

The Leader.

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

Contents.

NEWS OF THE WEEK—

	PAGE
The War	938
Continental Notes	940
India and China	940
Mr. Hume at Aberdeen	940
The "Public Meeting" in Madrid	940
Mr. Cobden and the "Crumpling Up" of Russia	940
The Public Health	940
Our Civilisation	941
Remarkable Cases	941
The Dauntless Affair	941
The Duke of Cleveland and Colonel Garrett	942
Sir William Molesworth at Edinburgh	942

Tory Policy next Session	942
Russian and Finnish Prisoners	942
The English Prisoners in Russia	943
Australia	943
Elections	944
The Irish Tenant League	944
Mr. John Macgregor at Glasgow	944
Monastic Orders in Ireland	944
The Queen on the Railway	944
Miscellaneous	944

PUBLIC AFFAIRS—

The Campaign in the Crimea—	
What it Leads To	945
Cutting of the Austrian Knot	945
War as a Sanitary Exercise	945

Investment of Sebastopol, Com-	
mercially	946
What is the Matter in the City?	947
Scottish Rights	947
The Last Card	948

OPEN COUNCIL—

Babel	948
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LITERATURE—

Summary	949
Oldham and his Poetry	949
School Experiences	951
The Countess of St. Alban	952
Pictures and Dirt	952
History of the Chartist Move-	
ment	953

The Census	953
Fenn's Compendium	953
Books on our Table	953

THE ARTS—

Photographic Views in Rome	
and Venice	954
The King's Rival	954

Births, Marriages, and Deaths...	955
----------------------------------	-----

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—

City Intelligence, Markets, Ad-	
vertisements, &c	955-960

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1854.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

WAR, victorious or otherwise—"tightness" in the City, crash at Liverpool, money apprehensions throughout—diplomacy, intrigue, and retribution for political subserviency in Germany—Popish plots in the Cabinet and amongst the licensed victuallers—Eglington insurrection for Scottish rights in Scotland—disclosures amongst officers, and, under cover of those disclosures, outrageous libels on gentlemen in uniform—enough in one week of exciting realities, and over-exciting fictions. In the first engagement with the Russians the allies have conquered, and the victory is rendered more glorious by the obstinate resistance which they encountered. The armies first met on the high grounds by the Alma river, about half-way between the place of landing and Sebastopol, probably somewhat to the left, towards Baktschi-Serai. They met about mid-day. The enemy stood above their assailants; the French and English, however, emulated each other in the precipitancy of the assault, and the entrenched camp was carried at the point of the bayonet. The battle lasted four hours, and in the course of it the loss in killed and wounded is estimated at nearly 10,000, somewhat differently distributed—about 1400, or more, to the English; the same number, or less, to the French; and about 6000 to the Russians.

From this point the Russians retreated, but in what direction does not precisely appear; nor is the course taken by the Allied forces indicated with clearness. There have been reports of a decisive battle on the 22nd of September, but those reports were followed by others—that Fort Constantine had been invested on the 24th, and that Sebastopol itself was in possession of the Allies on the 25th. Now the authenticated intelligence down to the 28th shows that these last events had not yet taken place; and although it is probable that encounters had occurred between the armies, we have no report of a regular engagement after the 20th. The story was, that Menschikoff was entrapped in the harbour of Sebastopol, and was there threatening to blow up his fleet, whereas he is at the head of an army in the field, expecting to be reinforced by the garrison of Anapa—a place which the Russians themselves had blown up before leaving it. The true net in advance on the part of the Allies, which is last stated, is their taking possession of Balaklava: this gives them a commanding position, and will enable them to pursue the war with full support from the fleet and its resources. Here, then, we leave them, landing their heavy artillery, and awaiting reinforcements, but still proceeding with energy to prepare the great path by which they intend to arrive at victory.

Practically, they are about to receive still greater enforcements from Austria; for evidently

negotiations are proceeding which, if they are successful, would terminate in a new alliance between that Power and the Austrian Government—a course of more active aggression on the part of Austria with newly defined objects, and probably with a distinct plan of attack upon the great outlaw. Meanwhile the young Emperor Francis Joseph has so far committed himself as to congratulate Napoleon on the successes of the Allies in the Crimea!

While the great archetype of Russia, Menschikoff, is still persevering in a desperate resistance by which he may inflict mischief on the allies, although he cannot hope to save the Crimea, the left-handed Minister of Russia, King Frederick William, carries on his meddling, pettifogging intrigues by the help of diplomacy. He has three irons in the fire, and seems likely to burn his fingers with them all. One is to represent Austria, before the German Courts, as involved with the Allies in some intrigues dangerous to German interests. In a note addressed to the German Courts, replying to that of Count Buol, Baron Manteuffel pours forth a mass of darkly-hinting circumlocutions, calculated to excite fears that Austria intends to possess the Principalities; that the Allies will take possession of the Danube; that the navigation of that river—so beautifully protected by Russia!—will henceforth be denied to Germany; that Austria, in fact, is quite alienated from the Diet—a dangerous stranger who ought to be excluded from the federation. That is his first iron. His second consists in an attempt to bring the German Courts into his own course, and he manages it thus. He points out that the present time is inconvenient for the interference of Germany, and that as Russia has refused the four conditions, and the Western Powers confess them to be not sufficient for peace, Germany can pronounce no decision upon them; but he proposes to go on "mediating," and we all know what mediating means. His second iron, therefore, consists in the attempt to inveigle Germany to follow the Prussian lead; and if the sheep can follow the wily wolf now, they are likely enough to find the wily wolf at their head when the whole affair is over, should Russia be victorious. His third iron lies in the said mediation, which evidently he perseveres in urging upon the Western Powers.

Luckily he has had his rebuff. King Frederick William has been told that his proposals of mediation will not be listened to, and clearly he now knows that if he does not join the Western alliance he must be perfectly quiescent and non-interfering, or be treated as an enemy.

This new attack upon Prussia was accompanied, or rather preceded, by another agitation amongst commercial men and politicians whose attention is chiefly devoted to commerce, on the subject of Prussian neutrality and the transit trade. King Frederick William, his exchequer, and some of

his subjects, have been drawing a profit by helping Russian merchants to trade with England through Prussian neutrality. It was not a real Prussian trade, but Prussia only became the pipe through which the enemy was able to evade the blockade in the Baltic by England and France. The inconvenience of being frustrated in a blockade is evident, and it is probable that this consideration, amongst others, has expedited the peremptory summons which Prussia seems to have received.

There is a report that the Schleswig-Holstein treaty—the London treaty settling the relations of the Duchies subject to Germany—is now to undergo revision. It was a bad treaty, violating the distinct rights of the Duchies, favourable to the Danish Crown and to Russia, inconsistent with English constitutional principles which the people of the Duchies had been sustaining in the field, and discreditable to the Minister who took the most active part in it—Lord Palmerston. We know nothing about the truth of the report, but we do know that at the present moment the Danish Court is endeavouring to carry out one main purpose of that treaty in suppressing every relic of constitutional government in Denmark, as well as in the Duchies; that the King is doing so, we may say, in the presence of the English fleet; and that he is doing so in the teeth of English interests—for he is daily making himself more and more identified with our great enemy, Russia, in policy, sympathy, and action. It would be poor work to put the screw upon Prussia, and to let the paltry Danish Court be free in its despotic combinations against liberty and the West.

The tumult in the City arises from manifold causes; but we believe the great money-centre to be like a stormy sea,—rough on the surface, substantially untroubled below. The trouble begins with America; and unlike the report, that some quarrel was brewing between the United States and this country on account of the sale of Sitka to the Russian Government—a stupid story without foundation—the report of the drought has so much foundation in fact, that lack of rain in some cases sufficiently damaged the crop, and there will be an abstraction from that resource. Some probable diminution of the cotton crop, with a crash following over-speculation in railways, renders some Americans unable to meet their engagements; houses in Liverpool find themselves unable to meet theirs; houses in London have Liverpool bills returned; the general "tightness" of the money-market is aggravated; and just at that moment comes, or is expected, and until four o'clock in the afternoon, of Thursday, the statement that Sebastopol has not been taken. The City is wild in consequence. Government clerks, a denunciation against the dark in sugar, who kept back the news,—delay; and questions as to the motives for the war; and in the murmur of indignation that leads upon Cornhill may be discerned sincere.

ing allusions to recent instances of dabbling in the funds by exclusively informed officials.

There is, however, we believe, no official stock-jobbing plot, but only the fact that routine does not go forth with telegraph speed or sympathise with the impatience of Change. The Popish plot has stronger testimony to it. We have the evidence of Mr. Disraeli in his letter to the Blackburn Protestant Association: he discerns papistical dangers in the premiership of Lord Aberdeen, and hints at rescue from the hands of Lord John Russell, if only Lord John could be separated from his Premier;—and if only, we surmise, he should be associated with Mr Disraeli.

The Popish plot against the State, however, is further from its goal than the Popish plot against another eminent individual. The case is flagrant in the papers this week. A monarch has been de-throned. Like Europe, the *Morning Advertiser* has been much agitated of late. It has sympathies with Hungary, and its bowels have yearned towards Kossuth; it has sympathies with Dissent, and has felt intestinal emotions on behalf of the Voluntary principle, insomuch that for the time the claims of the tavern, the public house, and brewery were forgotten. The organ of the Licensed Victualler Interest seemed for a time in possession of Urquhart, Kossuth, Mazzini, and the leaders of the future. But, in the meanwhile, what became of the present Beer Act that invaded the liberty of Sunday excursionists and of publicans? The publican public heaved with the billows of agitation; the quarterly meeting, which is also the annual meeting, approached,—arrived,—and a formal resolution was levelled at the policy of the paper committee, the premiership of the editor. Manfully did the latter withstand the storm; and, he declared for the enlightenment of the discontented, the true motive of it was a popish plot got up against him by a Jesuit Frenchman. The Jesuit Frenchman, it turns out, is a Scotch Presbyterian. But the crisis was the 1848 of the *Morning Advertiser*; and the Louis Philippe of that office, who had tried to reconcile the old régime with revolution, and to accommodate high ambitions with the interests of the middle classes on whom he rested, was obliged to escape,—in what disguise we have not yet learned. Terrible, however, are the doings of popery when we find two men like the Editor of the *Advertiser* and the late Chancellor of the Exchequer thus struggling with adversity.

In presence of these great events, we hear with comparative dulness of old news which Sir William Molesworth gives forth from Edinburgh. As a newly-made burgess of that city, he declared that the sword shall not be sheathed on the Danube until Russia be controlled. As a burgess of Aberdeen, Mr. Hume testifies to the probity of the noble Premier who takes his title from the town. And, in the same week, Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton also testifies to the amiable character of Mr. Halsey, the late member for Hertfordshire!

THE WAR.

THE CRIMEA.

ON the evening of Saturday last an extraordinary *Gazette* was published and circulated extensively by the Duke of Newcastle, containing a telegraphic despatch from Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, dated Constantinople, September 23rd, as follows:—

"The intrenched camp of the Russians, containing 50,000 men, with a numerous artillery and cavalry, on the heights of the Alma, was attacked on the 20th inst., at 1 P.M., by the allied troops, and carried by the bayonet at half-past three with a loss on our side of about 1400 killed and wounded, and an equal loss on the side of the French. The Russian army was forced to put itself in full retreat."

The *Gazette* was read in person by the Lord Mayor to a large party assembled at the inaugural banquet of the Sheriffs at the London Tavern, and then proclaimed in form at the Royal Exchange.

On the following day a supplement to the *Gazette* extraordinary was issued, containing the following telegraphic despatch from Lord Raglan, not dated, evidently written on the 21st of September:—

"The allied armies yesterday attacked the position of the heights above the Alma, and carried it, the enemy on the left, about an hour and a half before sunset. The position was very formidable, and defended by a numerous artillery of heavy calibre. Our loss, I regret to say, was considerable. The main body of the army of the enemy was estimated at 45,000 to 50,000 infantry. A few prisoners, among whom are two general officers, and two guns, have been taken by the English army."

Almost simultaneously with this, the annexed despatch from Marshal St. Arnaud appeared in the *Moniteur*, in Paris:—

"Bivouac on the Alma, Sept. 20.

"We encountered to-day the enemy on the Alma. The woody ravine through which the river runs, studded with houses, passable only at three points, and having very steep slopes on the left bank, was occupied by the enemy in great force. These slopes were strongly intrenched, and covered by a powerful artillery.

"The allied armies attacked these difficult positions with unparalleled vigour.

"Our soldiers advanced to the assault with cries of 'Vive l'Empereur!' and carried all that was before them.

"The battle lasted four hours, and our loss was 1400 killed and wounded.

"I am as yet ignorant of the loss sustained by the English army, which fought valiantly against an obstinate resistance."

Telegraphic messages were received about the same time from Vienna, stating that the battle on the 20th had been followed by another on the 22nd, on the Katcha, and that after a sanguinary battle the Russians were totally defeated and pursued to the intrenchments before Sebastopol.

This was immediately succeeded by another despatch from Bucharest, dated 28th, announcing the capture of Sebastopol by the Allies on the 25th, the garrison to which a free retreat was offered "preferring to remain prisoners of war."

On Monday an announcement was made in the papers by the Turkish Minister, that he had received the following telegraphic despatch from Vienna:—

"Vienna, Oct. 2.

"The French Embassy and the Austrian Government have received from Bucharest, under date 6 P.M. September 30, the following telegraphic despatch:—

"To-day, at noon, a Tatar arrived from Constantinople with despatches for Omar Pacha; his Highness being at Silistria, the despatches had to be forwarded to him at that place.

"The Tatar announces the capture of Sebastopol. 18,000 Russians were killed and wounded, 22,000 made prisoners; Fort Constantine was destroyed, and other forts, mounting 200 guns, taken.

"Of the Russian fleet six sail of the line were sunk, and Prince Menschikoff had retired to the bottom of the bay with the remaining vessels, declaring that he would burn them if the attack continued.

"The Allied Commanders had given him six hours to consider, inviting him at the same time to surrender, for the sake of humanity.

"A French General and three Russian Generals, all wounded, have arrived at Constantinople, which city was to be illuminated for ten days."

To this it was added, that

"The *Oesterreichische Correspondenz* confirms the news already received, with the sole difference that instead of 23,000 Russians being killed and wounded and 25,000 made prisoners, it says 18,000 Russians were killed and 22,000 made prisoners. Fort Constantine blew up, and other forts, with 200 guns, were taken."

On Tuesday, the *Times* published, under the head of "Decisive Intelligence," the following:—

"On the 23rd Fort Constantine was destroyed by the Allies, and Fort Alexander taken.

"On the 24th all the redoubts and forts around Sebastopol, all the batteries, and the Arsenal, were in the hands of the Allies.

"The flags of the Allies were hoisted on the tower of the Church of St. Vladimir.

"It is believed that the day on which Prince Menschikoff surrendered at discretion was the 26th.

"It is said that the remainder of the Russian fleet is safe in the hands of the Allies.

"The Turkish army will at once cross the Danube into Bessarabia."

There also appeared in other papers this:—

"Five hours after the bombardment, Fort Constantine blew up; 10,000 Russians were buried in its ruins. Prince Menschikoff fled to Fort Alexander, where 18,000 Russians shortly surrendered.

"The allied fleets simultaneously destroyed the outer harbour, forts, and vanguard of the Russian fleet.

"Prince Menschikoff is reported to have unconditionally surrendered on the evening of the 26th."

On the same day, however, there appeared the following:—

"Berlin, Tuesday, Oct. 3.

"A telegraphic despatch has been received here direct from St. Petersburg: It says that Prince Menschikoff has telegraphed, under date of September 26, that he has withdrawn his troops, unmolested, from before Sebastopol towards Baktschi-Serai. There he will await reinforcements from Kertsch and Perelskop.

"He adds that Sebastopol has not been attacked up to the 26th of September."

This was treated as of little value, as it was evident that "26th" was a misprint for "20th."

The capture of Sebastopol was on Wednesday treated as an established fact, and the only feeling was that there was an unwarrantable delay of official information; but it was accounted for by the supposition that as the telegraphic despatch, giving

intelligence of the battle on the 20th of September, took ten days to reach this country, no news of the fall of Sebastopol could arrive much before the 6th instant.

On Thursday morning there was no confirmation of the report of the fall of Sebastopol in most of the papers; and the *Morning Chronicle* published the following telegraphic despatches:—

"Constantinople, Sept. 25.

"At the battle of the Alma, on the 20th of September, the Russians numbered 45,000 men, and 100 cannon.

"The English had 1895 rank and file, 96 officers, 114 sergeants, and 23 drummers, killed and wounded.

"The loss of the French was 1400 men and 60 officers.

"Vienna, Wednesday, Oct. 4.

"The *Trieste Zeitung* says that the reported fall of Sebastopol is false.

"The Allies had sent to Varna for cavalry.

"Vienna, Wednesday Evening.

"Advices from Odessa of the 29th of September state that fighting continued uninterruptedly in the Crimea from the 25th to the departure of the courier on the 27th.

"The allies were on the rivers Belbek and Mertewady, ten versts from Sebastopol.

"The English Levant steamer took 340 wounded Russians from Eupatoria to Odessa on the 28th.

"Six allied steamers had captured prizes off Odessa.

"The Turkish troops at Bucharest fired guns on the 2nd to celebrate the victory of the Alma."

Serious doubts were then generally entertained as to the accuracy of the statements which had fixed so early a day for the storming of Sebastopol as the 26th, but there was little hesitation in the belief that the fortress had fallen.

The matter was set at rest in the evening of Thursday by the publication of another extraordinary *Gazette*, containing a telegraphic despatch from Lord Stratford de Redcliffe in these terms:

"September 30, 1854, at 9½ P.M.

"The allied armies established their basis of operations at Balaklava on the morning of the 28th, and were preparing to march without delay upon Sebastopol. The Agamemnon, and other vessels of war of the allies, were in the port of Balaklava. There were facilities there for disembarking the battering train.

"It is stated that Prince Menschikoff was in the field at the head of 20,000 men, expecting reinforcements; that the fortified place of Anapa has been burnt by the Russians; that its garrison was marching to the scene of action; and that a convoy of ammunition, escorted by Cossacks, had been taken and destroyed by an English detachment.

"The Banshee, bearer of this news, left the Crimea on the evening of the day before yesterday."

With the exception of the obvious, but ludicrous blunder, of making the despatch arrive at Bucharest six hours before it was said to have been sent to Constantinople, the intelligence it contained places the state of affairs in a pretty clear light.

In the first place, although Sebastopol is not taken it is completely invested. After the battle of Alma, the Allies must, probably at the expense of another battle, have driven Menschikoff with a portion of his forces into the interior, and marched down to the south, and rested on Balaklava, a place which was at one time thought of as the best for the landing of the expedition, as its heights command the south side of Sebastopol; and the army could be supported by the fleets in the bay. That project was abandoned because Balaklava was at that time strongly occupied by the Russian forces which were subsequently withdrawn. As the fleet is in the port of Balaklava, Sebastopol is invested by sea and land; the bay affording every facility for landing the siege train and the reserve, from Varna, which will be required, as Menschikoff is to be kept in check while the siege proceeds. It is not likely to be a long one.

On Friday morning the following was published:—

"Marseilles, Thursday evening.

"The Nil, which left Constantinople on the 25th, has arrived with despatches.

"The loss of the English at the battle of the Alma amounts to 2000 men.

"That of the French is not so great.

"General Bonet is among the killed.

"Lord Burghersh, who left Malta in the *Fury* before the Nil, with despatches for the English Government, has not yet arrived.

"The capture of Sebastopol is not confirmed."

On Friday evening some further details of the battle of the 20th, reached town, as follows:—

"Paris, Friday, 8 A.M.

"The allied armies are in communication with the fleets. A safe and practicable road leads to Sebastopol.

"The allies are now firmly established in the Crimea."

"The various columns of the army had to cross several rivers in succession, in order to turn the Gulf of Sebastopol and enter the mountain country before they could arrive at Balaklava.

"Menschikoff has been driven to a distance with the wreck of his army.

"Marseilles, Oct. 5 (Night).

"The Fury brings news from Constantinople of the 27th. Sebastopol is commanded by the allies.

"The Russian naval division has made an unsuccessful endeavour to push out with fourteen sail.

"In the battle of the Alma, the Russians defended the heights with 100 guns, yet the allies carried the summit.

"The want of cavalry was much felt in the pursuit.

"Up to the 24th there has been no further fighting in the Crimea.

"The 23rd Regiment lost all its officers but three, of whom Captain Bell was the senior.

"Colonel Ainslie was killed in planting a standard on the heights of Alma.

"General Brown had a horse killed under him.

"Sebastopol is invested."

THE BATTLE OF ALMA.

"It appears from the accounts which have reached the French Government, that the battle was fought within a very short distance of the sea coast. The French army, consisting of either three or four divisions, occupied the right, and was consequently nearest the sea. The English occupied the centre, and the Turks the left. The French army being nearest the sea, fully one-half of it was protected by the fire from the steamers, so that the extreme right and centre of the French line did not suffer much. The French division which suffered most was on the left of the French line, and next to the English. It was commanded by General Thomasson, who, as you are aware was desperately wounded, and who is said to have since died of his wounds.

"The brunt of the battle fell upon our countrymen, who have not only had the post of honour, but, it is feared, have been the greatest sufferers. At the French Ministry of War it is stated that, from the information which has arrived, there is reason to believe that the loss of the English far exceeded that of their army. The main charge must have been a tremendous one. It seems that, although the Russians were posted on the opposite side of a deep ravine, and on the top of a steep and difficult bank, where they had deliberately taken up their position, and where they were protected by their artillery, the whole of the English army and the left division of the army stormed this formidable position in front and carried it. Every military man knows what a desperate affair such an attack is, and the little we yet know of the storming of the heights of the Alma leaves no doubt that it will be recorded in our annals as one of the most glorious exploits of our brave countrymen."

The Minister for War has made the following announcements:—

"An extraordinary *Gazette* will be published so soon as the names of those who have fallen in action, or have been wounded in the Crimea, shall have been received; and the Royal Commission authorising the collection and control of a "Patriotic Fund" for the relief of the widows and orphans of soldiers, sailors, and marines killed or dying on active service in the present war, will also be published at the same time, if not previously promulgated.

"War Department, Oct. 3, 1854."

"As no account has yet been received of the arrival at Marseilles of a steamer from Constantinople with the details of the battle of the heights of the Alma, the Duke of Newcastle thinks it right to make known that he fears the account of the casualties on that occasion cannot be published before Monday, at the earliest.

"War Department, 8 P.M., Oct. 5, 1854."

The expedition to the Crimea, fortunate in all other things, is fortunate in having an historian worthy of the occasion. The special correspondent of the *Times* has always distinguished himself for able and graphic accounts of the proceedings in the Black Sea; but his last letters, containing the narrative of the sailing of the expedition and the debarkation, are, without question, unequalled in periodical or newspaper literature. For style, spirit, and descriptive power, grasp of detail, and anecdote, nothing has ever been produced like it. We reproduce a few extracts, only regretting that they are a few:—

THE FLEET WEIGHS ANCHOR.—Sir Edmund Lyons is evidently an early riser. At half-past four o'clock on Thursday morning, three guns from the Agamemnon in quick succession woke up the sleepers of the fleet. The signalmen made out through the haze of morning twilight the joyful order fluttering in the coloured bunting from the mizen of the admiral, "Prepare to weigh anchor;" and in a quarter of an hour the volumes of smoke rising from the steamers, mingled with white streaks of steam, showed that not much time would be lost in obeying it. Ere seven o'clock, the steamers had

weighed anchor, and each was busy "dodging about" the mass of transports to pick up its own particular charges. This was a work of time, of trouble, and of difficulty. Towing is at all times an unpleasant operation, but it is especially difficult to arrange the details, and to get the towed vessels under way, when there is such a mass of shipping to thread as there was at present. When the vessels were found, and the hawsers passed and secured, then came the next great difficulty—to get them into their assigned places in the several lines of the different divisions. There was some time lost before the lines were formed, and the signal "to sail" was given. With a gentle breeze off shore, the flotilla started in nearly the order assigned to it, but some changes took place, which at this moment I am not in a position to state. The lines were about half a mile apart, and each line was four or five miles long, for the towing power of the several steamers was so unequal that the weaker ones tailed off and the stronger got ahead, in spite of repeated orders to keep station. It was a vast armada. No pen could describe its effect upon the eye. Ere an hour had elapsed, it had extended itself over half the circumference of the horizon. Possibly no expedition so complete and so terrible in its means of destruction, with such enormous power in engines of war, and such capabilities of locomotion, was ever yet sent forth by any worldly power; for the conjunction of such a *corps d'élite*—the whole disposable British army—with a fleet of such strength, and an artillery of unequalled range, severally provided, too, it is said, with missiles of unexampled force, has assuredly no parallel in history. Our speed was restricted to four miles and a half per hour, but with a favouring wind it was difficult to restrain the vessels to that speed, and the transports set no sail.

THE FLEET AT SEA.—The fleet, in five irregular and straggling lines, flanked by men-of-war and war steamers, advanced slowly, filling the atmosphere with innumerable columns of smoke, which gradually flattened into streaks and joined the clouds, adding to the sombre appearance of this well-named "Black" Sea. The land was lost to view very speedily beneath the coal clouds and the steam clouds of the fleet, and as we advanced, not an object was visible in the half of the great circle which lay before us, save the dark waves and the cold sky. Not a bird flew, not a fish leaped, not a sail dotted the horizon. Behind us all was life and power—vitality, force, and motion—a strange scene in this so-called Russian lake! From time to time signals were made to keep the stragglers in order, and to whip up the laggards, but the execution of the plan by no means equalled the accuracy with which it had been set forth upon paper, and the deviations from the mathematical regularity of the programme were very natural. The effect was not marred by these trifling departures from strict rectilinearity, for the fleet seemed all the greater and the more imposing as the eye rested on these huge black hulls weighing down upon the face of the waters, and the infinite diversity of rigging which covered the background with a giant network.

THE LANDING.—About nine o'clock one black ball was run up to the fore of the Agamemnon, and a gun was fired to enforce attention to the signal. This meant, "Divisions of boats to assemble round ships, for which they are told off, to disembark infantry and artillery." There was, as I have said, no enemy in sight, but long before the French had landed their first boats' cargo the figure of a mounted officer, followed by three Cossacks, had fallen within the scope of many a glass. The Russian was within about 1100 yards of us, and through a good telescope we could watch his every action. He rode slowly along by the edge of the cliff, apparently noting the number and disposition of the fleet, and taking notes with great calmness in a memorandum book. He wore a dark green frockcoat, with a little silver lace, a cap of the same colour, a sash round his waist, and long leather boots. His horse, a fine bay charger, was a strange contrast to the shaggy rough little steeds of his followers. There they were, "the Cossacks," at last!—stout compact-looking fellows, with sheep-skin caps, uncouth clothing of indiscriminate cut, high saddles, and little fiery ponies, which carried them with wonderful ease and strength. Each of these Cossacks carried a thick lance of some fifteen feet in length and a heavy-looking sabre. At times they took rapid turns by the edge of the cliff in front of us—now to the left, now to the rear, of their officer, and occasionally they dipped out of sight over the hill altogether. Then they came back, flourishing their lances, and pointed to the accumulating masses of the French, on their right, not more than half a mile from them, on the shore, or scampered over the hill to report progress as to the lines of English boats advancing to the beach. Their officer behaved very well. He remained for an hour within range of a Minié rifle, and when the Highflyer stood in close to shore, while he was coolly making a sketch in his portfolio of our appearance, we all expected they were going to drop a shell over himself and his little party. We were glad our expectations were not realised, if it were only on the chance of the sketch being tolerably good, so that the Czar might really see what our armada was like.

SIR GEORGE BROWN AND THE COSSACKS.—Meantime the English boats were nearing the shore, not in the order of the programme, but in irregular groups: a company of a regiment of the Light Division, the 7th Fusiliers, under Lieutenant-Colonel Yen, I think, landed

first on the beach to the left of the cliffs; then came a company of the 2d Battalion of the Rifle Brigade, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Lawrence. A small boat from the Britannia, commanded by Lieutenant Vesey, had, however, preceded the Fusiliers, and disembarked some men on the beach, who went down into the hollow at the foot of the cliffs. The Russian continued his sketching. Suddenly a Cossack crouched down and pointed with his lance to the ascent of the cliff. The officer turned and looked in the direction. We looked, too, and lo! a cocked hat rose above the horizon. Another figure, with a similar head-dress, came also in view. The first was Sir George Brown, on foot; the second we made out to be Quartermaster-General Airey. The scene was exciting. It was evident the Russian and the Cossacks saw Sir George, but that he did not see them. A picket of Fusiliers and Riflemen followed the General at a considerable interval. The Russian got on his horse, the Cossacks followed his example, and one of them cantered to the left to see that the French were not cutting off their retreat, while the others stooped down over their saddle-bows and rode stealthily, with lowered lances, towards the Englishmen.

Sir George was in danger, but he did not know it. Neither did the Russians see the picket advancing towards the brow of the hill. Sir George was busy scanning the country, and pointing out various spots to the Quartermaster-General. Suddenly they turn, and slowly descend the hill—the gold sash disappears—the cocked hat is eclipsed—Cossacks and officers dismount, and steal along by the side of their horses. They, too, are hid from sight in a short time, and on the brow of the cliff appears a string of native carts. In about five minutes two or three tiny puffs of smoke rise over the cliff, and presently the faint cracks of a rifle are audible to the men in the nearest ships. In a few minutes more the Cossacks are visible, flying like the wind on the road towards Sebastopol, and crossing close to the left of the French lines of skirmishers.

When we landed we heard that Sir George Brown had a near escape of being taken prisoner. He was the first to land, and pushed on without sending vedettes or men in front, though he took the precaution, very fortunately, to bring up a few soldiers with him. The Cossacks, who had been dodging him, made a dash when they were within less than a hundred yards. The General had to run, and was only saved from capture by the fire of the Fusiliers. The Cossacks bolted. The first blood spilt in this campaign was that of a poor boy, an arabjee, who was wounded in the foot by the volley which dislodged them. Meantime swarms of boats were putting off from the various ships to carry the English troops to land.

THE BEACH.—By twelve o'clock in the day, that barren and desolate beach, inhabited but a short time before only by the seagull and wildfowl, was swarming with life. From one extremity to the other bayonets glistened, and red coats and brass-mounted shakos gleamed in solid masses. The air was filled with our English speech, and the hum of voices mingled with loud notes of command, cries of comrades to each other, the familiar address of "Bill" to "Tom," or of "Pa" to "Sandy," and an occasional shout of laughter. Very amusing was it to watch the loading and unloading of the boats. A gig or cutter, pulled by eight or twelve sailors, with a paddle-box boat, flat, or Turkish pinnace in tow (the latter purchased for the service), would come up alongside a steamer or transport in which troops were ready for disembarkation. The officers of each company first descended, each man in full dress. Over his shoulder was slung his haversack, containing what had been, ere it underwent the process of cooking, 4½ lb. of salt meat, and a bulky mass of biscuit of the same weight. This was his ration for three days. Besides this each officer carried his greatcoat, rolled up and fastened in a hoop round his body, a wooden canteen to hold water, a small ration of spirits, whatever change of under-clothing he could manage to stow away, his forage cap, and, in most instances, a revolver. Each private carried his blanket and greatcoat strapped up into a kind of knapsack, inside which was a pair of boots, a pair of socks, a shirt, and, at the request of the men themselves, a forage cap; he also carried his water canteen and the same rations as the officer, a portion of the mess cooking apparatus, firelock and bayonet of course, cartouch box and 50 rounds of ball cartridge for Minié, 60 rounds for smooth-bore arms.

THE SAILORS' CARE OF THE SOLDIERS.—Ludicrously kind were the sailors to soldiers who were supposed to be still only on their sea-legs. As each man came creeping down the ladder Jack helped him along tenderly from rung to rung till he was safe in the boat, took his firelock and stowed it away, removed his knapsack and packed it snugly under the seat, patted him on the back, and told him "not to be afeard on the water;" treated "the sojer," in fact, in a very kind and tender way, as though he were a large but not very sagacious "pet," who was not to be frightened or lost sight of on any account, and did it all so quickly that the large paddle-box boats, containing 100 men, were filled in five minutes. Then the latter took the paddle-box in tow, leaving her, however, in charge of a careful coxswain, and the same attention was paid to getting the "sojer" on shore that was evinced in getting him into the boat, the sailors (half or wholly naked in the surf) standing by at the bows, and handling each man and his accoutrements down the plank to the shingle, for fear "he'd fall

off and hurt himself." Never did men work better than our blue-jackets; especially valuable were they with horses and artillery, and their delight at having a horse to hold and to pat all to themselves was excessive. When the gun-carriages stuck fast in the shingle, half a dozen herculean seamen rushed at the wheels, and, with a "Give way, my lads—all together," soon spoked it out with a run, and landed it on the hard sand. No praise can do justice to the willing labour of these fine fellows. They never relaxed their efforts as long as man or horse of the expedition remained to be landed, and many of them, officers as well as men, were twenty-four hours in their boats.

THE BALTIC.

There are reports which purport to be on authority that the Baltic fleets will not return home without a serious attempt on Cronstadt itself. It is said that General Niel, the French commanding engineer, has reported personally to the Emperor that he believed the attack was practicable this year, and that this had been communicated to the English Admiralty, and received their approval. The French fleet, which was on its way home, has been ordered back to the Gulf of Finland, and it is stated that the Emperor's decided disapproval of his design to return home so soon has been conveyed to Admiral Parseval Deschenes.

About a dozen of the officers of the Tiger are still prisoners of war near Moscow. The czar refuses to exchange them for Russian prisoners taken in the Baltic. They will only be exchanged for Russian prisoners taken in the Black Sea. The court martial on the officers of the Tiger cannot take place until all the officers reach England. Those now in this country will not be employed on active service until the court martial has taken place: they are all on full pay.

We have received a letter from a correspondent in the Baltic, stationed off Revel. We have at present only space for one extract:—

"His Imperial Majesty was down here the other day—yes, the czar himself. The great man was distinctly seen in a carriage and four to drive up a hill close to Revel, where the greater part of the troops were encamped. We could almost have plumped a shot into the carriage, but forbore, our captain probably having strict orders from Lord Aberdeen not to injure private property. I should say about 4000 cavalry and half that number of infantry were reviewed."

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

The Emperor of the French, accompanied by the Empress, returned to Paris immediately after receiving the intelligence of the victory at Alma.

The cannon at the Invalides did not fire the usual salute attendant on a victory for the supposed capture of Sebastopol, although the gunners were constantly at the guns waiting for orders. No official announcement of the capture of that fortress was hazarded in Paris.

The *Droit* has a long article on the decree organising a new police in Paris in imitation of that of London.

The *Droit*, while highly approving of the measure, expresses grave doubts whether the great element of its success—respect for the agents of the law—will not be wanting. It dares not hope that the sergents-de-ville will ever obtain the esteem and consideration enjoyed by the policemen in England.

The celebrated Barbès, who has for three years been imprisoned at Belle-Isle, has been released by order of the Emperor, without conditions, in consequence of a letter which he wrote, expressing hopes that France would be successful against Russia.

The Emperor of Austria had directed his Minister at Paris to convey to the Emperor of the French "his sincere congratulations on the brilliant success of his arms in the Crimea, and to add that he most heartily joins in all the hopes connected with it."

The King of the Belgians is expected at Vienna. His journey excites great attention at Berlin.

The news of the victory in the Crimea is said to have been received in Prussia with every appearance of rejoicing by the "people."

The St. Petersburg official "Journal" has published a decree forbidding the export of corn to Austria, which was to take effect the moment it reached the custom-houses.

A report of the death of Don Carlos from cholera has been in circulation at Madrid.

Great preparations were being made in Cuba for the reception of General Concha. His predecessor, Pezuola, was amazed, and headed the list of subscriptions with a small sum.

Some differences are said to have arisen between Said

Pacha of Egypt, and the sons of Ibrahim Pacha, who have applied to Constantinople for assistance in establishing a sort of independence of the pacha. Said Pacha is very active in his government, looking personally day by day into all its affairs.

King Bomba has aroused himself to give an ass's kick to the wounded lion. He refuses to allow the Russian loan to be negotiated in the Bourse at Naples. The difference to the Czar will not be great, as the offers for the loan amounted to about 27. 15s.

DEATH OF TOUSSAINT LOUVETURE'S SON.—Isaac Toussaint Louverture, the only surviving son of the celebrated black general of that name, of the island of St. Domingo, has just died at Bordeaux, at an advanced age. He was not generally known, as he did not go by his own name; but he was universally respected, as he gave nearly all he had in charity. He was in receipt of a large pension from the French Government.

INDIA AND CHINA.

THE most recent accounts state differences which are threatened between Dost Mohammed and Persia, on the subject of the territory of Candahar; the chiefs of that country having placed themselves under the protection of Persia. The Indian Government has decided not to interfere in the affairs of Afghanistan or Persia, beyond preventing the Persians from joining the Russians. The negotiations between the English and Dost Mohammed do not progress, and Major Edwardes has not yet succeeded in securing his alliance with England. The Dost complains that the delay is caused by the indecision of England, and that she would never discover the value of an alliance with him until she found the Russians at Bokhara.

The Persian force at Mercia was being strongly re-inforced, and from that position threatened Western Afghanistan as well as Khiva.

At Bombay money is abundant, and the success of the originators of a proposed cotton spinning company, the shares of which have risen from 100l. to 250l., has given an impetus to similar speculations; among these is Dr. Buist's proposed irrigation company.

The insurrection in China has been extending itself—the insurgents having gained a number of successes. Fai-shaw is in complete possession of the insurrectionary party, and the Imperial forces have withdrawn from the protection of Canton.

Sir John Bowring is said decidedly to espouse the cause of the Imperialists against the rebels.

MR. HUME AT ABERDEEN.

HAVING sufficiently recovered to receive the freedom of the City of Aberdeen, Mr. Hume went through that ceremony, which is thus described by the *Aberdeen Herald*:—

"Mr. Hume, who seemed perfectly convalescent, though considerably paler in the countenance than we have seen him, kept up the attention of the numerous and intelligent audience, for nearly an hour, by a rapid but highly instructive glance at the political labours he has been engaged in for the last forty years, and the triumphant success that has ultimately crowned them. He tells us—and he it recollected that he speaks as a shrewd, experienced, and perfectly independent politician—that the present Ministry is the very best the country could possibly have at the present crisis, and that its existence depends on Lord Aberdeen."

THE "PUBLIC MEETING" IN MADRID.

The Madrid correspondent of the *Telegraph* (Dublin) says:—

"On Sunday, the 17th inst., there took place a large meeting of the Union Liberal party, in the Teatro Real, to examine and approve the political programme already mentioned, and to have the sanction of the metropolitan electors for its being published and sent to the provinces. Ten minutes sufficed to prove that a union cannot be effected between the ultra-Liberals and the Moderado party. On one occasion there was such a dreadful uproar, such yells of popular indignation, that more than a third of the assembly retired through fear. The Marquis de Duero (Concha) was president of the committee, but his voice and the voices of the whole committee were drowned for half an hour in the swell of execrations hurled at the head of an unhappy poet who had dared to say that the 'Moderados alone had known how to govern.' Peace was at length restored, floods of eloquence again burst forth; a young student, an ardent Democrat, was the hero of the day—an old sinner, a hardened turn-coat, who had fought under every banner, and betrayed every cause, proved that he too could show that black is white, and white black—his discourse was pronounced 'brilliant,' and himself an angel of purity. The former is called Martos, the latter Gonzalez Bravo. He who spoke last always won; till at length the meeting having dwindled down to half its number, and leave

being given for those who chose to sign the manifesto, or not take that trouble according to their good will and pleasure, affairs took a different turn, and the people wearied, hungry, and yawning, voted everything that was read, as they would have voted away liberty itself, if the question had been put. No doubt the papers will make a great fuss about this meeting. Though no elector, I was present, and can say I never saw a greater, or more ridiculous piece of humbug, or loss of time. Two-thirds of the time at least were taken up in discussing matters after the manner of the Pickwick Club. One old gentleman (La Serna), spoke in a voice choked with emotion, while tears trickled down his cheeks, declaring in substance that he would clear himself before the Cortes of the charges laid at his door by a staunch Roundhead, for being one of the *grape-shot* Ministry, which, under the presidency of the Duke of Rivas, had been the 'hangmen' of the people in July last. The whole was a complete failure."

MR. COBDEN AND "THE CRUMPLING UP" OF RUSSIA.

THE *Manchester Examiner* had taken Mr. Cobden's phrase about "crumpling up Russia," as a text for some observations on the power of Russia. Mr. Cobden disclaims having meant a prophecy. He says, in a letter to the editor of the *Manchester Examiner*:—

"In your leader of last Saturday you were so good as to adduce the successful operations of the allied armies in the Crimea as the fulfilment of an old hypothetical threat of mine to 'crumple up' Russia. Pardon me, if even under the present hopeful prospects of that expedition, I renounce the chance of finding myself, within the next fortnight, elevated to the rank of a prophet by the fulfilment of a prediction never uttered by me. The phrase which has afforded a text for so many harmless pleasantries, fell from my lips in the course of a speech delivered at a 'public meeting' in 1849, when, in combating the views of those who were terrified at the aggressive power of Russia, I used the following words, accompanying them, I must confess, with the too dramatic action of crumpling a sheet of foolscap between my fingers:—'Should Russia make an attack upon this country, or on another great maritime power—like the United States—we should fall upon her like a thunder-bolt, and crumple that empire up in its own dreary fastnesses, in six months, by the aid of our shipping.'"

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

CHOLERA is now rapidly declining in London, and the deaths by it have fallen from 2050 in the first week to 754 in the last week of September.

The present epidemic eruption began later than the eruption of 1849, and it has latterly been more fatal; but the aggregate mortality will yet probably be less than it was in 1849; for the deaths by cholera in that year down to September 29th were 13,098, while the deaths in the present epidemic down to September 30th have been 9707.

Yet the loss of nearly ten thousand, or, including the deaths by diarrhoea, of twelve thousand lives, within a few weeks, in the chief city of the empire, is an appalling fact, demanding the strict investigation into all its details which the Board of Health has directed to be instituted.

Is London to continue every five years to be attacked by pestilence, and to lose so many thousands of its inhabitants? Cannot the conditions in which disease is fatal be determined, and cannot they be removed?

The 2216 deaths from all causes, registered in the week, include the deaths of many persons on whom inquests had been held in previous weeks.

In connection with the sanitary question some statistics of the Metropolitan Baths and Washhouses have been published. The committee for conducting these establishments complain that they have not been sufficiently used. On the outbreak of the cholera the general committee caused copies of an explanatory statement to be sent to the hospitals, dispensaries, and other public places in London, with a view to animate the public to a sense of the value of such institutions, and, moreover, hoping to encourage habitual cleanliness amongst the working and poorer classes; but little or no good resulted therefrom, as will be seen from the following statement:—1853, week ending September 24, at eight establishments in London, there were 18,157 bathers and 5399 washers, and the receipts amounted to 8237. 1s. 6d.; 1854, week ending September 28, at nine establishments in London, there were 21,286 bathers and 4827 washers, and the total receipts amounted to 8457. 11s. 5d.; whilst during the week ending July 29, 1854, at eleven establishments in London, there were 69,598 bathers and 7576 washers, the receipts being, in one week, 10357. 4s. 6d. Again, at the St. James's establishment, which is situate in the midst of the district recently so severely visited by the epidemic, the business has fallen off in a very marked manner, which is probably attributable to the circumstance that people have been afraid to enter that district.

In Liverpool cholera is on the decline.

The disease has made its appearance in the Isle of Skye. It still prevails in Oxford, but not to any great extent.

OUR CIVILISATION.

MARY MARTIN, a dissipated-looking old woman, was accused at the Southwark Police-court with attempting to stab her husband, because he would not give her money to buy liquor. He had separated from her on account of her intemperate habits, and made her an allowance. She was imprisoned for three months.

Sometimes, it appears, respectable persons are introduced by young women who believe themselves in danger of being led into evil ways. At Marylebone, Helena Le Grand told a story of her having been sent up to London by a Catholic priest at Leeds, with a recommendation to an institution for Catholic servants. She procured a situation as a servant in Arundel-street, Haymarket, but, believing the house to be one of an improper character, she left, and applied to the magistrate for relief. The secretary to the institution made inquiries, and showed that the house in question was entirely respectable; and on the occasion when that was proved, Miss Le Grand did not appear.

At Lambeth Police-court a lad was accused of inflicting a dangerous wound on his mother, and assaulting his father. He was of violent temper, and was in the habit of assaulting and beating children. His father remonstrated; he attacked him fiercely, and struck his mother on the forehead with a sharp instrument. He was imprisoned for three months.

Mary Donovan cohabited with Bridget Ward's husband, and, besides that, was constantly insulting and annoying the wife; and one day last week, after using the most disgusting language to Bridget, stabbed at her with a knife she took from her bosom, and cut her on the arm and face.

Patrick Mahoney had a grudge against a young married woman, Jane M'Ness, because she had been a witness against him for ill-using her niece. He met her, struck and kicked her, and knocked her child out of her arms; for which he was imprisoned for four months by the magistrate at Worship-street.

A waterman at Hull, named Joseph May, had been living apart from his wife, but one evening went to her lodgings, and proposed to sleep there. Early in the morning, he seized his wife and tried to cut her throat, inflicting fourteen wounds on her; but she struggled successfully against him, though so injured as not to be likely to recover. He then saved at his own throat, and will probably die from loss of blood.

The wife of the governor of the Blind Asylum, Old Trafford, near Manchester, was in the chapel attached to the Deaf and Dumb School, and during the communion service a well-dressed young man knelt beside her, and attempted to pick her pocket; he was detected, found to be a well-known Manchester thief, and committed to prison for three months.

A girl of twelve years of age, named Esther Harrison, who lived in Bethnal-green, was out all day in search of a situation. She sat down exhausted on the steps of Whitechapel Workhouse, and was accosted by John M'Grath, an elderly man, who offered to take her into his service at once. She declined, but he forced her into a house he said was his own, and where there was no one else but themselves; locked the street-door, and subjected her to the grossest violence. He detained her in the house, and slept with her every night from Friday to Tuesday, when she was discovered by her friends. The culprit said that everything had been done with the girl's assent; and the magistrate at Worship-street remanded the case for further evidence.

Eliza Watson, a girl of 14, put arsenic into the dumplings of her master, Mr. Walker, of Melton, near Hull, in order "to cure him of his bad temper." He ate, was very ill, but was able to free his stomach from what he had eaten, and was saved. The girl has been committed for trial.

Foreigners have appeared in our Courts of Law in a disadvantageous light this week. At the Middlesex sessions William Steinfeld, a German, was indicted for having stolen Prussian and Austrian bank-notes, value 50*l.*, and a gold watch, from Adele Rudgerkauski. The young lady, who is said to be pretty, is a Hungarian, and had been a milliner at Boulogne. She came to England in August, and was introduced to Steinfeld by a friend, Madame Schultz. He became her suitor; but on a certain day his wooing took the form of violation; after which she lived with him as his wife, and gradually parted with her 50*l.* and her watch, he promising to marry her. He was about to leave her, when she gave him into custody for theft. The defence for the prisoner was that the whole story was untrue; that she had not been violated, had no such sum of money in her possession, and that she was intending to "make money" in conjunction with "her pretty cousin Therese," whom she wished to send for from abroad, but had not sufficient money. The evidence for the defence did not satisfy the jury, and the prisoner was found guilty and imprisoned for nine months.

REMARKABLE CASES.

THERE have been one or two "causes célèbres" before the tribunals.

At the Exeter County Court an action was brought by Mr. J. Spencer, of Dawlish, against Mr. Charles Clifford, of Exeter, to recover 2*l.* for the maintenance, clothing, and care of a child. The evidence was of a most extraordinary character. The plaintiff's wife stated that in March, 1849, a lady, whom she pointed out as Mrs. Charles Clifford, came to her, and asked her to take a child for three months; the terms to be approved of by a Mr. Manley; and his approval was conveyed in a letter signed "Amelia Clifford;" and the same lady afterwards brought the child; which she visited from time to time, until some time before Midsummer of last year, since which time she had not seen her; and the money for the maintenance of the child had since become due. At that time she happened to see Mrs. Charles Clifford pass, recognised her as the lady, and applied to Mr. Charles Clifford for payment.

Mr. Charles Clifford said he knew about the birth of the child—that she was born before wedlock, and was placed in the country, and that the parties were now married. He then asked if she would pay her share of the expenses if he endeavoured to get her debt? A Mrs. Welsford who was present said she had better consult her husband upon the matter. Mr. Clifford then went to his wife, and said—"They will say by-and-by that it is ours, my dear." She saw Mr. Charles Clifford in the afternoon, and told him that she would be a share of the expenses. He said—"Very good, Mrs. Spencer; let me have your bill, and I will see you paid." She asked how she was to make out the bill, and he said, "Just as you have been in the habit of doing." That was, "Miss Clifford for Mr. Manley." She sent the bill on the following day by post, and on the Sunday after he wrote her, saying he wanted the two letters of Mr. Manley. She sent them. After waiting about three months, she called upon Mr. Charles Clifford, thinking she was to be paid. He took her to his brother William's, and they then said they would have nothing more to do with her. Mr. William Clifford still said he had a clue to the parties, but that as she was abusive, he would give it up.

Three other persons positively swore to Mrs. Charles Clifford's being the person who brought and used to visit the child.

The defence was, that these persons were entirely mistaken in the identity of the person; that Mrs. Clifford's name was "Matilda," not "Amelia," and no lady of the Clifford family bore that name; that Mrs. Clifford was married in 1848, and the child was two years old in 1849; while medical evidence, and that of persons intimately acquainted with her, was produced to show that there was no reason to suppose Mrs. Clifford had been in the family way before her marriage. Mrs. Clifford herself swore she had never left a child with Mrs. Spencer.

The judge, on this conflict of evidence, non-suited the plaintiff, saying that the action

Had been brought against Mr. Charles Clifford for the keep of a child—the child having been left, as was supposed, by Mrs. Charles Clifford under the care of Mrs. Spencer. Now, the only way in which Mr. Charles Clifford could be charged, was by considering that his wife was his direct agent in placing the child there, or that the child was the illegitimate child of Mrs. Clifford. With regard to the first, it was beyond all doubt that Mrs. Clifford, supposing her to be the person that placed the child there, was not his agent in so doing; and, in the second place, it was beyond all doubt that, whether it was her illegitimate child or not, he had no proof of it;—on the contrary, he had every proof that could reasonably be laid before him that it was not. She was known by respectable people, who had no knowledge of her being in the family way. Therefore, so far as the evidence went, unquestionably there was no evidence before him to show that the child was hers. As to the identity of the person, he must here acknowledge that when the plaintiff's case was concluded, he had not the slightest doubt whatever that Mrs. Charles Clifford was the person who placed the child there; but when he came to consider the evidence for the defence, he was so utterly shaken, that he now had no opinion upon the subject. He thought it likely that those five or six individuals who came to swear to her identity were mistaken. He thought it more likely that they should be mistaken, than that Mrs. Charles Clifford should be the person.

A very "mysterious" case was heard at Liskeard relative to the death of Mrs. Emily Watts, wife of Mr. William Watts, surgeon, formerly of Nottingham, now residing at New Brighton, near Liverpool, who was charged with having made false returns to the registrar as to the cause of death of his wife, which occurred on Monday, the 4th ult. Mrs. Watts took an injection of tobacco water on that morning, which produced death in the afternoon; and on the Wednesday her husband made a return to the registrar that she had died from constipation of the bowels and effusion into the abdomen. On the Saturday following an inquest was held, when the jury returned a verdict of "Died from an overdose

of tobacco." Informations were subsequently laid against Mr. Watts, at the instigation of the brother of the deceased, Mr. Barkworth, of Hull, for having made a false return to the registrar. Evidence was heard, but, although there appeared to be some suspicious circumstances attached to the case, nothing transpired to directly implicate Mr. Watts in having administered the tobacco water as an injection to his wife, or even that he had been cognizant of the fact, until the Wednesday evening after the death, when he was informed by their servant.

For the defence, medical evidence was adduced to show that death might have been occasioned by rupture of the abdomen, produced by long constipation, from which, it was admitted, the deceased suffered severely. The magistrates thought there was not sufficient evidence against Mr. Watts to send the case for trial.

THE DAUNTLESS AFFAIR.

LIEUTENANTS Knight and Seymour, of the Royal Marines, have been subjected to the ordeal of an investigation before the Magistrates of Portsmouth, on a charge of manslaughter, with reference to the death of the girl Matilda Lodge.

The evidence was again gone into at considerable length, but nothing decidedly new was elicited. Mr. Knight was defended by Mr. Parry, the barrister, who made a very able speech; apart from the mere dealing with the evidence, it contained this passage:—

How did Lieutenant Knight meet this girl? Why, in the most casual way in the world; in the streets of Portsmouth—as many an officer had met many a girl before, and as officers would continue to meet girls as long as officers were men and as long as women remained in Portsmouth. He regretted that Lieutenant Knight had so far forgotten himself as to take this girl on board; and this he regretted the more as it had given rise to insinuations regarding the Dauntless which were utterly baseless. The general assertion had been made that such orgies, as they were called, were common on board the Dauntless. Now, they had the evidence of Lieutenant Jervis that never since the ship had been commissioned had he seen anything of the sort—that not in any single instance had loose women been taken on board, except in this unhappy instance, which had been the source of so much bitter regret to Lieutenant Knight, and for which he must suffer, he knew, from the naval authorities. He (Mr. Parry) had also to add that there had been a miserable amount of cant in reference to this taking of the girl on board the hulk. If Lieutenant Knight had been guilty of harsh or unkind conduct towards the deceased—if he had lifted his little finger against her in any way when he ought not to have done it—they might then have vituperated him as much as they pleased—they might have allowed him to suffer the blame which he deserved; but, knowing as they did what was going on in society, knowing that a very thin veil of conventionality concealed it, knowing that such matters were constantly going on, there was, he said, a good deal of cant about the excitement and indignation which was displayed by our very moral public when this thin veil was torn off. He did not, of course, by any means, justify these matters, which were constantly occurring, but still he felt that there was too much cant displayed by the public in reference to such conduct as that complained of by some people against his client.

The magistrates came to the decision that there was no evidence to make out a case of manslaughter against either Mr. Knight or Mr. Seymour, and the charge was dismissed. In his concluding observations, the mayor observed:—

No blow, as far as we can see, has been struck by any one. On the other hand, it appears that deceased did fall twice, and, according to the medical testimony, these falls, or one of them, might have given such a shock, caused such a concussion to a distended bladder, as to cause it to burst; and, therefore, unless Lieutenant Knight, however reprehensible his conduct may be, however wrongly he may have acted—and he did act exceedingly wrongly and improperly in playing her as he did with stimulating drinks—however wrong he was to take so little interest in the unfortunate deceased, having her merely put into a boat and sending her out without seeing her, without displaying towards her any of those common feelings of humanity which he ought to have exhibited—he being the person who brought her, however improperly, into the ship—however reprehensible his conduct may have been—and it has certainly been very reprehensible—there is no point on which we can lay our hands and say that there is a point where there is a sufficient amount of evidence to justify us in sending Lieutenant Knight to take his trial on a charge of manslaughter. While we strongly condemn the course he took—and there is no excuse for the conduct pursued by him—we still feel that, in discharging our duties, in fulfilling which we are anxious to do what is just and right, we cannot, in justice to ourselves and the evidence produced before us, send him to take his trial on this charge; and, therefore, while we express a strong opinion and conviction as to his conduct, we must dismiss the charge. The charge against Lieutenants Knight and Seymour is dismissed. I would add,

that we trust, now that the investigation has been brought to a close, the public mind will be appeased, and that matters will be allowed to take their proper course on the decision to which we have come, and which decision, I have to add, is unanimous on the part of the bench.

Lieutenant Knight is under arrest on board the Dauntless, preparatory to his being tried by a court-martial.

THE DUKE OF CLEVELAND AND COLONEL GARRETT.

A CORRESPONDENCE has taken place between the Duke of Cleveland and Colonel Garrett of the Forty-sixth, in consequence of certain opinions on the discipline of the regiment expressed by the duke in his recent letters to the Mayor of Windsor.

Colonel Garrett asks the duke to point out in the evidence at the courts-martial anything to show that beyond the cases of Greer and Perry, he was justified in the remark, that, "If youths in the lower ranks of regiments are allowed to practise every sort of riot, drunkenness, and debauchery, and no notice taken of it by their commanders, are they to be made the victims and he to be let off scot-free, when, by his own culpable negligence, he has been the sole cause of it?—for such is the case with Colonel Garrett."

The duke replies, that as an Englishman he had a right to make observations on the colonel as a "public man," and denied his right to ask him to give his reasons for the opinions he had expressed, "were he merely a civilian; but still less had he a right to make such a request, in a military point of view, from his superior officer,"—and that the evidence on the whole justified his opinion.

The colonel rejoins, that he has commanded the regiment for fifteen years; and it had been inspected by eighteen general officers, whose opinions were the reverse of the duke's. He then sarcastically points out, by reference to dates, that "his superior officer" had only served in the army eleven years; declares that he has received offence, injury, and insult from the duke, and asks for an apology. To this he got no reply; and again he urges that the matter should be placed in the hands of a friend on each side, under the provisions of the Articles of War, which instituted that sort of arbitration among officers instead of duelling—"a practice," says the colonel, "which, ten years ago, would have brought such a matter as the one now at issue to a speedy settlement."

The duke declines, and leaves him to his "action for libel."

Colonel Garrett then says, that as that is all the redress he can get, he "must keep that course in view for his future guidance," and in the mean time he will publish the correspondence.

SIR WILLIAM MOLESWORTH AT EDINBURGH.

THE freedom of the city of Edinburgh—as was pathetically said by the Lord Provost, "all it has to give"—was bestowed on Sir W. Molesworth on Saturday last. The chief magistrate took the occasion to express a good deal of confidence in the present Government.

Sir William returned thanks at length, and was firstly unable to find words to express his gratification at such a mark of respect from "so great and renowned a city—renowned both in ancient history and modern science; renowned for its philosophers, historians, poets, and divines." But he had peculiar gratification because, said he,

I am connected with this city by the ties both of birth and education. By both I am half a Scotchman. I am proud of my Scotch blood, and of belonging to the same family as David Hume, the historian and philosopher. In the University of Edinburgh I was educated under Leslie, Jameson, and other eminent professors. In my youth I was so fortunate as to enjoy the acquaintance and to profit by the conversation of Sir Walter Scott, Jeffrey, Brewster, Sir William Hamilton, Sir John Sinclair, James Mill, and other distinguished Scotchmen. I am, therefore, attached to Edinburgh by the feelings of gratitude, affection, and admiration; and the strength of those feelings has not been diminished by an absence of many years. Since I left Edinburgh I have visited many of the most celebrated cities in Europe, but none of them ever appeared to me to compare in beauty with the metropolis of Scotland, which has also been much adorned of late years. I am, therefore, delighted at the honour you have done me in enrolling me among your freemen.

He was grateful for the approbation expressed of his political opinions, believing them to be sound; and they did not interfere with his taking office under Lord Aberdeen.

When I joined that Government, though I had not the honour to be personally acquainted with Lord Aberdeen, I had great respect and admiration for his public character. I felt convinced that I could become a mem-

ber of his Government without any compromise of principle, especially as my noble friend, Lord John Russell, the distinguished, acknowledged, and justly-recognised leader of the Liberal party, whom I have generally followed, and hope to continue to follow in public life, had consented to hold an influential position in Lord Aberdeen's Administration. Nor have my hopes and expectations been disappointed. My respect and admiration for Lord Aberdeen has been confirmed and strengthened by personal acquaintance. I found him to be a sincere, earnest, straightforward, liberal, and enlightened gentleman—an honour to Scotland—a statesman of whom every Scotchman ought to be proud—whose only object in taking office was to promote the good Government of his country, and whose chief wish in retaining office is firmly and energetically to maintain the honour and dignity of Great Britain, in the arduous contest in which we are now engaged—in the just and necessary war which the responsible Ministers of the Crown have felt it their duty to advise her Majesty to declare against the Emperor of Russia.

The remainder of the speech was a very general view, indeed, of Ministerial policy in reference to the war, which told nothing, as was of course intended.

TORY POLICY NEXT SESSION.

RECENTLY we stated that the indications of what was to be the Tory policy had begun to resolve themselves into a certainty, and that "Protestantism" was to be the cry, and Mr. Disraeli the chief crier. At the same moment the *Press*, appearing on the very same day, was labouring with a manifesto which stamps our prophecy as true.

The constitution of England is laid down by our brilliant but illogical contemporary to have been for three centuries Protestant, and in the vanguard of its defenders have ever been the "Irish Protestants, a race and a people whom successive governments have tacitly agreed to overlook or injure." And as a general principle, it is really time that the question of the Protestantism of the state should be decided. It is asserted,

"This is a conviction fast gaining ground in Ireland as in other parts of the empire. We see it recorded this week that 'the Protestant Association of the county of Down, the Kent of Ireland, has come forward' to express its hope that the member for Bucks will bring in a measure to 'vindicate the Protestant Constitution of the country.' There are few shires even in England that can compete with the county of Down in the mingled influences of numbers, wealth, and an educated population. Pre-eminently Protestant, it is the prosperous seat of thriving manufactures; it has several first-class peers, a highly opulent gentry, and a sturdy yeomanry. Its proper designation would be the *Yorkshire* of Ireland, rather than its Kent. And it is this county which, at a public meeting presided over by a gentleman of station and influence, has responded to Mr. Disraeli's words on the vital necessity for vindicating the Protestant Constitution."

"Facts like this and others in our possession justify our belief that before long the public mind will be steadily fixed on this serious subject. But in vain will opinion be excited if it does not, as we most sincerely trust it will, receive statesmanlike guidance. The Protestant sentiment of the land must not be allowed to evaporate, as under the claptrap policy of the writer of the Durham letter, or presumptuously sported with, as in the case of Mr. Chambers and the Conventual question. Without the discretion that chooses a vigorous and practical line of action, it would be vain to expect any permanently beneficial, or largely influential results. Distinct objects must be aimed at; principles that will stand the test of long discussion adopted, and mere offensive clamour be avoided. Our position is essentially one of defence. In this great cause we are not the aggressors, nor have we originated the discussion. It has been raised in the most offensive manner by the ambition of propagandist Rome."

Against this the *Press* exhorts Tories and Protestants to act on the defensive, and declares that the conduct of Rome can only be met

"By a policy in harmony with our Constitution, which, while preserving the civil and religious privileges of all our fellow-subjects, shall fix the limit beyond which Romish aggression must not be permitted to advance."

"It is in the power of the Protestants of Ireland to promote this policy by making common cause with the Protestants of the empire, and by the firm and temperate expression of their sentiments. We do justice to their many noble qualities, and we respect their zeal, and hope it will ever be tempered with the discretion they have lately manifested. Protestantism is too high and pure a principle to be associated with badges and colours, or even with dynastic remembrances. Its genuine triumph is not the ascendancy of a party, but the equal rights of a people. It concedes the utmost freedom of thought and action that is consistent with the preservation of freedom. But it is impossible for any

truly Protestant State to permit the existence of a confederacy which is a perpetual menace to its peace, and is inconsistent with that liberty of the subject which it is its first duty to protect."

Mr. Lucas seems to have made up his mind what to expect. In the *Tablet* of last week he traces the gradual approach of Mr. Disraeli last session to entire cohesion with Mr. Spooner, who so often pathetically lamented the one point of difference between him and his right honourable friend. Mr. Lucas points out the significance of articles in the *Morning Herald* and the *Press*, connecting Mr. Disraeli with some such movement, followed up as it is by the addresses to him from Protestant Associations, and says:—

"From all these indications I suppose we may draw the inference that next session there is to be in Parliament a desperate anti-Catholic crusade from the fanatics on both sides of the House, and that of this crusade, if he finds it convenient, Mr. Disraeli is to be the leader."

Judging from Mr. Disraeli's recorded opinions, Mr. Lucas seems to think that "whatever phrases he may use to advance the purposes of the moment, no human being believes in his zeal for Protestantism;" and if all this comes to pass, he can only say:—

"That Protestantism has taken many strange shapes, and will take many stranger; but I think it will be one of the strangest if the man who has ostentatiously put forward these sentences as part of his religious creed should appear as the leader and chosen advocate of Protestantism in its struggles for the supremacy of what they call religious truth. Their leader—for they hail him as their leader, and will gratefully accept his guidance if he will stoop to lead them—boldly avows his belief that there was no crime in the crucifixion of the Son of God; that His murderers are free from blame; and that we are to contemplate their act with gratitude. The 'immolators,' as he calls the murderers of Our Lord, are to be revered along with their 'victim,' as both equally belonging to the 'holy race.' Annas and Caiaphas, Judas and Herod, the priests who instigated, and the rabble who shouted 'Crucify Him, crucify Him,' all are placed by this defender of Protestantism in the same category with the Redeemer of Mankind; for them he claims our reverence; he absolves them from blame; and he awards to them our 'trembling gratitude.' If there is to be a new persecution of the Catholics, it is some consolation to us to reflect that in this new crusade the flag of Protestantism will be carried by a gentleman who entertains these peculiar opinions. Mr. Disraeli has a perfect right to his opinion, however wild, or however extravagant. I am not arguing against that. I content myself with pointing out the strange conjuncture of circumstances which places in the van of Exeter Hall one who, if we rightly understand his words, and if he means what he professes, reveres and worships the betrayers and crucifiers of Our Lord. If it is in that interest Catholic nuns are to be persecuted, and the Catholic Church legislated against, it is well so singular a fact should be made patent to the world."

RUSSIAN AND FINNISH PRISONERS.

THERE has been fighting between the Russian and Finnish prisoners on board the Benbow and Devonshire:

They are crowded together, nearly eleven hundred in two ships. They are well fed, with nothing to do; none of them seeming inclined to pursue such a course of ingenious industry as that which so remarkably distinguished the French prisoners in England in the early part of this century. They seem to resemble the English prisoners in France [as the latter were described by the French]: they sit stupidly idle after one meal, talking about how long it is to the next, or gambling for tobacco and spirits with cards, dice, or other instruments of hazard: or when warmed by strong drink, of which by some means they find more than enough, they discuss the political merits of Russia, her past conquests, present system of government, and her probable future. The Finlanders detest everything Russian, and are not slow to call the loyal subjects of the Emperor—their present fellow prisoners—cowards. The loyal Russians throw back the charge. The Fins, chiefly a corps of riflemen, reiterate that no defence was made at Bomarsund except by them and the Finnish artillery. The loyal Russians, indignant at this assertion, appeal to the fact, which they allege to be notoriously true, that the Fins, being political as well as natural aliens to Russia, are bad subjects and bad soldiers, added to which they are not orthodox Christians, but a people who mingle ancient paganism, the worship of Odin and Thor, with a species of Christianity which has neither a church nor a priesthood.

These disputes waxed so warm, that last week there was a general battle; they grappled in pairs, and after a wrestle fell on the deck, kicking, biting, and throttling. The disturbance was only put an end to by a threat that they would be fired on by the sentries. They are to be separated.

THE ENGLISH PRISONERS IN RUSSIA.*

A PLAIN narrative of the events connected with the unfortunate capture of the Tiger at Odessa would undoubtedly be received with interest from the hands of one of the officers of the ship. Lieutenant Royer was peculiarly fitted to give the best account of what befel the English prisoners, as he was taken to St. Petersburg and placed in constant personal communication with the Emperor and the Court, not without a special object, as there is internal evidence in Mr. Royer's book to show.

The history of the capture of the Tiger and the adventures of the prisoners are related in a simple, straightforward style, with only the drawback of a most decided leaning towards everything Russian, evidently derived from the peculiar influences brought to bear on the author. He received great civility on his arrival at St. Petersburg, and was released on parole under the following conditions:—

1st. That I was at liberty to go anywhere I pleased about the city, but was always to be accompanied by an officer.

2nd. That I was not to communicate with any English subjects, except the Rev. Dr. Law, the Chaplain to the Embassy at St. Petersburg.

3rd. I was allowed to have any books or papers I chose to ask for, but all letters that I wrote or received were to pass through the office of the Commander-in-Chief.

To crown their liberality, the colonel produced a portfolio, with pen, ink, and paper, which he placed on the table, recommending me to make notes of my residence in Russia.

The liberty to "take notes on Russia" was significant, but the meaning of the permission was made manifest by an incident when Lieutenant Royer was released.

I received a message from the Minister of War, expressing a desire to see me. I proceeded at once into his presence. He again congratulated me on my release, and added, that his Imperial Majesty had ordered him to present me with a sword, which he trusted would not be unwelcome from its being Russian, as they had not an English one to give me in place of mine. He hoped it would serve as a memorial of the treatment I had met with in Russia; and concluded by observing, that he had no doubt I should speak well of them, and assure my countrymen that they were not such barbarians as the papers had represented them.

From the Emperor and the royal family Lieutenant Royer received personal marks of attention, which, if intended to have given a tone to "his notes on Russia," were not without effect. Here is his account of an interview with the Emperor, in which he is painted decidedly "en beau":—

The Emperor was standing in the middle of the room, dressed in the plain dark-blue uniform of a General-in-Chief, and wore a simple white enamelled cross at the button-hole on his chest. This, I believe, was the cross of the Order of St. George, an honour conferred only upon persons who have rendered important services to their country. I imagine that his Imperial Majesty has not yet assumed the decoration of the highest class of the Order, which is worn by such men as Paskewitch, Woronzoff, etc., and which was described to me as different in size from that worn by the Emperor. I expected to see a fine tall man, but was not prepared to find his Imperial Majesty so much superior to the generality of men in height and appearance. He certainly did not look more than fifty; nor were there any particular signs of care on his countenance, at least not more than one sees in every man of his age. His features were fine and regular, his head bald in the centre, and his eye expressive of mildness, quite in accordance with his words.

I was aware that his Majesty spoke both English and French, and hoped that he would address me in my native tongue. As I bowed and stepped forward, he addressed me as "Monsieur le Lieutenant," and inquired after my health, whether I had got rid of my fever, and how and where I had caught it. He asked me about the loss of the Tiger, and inquired why we had not anchored, being so near the land. I replied that the fog was very thick, and that by our reckoning we were some distance from land when the vessel struck. He asked if I was married, made some kind inquiries respecting the family of my late captain, and informed me that Mrs. Giffard was gone to Odessa to join her husband, not having heard of his death.

His Imperial Majesty then said, that it had been his intention to grant the captain his liberty; but as that was now impossible, he would extend that grace to me as the next in command, and asked me how I should like to go home.

I was quite taken aback by this announcement, as

although I had been told at Odessa that I should have my liberty, still I did not anticipate that it would be granted so soon and so freely. I was therefore unprepared to answer the question as to my intended route, and said that I really had not thought of it; upon which his Imperial Majesty burst into a fit of laughter, much amused at my surprise and embarrassment, and said, "Allez donc, pensez-y (Go and think about it), and let me know this evening, through the Minister of War, what road you would like to take." He then bowed me out of the room.

Even while at Odessa, Lieutenant Royer's impressions of Russians were favourable. It appears that

General Osten Sacken paid daily visits to the captain and officers, and to the hospital. He was much gratified at seeing William Tanner (who had been wounded, and who recovered) occupied, whenever he visited him, in reading his Bible; and he expressed great approbation of his conduct, being himself of a religious turn of mind. Indeed, such were his kindly feelings and religious tendency of thought, that he never visited the establishment without going to the graves of his enemies, where, absorbed in meditation, he might be seen crossing himself and offering up prayer to the Lord of Hosts.

Mr. Royer visited the Opera-house at Odessa, and was

Accommodated in the governor's box, where he had the "satisfaction" of looking at the ladies through the identical opera-glass that had been used by his Excellency Osten Sacken when watching the progress of the attack on the Luckless Tiger.

At the same time some pictures of Russian life are given, which decidedly balance the more laudatory portions of the book. As an instance of Russian indifference to the lives or comforts of common men, take this:—

When the English prisoners were in quarantine, a piece of paper, on which we had written a list of the crew that were present, and which was no longer needed, was torn up and thrown to the winds. One of the Russian officers perceiving this, gave orders to a sergeant, who selected one of the soldiers, and causing him to give up his accoutrements, sent him amongst us to pick up all the little bits of paper, lest contagion should be communicated, either physically or politically. And thus this man had to perform quarantine the same number of days that we had, although, without any undue assumption of harshness, we might have been ordered to pick up the pieces ourselves.

Again:—

The Russians were much struck with the great care taken of the Englishmen by their superiors, when they saw the abundance of materials landed for their comfort; and it consoled the men in their isolation, convincing them that they were not forgotten, or likely to be neglected, by their country.

Notwithstanding all the Imperial kindness to Lieutenant Royer, he was not permitted to travel to the frontier unaccompanied by a police agent, who joined him at Warsaw. At the frontier station, he says,

The police agent took up his abode in a room which opened just opposite to mine. He paid me repeated visits, excusing himself, however, for depriving me of his good company by saying he had some friends to supper, and asked me to join them. But I felt I could well dispense with his civilities, and wished him anywhere else. About eleven o'clock he came in again, and asked me, with many expressions of politeness and excuses for disturbing me, if I would allow a bed to be put up for him in the corner of my room, as there was no other place in the hotel! Knowing who my man was, I of course felt that it would be useless to object; so I put the best face I could on the matter, and he installed himself accordingly.

AUSTRALIA.

THE arrival of the new governor of Victoria, Sir Charles Hotham, on 21st July, has caused some displays intended to show that he is popular. Mrs. Chisholm has been welcomed more quietly, but she seems to have a large share of appreciation in the colony. Improvements are going on rapidly. The harbour of Geelong is being made a port by the removal of a bar dividing the outer from the inner harbour, and a Chamber of Commerce has been established there. There are three railways in progress in the colony of Victoria:—1. The Geelong and Melbourne Railway, the completion of which has been promised in about eighteen months. 2. The Melbourne, Mount Alexander, and Murray River Railway, which has been commenced at Williamstown, and will be completed as far as Melbourne (nine miles) in about one year. 3. The Hobson's Bay Railway, which was to be ready for opening on the 1st of August, and the pier will then be so far completed as to unload vessels drawing ten feet of water.

Among other works of progress the establishment

of electric communication deserves to be noticed. A line has been in active operation between the capital and Williamstown, a distance of nine miles, for the last four months, and is being daily used by the shipping agents and merchants.

The gold-diggings flourish, and "digging" is more than ever becoming a "settled pursuit." As regards trade, there is a complaint of "too great importation;" there is a "glut of merchandise" in Melbourne.

The "social and political condition" of the colony is thus stated by the *Melbourne Argus*:—

"In our social condition there is not much change to remark, but what change we have to report is significant of improvement. It is to be expected that the assimilation of society here to the character of that at home will be gradual, even if such assimilation ever should take place.

"There is still, we are bound to confess, a great absence generally of domestic comfort in Melbourne. Only a small proportion of the population can know what it really is. The want of houses, and the consequent high rate of rental already referred to, render it necessary that the people should be crowded together in their dwellings to the almost total exclusion of real comfort. In many cases people are crowded together so as to interfere even with decency. This cannot but exercise an injurious influence on the morality of the people.

"Deeply, however, as we are tainted with the vice of drunkenness, there does not seem to be any reason to believe that the habit is on the increase. The imprudent and idle, who were always in difficulties at home, manage by the same courses to surround themselves with similar embarrassments here. But on the other hand, the great majority of our mechanics and labourers are of a decidedly superior and really respectable class. They are hard working, steady, economical men, and would do credit to any country. It is to be hoped that the evils of bad dwellings and streets will be much, if not entirely abated. A great amount of labour is being expended on the streets and roads; and though these operations, while in progress, are far from conducive to comfort, we may hope that their results will be so. Our footpaths are at last exciting some attention, and various experiments are in progress with a view to ascertain the best mode of forming them."

The appointment of "Mr. Stonor" is thus spoken of by the same paper:—

"The colonists have just been scandalised with another instance of the old régime in the appointment of Mr. Stonor to the Melbourne bench. Anybody was deemed good enough, it would appear, for a colonial judgeship; and so, because of some claim which the brother of this gentleman had upon the Colonial Minister—for his testimonials do not seem to have been opened—Mr. Stonor is nominated to that important office. That gentleman landed here about a month ago, and found that his suspension had arrived before him. Even had this not been the case, the fact that he had been convicted of bribery by a select committee of the House of Commons would have aroused sufficient indignation here to have prevented him from taking his seat or finding barristers to plead in his court."

The labour-market is reported thus:—

"MELBOURNE LABOUR-MARKET, JULY 20.

"The number of arrivals of agricultural labourers by late vessels has had some slight effect on the wages of general unskilled labour. This is also the slack time of the year for farmers. Skilled mechanics of all kinds find ready employment at the rates given below. Female servants are rather more plentiful, but really useful ones are eagerly sought after. With rations—Married couples, without family, 80l. to 90l. per annum; ditto, with family, 70l. to 80l. ditto; shepherds, 45l. to 52l. ditto; hutkeepers, 30l. to 40l. ditto; general useful servants, 17. 10s. to 17. 15s. per week; bullock-drivers on farms, 37. to 37. 10s. ditto; ditto for the roads, 37. 10s. to 47. ditto; stockkeepers, 60l. to 80l. per annum; good farm labourers, 17. 10s. to 17. 15s. per week; ploughmen, 27. to 27. 10s. ditto; gardeners, 80l. to 100l. per annum; cooks, male, 37. 10s. to 47. 10s. per week; waiters, 17. 10s. to 17. 15s. ditto; grooms, 60l. to 75l. per annum. The weekly rations consist of 10lbs. flour, 10lbs. beef or mutton, 2lbs. sugar, and 3lb. tea. Without rations:—Compositors, 2s. 6d. per thousand; ditto, 7l. 7s. per week; good house carpenters, town work, 17. 5s. to 17. 7s. per day; masons, 17. 5s. to 17. 10s. ditto; wood-splitters and fencers, 12s. 6d. per load; blacksmiths, for country work and shoeing, 17. to 17. 5s. per day; labourers on the roads, with wood, water, and tent accommodation, 12s. to 13s. per day. Seamen for London, for the run home, 45l.; ditto, Calcutta, 35l.; Callao, 35l.; coasting, 97. to 107. per month. Female servants:—Thorough servants, 30l. to 35l. per annum; housemaids, 30l. to 35l. ditto; laundresses, 40l. to 52l. ditto; nursemaids, 25l. to 30l. ditto; cooks, 45l. to 100l. ditto."

"ADELAIDE LABOUR-MARKET.

"Per annum with board and lodging: Domestic servants—male 45l. to 65l.; female, 16l. to 26l.; farm servants—married couples, 47l. to 70l.; single men, 50l. to 60l.; shepherds, 35l. to 50l. Per week, with board and lodging: Butchers, 17. 10s. to 27. 10s.; bakers, 27. 8s. to 27. 14s.; bullock-drivers, 25s. to 30s.; confectioners, 27. 12s. Per day, without board and lodging: Blacksmiths,

* Personal Narrative of the First Lieutenant of the Tiger. By Alfred Royer, R.N. Chapman and Hall.

14s. to 16s.; bricklayers, 17s.; bullock-drivers, 8s. 4d.; carpenters, 14s. to 16s.; cabinet-makers, 14s. to 15s.; carriage-makers, 16s. to 17s.; coopers, 10s. to 12s.; engineers, 12s. to 20s.; ironfounders, 12s. to 18s.; masons, 16s. to 17s.; millers, 10s. to 12s.; miners, 6s. to 8s.; painters, &c., 10s. to 12s.; plasterers, 17s.; saddlers, 10s. to 12s.; shoemakers, 8s. to 10s.; shoeing smiths, 17s.; tanners, 10s. to 12s.; watchmakers, 15s. to 20s.; wheelwrights, 16s. to 18s. Piece work: Brick-makers, 25s. per 1000; sawyers, 15s. to 20s. per 100; tailors, 1s. per hour; wheat thrashers, 1s. per bushel; day labourers, 8s. to 10s."

South Australia was once thought a more hopeful colony than Victoria. The gold discoveries have made the latter what it now is, but the former is profiting nevertheless. Late accounts state:—

"South Australia is now being benefited by the gold discoveries, for her produce in the shape of flour, hay, &c., has opened up an extensive trade with Victoria; and if in Victoria gold can be dug, here some of the finest grain is grown for the use of the digger. For some time past trade has been sluggish, partly from apprehension as to the solvency of some Melbourne merchants, and also from the great and unusual dryness of the season, no rain scarcely having fallen for nearly nine months; the consequence has been that seed has been sown two or three times over, without any beneficial result, and if abundant rain does not soon fall, scarcity will be felt.

"The Government still continue to receive large sums from their weekly land sales, and dispense those sums with prudence. There is a railroad in progress to the port. A senate house is nearly finished, besides other public works, all tending to improve Adelaide. A very large sum is annually voted to promote emigration, but it is found that, in spite of the large number of emigrants sent out from England, the price of labour is not reduced. Many persons take advantage of the emigration fund to come out to Adelaide, and they go off to the gold-fields as soon as possible.

"So much is a prolific field of gold thought necessary to relieve the colony from its present sluggishness, that a fund is being collected to the amount of 10,000*l.* to promote so desirable a discovery. Gold in small quantities has been already found at Echunga, about twenty-nine miles from Adelaide. It is the general opinion that plenty of gold could be found in that country if a proper search were made. Land rules high in Adelaide, and acre blocks, that once sold for 12s., have since produced 6000*l.*"

ELECTIONS.

WIGAN.—Mr. Acton, the Liberal candidate, has been returned for this borough by a majority of five over Mr. Powell, the Conservative.

FROME.—The canvass in this borough is going on actively; Mr. Donald Nicholl, ex-Sheriff of London, having entered the field on the Liberal interest, to oppose Lord Dungarvon, the nominee of the Earl of Cork.

LIMERICK.—There is a vacancy in the representation of this borough by the sudden death of Mr. Robert Potter. Serjeant O'Brien, Mr. W. H. Barrington, Mr. de Courcy O'Grady, Alderman Watson, the Mayor of Limerick, and Mr. John Reynolds, are all spoken of as candidates.

THE IRISH TENANT LEAGUE.

It appears that the recent conference at Dublin has not been without results. The *Nation* has a manifesto in these terms:—

The Conference declares that no Tenant Right Bill, conformable to the Resolutions of the Conference of 1852 and 1853, was introduced in the last Session of Parliament—and that thereby a great injury has been done to the tenant cause. Another Conference is to be held before the meeting of Parliament in order to decide upon the members to whom the charge of the question is to be entrusted next Session. Meantime the sense of the country is to be taken at a series of county meetings.

The meaning of this course plainly is, the removal of the charge of the bill from Mr. Sergeant Shee's hands. We are very sorry that the necessity for such a course has arisen. But we think no impartial friend of the cause can have watched certain recent proceedings of the learned serjeant without coming to the same conclusion that the Council have at last pressed.

The Recess will not be idly spent by the League. A series of county meetings, such as began the agitation four years ago, is proposed—the first to be held in Kilkenny. Let the farmers understand that their own apathy has damaged the question quite as much as the misunderstanding with reference to its management, which this Conference has at last terminated—and be prepared to do their part in making it march.

MR. JOHN MACGREGOR AT GLASGOW.

The "account of his stewardship" given by Mr. J. Macgregor to his constituents, could hardly have been satisfactory to the honourable member at the time, judging from the accounts in the local papers. But it seems that they have not yet done with him. The *Glasgow Sentinel* speaks thus editorially:—

"I do not consider myself anything but a person under the influence of the infirmities of humanity," was the deprecatory remark made last week by Mr. John Macgregor at Glasgow, apparently under the quite mistaken impression that his constituents were about to fall down and worship him. There was, however, no manifestation of such spirit—indeed quite the contrary; yet the expectation was not altogether unreasonable, for he has sacrificed much, if not all, for them, and if they do not believe in and respect him, who shall? Never did a member, or at least a member with any position to lose, give up so much to the silliest clamours and lowest bigotries of his constituents—office, reputation, perhaps self-respect—and all for nothing. There was only one piece of dirt that he would not swallow—his soul or stomach rose in rebellion against the drivell about "Scottish right." Last Thursday, he even went so far as to tell a Glasgow "public meeting" that the thing was very absurd; but though he largely qualified this bit of truth with some of their own nonsense, they virtually forced him on his knees, and held him by the nose till he swallowed the whole of the deleterious compound. We do not say that it was the people of Glasgow that perpetrated this cruelty and folly, but only the busy-bodies who falsely so call themselves, and whom Mr. John Macgregor acknowledges and obeys. Since Pistol ate his leek there has been nothing so pitiable—nor even then, for the consolation of "swearing," of course was not permitted.

A "Correspondent" is equally unsparing:—

I presume that Mr. Macgregor's address to his constituents in the Merchants' Hall, on Thursday week, was a piece of formality meant to atone for his want of attendance, in the House of Commons during the past session, to the interests of Glasgow and of Scotland. When the electors of this city supported that gentleman at the last general election, it was altogether on public grounds, and not in any degree from personal attachment or admiration, a single hearing of our honourable member being quite sufficient to show that if supported at all, it must be from principle, and not from anything fascinating about either his intellect or his eloquence. A more exquisite compound of egotism and imbecility could not well be conceived than the piece of rigmorale to which I listened; and did I take Mr. Macgregor as an average specimen of our senators, it would add tenfold force to the satire of the philosopher about the little wisdom with which the world is governed.

MONASTIC ORDERS IN IRELAND.

THERE is evident movement in the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland. A correspondent of the *Times* says:—

"After an absence of 200 years the 'Black Friars of St. Dominic' have revisited the scene of their former labours. Such is the triumphant boast of a writer in the *Tralee Chronicle*, who, doubtless, with a view of bespeaking a good reception for the restored sheep, reminds the public generally that the 'fell spirit of persecution' that animated the Reformers under Henry VIII. and his daughter Elizabeth has not utterly extinguished the illustrious order of Friar Preachers in their eagerness to despoil them of their property.' The time chosen for this happy 'revival' does not seem to be the most opportune, but then, as a set-off, the Protestants of Tralee are confidently assured that they have nothing to fear from the advent of the Black Knights of St. Dominic. Nay, if they (heretics though they be) attended to their preaching, they will not, of course, hear anything offensive to them or their religion—they will not be troubled with controversy—far from it—but will only hear a 'clear and lucid exposition of Catholic doctrine, undisguised by lies and calumnies,' &c. All these fine promises may be taken for what they are worth; but, in the meantime, most impartial persons will be of opinion that a rather quiet county would not be a whit the worse had the leave of absence been granted to the 'order' by Henry VIII. and his daughter Elizabeth been indefinitely extended beyond the long period that has since intervened."

Again the Catholic University is on the eve of opening.

"According to the *Freeman's Journal*, 'in less than a month hence one of the dearest wishes of the Holy Father shall have been consummated, and Catholic Ireland shall have witnessed the auspicious opening of an institution destined to give a new impulse and a new tone (perfectly new indeed) to education in this country.' The University house in St. Stephen's-green has been for sometime undergoing alterations to fit it for its high destination. It will open for the reception of students, by the beginning of November next, when the academic course commences; and, to crown all, an efficient staff of lecturers and professors is already appointed."

There was a "Tribute Sunday" for the University.

THE QUEEN ON THE RAILWAY.

WHEN her Majesty travels, she rather seems to like the popular demonstrations along her route. There has been a misunderstanding on this point during the late journey to Scotland.

"It was understood that instructions had been sent to

the various stations on the railway route by which she was to travel, intimating, as her Majesty's wish, that the platforms should be kept perfectly clear as the royal train passed. It was said that the instructions were issued by her Majesty's equerry, General Grey; and, acting on their presumed authority, the directors of the Scottish Central Railway kept their stations clear, both at Perth and at Stirling. It turns out, however, says the *Perth Advertiser*, that no such instructions were issued; but when the royal train rolled into the station, there was nothing but blank walls all around. The Queen, as well as Sir George Grey, noticed the absence of the people, and wished to know the reason why. The apocryphal instructions were adduced in explanation; upon which the too credulous railway people were told that no such instructions had been given. Meanwhile, the Earl of Mansfield and party were standing without—so inexorably were the Queen's "wishes" enforced; and not without a royal order was his lordship admitted. The magistrates met the previous evening, to deliberate as to whether they should not make an exception in favour of themselves, and decided on a vote of exclusion, with only two dissentients. Altogether it is a ludicrous business; but though it must be painfully so in some quarters, it is yet highly proper it should be known that the public were excluded, not by royal order, but by railway mistake. On this point a letter from General Grey is quite explicit. He says, in a letter to one of her Majesty's household:—"I was going to ask you to take any opportunity you might have of explaining to the provost and bailies of Perth that I was not cognizant of any order of any kind relative to the platforms at which the Queen might stop, except the usual one—that where the Queen might leave the railway carriage, care should be taken that the ladies of the suite should not be prevented from following her by the spectators; and this could only apply to York (where she stopped for luncheon), to Edinburgh, and Banchory. It is still more desirable that you should, if the opportunity should offer, correct the impression that the Queen has experienced either annoyance or inconvenience on any former occasion. I am certain, on the contrary, that she has always felt and expressed herself as pleased and gratified at the reception she has invariably met with at the different stations at which she has stopped."

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE INDIAN PRINCE AND SIR CHARLES WOOD.—The Maha-rajah Duleep Singh, Prince of Lahore, has been on a visit to the President of the Board of Control, and was lionised at Doncaster last week. His Highness, who was attired in Eastern costume and mounted on a splendid Arab charger, after a brief stay at the Royal Hotel was introduced to the bench of magistrates at the petty sessions at the Guildhall, where he remained some time witnessing the administration of justice. His Highness was also introduced to the board of guardians, and was subsequently conducted through the markets and principal thoroughfares of the town. The object of the Prince appeared to be to make himself acquainted with the institutions, manners and customs of our country, and he paid marked attention to all he saw.

LORD ABERDEEN AT HOME.—The Town Council of Aberdeen have got a picture of Lord Aberdeen, the result of a subscription of the citizens of that town, and which is to be placed in the Town-hall on the 9th. They have invited the Premier, who is in the north, to be present, and he has promised to devote the last day of his stay to that purpose. An address is to be presented to him, approving of his policy with respect to the war.

A NEW PARK AT MACCLESFIELD.—A public park was opened at Macclesfield on Monday. A portion of the land necessary for the purpose was provided by private subscriptions. It is remarkable that the Marquis of Westminster, as Lord-Lieutenant of Cheshire, and the Earl of Harrington, as owner of Gawsorth, a neighbouring village, assisted at the proceedings, which were attended by a vast body of the manufacturing population, and that the "employers" of the labour present did not "lead."

AN ECCLESIASTICAL MINISTER OF STATE.—The High Church party have sometimes an original notion. Their organ, the *Guardian*, strongly recommends and urges the necessity of the erection of a Secretary of State for Ecclesiastical Affairs, who should be entitled to a seat in the Cabinet. Would Sir R. Inglis do? Or Mr. Lucas?

AN ADDITION TO THE EPISCOPAL BENCH.—The county of Cornwall wants a bishop to itself. A few days since a general meeting of the clergy of the county was held at Bodmin to petition the Crown to form that county into a see separate from Exeter. A vote of thanks having been given to the Rev. Dr. Walker for his offer of the incumbency of St. Columb for the provision for a bishop, which is worth upwards of 1600*l.*, a petition to the Queen was unanimously adopted. It stated that the diocese of Exeter contains 922,000 souls, and is more than 150 miles in length, being the most extensive, and, with few exceptions, the most populous diocese in the kingdom. The population of Cornwall at the last census was 355,000, for whom there is only one archdeacon. The nearest part of Cornwall to the city of Exeter, the residence of the bishop, is upwards of 40 miles, while some parts are not less than 120 miles! Another petition to the Bishop of Exeter, who has expressed himself in favour of the movement, was also adopted.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Burgess of Sheffield" should give his name and address.

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

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

All letters for the Editor should be addressed to 7, Wellington-street, Strand, London.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1854.

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.—DE. ARNOLD.

THE CAMPAIGN IN THE CRIMEA—WHAT IT LEADS TO.

For all political purposes, it may be assumed that Sebastopol is taken.

After the great military achievements of the Crimea, commence the great political difficulties. There is a diplomatic Sebastopol still.

Emperor Francis Joseph, receiving a telegraphic announcement of the battle of Alma, sends a message of congratulation to Emperor Napoleon. "Austria," say all the profound publicists, "will join the Western Allies, now that she sees the cause of Russia is hopeless." No doubt. Austria saves Russia by joining England and France. The Austrian diplomatists have proved themselves, in this last phase of the Eastern question, to be the first statesmen of Europe: they comprehend that the military war tends to become a political war; and they intercept a declaration of war against Despotism by bringing one-half of the forces of Despotism into the camp of Liberalism. They thus not only save Russia, Hungary, and Italy, but they bid for the Principalities,—Turkey to take the Crimea.

It would, no doubt, be a grotesque conclusion of the war against Russia to aggrandise Austria; and we may anticipate that English liberalism will protest—a section of our cabinet breaking away from Lord Aberdeen, and offering temporary services to the liberal cry. But if English liberals will resolutely insist on the war being regarded, from the present point, as a war, no longer for the maintenance of Turkey, but for the suppression of Russia, as a political system, the Austrian alliance may yet be turned to good account.

This generation of Englishmen has now tasted blood—and that will do it good. Having entered on war, and found that war does not necessarily ruin trade or blight harvests, this generation of Englishmen will have a tendency to go on with war. It can afford war—commercially. It can afford war—politically. The period is so far felicitous that there is no question of the day but the war. There is no colonial difficulty to suppress, as in the first Pitt's time; there is no demand for reform, as in the second Pitt's time; there is no Catholic nation to conciliate (Mr. Disraeli thinks there

is one to insult), as in Castlereagh's time. The nation, revelling in this war, perhaps illogically, but still heartily, is headed by a Government which, unlike preceding Governments carrying on war, is not a party Government,—is essentially and sincerely, a national Government. The circumstances are then propitious for a long campaign against Czardom.

Austria will now attempt to procure a peace. But if the French and English nations force the French and English Governments to advance to St. Petersburg next spring, Austria will still exhibit her enormous ingratitude to Russia. Our object is not to repudiate the Austrian alliance: it is to paralyse Austria, which can only be effected by accepting her alliance.

A war against despotism—and one at a time: that would be a rational cry for liberal public meetings demanding that Parliament be summoned to sustain the Cabinet against secret diplomacy and despairing dynasties. May not we be attacking Vienna *via* St. Petersburg? May not, indeed, Vienna thus lead back to Paris?

We are in for a long war; and, having the faults of our forefathers to warn us of blunders, we ought to take care that, when peace is at last signed, we may have gained something for our money.

CUTTING OF THE AUSTRIAN KNOT.

THERE will, indeed, be one sequel to the reduction of Sebastopol, which has not yet presented itself conspicuously enough, but which is brought out in stronger relief by the circumstances of the present week. The efforts to keep the two great German Powers would become more unsuccessful in proportion as the two Courts of Berlin and Vienna grow more divided in their view. Prussia desires to compromise, to trim. Austria is becoming engaged more and more in alliance with those powers who are coercing Russia, and are succeeding in the coercion. Here lies the true cause of the division, which has a different force for Austria and for Prussia.

The more the Western Powers succeed in beating the Czar, the more certainly does it appear the interest of Austria to take part with the victorious side. There is a point from which she could scarcely retract.

If Austria were once to stand in arms against Russia, it is highly improbable that the Czar would any longer keep measure with his former *protégée*. He that gave might think to take away; and the Czar, who restored Hungary to Austria, might try to snatch it back, and to give it to the Hungarians. Now, Austria has continued so much to increase her connexion with the Allies, in act as well as diplomacy, as to render it difficult for her to avoid going yet further; and as she abstained from breaking off, when the Allies were still at Varna, it really seems improbable that she would retract when they are at Sebastopol—or could retract. Their success is her bond.

For Prussia the success of the Western allies has almost the opposite effect. The more Russia is pressed, supposing the Czar to remain firm in resistance, the higher would he bid for aid, and the more Prussia might be led to speculate in the Russian alliance. The last note from Prussia indicates something of this. While we have no intimation that she has yet withdrawn equivocating negotiation with the Western Powers, she places herself distinctly in antagonism to Austria in Germany. The whole drift of the last Prussian note in answer to the Western circular is involved in a laboured suggestion that Austria, working with foreigners, must by that fact be non-German. One specimen will exemplify the spirit and tendency of this

note. It is remarked that the navigation of the Danube will be free in proportion as the foreign element is absent; meaning that Austria must have nothing to do with France or England in protecting that river. Now it was Russia that permitted the mud to grow up at the mouth; and it is that passive cause of the war that Prussia would restore!

Leave the Danube alone, cries Prussia, and all will be right; yet the whole war is testimony to the falsehood of the suggestion. The note plainly lets us see that Prussia is steadily working to oust Austria from the confidence of Germany, and to bring over the German Powers to Russia. The success of that aim is another question; the aim itself is enough for our present purpose, as showing the tendency of the two German Powers to separate more widely than ever.

One prevailing idea seems to be, that a new distribution of territory may take place on the Pruth—that Austria may have Moldavia and Bessarabia, Turkey receiving the Crimea instead. Turkey would then have no frontier continuous with Russia in Europe; Austria would have a better military frontier to the East. Of course, we need not say, these notions are altogether premature: the frontiers will be planned when the frontiers are gained; the victors will dispose of the vanquished territory in a common council; and happy will it be for those Powers who have earned the right to sit at that council. But fall out as events may, there is every prospect that Austria will not lose by the Western alliance. Certain friends of Italy and Hungary mourn at the prospect; we rejoice, and we believe that several friends of those countries—some of the most sharp-sighted amongst them—will appreciate our reasons.

No extension of Austrian territory, especially in connexion with the belligerent West, can fail to bring to her increased employment for her military strength. Already she garrisons Moldavia and Wallachia, not with subject Turkey, but with Turkey stronger than she has been for generations. Every step in this direction exposes Austria to new enemies; her retraction is more and more cut off; the corresponding necessity of cementing her alliance more and more is displayed even to Viennese discernment. By vigorous acts her financial position has been amended; but it will need further recruitment; and in that process she must be sustained by the public opinion of her own citizens, by the *financial* opinion of moneyed Europe. She has to insure, and to borrow upon her policy of insurance. It can be done, and it is necessary to do something of the kind. She must ensure herself, *inter alia*, against the recurrence of 1848. She can. A skeleton machinery for obtaining the support of the people long existed, even in the dried representative system of Lombardy. Hungary has been loyal; Bohemia would be more loyal if she had the opportunity to form a corporate opinion. Not one of the countries yet named produces all the wealth that freedom and energy give. The example of Sardinia, loyal and steadily improving, with the development of constitutional freedom, is at hand. Even Turkey is an example. The great present facts are pregnant with lessons, with hopes. If 1848 could produce a Stadion, if the House of Hapsburg has produced a Leopold, are we to presume that Vienna and the family can never again give birth to statesmen or princes capable of understanding the dynamics of circumstances? If Austria were to add to the alliance with the West and Turkey, an alliance also with Italy, with Hungary, with Bohemia, there would be no danger for her in the employment of her armies on garrison duty; treasures would soon grow for her in the plains of Hungary

and Lombardy; advances would be ready for her in the coffers of London; she might laugh at Russia, ride over Prussia, and hail Francis Joseph Emperor with the new crown of a united Empire, perchance more enduring than that which has already lasted for nearly six hundred years.

WAR AS A SANITARY EXERCISE.

THE war has been a magnificent rally for the English people. We were getting sunk in a quietude which we had begun to regard as immortal, and war has at a blow told us mercifully how senseless was that reliance. It has called upon numbers of us to become familiar with active life, and with the hardships that attend upon it—hardships, indeed, severe for the unfamiliar frame, but sport to frames which are “hardened” against them. Napoleon tells us what we want in England when he describes the object of the camp at Boulogne. “It has been created,” he said, “to accustom you to military exercises—to marches, to fatigues; and believe me, there is for the soldier nothing equal to this life in the open air, which enables him to know himself and to resist the inclemency of the seasons.”

There is no race of men that cannot harden themselves this way; no race more capable than the English; none which has neglected the exercise so much. We have amongst us, indeed, sailors, sportsmen, soldiers, who are as much at home under the bare sky as any other men; but in proportion to the multitude of our countrymen, the number is small compared with that in other countries. You would find a larger percentage of Frenchmen. Take the facts as in an Englishman's description of his first acquaintance with bivouac:—

“Few of us,” writes the civil correspondent of the *Times*, “will ever forget last night. Seldom were 27,000 Englishmen more miserable. The beach was almost cleared, the troops had marched off to their several quarters, the Light Division about six miles in advance, the 1st Division two miles nearer the shore, the 2nd Division on the cliffs and hills, and a part of the 3rd Division on the slope of the hill. No tents were sent on shore, partly because there had been no time to land them, partly because there was no certainty of our being able to find carriage for them. Towards night the sky looked very black and lowering; the wind rose, and the rain fell. The showers increased in violence about midnight, and early in the morning the water fell in drenching sheets, which pierced through the blankets and greatcoats of the houseless and tentless soldiers. It was their first bivouac—a hard trial enough in all conscience, worse than all their experiences of Bulgaria or Gallipoli, for there they had their tents, and now they learned to value their canvas coverings at their true worth. Imagine all these old generals and young lords and gentlemen exposed hour after hour to the violence of pitiless storms, with no bed but the reeking puddle under the saturated blankets or bits of useless waterproof wrappers, and the twenty odd thousand of poor fellows who could not get ‘dry bits’ of ground, and had to sleep, or try to sleep, in little locks and watercourses—no fire to cheer them, no hot grog, and the prospect of no breakfast;—imagine this, and add to it that the nice ‘change of linen’ had become a wet abomination, which weighed the poor men's kits down, and you will admit that this ‘seasoning’ was of a rather violent character—particularly as it came after all the luxuries of dry ship stowage. Sir George Brown slept under a cart tilted over. The Duke had some similar contrivance. Sir De Lacy Evans was the only General whose staff had been careful enough to provide him with a tent. In one respect the rain was of service; it gave them a temporary supply of water, but then it put a fire out of the question, even if the men could have scraped up wood to make it. The country is, however, quite destitute of timber.”

Here is an officer's view of the same hard fate, described to the *Morning Post*:—

“Camp, Crimea, 2nd Div., 5 Miles from Landing-place, September 15.

“I am now stretched on the ground in the open air, in order to continue my journal. Yesterday morning we disembarked. I will not attempt to describe it, for it was so truly wonderful that it exceeded all that I had anticipated. I do not wish my friends to be uneasy about me, as I am as well off as most of us, and content myself, seeing many others worse off than myself. We were ordered to disembark with nothing but what we could carry—our coats on our backs, and three days’

provisions in our haversacks. Last night I slept with my cocked hat for a pillow, and my cloak for a covering, and, barring the rain, got on tolerably well. In fact, I was never more jolly, notwithstanding so great a contrast to everything like comfort or a comfortable home. My greatest discomfort is not having been able to wash my hands since we landed. Indeed, it is very difficult to get water at all. Fortunately, I have not quite finished a bottle of cold tea that I brought on shore yesterday, or should have been punished for want of something to allay occasional thirst.”

The Camp of Boulogne, too, had another object—it was to show to Europe that, without leaving any points of the interior ungarrisoned, 100,000 men could be easily concentrated between Cherbourg and St. Omer. Could we do the like? Certainly not! In the United States, indeed, where their standing army barely exceeds 10,000 men, something like 2,000,000 of soldiers, really practised with the best of weapons, will answer to the muster call; while we could barely muster 100,000 militia and all. Five years ago we could not have done so much, yet we were really as much exposed to aggression from without as we are now—perhaps more so. It is in truth a blessing for this country that the peace which some of us expected never to see infringed has broken down at a distance from our shores, and has taught us to prepare for hazards which we presumptuously believed ourselves to have outgrown.

INVESTMENT OF SEBASTOPOL, COMMERCIALLY.

AFTER Sebastopol, what? What shall we do with it all, now we have got it?—if we have or when we have. The common idea is to give it to Turkey. Would that be the best plan? Sebastopol is the key to the back-door of the Black Sea; whoever has it takes in the rear the Power possessing the front-door, the Dardanelles. Russia of course cannot keep it. Shall any Power be permitted to take it, and so to override Constantinople? There was a notion once of offering (?) Byzantium to the Yankees, as a collateral Power, who would thus acquire a *locus standi* in Europe, and be able to antagonise the vagaries of the circumjacent barbarians. Indeed, we do not know a Power which could more effectually preserve its stand in those districts than the Yankee rifle. But there might be diplomatic difficulties in the way of establishing brother Jonathan on the Black Sea; and if not brother Jonathan, who? Austria already possesses Trieste, and our friendship with her is too new for us quite to trust her future good faith. If she should not become mistress of the Euxine latchkey, is it necessary that anybody should become tenant of the dispossessed Port? That is by no means certain. One enterprising wag suggests that the fort itself should be abolished, that the whole, as it stands, should be advertised as old materials and sold off by public auction. The sale might be held both in London and Paris—the bids carried on by electric telegraph.

And what, then, to do with the Crimea—a fine country indifferently farmed? Give it to the Turks again is the general idea. Are the Turks the best farmers in the world? Turkey, under gentle compulsion, threatens to become one of the most liberal and promising Governments in the world; but its subjects have comparatively little capacity in the farming line. We have a new idea, which is, amongst the divers provinces that Turkey rules, to establish a British province. Why not set emigration going in that direction, as well as any other? Undoubtedly it would “pay.” It would suit all parties. There is splendid land, and there are splendid markets to command; exactly the thing for a great colonising, land-jobbing, and export-dealing association of merchants,

with a magnificent directory somewhere on Cornhill. We bespeak a handsome present from the directors on their election,—an honorarium to which the secretary of the intended company should contribute largely, in gratitude for our throwing out the idea. We offer to be the organ of the “Crimea Emigration, Land-Farming, and General Oriental Improvement Association.” Splendid profits might be got on the purchase and sale of land; the emigrants would find plenty of employment; and by an easy compromise they might enjoy the light taxation of Turkey—for, is not Turkish taxation light as compared with British?—while they would astonish the Sultan with the prodigious tax-producing industry. The Sultan, therefore, would recognise in the Crimea his favourite province; and feeling the sweet conviction steal upon his soul, through the purse, would learn to appreciate at its full the delights of a British constitution. For your Briton is the man to be tamely governed and swingingly taxed. Thus we have disposed of the Crimea.

What to do with the fleet and army? The fleet might be excellently employed in the proposed emigration; nay, it might be sold on mutually advantageous terms to the intended company. As to the Russians, they might be brought over here; undergo a twelvemonth's schooling in the British language, customs, and constitution, and be turned loose throughout the Russian empire—free missionaries for the emancipation of that benighted land. This is a way to turn a despot's army upon himself.

But the grand Russian! the great prize of Sebastopol—Menschikoff—what to do with him? He is the finest Russian of them all—a Tartar, a wit, a Croesus, a general, a prince, a diplomat, a despot, a slave—everything in one. He has, indeed, admirably defined the limits of Russian intellect, as St. Arnaud says; he committed the double fault of getting himself into a hole and letting the subjects of his master see him there, reduced to impotency. Menschikoff is, by special appointment, the cleverest, ablest, and most trustworthy Russian of the whole; for to him has been allotted the most difficult post, and we find what Russian capacity can do when it is tried. We know but of one story to equal the tale of Menschikoff, and that is in the region of fairy-land.

A princess, seated upon her throne, was threatened with a great calamity, unless, to absolve herself from the punishment for having committed some unintentional fault, she could tell the name of the threatening unknown mis-shapen pigmy that stood before her and announced her future doom. The name could not be discovered far or wide; there was no directory to the hand of the princess; eminent as the individual was, he was anonymous. But he was defeated, as we often are, by his own foible. He was too confident as to the doom of the princess; just as Menschikoff was as to the doom of the “sick man.” The dwarf could not contain his exultation. The princess wandered forth in search of his name; and one evening, unperceived, she came upon him dancing around a fire that he had lighted, and exclaiming how she never would find out that “Rumplestiltskin is my name”—just as Nicholas believed that the sick man and his friends would never find him out.—He presented himself to the doomed princess on the appointed day, and she politely welcomed him by his name. The little dwarf was furious with rage—still quite in the Russian fashion; and in his rage—like Menschikoff—he stamped upon the ground with such fury that his little foot went in, and there it stuck. The shabby, wealthy, barbarous, malignant old gentleman who insulted the

Czar before he was found out is the Bumble-stiltskin of Turkey; and there he stands with his foot in it—the laughing-stock of the world.

But what to do with him. It is something to have caught a genuine Tartar. No animal is wilder or more difficult to catch safely. Why should he not be brought to England and handed over to Professor Owen, as a refutation of that accomplished and admirable philosopher's limited notions of the subject of simious development? But stay! France has deserved well; there is to be the Exposition of All Nations in 1855: Russia, we fear, will be unrepresented at that peculiar congress; why then should not this specimen, at once the raw material and prime St. Petersburg manufacture, be there installed? Yes, France and England, that is the admirable destination we suggest for your prize; only—first catch your Tartar.

WHAT IS THE MATTER IN THE CITY?

SOMETHING serious is amiss in the City;—a province which includes Liverpool, Manchester, and every other commercial centre of the United Kingdom. On Tuesday, the failure of an extensive Liverpool merchant and ship-owner is announced, contradicted, and re-asserted; but, on Wednesday, it becomes certain that his bills have been returned, though efforts are made to prevent a final stoppage. On the Wednesday, also, it is known that the New York bills of another firm, which has speculated largely in corn, have been returned. The affairs of a Manchester house are under arrangement. Everybody feels the excessive pressure for money, and more of these disasters are anticipated. What is the cause of it all? "The bad harvest," cries one; "Stoppage of the Russian trade," replies another; "Over-production at Manchester," says a Liverpool man; "Railway frauds at New York, and Liverpool infatuation for Wall-street," answers Manchester; "and the war expenditure," roars the profound financial observer; "Mr. Gladstone's policy," shrieks the loanmonger; and the list of causes, more or less real, might be continued almost indefinitely.

Our own explanation is that *time* is chiefly responsible. Our fast friends in commerce forget that the clock has a fixed rate of going; that the globe cannot be sent round faster by the most pushing merchant. America is truly answerable for no small share of the calamity, especially in Liverpool, and through Liverpool in London; and America illustrates well the present consequences of fast trading. The productive powers of that country are enormous, her development miraculously rapid; but still, neither in extent nor rapidity, are the powers of America independent of ratio, or without limit. She acts as if they were: her private citizens spend at a more than aristocratic rate; expecting to send their trade round the circle—which includes probably New York, Liverpool, Manchester, London, and Florida—in a given time: a hitch occurs; there is a spoke in the wheel, and the fast and furious Phaeton falls. The "princely" merchant has calculated his income a few thousand dollars short; he must have more, and fast trading suggests expedients better than accommodation bills. He is issuing some thousand shares in a promising railway at a fine price: why not sell a few hundreds more? He deals in cotton, and has plenty on hand: why not get up a rumour that it is a short crop, and bag with plenty the price of scarcity? There is a scarcity of rain: why not trumpet "a drought," and raise the price of corn? These things have actually been done. Somebody of course suffers; Liverpool burns her fingers;

but the loss recoils on America, with doubly damaged credit. The discredit aggravates a real difficulty. America imports Manchester goods; when corn is abundant, it is a good set off; and the reciprocal trade saves the necessity of exporting specie to England. Thus to America grain is gold; and this year the growing treasure is deficient. Manchester suffers by the stagnation in America; but Manchester produces even through drought and deluge—she can *force* sales at low prices, and still specie must be shipped to pay her—not grain. Having carried her trade beyond her production, her expenditure beyond her income, America is hard up for cash, "fails" here and there, and Liverpool totters.

To some extent the same story might be told of Manchester men—merchants on their own account—in Australia; for the resident Australians have not rivalled the Americans in recklessness. But the English traders thought to make hay while the gold sun shone; they exported fast and furiously; sales have been declining, have become slow, and now give way to stagnation. Here also there is a spoke in the wheel of commercial circulation, and those who reckoned on returns prompt and punctual must wait—though their bills will not do so.

It is the clock that has been forgotten: the speculations were correct, except as a matter of time. There are the railways to be made in America; there is the valley of the Mississippi, with boundless granary powers; there is the line of the Murray, with its innumerable flocks and crops of the future, purveying the gold-fields with a surplus for England; just as there is a sounder state of production, industry, trade, and finance in England than we have ever had. But commercial men have forgotten their own maxim, pointing to the identity of time and money; they have the assets to meet their bills, but not the time; the wheel is arrested by over spinning it; and a few commercial carriages crash in the race. That is all. The ground is solid beneath, and we shall get over it without selling up either John Bull or Uncle Sam, or letting their families come upon the parish.

SCOTTISH RIGHTS.

THE meeting to advocate Scottish rights is the outward and visible sign of a deep instinct. It means that men in most places are conscious of understanding their business better than it can be understood by other people elsewhere, and that they expect to get on more profitably, more advantageously, and more honourably, if they are left to be their own agents; that they dissent from being nothing higher than the Co. of agents at a distance. In Scotland, for example, they have particular objects and particular modes of attaining those objects which we in England do not understand. We have heard it, indeed, confessed that an Englishman has been known to make oatmeal porridge better on the banks of the Thames than it could be made by a Scotchman on the banks of the Clyde; but the exception proves the rule. It was a foreigner that spoke the most perfect Athenian; it is a Yorkshireman who has become the most fervid Irishman; and it is an Englishman, who, in porridge, beats the great original. But it would be a bad speculation if all the porridge had to be brought to London, there to be manufactured for Scotch breakfasts. When they make rules for the accommodation of Scotchmen, it could, undoubtedly, be planned much better up there in the north than it can in London; and we do not know why we should compel them to have their family arrangements transacted at our head-quarters.

It is true that Scotchmen are brought to

London for the purpose. They export the raw material from Scotland to London, and import the manufactured article in the shape of statutes. But this is a very clumsy arrangement indeed. In excuse, it has been said that English Members rarely interfere,—that if it is a Scotch subject, there is scarcely an English Member to be seen in the House; so that the Scotchmen have, after all, the faculty of the manufacture. Why, then, should they be compelled to come up to London to exercise that faculty for the amusement of English spectators?

In fact, all Scotch laws might just as well be made in Edinburgh as in Westminster, and better. The only practical effect of which we are aware, in dragging the Scotchman down here, is to bring him into a more relaxing climate at the hottest season of the year. This may account for the want of tone often observable in Anglo-Scottish statutes. If the men can make the laws, why not make them *in situ*, under the influence of a more bracing atmosphere? There is also a risk in the English locality. Any member who chooses, can raise some obstruction to a Scotch law, and is sometimes tempted to do so, upon divine grounds. A Roman Catholic member can put a spoke in the wheel of a Presbyterian statute; an orthodox upholder of "the Establishment" in London, which is "the bloody prelacy" in Scotland, can put his thumb upon a Scotch Education Bill, or render it so English in its form, as to become intolerable to a Scotch public.

If we are to admit the principle of letting Hungary be for the Hungarians, Italy for the Italians, why not Scotland for the Scotch, as well as Ireland for the Irish,—and if you come to that matter, Yorkshire for the Yorkshiremen. Indeed there is no end to the folly which compels Parliament to transact business in Westminster which could be much better done in the places themselves. The true rule for distinction between local Government and central authority appears to be this: Every law which concerns only a certain district, and does not interfere with the people outside, ought to be settled within the district—parish business within the parish, county business within the county, colonial business within the colony, national business within the nation, and then Parliament would have time to make proper laws for the necessities of the whole empire.

In the meanwhile if we must have Scotch business down here to do in Westminster, it would be but common sense to relieve an overtaxed Parliament by sending up some of our English business to Scotland. And for that matter, as Parliament *will* do the work of parishes, the parishes might do the work of Parliament. Let us then send the promised Metropolitan Improvement Bill to Edinburgh, where they would no doubt secure for us at once the most perfect laws of cleanliness and drainage; and let the Reform Bill, for which we have so long been waiting, be sent down to the several parishes for instant completion. It is a question for the Anti-Centralisation Union to consider. Having, as we learn by their last report,* defeated Government on the Board of Health Bill last session, and substituted Benjamin Hall and local self-government for Chadwick and centralisation, the Union has really done something in this way of legislation. Perhaps it might entertain the proposal of "swopping" a little local law-making for imperial law-making, with the view of ultimately effecting a re-exchange, so that Boodle business may be left to Boodle, and the Queen enjoy her own only.

* Printed by Mr. John Edward Taylor, of Little Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, and circulated by Mr. Elt, the bookseller, of Islington.

THE LAST CARD.

We find that Mr. Disraeli has addressed the following letter to some insane provincial confederacy which appears to be called the Blackburn Protestant Association. It confirms the hints we have recently given of Tory policy for next session.

Hughenden Manor, Sept. 15.

"Sir,—I have the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst., communicating to me the thanks of the Blackburn Protestant Association, for certain observations made by me at the close of the late session of Parliament, with respect to the present anomalous condition of the constitution of these realms, and the great dangers which may consequently ensue to the rights of all classes of her Majesty's subjects, both Protestant and Roman Catholic.

"I beg you to offer the Association my thanks for this mark of their approbation, which I value. Public men, in this country, depend upon public confidence. Without that they are nothing.

"Far from wishing to make the settlement of this all-important question a means of obtaining power, I would observe that I mentioned at the same time, in my place, the various and eminent qualifications which I thought Lord John Russell possessed for the office, and my hope that he would feel it his duty to undertake it.

"In that case I should extend to him the same support which I did at the time of the Papal aggression, when he attempted to grapple with a great evil; though he was defeated in his purpose by the intrigues of the Jesuit party, whose policy was on that occasion upheld in Parliament with eminent ability and unhappy success by Lord Aberdeen, Sir James Graham, and Mr. Gladstone.

"I still retain the hope that Lord John Russell will seize the opportunity, which he unfortunately lost in 1851, and deal with the relations in all their bearings of our Roman Catholic fellow-subjects to our Protestant constitution. But, however this may be, there can be no doubt that, sooner or later, the work must be done, with gravity, I trust, and with as little heat as possible in so great a controversy, but with earnestness and without equivocation; for the continuance of the present state of affairs must lead inevitably to civil discord, and perhaps, to national disaster.

"Believe me, Sir, your very faithful servant,

"B. DISRAELI.

"The Rev. Christopher Robinson."

Mr. Disraeli means one of several things.

By placing Lord John Russell in the Durham-letter dilemma, and in invidious contrast with the "Jesuit party," Mr. Disraeli may merely mean temporary inconvenience to the Coalition. Every other trick having failed, this may answer.

He may mean to propose a permanent policy for the Tory party, which was created by its sympathies with a Catholic dynasty, and to oppose the liberalism of the age on the only ground on which he would be sure of the enthusiasm of the bigoted, the ignorant, and the wicked.

Or he may mean genuine statesmanship—to advocate civil and religious liberty, and, as the champion of an insulted minority, to crush Spoonerism for ever by defining that the Roman Catholic is a citizen on perfect equality with Protestants under free institutions.

In either of the two first cases Mr. Disraeli would mean a political infamy; and, in the latter case, a political blunder. In the one case he would be appealing to sectarian passions at a moment when we are in alliance with Catholics to defend Mahomedans; and in the other case, he would be inappropriately and prematurely a Liberal.

This is, in any case, the last card of Tory policy—a Protestant cry in a European convulsion. It is somewhat degrading to Mr. Disraeli, as indicating the decay of his intellect and the deadening of his conscience, that as he completes his half century he should be filching his statesmanship from a school which was founded by Titus Oates and is adorned by Dr. Cumming; and it must be a mortification to the Tory party that its Christianity is put in political charge of a Hebrew-Anglian who is grateful to Judas for the caress which secured the comfort of salvation to a race of flat-nosed Franks.

Open Council.

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

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

BABEL.

(From a various Correspondence.)

— Here is the paragraph of the week: it is an advertisement:

"The WEEKLY DISPATCH, of Sunday next, October the 8th, will contain full and authentic particulars of the glorious victory by the Allies over the Russians at Alma; the retreat of the enemy, triumphant capture of Sebastopol, and surrender of the Russians, garrison and fleet; with the official despatches and latest details at the moment of Publication. Orders may be given for the DISPATCH to all Newspaper Agents in Town and Country; and at the Office, 139, Fleet-street, London."

What a comfort that the *Dispatch* will tell us all about the capture of Sebastopol—though it does not seem to have been captured. Ought not the deluded *Dispatch* to bring an action against the leading journal and the following *gobe-mouches*?

— Czardom is destroyed: Donald Nicoll appeals to the electors of Frome: the events are coincident: and both must be noticed. As Democrats, we are bound to give nine times nine (if the number is not offensive) that a tailor ventures to intrude into the Venetian constitution. D. N. is a Liberal: professionally is for measures, not men. It will be a curious question in a count out, Mr. Nicoll being a member in the 40, whether he should count as 1 or 1-9th. What can be his object in going into Parliament? Has he any design against Mr. Dancombe? Observe that he is in favour of an extension of the franchise. Of course he is for an improvement of the 40s. freehold:—six for 40s. is the price.

— The *Guardian* demands that there be a new Cabinet Minister, who shall be Minister for Ecclesiastical Affairs. Would Sir Robert Inglis do? Or Mr. Lucas? W. J. Fox? H. Drummond? A healthy Atheist would be the only impartial man in a Christian country of more creeds than counties.

— Mr. C. Dickens has made an appeal to "working men." He suggests a domiciliary revolution—and anybody, says Mr. Dickens, who does not see that everything is a hobby except house-reform—which Mr. Dickens does not regard as a hobby at all—is guilty of wholesale murder. The world of Europe is ringing with "war:" next session is looked forward to as the period when the British Parliament will prove what craving it has for human freedom: and Mr. Dickens, as cholera diminishes, seizes the occasion to tell working men that Parliament is a lunacy—that the British constitution is a farce—and that next session must be coerced into devoting itself to house-reform. Mr. Dickens is philosophically vague; he does not in the least tell the working men how to set about the domiciliary revolution: so that the amiable moral is that the working classes ought to raze the big towns. Octavius Augustus left bricked Rome of marble; Mr. Dickens would have it said that he found London of sties, and he left it—of nothing. How is it he fails to remark that the "People's House" does not look after the people because it contains no people's representation?

— If any man feels choleraic symptoms, let him put his trust in the castor-oil treatment. That is the only safe, sound, and rational prescription. There are, indeed, opinions the other way. Certain medical journals have thought it their business to indulge in "remarks" as to the course pursued by the *Times* in reference to the treatment of cholera by castor oil; but the *Times* answers these professional writers with the full force of its "surprise." It is "surprised" at its critics. The medical council under the Board of Health made a systematic inquiry, and found that out of 89 cases there were 68 deaths under the castor-oil treatment. But what of that? The *Times* still pronounces it "rational and simple," and the journal has statistics of its own. "For," declares the *Times*, "a mode of treatment which saves three-fourths of the patients to whom it is applied, and is far preferable to

the old system, which confessedly loses 65 out of 100." It is true that the medical council found more than three-fourths of the cases killed not saved; but what is the authority of the council to that of the *Times*, on a medical subject? The "old system" confessedly loses 65 out of 100," it is said; but we have a difficulty in realising an idea of the confession, for this reason—we do not know what is the "old system." There is no antiquated treatment of the cholera, and no "system" at all. However, the *Times* knows all about it, and has perhaps received exclusive intelligence from the authorities that dispense cholera. At all events this fact is clear: if any man is taken with cholera, he should send for the editor of the *Times*. If that exalted individual should refer him to Mr. Dobie, as the *Times* appears to do when troubled with embarrassing applications, the patient must plead the usage of the profession to which the editor belongs, and insist that the medical man must come when he is summoned. Castor oil no doubt is kept at the office of the journal ready packed in doses; it must be good and cheap at that shop.

— Surely it will be possible before long to introduce some improvement into the method of collecting, conveying, and developing intelligence from the East, or any other place where a part of our own life and death is going forward. As we have had it now, it is as if the journals—the principal journal conspicuous above others—were engaged in deliberately making a fool of the British public. We have the end of the intelligence first, the commencement comes lagging long after the end, and the two are unintelligible until we get the middle. These deficiencies are inherent in the fact that we have several modes of transit, some rapid and some slow. The journals, however, do not assist us in our difficulty; but to make the most of a moment's excitement, they amplify the fragmentary news of startling events; affect to give them a positive value which they do not possess, and make us believe that which is false, imperfect, or misconceived. We have scarcely sounded the guns for a victory before we are told to doubt it. Yet with all this haste and puffing, the journals are positively slow. Government has been blamed for not honestly serving the public, but we ask what has "private enterprise" done? Which editor was it which first gave us the authentic news of the Alma? It was the editor of the *War Department*—the Duke of Newcastle. A large amount of this studious mystification is permitted by the desire to seem to know where there is no knowledge. Attack somebody, and you will be thought wise. If there is nobody else to kick, why Government, or Admiral Dundas, or Admiral Napier, can be the cockshy of the moment.

— There is a dealer in town with a Titian. He bought it at Christie and Manson's for fifteen pounds (nobody suspected it to be more than a queer copy of the Naples Venus), and he says he will now not take less than 20,000l. You know the Holbein the National Gallery got: entreat the Government not to grant 20,000l. for this Titian.

— The people must be educated, says everybody; a man now-a-days cannot get on without education. Getting on in England means making money—of course all ignorant men ought to be poor. A fact against a theory any day.

The best public dining-room in London is brilliantly lighted—the tables groan with gold and silver plate, flowers, the richest food, and the rarest wines; there is a fine military band, a corps of crack singers; the apartment is filled by three hundred most substantial-looking gentlemen, of all ranks, from privy councillors to common councilmen. It is a festival: trumpets sound, the band plays a triumphal air; men with staves usher in two dignitaries, gorgeous in cut velvet, satin, lace and gold chains; who are followed by a tribe of lacqueys, whose resplendent liveries must cost more than the new uniforms of our hussars. The personages assume two chairs of state; at the elbow of each stands a clergyman of the Church in his canonical dress, backed by the lacqueys. They say grace, and are then permitted to take seats at a distance from the great men; and when the dinner is over they rush back to their posts behind the chairs of state to return thanks. For whom is all this ceremonial? Who are these personages? The Sheriffs of London and Middlesex! A right honourable judicial functionary says they are pillars of the State, bulwarks of two institutions of commercial England, the Corn Exchange, and the Stock Exchange. Good! They have achieved greatness! I respect them. They have to make speeches, and before they utter ten words, I remember that education is the question of the day! but I find that looking at the scene before me, I am inclined not to educate my children.

— Jullien is to open her Majesty's Theatre for promenade concerts this winter. We may imagine the the "Sebastopol Quadrille," and the "March of the Allies," with all the effects. We welcome M. Jullien with all sincerity. May his big drum's shadow never be less!

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*.

We have generally remarked that, when musical amateurs give private concerts, their selection of music to be performed is guided much more by the idea of showing off their own dexterity than by the idea of amusing their friends. The same sort of plan seems to be followed by Quarterly Reviewers, for the most part. They write on subjects which are excellently adapted to display their favourite literary accomplishments, but which are also extremely ill-fitted to interest the public. In the new number of the *Westminster Review*, for example, the opening article, and a very learned one it is, is on "The Odin Religion." How many people in England care to read about the Odin religion? Two other articles are on the "Use and Meaning of History" and "The Rise and Progress of Diplomacy"—highly respectable subjects both (especially for school themes or college essays); but could no literary and political topics of more universal and immediate interest have been chosen to be written on? The pages about MADAME DE SABLÉ, in the article on "Woman in France," are the pleasantest to read in all this quarter's number—not because the author writes better or knows more than his fellow contributors, but because he has chosen a subject with some novelty and some special human interest in it. So, again, the last paper on the "Crystal Palace," although presenting nothing strikingly original, will arrest attention, and will be read with pleasure, because people are really thinking about the Crystal Palace. Perhaps "RAJAH BROOKE" may also appeal successfully to the curiosity of the readers of the review. He was a subject of interest at any rate; and his famous actions were not performed in the days of the "Odin religion."

The *British Quarterly* we have not yet had time to examine with sufficient attention. It seems to be not quite so felicitous in the selection of unpopular topics as the *Westminster*. It has articles, for instance, on "Manchester and St. Petersburg," and on "Spain and Espartero," and an essay on "Swift's Life and Genius," in which all the materials for the subject are pleasantly and unpretendingly turned to good account. The attraction of the article is further increased, to our taste, by the writer's moderation of tone. Swift's biographers and reviewers have been a little too apt of late years to speak for him. In the *British Quarterly* he is very properly made to speak for himself.

The *New Quarterly* is as commendably full of book-news and book-criticism as all quarterlies, to our thinking, ought to be. The *Journal of Psychological Medicine* has reached us. It contains an article on "Non-Mechanical Restraint in the Treatment of the Insane," which is full of interest—not for doctors only, but for intelligent readers of all professions and degrees as well. The necessity of economising space, during this week of war-news, obliges us to abstain from quoting from it, and hurries us on abruptly to the Monthly Periodicals. The *National Miscellany* continues its amusing extracts from "The Journal of an Officer in the Expeditionary Force." *Bentley's Miscellany* appeals to present public interest by three different articles on subjects connected with the war. One is (of course) entitled "Sebastopol," and another "Russia and the Russians;" the third, and best, describes the "Boulogne Fêtes." *Tait* is varied and amusing this month, and contains one article on "Our Social Morality," which is especially worthy of perusal, and especially to be commended for the sense, candour, and moderation of its tone. POOLE's famous picture of "Job and his Friends," and LANCE's "Summer Gift," supplying the *Art Journal* with its last new large engravings. The letter-press columns of this useful periodical contain some very interesting papers on art subjects, among which we may mention, as particularly attractive, a very graphic and lively description of the living sculptors at Rome and of the works they are now engaged on; and a letter from Antwerp announcing that the restoration of Rubens's Descent from the Cross has been safely and successfully accomplished, after eight months of difficult and delicate labour. This will be welcome news to all lovers of art.

The publishers seem to anticipate a good winter season for books, while the war operations are necessarily suspended. Advertisement lists are already beginning to look nearly as well filled as in the past and prosperous times of peace. Some interesting volumes of the biographical kind are shortly to appear. Among them are the long-promised *Letters and Life of Lady Blessington*, the *Memoirs of James Montgomery*, and the seventh and eighth volumes of *Moore's Diary*. An announcement of the biographical kind, however, more important than any of these, still remains to be made. *Sydney Smith's Memoirs and Letters*, edited by his daughter, in conjunction with Mrs. AUSTIN, are at last ready to go to press. We most sincerely regret to be obliged to add that the book will be only printed for private circulation. What motives can have led to such an extraordinary proceeding as this we are quite at a loss to understand. But we must venture, in the name of the public, and with all possible respect, to protest against the private publication of a work which the whole reading world has been anxiously waiting for, ever since the existence of materials for a biography of SYDNEY SMITH was first made known. It seems hard, indeed, that a

select circle of private friends only can be permitted to enjoy all the instruction and interest to be derived from the life of a man whose works have already taken rank among the classics of English literature. Are no personal relics of SYDNEY SMITH to be given to the grateful keeping of the English people, whose cause he served so well, and whose admiration rewarded him with undying fame? Even his favourite garden-walk at Combe Florey has been altered by the present possessor past all recognition; and now the publication of his *Life and Letters* is to be the privileged enjoyment of his private friends only. We most earnestly hope that the editors of the *Memoirs* may yet have time and inclination to reconsider their resolution, and deserve the gratitude of the reader who honoured SYDNEY SMITH, as well as of the friends who loved him.

From France our news is of the dramatic kind. GEORGE SAND has a new play, in five acts, in rehearsal at the GYMNASSE. A one act piece for RACHEL and GEFFROY has been accepted at the THÉÂTRE FRANÇAIS. SCRIBE is said to be at work on a new five act drama for the same theatre, containing, as a matter of course, a grand "show-part" for RACHEL. The ITALIAN OPERA has opened with *Semiramide*; Mdlle. BOSIO, Madame BORGHINI-MARNO, and M. GASSIER, being the chief singers. At the AMBIGU, a grand war-drama has been produced, in honour of the Anglo-French alliance. The three characters intended to develop the romantic part of the story are a villainous Russian prince, a chivalrous French artist, and an accomplished English physician, a member of the Peace Society, enthusiastic about his profession, madly in love with a ravishing Russian damsel, and bearing the startlingly-national name of "Sir BARCLAY!" Such is the flourishing condition of dramatic matters in Paris; and the remoter stage-world of Madrid seems to be in an equal state of activity. The Spanish capital is quite in a state of ferment just now about the crowning of a tragic poet named QUINTANA. There is no question about his right to be crowned; but there is great difference of opinion about the manner of performing the august ceremony. The press and populace are all for having it done in the theatre—the learned men exclaim that the coronation can only take place with any propriety in the Academy—and the court-party declare that QUINTANA ought to go incontinently to the Palace, and be crowned there by the Queen's own hand. Truly, it is a fine thing to be a play-writer in Madrid! We blush for dramatic London, and mourn in secret over our own uncrowned FITZBALL.

OLDHAM AND HIS POETRY.

The Poetical Works of John Oldham. Edited by Robert Bell. Parker and Son. Who was John Oldham? And what sort of poetry did he write? These are the two first questions which our readers will most probably ask themselves on turning to the present notice. We beg to assure them, at the outset, that Oldham's life was in many respects remarkable enough to be worthy of attention from his posterity; and that his poetry has—with some obvious and glaring faults—genuine and striking merits which ought to have prevented it from ever sinking, as during a temporary period it did sink, into almost total oblivion. By way of proving that this assertion is not made without some justice, we propose trying to show the reader (by Mr. ROBERT BELL's help) what sort of a man Oldham was, and what title his poetry possesses to the attention of the present generation.

JOHN OLDHAM was born in Gloucestershire, in the year 1653, and was the son of a nonconformist minister. He was educated at Tedbury School; and perfected himself in learning at Oxford, where he took the degree of B.A.; and where his turn for poetry first developed itself. On leaving the University, he returned to his friends in Gloucestershire. But he was soon wearied of nonconformist society, of idleness, and of dependence on others. A situation as usher at the Free School of Croydon was offered to him, and he accepted it, because it enabled him to get his own living by his own labour. With this act, the manly and admirable struggle of his life to preserve his independence may be said to have begun. At the Free School he worked on, bravely disciplining his natural freedom of spirit to submit to the drudgery that he lived by, for three years. During that time he employed his scanty intervals of leisure in writing poems, which found their way, in MS., into the literary circles of London. Rochester, Sedley, and Dorset, among other famous people of the time, read what he had done, admired it, and set off one day to patronise the poor usher. But Oldham was not to be patronised. In an age when every man of letters fawned upon the prosperous and the great, the usher who wrote verses at Croydon School was the one independent author who would cringe to nobody. Discovering this, Rochester, and Sedley, and Dorset went back to their flatterers in London, and left unerring Oldham to drudge on as he might at the school, till he had the luck to get an appointment as tutor in the family of Judge Thurland. In this situation he remained for two years; writing during that interval his once famous "Satires against the Jesuits." His next situation as teacher was in the house of Sir William Hicks, who had penetration enough to perceive the great and rare qualities of the new tutor's character, and proposed that Oldham should accompany his son on a tour to the Continent—the "Grand Tour" which every young gentleman of parts and family undertook by way of polishing his manners finally in those days. The offer was declined. Oldham's literary success had encouraged him to hope everything from his future efforts; and instead of playing Mentor, on the Continent, to the Telemachus Master Hicks, he went to London to fight his way upward with his pen. The fame of the satires against the Jesuits had preceded him. He now met the wits and fine gentlemen—especially the three who had tried to patronise him at Croydon School—on equal terms. He made the acquaintance and won the friendship of DRYDEN; and was introduced to the Earl of Kingston, who

showed the sincerity of his desire to promote the famous satirist's pecuniary interests by offering him the place of private chaplain to his household. Here was a provision for life, waiting the acceptance of a man absolutely without certain resources of any kind—and the man refused it. The position of a chaplain in a nobleman's family was, in those days, a degraded one; and manly Oldham would not stoop dependently so much as one-inch towards all the ease and competence which all the noblemen in the world could offer him. Lord Kingston's conduct on receiving the poet's refusal is beyond all praise. He showed most delicately and nobly he appreciated Oldham's character, by asking him to his house as guest and friend. This invitation was gratefully accepted. It was the fit reward for a brave and an honourable life. But though it came early (Oldham was then only thirty), it came too late. While staying in Lord Kingston's house, the poet was attacked by the small-pox. In the prime of his life and of his intellectual powers, in the house where he had at last gained the honour and the ease which had so long been his due, John Oldham died. He had not gained the fame of his illustrious friend Dryden; but he had done what neither Dryden nor any other author of that time could do—he had respected his vocation as a man of letters, and had "kept himself unspotted from the world." In an age of abject dedications, not a line of flattery disgraced the pages of John Oldham. His was the true manhood; and the genuine greatness; and in virtue of his life alone—leaving the merit of his writings out of the question—he has better claims to be remembered by posterity than many of his luckier inferiors, who have left notorious names behind them.

The fate of his poems has been a strange one. Having been widely successful during his lifetime, they were collected after his death, and published, accompanied by tributes to his memory from all the famous poets of his time. In 1710 they got to a seventh edition; were again printed in 1722; and were for the last time republished in 1770. Since that period they have most unfairly and ignorantly been refused admission, even in detached portions, into all collections of English poetry. On the score of justice as well as of taste, every credit is due to Mr. Bell for having restored Oldham to his proper place among our national poets. If coarseness is to be considered an objection to him, the objectors must be referred to Dryden, who is quite as coarse. If poetical merit be considered as a claim, he has, with all his faults, a better title to be included among the classical English poets than many of the writers who figure at full length in all our Authorologies. Such poets as Dyer, Granger, and Phillips, for instance, are not to be mentioned in the same breath with him.

The great merit of his life is also the great merit of his poetry—he lived in earnest and he wrote in earnest. He has no graces of expression—his lines are often clumsy and halting—his rhymes no rhymes at all—of the delicacies, subtleties, and refinements of poetical art he knew, and cared to know, nothing. He feels strongly, impetuously, fiercely; and writes exactly as he feels. He never stops to consider his subject under various aspects, but dashes at it at once from his own point of view. Occasionally he hits on some ferocious felicities of expression, which are unsurpassed by any other poet. As a satirist (and satires form the great bulk of his works) he hardly ever sneers at corruption and vice—he always storms at them with might and main. He is often unjust, sometimes absolutely inexcusable, in his Satires against the Jesuits—but his hatred of priests is a genuine fanaticism—he firmly believes himself in the justice and truth of every wild and wanton word that he utters against them. As he was a true man in his life, so, with all his faults, he is a true man in his poetry.

We will now give our readers such specimens of Oldham's genius as we hope will induce them to read and appreciate the volume of his collected works. We are not afraid to match him, at the outset, with two famous men. Boileau first imitated the third satire of Juvenal, and applied it to Paris; Oldham followed him, and applied it to London; and Johnson, in one of the noblest moral poems ever written, followed Oldham. These lines appear to us to be superior to Boileau, and to be in point of vigour, fully equal to Johnson:—

"I live in London! What should I do there?
I cannot lie, nor flatter, nor forswear;
I can't commend a book, or piece of wit,
Though a lord were the author, dully writ;
I'm no Sir Sidrophel to read the stars,
And cast nativities for longing heirs,
When fathers shall drop off; no Gadbury
To tell the minute when the king shall die,
And you know what—come in; nor can I steer,
And tack about my conscience, whensoever
To a new point I see religion veer.
Let others pimp to courtiers lechery;
I'll draw no city cuckold's curse on me;
Nor would I do it, though to be made great,
And raised to be chief minister of state.
Therefore I think it fit to rid the town
Of one, that is an useless member grown.
"Besides, who has pretence to favour now,
But he, who hidden villany does know,
Whose breast does with some burning secret glow?
By none thou shalt preferred or valued be,
That trusts thee with an honest secrecy;
He only may to great men's friendship reach,
Who great men, when he pleases, can impeach.
Let others thus aspire to dignity;
For me, I'd not their envied grandeur buy
For all the Exchange is worth, that Paul's will cost,
Or was of late in the Scotch voyage lost.
What would it boot, if I, to gain my end,
Forego my quiet, and my ease of mind,
Still feared, at last betrayed by my great friend?

Here is another passage from the same Satire which, in addition to its indubitable poetical merit, exhibits the value of Oldham to the present age as a delineator of manners and customs among our ancestors in the seventeenth century:—

"Besides, what store of gibing scoffs are thrown
On one that's poor and meanly clad in town;

If his apparel seem but overworn,
His stockings out at heel, or breeches torn,
One takes occasion his ripped shoe to flout;
And swears 't has been at prison-gates hung out;
Another shrewdly jeers his coarse cravat,
Because himself wears point; a third his hat,
And most unmercifully shows his wit,
If it be old, or does not cock aright.
Nothing in poverty so ill is borne,
As its exposing men to grinning scorn,
To be by tawdry coxcombs jeered upon,
And made the jesting stock of each buffoon.
'Turn out there, friend!' cries one at church, 'the pew
Is not for such mean scoundrel curs as you;
'Tis for your betters kept;' belike some sot
That knew no father, was on bulks begot,
But now is raised to an estate and pride,
By having the kind proverb on his side;
Let Gripe and Cheatwell take their places there,
And Dash, the scrivener's gaudy sparkish heir,
That wears three ruined orphans on his back;
Meanwhile you in the alley stand, and sneak:
And you therewith must rest contented, since
Almighty wealth does put such difference.
What citizen a son-in-law will take,
Bred ne'er so well, that can't a jointure make?
What man of sense, that's poor, e'er summoned is
Amongst the common council to advise?
At vestry-consults when does he appear,
For choosing of some parish officer,
Or making leather buckets for the choir?
'Tis hard for any man to rise, that feels
His virtue clogged with poverty at heels;
But harder 'tis by much in London, where
A sorry lodging, coarse and slender fare,
Fire, water, breathing, everything is dear;
Yet such as these an earthen dish disdain,
With which their ancestors, in Edgar's reign,
Were served, and thought it no disgrace to dine,
Though they were rich, had store of leather coin.
Low as their fortune is, yet they despise
A man that walks the streets in homely frieze;
To speak the truth, great part of England now,
In their own cloth will scarce vouchsafe to go;
Only, the statute's penalty to save,
Some few perhaps wear woollen in the grave.
Here all go daily dressed, although it be
Above their means, their rank, and quality;
The most in borrowed gallantry are clad,
For which the tradesmen's books are still unpaid;
This fault is common in the meaner sort
That they must needs affect to bear the port
Of gentlemen, though they want income for't."

How true is much of this as applied to ourselves in these modern days. One more extract and we must have done. The following passage is from the "Satire Addressed to a Friend." Oldham's own free, fine-spirit speaks in almost every line of it. As a picture of the condition of domestic chaplains it supplied Macaulay with material for an admirable passage in the *History of England*.

Some think themselves exalted to the sky,
If they light in some noble family;
Diet, a horse, and thirty pounds a year,
Besides the advantage of his lordship's ear,
The credit of the business, and the state,
Are things that in a youngster's sense sound great.
Little the inexperienced wretch does know,
What slavery he oft must undergo,
Who though in silken scarf and cassock dressed,
Wears but a gayer livery at best;
When dinner calls, the implement must wait;
With holy words to consecrate the meat,
But hold it for a favour seldom known,
If he be deigned the honour to sit down.
Soon as the tarts appear, Sir Crape, withdraw!
Those dainties are not for a spiritual maw;
Observe your distance, and be sure to stand
Hard by the cistern with your cap in hand;
There for diversion you may pick your teeth,
Till the kind voider comes for your relief.
For mere board wages such their freedom sell,
Slaves to an hour, and vassals to a bell;
And if the enjoyment of one day be stole,
They are but prisoners out upon parole;
Always the marks of slavery remain,
And they, though loose, still drag about their chain.
And where's the mighty prospect after all,
A chaplainship served up, and seven years' thrall?
The menial thing, perhaps, for a reward,
Is to some slender benefice preferred,
With this proviso bound, that he must wed
My lady's antiquated waiting maid,
In dressing only skilled, and marmalade.
Let others, who such meannesses can brook,
Strike countenance to every great man's look;
Let those that have a mind, turn slaves to eat,
And live contented by another's plate;
I rate my freedom higher, nor will I
For food and raiment truck my liberty.
But, if I must to my last shifts be put,
To fill a bladder, and twelve yards of gut,
Rather with counterfeited wooden leg,
And my right arm tied up, I'll choose to beg;
I'll rather choose to starve at large, than be
The gaudiest vassal to dependency.
'T has ever been the top of my desires,
The utmost height to which my wish aspires,

That Heaven would bless me with a small estate,
Where I might find a close obscure retreat;
There, free from noise and all ambitious ends,
Enjoy a few choice books, and fewer friends,
Lord of myself, accountable to none,
But to my conscience and my God alone:
There live unthought of, and unheard of die,
And grudge mankind my very memory.
But since the blessing is, I find, too great
For me to wish for, or expect of fate;
Yet, maugre all the spite of destiny,
My thoughts and actions are, and shall be, free.

We cannot conclude without congratulating Mr. Bell on the manner in which he has performed his editorial duties. In this volume—as indeed in all the previously-published volumes of his *English Poets*—he shows himself to be thoroughly equal to the necessities of his honourable and arduous undertaking. His notes are simple, straightforward, and comprehensible. They are never unnecessarily introduced, and never distorted from their fit purpose of serving purely and simply as explanations. Mr. Bell thoroughly understands, what it is not given to every editor to understand, that it is his business to address himself to the public at large and not to a select audience of antiquaries. With such qualifications for the performance of his task, the undertaking in which he is now engaged deserves success, and, we believe, will certainly obtain it.

SCHOOL EXPERIENCES.

School Experiences of a Fag at a Private and a Public School. By George Melly-Smith, Elder, and Co.

A CIRCUMSTANCE occurred, not long ago, at Harrow, which carried the whole system of public school life under discussion. A monitor had “caned” one of the younger boys with such severity, for a very minor offence, that the case was brought before the head master, who very properly decided that the monitor should leave the school at the end of the half year. The facts were very clear. The monitor had exceeded the bounds of his authority, and he suffered the only punishment that the rules of the school allowed of. But did it follow from this that the system was bad? Had this one circumstance proved that it was dangerous to entrust a certain number of boys in a school with supreme authority over the rest, or, even if monitors were found essential to the maintenance of order, was it right to give the monitors the power of “fagging” the other boys? With only one exception, so far as we recollect, the press was unanimous in its decision that the whole system was thoroughly bad. A good deal was said about the “tyranny” which a score or two of boys were allowed to exercise, and the public were strongly urged to crush it for ever. If this is really true, how does it happen that the testimony of the most eminent schoolmasters, and of almost every boy who has been at a public school, is in favour of investing monitors with very extensive powers, and that the complaints are made not against “fagging,” but against the abuse of it? The truth is, that life at a public school can never be properly understood except by those who have passed through it, and we are inclined, therefore, to attach the greatest weight to the evidence of one so competent to give an opinion as Dr. ARNOLD, and of those who, like Mr. MELLY, supply us with a simple record of their *School Experiences*. Every one knows what Dr. ARNOLD's opinion was on both these disputed points. As soon as he was established at Rugby, he resolved “to use, and to improve to the utmost, the existing machinery of the Sixth Form, and of fagging; understanding by the Sixth Form the thirty boys who compose the highest class—those who, having risen to the highest form in the school, will probably be at once the oldest, the strongest, and the cleverest; and, if the school be well ordered, the most respectable in application and in general character: and by fagging, the power given by the supreme authorities of the school to the Sixth Form, to be exercised by them over the lower boys, for the sake of securing a regular government among the boys themselves, and avoiding the evils of anarchy, or, in other words, of the lawless tyranny of physical strength.” The public opinion of the day was strongly against him; the system was denounced as cruel and absurd; but he stood forth as its champion, persevered, and was successful. In his hands, the Sixth Form were more like colleagues than pupils. “When I have confidence in the Sixth,” was the end of one of his farewell addresses, “there is no post in England which I would exchange for this; but if they do not support me, I must go.” Indeed, without some such machinery, no head master could maintain his own authority. The only alternative is the appointment of a staff of masters for the special office of “watching” the boys; and as for “fagging,” we do not hesitate to say that more nonsense has been written on the subject than on any other that we know of. It is not thus that the younger boys, as a general rule, are “bullied out of their lives,” nor that they feel humiliated by being compelled to obey their “monitor.” The state of the case is simply this: the monitor is bound to protect his “fag,” and the “fag” repays his protection by services which he rarely feels to be burdensome. Here is Mr. Melly's *Experiences* on the point:—

The subject of fagging at public schools has lately elicited so many remarks, and occupied so much of the public attention, that I cannot be content with merely leaving the reader to gather such incidental details as may be found in the preceding pages of my *School Experiences*.

I am aware that Englishmen are indignant, and most rightly so, at all illegal violence and arbitrary exercise of power. Not only does a mother's heart throb at the recital of a story of schoolboy tyranny; but every honest man's spirit is roused when he sees the might of the strong prevail over the right of the weak. All who have the feelings of Englishmen, are equally ready to enlist the columns of the morning papers in defence of the oppressed fag, as to rush to arms to succour an oppressed nation.

But as one swallow does not make a summer, neither should one well authenticated case of atrocious abuse of monitorial power suffice to brand the system with infamy. Besides, as we all judge of life by our individual experience of it—by the trials we ourselves have undergone—so each man judges of fagging by his recollections of his own school-days, and the impression of his own youthful troubles.

Of the various public and private schools, which are the pride of this country, each is differently governed; the discipline of one would be considered tyrannical or feminine by another; the same terms do not express the same ideas in all. The favourite

game of one would be voted *infra dig.* in the other; and cricket, football, rackets, hockey, or even marbles, may be considered “the thing” at one, and regarded with contempt by others.

Some schools seem to be preserved from all vice and irregularities by a score of masters; others appear to be trampled under foot by the tyranny and severe lickings of half a hundred monitors; while a few keep themselves free from the attacks of “Paterfamilias,” and “A Briton,” and escape unreviled and unlabeled; being neither held up to public admiration for their merits, nor to public odium for their faults. Yet it is possible that high moral principle and manly self-reliance might not exist in the first, while moral energy, gentlemanly spirit, good feeling, might prevail in the second, and deplorable laxity and irregularity might characterise the third.

I with difficulty restrain myself from replying to the abuse that has lately been lavished on the monitorial system, which hardly one of the writers upon it seems to understand. But this is intended as a narrative, and I wish to avoid controversy. Pamphlet after pamphlet has been hurled at the devoted heads of the masters who have countenanced a system under which they were born and bred, and which they found worked well with them. Nervous mothers, who were happy in the firm belief that their sons were being educated in the best schools of the land, both as to intellectual attainments, discipline, and real moral worth, have been alarmed by appeals to their maternal anxiety, forwarded to them by post; and an isolated instance of the brutal exercise of monitorial power has induced a fierce attack on the whole internal government of time-honoured institutions, which have educated, and are educating annually, thousands of young men, the élite of the nation.

My aim is not to defend fagging, for truly I believe it to need no defence; but to show, from my own experience as a fag in one of our great public schools, and not the least of them, the working of the system: what we suffered, and how we bore it; the protection it afforded to our bodies when young, and to our minds when older. I must premise, that if fagging is ever to be temperately discussed, or its trials fairly described, it must be by those who, like myself, have not their remembrance of being fagged dimmed by the recollection of the pleasure of fagging others—by those who have endured all the servitude, and have never enjoyed the rule. During the five years I spent at Harby I was a fag for three years and a half, and remained one year and a half in an intermediate state—neither fag nor captain,—leaving school just as I was about to enter the monitorial class.

What constitutes the difference between a public and a private school? It is not the numbers, for many of our private schools contain two or three hundred boys. It is self-government. We admit and cherish the principle in every other relation of life, why refuse to admit it here? The British constitution is founded on the principle of local self-government, and the great value of a public school is its close resemblance to the outer world around it. At Harby we had our monitors—a local council of forty; our public meetings—the rest of the school being often summoned to deliberate together; our laws, made by the majority and obeyed by all; our taxes—and very heavy we found them; our periodical press, and very amusing it was.

The Sixth Form at Harby was composed of about forty of the most learned, and the oldest members of the school; many of them were almost men—none of them were younger than seventeen, and they were made fully to understand, when they entered into that class, the grave responsibility of the duties intrusted to them to perform. They were to be in the capacity of gentlemen-ushers, with power to punish certain offences with certain penalties; and, in the majority of cases, without referring to the masters at all. Of course, in a matter of any importance, it would be their duty to place the whole affair immediately before the head-master of the school. In many cases they had to break with friends who were too free and easy in their observance of school rules, and who were in the habit of disregarding those which prohibited a quiet cigar by the river side, or a bottle of champagne in the bedroom feast. In all cases they were in honour bound to eschew all such practices themselves, and to lead lives of such regularity in their studies and respectability in their conduct, as to set a good example to the school and to their houses; that they should be able to punish all offences against school discipline, without rendering themselves liable to the “*et tu quoque*” retort, “Why you do just the same yourself.”

Their duties were numerous—they had to be constantly on the watch to prevent bullying and illegal fagging; to be in turn on duty in the schools and out of bounds; to read prayers, and keep order in their own houses; and—hardest task of all—to keep well with their school-fellows: to be neither too lax and undignified as masters, nor too severe and arrogant as friends. And, in most cases, they succeeded admirably: the greatest favourites of the school generally became monitors, and hardly a change was apparent in their deportment and manners. If they were treated with a little more respect by the little boys, they made up for it by increased protection and greater kindness than, as big boys only, they had been able to bestow.

To repay them for the hard duty they undertook, and to recompense them for these sacrifices they made, they were allowed to fag the younger boys: subject to certain fixed rules, and restrained by many well-known customs. Their breakfasts were made and laid out ready for them in the morning; their studies were kept clean and neat; their fires were not allowed to go out for want of fuel in winter; their flowers and plants were not allowed to wither for want of water in summer; their books were carried to and from school in lesson time; their wickets were pitched and fielded for in play hours; their tea was made, and their bread toasted or buttered, in the evening; their suppers were taken to their studies at night; and their warm water, candles, lexicons, or novels, carried up to their rooms at bed-time.

School-fagging consisted in “fielding out,” during practice hours, and scoring, or standing umpire at matches. The former was made much use of by amateurs in the monitorial class, in order to form good cricketers to replace any of the school “eleven” who might leave; in order that the great public school matches to come should maintain the Harbean reputation for cricket, unshorn of its laurels, and untamished in its fame.

Many a boy with a sure eye, a strong wrist, and a manly form, would much have preferred passing his leisure in lying on the grassy slopes during the summer, and enjoying such intellectual recreation as the prose of Alexandre Dumas or the poetry of Byron afforded; but the head of the school had determined that he should become a great cricketer, and he was dedicated to the game. Day after day he is fagged for hours. At first he detests being compelled to stand up before a wicket and defend it (as well as his legs) from the swiftly-delivered balls of the head of the eleven, and the professional bowlers; but a few months after, he ties a blue silk ribbon round his straw hat, and walks the playground in the enviable position of a member of the school eleven, and is devoted to his quondam enemy the bat.

The posts of scorer and umpire in the great matches were much sought after; for then you commanded a good view of the exciting game, mixed with the leaders of the school for a few hours, and afterwards constituted yourself a great critic of all that was well or ill done; imposing by your superior knowledge on your less fagged friends. But, with these exceptions, we found cricket-fagging hard, painful work. For two consecutive hours, day after day, did the new boy guard the wicket, in the hot summer afternoons; and if his friends (for no enemy would make so cruel a remark) said to him, “Why, you will soon get rid of fagging, and will be glad to have learned all about cricket, and how to play well”—he might well have answered, “A black dose may cure you of an indigestion, and make you better afterwards, and the taste is soon out of your mouth; but that does not make it pleasant to take.”

However, if you in any way distinguish yourself, you were instantly free, and could not be fagged again the same day; indeed, few boys in their second or third half-

years were fagged at cricket for more than a few minutes. But there were many who hated cricket, and had no wish to learn, as they did not enjoy games; their health or bent of mind preventing their taking any interest in it. To these it was hard work indeed to stand behind the wicket, frightened out of their self-possession by the terrific bowling; to run from place to place, fetching "hard-hit outs," to "long off," often half a mile away, or "long leg," which it took a long time for their short ones to reach. Besides, of all perverse and obstinate things, a cricket-ball is the most pig-headed: place yourself where you may, go where you will, it invariably slips through your fingers; there is a kind of twist about its progressive motion which defies all your attempts to arrest its onward flight. Many a cricket-ball, instead of rushing into hands ready to receive it, has leaped over my head after pitching on some hard sod, and given me a weary run to the other end of the playground to fetch it. I have heard monitors explain that cricketing was much more healthy than lying by murmuring streams reading foolish novels; but we fags did not agree with them: it kept the fags out of mischief, and taught us how to play at manly games, they urged; but we did not wish to be kept out of mischief, and liked playing cricket amongst ourselves. The most unanswerable argument was, that it put a check on the clay pipe, which at one time obtained among the "mauvais sujets" of the school.

There was also racket-fagging, but as it employed but four fags at one time, and was only unendurable from its extreme dullness and idleness, it need hardly be mentioned. The school was essentially a cricket-playing one, and the cricket-fagging was the severe out-door work.

Lastly, there was the foot-ball fagging, which the little boys disliked most, and in which masters, mothers, and the public had the greatest interest. Nurses and doctors must have disliked it most, as it lessened their occupation and their gains, so beneficial was the influence it exercised on the health of the school. During the autumn half-year—leaf-falling and showery October, bleak, rainy, foggy November, and clear frosty December—cricket being abandoned, foot-ball was in full vogue.

THE COUNTESS OF ST. ALBAN.

The Countess of St. Alban. Translated from the German of Hackländer, by Franz Demmler. Hodgson, Paternoster-row.

The translator of this book tells us that Hackländer in his own country is spoken of as the "German Boz," and his popularity at home "certainly has equalled, if not surpassed, that of his great English model." This is said to be the masterpiece of a writer whose long-established and well-earned fame "rests in a great measure on qualities of genius similar to those by which one of the most popular humourists of England has endeared himself to the reading world."

Looking at the book from this point of view, we were at a loss to recognise the meaning of the comparison to Dickens, except, perhaps, in some bits of miniature painting. The leaning towards Dumas is rather more apparent. The romance, the manners, and even the low life, are certainly more of that school than any other. There is in the *Countess of St. Alban* plenty of romance, incident, and some humour—a trifle hard, perhaps—but little story. It is rather a succession of scenes than a tale. It is however, more than merely readable, it is interesting, and often amusing. The author is evidently at home in the "coulisses." Here is a scene minutely finished. It is the rehearsal-room of the theatre of a Parisianised small German capital:

This apartment was very long, but rather narrow in proportion, and the floor somewhat inclined, like the stage itself, so that the young artists of both sexes might be enabled even here to overcome the difficulty of dancing back, up hill, as it were. Along the walls long poles were fastened horizontally, which the ladies took hold of whilst executing with their feet the strangest and most fanciful contortions.

They were a very gay company, and the merrier in the absence of their chief Signor Benetti, who was in an inner room with the solo-dancers. Here they stood, in the most remarkable costumes, in which curling papers and small caps covering the head prevailed; tight bodices of coloured or white stuff showed off their thin waists, besides which are to be mentioned the indispensable silk tricot, ending in old half-worn-out dancing-shoes. Loud laughter and gay conversation prevailed through the room. Here a group of three were standing together, their toes painfully turned outward, and with their hands on their backs, telling each other remarkable or funny stories; on another side there were two trying a new *pas* with a lanky gentleman of the *corps de ballet*; several others, in a distant corner of the hall, were polking for their own private amusement, and some diminutive beginners, in the professional slang of the ballet called "rats," were trying an exceedingly difficult final group, which somehow or other would never succeed. Now one and then the other would not pay any attention—then they tumbled over one another, rolled on the ground, scrambled up again, and tried their luck once more.

The whole appearance of the dancing-room, in broad daylight had a sort of thread-bare, washed-out look about it; it was like a ball which lasts until dawn of day, when the dresses and the *coiffures* of the fair dancers are deranged, and themselves look jaded and worn.

Again,—the rehearsal of a scene in a forthcoming ballet:—

"Well then ladies," said Signor Benetti, "now comes the scene where you, Mademoiselle Pauline (this was the name of the fair-haired *danseuse*), are to execute your *pas de deux* with the Knight Astolfo. Already, in the adagio, he tells you pantomimically that he loves you, and then expresses by dancing, 'What are the charms of the bride which is appointed to me by Fate, in comparison with thine, O sweet one?' His first *pirouette* times with the words, 'O sweet one!' then he stops, longingly stretching out his arms towards you, and you, frightened by his confession, fly from him in dismay. So: one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight—*pirouette*: 'oh, sweet one!' fly, Mademoiselle Pauline—that's it! but you should express the dismay more forcibly; otherwise it was not so bad; more dismay, if you please; only consider the importance of the moment! the catastrophe of the whole ballet hinges upon it. Once more—one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight—*pirouette*, 'O sweet one!'—stretch out your arms much more imploringly, sir—much more imploringly! Bravo! Mademoiselle Pauline, your dismay was delightful—very good indeed. Let us go on: in your solo, you answer him that you cannot love him, as he is another's; at the same time you express your regret at its being so, as in reality you love him after all;—that's it; now follows your *pirouette*; then you express by pantomime, 'Alas! Fate severs us.'—Beautiful, very well done! Now follows the grand solo of the Knight Astolfo; he cannot live without you, he will pine away in sorrow and despair;—very well done, sir!—In your solo, Mademoiselle Pauline, you relent, you become more yielding. Excellent!—your relenting is admirable.—Now begins the allegro, the *pas de deux*;—you fly from the knight; he brings you back—you hold your hands bashfully before your face—he takes the rose from your hair—you snatch it away from him again.—Bravo! Mademoiselle Pauline.—Bravo!—you defend your rose most divinely!—that's it;—Knight Astolfo, more pressing, if you please—more pressing!—bomm!—bomm!—bodommm!—bomm!—bomm!—he holds her fast—she sinks on his breast;—now a dull roll of kettle-drums.—Sixth scene.—Enter the black knights!"

The translation is too good—mistakenly anglicised down to many of the names. On the whole, this is a good accession to a "Parlour Library," and if the experiment succeeds, our public may thus rapidly reach a knowledge not only of "The German Boz," but "the German Thackeray," "the German Sue,"—to the end of the list of lumbering Teuton imitators in light literature.

PICTURES AND DIRT.

Dirt and Pictures Separated in the Works of the Old Masters. By Henry Merritt. Holyoake and Co.

Is it possible that where beauty is acknowledged paramount, ugliness and dirt should be tolerated? Yes, even admired, and certainly beloved. Such mere antiquarianism of the Dryasdust type is an affliction of art very much to be lamented. It is a mortifying thing to hear men like Hazlitt enthusiastic over 'a dark, invisible, very fine old picture,' and ascribing some merit of the Cartoons of Raphael 'to the decayed and dilapidated state of the pictures themselves, which are the more majestic for being in ruins;' 'that all the petty meretricious part of the art is dead in them—the carnal is made spiritual—the corruptible has put on incorruption—and amidst the wreck of calm, and the mouldering of material beauty, nothing is left but a universe of thought or the broad imminent shadows of calm contemplation or majestic pains.' Traces of time and 'beautiful obscurities, where doubts and curiosities go hand in hand and eternally exercise the speculations of the learned,' as Mr. Merritt says, "awaken quite as much interest and admiration when discovered on the surfaces of old pictures as when found on half obliterated coins and battered armour."

We treasure a mud-brick from Babylon because of its age, but a worm-eaten panel with a few patches of paint left upon it, that once was a picture, retains abundant evidence of its age, but has lost its true interest, and it would be ridiculous to treasure it now.

We must beware of affectations in art, for they may lead us to be influenced by the errors of superstition and ignorance. It is for us to take a clear and pure view of art, to which 'the beautiful' is the *Apvη*.

With the old Greeks there was a superstitious veneration in placing the genuine old originals of Zeus and Pallas—the '*Simulacra mæsta Deorum*'—all rude and dirty as they were—side by side with the sublime creations of Phidias: so at the present day, with the Italians, the most beautiful pictures of Raphael are not chosen as the shrines of the devoted, but it is some wretched daub of a Madonna scarcely visible; probably some Byzantine deformity blackened with the smoke of incense and many tapers. Amongst ourselves, there is no escaping from the charge of a taste for ugliness; all the monsters of Chinese art and the terrible grotesques of Gothic gargoyles are positively admired. Quaintness is a beauty. Every kind of old-looking picture that shows some heads with a patergrievous cast of countenance (saints of course), attached to impossible bodies and limbs, is sought after; and if it happen to possess the legends coming out of the mouth after the style of Gilray's caricatures, the value of the work of art is much enhanced. If these things are esteemed only as marking the stages of the art of painting, all very well; but when they are a choice of the day, they are looked upon with a prejudiced eye in a morbid and artificial taste. With artists, the academies have made them sick of beauty, and 'the school' experiences a revulsion in favour of ugliness. If young art progresses much further in search of sentiment and feeling, we shall have a spasmodic school of painting—the heads full of grimace and convulsive sorrow, with a moral in the pattern of the carpet.

We must be faithful to our love of beauty. Whatever is not beautiful must be proportionably disregarded. Time certainly brings very little beauty to pictures, which are not to be estimated as works of antiquity; it does infinitely more harm than good, and if there are means of hiding the traces of time, which are in fact decay, they should be adopted in company with every preventive possible. Mr. Merritt is a practical and conscientious restorer of pictures, not a conceited forger that has neither the eye to detect nor the love to preserve the beauties that linger on the panel. Upon cleaning, he says:—

Is it possible to clean old *dirty* pictures with beneficial results, and without injury to the original tints and touches? "No," exclaims "A Tory in Art," in the *Times*; "it is as idle to talk of restoring a picture to what it was, as to try and push back the iron hand of time. We must make up our minds to put up with a certain amount of dirt, and study the works of departed genius through the warm haze of time." Much may we profit by the contemplation of delicate beauties—as they appear through a dark crust of dirt! We may venture the assertion that the old masters would be the first to object to the present dingy condition of their productions. The questions here to be asked are, "Did the old painters calculate that their pictures would come to need cleaning?" and "Did they make any provision to that end?" Certainly they did. When oil painting first came into use, one of its useful virtues, as noted by the painters of the time, was, that it would wash. Long before Italian pictures were remarkable for correct drawing or harmonious colouring, painters had manifested anxiety for the future preservation of their works. Antonio da Messina, about the year 1494, seeing an oil picture of John Van Eyck's at Naples, and perceiving that "it might be washed with water without suffering any injury," was so satisfied of the advantages of oil painting over the old method of colouring in distemper, that he immediately set out for Bruges, and there, by presents and services, succeeded in prevailing on John Van Eyck to divulge his precious secret. It is recorded that the art of painting in oil thus found its way into Italy. Any how, there is no want of evidence that the early Italian painters were desirous that their pictures should be so painted that they might afterwards be kept clean and sightly. We find the venerable Leonardo da Vinci speculating on a method of painting a picture "that will last for ever." This durability was to be ensured by a layer of glass placed over the picture, so as to preserve it from the action of the air. We find varnishes of some sort in repute as far back as the year 1410, after which time they came into general use, and have continued so to the present day.

When we wish to preserve a print with its white margin from dust, we place a glass over it, and there is no doubt that painters, ever since the invention of oil painting, have been accustomed to varnish their pictures with a view to the preservation of the colours. There can be no question of the long and general use of varnishes, or of the one sole reason for their use.

Had varnishes always kept as hard, clear, and durable as glass, the preservation of the works of the old painters had been an easy matter; but, unfortunately, the colours of many of the finest pictures are rendered almost invisible by the discoloration and cracking of the varnishes themselves. The simple removal of these injurious incrustations is the work of the modern picture cleaner.

It is this removing of the old varnish with its accumulated dirt that is so dangerous; the use of solvents such as alcohol or naphtha is often fatal; scraping and rubbing are perhaps even more hazardous on account of the varied surface of the old painting. It is a process that cannot be conducted too cautiously, and only adopted when the picture is invisible from dirt or actually decaying before our eyes. When valuable pictures have once been cleaned they should be glazed over, especially if shown in large smoky cities, and the backs well sealed up from the attacks of insects and the settling of dust:—

Whole galleries of fine pictures have perished of neglect, arising from an utter indifference to their beauties and ignorance of their worth. It is easier to understand such a state of things in private families, than in public bodies. Pictures bought by and for the public for daily contemplation, ought to be made an example of precaution, which private owners and collectors might follow. For it is too true that here and there the sense of responsibility is dead as regards the preservation of the works of genius, which are in their royal nature a legacy to the nation in which they exist, and to the inhabitants of successive ages.

Legitimate restoring is confined to supplying actual deficiencies in a picture, not attempting to improve upon the master. Neither should it turn the work of an inferior master into a picture that may be called a Correggio by the application of the tricks of the trade. The following remarks show a conscientious study of the subject:—

The practical restorer should study to the end, that his mind may become, as it were, an index of the various styles of painting practised by the masters whose works are his care. Be the style of a painter simple or complex, graceful or ungraceful, it should be registered in its place. The restorer, like the physician, should have no bias. It is for him to trace with untiring industry, and unerring precision, the many fine distinctions in each particular work he may have to treat. He ought to comprehend, not only the meaning and spirit of each work, but be able to trace, bit by bit, with microscopic exactness, the means and the method which the artist employed to accomplish it. It is not enough for the restorer to know the results, he must also penetrate their causes—that the effects may not suffer. It would seem that nothing less than a master mind could achieve the successful treatment of a master work, but it comes out in the end, that restorers of inferior power, profiting by the creations of the artist, may be able to appreciate their excellencies though unable to produce them: just as the critic discovers in another the qualities he could never have invented himself. In a word, the restorer has wholly to devote himself to the study of pictures, until he has made himself as familiar with the productions of many pencils as the ambitious painter does with a few select examples.

Mr. Merritt's book consists principally of papers contributed to the *Leader* and *Athenæum*. They have a special value, as coming from a practical man, and one well acquainted with the style and method of painting followed by the old masters. After such dangerous experiments performed by the professors upon our Rubenses and Claudes in the national collection, it is most desirable that all that the practical and thoughtful men know of the subject should be told: we may then eventually know for certain which is the best way of cleaning, restoring, and preserving a picture.

HISTORY OF THE CHARTIST MOVEMENT.

The History of the Chartist Movement, from its Commencement down to the Present Time. With an Appendix. By R. G. Gammage. Part I.

Holyoake and Co., Fleet-street.

We have here the first part of a work which appears, so far as we have yet read, to supply a very fair historical résumé of the Chartist movement. It is of course from the Chartist point of view, but, as we might expect from the house of publication, it presents neither a violent nor an unphilosophical version of the Chartist statement; and if it continue in the same strain, it will be useful to the political inquirer and historian. We shall, however, be able to judge better when we have the work complete.

THE CENSUS.

The Census of Great Britain in 1851, comprising an Account of the Numbers and Distribution of the People, their Ages, Conjugal Condition, Occupations, and Birthplaces, with Returns of the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, and the Inmates of Public Institutions, and an Analytical Index. Reprinted, in a Condensed Form, from the Official Reports and Tables.

Longmans.

THIS volume is one which every man ought to possess who really desires to know the actual condition of his country, so far as that is indicated by its numerical distribution. The numerical distribution of the people is brought about by many circumstances connected, for example, with the past history, the existing industry, the moral state of the community; and it has in turn a material influence on the intelligence, actions, moral condition, and material progress of that community. It is of course quite impossible that a numerical Census of the people should comprise an exposition of these circumstances, but by a masterly comprehension of treatment the assistants of the Registrar-General have done much to show the relation which the figures of the Census have to the explanatory literature existing. The Census, so far as it sets forth the numbers and distribution of the people, its ages, conjugal condition, occupation, birthplace, infirmities, crime, and public institutions, is here re-compressed, without losing much of the elucidatory comment that gives so much value to the whole. Take the chapter on the conjugal condition of the people alone, and see what a key is here given to understand the past, to estimate the present, and to guide the moralist in the consideration of the future.

FENN'S COMPENDIUM.

Fenn's Compendium of the English and Foreign Funds, with Statements of the Debts and Revenues of all Nations, also of Banks, Railways, Mines, and the Principal Joint Stock Companies; forming an Epitome of the various objects of Investment and Speculation which are Negotiable in London, with Laws and Regulations of the Stock Exchange, Tables, &c. Fourth Edition, revised and corrected, and brought down to the present time, by Edward Ayres, Editor of the "Banker's Circular."

Nor very long since there was a prevalent opinion that financial or monetary affairs required some special genius to understand them. We have made some advance since that time, and although we are inclined to think that a very profound perception of financial matters demands qualities seldom found combined in one man, yet there is no doubt that a competent knowledge of the subject is open to most who have sufficient faculty to cast up an inn-bill, or attain the end of a railway journey with a solvent purse. The whole is made up of the parts; big funds belonging to nations do not essentially differ from little funds belonging to private persons. The only difference lies in arbitrary regulations to which very fine names have been given, and in devices by which the uninitiated are made to understand that one thing is accomplished when another is really done. We doubt, for example, whether there were not really people who believed that Mr. Pitt borrowed a hundred pounds at a moderate per centage, when by some wonderful hocus pocus the capitalists had to pay something less than 60% for 100% stock. They called it 100%, and they called it stock, and they professed to pay 5 per cent. for it. The great profound monopolizers of monetary knowledge, the practical men who pocketed round sums by the transaction, declared that the minister was heaven-born; the vulgar felt that they could not understand it; and by favour of that submissive ignorance such things were done. In our days we disbelieve the mystery,—we ask what is really borrowed,—we learn the real price for the loan, and we will not support ministers who are for hurrying us into liabilities on the heaven-born plan. One of the reasons why we have arrived at this more practical view of the subject in its humbler relations, is the existence of manuals like the present book. Here, in a small octavo volume, we have a complete account of the English funds, their origin in various loans contracted at different times, their vicissitudes, redemptions, conversions, reductions, consolidations, additions, &c., their present state, and equivalent values. We have the same explanation, rapidly of course, respecting foreign funds; we have also an account of that important body the Stock Exchange, with its rules and regulations; the standing rules and practices respecting bills of exchange, and other instruments current in the commercial world; equations of foreign moneys, state of railway stocks, with a mass of other things bearing on the great trade in money. *Fenn's Compendium of the Funds* had acquired repute, but in taking it up to fit it for republication in our own day, Mr. Ayres found that so much had happened since the last edition, in 1840, to alter the very substance of the book, that it necessarily became to a great extent a new work. And so it is. The mere enlargement of financial operations is but a small part of the change within the last fourteen years. Opinions on the subject have been materially modified in this country; and within the last twelve months immense light has been thrown upon some important sections of the subject at home and abroad. To take one example,—the reputed solvency and high principle of Russia have been completely exploded by the events of the present year. All such facts are brought down to the present time. The most recent events, for example, respecting the foreign debt of Spain, the financial efforts of Turkey, the reckless measures of Russia, are all here given. We even find extracted from the official French journal that *exposé* of the singular relation between the Russian Government and the land-owners, who are the principal tax-payers, which exhibits the Imperial Government in partnership with its own debtors to the extent of 120,000,000%. It is, we say, to the ready command which the public has of works like the present that we must ascribe the general diffusion of intelligent comprehension on the subject of finance; placing the best of all checks upon the heaven-born antics which have plunged this country more deeply into debt than any state in the world, and for which our humblest classes to this day are paying far more than will be demanded from them for making the Emperor of Russia know his place.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

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| <i>A Voice from the East.</i> By Mrs. St. John. | Saunders and Otley. |
| <i>The Principles of School Architecture.</i> By Henry Barnard. | Trübner and Co. |
| <i>Houses with the Fronts off.</i> By Hein Friswell. Illustrated by W. M'Connell. | London: T. Blackwood. |
| <i>The British Commonwealth; a Commentary on the Institutions and Principles of British Government.</i> By Homersham Cox, M.A., &c. | Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans. |
| <i>Outlines of Botany: being an Introduction to the Study of the Structure, Functions, Classification, and Distribution of Plants.</i> By John Hutton Balfour, M.D., F.L.S., F.R.S.E., &c. | Adam and Charles Black. |
| <i>The Lofly and the Lowly: or, Good in All, and None all Good.</i> By M. I. McIntosh. | George Routledge and Co. |
| <i>My Comrade and My Colours: or, Men who know not when they're Beaten.</i> By the Rev. Erskine Neale, M.A. | Trübner and Co. |
| <i>The Synodicon.</i> Parts I. to IV. | Edward Thompson. |
| <i>The Mosaic Record in Harmony with the Geological.</i> | Thomas Constable and Co. |
| <i>Milton's Paradise Lost and Paradise Regained, with Explanatory Notes.</i> By the Rev. J. Edmonston. | T. Nelson and Sons. |
| <i>The Flower of the Family.</i> A Tale. | T. Nelson and Sons. |
| <i>Randarah, the Irish Fairymen; and Legends of Carrick.</i> By John O'Neill. With an Introduction by Mrs. S. C. Hall. | W. Tweedie. |
| <i>The Professionist, and Magazine for the People.</i> Part I. | Horsell and Shirress. |
| <i>Cholera Chemically Considered.</i> By D. Griffith Jones, M.D., M.R.C.S. | Horsell and Shirress. |
| <i>The Palace of the Foul versus the Crystal Palace, in re Wine and Beer.</i> By Omega. | Horsell and Shirress. |
| <i>Life's Lesson.</i> A Tale. | Sampson Low, Son and Co. |

The Arts.

PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEWS IN ROME AND VENICE.*

WE have before us about a score of views taken by the photograph in Rome and Venice, presenting one of the happiest applications of the art; while some of the views are among its most perfect results. There is in all ordinary art, except of the very highest kind, a constant tendency to deviate from the correct type of nature into mannerism. An artist acquires a happy knack of giving some particular effect—such as the sharpness of angles or projections, which distinguishes the style of Prout; or the smoothness of effect which belongs to Copley Fielding; or, going into the opposite extreme, the concentrated vividness which Turner procured for a prominent object by strongly opposed tints and vagueness of texture at a distance from the centre. But in either case the artist who has succeeded in the particular trait, has a tendency to exaggerate the force of that trait and to sacrifice the rest of the picture to a part. The most successful view-takers have been bred in the theatre; and in Canaletto or Stanfield we may see the result of the discipline which the artist undergoes in being compelled to produce such reality as would deceive the senses. It may be said that the finest painting can do more than excel the nature which it copies. A great artist, indeed, may omit from the picture accidental points that tend to diminish its effect by disturbance, but he cannot do more than nature herself does. He can only obtain an improvement by an abatement; and the most complete picture, undoubtedly would be that which should bring up every part to as much perfection as the hand can attain. Here again, there is another corrupting tendency—that to give the details a greater prominence than they really bear. The gradation of force in the shadow and tints of objects, as they are seen in nature, is so extremely gentle that it is very difficult for the painter to follow it; and the eye so readily gets vitiated, is so readily tempered by strong prints and shadows, that it is easily drawn away from the regular series of gradations. The greatest masters, indeed, copied natural effects. Titian could give minuteness and force, and at the same time retain breadth. This combination is the grand characteristic of the old masters: they preserve that breadth, which, at a comparatively distant view, masses the objects in a few simple forms, while they faithfully follow the details, still keeping them in their proper proportion of force.

The old masters, and especially the one whom we have just named, are fully justified by the photograph, which has shown us how the most minute copying can be attained, and even perfected, with the broadest light and shade.

Amongst the score of views that we have before us, there are several objects extremely familiar even to those who have not visited Rome or Venice, from the frequency with which they have been portrayed. We have, for instance, several of the remains of the temples of Jupiter Tonans, of Venus, and Vesta, and the arch of Septimus Severus,—mere relics of the ancient structure, sometimes remaining as models of beauty for succeeding ages; we have the men and horses on Monte Cavallo, one of which has been copied, improperly enough, as “Achilles” in the Park; we have the Rialto, the Ducal Palace, and St. Mark's, at Venice. But in no former style of view-taking has the reality of the building, the absolute form of the statue, the strict identity of effect, been laid before the spectator at a distance as we now find it through the photograph. Here, nevertheless,—while you can count every brick, while you can point to the literal exactness of each particular line in the contour of a statue and in the marking of the details—to each letter in the inscription on the pedestal, you have, at the same time the breadth of light and shadow, which gives the effect of the whole; and still you have the proportions of size, of tint, and “effect,” which place you almost bodily in the scene. On the Colonna Antonina, you can trace many of the well-known groups in the ascending spiral. In the front of the new Post-office, included in the same view, and again in the Piazza of St. Mark, you see the details of every window; the legs of the chairs before one of the *caffès*; and, nevertheless, you have the effect of the whole, as if you stood with your back to the cathedral. A bas-relief by Gibson, representing Phaeton—an imitation of ancient sculpture,—is here before you in such relief, that the hand itself moves to touch the form and test its substance; but always with the same breadth. In the picture of the Rialto, the shadows are as soft as Copley Fielding could have made them: but Prout himself could not have translated the details with more sharpness, nor could a Mieris have equalled the minuteness. In the Ducal Palace again, while the peculiar and massive forms of that extraordinary building are presented with great force and grandeur, you have at once a Rembrandt effect of light and shade, and a closeness and force of detail that far excel Canaletto.

The happiest specimen of all represents the old church at Rome, whose

name we forget, opposite to the Temple of Vesta: it is one of the smaller views, and presents by no means one of the most striking specimens of architecture; but as a specimen of photography it is perfect. Here, again, there is the same breadth of light and shadow with the same minuteness. It is interesting to note the sharpness and accuracy of line with which the minuter forms, such as certain iron rails, can be traced into shadow, and even through the shadow which at first appears entirely to submerge them. In short, these specimens of photography, while they justify the old masters, give at once the most faithful views that can be rendered of objects at a distance, and the most sterling lesson which the landscape painter can derive in the elements of accurate drawing and broad effect.

THE KING'S RIVAL.

ON Monday last the ST. JAMES'S THEATRE opened, under the management of Mrs. Seymour, with an English play and an English company. The play was *The King's Rival*, expressly written for the occasion by Mr. Tom Taylor and Mr. Charles Reade. The company includes among the lady-members Miss Glyn and Mrs. Seymour; and among the gentlemen-members, the very worst collection of actors we ever saw in any theatre *not* situated on the Surrey side of the Thames. In trying to offer any estimate of the dramatic value of *The King's Rival*, we labour under the disadvantage of having seen a play so badly acted by the principal male performers in it, that we are doubtful whether, in common justice to the authors, we ought to criticise it at all. If we may venture to form any opinion, under the most adverse stage circumstances, we should say that the first three acts of *The King's Rival* struck us as being the weakest parts of the play. The last two acts were really interesting. They contained some excellent situations, and some very clever and telling scenes. The play may be described as a dramatic picture of the Court of Charles the Second. The “King's Rival” is the Duke of Richmond; and the lady who is the object of the rivalry is the famous Miss Stewart—transformed, however, by the authors, from the loose, indolent, card-house building lady described by De Grammont, to a perfect pattern of virtue, and a very Griselda of affectionate endurance. This violation of historical truth is, as it appears to us, a mistake in Art. Miss Stewart, as represented in the play, is the conventionally virtuous lady of the stage. She is loved—she is wrongly suspected—she is cleared of suspicion—she is happy at last. Miss Stewart, as she really was—unworthy of honourable love, yet winning that love by her own irresistible attractions—securing it, and yet not being fully certain of it—always in danger of being justly despised the moment she ceased to be adored—would have been a more original dramatic figure in the stage composition. However, it is our business here to speak of the play—not as it *might* have been written, but as it is written. The third act is, in every sense, the doubtful and perilous act of the drama. The fourth saved the play—the striking situation at the end being thoroughly worthy of the unanimous applause which followed the fall of the “drop-scene.” The last act, too, was full of clever dramatic writing. The interview between Charles and Nell Gwynne is one of the most successful scenes in the play; and the final speech is the best we have heard for many a long day on the English stage—the best, because the writers have had the sense and courage not to make it ridiculous by making it a “tag.”

The acting, so far as the ladies were concerned, deserves the warmest praise. The hearty good-nature and gaiety of Nell Gwynne were represented by Mrs. Seymour with an ease, sprightliness, and unflagging spirit which won—and deserved to win—the sympathy and admiration of the audience from the moment when she first appeared on the stage. Miss Glyn, in the part of Miss Stewart, acted admirably from the first scene to the last. We beg especially to congratulate her on the almost complete absence of anything like stage conventionality in her performance. She was natural, tender, womanly throughout the play—graceful without affectation—and impressive without effort. She gave the actors who were engaged with her in the scene a lesson in their art which they might all have profited by—but they were incapable of profiting by anything. The more gracefully and naturally Miss Glyn acted, the more Mr. G. Vandenhoff and Mr. T. Mead (as Charles the Second and the Duke of Richmond) roared, rolled their eyes, strutted, stamped, attitudinised, crossed the stage, and bid for gallery applause, which we are most unaffectedly rejoiced to say they did *not* obtain. The actors of less prominent parts were less positively offensive—we will treat them with all possible tenderness, and utter no critical words in relation to any one of them. But if the speculation at the ST. JAMES'S THEATRE is to prosper (and we most sincerely wish it may prosper), the truth must be told as regards the male members of the company generally. Unless Mrs. Seymour engages some new actors who really can act, all that she can do, and all that Miss Glyn can do, and all that Mr. Tom Taylor and Mr. Charles Reade can do, will not avail to give the management of the ST. JAMES'S THEATRE the high place which we yet hope to see it hold in the estimation of the play-going public.

* Published by Giuseppe Spithöver, Piazza di Spagna, Rome. Agent by appointment, Trübner and Co.

THE POPE'S “COUNCIL.”—His Grace the Archbishop of Tuam proceeds to Rome at the close of this week, on the invitation of his Holiness, to attend the great meeting of the prelates of the church, where the Irish hierarchy will be represented also by his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin and his Grace the Archbishop of Armagh, Primate.

THE BAL TIC FLEET IN THE WINTER.—We understand that official inquiries have been prosecuted as to the best station on our coast where a portion of the Baltic fleet now under Sir Charles Napier's command might pass the winter, and that a strong recommendation has been given in favour of the Cromarty Firth. The likelihood is, therefore, that some six or eight line-of-battle ships may lie at Cromarty for some months in the ensuing winter.—*Inverness Advertiser*.

ESCAPE OF A CONVICT.—Joseph Ralph, the man who was sentenced to twenty years' transportation for a rob-

bery at Grimsby, and who escaped from Lincoln Castle a short time ago, escaped a second time from Lincoln Castle on Monday last, and has not since been heard of.

THE ROYAL MARINES AND THE MOUSTACHE.—The Lords of the Admiralty have issued an order, directing the Royal Marines to grow the moustaches, in order that there shall be no distinction between the British soldier and the marine, who are constantly joined in the same service and share the same honours and dangers.

SCOTTISH RIGHTS AND LORD EGLINTON.—There has been a feast at Glasgow, consecrated to the cause of what are called “Scottish Rights,” and in honour of Lord Eglinton, the champion of the cause. The banquet was given by the National Association for the Vindication of Scottish Rights; and to meet the invited guest, were, among others, the Duke of Montrose, Sir Thomas Gladstone, Sir Archibald Alison, Mr. J. Baird, M.P., Professor Aytoun, and so on. From the speeches

it appears that the Association means to go on, and “place its requests before Parliament, and at the foot of the throne, believing it will not be long before its wishes will be accorded to them by the good feelings of the people of England and the matronly solicitude of their Royal mistress.”

MR. ROEBUCK AND THE SHEFFIELD MEETING.—The *Spectator* says:—At a recent Sheffield meeting, which Mr. Roebuck was invited to attend, he attended not; he sent a letter, but the letter was published not; it is supposed to consist of reasons why the Independent member would not attend to play the game of Russia by attempting to defeat the Western Powers in their use of the Austrian alliance; and hence, no doubt, its suppression. Is that timely thesis to be counted amongst the lost works of literature? Can it not be published? What have the Sheffield people done with their copy?

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, October 3.

BANKRUPTS.—WILLIAM CLERK, Surbiton, Kingston-upon-Thames, builder—JOHN ROLFE, Faversham, Kent, tailor—JOHN SMART, Great Tower-street, wine merchant—JOSEPH PEERS, Ruthin, Denbighshire, scrivener—JOHN BARNES, Ulverstone, Lancashire, grocer.

Friday, October 6.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—SAMUEL BEDDOE, West Bromwich, Staffordshire, linen draper.

BANKRUPTS.—THOMAS GEORGE CURTIS, Oxford-street, licensed victualler—JOSEPH ASHER, Old Dalby, Leicester, miller—EMMA STEELE FOULHAM, Burton Joyce, Nottingham, braid and trimming manufacturer—JOHN HUGHALL, Nottingham, grocer—HENRY COBBIN WELSFORD, Tewkesbury, corn factor—JOHN CHANCELLOR, Phoenix-place, Dorington-street, Clerkenwell, funeral carriage master—JAMES THORNTON CARTWRIGHT, East-street, Walworth, timber merchant—CHARLES WARWICK, Manchester, commission agent—JOHN BARNES, Ulverstone, grocer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.—HUGH KEITH, Glasgow, potato dealer.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

AYLMER.—September 30, at Croydon, the Hon. Mrs. Aylmer: a stillborn son.
BERESFORD.—September 24, at Aylesbury, the wife of Captain G. de la Poer Beresford, 16th Regiment: a daughter.
GARDNER.—October 1, at 6, Westbourne-terrace-road, Hyde-park, the wife of Harry Gardner, Esq.: a son.
HOLFORD.—October 2, at the Round House, near Ware, the wife of Charles E. Holford, Esq.: a son.
PALMER.—October 3, at Tunbridge-wells, Lady Laura Palmer: a daughter.
PETTINGREW.—September 29, at 27, Onslow-square, Brompton, the wife of the Rev. A. F. Pettingrew, A.M.: a son.
NEILSON.—September 29, at Doe-park, near Liverpool, the wife of John B. Neilson, Esq.: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

POLEY—HALLIFAX.—October 3, Walter Johnson Weller, youngest son of the late George Weller Poley, Esq., of Boxed Hall, Suffolk, to Catherine, eldest daughter of the Rev. John Savile Hallifax, rector of Groton, in the same county.
PATERSON—LINDSAY.—October 3, Windham Francis Paterson, Esq., of Claremont, Clare Castle, Ireland, to Annie, eldest daughter of Lieut.-Colonel M. G. T. Lindsay, late commanding officer of the 91st, Argyleshire.
LOWIS—MANGLES.—October 5, John Mangles Lowis, Esq., of the Bengal Civil Service, eldest son of John Lowis, Esq., late a member of the Council of India, to Ellen, eldest daughter of Ross Donnelly Mangles, Esq., M.P., of Woodbridge, Surrey.
CHAWNER—VAUGHTON.—September 30, Richard Crofts Chawner, Esq., of Wall, Lichfield, Fellow of Trinity Hall Cambridge, to Catherine Harriett, eldest surviving daughter of the late Thos. Hall Vaughton, Esq., of Fillongley.
M'ANDREW—WHELAN.—On Tuesday, the 11th of April last, John Lennox M'Andrew, Esq., Captain of her Majesty's 4th (King's Own) Regiment, to Emily Philippa, eldest daughter of George Francis Whelan, Esq., Northumberland-street, Regent's-park, formerly of Weymouth and Portland.
ADAIR—CLARKSON.—October 3, Sir Robert Shafto Adair, Bart., of Flixton-hall, Suffolk, to Jane Ann, eldest daughter of the late Rev. Townley Clarkson, vicar of Hinxton, Cambridgeshire.
WAUGH—JONES.—September 30, George Waugh, Esq., of Great James-street, Bedford-row, solicitor, to Mary Jane, widow of Robert Jones, Esq., of Sydney, New South Wales, and second daughter of John Bowling, Esq., of Pingsworth-house, Hammersmith.
LYTTLETON.—September 28, the Hon. and Rev. William H. Lyttelton, to Emily, daughter of the Bishop of Worcester.
BROUGHAM—CROPPER.—October 4, James R. Brougham Esq., barrister-at-law, fourth son of the late John Waugh Brougham, Esq., and nephew of Henry Lord Brougham, to Isabella Eliza, fourth daughter of John Cropper, Esq., of Dingle Bank, Liverpool.

DEATHS.

HOPETOUN.—October 1, at Edinburgh, Louisa, Countess of Hopetoun, relict of the late John, Earl of Hopetoun.
ROUPELL.—September 29, in Welbeck-street, after a few hours' illness, George Leith Roupell, M.D., F.R.S., one of the physicians to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
WINSLOW.—October 3, at the residence of her son, the Rev. Dr. Octavius Winslow, Leamington, in her eighty-first year, Mary, relict of the late Captain Thomas Winslow, of her Majesty's 47th Regiment, and only daughter of the late Robert Forbes, M.D., of Bermuda.
THISTLETHWAYTE.—September 14, of cholera, on board the ship Andos, in his twenty-seventh year, a few hours before the landing of the troops in the Crimea, Henry Alex. Thistlethwayte, Lieutenant in the 33rd Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and son of Henry F. Thistlethwayte, Esq., of 43, Cadogan-place.
WODEHOUSE.—October 1, at Worthing, Mary Hay, widow of the late Vice-Admiral the Hon. Philip Wodehouse, aged sixty-two.
KING.—September 22, at Catalan Bay, Gibraltar, suddenly, of disease of the heart, Katherine, the beloved wife of Brevet-Major George King, 13th Light Infantry, aged thirty-five years.
HAWES.—September 18, at Malta, the Hon. Cecilia Priscilla Hawes, wife of Captain Hawes, 9th Regiment.
VIDLER.—September 27, at Ryde, in the sixty-sixth year of his age, John Vidler, Esq., Vice-Consul for France, Sweden and Norway, and the Hansa Towns.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEYMARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, October 6, 1854.

The funds have been affected during the week about one percent. Monday morning the momentary enthusiasm sent them up to 90, 90½, but sellers quickly came in, and they fell to their former price, 89½, 89½. Throughout yesterday people

began to doubt the truth of the actual capture of Sebastopol; and before the Stock Exchange closed the third editions announced officially that the news was premature; yet, owing to the intolerable stupidity of some officials, the whole despatch, owing to misdates, seems utterly absurd. As yet, however, people keep up their spirits, and would fain hope the best; but if the siege is prolonged I cannot help fancying two per cent. will not be the bottom of the fall. The Liverpool, and some other failures, have not helped to lighten the pressure for money; against this we have good bank bullion returns and better exchanges. Shares in railways, &c., have been very flat and heavy all the week. The public are waiting patiently to see which way things will turn. Mines are a dead letter; land companies, banks, &c., no great difference.

Consols close this evening firmer, 95½, 95½.
 Caledonians, 61½, 61½, x. d.; Eastern Counties, 11½, 11½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 57, 59; Great Northern, 87, 88; Great Western, 71, 71½; Great Irish South-Western, 90, 92; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 71½, 72; London and Blackwall, 83, 84; London and Brighton, 103, 104; London and North-Western, 101½, 102; London and South-Western, 82, 84; Midland, 69½, 70; North Staffordshire, 4½, 4½ dis.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 32, 34; Scottish Central, 95, 97 x. d.; South Devon, 13, 14; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 6½, 6½; Great Luxembourg, 2½, 2½; Madras, par, ½ pm.; Namur and Liège, 7, 7½; Paris and Lyons, 19½, 20 pm.; Paris and Orleans, 49, 50; Paris and Rouen, 38, 40; Paris and Strasbourg, 32½, 33; Royal Danish, par, 1 pm.; Royal Swedish, ½ dis.; Norwegian Frank Press, 9, 10; Western of France, 6, 6½ pm.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.
(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 per Cent. Red. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 per Cent. Con. An.	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
Consols for Account	95½	95½	95½	95½	95	95½
3½ per Cent. An. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New 2½ per Cents .....	.....	82	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860 .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
India Stock .....	.....	.....	230	.....	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000	9 p	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 p
Ditto, under £1000 .....	.....	10 p	10 p	.....	.....	.....
Ex. Bills, £1000	8 p	5	8	5 p	4 p	7
Ditto, £500	8 p	5	8	5 p	5 p	7
Ditto, Small	8 p	5	8	5 p	5 p	4

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds	99	Russian Bonds, 5 per	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cnts.	54	Cents 1822 .....	.....
Chilian 3 per Cents .....	.....	Russian 4½ per Cents	88
Danish 3 per Cents	100	Spanish 3 p. Ct. New Def. 18½	.....
Ecuador Bonds .....	.....	Spanish Committee Cert. ....	.....
Mexican 3 per Cents	25	of Coup. not fun.	5½
Mexican 3 per Ct. for	.....	Venezuela 3½ per Cents .....	.....
Acc., Oct. 17	25	Belgian 4½ per Cents	92½
Portuguese 4 per Cents.	41	Dutch 2½ per Cents	62
Portuguese 5 per Cents. ....	.....	Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	92

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.—The

Public are respectfully informed that this Theatre will RE-OPEN on MONDAY NEXT, October 9. The dress circle has been enlarged and reseat, and a row of upper box stalls has been constructed, which may be retained the whole evening, price 4s., second price, 2s. The performances will commence with the comedietta, entitled A MATCH in the DARK.—Mr. Clements, Mr. Frederick Vining; Vellum, Mr. E. Giffon; Captain Courtney, Mr. Alfred Wigan; O'Flinn, Mr. Darvers; Ellen Marsden, Miss Fitzpatrick; Prudence McIntyre, Mrs. Alfred Wigan. After which, the National Anthem will be sung. To be followed by the Comic Drama of HUSH MONEY.—Mr. Jasper Touchwood, Mr. F. Robson; Snuggle, Mr. J. H. White; Charles White, Mr. Gladstone; Stock, Mr. H. Rivers; Snorem, Mr. Moore; Tom Tiller, Mr. Emory; Lydia, Miss Dormer; Mrs. Crab, Miss Stephens; Sally, Mrs. Alfred Wigan. To conclude with the new farce of PERFECT CONFIDENCE.—Mr. Easy, Mr. F. Robson; Mr. Johnson, Mr. Emory; Herbert Atherton, Mr. Leslie; Mrs. Easy, Miss Marston; Julia, Miss Emily Ormonde; Julia, Miss B. Turner. First Price—Stalls, 5s.; upper box stalls, 4s.; boxes, 4s.; pit, 2s.; gallery, 1s.—Second Price at nine o'clock—Upper box stalls, 2s.; boxes, 2s.; pit, 1s.; gallery, 6d.; private boxes, 2½. 2s. and 1½. 1s.

LIEUTENANT PERRY'S DEFENCE.

Dr. KHAN'S MUSEUM, Top of Haymarket.—On MONDAY NEXT, Oct. 9, the PROCEEDS of this Exhibition will be DEVOTED to the DEFENCE and TESTIMONIAL FUND of Lieut. PERRY. This Museum, acknowledged by the Press and the leading scientific men in Europe to be unparalleled in any country in the world, has now been rendered even more attractive than before, by the addition of numerous new models illustrating points of the greatest interest. Lectures as usual—to gentlemen by Dr. Sexton, and to ladies by Mrs. Sexton. Admission, 1s. Open daily from Eleven till Two, and from Seven till Ten.

THE WHITTINGTON CLUB,

Established 1848, affords all the Advantages of a Literary Institution and a Club-house, including—Library and News Room, Lectures, Classes, and Concerts, Weekly Soirées (free to the Members); Dining, Supper, Smoking, and Chess Rooms.

Subscription, Two Guineas a year; One Guinea a half-year; Fourteen Shillings a Quarter. No Entrance Fee. A full Prospectus, and List of Lectures, commencing on the 5th instant, may be had on application.

HENRY Y. BRACE, Secretary.
37, Arundel-street, Strand.

REV. G. W. CONDER (of Leeds) will

open the Session at the WHITTINGTON CLUB, on Thursday, October 12, with a Lecture on "MIND, its WORLD and its POWERS," to commence at eight o'clock. Members Free, with the usual privilege for their friends; Non-Members 1s.

A Syllabus of the Lecture may be had of the Secretary.
HENRY Y. BRACE, Secretary.
37, Arundel-street, Strand.

PATRON—H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

NOTICE.—Mr. PEPPER, the Resident Director, begs leave to announce that the WHOLE of the RECEIPTS of the INSTITUTION on the EVENING of THURSDAY, the 12th inst., will be handed over to the ASSOCIATIONS for the BENEFIT of the WIDOWS and ORPHANS of the BRAVE MEN now FIGHTING the BATTLES of their COUNTRY.

An INTRODUCTORY LECTURE to a COURSE on PHYSIOLOGY as connected with HEALTH, by Dr. CARPENTER, F.R.S., &c., on Monday Evening, the 9th inst., at Eight o'clock.

An entirely new and splendid DUBOSCO'S ILLUMINATED CASCADE APPARATUS, throwing three Jets instead of one, and DUBOSCO'S NEW SUBMARINE ELECTRIC LAMP. MODEL of the HARBOUR and FORTIFICATIONS of SEBASTOPOL, made by Sergeant FALKLAND and Corporal THOMAS, of the Royal Sappers and Miners, Woolwich.

DISSOLVING VIEWS of the SEAT of WAR in the BALTIC and BLACK SEA, with new PICTURES of the HOLY PLACES, and SEBASTOPOL and CRONSTADT.

Exhibition of the OXY-HYDROGEN MICROSCOPE.

Lectures on NATURE-PRINTING, and on CHEMISTRY.

On and after Monday the 9th inst., the Institution will be open at Twelve o'clock.

MANNERS and CUSTOMS of the

TURKISH NATION. "Past and Present," from Osman, founder of the Ottoman dynasty, down to the present Sultan, Abdul Megid Khan. This extraordinary and unique COLLECTION of MODELS (life size) is realised so as to defy imitation. Illustrated by costumes (naval, military, and civil), arms, insignia of office; also the buildings, the Harem, the Hamam, or Turkish bath, the khav, bazaars, carriages, cattle, and scenery, including every minute detail, rendering all the groups strictly correct and truly natural. "They are all of the most life-like description."—Vide the daily journals, August 9, 1854. The TURKISH EXHIBITION and ORIENTAL MUSEUM is OPEN DAILY, from 11 till 10. Saturdays it closes at 6 p.m.—Admission 2s. 6d.; children and schools half-price. Family tickets (for five), 10s. Admission on Saturdays, 5s.; children, 2s. 2d.

DUTY OFF TEA.—The REDUCTION

of the TEA DUTY, and the easy state of the Tea-market, enables PHILLIPS and Company to SELL—

Strong Congou Tea, 2s. 8d., 2s. 10d., and 3s.
 Rich Souchong Tea, 3s. 2d., 3s. 4d., and 3s. 8d.
 The Best Assam Pekoe Souchong Tea, 4s.
 Prime Gunpowder Tea, 3s. 8d., 4s., and 4s. 4d.
 Best Moyune Gunpowder, 4s. 8d.
 The Best Pearl Gunpowder, 5s.
 Prime Coffee, 1s., 1s. 2d., and 1s. 3d.
 The Best Mocha and the Best West India Coffee 1s. 4d.
 Sugars are supplied at market prices.

All goods sent carriage free, by our own vans, if within eight miles. Teas, coffees, and spices sent carriage free to any railway station or market-town in England, if to the value of 40s. or upwards, by

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A general price-current sent free on application.

THE 16s. Trousers reduced to 14s.—

Trousers and Waistcoat, 22s.—Coat, Waistcoat, and Trousers, 47s., made to order from Scotch Tweeds, all wool, by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant Tailor, 74, Regent-street.

A perfect fit guaranteed.

THE CHOLERA!!!

Prevented by the destruction of all noxious effluvia. CREWS'S DISINFECTING FLUID, recommended by the College of Physicians, the Cheapest and strongest Chloride of Zinc. Quarts, 2s.; pints, 1s.; half-pints, 6d. Sold by all Chemists, Druggists, and Shipping Agents, and at Commercial Wharf, Mile-end, London.

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OF CHOLERA YET DISCOVERED.—Further Great Reduction in Price.—CREWS'S DISINFECTING FLUID is the Best and Cheapest for the purification of Dwelling Houses, Stables, Dog Kennels, Ships' Holds, Cess-pools, Drains, Water Closets, &c., the Disinfection of Sick Rooms, Clothing, Linen, and for the Prevention of Contagion and Bad Smells.

The extraordinary power of this Disinfecting and Purifying Agent is now acknowledged, and its use recommended by the College of Physicians and the London Board of Health. Unlike the action of many other disinfectants, it destroys all noxious smells, and is itself scentless. The manufacturer, having destroyed a monopoly fostered by the false assumption of the title of a patent, has to warn the public against all spurious imitations. Each Bottle of Crews's Disinfecting Fluid contains a densely concentrated solution of Chloride of Zinc, which may be diluted for use with 200 times its bulk of water. Vide instructions accompanying each bottle. Sold by all Chemists and Shipping Agents in the United Kingdom. Imperial quarts at 2s.; pints at 1s.; half-pints 6d.; larger vessels at 5s. per gallon. Manufactured at H. G. GRAY'S, Commercial Wharf, Mile-end, London.

AMERICAN SASSAPARILLA.

A OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S AMERICAN SASSAPARILLA. This is, of all known remedies, the most pure, safe, active, and efficacious in the purification of the blood of all morbid matter, of bile, uric acids, scrofulous substances, humours of all kinds, which produce rashes, eruptions, salt rheum, erysipelas, scald head, sore eyes and ears, sore throat and ulcers, and sores on any part of the body. It is unsurpassed in its action upon the liver, the lungs, and the stomach, removing any cause of disease from those organs, and expelling all humours from the system. By cleansing the blood, it for ever prevents pustules, scabs, pimples and every variety of sores on the face and breast. It is a great tonic, and imparts strength and vigour to the debilitated and weak, gives rest and refreshing sleep to the nervous and restless invalid. It is a great female medicine, and will cure more complaints peculiar to the sex than any other remedy in the world. Warehouse, 373, Strand, adjoining Exeter Hall: POMEROY, ANDREWS, and CO., Sole Proprietors. Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; pints, 4s.; small quarts, 4s. 6d.; quarts, 7s. 6d.; mannethe, 11s.

FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS,

Buyers of the above are requested, before finally deciding, to visit **WILLIAM S. BURTON'S SHOW-ROOMS**, 39, Oxford-street (corner of Newman-street), Nos. 1 & 3, Newman-street, and 4 & 5, Perry's-place. They are the largest in the world, and contain such an assortment of **FENDERS, STOVES, RANGES, FIRE-IRONS, and GENERAL IRONMONGERY**, as cannot be approached elsewhere, either for variety, novelty, beauty of design, or exquisiteness of workmanship. Bright Stoves, with bronzed ornaments and two sets of bars, 2l. 14s. to 5l. 10s.; ditto with ormolu ornaments and two sets of bars, 5l. 10s. to 12l. 12s.; Bronzed Fenders complete, with standards, from 7s. to 3l.; Steel Fenders from 2l. 15s. to 6l.; ditto, with rich ormolu ornaments, from 2l. 15s. to 7l. 7s.; Fire-irons from 1s. 9d. the set to 4l. 4s. Sylvester and all other Patent Stoves, with radiating hearth plates. All which he is enabled to sell at these very reduced charges.

Firstly—From the frequency and extent of his purchases; and
Secondly—From those purchases being made exclusively for cash.

PAPIER MACHE and IRON TEA-

TRAYS. An assortment of Tea Trays and Waiters, wholly unprecedented, whether as to extent, variety, or novelty.

New Oval Papier Maché Trays, per set of three ... from 20s. 0d. to 10 guineas.
Ditto, Iron ditto ... from 13s. 0d. to 4 guineas.
Convex shape ditto ... from 7s. 6d.
Round and Gothic waiters, cake and bread baskets, equally low.

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The increased and increasing use of Gas in Private Houses has induced **WILLIAM S. BURTON** to collect from all the various manufacturers all that is New and Choice in Brackets, Pendants, and Chandeliers, adapted to offices, passages, and dwelling-rooms, as well as to have some designed expressly for him; these are now ON SHOW in one of his **TEN LARGE ROOMS**, and present, for novelty, variety, and purity of taste, an unequalled assortment. They are marked in plain figures, at prices proportionate with those which have tended to make his Establishment the largest and most remarkable in the kingdom, viz., from 12s. 6d. (two light) to 16l.

LAMPS of all SORTS and PATTERNS.

The Largest, as well as the Choicest, Assortment in existence of **FRENCH and ENGLISH MODERATEUR, PALMER'S, CAMPHINE, ARGAND, SOLAR**, and other **LAMPS**, with all the latest improvements, and of the newest and most recherche patterns, in ormolu, Bohemian, and plain glass, or papier maché, is at **WILLIAM S. BURTON'S**, and they are arranged in one large room, so that patterns, sizes, and sorts can be instantly selected.

Real French Colza Oil, 4s. 6d. per gallon.
Palmer's Candles, 9d., 9½d., and 10d. per lb.

DISH COVERS and HOT-WATER

DISHES in every material, in great variety, and of the newest and most recherche patterns. Tin Dish Covers, 6s. 6d. the set of six; Block Tin, 12s. 3d. to 23s. 9d. the set of six; elegant modern patterns, 34s. to 58s. 6d. the set; Britannia Metal, with or without silver-plated handles, 76s. 6d. to 110s. 6d. the set; Sheffield plated, 10l. to 16l. 10s. the set; Block Tin Hot-water Dishes, with wells for gravy, 12s. to 30s.; Britannia Metal, 22s. to 77s.; Electro-plated on Nickel, full size, 11l. 11s.

WILLIAM S. BURTON has **TEN LARGE SHOW-ROOMS** (all communicating), exclusive of the shop, devoted solely to the show of **GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY** (including cutlery, nickel silver, plated and japan wares, iron and brass bedsteads), so arranged and classified that purchasers may easily and at once make their selections.

Catalogues, with engravings, sent (per post) free. The money returned for every article not approved of.

39, OXFORD-STREET (corner of Newman-street); Nos. 1, 2, and 3, NEWMAN-STREET; and 4 and 5, PERRY'S-PLACE.

TESTIMONIALS by PRESENTATION

Having become so much the custom, and in consequence of Messrs. **FUTVOYE** having been frequently applied to for suitable articles, they beg to state to all those who would pay such graceful tributes to public merit or private worth, that in all cases when it is clearly shown goods are required for such a purpose, and the amount exceeds 50l., they shall allow 10 per cent. from their regular marked prices.

154, Regent-street, August 23, 1854.

THE PEN SUPERSEDED.—The most

elegant, easy, economical, and best method of **MARKING LINEN, SILK, BOOKS, &c.**, without the ink spreading or fading, is with the **INCORRORIBLE ARGENTINE PLATES**. No preparation required. Any person can use them with the greatest facility. Name, 2s.; Initials, 1s. 6d.; Numbers, per set, 2s. 6d.; Crest, 5s. Sent, post free, with directions, for stamps or post order.

FREDK. WHITEMAN, Inventor and Sole Maker, 10, Little Queen-street, Holborn.

PIGGOTT'S GALVANIC BELT, with-

out acids, or any saturation, without shock or unpleasant sensation, for the cure of nervous diseases and those arising from cold, an inactive liver, or sluggish circulation, and has been found highly beneficial in cases of Rheumatism, Sciatica, Dyspepsia, Neuralgia in all its forms, and general debility of the system. Treatise on the above, free on the receipt of a postage stamp. Mr. W. P. **PIGGOTT**, Medical Galvanist, 523 n, Oxford-street, Bloomsbury. At home daily from 10 till 4.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

THE MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so often hurtful in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, being sent to the Manufacturer, Mr. **JOHN WHITE**, 228, Piccadilly, London.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE CAPS, &c. For **VARI-COSE VEINS**, and all cases of **WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c.** They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s. 6d. to 16s. Postage, 6d.

FRENCH MODERATOR LAMPS.—A

very large and superior stock now ON SALE at **DEANE, DRAY, and Co's** (Opening to the Monument), London Bridge.

Established A.D. 1700.

FUTVOYE'S WEDDING and BIRTH-

DAY PRESENTS.—It would be impossible to enumerate the enormous variety of articles, both valuable and inexpensive, which may be inspected daily at this Establishment. All goods marked in plain figures. Illustrated Catalogues sent free on application.

It may be well to state that all visitors to this magnificent establishment will meet with a polite reception whether purchasers or otherwise.

Retail, 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

FUTVOYE'S GOLD and SILVER

WATCHES of English or Foreign Manufacture.—The long tested qualities of these articles are of themselves sufficient to insure the approbation of a discerning public.

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FUTVOYE'S DRESSING CASES for

LADIES and GENTLEMEN, in leather, walnut, and other choice woods, from 1 to 100 guineas. Also, their Government **DESPATCH BOXES** are too well known to require comment.

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FUTVOYE'S PAPIER MACHE.—The

superior qualities of these articles need only be seen to be fully appreciated, arising from the well-known fact (among the aristocracy and nobility) that Mr. Futvoye is the son of the original Inventor of this beautiful work, whose choicest specimens are in possession of her most gracious Majesty.

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The statistical accounts presented by the Customs to the House of Commons prove that Messrs. Futvoye are by far the largest importers. 500 of the most elegant and classical designs in ormolu with glass shade and stand complete, from 2 to 100 guineas, may be inspected at 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

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BRASS DIALS, 13s. 6d. each, warranted.—These Time Pieces have already a world wide reputation and their correctness astonishes all their owners. To avoid disappointment it is necessary to notice on each dial, "Futvoye, a Paris."

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toujours Nouveaux, from 1s. to 100 guineas, may be more easily imagined than described.

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EFFECTUAL SUPPORT FOR VARI-

COSE VEINS.—This elastic and compressing stocking, or article of any other required form, is pervious, light, and inexpensive, and easily drawn on without lacing or bandaging. Instructions for measurement and prices on application, and the articles sent by post from the Manufacturers, **POPE and PLANTE**, 4, WATERLOO PLACE, **PALL MALL, LONDON.**

ORTHOPÆDIC MECHANISM. Every

description of apparatus for the **CURE or RELIEF of BODILY DEFORMITY**, and diseases requiring mechanical assistance, may be had of Mr. **HEATHER BIGG**, 29, LEICESTER-SQUARE, who, having recently visited the principal continental Orthopædic Institutions, is in possession of every modern improvement.

DR. DE JONGH'S**LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.**

PREPARED FOR MEDICINAL USE IN THE LOFFODEN ISLES, NORWAY, AND PUT TO THE TEST OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS. THE MOST EFFECTUAL REMEDY FOR CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, CHRONIC RHEUMATISM, AND ALL SCROFULOUS DISEASES.

Approved of and recommended by **BERZELIUS, LIEBIG, WOHLER, JONATHAN PEBEREA, FOURQUIER**, and numerous other distinguished Scientific Chemists, prescribed by the most eminent Medical Men, and supplied to the leading Hospitals of Europe—effecting a cure or alleviating symptoms much more rapidly than any other kind.

Extract from "THE LANCET," July 29, 1854.

"After a careful examination of the different kinds of Cod Liver Oil, Dr. de Jongh gives the preference to the Light Brown Oil over the Pale Oil, which contains scarcely any volatile fatty acid, a smaller quantity of iodine, phosphoric acid, and the elements of bile, and upon which ingredients the efficacy of Cod Liver Oil no doubt partly depends. Some of the deficiencies of the Pale Oil are attributable to the method of its preparation, and especially to its filtration through charcoal. In the preference of the Light Brown over the Pale Oil we fully concur."

"We have carefully tested a specimen of the Light Brown Cod Liver Oil, prepared for medical use under the direction of Dr. de Jongh, and obtained from the wholesale agents, Messrs. **ANSAR, HARFORD, and Co.**, 77, Strand. We find it to be genuine, and rich in iodine and the elements of bile."

Sold WHOLESALE and RETAIL, in bottles, labelled with Dr. de Jongh's stamp and signature, by **ANSAR, HARFORD, and Co.**, 77, Strand, London, Sole Consignees and Agents for the United Kingdom and the British Possessions; and may be obtained from respectable Chemists and Druggists in Town and Country, at the following prices:—

IMPERIAL MEASURE.

Half pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 6d.; Quarts, 9s.

Four half-pint bottles forwarded, **CARRIAGE PAID**, to any part of England, on receipt of a remittance of Ten Shillings.

AGENCIES.—Applications for Appoint-

ments in the Agency Department of the **MITRE LIFE OFFICE**, are requested to be addressed to

W. BRIDGES, Secretary,
23, Pall-mall, London.

Remuneration liberal.

UNITED MUTUAL LIFE ASSUR-

ANCE SOCIETY, 54, Charing-cross, London.

Policies indisputable.

No charge for Policy Stamps.

Whole profits divided annually.

Assurances on the strictly mutual principle.

Invalid lives assured at equitable rates.

THOMAS PRITCHARD, Resident Director.

FREQUENT TRAVELLERS can IN-

SURE against **RAILWAY ACCIDENTS** by the **YEAR**, for terms of **YEARS**, or for the whole of **LIFE**, on application to the Booking Clerks at the Principal Railway Stations, and at the Offices of the **RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE COMPANY**, 3, OLD BROAD-STREET, LONDON.

WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

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PANY, 1, Old Broad-street, London. Instituted 1820.

SAMUEL HIBBERT, Esq., Chairman.

WILLIAM R. ROBINSON, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

The Scale of Premiums adopted by this Office will be found of a very moderate character, but at the same time quite adequate to the risk incurred.

Four-fifths, or 80 per cent. of the Profits, are assigned to Policies every fifth year, and may be applied to increase the sum insured, to an immediate payment in cash, or to the reduction and ultimate extinction of future Premiums.

One-third of the Premium on Insurances of 500l. and upwards, for the whole term of life, may remain as a debt upon the Policy, to be paid off at convenience; or the Directors will lend sums of 50l. and upwards, on the security of Policies effected with this Company for the whole term of life, when they have acquired an adequate value.

SECURITY.—Those who effect Insurances with this Company are protected by its Subscribed Capital of 750,000l., of which nearly 140,000l. is invested, from the risk incurred by members of Mutual Societies.

The satisfactory financial condition of the Company, exclusive of the Subscribed and Invested Capital, will be seen from the following statement:—

On the 31st October, 1853, the sums Assured, including Bonus added, amounted to £2,500,000

The Premium Fund to more than 800,000

And the Annual Income from the same source, to 109,000

Insurances, without participation in Profits, may be effected at reduced rates.

SAMUEL INGALL, Actuary.

BANK OF DEPOSIT,

No. 3, Pall-mall East, and 7, St. Martin's-place, Trafalgar-square, London.

Established May, 1844.

Parties desirous of Investing Money are requested to examine the Plan of this Institution, by which a high rate of Interest may be obtained with perfect Security.

The Interest is payable in **JANUARY and JULY**, and for the convenience of parties residing at a distance, may be received at the Branch Offices, or paid through Country Bankers, without expense.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

Prospectuses sent free on application.

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ACTUARY AND SECRETARY.

CHARLES JELlicoe, Esq.

The business of the Company comprises Assurances on Lives and Survivorships, the Purchase of Life Interests, the sale and purchase of contingent and deferred Annuities, Loans of Money on Mortgage, &c.

This Company was established in 1807, is empowered by the Act of Parliament 53 George III., and regulated by Decree enrolled in the High Court of Chancery.

The Company was originally a strictly Proprietary one. The Assured on the participating scale, now participate quinquennially in four-fifths of the amount to be divided.

To the present time (1853) the Assured have received from the Company in satisfaction of their claims, upwards of 1,400,000l.

The amount at present assured is 3,000,000l. nearly, and the income of the Company is about 125,000l.

At the last Division of Surplus, about 120,000l. was added to the sums assured under Policies for the whole term of Life.

The lives assured are permitted, in time of peace, and not being engaged in mining or gold digging, to reside in any country—or to pass by sea (not being seafaring persons by profession) between any two parts of the same hemisphere—distance more than 33 degrees from the Equator, without extra charge.

All Policy Stamps and Medical Fees are now paid by the Company.

By recent enactments, persons are exempt, under certain restrictions, from Income Tax, as respects so much of their income as they may devote to assurances on Lives.

The Annual Reports of the Company's state and progress, Prospectuses and Forms, may be had, or will be sent, post free on application at the Office, or to any of the Company's Agents.

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION in Aid of the
Wives and Families, Widows and Orphans, of Sol-
diers ordered on active service.

UNDER THE JOINT PATRONAGE OF
H.R. MAJESTY THE QUEEN,
FIELD-MARSHAL H.R.H. THE PRINCE ALBERT, K.G.,
AND H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF KENT.

Vice-Patrons.

HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.
LIEUT.-GENERAL HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE
DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, K.G.

Chairman of General Committee.

GENERAL THE EARL OF BEAUCHAMP.

Vice-Chairmen.

VISCOUNT INGESTRIE, 1st Life-Guards.
LORD LILFORD.

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DELEY, M.P., and MAJOR THE HONOURABLE
H. L. POWYS.

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The Duke of Manchester.
The Marquis of Blandford,
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The Earl of Annesley, M.P.
The Earl of Cavan.
The Earl of Effingham.
The Earl of Shaftesbury.
Viscount Hill.
Viscount Mandeville, M.P.
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Colonel Baker.
Colonel Boldero, M.P.
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M.P.
Major Cartan, Staff-Officer of
Pensioners.
Lieut.-Col. Caulfield, M.P.
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Colonel Dunne, M.P.

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B. L. SOWELL, Esq., Bank of England.

Treasurer.

SIR JOHN KIRKLAND, No. 80, Pall-Mall.

Honorary Secretary.

MAJOR THE HON. HENRY LITTLETON POWYS,
60th Royal Rifles.

Assistant Secretary.

FREDERICK HAYLEY BELL, Esq.

The following Report was unanimously passed at a Gen-
eral Committee Meeting on the 3rd of October, 1854. The
Right Honourable the Earl of Effingham in the chair.

FIRST HALF-YEARLY REPORT OF THE CENTRAL
ASSOCIATION.

This Association originated at the National Club on the
24th of February, 1854, and was joined on the 25th February
by a Deputation from the Army and Navy Club.

It was formally instituted at a public meeting held in
Willis's Rooms on the 7th March, 1854 (the late deeply la-
mented General Sir Peregrine Maitland, G.C.B., in the
chair), and has now completed the first half-year of its
operations.

The vast amount of undeserved misery that this Associa-
tion has been the means of alleviating during the past six
months, induces the Committee to make a half-yearly Report
of their proceedings; and this, not only to show that the
noble effort made by the country on behalf of the silent
sufferers has not been a fruitless one; but also to direct
public attention to the urgent and absolute necessity for
the establishment of some permanent National Provision
for the Wives and Families, Widows and Orphans, of our
soldiers.

Notwithstanding all that has been said and written on the
subject, the fact still remains in all its sadness, that for the
wife and family, widow and orphan, of our best-behaved
soldiers, whether non-commissioned officer or private, no
provision whatever is made. Nothing but private charity
keeps them from pauperism when their husbands and
fathers are taken away.

The marriage of these good men is fully permitted by
military authority; it is even granted as a reward for good
conduct, and yet, should they be ordered to the seat of war,
or die in the service of their country, their families are cast
aside in utter destitution and desolation.

To prove that this is no over-statement, the Committee
have selected a few cases out of hundreds, all of which are
those of wives of non-commissioned officers and privates,
who, having been married with military sanction and
approval, had been placed on the strength of the regiment.

Case 400, Mrs. B.—Wife of a sergeant of the 38th. Mar-
ried with leave. Left destitute with six children after
she had spent the small sum her husband left for her.
Five of her children provided for; the sixth being an infant,
and the mother being weakly, she received a weekly allow-
ance of five shillings until she obtained work as a washer-
woman, for which the Association furnished the means, and
she now earns her own livelihood, assisted by her two boys,
aged 12 and 13, for whom situations as pages have been
found.

Mrs. E. F., 8th Hussars.—A most respectable person, mar-
ried with leave, in delicate health. Left destitute with six
children. Earns a little by washing, for which a donation
of 2l. was granted. A weekly allowance of seven shillings.

Case 430, Mrs. W. H. R.—Wife of a private, 13th Light
Dragoons. Married with leave, left destitute with four
children. A most respectable person. A situation as cook
obtained for her, and all her children provided for.

Case 73, Mrs. S. J. G.—Wife of a sergeant in the 21st Regi-
ment. Married with leave. Left destitute with four chil-
dren, and expecting her confinement. A weekly allowance
of five shillings, in addition to the parish out-door relief
of three shillings a week and four loaves.

Case 460, Mrs. W.—Wife of a lance-sergeant in the 6th
Dragoons. Married with leave. Left destitute with three
children, and expecting her confinement. A weekly allow-

ance till she became a widow, when she was granted 80l.,
and one of her three children provided for by the Birming-
ham Local Committee.

Case 193, Mrs. E. H.—Wife of a private in the 38th Regi-
ment. Married with leave. Left destitute with four chil-
dren. One child provided for, and a weekly allowance of
seven shillings a week.

Case 384, Mrs. A. F.—Wife of a private in the 77th Regi-
ment. Married with leave. Left destitute with five chil-
dren. A weekly allowance of ten shillings.

Case 433, 38th Regiment.—Mrs. A., the wife of a sergeant.
Married with leave. Left destitute with four children.
Has been provided with a situation at 14l. a year, and all
her children taken care of by the Association.

Mrs. E. F., 63rd Regiment.—Married with leave. Sixteen
years wife of a private. Left destitute with five children.
A weekly allowance of seven shillings.

Mrs. E. T., 46th Regiment.—Married with leave. Left
destitute with five children, under ten years of age, unable
to leave her infant. A weekly allowance of seven shillings.

Mrs. T. L., 28th Regiment.—Married with leave. Wife of
a sergeant. Left with five children. Her husband left her
some little money and his watch, to part with in case of
need. The watch had been parted with, when this Associa-
tion helped her out of all her troubles, and she regularly
receives money from her husband.

Mrs. E. B., case 321.—Wife of a private, 88th Regiment.
Married with leave. Left perfectly destitute with five
children. The two youngest twins born since her husband
left. In very bad health since her confinement. A weekly
allowance of twelve shillings.

Cases Nos. 406, 407, 408.—The wives of privates of the 55th.
All married with leave. Left destitute with ten children.
A weekly allowance to each.

Case No. 988, Mrs. C. B.—Wife of a private, Royal Artil-
lery. Married with leave. Left destitute with six children
in great distress. A weekly allowance granted.

Case 971, Mrs. A. C.—Wife of a sergeant of the 38th Regi-
ment. Married with leave. Left destitute with six chil-
dren. A weekly allowance of twelve shillings.

Case 592, Mrs. T.—Wife of a sergeant of the 11th Hussars.
Married with leave. Left with six children. Eldest daugh-
ter provided with a situation, and a weekly allowance of ten
shillings to her mother.

This dreary catalogue of destitution might be continued
almost to an endless extent, and all the harrowing details
accompanying each case might be given; but the Committee
are satisfied that a simple statement of these facts is more
than sufficient to prove the need for, and the reality of their
work. It is true that the parish of the soldier may be com-
pelled to support his wife and family; but the Committee
would ask whether the workhouse is a fitting place for
the families of men who can write such letters as the fol-
lowing:—

"Camp near Varna, August 30th, 1854.

"Sir,—I sincerely trust that I may not offend you by the
liberty I take in addressing you; but having heard of your
kindness to the wives and children of soldiers now serving
in Turkey, I am induced to request your kind assistance on
behalf of my little daughter. By the last mail from Eng-
land I received the melancholy intelligence of my wife's
death, which occurred on the 9th of August, leaving my
little girl entirely unprotected, &c. I therefore humbly
hope that you will kindly cause inquiries to be made, so
that my child may not be left entirely unprotected or un-
cared for. I will most gladly contribute, as far as my means
will admit, to defray any expense which may arise in placing
her in any establishment which you select. We expect to
embark for Sebastopol to-morrow; consequently I feel
very anxious that some steps may be immediately taken to
provide for her.

"I remain, Sir, most respectfully,

"G. H., SERGEANT."

"To Major the Hon. H. L. Powys,
60th Reg. Rifles, Hon. Sec."

The wife and child of this non-commissioned officer were
entirely supported by the Association until his wife died of
cholera in London. His daughter is now comfortably set-
tled at the Industrial School at Birmingham, at the expense
of the Association; and when thoroughly trained and edu-
cated, will be provided with a situation by the managers
of the Industrial School.

"Devno, in Turkey July, 1854

"MY DEAREST MARY,—I know you will beglad to have this
letter from your dear father. I hope and pray Almighty
God that you and your dear little sisters are quite well and
happy and comfortable. Give dear Fanny and dear little
Margaret my very best and fondest love, with many kisses
also to your little companions. I have not been yet where
the 38th Regiment is. When I see the Regiment, I will be
sure to go and see their fathers. I hope you are well and
happy altogether, and love each other, and be kind to one
another. But, my dear child, you must look after and see
to your youngest sister, for she is but a baby yet, and may
God bless you all and keep you under His Almighty wings,
always is the daily prayer of your loving father. Be kind
to your dear sister Fanny, kiss her for me, tell her I send
my very best love to her, and she is to learn all she can till
I come home, which I trust, please God, won't be long. I
hope you are all good children, and do what you can to
assist Mrs. B., who will, I know, be very kind and good to
you. I hope she is quite well. Give her my best respects.
I hope you love and obey your teachers. You must write
to me, my dear Mary, &c. &c. We are all in a very large
camp. I dare say 10,000 men. We all sleep on the ground.
We have our cloaks and one blanket to cover us. There
are no houses near us for miles. We all went to a little
valley yesterday, and heard Divine Service, and very many
of us received the Sacrament of our Lord Jesus Christ
afterwards. Oh! my dear child, never forget your prayers,
and be a good child, and you will have God for your father
and friend for ever. Pray for your dear sister; pray for
your father, and God will hear you. He will bless and keep
us always, and bring us to Heaven at last for Jesus Christ's
sake. And now, my darlings, good bye, and may God bless
and take care of you all is the prayer of your loving father,
"T. D."

Letter addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the Dublin
Association:—

"September 2nd, 1854.

"SIR,—Only for the relief I received weekly from you, I
would have been obliged to go into the workhouse, with my
two children, which would have been worse than death to
me; for if we were dead, our miserable existence would
be ended here. I could not have maintained myself and
children only for it, though I worked day and night to do
so, and tried every means in my power; yet I found it was
impossible. I was making shirts for Gilpins, in Molesworth-
street, at five shillings per dozen, and I could not complete
the dozen in a week; so if I had not had that relief, what
should I have done? I never received any money from my
husband since I left him, nor had any one to ask me or my
children to have a meal of victuals since I lost my only
friend—my dear husband. And now, through your kind-
ness and interest, I have got a situation; and if you did

not still allow me a little to pay for my children, I should
not be able to remain in it, as I have not enough wages to
pay for them and clothe myself and them.

"I hope God will reward every one who has so kindly
helped the poor soldier's wife and child; for most of us have
been thrown out of a comfortable home, to face a frowning
world. I hope the Lord will reward you also, sir, for the
kind interest you have taken in the soldiers' wives, &c., &c.
"Mrs. J."

Many more letters might be quoted, showing how grateful
these fine fellows are for the care that has been extended to
their wives and children; but quite enough, it is hoped, has
been stated to satisfy the Committee that they not only are
doing what is right, but that it is the bounden duty of
England to carry out the work that has been thus happily
commenced.

Nor are the poor women themselves ungrateful for all
that has been, and is doing for them. With a few excep-
tions, all have evinced the greatest thankfulness, and readi-
ness to find employment for themselves. Two wives of
soldiers, who had been temporarily relieved with weekly
allowances, offered to repay the Association as soon as their
husbands remitted money; and one of them, directly she
received a remittance from her husband, insisted on repay-
ing a sovereign to the Association, saying, at the same time,
"That there was many a poor soldier's wife who needed it
more than she did." More than two hundred have been
placed in situations as housemaids, cooks, nurses, washer-
women, &c., and, generally, have given satisfaction; one of
them writes thus to the Inspecting Officer:—

"SIR,—According to promise, I now let you know how I
am getting on. I never was so happy in all my life. I have,
indeed, a kind master and mistress; they look to my com-
fort in every way; I might well say, it is equal to my own
home. I only wish to God that more of the women were so
well provided for as I am, Sir. Will you return the Asso-
ciation thanks in my name, for their kindness to me and
my child; also for the ten shillings I have received, with
which I have bought some clothes. I hope that I will keep
my situation a long time. The lady seems to like me very
well, and she says that anything in her power she will do to
promote my comfort. With my sincere thanks to you for
your kindness,

"Your obedient servant,

"E. D."

Many women, natives of Nova Scotia and Canada, on
being provided a passage by Government to their own
country, have been granted a donation of 3l. each, to provide
them with comforts for themselves and children during the
voyage. To 17 women of different regiments, all married
with leave, has the Association been thus beneficial.

On the 25th June, information was received from the
Portsmouth Local Committee, that 34 women and 72 children
would be forwarded to London, on their way to their hus-
bands' parishes, from Malta, from whence they had been
ordered home, their regiments having gone on to Turkey.
The Inspecting Officer of the Association was immediately
ordered to the Waterloo Station, where, having with diffi-
culty got them all together, he took them to the Pay Office in
Westminster, where they were to receive passage warrants
for their different destinations. But they were unable to
proceed till the next day; and thus would have been left
utter strangers in the streets of Westminster, searching in
vain for lodgings, which, with the small Government allow-
ance granted for that purpose, they were unable to pay for.
Respectable lodgings were found for them all, and their
children; and the next day they were despatched to their
destinations, with a small donation for travelling expenses.
It is needless to add that all these women were married with
leave, and many of them most respectable wives of non-
commissioned officers.

UPWARDS OF THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED WOMEN,
and SEVEN THOUSAND CHILDREN, have been kept from
actual want during the last six months, the greater part of
whom still remain claimants on the Association, especially
those who have become widows and orphans. This has been
done by the outlay, during the past six months, of 9172l.,
chiefly in weekly payments, both by the Central Committee
and the 78 Local Committees.

Besides these 10,500 women and children, fresh applica-
tions are made almost daily to the office; thus showing that
the number of women and children left behind is much
greater than the public were led to suppose by the Parlia-
mentary Return called for in both Houses of Parliament.
This, however, is accounted for, by showing the inaccuracy
of the Parliamentary Return, as follows:—

63rd Regiment.	63rd Regiment.
Parliamentary Return.	Association Return.
No. of Women and Children,	No. of Women and Children,
170.	245.

The Association Return was received during the same
month that the Parliamentary Return was given; and as it
contained the name of every woman, and the number and
age of every child, and was signed by the Colonel com-
manding the regiment, it may very fairly be considered to
have been the most accurate one. If there be such a dis-
crepancy in the returns of one regiment, what must there
be in forty?

MARRIAGE WITHOUT LEAVE.

It is a curious fact that has been brought to light by the
practical experience of this Association, that, without ex-
ception, those soldiers who have married with leave, or
whose wives were admitted into barracks, and recognised
by the regiment, have left the largest families, and, in con-
sequence, are by far the most deserving of consideration.
To these persons the Association has been of the greatest
benefit; while, at the same time, amongst those women
married without leave, much misery has been found to
exist, which the Association has not refrained from al-
leviating.

The Committee, however, regret to find, that notwith-
standing all the positive and practical good that has been
effected by the Association, there still remain in the minds
of some military men strong objections to its operations; it
is still urged that undue encouragement is given to mar-
riages without leave, and that large numbers of soldiers
have thus married since the institution of the Association.
If the operation of the Association had afforded such encou-
ragement, surely evidence of it would have appeared from
a number of applications for relief on the part of women
who had married in anticipation of it. ONLY ONE APPLI-
CATION had been made at this office by the wife of a soldier
whose marriage certificate was dated in 1854; so that the
objection would appear to be entirely groundless; and it
might be considered almost needless to say more in answer
to it. But the Committee have it to show, that while they
have only contemplated those cases as entitled to relief
which they found already sanctioned by Government, or
acknowledged by commanding officers, they have made a
rule (No. 3), and have taken all out of their power to relieve
give it publicly, which puts it out of their power to relieve
any who may have married, calculating on assistance from
them; thus taking into consideration and providing against

a contingency which might have arisen, but which has not occurred.

The following are the Rules with reference to this subject:

1. No soldier's wife is entitled to relief whose name is not entered in the regimental return, which though it contains the names of all women, whether married with or without leave, is yet signed by the Colonel commanding the regiment, and thus they are partially acknowledged.
2. The Government makes no difference between these women; and the passages of all are equally defrayed to the parishes of their husbands.
3. The rule for the relief of soldiers' wives married without leave is only retrospective; for no soldier who has married without leave, since July, 1854, will be entitled to relief for his wife.

On the 4th July, 1854, at the largest meeting ever held by the General Committee (General the Earl of Beauchamp in the chair), it was unanimously resolved,—

"That from and after the date of this resolution, the 4th July, 1854, no wife or widow be entitled to a donation or pension who shall have married a soldier without leave, whether they belong to regiments on active service, or to regiments now under orders of readiness for active service, provided that such orders of readiness were received subsequently to the formation of this Association, on the 7th March, 1854."

As the Government, the Officers Commanding Regiments, and the Association have found it absolutely necessary to countenance, to a certain extent, marriage without leave, and as it appears from the returns of the married men of the thirty Regiments of the Line, and the ten Regiments of Cavalry, that a large proportion of them in each Regiment are married without leave, it becomes a serious question how far the treatment hitherto carried out towards wives of soldiers has been successful in the prevention of matrimony. It is evident that in spite of all the certain misery entailed upon them soldiers will marry, and can find respectable women to marry them; it is also evident from the universal sympathy shown to their wives and families on the present occasion, that the country would gladly befriend them effectually; the Committee would, therefore, direct particular attention to the concluding remarks at the end of this Report, in hopes that some practical measure may be decided upon as speedily as possible, to prevent the recurrence of so much unmerited misery and destitution.

COLLECTIONS ON THE DAY OF HUMILIATION.

Thousands upon thousands of her Majesty's loyal subjects joyfully followed her most gracious example on this day, and poured in of their abundance for the support of an Association which their beloved Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert had honoured with their joint patronage from its first commencement.

Had it not been for the noble contributions made on the Day of Humiliation, this Association would have been totally unable to grapple effectually with the dire distress and destitution brought to light by its operations.

All the great religious communities in the kingdom, except the Roman Catholic, unanimously joined on that day to help the soldier's wife and child.

To the Church of England, especially, this Association is indebted for considerably more than two-thirds of the total amount collected. The Wesleyan Body also contributed largely and generously; the Jews too joined munificently in this national effort, by having collections in their synagogues. The Committee remark with much pleasure that these astonishing collections were quite voluntary. No Queen's letter was issued, and never was any public subscription so heartily assisted by the poor man's penny. In numberless congregational collections more than one pound's worth of halfpence was given. Even the prisoners in a large Government prison put their names down for a subscription of more than twenty pounds. The total amount collected on that day would have been even greater, had not many of the collections been made for the sailor's as well as the soldier's wife. Of these collections the Committee had the pleasure of paying over one-third to the Association for the Widows of Sailors and Marines.

The Committee would point out most emphatically that notwithstanding the remarkable exception in the *East Day Collections*, no religious distinction whatever is made in the distribution of this noble charity, the recipients are not even asked to what religion they belong.

OTHER COLLECTIONS.

At the head of these stands the county of York. The Yorkshire Association (with his Grace the Archbishop, and all the nobility and gentry of the county as patrons and liberal subscribers) has remitted to the Central Association the large sum of 5000*l*. The Press has very considerably and effectually aided the cause of the soldier's family; but no paper, either of daily or weekly circulation, has so practically assisted these poor people as *THE LONDON JOURNAL*. The Editor of that paper, by the weekly issue of twelve supplements, at one-halfpenny each, has realised the surprising sum of 142*l*., which has been paid in weekly instalments of 120*l*.. Nothing proves so unanswerably as this does the sympathy of the poor, as the purchase of the supplement was not compulsory on the subscribers to the paper.

Subscriptions have been received from all parts of the world, from Panama, Bahia, Bombay, Quebec, Nova Scotia, St. John's, New Brunswick, Brussels, Pau, Lausanne, Bonn, Paris, Calcutta, Ceylon, Montreal, Boulogne, the Black Sea Fleet, Bermuda, Fredericton, New Brunswick, &c., &c.

The generous sympathy of the Navy for the wives of the army has been very gratifying; indeed the first person who by an able letter in the *Times* roused the public to a sense of their neglect of the soldier's wife, was "A NAVY OFFICER."

But of all the subscriptions perhaps the most touching was that of the Chelsea Pensioners. One old veteran in paying his penny was heard to remark, "Had there been such an Association in my day, when I was away at the wars, my poor old woman would not have died in the workhouse." Several bodies of men of the working classes have agreed to send in weekly penny contributions; the men of Price's Patent Candle Factory, and the men of the Crewe Locomotive Department have already paid in considerable sums collected in this way.

From several large towns considerable amounts have been remitted, from Walsall, Cheltenham, &c., &c.; but the town of Bath has exceeded them all by several hundred pounds.

* One commanding officer who could not find amongst his soldiers' wives married with leave a sufficient number willing to embark with their husbands, and leave their families behind, was permitted by authority to complete the number by selections from the childless women married without leave, living out of barracks.

THE RAILWAY COMPANIES—LYING-IN HOSPITALS.

So universal has been the sympathy displayed towards the poor people whom this Association has taken by the hand, that all the great Lines of Railway have been made free to the soldier's child. Particularly the London and North-Western, and the Portsmouth Line, where not only have the children been carried free of expense, but the extra weight of baggage of their poor mothers has not been charged for, an example which the Committee earnestly trust all the Railway Companies will universally follow.

Two Lying-In Hospitals in London—the British Hospital, in Endell-street, and the Queen Charlotte's—most generously opened their doors to the soldier's wife. Many a poor woman has had deep cause for thankfulness for the care taken of her at the British Lying-In Hospital in Endell-street.

Music, poetry, and the fine arts have all been enlisted in this good cause. One simple poem by a child realised nearly 20*l*. for the Association; and the admirable sketch by George Thomas, Esq., of the Soldier's "Separation from his Family," presented by that gentleman to the Committee of the Bath Fancy Fair, has done good service to the cause—representing so truthfully as it does the reality of the distress which this Association is so effectually mitigating.

LOCAL COMMITTEES.

The assistance and practical working of the seventy-eight Local Committees all over the kingdom has been most invaluable. To the Clergy of the Church of England, the Staff-Officers of Pensioners, the Garrison Chaplains, the Local Magistrates, and other benevolent persons, the Committee desire most cordially to tender their hearty thanks. Had it not been for the indefatigable exertions of the Senior Garrison Chaplain of Dublin, the Rev. Charles Hort, upwards of 400 women and 800 children would now have been inmates of the workhouse, for in Ireland no out-door relief is granted. The Staff-Sergeants in the several districts have proved themselves worthy of the profession to which they are an honour; one fine fellow on being offered remuneration for the great trouble he had taken in relieving the poor soldiers' wives in his district, exclaimed, "God forbid that I should take any payment for helping my comrades' wives and families in their distress." A perfectly organised system is now established by means of the Local Committees throughout the kingdom, quarterly statements are regularly transmitted, showing the number of women and children, and the expenditure; and the Regiments that began regimentally to distribute their own funds, have cordially handed over the balance of their funds to the Association, being satisfied with its working, and perfectly content to abide by its rules and regulations.

It is necessary to state, however, that the Association has not been permitted to relieve any but the widows and orphans of the Foot-Guards, the Officers commanding those Regiments having funds of their own for the relief of the wives and families of their men, and not wishing to burden the Association.

Extract from the Report of the Limerick Local Committee:
"Limerick, 28th August, 1854.

"We have 17 women married with leave on our list. It appears that the women married with leave have the heavier families.

"It is incontestable that the major part of the women relieved by this Committee would, ere this, have been in the workhouse, if they had not been aided.

"We can safely declare our conscientious belief, that the women on our list, 83 in number, have shown themselves deserving of the relief administered to them. We have never received a single complaint against one of them. They have universally manifested a desire to obtain work. Several of them have obtained situations as wet nurses, a great fact in proof of the decent, healthy, and well-conditioned state of these individuals. Many are working at the shirt business for a mere trifle, to earn which they must labour all day; and several are learning the trade of shirtnaking without wages, in hopes of being able to assist themselves. Upon a fair review of their conduct and their general appearance, we can safely say that the women relieved by our Committee are creditable to the army. Even with the relief they receive, their position is far too trying a one to be anything but a warning, instead of an attraction to other females to enter into the same state, and we advisedly give it as our opinion that the operations of this Committee are not calculated to create the mischief, which some imagine is likely to result from the charity and sympathy which have been evinced by the British public for this most unhappy class of women, suddenly deprived of the help of their husbands.

"R. P. DOUGLAS,
Colonel, Assistant Adjutant-General,
Chairman of Committee."

Extract from the Manchester and Salford Local Committee:
"Salford Barracks, 29th August.

"I send you a statement of a few cases, which strike me as being unusually distressing. There are many nearly as bad, 140 in number. Very few of the women who have young children (and the children are nearly all too young to work) can earn anything worth noticing, 2*s*. or 3*s*. a week at the most. Of course those who enjoyed the privileges of living in the barracks, &c., as being married with leave, are in the worst circumstances, and they suffer severely. They lose the lodging and advantages of fuel, company's and officers' washing, say 5*s*. or 6*s*. a week, and the assistance of their husbands' pay. Lodging here of a very indifferent sort costs them 2*s*. and 3*s*. a week, and they will be far worse lodged than when in barracks. I send you the cases of four women all married with leave, one with six children, another five, another four, another three, there are many others married with leave, having two or three children nearly as destitute. There is no employment that they are capable of, hampered as they are with young children for whose care they must pay if they leave them at home and seek employment elsewhere.

"A. F. BOND,
Major and Staff Officer."

Extract from the Report of the Woolwich Local Committee:

"Woolwich Rectory, 4th September, 1854.

"The women were left in very many cases, I am sure I may say in almost all, without any means for themselves and their children. Many were on the eve of confinement. Their only resource would have been to become paupers on the parish, and their only asylum would have been the workhouse. A generous provision on the part of a grateful country for the wives and families of those on whom they depended, under God, for a successful issue of the war in which we have been compelled to engage, has prevented this. But suppose this had not been the case, how hardly would the maintenance of so many have pressed upon the poor-rate payers! and in many instances how unfairly! Take Woolwich for instance, and the case would be similar with

respect to all garrison towns. We have upwards of 200 women, besides their children, to be maintained somehow. I think it quite possible that the burden would have been felt so heavily, that a memorial might have been sent to the Government. But however this might be, the expense would have been unfairly thrown upon parishes such as our own; but this is a trifling matter when compared with the *pauperisation of respectable wives of soldiers of our army*.

"HENRY BROWN,
Rector of Woolwich."

Extract from the Report of the Dublin Local Committee:

"September 4th, 1854.

"I find that since the 1st July to the 2nd instant, I have made about 3400 payments (in small sums, varying from one shilling to one pound five shillings) to about 400 women, soldiers' wives. We have granted several women free passages to their friends and relatives, released clothes from pawn-offices for women going into situations, set up numbers in a small way of business, defrayed the funeral expenses of a few children, and in numberless other ways have been the means of conferring substantial benefits upon these poor people, &c. Had it not been for the small weekly payments, the majority would have been in the poor-house. Many women, although they only received 3*s*. 6*d*. a week, were thus kept going, and encouraged to work for themselves and children, &c.

"CHARLES HORT,

Senior Garrison Chaplain, and Honorary Secretary to Committee."

Extract from the Report of another Local Committee:

"We have hardly relieved any that were not married with leave and on the strength. By the timely aid rendered by your Society much distress was, of course, prevented, as, as soon as they were left, your excellent Society took them by the hand. But timely as this aid was offered, it was not before, in many cases, the poor creatures had parted with nearly everything, EVEN IN TWO CASES TO THEIR WEDDING-RINGS. What would have been the condition of these poor creatures if no such society as yours had existed! many of them far too high-spirited to have become the inmates of a workhouse, would have been plunged into a state of misery fearful to contemplate. But even as it is, much misery is to be found. A poor delicate creature with two children, married with leave, to whom your Society grants a weekly allowance, has been compelled to part with her furniture. So distressing is this woman's case, and so respectable a character does she appear to be, that some of the other women have helped her out of their own small pittance, &c. Every day I feel more thankful for the good your Society is doing; upwards of 30 are receiving help from you at this place. I only wish those who have contributed large sums to your Society could witness the gratitude of these poor women for the help they receive; they would, indeed, feel more than repaid for all they have done."

SOLDIERS' WIVES AT VARNA.

Mr. Ray, formerly the active and intelligent Inspecting Officer of this Association, writes from Varna to the following effect:—

"Varna, August 4th, 1854.

"SIR,—I beg to draw your attention to the condition of the poor women here. Many of them have died, and others are dying; others, who are in a state of convalescence, are not able to proceed further with their regiments, and the men are expected to leave this in about fourteen days; and these poor creatures, emaciated and dried with the sun, will be left in a foreign land without any protection or home whatever. What I thought of was, to provide a house and food for such as have none; most of them have blankets, but to those who have not, I would propose lending them some, and to encourage those who are able to get about to wait on the sick, cook, and wash. If your Committee is pleased to approve of this plan, I shall be most happy to superintend the whole matter; and I am quite sure it would relieve many a poor man of intense anxiety. The cold weather will be soon setting in, then what will these poor women do? If the ladies in England would send us a little flannel, a few blankets, and left-off garments, they would be rendering us a great service, &c. The great work that is going on for the wives and families of the soldiers by means of the Association, in which you take so prominent and energetic a part, causes abundant joy to the husbands and fathers here; and when I remind them of what is doing, they seem overjoyed, and many thanks are expressed, both to yourself and the Committee, and benevolent friends, for the sympathy shown them. Numerous are the deaths from cholera and fevers, and doubtless many who are cared for by your Association are really widows; but news of the fact may not have reached them. They have not yet entered the field, but every day the order for embarkation for the Crimea is expected, where doubtless many will fall, and these poor fellows have their eyes upon your Association to protect their wives and children. I am happy to say I have been well received by the men generally; to point them to the 'Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world,' is my ostensible work, and to tell them of the great work going on in England for the good of those they have left behind, is in perfect keeping, it is indeed good news. The poor women who have followed their husbands to this place are in a most pitiable condition, and when the expedition sails for the Crimea they will be left here. Would that we had an Association here for these poor objects! Varna is in perfect confusion; how could it be otherwise with such a congregation of nations, fierce, wild, desperate-looking fellows, armed to the teeth, anxiously waiting for the signal to summon them to the fight. May you long be spared in your glorious work, of all works the most enviable, to care for the poor," &c., &c.

Immediately on the receipt of these letters the Committee met, and decided that a donation of blankets, shawls, &c., &c., should immediately be sent to Varna, and the sum of 100*l*. should be granted for the use of these women. On the 1st of September, goods to the amount of 34*l*. were sent by steam to Constantinople, addressed to the care of the Consul-General, who was requested to use his discretion in forwarding them to Varna. A bill of exchange for 100*l*. was also sent to the same authority, with instructions and authority to Mr. Ray to act as the almoner of the Association.

Private letters received by the Committee fully corroborate the fact of the distress of these poor women, for though they receive what are called rations, no other female comforts can be provided for them.

"Camp near Varna, August 24th, 1854.

"DEAREST,—Yours dated August 3rd came to hand on the 16th. I have received all your letters except one. You did tell me, my dear, that seven shillings a week was what you received from the Association; and although that is a mere trifle in a place like London, yet we ought to be very thankful for it. You say you deeply regret you did not go with me; indeed, my dear wife, much as I desire to be with you, I think it one of the most providential things ever happened for you to be where you are, instead of being here;

badly off as you are now, you would be utterly miserable here. We have lost already two married men by cholera. I sleep in the staff tent ever since I got better of the cholera. Everything is enormously high here; a mouthful of white bread and cheese for supper costs 5d. One thing lately we can always get a pint of ale for 2d., or porter 1½d.; in fact, it is the only thing we relish; for the bread is very bad, and we get nothing but the nasty beef, which we cannot eat, but boil down and make soup of. I get, as I said before, 1s. 10d. a-day pay. Out of this, 4½d. is stopped for rations, and 2d. a-day for mess-money; so that by the time I pay for something fit to eat, there is not much left; still I shall, please God, send you all I can, &c. The women here have no way of making money by washing, the water is too far off, &c. &c.

"I am sorry to say I have been very ill, and as it is far the best for me to let you know the whole truth, I must inform you that I have had the cholera; I was very bad while it lasted, but thank the God of all goodness for his great mercy, He has restored me. The doctors have been very kind indeed to me; everything I could wish for was got for me; almost all the officers and the colonel came to me and inquired about me constantly. Poor L. M., J. M., and E., and Mrs. L., have all died since my last; also J. R. and S. F. Indeed, my dearest wife, I rely in perfect confidence in my Redeemer, and feel myself quite unworthy of His mercy; and during the worst of my illness, I felt humbled before Him in whom alone my salvation is sure.

"Your ever-loving husband,"

"E. R."

The wife of the writer of this letter (a most excellent non-commissioned officer) was left nearly destitute with five young children. She bears a most irreproachable character, and is most anxious to exert herself to obtain her own livelihood; but what can she do with five young children? Her two eldest girls are entirely provided for by the Association, and she receives a weekly allowance of seven shillings. The Committee perceive with pleasure, that the authorities are gradually sending them home from the East. Three arrivals of soldiers' families have already been brought before the Committee, for no sooner do they land than they apply to the Association, and it is needless to add how readily their application is always responded to.

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS.

The first efforts of this Association were limited to the immediate relief of the Wives of Soldiers ordered on active service, who, in consequence of their having families, were left behind utterly destitute of all means of existence, save the temporary out-door parish relief. Since that time the sword and the pestilence have too fatally done their sad work, and many of these poor people have become more hopelessly destitute by the death of their husbands.

The Committee, however, encouraged by the magnificent contributions received from all parts of the world, have found themselves in a position to make the following scale of donations for Widows, which is the same that was adopted by the administrators of the Waterloo Fund, in 1815:—

Unanimously resolved,—"That relief in the shape of a donation not exceeding the undermentioned sums, being the same as agreed to by the Waterloo Committee on the 28th of June, 1815, be adopted as a scale for the Widows of non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers now serving against Russia.

"A Pension may be granted, in the place of the whole or part of such Donation, should it appear expedient to the Committee."

SCALE of Donation for Widows with Children dependent for Support.

RANK.	Children Without	One.	Two.	Three.	Four.	Five.	Six.	Seven.	Eight.
Sergeant-major...	£ 0	£ 100	£ 115	£ 125	£ 135	£ 150	£ 160	£ 175	£ 200
Sergeant...	60	60	90	100	105	120	130	140	160
Corporal...	45	60	70	75	80	90	100	110	120
Drummer...	35	45	50	55	60	70	75	80	90
Private...	30	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	80

Of Widows the Association has already 64 in their books, and of Orphans 108.

The following letter shows that for the Widows of those brave men who perished with their Colonel in the Europa transport, ample provision was made, and that the measures adopted for their relief have fully satisfied the Officer commanding the depot of the Enniskillings:—

"Canterbury Barracks, July 13th, 1854.

"Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of your memorandum, detailing the amount of the donations granted by the Association of which you are the Honorary Secretary, to the widows and orphans of the five non-commissioned officers and men of the Enniskilling Dragoons who were lost in the Europa transport.

"The ready and liberal aid thus sent to their relief, will, I trust, be effectual to alleviate in some degree their distress; and it marks, too, in a way for which I am most grateful, how deeply the Committee of your admirable Association appreciate the bravery and noble conduct of those who stood by their Colonel to the last.

"Sure I am, from private accounts which I have received, that had all on board done their duty as manfully as those who perished, there would not have been a life lost in the Europa.

"I have not failed to communicate to the officer commanding the regiment in Turkey, the liberality with which the Association have met my application for assistance to the surviving families by a grant of 415£.

"I am glad, too, to express my sense of the admirable arrangements of the Society, by which the distribution of this sum has been entrusted to the persons best able to judge of the most judicious means of administering, in each individual case, to the permanent relief of the sufferers.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"P. W. FITZ-WYGRAM, Captain,

"Commanding Depot Enniskilling Dragoons.

"Major Hon. H. L. Powys, Hon. Sec."

Case 1540, W. T.—A boy of the 33rd Regiment, whose father and mother both died of cholera in Turkey; a most distressing case. A weekly allowance granted to the orphan's grandfather, with whom the boy was left.

For the five widows and children of the 6th Enniskillings, annuities have been purchased, large sums having been subscribed for them in addition to the grant from this Association; the amount will render them independent for their lives.

For the other widows, donations, varying from 5£. to 10£., have been granted immediately on the receipt of official notification of their husbands' death. Most of them were already on the books of the Association, and had been receiving relief for some time: it is proposed to grant them an annual pension as long as they remain Widows, and the resources of the Association continue available.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

Effectually to prevent the recurrence of such distressing scenes as those which gave rise to the formation of this Association, the Committee have had in consideration a plan which it is hoped might tend materially to raise the condition of the soldier's wife, and secure a provision for the soldier's widow.

As there is no probability, under existing circumstances, of so raising the pay of the soldier as to enable him when married to apportion a sufficient share of it to his family while he is on active service, the Committee are of opinion, that a National Fund should be established, of which the invested capital of this Association shall be the foundation, and to which the public and the soldier shall be invited to subscribe annually.

This fund to provide pensions for widows and orphans, as well as temporary assistance to wife and family, who, having become subscribers, may be ordered on active service.

The exact subscription which the soldier would be called upon to pay, must depend on the amount of public support the National Fund may receive;—it must always be a very small sum from the soldier; but the Committee are convinced that the country will approve of this proposed attempt to encourage habits of obedience and prudent foresight amongst the married soldiers of the British Army.

By order of the Committee,
HENRY LITTLETON POWYS,
Major of the 60th Royal Rifles,
Hon Sec.

September 7th, 1854.

The Central Association in Aid of the Wives and Families, Widows and Orphans of Soldiers ordered to the East.

BALANCE SHEET.

Sept. 7, 1854. Dr. £ s. d.
To Amount of Subscriptions received in the Half-year, ending 7th September, 1854, from the formation of this Association on the 7th March..... 80,269 17 7

"INGESTRE," Chairman.

JOHN LETTSON ELLIOT, } Members of the
HENRY LITTLETON POWYS, } Finance Committee.

Sept. 7, 1854. Cr. £ s. d.

By Exchequer Bills deposited in the Bank of England in the names of the Trustees, viz.: Sir John Kirtland, Lord Henry Cholmondeley, M.P., and Major the Honourable H. L. Powys..... 65,565 9 4
(Of which £50,000 will be applied to relieve Widows and Orphans.)

By Relief, distributed through Local Associations..... 5,359 14 4

By ditto, distributed at Head Office in London..... 1,180 19 0

By ditto, distributed through Clergymen, Magistrates, and others..... 2,631 7 5

By Advertisements..... 1,792 12 2

By Office Expenses, Printing, Stationery, Wages, Rent, &c..... 718 19 3

By Payments to the Sailors' Association..... 106 0 10

By Balance, viz.:
In the hands of the Honorary Secretary..... £ 311 9 3

At Bankers, 7th Sept., 1854 ... 2,803 6 0

2,914 15 3

80,269 17 7

These Accounts Examined and Audited.

GEORGE WM. BELL,

Auditor to the Association.

Thus it will be seen that the sum of Nine Thousand One Hundred and Seventy-two Pounds have already been spent in actual relief for Widows as well as Wives within the space of six months, and that at the trifling outlay of a little more than 3 per cent. the sum of 80,269£. 17s. 7d. has been raised.

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