of July, in Endsleigh-street, Tavistock-square, the wife of William Atherton, Esq., M.P.: a daughter.
On the 29th, at Thorndon, the Lady Petre: a daughter.
On the 30th, the wife of the Hon. and Rev. J. T. Boscawen: a daughter.
On the 31st, Mrs. Gordon Cumming, of Altyre: a son.
On the 1st of August, at 11, Grosvenor-crescent, Mrs. Antrobus: a daughter.
On the 2nd, at 3, Grosvenor-square, the Lady Charles Lennox FitzRoy: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 27th of July, at Tynemouth parish church, George Thomas Duncombe, Esq., son of the late Slingsby Duncombe, Esq., to Arabella Georgiana, daughter of R. W. Peirse, Esq., of Northallerton.
On the 28th, at Baginton, Warwickshire, by the Very Rev. the Dean of Worcester, uncle of the bride, the Rev. Frederick the Rev. Frederick of Baginton, and Fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford, to the 15th daughter of the Right Hon. William the late Dean of Peterborough, Francis the late Samuel Tertius Galton, Esq., the eldest daughter of the late Dean of Peter-

On the 2nd, at Esher, the Rev. Julian Probyn, second son of the late Rev. Edmund Probyn, rector of Longhope, in the county of Gloucester, to Mary Christiana, eldest daughter of J. W. Spicer, Esq., of Esher-place, Surrey.

On the 2nd, at St. Marylebone Church, John Howard, Esq., second son of Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Goldfinch, K.C.B., of Upper Wimpole-street, to Lucy Eleanor, youngest daughter of Mr. Serjeant Merewether, of York-terrace, Regent's-park, and Castlefield, Calne, Wiltshire.

On the 2nd, Lawrence Shadwell, Esq., Captain in the Nineteenth Regiment of Foot, to Helen Frances, only daughter of the Rev. Edward Coleridge, Lower Master of Eton.

DEATHS.

On the 23rd of June, Willoughby J. Smith, Esq., Lieutenant, R.N., aged twenty-four, youngest son of William Smith, Esq., solicitor, Hemel-Hempstead. He was drowned by the upsetting of a boat in crossing the bar of the river Tampoic, in the Gulf of Mexico, while conveying despatches from H.M.S. *Daring*.

On the 10th of July, at Renkiol, near the Dardanelles, Eveline Lonisa Isabella, only child of F. W. Calvert, Esq., H. B. M.'s Consul, aged ten months.

On the 21st, at Nervi, near Genoa, the Countess of Minto, aged sixty-seven.

On the 27th, at Freeland, Perthshire, James, Lord Ruthven, aged seventy-five.

On the 30th, at Cullen-house, Banffshire, Francis William, Earl of Seafield.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, August 5, 1853.

THE settling of the account engrossed the attention of the Stock Exchange during the middle of last week, and very few bargains were effected. This week there has been a considerable deal of speculative transactions in the funds. They stood about 98½ to 101, on Monday. Yesterday, in consequence of the unsettled state, they had receded to 97½ to 101, but, in the afternoon, they rallied a little. To-day they are steady, up to the present hour, at 97½ to 101. Money is said to be scarce, and there has been some talk of the 'Bank' being likely to raise their rate of interest. Yesterday passed over without any notice from the directors. The gold export to the continent continues unremittingly. The root of utter unbelief that prevails in the City, on the Eastern question, having other than a pacific solution, is very remarkable. Our men of ingots have lived so long in peace, they cannot realize the possibility of this, to them, overpowering calamity. It upsets their every-day ideas, and, still worse, to turtle-feeders, their digestion. The fall, should war really take place, will be severe: all shares must give way, even French shares, the holders of which seem to possess unbounded confidence—witness the marvellous buoyancy of these securities during the late gloom and depression. Even they have been affected this last week, and the leading lines have sustained about 12 fall. English shares are heavy, and whispers are abroad of bad dividends on the two great lines—Birmingham and Great Western. Even should no war occur, with a moderate harvest, and so many adventures in hand as the public at present has, I see but little rise in prospect for *bond fide* and well-founded schemes. The Australian land companies are something flatter, save the Scottish Investment Company, not to be mistaken with the North-British Australian Land and Loan Company. The former has declared a dividend of nearly 20 per cent., and their shares command 200 per cent. premium. The latter, from bad management, and some other causes, have never paid a dividend, yet with as fair prospects and as valuable property as the Scottish. There will be a rise there some day, if I am not mistaken. Jamaica copper-mining shares are low, and no advance to be looked for.

I may as well mention that one of the reasons assigned for the extraordinary buoyancy of French shares, is said to be the purchase of them, in this market and in Paris, by the *Société Mobilière*. It is not impossible, as we know the origin, and who the founders of this great stock-jobbing concern were, with great power and small scruples, that they may have turned all these advantages to account, and are making our "Bears" pay for their imprudence.

Californian mines are a shade lower; Australian ditto really unsaleable. Canal and Gas-Company shares maintain their value.

Half-past three: Consols leave off 97½, 97½. Very little business doing.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday, August 5, 1853.

The supplies of wheat and oats into London, since Monday, are large, and of barley moderate. The fine weather which we have had the last few days has caused the trade generally to be exceedingly quiet. At most of the country markets wheat has given way 1s. to 2s. in value; but this has not been the case in London, where, though the trade has been dull, prices are firmly maintained. In consequence of the dull accounts from here, prices are scarcely so well maintained in the Baltic ports. On the other hand, the value of wheat has advanced in the Adriatic, owing to the extremely unfavourable prospects for the growing crop. There is no doubt many of the Black Sea cargoes will be diverted there on their passage to England.

There is no alteration in the value of barley or beans. Oats are 6d. cheaper than on Monday. The new Archangel oats arrived prove to be of better quality than was expected.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Satur.	Mond.	Tues.	Wedn.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	227½	227½	229	227½	227½	227½
3 per Cent. Red.	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
3 per Cent. Con. Ans.	98	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
Consols for Account....	98	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
3½ per Cent. An.	101½	101½	101½	100½	100½	100½
New 5 per Cents.	101½	101½	101½	100½	100½	100½
Long Ans., 1860	511-16	6	515-16	5½	515-16	515-16
India Stock	258	258	258	258	258	258
Ditto Bonds, £1000	22	22	21	20	24	24
Ditto, under £1000	27	27	27	27	25	25
Ex. Bills, £1000	1 p	2 dis	2 dis	par	3 dis	3 dis
Ditto, £500	1 p	2 dis	2 dis	par	3 dis	3 dis
Ditto, Small	1 p	1 p	2 dis	par	3 dis	3 dis

FOREIGN FUNDS.

(LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds	102	Russian, 1822	117½
Chilian 6 per Cents.	104	Russian 4½ per Cents.	100½
Danish 5 per Cents.	106½	Russian Small	102
Ecuador	5	Spanish 3 p. Cents.	46½
Mexican 3 per Cents.	26	Spanish 3 p. Cts. New Def.	22½
Peruvian 4½ per Cents.	83½	Spanish Com. Certif. of	
Portuguese 4 per Cents.	42½	Coupon not funded	6½
Portuguese, ex all over-		Dutch 2½ per Cents.	64½
due Coupons	40½	Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	97½

REMOVAL OF THE AZTEC LILLIPUTIANS.—Patronized by her Majesty the Queen—from the Hanover Square Rooms to the MARIONETTE THEATRE (late Adelaide Gallery), entrance in Adelaide Street, and in Lowther Arcade.

Admission, ONE SHILLING; Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d. Open, Afternoon and Evening, 2 till 5, 8 till 10.

The extraordinary patronage which has been bestowed on the Aztec Lilliputians by the Nobility, Gentry, and Clergy, has induced the Guardians (for a short time only) to reduce the Prices of Admission to ONE SHILLING, thus giving the whole community an opportunity of looking on these strange yet beautiful creatures—a New Race of the Human Family hitherto unknown, or supposed to be fabulous.

A Lecture every Hour, by Mr. Hingstone.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM.—consisting of more than 700 Models, is Now Open, at the PORTLAND GALLERY, Regent Street (opposite the Polytechnic), every day except Friday, for Gentlemen only, from Eleven till Five, and from Seven till Ten. On Fridays, however, the Morning Exhibition for Gentlemen will close at Two o'clock, when Ladies only will be admitted until Five o'clock. Explanations for Gentlemen by Dr. Leach, and for Ladies by Mrs. Leach.—Admission, One Shilling.

MILITARY OR OTHER EDUCATION.

A MARRIED GENTLEMAN who has been educated at Sandhurst, has passed a first-class examination, and has served in the Army at home and abroad, wishes to receive into his family, ONE OR TWO YOUNG GENTLEMEN, to educate for College or the Army.

References given and required. Apply, by letter, to B. C. A., Eldon Chambers, Devereux Court, Temple, or Gothic House, Bromley Common, Kent.

SPORTING SEASON, 1853.

F. JOYCE'S ANTI-CORROSIVE AND TREBLY WATER-PROOFED PERCUSSION CAPS. for General Shooting and very Wet Weather, may be had as usual of most Gunmakers in Town and Country. Sportsmen desirous of obtaining Caps that can be fully depended on, and free from those corrosive qualities so injurious to the Gun, are requested to observe the Name and Address of F. JOYCE, Original Inventor and Sole Manufacturer, on each Sealed Package, without which they are not genuine. This precaution is rendered necessary, by some unprincipled individuals having imitated the Labels and Wrappers.

JOYCE'S IMPROVED WIRE CARTRIDGES and CHEMICALLY-PREPARED WADDINGS of a superior description.—Goods manufactured to suit all climates.

Wholesale Warehouse, 57, Upper Thames Street, London.

VARICOSE VEINS, &c. — HUXLEY'S SURGICAL ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c., are still recommended in all cases where a bandage would formerly have been applied. They are light, durable, and more economical than any article yet produced. SPIRAL STOCKINGS at a great reduction in price; Abdominal Belts on a new principle, weighing only four ounces.

Particulars, List of Prices, and the articles forwarded by post, on application to HUXLEY and CO., 5, VERE STREET, OXFORD STREET. Hospitals supplied on favourable terms.

SHIRTS. — FORD'S EUREKA SHIRTS are not sold by any hosiers or drapers, and can therefore be obtained only at 38, POULTRY. Gentlemen in the country or abroad, ordering through their agents, are requested to observe on the interior of the collar-band the stamp—

"FORD'S EUREKA SHIRTS, 38, POULTRY," without which none are genuine. They are made in two qualities—First quality, 40s. the half-dozen; second quality, 30s. the half-dozen. Gentlemen who are desirous of purchasing Shirts in the very best manner in which they can be made, are solicited to inspect these, the most unique and only perfect fitting Shirts. List of prices and instructions for measurement, post free, and patterns of the new coloured shirtings free on receipt of six stamps.

RICHARD FORD, 38, POULTRY, LONDON.



SUBMARINE AND EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH.—OPENING to BIRMINGHAM and GREAT REDUCTION OF TARIFF between BIRMINGHAM and LONDON.

On and after Monday next, Messages of Twenty Words between Birmingham and London will be forwarded for 1s.; and 6d. additional will be charged for each Ten Words, or fraction of Ten Words, above Twenty.

Portage, 6d. for the first half mile, and 6d. per mile beyond the first half mile.

Continental Messages from Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham, &c., sent to the Submarine Office at Birmingham, will save 1s. 6d. in telegraphic charge between London and Birmingham, will proceed direct through one set of instruments. Errors of frequent Copying will be obviated, the Messages will remain under One Management, and all delay between Louthbury and Cornhill will be avoided.

Offices,
104, New Street, Birmingham, and 30, Cornhill, London.

No. 4, LEADENHALL STREET,
NEAR THE INDIA HOUSE, LONDON.

Most people complain that shaving's a bore,
Each day's painful scrape only chafes an old sore;
Choose the cutler who stands at the head of the trade,
Half the battle depends on a well-tempered blade—
In the front of these lines his name is display'd.

MECHI'S RAZORS, STROPS, and MAGIC PASTES, are renowned throughout the civilized world. He exhibits also the most recherché stock of Papier Maché articles, Dressing-cases, Work-boxes, Tea-trays, Writing-desks, &c., in London. Everything for the Toilet and Work-table. Mech's famous Bagatelle Tables, affording a charming amusement on a wet day.

THE TEA DUTY IS NOW REDUCED,

and we are enabled to sell
Prime Congou Tea at 3s. 0d. per lb.
The best Congou Tea at 3s. 4d. "
Rich rare Sonchong Tea at 3s. 8d. "
Good GREEN TEA at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. "
Prime GREEN TEA at 4s. 0d. "
And delicious Green Tea at 5s. 0d. "

We strongly recommend our friends to buy Tea at our present prices, as Teas are getting dearer. Those who purchase now will save money.

The best PLANTATION COFFEE is now 1s. per lb. The best Mocha 1s. 4d.

Teas, Coffees, and all other goods, sent carriage free, by our own vans and carts, if within eight miles; and Teas, Coffees, and Spices sent carriage free to any part of England, if to the value of 40s. or upwards, by

PHILLIPS AND COMPANY,
Tea and Colonial Merchants,
No. 8, King William Street, City, London.

TEA!

CULLINGHAM AND COMPANY.
The advantages, both in quality and price, to be derived from purchasing at a first-class City house, must be too apparent to every one to need comment.

We are now selling
The very best Black Tea at 4 0 the pound.
Good sound Congou 3 0 "
Finest Pekoe ditto 3 8 "
Fine Gunpowder 4 0 "
Choice Coffee 1 0 "
Finest Homoeopathic Cocoa 1 0 "

This is the most pleasant and nutritious preparation of Cocoa. For the convenience of our numerous customers, we retail the finest West India and Refined Sugars at market prices.

All goods delivered by our own vans, free of charge, within eight miles of London. Parcels of Tea and Coffee, of the value of Two Pounds sterling, are sent, carriage free, to any part of England.

CULLINGHAM and Company,
Tea-merchants and Dealers,
27, SKINNER STREET, SNOW HILL, CITY.

SUPERIOR TO COFFEE, BUT LOWER IN PRICE.

FRENCH CHOCOLATE, 1s. per pound, or in packets, 6d., 3d., and 1d. each, a preparation from the choicest Cocoas of the English market, and manufactured by the most approved French method. Coffee is far inferior in nutritive qualities to Cocoa. And Chocolate, or properly prepared Cocoa, is now universally recommended by the Medical Profession, as more conducive to health than any other vegetable substance which enters into the human dietary. The superiority of the above One Shilling French Chocolate, over raw and unprepared Cocoas, may be judged of by the perfection attained in its manufacture, owing to which it may be used either as food or beverage.

PARIS CHOCOLATE COMPANY, distinguished by the Patronage of her Majesty the Queen, and the unanimous award of both "Council" and "Prize" Medals at the Great Exhibition of 1851. Manufacturers of Breakfast Chocolate, Bonbons, and French Syrups.

Sold Wholesale and Retail by the principal Grocers, Confectioners, and Druggists in the kingdom. Chocolate Mills, Isleworth; Wholesale Depot, 35, Pudding Lane, City; West-end Agent, Mr. JOHN HATFIELD, 221, Regent Street.

TEETH.—By Her Majesty's Royal Letters

Patent.—Newly-invented and Patented application of chemically-prepared WHITE INDIA-RUBBER in the construction of ARTIFICIAL TEETH, Gums, and Palates.—Mr. EPHRAIM MOSELY, Surgeon-Dentist, 61, Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square, Sole Inventor and Patentee. A new, original, and invaluable invention, consisting in the adaptation, with the most absolute perfection and success, of chemically-prepared WHITE INDIA-RUBBER as a lining to the ordinary Gold or Bone Frame. The extraordinary results of this application may be briefly noted in a few of their most prominent features, as the following:—All sharp edges are avoided, no springs, wires, or fastenings are required, a greatly increased freedom of suction is supplied, a natural elasticity hitherto wholly unattainable, and a fit, perfected with the most unerring accuracy, is secured, while from the softness and flexibility of the agent employed, the greatest support is given to the adjoining teeth when loose, or rendered tender by the absorption of the gums. The acids of the mouth exert no agency on the chemically-prepared White India-rubber, and, as it is a non-conductor, fluids of any temperature may with thorough comfort be imbibed and retained in the mouth, all unpleasantness of smell or taste being at the same time wholly provided against by the peculiar nature of its preparation.—To be obtained only at

61, GROSVENOR-STREET, LONDON.
22, Gay-street, Bath.
34, Grainger-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.

BANK OF DEPOSIT.

7, ST. MARTIN'S PLACE, TRAFALGAR SQUARE, LONDON.

The WARRANTS for the HALF-YEARLY INTEREST, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, on the Investment Stock of this Association, to the 30th June, are ready for delivery, and payable daily between the hours of Eleven and Three o'clock.

Depositors residing at a distance from London, will, on application, have the Dividend Warrants, together with the proper receipts, forwarded for signature; the amount will then be paid on presentation at the Head Offices in London, or transmitted through the Local Agents of the Association, Country Bankers, or in any other way, to suit the convenience of Investors; so that the Dividends may in all cases be received without difficulty or delay.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.
August, 1853.

BANKS OF DEPOSIT AND SAVINGS BANKS.
INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL AND SAVINGS.

NATIONAL ASSURANCE and INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION,

7, ST. MARTIN'S PLACE, TRAFALGAR SQUARE, LONDON,
AND 56, PALL MALL, MANCHESTER.

Established in 1844.

TRUSTEES.

Lieut.-Col. the Right Honourable Lord George Paget, M.P.
Rev. Joseph Prendergast, D.D., (Cantab.) Lewisham.
George Stone, Esq., Banker, Lombard Street.
Matthew Hutton Chaytor, Esq., Reigate.

The Investment of Money with this Association secures equal advantages to the Savings of the Provident and the Capital of the Affluent, and affords to both the means of realising the highest rate of Interest yielded by first-class securities, in which alone the Funds are employed.

The constant demand for advances upon securities of that peculiar class, which are offered almost exclusively to Life Assurance Companies, such as Reversions, Life Interests, &c., enables the Board of Management to employ Capital on more advantageous terms and at higher rates of Interest than could otherwise, with equal safety, be obtained.

The present rate of Interest is five per cent. per annum, and this rate will continue to be paid so long as the Assurance department finds the same safe and profitable employment for money.

Interest payable half-yearly in January and July.

Money intended for Investment is received daily between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clock, at the Offices of the Association.

Immediate Annuities granted, and the business of Life Assurance in all its branches, transacted, on highly advantageous terms. Rates, Prospectuses, and Forms of Proposal, with every requisite information, may be obtained on application at the offices of the Association, or to the respective Agents throughout the United Kingdom.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

Applications for Agencies may be made to the Managing Director.

MANCHESTER and LONDON LIFE ASSURANCE and LOAN ASSOCIATION, 77, King Street, Manchester; 454, West Strand, London.

The business of this Association is that of—

1. Life and survivorship risks of every description—Civil Naval, or Military.
2. Loans on equitable terms, life assurance being contemporaneously effected, upon approved personal or any other sufficient security.
3. Assurance upon half-credit scale of rates.
4. Endowments for children, on non-returnable or returnable premiums.
5. Policies payable to bearer.
6. Whole world policies, being perfect securities, payable to bearer or otherwise, at moderate additional rates.
7. Policies without extra rates, to persons in the Militia or others, not forfeited if killed in defending the country from invasion.
8. Notices of the assignment of policies registered.
9. Medical Referee paid by this Association.
10. Age of the life assured admitted on all policies, reasonable proof being given.
11. Stamp duty on policies paid by the Association.

Four-fifths, or 80 per cent., divided every five years, amongst all policy holders entitled to profits.

CHARLES HENRY MINCHIN, Secretary, Manchester.
WILLIAM JAMES STRICKLAND, Actuary and Secretary, London.

INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL AND SAVINGS.

HOUSEHOLDERS' LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

15 and 16, ADAM STREET, ADELPHI.

TRUSTEES.

The Right Hon. T. Milner Gibson, M.P. for Manchester.
John Walbanke Childers, Esq., Cantly, Doncaster.
William Bulkeley Glasse, Esq., Q.C., Lincoln's Inn.
William Ashlon, Esq., Horton House, Wraybury, Staines.
Charles Hulce, Esq., Hurst, Reading.
Richard Griffiths Wolford, Esq., New-square, Lincoln's Inn.
F. D. Bullock Webster, Esq., 49, New Bond-street.

This Company is framed to meet the desire of those who seek, without speculation, safe and profitable investment for large or small sums, at a higher rate of interest than can be obtained from the public funds, and on as secure a basis.

The investment system, while it offers the greatest advantages to the public, affords to its members a perfect security, and a higher rate of interest than can be obtained elsewhere.

The capital of £250,000 is divided, for the convenience of investment and transfer, into £1 shares, of which 10s. only will be called.

The present rate of interest upon the paid-up capital is 5 per cent., which will continue to be paid until a higher rate can be judiciously declared.

Applications for investment are received between the hours of 10 and 4.
R. HODSON, Secretary.

Just published, cloth, price 3s. 6d.

HOMOEOPATHY FAIRLY REPRESENTED, in reply to Dr. SIMPSON'S "HOMOEOPATHY MISREPRESENTED." By WILLIAM HENDERSON, M.D., Professor of General Pathology in the University of Edinburgh.

Edinburgh: Thomas Constable and Co.;
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NEUROTONICS; OR, THE ART OF STRENGTHENING THE NERVES, containing Remarks on the Influence of the Nerves upon the Health, the Spirits, and the Temper, with an account of a new remedy for Chronic Diseases, Debility, Nervousness, Habitual Melancholy or Low Spirits, Indigestion, &c. By D. NAPIER, M.D.

London: Houlston and Stoneman, Paternoster Row, price 4d. May be had through any Bookseller, or is sent free for Five Penny Stamps, from the Author, 503, New Oxford Street.

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Sold by Whittaker and Co., Ave Maria Lane; and all other Booksellers.

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THE THREADS OF A STORM SAIL.

By W. BLANCHARD JERROLD.

Written at the suggestion of the Directors of the Birkbeck Life Assurance Company.

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Athenæum, April 23, 1853.

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