

The Leader.

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

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SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1855.

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News of the Week.

THE summer sun shining on the bloody conflict at Sebastopol does not create a more bright and glowing scene for humanity to struggle in than our own country with its summer sun, its grand hopes, its paltry obstructions, and the seething of the political and social caldron. Never, perhaps, in the history of mankind, has one week exhibited the ferment in greater activity; never has the human heart been more pained with the sense of obstruction and vexatious distraction; but never have more large and expanding prospects been in sight than we now discern. Everything, we may say, is working well, although everything just at present is at fault. The statements look inconsistent, but they are not more inconsistent than the times. The mob in Hyde Park to hoot the aristocracy who were not oppressing them in the particular case; the Bishops asking for the reform of the lower house of Convocation; the administrative Reformers, hindered in their great and really prosperous work by their own mistakes; the British army recruiting more slowly than it loses in the field by the penury of a Government newly awakened to its failures; the bankruptcy that is the canker of a gigantic and not declining trade; the defection of Austria from real alliance; the accusations of treachery against our own Government, which seems to be persevering faithfully in a course without clear-sighted objects; Russian fictions, nationalism from LYNDHURST, drowning debate upon the dead Maynooth question once a week—these, and other elements of present conflict are working clear, and converting doubt into hope before our very eyes; and we petty men, who are elements in the ferment, are blest with a consciousness that may make us feel the pain of the day, but know also the grander destiny before us.

The news of this week, therefore, is a chapter in the history of mankind, as checkered as a whole volume might be, and as full. Parliament itself seems to be but the type of the country which it represents more correctly in the unconscious exhibition of its own weaknesses and tendencies, than in any technical reference to the suffrage, or in the acts that it is accomplishing. It is every year trying to do more than it can—bringing in hundreds of imperfect bills to throw over half, and thus to perform infinitely less than half of

what it really could do if it set about the task in good faith and settled purpose. It is prevented by the hypocrisy which restrains members from saying out what they think, and makes them pretend to do what they dissent from—adopt a "cry" instead of a mission, and become the tools of election agents or jobbing constituents instead of the representatives of the country. So Lord PALMERSTON announces, this year, that we must throw over education; throw over an improvement in the jurisdiction over wills—which was only to begin an improvement in the laws relating to family matters; throw over those and many other measures which Ministers and members thought it necessary for their credit to "take up," but which they are not strong enough to go through with. Yet none of these subjects have really declined. The very incapacity of Parliament is making men understand how much more important it is to get at education and the better laws for the regulation of family matters, than to keep up the present particular franchise, which places the election of members of Parliament at the mercy of professional agents. If you want better statutes, says Lord PALMERSTON by the very act of "massacring the innocents," you must have another Parliament; for this Parliament cannot do your work. Yet it still *promises* to do some good work, in passing a statute to facilitate a consolidation of the war department by transferring to it ordnance land in giving a local Government to the metropolis, and in adopting the principle of limited liability for corporate partnerships and individual partners—a section of free-trade which will do something towards releasing commerce from those guarantees upon which it foolishly relies to its own injury and loss.

Lord LYNDHURST gets up in the House of Lords, recapitulates the actual position and course taken by Austria down to April last, shews that she appeared to be consistent in her alliance with this country, and asks Ministers what they mean to do, now that she has withdrawn from her pledges? Austria, answers Lord CLARENDON, was consistent down to the close of the Conferences; but because this country would not accept the impracticable compromise which she suggested between Russia and the Western Powers, she holds that France and England are responsible for the failure of the negotiations, and that she is not bound to undertake those active operations which she had previously and prospectively volunteered. There

are excuses for her, says Lord CLARENDON: the language of the people and press in this country has alarmed and alienated friendly German Governments, who might have sided along with us in opposition to Russia; we have not been so successful as we might have been in the Crimea, and cannot march up to the support of Austria if she were attacked by Russia. Good! If Austria pleads fears, she may excuse her bad faith at the expense of her chivalry. But it is not a day in which any timid Government on the Continent can be safe. Lord CLARENDON, however, states that the refusal of Austria exonerates this country from the four bases. Good again! But he says nothing yet about *what*, being free, he thinks of doing next. We have lost the alliance of Austria—a very embarrassing alliance, which brought some doubts upon those who felt compelled to put faith in her professions, because they manifestly went along with her interests. But if she has parted from us, she has parted exactly in the same proportion from her own interest. If she cannot meet the expense of keeping up her army by abandoning the friendship of the West, she forfeits the very basis of her renovated finance by weakening her hold over Hungary and Italy. The loss of the Austrian alliance is a trouble which threatens Europe with new complications: it means, that, if our Ministry do not play dastard and traitor, and give up the war, it will continue to spread; but if they go on, it means that the Western Powers must be thrown upon other alliances; and then it would mean that Poland, Italy, and Hungary—to which the Conservative and aged LYNDHURST has more than once alluded—may become substantial states, and make the world once more feel their value.

The press has been censured by Ministers for telling tales to the enemy. The press may throw that reproach in the face of Lord PANMURE, who proclaims that the enemy is killing our soldiers fast enough to neutralise our recruiting; while some of our contemporaries are telling the enemy that the sons of our aristocracy and moneyed classes, for whom military commissions are reserved, are too cowardly or too luxurious to venture to the seat of war. Sad confessions these! Yet, what is the practical result? A healthy reaction. The sons of the aristocracy come out, and declare that they deserve and desire to deserve commissions in the East. Ministers have before assured us that the working soldier shall be admitted to the rank of officer; and now there is many a man with an epaulette on his shoulder who went out to the Crimea in the working ranks. And Lord PANMURE adds, this week, that the pay of the soldier fighting before the enemy shall be doubled, in order that the new half may be laid by as a store when he returns from the field, or as a provision for his family. Seven shillings a week is thus added to the pay of the English soldier. The chivalry of the working classes, therefore, is really

rising to a greater consideration: the post of a private soldier has annexed to it an income which many sons of the middle class would not despise.

Mr. THOMAS DUNCOMBE moves to issue a writ for London, in the room of Baron LIONEL DE ROTHSCHILD, who has entered into a contract for the public service. London City elects the Baron, but he will not take the oath—without which he cannot take his seat—while Government keeps the Jew Bill hung up indefinitely—London City, therefore, elects one of its members to represent it anywhere but in the House of Commons; and the Jew Bill standing over until the conclusion of the present war, Mr. THOMAS DUNCOMBE moves to end the farce by favour of the contract into which the Baron has entered to supply money to Government. It is pleaded on his side, that he is only one of a firm, not the real contractor; also that the contract does not apply to money. Mr. BRIGHT proposes to refer the subject to a select committee, and it stands over; but the same process that would expel the Baron from the bar of the House would expel some members who now sit there—possibly Mr. LINDSAY, a contractor by proxy. Can the committee expel corruption along with contracting members? Ask "my constituents."

On the motion of Mr. BERKELEY, the Beer Act of last session has been referred to a select committee. All members who spoke on every side expressed a desire to learn how that Act had worked—whether it had really diminished or increased drunkenness; whether it impedes the harmless recreations of the people, or not. In the meanwhile the people have made a demonstration on their own account, by taking possession of Hyde Park, last Sunday, "to see how the aristocracy spend the Sabbath." The scene was strange: an immense multitude, whose ringleaders were prevented by the police from spouting, clustered at the rails of the carriage drive, shouting sarcasms which went to the hearts of the horses as well as the riders, and startled more than one bashful animal into dangerous courses. Bishops were roasted; Lords were treated like a stray dog on the race-course; but what is not quite so amusing, timid women were equally exposed to the rough yell of the mob. It is not strictly true that the aristocracy were the movers of Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR's Sunday Trading Bill, but certain of that noble Lord's constituents; and notwithstanding this demonstration and Lord PALMERSTON's significant recognition of it, well-meaning Lord ROBERT perseveres with his little bill. So the demonstration is to be renewed again to-morrow. Lord ROBERT's religious zeal thus makes him the grand incendiary, and the people have at last showed that they can be stung into an outward display of their discontent at being subjected to these harassing restraints. If employers will pay them better, and not keep them such long hours at work, they would prefer to trade on the Saturday, and would not use the Sunday as the sole day of business for their private affairs.

As to Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR's share in the matter, personally, it appears to us to be misconceived. There is no doubt that on the showing of several small tradesmen he supposes himself to be acting emphatically by the wish and in the interest of the people. That he meant any oppression it is impossible to suppose; and although it is well to check class legislation whatever its intention may be, it would be a grievous discredit to the working classes if they were to single out a man like Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR for their special indignation. The proposal to accompany him to church is the design of an insult which might lead to serious disturbance and ought to be abandoned.

Convocation has been sitting in its annual agony of spasmodic imbecility. Before the Upper House was a report suggesting a better representation of the clergy in the Lower; before the Lower, a resolution advising a commutation of church-rates, free sittings, &c. Doubts, alarms, shrinkings from any renewal of power, were apparent in the Conservative, or Low Church party, *Cantuar duce*; but the majority of the Bishops did pass an address to the Crown for a reformed representation. Tremendous effort! Some day we shall have the Church of England endeavouring to lead the English people!

We have already mentioned the mistakes of the Administrative Reformers. Their movement as a whole, however, is no mistake; and although Mr. DICKENS has a sound contempt for party politics, he is not only a man of genius, but a fear-

less denouncer of servile shams, and his manly voice is gladly heard.

It is sometimes said that the Administrative Reform movement is out of date, since the crying proof of its necessity lay in the East, where all has been set right. That this answer is not true let the news of this week prove. If there is fermentation anywhere it is in the rotting exuvia of congregated mortality in the Crimea. The winter had its diseases; summer is setting in with the expected dangers, and the administration of health in that quarter is breaking down again. Scutari is still in a condition on a level with the lowest Irish cabins; Balaklava is a sink; and the camp is without a sink. The army is showing the consequence; and Adjutant-General ESCOURT, who has recorded so many deaths, has left others to record his own. Dr. GAVIN, who accidentally killed himself, is now without a successor; Dr. SUTHERLAND has been laid up with fever; Mr. RAWLINSON has been struck by a round shot, and disabled. Dr. MILROY and the other successors to this lapsed commission are still in this country; and the corps of assistant commissioners to carry out their plans has once more to be formed.

Death, indeed, has been busy in the Crimea in many forms. The loss by the attack on the 18th proves to be totally incommensurate with the reports of it, and not more than commensurate with the magnitude of the movement, and the advantages sustained; but is still great—93 officers killed and wounded, and 1162 men. This large loss, however, does not come home to the sympathies like the deaths of men who have made themselves individually known. Captain LYONS, the very type of an English sailor in our day, frank, fearless, and zealous—gentle, chivalrous, and faithful—has sunk under the effects of a rifle-wound in the foot, aggravated, no doubt, by chafing at forced abstinence from duty. Miss NIGHTINGALE will be welcomed home with the more anxiety, lest she should have suffered too much from her heroic services. Too much, in one sense, she cannot have suffered, since she was evidently prepared to encounter any sacrifice.

Lord CANNING has been appointed Governor-General of India—stepping at once from the Post-office to the vice-regal throne. He is said to be a man of the Duke of NEWCASTLE stamp—hard-working and conscientious, but not of the very highest or strongest capacity—honest, but mediocre. The Post-office clerks are an unruly set; but is the governing of them a sufficient apprenticeship for ruling over the Maratta, the Nayah, the Sikh, the Burmese, and the hundred barbaric races of India—Mussulman, Hindu, Buddhist, or Parsee?

Respecting the Hango affair we have little more. Russia does allege that the English have abused the flag of truce. The important fact is, that the officers and men are still alive, with the exception of the five killed in the boat.

Two questions, new and momentous, are raised just now on the Baltic shore. America insists upon the abandonment of the Sound dues, or she will force the strait. The Republic of the West thus threatens the revenue of Denmark. The Danish King lately fell from his horse, opening the succession to the Russian Duke de GLUCKSBERG, and so expediting the completion of that arrangement which would cut off the Danish succession for the benefit of the Czar, at which our Government winked in 1849! Will America defy the Danish flag? Will Admiral DUNDAS protect a Russo-Danish succession against an indignant people?

To turn from the great offender to the lesser—the partners in the bank of STRAHAN, PAUL, and Co. have made their statement, and it is black enough. Their liabilities are provisionally stated at 680,000*l.*, their assets at 140,000*l.* or 150,000*l.*, plus anything accruing out of 270,000*l.* sunk in Italian railways; they have pledged or sold securities to the value of 113,000*l.* This, at all events, was candid; but what is the question most mooted by lawyers just now? It is, whether the disclosure would not exonerate them from criminal prosecution under a clause of the act which otherwise subjects them to transportation. Is it possible to insert a clause into any Act of Parliament which shall screw up all merchants, bankers, and traders to be as completely candid? What a magnificent rival to the *Commercial Dictionary* might be compiled out of the general disclosure—a *Universal Gazetteer* for all provinces of bankruptcy, smart trading, and adulteration.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

The House of Lords sat only for a short time on Monday, and adjourned after forwarding several bills a stage.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.

In the House of Commons, Lord PALMERSTON stated the intentions of the Government with respect to such of its bills as are now before the House. Of these, several are to be deferred till next session; the most conspicuous being the Education Bills and the Free Schools Bill. The Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill is to be abandoned.

THE OUTRAGE AT HANGO.

Sir CHARLES WOOD, in giving some particulars of the Hango massacre from a despatch of Admiral Dundas (the substance of which will be found under our War heading), emphatically denied, on the authority of an officer from Kertch, the story of our having taken soundings under cover of a flag of truce while returning a carriage to a Russian officer. This alleged fact formed part of the enemy's excuse for the massacre.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT BILLS.

The House resolved itself into committee—first, upon the Victoria Government Bill, and, secondly, upon the New South Wales Government Bill. The clauses of both underwent much discussion, in the course of which the whole policy of these measures was severely criticised by Mr. LOWE, Mr. ROEBUCK, and other members.

EDUCATION (NO. 2) BILL.

After some conversation, it was agreed to defer till Monday next the consideration of the course to be taken with respect to Sir John Pakington's Education Bill.

The other business, which was of a routine character, was then disposed of, and the House adjourned.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

Lord BROUGHAM, in the House of Lords on Tuesday, presented a petition from certain proprietors, merchants, and inhabitants of Barbadoes, praying "that the produce of Cuba and Porto Rico may be excluded from the markets of the United Kingdom until the Spanish government shall have effectually abolished the slave trade."

AUSTRIA AND THE WAR.

Lord LYNDHURST rose to call the attention of the House to the treaty of the 2nd of December, 1854, and to the Vienna Conferences, his reason for making the motion being to obtain some explanation from Lord Clarendon as to the present position of Austria with regard to the Allies. He expressed his conviction that Austria had a secret understanding with Russia, acting on which she had withdrawn her troops from the Gallician frontier, and disbanded a great portion of her army.—Lord CLARENDON thought that the indiscriminate blame which had been cast by this country on Austria had estranged the sympathies of that Empire. The recent negotiations had not prevented the Government from carrying on the war with vigour; and England and France are free to make peace on their own terms. As to the conduct of Austria, it neither justifies censure nor merits praise.—After some remarks by Lord ELLENBOROUGH, the Duke of ARGYLL, and Lord DENMAN, the discussion ceased.

THE FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL passed through committee.

Several clauses of the METROPOLIS LOCAL MANAGEMENT BILL, and of the BIRKENHEAD AND LIVERPOOL DOCKS BILL, were agreed to at the morning sitting of the House of Commons.

THE SUNDAY TRADING BILL.

In the evening, Mr. OTWAY inquired whether the Sunday Trading Bill was sanctioned by the Government, and whether Sir George Grey intended to offer any opposition to its further progress?—Sir GEORGE GREY replied that it was not a Government measure, and that it was not his intention to offer any opposition to the House going into a consideration of the bill in committee.—In reply to Mr. MASSEY, Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR said he intended to persevere in the measure.—Mr. ROEBUCK gave notice that he should move in committee that all the clubs in London be included.

OUTRAGES AT KERTCH—CIRCASSIA.

Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to Mr. MILNER GIBSON, said that the Government had received no information with respect to the alleged inhumanities committed by the Allies at Kertch, but that they would call for such information as could be given by the officer in command.—Replying to a question from Lord JOHN MANNERS, Lord PALMERSTON stated that no relations exist between the Government and the Circassians, with the exception of their mutual hostilities against Anapa.

BARON ROTHSCHILD AND THE REPRESENTATION OF LONDON.

Mr. DUNCOMBE moved that the Speaker do issue

his warrant for a new writ for the electing of a citizen to serve in Parliament for the City of London, in the room of Baron Lionel Nathan de Rothschild, who since his election has entered into a contract for the public service. He argued that the contract for the loan brought the Baron within the statute of 1782.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL opposed the motion, conceiving that the best course would be to refer the question to a select committee.—This was ultimately agreed to, after some discussion.

THE BEER BILL.

Mr. HENRY BERKELEY moved for a select committee to inquire into the act of last session for further regulating the sale of beer and other liquors on Sunday. He appealed to the result of returns to show the increase of drunkenness since the passing of the act.—The motion was seconded by Mr. COBBETT, and was supported by Mr. BRADY, Mr. WILKINSON, Sir J. WALSH, Mr. VILLIERS, Mr. HENLEY, and Sir JOHN SHELLEY. Mr. PATTEN spoke in favour of the bill, though he did not object to the committee, to the appointment of which Sir GEORGE GREY also agreed, while believing that the act had worked well. The motion was consequently adopted.

THE INCOME TAX AND THE FRANCHISE.

Major REED obtained leave to bring in a bill for conferring the elective franchise upon persons assessed to the Income-tax, but not upon a register of electors.—Lord PALMERSTON, in assenting to the introduction of this bill, said it was rather late in the session for so doing; but, as Major Reed said he only wished to bring in the bill that he might have an opportunity of submitting his own opinions on the subject to the consideration of Parliament, it would be discorteous to offer any opposition.

STAGE CARRIAGE DUTIES.

General WYNDHAM brought the subject of the stage carriage duties before the House, on the ground of the injurious effect which those duties have in discouraging the breed of horses. He moved that the duties should be immediately modified; which was agreed to by the Government after a brief conversation.

A motion by Mr. SCHOLEFIELD for a select committee to inquire into the adulteration of food, drinks, and drugs was also agreed to.

Mr. ROEBUCK postponed his motion on the Sebastopol Committee Report until Tuesday the 10th of July.

FORMATION OF PARISHES BILL.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, the Marquis of BLANDFORD moved the second reading of this bill, the object of which is to make better provision for the endowment of separate and distinct parishes, to give facilities for the creation of new districts, and to provide means for relieving poorly-endowed churches. The bill would repeal the Church Buildings Act, and transfer the functions of the Commissioners to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.—Sir GEORGE GREY admitted that the bill contained much that is valuable, but, believing that it required much consideration, he hoped Lord Blandford would consent to the discussion being postponed until next session, when the Government would make no opposition to the second reading, provided the measure were referred to a select committee.—This was ultimately agreed to by Lord Blandford, and the bill was accordingly withdrawn.—In the course of a brief discussion, the bill was opposed by Sir WILLIAM CLAY, on the ground that it created a new form of church rates, and for other reasons of a technical character; by Sir WILLIAM HEATHCOTE, Mr. GEORGE BUTT, Mr. PELLATT, Mr. V. SCULLY, and Mr. HADFIELD. It was supported by Lord EBRINGTON, Mr. PALK, Mr. R. PHILLIMORE, and Mr. W. F. COWPER.

MAYNOOTH.

The adjourned debate on Maynooth College was resumed by Mr. MAGUIRE, who defended the character of the College from the aspersions cast on it, and denied that the Pope could absolve Roman Catholics from their allegiance.—Mr. P. O'BRIEN also defended the institution.—The grant was opposed by Captain STUART and Mr. STANHOPE, on the often-repeated ground of its giving encouragement to Papacy.—The debate was again adjourned.

The YOUTHFUL OFFENDERS (No. 2) BILL, and the COURT OF EXCHEQUER (IRELAND) BILL, were read a third time and passed.

IMPROVEMENTS IN BARRACKS.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the Duke of RICHMOND asked certain questions of Lord Panmure with respect to barrack accommodation and other army arrangements. He did not see why barracks should not be made much more comfortable than they now are, and thus give less cause for the soldier quitting them in order to find more cheerful quarters at the public-house; and more especially is it necessary that proper accommodation should be found for the married women, who now, for want of privacy, are often greatly demoralised. He also objected to the present custom of enlisting more children of seventeen or eighteen years old, who, though their courage was undoubted, have not the stamina suffi-

cient to endure the hardships of a campaign.—Lord PANMURE replied that the Government were giving their best attention to the advancement of the comforts of the soldier in barracks, though, as regards soldiers' wives, he did not see why any man in the infantry should be allowed to marry until after ten years' service, or in the cavalry until after twelve years, which would enable the men to have homes for themselves. With respect to recruiting, the English army is still far below the amount voted by Parliament, though recruiting is going on at the rate of one thousand a week. The Government had therefore determined to endeavour to make the service more attractive by giving double pay to every soldier actively engaged before the enemy. This additional pay it was proposed to invest in savings-banks until the soldier's return, or, if he fell, it would be paid to his relatives. This scheme would be made public in a few days by proclamation; and he trusted it would be found to answer better than the increase of bounty which had been proposed.

Several clauses of the ASSIZES AND SESSIONS BILL were agreed to in committee; the MILITIA (No. 2) BILL was read a third time and passed; and, certain routine business having been gone through, their Lordships adjourned.

METROPOLIS LOCAL MANAGEMENT BILL.

The House of Commons again sat in committee on this bill, and agreed to several clauses, some others being omitted or modified.

THE CLAIMS OF SIR CHARLES BARRY.

In reply to Lord SEYMOUR, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said he was happy to state that the claims of Sir Charles Barry were likely to be speedily adjusted.

TENANTS COMPENSATION (IRELAND) BILL.

After an ineffectual effort on the part of Lord SEYMOUR to postpone the further progress of the bill to next session, the House went into committee, and passed the clauses from the 5th to the 10th inclusive. Some amendments were introduced, of which the chief were, one by Mr. HORSMAN, creating an exception in the case of non-payment of rent; one by Mr. GEORGE, with a similar but rather extended action; and one by Mr. BLAND, providing that, "in case any tenant shall be evicted for non-payment of rent, and shall be afterwards sued for any rent in respect of the lands from which he has been so evicted, he shall be at liberty to set off as against such claim for rent the amount of the compensation to which he would have been entitled under this act had his tenancy determined by effluxion of time."

THE EXCISE DUTIES BILL was read a second time, on the understanding that it should be committed *pro forma*, in order that some amendments which had been agreed to by the trade might be inserted.

CONVOCATION.

THE two Houses of Convocation met on Thursday, when the Bishop of London, in the Upper House, brought up and moved the adoption of a Report from a Committee appointed last session. A resolution based upon this Report set forth—

"That since the last meeting of this House, the House having received an opinion of her Majesty's Solicitor-General and Dr. Robert Phillimore, pointing out a safe and easy mode, if it should be sanctioned by her Majesty, of amending the representation of the clergy in the Lower House, it appears to this House that the reasons which led them, at the last session, to postpone the consideration of this subject no longer exist, and that they can most effectually consult for the cause of Church extension, by seeking, in the first instance, an amendment of the representation of the clergy in the Lower House of Convocation."

This was agreed to, together with an address to the Queen, praying that she would grant her license to consider of a constitution, also a similar license to the Convocation of the province of York, and permission for intercommunication on the subject between the two Convocations. The adoption of the Report was opposed by the Bishops of Winchester, Lincoln, and St. Asaph; and supported by the Bishops of London, Oxford, Exeter, Salisbury, Gloucester and Bristol, and Bath and Wells. The votes, therefore, stood three against and six for. The Archbishop of Canterbury, who presided, expressed his regret that the Report had been introduced. The Bishop of Lincoln, in opposing the adoption, said—

"The proposed change would make Convocation not a deliberative but a legislative body, and he did not think that could be attempted without incurring a considerable amount of misapprehension and jealousy, from which happily Convocation is now free."

In the Lower House, after some formal business, the Prolocutor laid before the House the Report of the Committee on Church-rates. The Report recommended—

"That church-rates be henceforth limited to charges strictly necessary for maintaining the fabric of the church

and churchyard in decent order and repair; and that, in order to enforce the making of rates so limited, it should be imperative on the churchwardens, within a certain period after their appointment, to submit to the vestry an estimate of the expenses to be incurred in the ensuing

year, together with a detailed statement of the items. That, if the vestry refuses to make a rate, or make one for less than the churchwardens require, it shall be competent for the churchwardens, or either of them, to appeal to the next quarter sessions, who shall have power to make a rate, or to confirm the rate, or to increase the amount thereof to any sum not exceeding the churchwardens' estimate."

No discussion or division ensued; and the address to the Queen, agreed to by the Upper House was shortly afterwards presented by the Prolocutor. The adoption of this having been moved, a brief discussion followed; but finally the House adjourned without coming to a vote.

THE WAR.

THE serious illness and consequent resignation of Lord Raglan—the illness of Sir George Brown—the death from a wound of Captain Lyons—and the death from cholera of Adjutant-General Estcourt—form important events enough for one week's War news. Each of these four facts will be received in England with feelings of pain. The loss to the country of the high-spirited and gallant Captain Lyons—true inheritor of his father's dashing courage—comes at a time when we can ill spare one who seemed to possess something of the old naval spirit of this island,—the spirit of Drake, Blake, and Nelson, itself derived from that romantic salt-sea daring, that picturesque abandonment to the influences of waves and winds, which formed the distinguishing characteristics of the Vikings of the early North. And, whatever may be thought of Lord Raglan as a commander-in-chief, no one can avoid being pained at the sight of a man at his time of life being stricken down at his post by an illness which is always dangerous, and which, in the present instance, according to report, is likely to be attended with fatal consequences.

The week's news, however, is not all painful: indeed, it reduces in some degree the gloom arising out of last week's intelligence. The first shock of the intimation which arrived last Friday of the repulse of the Allies, coming upon our overwrought expectations, produced for a time too great a degree of depression, and gave rise to lamentable fears and forebodings. It now turns out that the affair was not so bad as it appeared on the first blush. The situation of affairs remains unaltered; the Russians are evidently not greatly elated at their negative success; the killed and wounded turn out to be less than the public at first anticipated; and finally Lord Panmure publishes the fact that "we retain possession of the round Russian fort in the Cemetery, whence the Russians were driven out on the 18th, and the Mamelon, at the gorge of the valley which divides the English Left Attack from the right of the South Harbour." The affair of the 18th therefore was not altogether a defeat. This intelligence was communicated yesterday morning; and under the same date Lord Panmure says, on the authority of a despatch from headquarters—

"The French and English are proceeding with their approaches against the enemy's works, and are erecting new batteries, to be armed with heavy guns. The enemy continue to repair the damage done during the last attack. Very little fire on their part."

The following despatches from General Pelissier still further elucidate the situation after the repulse on the 18th:—

"June 19.

"The besieged, notwithstanding our failure of yesterday, which they will doubtless exaggerate considerably, grew alarmed last night, and for a long time kept up a fire from all their guns at empty space.

"To-day, at four o'clock, there was an armistice for burying the dead."

"June 20.

"The besieged, closely pressed on the side of the Central Ravine, are setting fire to the little faubourg at the extremity of the southern port.

"We are erecting batteries with guns of heavy calibre on the works captured on the 7th of June, which threaten more directly the great port."

The account which General Gortschakoff sends of the affair of the 18th of June, is to the effect that an assault was made on Bastions 1, 2, and 3, and on the Korniloff Bastion, after a bombardment of twenty-four hours, and that the French, upon being repulsed, left six hundred prisoners in the hands of the Russians. The French account of their own losses is as follows:—"37 officers killed, 17 prisoners, 96 gone to the ambulances; non-commissioned officers and men killed and missing, 1544; gone to the ambulances, 1644." Our own losses were:—Non-commissioned

officers and rank and file, killed, 144; wounded, 1058; missing, 150: officers killed and wounded, 93. The losses of the French were less on the 7th of June, when the Mamelon was taken; and the greater number of the casualties occurred, not in the actual assault and temporary capture of the Malakoff batteries, but in the attempt to stay there under the fire of the neighbouring defences. Only two French divisions were employed in the assault—those of Generals Mayran and Brunet. Both these generals were seriously wounded.

We read as follows in the *Daily News*:—

"The Russian Government publishes a despatch from Prince Gortschakoff, dated the evening of the 19th, praising his troops, and announcing that the fire of the Allies had all but ceased. A small Russian reinforcement of infantry is moving down to Sebastopol. Owing to the difficulty of feeding large corps in the Crimea since the operations of the Allies in the Black Sea, the Russian Government has given an increased extension to the camp at Nicolaieff, assembling there the divisions which would otherwise be encamped in the Tauric Peninsula.

"Advices from Paris state that no further assault on the Malakoff batteries is expected to take place until French breaching batteries, in course of construction in front of the Mamelon, are ready to open fire.

"Letters from Odessa state that fears are entertained there that the Allies, having completed their work in the Sea of Azof, will visit, for the same reasons, the mouths of the Dnieper, as well as Kherson and Nicolaieff, at the embouchure of the Bug, which, since the 24th ult., have become of more importance than ever to the Russian commissariat, and where the Czar has ships and naval establishments. A reconnaissance of Perekop is also again spoken of."

A TRUCE FOR BURYING THE DEAD (JUNE 9TH).

The interval afforded another opportunity, rapidly taken advantage of, of getting a nearer look at Sebastopol; and the Mamelon, as the most important of our late acquisitions, was the attractive spot, whither every one who had the time and chance hastened. The French working parties had broken ground on the ascent, and were connecting their lines, distant some two hundred yards, with the fort by new parallels, and were also reversing the Russian trenches outside, facing towards our advanced works. The rugged, channelled, and shot-battered outline of the fortress grew larger and more real as you wound up to it; but the interior, altogether unknown till that moment, excited a more vivid feeling, and alike outside and inside attested the fierceness of the struggle and the pluck of the assailants. The surface of the ground within was cut into holes and pits—here like an old stone quarry, there like a bit of Crimean vineyard; some of these were the effect of bursting shells with well-timed fuses, some the cunning apparatus of the hardy and prolonged defence. The corpses which cumbered the earth and were in process of removal gave out faint tokens of coming putrefaction; fragments of bodies and marks of carnage were interspersed with ruined gabions and broken firelocks; Russian guns, dismounted and dented with shotmarks, lay tumbled below their embrasures; fifty or so were concealed beneath the debris; and some quantity of hidden powder was also rooted out of the subterranean recesses which abounded in the rock. These nests, excavated in the inner faces of the intrenchments, were left warm by their previous occupants—food and implements of labour were found in them, and, among other things, a bit of fishing-net in course of construction. The nearer view alone revealed the stupendous character of the earthworks, and, if astonishment were not now a stale sentiment, the eye-witnesses would have been simply astonished at the amount of labour lavished on them. The traverses appeared to be some eighteen feet in height. An English lady—where will they not go? where do they not go?—was brought by her husband, an officer, to survey the place.—*Times Correspondent*.

The same writer relates that, during this brief suspension of hostilities, "a Russian officer fell into conversation with one of our men, and, giving him his card, said, 'I wish this was all over, and we were good friends again; we are all tired enough, but our orders are to fight it out to the last.' At the termination of the armistice, there were some signs of insubordination among the men who were in contiguity with ours."

GENERAL PELISSIER'S ACCOUNT OF THE CAPTURE OF THE MAMELON.

The *Moniteur* of Monday contains General Pelissier's despatch, giving a detailed narrative of the capture of the Mamelon Vert and the Ouvrages Blancs on the 7th of June. The White Works (which are works of counter-approach constructed by the Russians on the 22nd and 27th of February) were carried by the first impetuous rush of the French, who soon established themselves in their acquisition; the battery of the 2nd of May, defending the entrance to the Careening Bay ravine, was seized, and the guns spiked; the retreat of the enemy from the White Works was cut off; the Mamelon was occupied, under a tremendous fire from the Redan and the Malakoff batteries; and borne away by the enthusiasm of the moment, the French penetrated into the ditch of the Malakoff, and tried to enter the

enceinte. From this, however, they were necessarily driven; fresh columns of Russians attacked the Mamelon; a mine or a powder magazine exploded; and, in the recoil, the French were for a time obliged to recede from their position. But, being speedily reinforced, our allies again dashed the enemy out of the Mamelon, and remained definitively masters of the "green mound" and of the works upon it.

The advantages thus obtained not only give us a greater command over the fortifications of the town itself, but they have destroyed the effect of the Russian counter-approaches, which have fallen into the hands of our allies.

FESTIVITIES AT EISK.

A journal of our naval operations in the Sea of Azof gives the following account of an odd scene which took place at the destruction of Eisk:—"It was the wish of the Governor that our boats should pull in close to the shore and form order of battle in line abreast, making an imposing appearance, so as to justify him in surrendering; which we did. The marines and firing party landed, and were received by the Governor and colonel, providing the officers with mounts. One party proceeded to the westward, and fired some mile and a half of stacks, consisting of hay, rye, and straw, in places six and eight deep; others to the town, to fire a quantity of grain that the Governor had taken out of the stores to prevent the town being burnt, which they were in great fear of. The parties having destroyed the grain and stacks, which they took to be Government property, re-embarked; but, previous to their leaving the beach, the Governor begged their acceptance of a quantity of stock, which he had ordered down to the beach, which we politely declined. Compliments passed—such as, they hoped they would meet each other under more favourable auspices in lieu of such painful circumstances. The Governor and inhabitants were thankful for our leniency in sparing the town. About this time one dozen of champagne came down very *à propos* in a drosky, which seemingly our friend the Governor had ordered, and which he insisted upon our opening, and drinking each other's healths. Two very swell Greeks, dressed up gaudily in their war costume, were not content with drinking healths only, but drank success to the expedition in French. I suppose our friend the Governor did not understand them."

THE SPIT OF ARABAT.

The following picturesque description of the marshy tongue of land at Arabat is from a letter of the *Times* Special Correspondent attached to the Kertch expedition:—

"The Spit of Arabat is a bank but a few feet above water, and is in some places only a furlong in breadth. It is nearly seventy miles in length, and its average width is less than half a mile from sea to sea. . . . In the interior, or on the body of the bank, there are numerous lagunes—narrow strips of water much more salt than that of the adjacent sea. Some of these are only a few yards in length and a few feet in breadth, others extend for a quarter of a mile, and are about one hundred yards broad. They are all bounded alike by thick high grass and rushes. The bottom, which is found at the depth of a few feet—often at two or three inches—consists of hard sand covered with slimy green vegetable matter. The water abounds in small flounders and dabs, and in shrimps, which leap about in wild commotion at an approaching footstep. Every lagune is covered with mallards and ducks, in pairs, and the fringes of the spit are the resort of pelicans and cormorants innumerable. The silence, the dreary solitude of the scene, are beyond description. Even the birds, mute as they are at this season, appear to be preternaturally quiet and voiceless. Multitudes of odd, crustaceous-looking polypous plants, spring up through the reeds, and bright-coloured flycatchers, with orange breasts and black wings, poise over their nests below them. . . . Patches of ground were cleared here and there, and gave feeble indications that young potatoes were struggling for life beneath. Large ricks of reeds and coarse grass had been gathered round the battery, but were now reduced to ashes. There is a track beaten into the semblance of a road over the sand from the battery to Taman, and it was covered with proofs of the precipitate flight of the garrison. Pieces of uniform, bags containing pieces of the universal black bread, strings of onions, old rags, empty sacks and bottles, were found along the track, and some of our party came upon a large chest, which was full of Government papers, stamps, custom-house and quarantine dockets, &c. But the sun was intensely hot, and trudging through the heavy sand very painful. I had been rash enough, indeed, to go into the deep reeds after some duck, and intensely did my face and hands suffer in consequence. At every step swarms of mosquitoes arose from the reeds, and stung with a bitterness and ferocity which excited corresponding feeling in those who suffered from their assaults. They were of all sizes and shapes, and wore proboscides of every form; and their thirst was excessive. The noise they made trumpeting, buzzing, and singing around one's ears was so sharp and loud that it gained credence for the statements of one of the officers of gunboats who had recently returned from the coast of the Sivash or Putrid Sea, and who declared that the humming of the mosquitoes there in the evening was so great that it resembled the blowing off of steam

from a boiler, and that the swarms of these spiteful insects filled the air like dense clouds."

THE HANGO MASSACRE.

Accounts have been received at the Admiralty, from which it appears that several of the boat's crew of the Cossack, who were supposed to have been killed, are alive, though prisoners. A complete list is subjoined of the killed, and of the prisoners both wounded and unwounded:—

Killed.—Thompson, coxswain of the boat; Cornwall, ordinary seaman; Benjamin Smith, ordinary seaman; Lynn, captain's steward; Joseph Banks.

Prisoners.—Wounded: John Lorton, George Boyle, Joseph Gliddon (right arm amputated), Thomas Stokes, Unhurt: Lieutenant Louis Geneste, Surgeon Robert Easton, Mr. Sullivan, Owen Francis, William Rockelly, John Hockey, and Francis George.

A Stockholm paper has accounts from Helsingfors stating that the English have bombarded Hango, and destroyed the telegraph station. The Russians now admit that the Cossack's boat displayed a flag of truce; but allege that they suspected a stratagem to surprise them.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

A despatch from the Commander-in-Chief, dated June 12th, has been published; but it does not contain any news of which the telegraph has not previously informed us. From the enclosures we learn that the casualties from the 4th to the 6th (query 7th?) of June, inclusive, were—1 officer, 7 rank and file, killed; 5 officers, 5 sergeants, 1 drummer, 64 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file missing. Those from the 8th to the 10th, also inclusive, were—19 rank and file, killed; 5 officers, 10 sergeants, 105 rank and file wounded. Naval brigade (9th and 10th of June): 1 killed, 14 wounded, 4 contused.

Further despatches from Lord Raglan, dated the 14th and 16th inst., have been received. They mention the conclusion of the Sea of Azof expedition, congratulate Sir George Brown and Admiral and Captain Lyons on its success, and, with reference to the health of the army, state that cholera has increased since the last report, but that the men in general look healthy.

DESPATCHES FROM SIR EDMUND LYONS, &c

Communications from Captain Lyons, Sir Edmund Lyons, and Rear-Admiral Stewart, dated respectively June 3rd, 6th, and 11th, contain the details of our attack upon Taganrog, and of the evacuation of Anapa by the Russians. Captain Lyons, in his account of the Taganrog affair, says that there were upwards of 3000 Russian soldiers in the town at the time, and that these constantly endeavoured to prevent the destruction of the Government stores, but were hindered by the fire from the boats' guns. No mention is made of our men being routed and driven back to the boats, according to the Russian General's version; nor, considering that we had not one man killed, and only one wounded, and that we destroyed all the Government stores and public buildings, is the relation very probable. Commander Coles, Lieutenant Buckley, and Lieutenant Mackenzie, are noticed by Captain Lyons with great commendation.

The Government have published a despatch from Sir Edmund Lyons, of the date of June 12, enclosing letters from Captain Lyons and Lieutenant Horton. These documents refer to the operations in the Sea of Azof, but only contain the official detailed report of facts already known. The admiral remarks that so great was the quantity of grain which the Allies fired, "that in some cases the conflagration had not entirely subsided when last seen on the eighth day."

SERIOUS ILLNESS AND RUMOURED RESIGNATION OF LORD RAGLAN.

We read in the *Times*:—"Lord Raglan's iron constitution has at length given way to a cause that has laid many a younger and stronger man low, and his lordship has, we are told, requested to be relieved of his command, in order to return home. General Simpson, we believe, will succeed him in the command-in-chief." Sir George Brown is suffering from the same disease—dysentery; and the state of Lord Raglan's health is, we understand, of a nature to warrant the gravest anticipations.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN LYONS.

Intelligence reached the Admiralty on Wednesday that Captain Lyons, of the *Miranda*, son of the Admiral, had been killed. On the same afternoon the news was communicated to his sister, the Countess of Arundel and Surrey. "It appears," says the *Times*, "that, in his anxiety to make a thorough recognisance of Kaffa, he approached so near to that port that, standing on the paddle-box of his ship, he received a rifle ball in his leg. He did not think much of it at the time, but the extreme heat, the excitement of the occasion, and probably also a degree of vexation at being thus unnecessarily disabled, checked the healing process, and deprived the service of the very promising officer to whom we owe our first naval success in this war."

WAR MISCELLANEA.

PETROPAULOVSK.—Advices from the Sandwich Islands state that five English war vessels, carrying about 120 guns, had sailed from Honolulu, with the intention

of joining a French force in a second attack on Petropaulovski.

A MYSTERIOUS PRINCE AT GENITCHI.—A correspondent of the *Times*, describing the attack on Genitchi, says:—"A boat was sent in with a flag of truce, demanding that all shipping, Government stores, &c., should be surrendered without resistance, and promising that private property should be respected. The Governor of the place came down, but said he had no authority to surrender; that there was a Prince there, who was his superior, and he would send to him. On being asked who the Prince was, he would not say, and seemed sorry that he had named him at all. The Prince soon came down, and appeared to have been ill or wounded. On the previous demand being repeated, he said that he had no means of opposing us by sea, but that by land he should offer all the resistance in his power, and that he should not surrender the town.

THE GERMAN LEGION IN HELIGOLAND.—A Hamburg letter says it would appear that the English Government intend to form in the island of Heligoland a general dépôt of warlike stores for the fleet in the Baltic. Huts, bedding, provisions, equipments, &c., continue to arrive.

THE SMALLER STATES OF GERMANY, according to a letter from Berlin, are quietly disarming, and giving every symptom that the Confederation does not look forward to any participation in the present war.

FRENCH REINFORCEMENTS.—Orders have been received at Marseilles to prepare to embark an additional corps d'armée of 50,000 men. Rumour also speaks of a determination on the part of the French Emperor to carry the war farther into the enemy's territory.

THE AUSTRIAN ARMY.—The reduction of the Austrian army will, it is now stated, amount to 145,000 men, with 130,000 horses; and, as the gaps which have been made in the army by sickness are not to be filled up, the diminution will in fact be to the extent of 170,000 men.

THE FLEET IN THE BALTIC.—Our magnificent fleet in the northern seas continues as idle as it was last year. The capture or destruction of a few vessels, and the frightening of women and children, or occasionally of a body of armed men, from the shores into the interior forests, appears to be the utmost of an active nature which it affects. On the 9th of June, the Magicienne came suddenly on an encampment of 3000 of the enemy, with six field pieces, on whom she opened fire, and, after killing several, forced the rest to retreat, with but small damage to herself. The same vessel subsequently destroyed some vessels laden with hewn granite for the defences at Cronstadt. Advices from Abo state that the English fleet is dispersed, and cruising along the coast of Finland.

CRONSTADT, according to a correspondent of the *Times*, is now twice as strong as it was last year. A land attack, which the writer considers was possible, in 1854, is now, he asserts, quite hopeless. The place was then quite unprepared to resist the combined fleet and 30,000 troops; but the opportunity was lost by us, and turned to account by the Russians. "Something, however," adds the writer, "may yet be done; but, should it be deferred until next year, it will be impossible." An infernal machine, off Cronstadt, recently exploded under one of our small reconnoitring steamers, bulging some of her timbers, and ripping off a good deal of copper, but not inflicting any serious damage.

DEATH OF ADJUTANT-GENERAL ESTCOURT.—On Tuesday evening, Lord Panmure received intelligence, by telegraph, of the death of J. Bucknall Estcourt, Adjutant-General of the Forces in the Crimea, of cholera. He was fifty-three years of age.

ALBANIA has refused to furnish the contingent demanded by the Porte, under pretence of disorders existing on the frontier of Montenegro.

THE OUTRAGES AT KERTCH.—A letter from Sir Charles Wood to Mr. George Sumner has been published, showing that the Government, in consequence of certain representations made by the latter gentleman, telegraphed to Lord Raglan to give orders for the protection of the Museum and other works of art at Kertch.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL COUNT TROTTI has left Genoa for the Crimea, to take the command of the second division of the Sardinian contingent, vacant through the death of General Alessandro Della Marmora.—*Daily Telegraph and Courier*.

THE CRIMEAN TELEGRAPH.—The *Moniteur* of Sunday says:—"The electric telegraph has been broken in several places since June 18, and has not yet been completely restored to working order. The cable which crosses the Danube at Giurgevo is broken, and the communication between Bucharest and Presburg is interrupted. Along this section, therefore, the despatches must needs be transmitted by post."

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM MEETING AT DRURY-LANE.

The second meeting of the Administrative Reform Association took place at Drury-lane Theatre on Wednesday evening, on which occasion the chief speaker was Mr. Dickens, who, in a speech sparkling with wit and humour, threw some freshness upon the

arguments usually advanced in favour of the new movement. After an introductory speech by Mr. Morley, the chairman, Mr. Dickens, who was received with great warmth, rose and said he would compress his remarks into the smallest possible compass. He commenced by referring to Lord Palmerston's taunt about the "private theatricals" at Drury-lane, and retorted by a humorous account of the play they were getting up—a play called *The School of Reform*, which they hoped would supplant *The Comedy of Errors*, for they had seen this played so dismally like a tragedy that they could no longer bear it. "I will not say," remarked Mr. Dickens, "that, if I wanted to form a company of her Majesty's servants, I think I should know where to lay my hands on 'the comic old gentleman.'" This disclaimer was received with roars of laughter. Passing to a serious consideration of the subject, he observed:—

"When the *Times* newspaper proved its then almost incredible case in reference to the ghastly absurdity of that vast labyrinth of misplaced men and misdirected things, which had made England unable to find on the face of the earth an enemy one-twentieth part so potent to effect the misery and ruin of her noble defenders as she has been herself, I believe that the gloomy silence into which the country fell was by far the darkest aspect in which a great people had been exhibited for many years. (*Cheers.*) With shame and indignation lowering among all classes of society, and this new element of discord piled on the heaving basis of ignorance, poverty, and crime—which is always below us—with little adequate expression of the general mind, or apparent understanding of the general mind, in Parliament, with the machinery of the Government and the Legislature going round and round, and the people falling from it and standing aloof, as if they left it to its last remaining function—of destroying itself,—when it had achieved that, the destruction of so much that was dear to them, I did and do believe that the only wholesome turn affairs so menacing could possibly take was the awaking of the people, the outspokening of the people, the uniting of the people in all patriotism and loyalty to effect a great peaceful constitutional change in the administration of their own affairs." (*Cheers.*)

Having answered the usual objections brought against the Administrative Reform movement, and shown that, so far from "setting class against class," it would have the effect of uniting all classes, Mr. Dickens mentioned, as an extraordinary instance of official routine, the employment until the year 1826 of wooden tallies as a means of keeping Government accounts. The burning of "these preposterous sticks" in a stove of the House of Lords set fire to the two Houses of Parliament; and, in the same manner, "all obstinate adherence to rubbish which the time has long outlived is certain to have in the soul of it more or less that is pernicious and destructive." Alluding to Lord Palmerston's curt intimation to Mr. Layard that he must find a day for himself, on which to bring forward his motion, Mr. Dickens thus concluded:—

"I would take the liberty of reversing that cool and lofty sentiment, and I would say, 'First Lord, your duty it is to see that no man is left to find a day for himself. (*Cheers.*) See you, who take the responsibility of government, who aspire to it, live for it, intrigue for it, scramble for it, who hold to it tooth and nail when you can get it, see you that no man is left to find a day for himself. (*Loud cheers.*) In this old country, with its seething, hard-worked millions, its heavy taxes, its swarms of ignorant, its crowds of poor, and its crowds of wicked, woe the day when the dangerous man shall find a day for himself, because the head of the Government failed in his duty in not anticipating it by a brighter and a better. (*Here the whole House rose, and cheered loudly for several minutes.*) Name you the day, First Lord; make a day, work for a day beyond your little time, Lord Palmerston, and History in return may then—not otherwise—find a day for you; a day equally associated with the contentment of the loyal, patient, willing-hearted English people, and with the happiness of your Royal Mistress and her fair line of children.'" (*Loud and protracted cheering.*)

Mr. T. McCullagh and Mr. F. Bennoch having addressed the meeting on the general question of the corrupt mode of distributing offices by Government, Mr. Layard made some remarks, in the course of which he warned the public not to be led away by little successes in the present war, which would be a war of long duration, and pointed out, as one success already produced by the Administrative Reform movement, the recognition of non-commissioned officers in Lord Raglan's despatches.

A WORKING PRINTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The London Society of Compositors has just established a very excellent institution in Raquet-court, Fleet-street. It may be described as uniting the benefits of a club, an educational body, a house of call, where the members of the trade can meet and consult upon questions relating to their general in-

terests, and a provident society, from which, during the quarter terminating at Midsummer, one hundred and eighty-five persons have received an allowance of ten shillings a week. A library and news-rooms are attached to the building; but the former is at present only in the course of development. When completed, it will doubtless be of great service in cultivating the minds of the members, who, after spending the greater part of their day in the mechanical creation of books, will in the evening be enabled to take the best volumes to their own firesides, and enlarge their intellects with the immortal essence—the spiritual souls—of libraries. The hard-worked slaves of the composing-room will thus in time know something more of literature than what they now derive from bad copy and foul proofs.

The London Society of Compositors has likewise, at its house in Raquet-court, a lavatory, and cooking and smoking-rooms. The institution, indeed, seems to be worthy of all praise; and we are always glad to extend a knowledge of these efforts on the part of working-men to lift themselves above the position of mere drudges, and to secure the priceless benefits of co-operation. Club-combination is a luxury among the rich: it may be a source of positive improvement to the poor.

OUR CIVILISATION.

A CLERICAL BEGGAR.—John Elliot Hadlow, calling himself a clergyman of the Church of England, and boasting a great many aliases, has been recently charged at the Southwark police-court with obtaining money under false pretences. His uncle, a gentleman of independent property, described the prisoner as a worthless character; but, as there was no evidence to prove that he was an impostor, he was discharged.

ROBBERY OF SHARES.—A man named Sumner Phillips was on Monday committed for trial on a charge of stealing a box containing fifty shares in the Port Philip Mining Company, and other securities of great value, the property of Mr. Freeman Clark John Roper, his master.—On Tuesday, Phillips was committed at the same court for stealing a watch.

ASSAULT ON A FATHER AND BROTHER.—Two young men were charged at the Worship-street police-court on Monday with a very violent assault on their father, their elder brother, and the police. They were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.

DANIEL MITCHELL DAVIDSON AND COSMO WILLIAM GORDON were on Tuesday again remanded for another week, in order that evidence with respect to the frauds not connected with the bankruptcy might be prepared. In the meanwhile, Sir Peter Laurie has directed the City Solicitor to prosecute the case at the Old Bailey.

WIFE-BEATING AND CHILD-STARVING.—Alexander Andrews, a house-painter, was charged at Worship-street with a violent assault on his wife. The woman said she had four children, but that "they could scarcely be called live children, they were so nearly starved." The story was the old one over again; and the magistrate sentenced the fellow to three months of hard labour in the House of Correction—observing that the punishment would have been more severe but for the wife's admission that, after being ill-used for some time, she struck her husband in the face with a key.

A STRANGE CASE.—A fashionably-dressed woman, giving the name of Mary Louisa Sawyer St. Vincent, stating her address to be Tunbridge-street, New-road, and claiming relationship with several high families, was charged at Clerkenwell police-court with obtaining by false pretences goods and money from Mr. Sutton, a linendraper. It appeared that, upon the faith of the prisoner's statement that she was coming into a fortune, Mr. Sutton intrusted her, after about a fortnight's knowledge, with goods to the value of 17*l.*, and money to the amount of 35*l.* In the course of examination, it came out that the prisoner's property was mortgaged, and that at the police-office she had given a false name and address. She herself stated that she had been entrapped into a marriage with a married man, and that she had assumed the false name because she did not wish her family to be disgraced. She was remanded, and bail was taken.

HENRY HUMPHLES, a Buckinghamshire shepherd, is in custody on a charge of killing his wife, by kicking her several times in the stomach under the provocation of her abusive language.

GEORGE WHEATLAND, THE ELDER, captain of a merchant ship, and George Wheatland, the younger, mate, were on Wednesday committed for trial at the Thames police office on four charges—the captain for embezzlement, fraud, and uttering forged instruments, and the mate for forging the bills with intent to defraud Mr. Edward Anthony, shipowner.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

From Spain we learn that three of the four men who pillaged the mails near Madrid have been arrested. The Government have decided that the soldiers who took part in the late insurrection shall not be decimated, but shall be sent to the colonies for ten years. Various

rumours are afloat as to the new financial plan of M. Brail; but none of sufficient authority for repetition.

Certain motions brought forward by deputies in the Spanish Cortes, with a view to liberty of instruction and universal suffrage, have been rejected. The *Gazette* states that the Government is aware of the Carlists having purchased fire-arms in Belgium. The same journal announces that ministers have remitted to Paris and London various sums for the payment of the dividends on the foreign debt. The rest will be forwarded without delay.

A curious instance of the ups and downs of Spanish political life is given in a letter from Madrid of the 10th inst., which says:—"There has been a good deal of remark made about the declaration the other day in the Cortes of Marshal Espartero, that in 1844 orders were given to have him shot, if caught in Spain, and not even to allow him religious consolation. Some of the moderate journals have denied the truth of the statement; but, in answer to them, the *Gazette* of this morning publishes a communication from the general's secretary, enclosing a copy of a royal ordinance, which enacted in express terms that 'if Baldomero Espartero should place his foot on the Spanish territory, he should be shot, without any further delay than should be necessary to ascertain his identity.'"

Sir John Rennie, the English engineer, who has been sojourning in Portugal with a view to advising the Government touching certain public works, has returned to England. His report is unfavourable as far as regards the bays of Figueira, Oporto, and Vianna, which are held incapable of permanent improvement; but he recommends an artificial harbour north of Oporto, and cheap single lines of railway in connexion with it and with the populous districts in that direction. It seems probable that the Portuguese Government will not be able to find the capital necessary for such enterprises.

The *Preussische Correspondenz* publishes an official account of the affair at Cologne connected with the arrest of our consul and of his secretary. Kray, the secretary, is accused of not having appeared in obedience to a summons, to answer the charge of enlisting Prussians for the English service; and the assertion that a despatch had been taken from Kray by the police is strongly denied. Consul Curtis was also arrested for having gained over Prussian subjects for the English Foreign Legion: an offence which is held to be the less excusable in the cases both of Kray and Curtis on account of their being themselves subjects of Prussia.

The King of Prussia is still in very indifferent health. His malady appears to be rheumatism.

Brigandage prevails in Smyrna to a most alarming degree. Dr. McCraith, an English physician, and several other persons, have been captured by a band of robbers, and conveyed to the mountains, from which it seems they are not likely to be rescued without a heavy ransom.

Accounts are still received of the anarchic state of the Danubian Principalities under Austrian military rule. One of these mentions that the Hospodar Stirbey exhibits the utmost servility to the Austrians, and the greatest insolence to other foreigners; while he treats his own countrymen with disgraceful tyranny.

It is affirmed in Paris that information of what passes there is regularly transmitted to St. Petersburg by "a certain Russian prince" who was banished for a conspiracy against the late Czar, but who, having been educated with the present Emperor, corresponds with him, and transmits his intelligence through the "neutral" states of Denmark and Sweden.

The *Cologne Gazette* contains a letter from Presburg, which says:—"The late arrangements of the Emperor Alexander II., relative to the succession to the Russian throne, appear to be of more importance than might have been at first supposed. It is said that they were caused by the desire of the Czar to withdraw from affairs as soon as he possibly can. The Emperor, it is said, is of the opinion of the German party, that Russia can only lose, materially and morally, by a continuation of the war. It is added that the late events in the Crimea have produced a very marked effect on his Majesty, and have led him more than ever to wish to retire."

The *Suisse*, of Berne, announces that M. James Fazy has given in his resignation as member of the Grand Council of Geneva. The *Messagere delle Alpi*, a Swiss paper, announces that Colonel A. Bindi has been definitively appointed to the command of the Anglo-Swiss legion, with pay amounting to 800*l.* a year.

The *Débats* and the *Sidèle* have both expressed their disapprobation of "the unfortunate speech" of Prince Albert at the Trinity House.

The new daily paper, the *Telegraph and Courier*, states, on the authority of its Roman correspondent, that the King of Portugal is expected in the city of the Popes, and that cholera has appeared at Venice and Verona.

An Austrian circular by Count Buol, dated May 25th, says that, notwithstanding the rejection of the Austrian terms by the Allies, the Emperor conceives it to be his duty to offer them again: should they be again refused, the Court of Vienna will "firmly abide by the bases recognised at the Conferences, and continue to protect the Turkish Empire against a fresh attack." Heroic Austria! The Emperor's Government will then wait

until the resumption of negotiations shall give an opportunity for the adoption of the four guarantees "in the sense we attribute to them."

Baron von Manteuffel has addressed a despatch to Baron von Werther, the representative of Prussia at St. Petersburg, in reply to the Russian circular delivered by M. de Glinka to the various representatives of the German governments assembled at Frankfurt. The despatch of Baron Manteuffel, in even more than ordinary diplomatic cloudiness, expresses the determination of the King to abide by a strict neutrality, and thus to secure the observance by Russia of the first two Points agreed to at the Conferences. The Baron feels sure that the Court of Russia "will make allowances for the difficult and exceptional position of Austria;" and the Russian despatch of April 30 (promising the observance of the guarantees on condition of German neutrality) is said to be "actuated by wise moderation and sincere conciliation."

NAVAL AND MILITARY NEWS.

MAJOR NASMYTH, the gallant colleague of the equally gallant Butler in the defence of Silistria, has been appointed to the office of assistant adjutant-general of the Kilkenny military district, until sufficiently restored to health to return to the seat of war.

LORD EUSTACE CECIL AGAIN.—This young nobleman has published in the daily papers a correspondence between himself and Mr. Layard, with reference to the question at issue between them. His lordship emphatically asserts that he was appointed at his own request to the 43rd Regiment during the time it was engaged in the Kaffir war, which, however, was at an end before he arrived; that he afterwards changed into the 88th, while serving in Bulgaria; and that it was in consequence of an unsolicited letter from Lord Strafford that he became a supernumerary lieutenant and captain in the Coldstream Guards. It appears that this last change was before he could join the 88th in Bulgaria; but he has been promised that he shall join the battalion of Coldstreams now in the Crimea at the earliest opportunity. It will be noted that some of these statements are at variance with the admissions made by his lordship's own defender, Colonel Lindsay. Mr. Layard, in answer to Lord Eustace Cecil's first letter, says he does not desire to reflect upon his lordship's character as an officer, and that, if he is shown to be in the wrong, he will retract his statements; but he has made no reply to Lord Eustace's last communication containing the above assertions.

MAJOR-GENERAL A. W. TORRENS has left town for Paris upon a military mission to the French court.

BANQUET TO SIR HARRY SMITH AT LIVERPOOL.—On Wednesday, the artillery officers resident at the New Battery at the North Fort on the Mersey gave a banquet to Sir Harry Smith and a party of a hundred ladies and gentlemen. A ball followed in the evening.

REAR-ADMIRAL FREMANTLE left Plymouth on Wednesday for the Crimea, in order to assume his duties as successor to the late Admiral Boxer.

GOVERNORSHIP OF GIBRALTAR.—We have reason to believe that Lieut.-General James Fergusson, for some time past in command of the troops at Malta, will succeed Sir Robert Gardiner as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Gibraltar.—*Globe*.

CAPTAIN PEEL.—We feel great satisfaction in stating that the rumour of the death of Captain William Peel, of the Diamond, which was very prevalent in town yesterday morning, rests upon no authentic information. Captain Peel was wounded by, we believe, a round shot in the arm; but the last accounts received are by no means of a character to lead to the apprehension of a fatal result.—*Idem*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Queen and Prince Albert visited the British Museum on Saturday, chiefly for the purpose of viewing the Assyrian antiquities lately arrived from Nineveh.—On Wednesday evening, the royal children paid a visit to the Panopticon.—The last levee of the season was held on Wednesday, at St. James's Palace.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE paid a visit on Friday week to the National Orphan Home on Ham-common, established in 1849. In the evening, the Duke attended a banquet at the Star and Garter.

SANITARY REFORM.—From the Report adopted at the eleventh annual meeting of the Association for Improving the Dwellings of the Industrious Classes, we learn that new and more healthy dwellings have been completed in New-street, Golden-square, in Bartholomew-close, in Bermondsey, and in other cholera neighbourhoods.

THE FORMATION OF PARISHES BILL (introduced into Parliament by the Marquis of Blandford) has met with opposition in the vestries of Marylebone and Pancras. The bill authorises the subdivision of parishes for ecclesiastical purposes, and it is feared that church-rates may be imposed for every one of the subdivisions. On this ground, as well as some others, the parishioners oppose the act.—A reference to our Parliamentary columns will show that the bill has been withdrawn for this session.

HACKNEY BROOK.—A summons was on Saturday ob-

tained against the Commissioners of Sewers for a violation of their own Nuisances Removal Act, by draining the New Cattle Market at Islington into the open stream called the Hackney Brook.

MARGATE has just refused a church-rate by a majority of eighty.

A QUEER OATH.—The following oath was administered to a little boy, ten years of age, who was chosen to fold up documents in the Iowa Legislature:—"You do solemnly swear to support the constitution of the United States, and of this State, and to fold papers to the best of your ability. So help you God." We advise that this story be included in that large library of romantic fiction devoted to the special reading of the marines.

THE PEOPLE'S COMMENT ON THE ARISTOCRATICAL SABBATH.—The contemplated meeting of the lower orders in Hyde Park, to witness the fashionable mode of "observing" the Sabbath, took place last Sunday, when, long previous to the appointed hour (three o'clock), several thousand persons assembled near the Humane Society's Receiving House. A Mr. James Bligh, having been called on to preside, addressed the multitude, and was getting into full swing when a police inspector informed him that the park was private property, and that therefore the meeting could not be held. Upon this, a large number adjourned to Oxford Market; but the majority remained behind, and, taking up their station at the side of the carriage drive, hooted the occupants of the equipages as they passed. Several horses became frightened and dashed off at an alarming pace. "Go to church, and put the horses in the stables!" shouted the mob; to which one lady in a carriage responded by holding up a prayer-book. The people, however, replied by exclaiming—"Walk, walk, and let your horses rest, and your coachman go to church." One man, to conceal himself from the police, lay down in the midst of the crowd, and harangued them; another suggested that Lord Robert Grosvenor's and Lord Ebrington's windows should be broken; and it was not until past eight o'clock in the evening that the assemblage dispersed. We believe a similar meeting will take place to-morrow.

STATE OF TRADE.—At Manchester, business is still limited, as the caution manifested by buyers ever since the commencement of the recent speculation at Liverpool has been increased by the tendency to reaction now observable in that market. From Birmingham, the advices regarding the iron trade state that the more favourable symptoms which have prevailed during the past few weeks are maintained, although the distrust caused by the break-up of several speculative firms prevents any decided recovery. The creditors of Mr. Hickman are to meet next week; meanwhile, the lowest estimate of his liabilities is 96,000*l.* Messrs. Davies, of West Bromwich, offer 5*s.* in the pound, cash, and 2*s.* 6*d.* at some subsequent date. Messrs. Whitehouse and Jeffries have been ascertained to owe about 100,000*l.*, but the prospects of their creditors have not yet been made known. The affairs of J. Haywood and Co., whose debts also are very large, have been carried into the Court of Bankruptcy. In the general trades of Birmingham no variation is noticeable, except that the gunmakers are again busy with fresh contracts for fifty thousand Minié rifles. At Nottingham there is still much dulness; and in the woollen districts transactions have been less active than during the preceding week. In the Irish linen-markets, owing to the low point to which stocks had been reduced, a permanent, although gradual, revival appears to be in progress. The general business of the Port of London during the week ending last Saturday shows increased activity.—*Times*.

A NEW LOAN.—Advices from Constantinople state that a loan is to be contracted by the Western powers on account of Turkey, to the extent of 4,000,000*l.* The general impression is that one-half of this will be raised in London under the guarantee of the English Government, and the other half in Paris by the French Government.—*Times City Article, Monday*.

TRADE AMALGAMATIONS.—A conference of shipwrights' delegates, representing all the societies in England, Scotland, and Ireland, has just been concluded in Liverpool, when, after mature deliberation, resolutions were come to amalgamating the entire body throughout the three kingdoms for mutual protection.

AMERICA.—The last advices from the United States do not contain any political news of importance. The Know-nothings still continue their agitation; and a majority of the Philadelphia committee, appointed to lay down certain general principles relative to national interests in their connexion with the movement, have accepted the existing slavery laws, and denied the power of Congress to exclude any State from admission into the Union, either on the ground of the recognition or non-recognition of slavery as a political institution. The Kinney marauding expedition had not sailed; and a bark belonging to it, and laden with ammunition, had been captured by a revenue cutter, and taken into Mobile. Even should the "filibustering" colonel succeed in reaching Nicaragua, the Government have taken steps to meet him there.—From California we learn that the Indians have assembled for the purpose of attacking the troops, being encouraged by the smallness of their number. It was feared that reinforcements would not arrive in time.—Reports received from every part of the

Union speak of the crops as promising a yield far outstripping any previous season.—The intelligence from South and Central America is of the usual insurrectionary character. Santa Anna appears to be triumphing over the rebels, several bands of whom have been routed. At Nicaragua, General Munos had taken command of the democratic army, and completely reorganised it, to the great alarm of the Government. Fears are entertained that Guatemala and Costa Rica are tending towards a monarchical form of government. In Venezuela, an invasion from New Grenada was dreaded, and the Government was in great financial embarrassment. Apprehensions of a hostile inroad are also entertained by the people of Bolivia and Ecuador—Florez and Santa Cruz being the persons on whom the popular suspicion rests.

THE BANKRUPTCY OF STRAHAN AND CO.—In the Court of Bankruptcy, on Monday, before Mr. Commissioner Evans, the affairs of these bankrupts were for the first time entered into. Debts to the amount of upwards of 200,000*l.* were proved in the course of the sitting. Mr. Lawrance, solicitor on the part of the creditors, said he thought the assets would be about 150,000*l.* or 160,000*l.*, irrespective of the large sums advanced on foreign railroads, and which represent an item of 276,000*l.* Lord Palmerston, the Duke of Devonshire, Viscount Melbourne, and several other aristocratical personages, are among the creditors. The bankrupts gave in a full account of all the securities illegally sold, pledged, or dealt with by them.—“W. E. K.” writing to the *Times*, states that, by an act of the 7th and 8th George IV., Messrs. Strahan and Co., having confessed the abstraction of the securities, will not be liable to conviction. At Bow-street, on Wednesday, the bankrupts were again placed at the bar *pro forma*, and the case was once more adjourned to Wednesday.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER AND THE LATE COMMERCIAL FAILURE.—The *Morning Herald* mentions a report to the effect that Admiral Napier has lost the greater part of his property by the failure of that branch of Messrs. Strahan and Co.'s business which was carried on under the title of Halford and Co., Navy agents.

SECURITIES AT PRIVATE BANKS.—At a general meeting of private bankers, held on Tuesday, at the Clearing House, a resolution, arising out of the late failure, was adopted, stating that, so far from its being thought improper that any one should demand of his bankers the examination of securities deposited with them for safe custody, the bankers are unanimously of opinion that such examination is a most proper and business-like proceeding.

PROVINCIAL ART EXHIBITIONS.—The *Liverpool Daily Post* (the first diurnal product of the abolition of the stamp) suggests that two or three neighbouring towns should unite every year for the exhibition of pictures by local artists, which would save the provincial painters from sending up their productions to London, where they are sure to be swamped.

THE DRESSERS AND DYERS OF MANCHESTER.—A committee has been formed for the liquidation of the outstanding accounts against the Dressers and Dyers of Manchester, who, in the strike of 1853, received from the Licensed Victuallers of Manchester sums of money to the amount of 3247*l.* These sums were advanced “without any guarantee for repayment but the unbounded confidence the lenders possessed in the honour and integrity of the working-classes,” to quote from the Address issued by the committee. The strike lasted about twenty weeks, during which time 1600 men and their families, making a total of some 4800 human beings, were dependent on the funds of trades' unions and on the good-will of the charitable. The generous assistance of the licensed victuallers, remarks the Address, “gives the ‘lie direct’ to a certain class of purity-professing demagogues, who falsely represent the publican as an enemy to the working man.” All money-orders are to be made payable to Mr. Ralph Bayley, Peel's Arms, Mason-street, Manchester; and letters of advice to be addressed to the Liquidation Committee, Cotton Tree, Great Ancoats-street, Manchester.

CAPTURE OF A BURGLAR.—On Wednesday morning a policeman captured a man for stealing some leather at Mortlake. A desperate encounter ensued between the officer and the prisoner. The latter broke away, and attempted either self-destruction or escape, by jumping into the Thames. In leaping, his foot caught some boats, and both his thighs were broken. He was taken, and conveyed to St. George's Hospital, where he now remains in a precarious state.

ARREST OF AN ENGLISHMAN AT BRUSSELS.—An Englishman, alleged to be a merchant of London, passing under the name of Clarke, but whose real name is Nichols, has been arrested at Brussels, according to the *Constitutionnel*, on a charge of having stolen a sum of about 16,000*l.*, by means of forged bills.

BURNT TO DEATH WITH VITRIOL.—Robert Chadwick, a vitriol-maker at Radcliffe-bridge, in Lancashire, stumbled into a quantity of vitriol which had escaped from one of the boilers. Being stupefied by the vapour, he was unable to rise, and was not discovered until help was unavailing. He lingered, however, for some days.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—In the week that ended last Saturday, 1075 deaths were registered in the metropolitan districts. Of these, 548 were deaths of males,

527 of females. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54, the average number was 923, which to be compared with last week's return must be raised in proportion to increase of population. The average rate of mortality would have produced 1015 deaths last week; the actual number was in excess of the estimated number by 60. Last week, the births of 882 boys and 869 girls, in all 1751 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54, the average number was 1383.—*From the Registrar-General's Weekly Return.*

SIR JOSEPH PAXTON AND METROPOLITAN INTER-COMMUNICATION.—One of the great requirements of this overgrown capital of ours is in sufficient key thoroughfares, or main arteries for circulating the life-blood through the widely-extended limbs of the giant. The two western districts lying north and south of Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens, more especially at night, are almost cut off from one another; and the want of something like the Boulevards of Paris is greatly felt. The scheme of a circumvallating railway lately proposed by Sir Joseph Paxton before a Committee of the House of Commons would go far to remove these evils. Sir Joseph suggests an immense arcade to surround London, with shops on each side, and a railway and carriage road in the middle. This arcade should commence near the Royal Exchange, proceeding thence across Cheapside, and over a bridge to be constructed between those of Southwark and Blackfriars, to High-street, Borough, where it would join the railways at London-bridge. From the Borough it would return to the Thames by a circuitous route, form a junction with the South-Western Railway, and cross the river by another bridge to the Strand. A branch would cross the Thames from Lambeth Palace to the new Houses of Parliament, and from thence proceed through Victoria-street on to Brompton, and through Kensington Gardens to the Great-Western Railway station. From this point it would proceed to the stations of the North-Western and Great-Northern Railways, also to Islington, and from thence back to the Royal Exchange. Another branch would run to Piccadilly, &c.

NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.—Lord Dalhousie's health continues so precarious that he is compelled to return home. He will be succeeded in the Governor-Generalship of India by Lord Canning, the present Postmaster-General here. Lord Canning was Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs from 1841 to 1846, in connexion with Sir Robert Peel's administration.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH AND COURIER.—A new metropolitan morning paper, under this title, appeared for the first time yesterday. The price is half that of the other daily papers—namely, twopence unstamped. The number of pages is four of about the usual size; and the amount of news seems equal to that given by its contemporaries. This news, moreover, is not pirated, but supplied by its own correspondents and reporters. Altogether, the humbler classes may congratulate themselves upon being thus enabled, by the removal of the stamp, to have for so small a sum so good a record of contemporary events. The speeches in Parliament are given condensed—an immense improvement in at least nine cases out of ten.

A VERY EXTENSIVE FIRE took place at Shoreditch on Thursday morning, by which several large warehouses were destroyed or damaged, and property to the amount of upwards of 10,000*l.* was lost.

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS for the month ending the 31st of May were published on Thursday, and show a decrease in the declared value of our exports amounting to 372,950*l.*, as compared with the corresponding month of last year. With regard to imported commodities, the totals show great steadiness in the home consumption, the quantities of the principal articles being very nearly the same as at this period of 1854. Sugar forms an exception, as it exhibits a considerable decline; but this is owing to the largeness of the supplies taken by the trade during the four preceding months.

A NEW LYCEUM AT OLDHAM.—Lord Stanley has laid the first stone of a Lyceum at Oldham. He afterwards attended a banquet at the Town Hall, when he delivered a very liberal speech, in which he laments the estrangement which exists between the higher and the lower classes, and looked to such institutions as that which he had just inaugurated as a means of bringing about a more cordial intercourse.

SIR CHARLES WOOD AND MR. LINDSAY.—Mr. W. S. Lindsay writes to the *Times*, offering further proofs of the truth of his statements with respect to the Robert Lowe, the Columbia, the Oneida, and other ships.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, June 30.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

LORD RAGLAN—SIR G. BROWN—SANITARY CONDITION OF THE ARMY.

IN answer to the Earl of Malmesbury Lord PANMURE stated that there was no truth in the report that Lord Raglan had resigned the command of the army in the East in consequence of illness. He had been suffering from illness, but was better at the

last accounts. Sir G. Brown had also been unwell and gone on board ship, but it was believed his health was improving. During the indisposition of Lord Raglan and Sir G. Brown, General Simpson was in temporary charge of the army.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY stated the result of a conversation he had had that morning with an Inspector of the Sanitary Commission just arrived from the Crimea, which was to the effect that nothing could be better than the sanitary regulations for cleansing the camp and the harbour of Balaklava, and that the Commission was doing all that art could do to counteract the depressing effects of the climate of the Crimea.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

AUSTRIA AND THE WESTERN POWERS.

IN answer to Sir J. WALSH,
Lord J. RUSSELL said it was true, as asserted by Count Buol, that the last proposals of the Austrian Government for the settlement of the Third Point were submitted to him and the French ambassador, and the other statements in Count Buol's circular were correct.

THE AUSTRIANS IN THE PRINCIPALITIES.

IN answer to Mr. H. BAILLIE,
Lord PALMERSTON admitted that there had been several instances of misconduct on the part of the Austrian troops in the Principalities, but he left it to the discretion of the honourable member as to whether he would move for the report of Mr. David on the subject.

LORD RAGLAN.

IN answer to Lord R. GROSVENOR, Lord PALMERSTON said the only information he had received with regard to Lord Raglan was, that he had been very unwell, but it was hoped that in a few days he would be able to resume his duties as Commander-in-chief.

FRAUDULENT BANKRUPTS.

Mr. HILDYARD inquired whether the Government intended to repeal that part of the act relating to fraudulent bankrupts, which enabled them to escape indictment on making a *bona fide* declaration of the disposition of the securities appropriated by them.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL stated that the matter was of so much importance that he must take time to consider it.

LORD CANNING'S APPOINTMENT TO INDIA.

IN answer to Mr. CAYLEY, Lord PALMERSTON said that the appointment of Lord Canning to the Governor-Generalship of India was made by the Court of Directors with the concurrence of the Government. As a proof of the ability and acquirements of Lord Canning, he mentioned that that noble lord was offered the Secretaryship for Foreign Affairs by Lord Derby.

Mr. CAYLEY contended that Lord Elgin was a fitter man for the post.

Lord PALMERSTON said the appointment rested with the Court of Directors, with the sanction of the Crown. In this case, both agreed in the fitness of the appointment of Lord Canning.

EXPLOSIVE MACHINES IN THE BALTIC.

IN answer to Mr. FRENCH, Sir C. WOOD said that intelligence had been received from the Baltic stating, that forty-six explosive machines had been discovered and taken up. It was true that Admiral Seymour had been hurt by one of them, but as the news came by telegraph, he was not aware of the particulars.—With regard to Lord Dundonald's plan for destroying Cronstadt, the Government did not intend to adopt it.

MR. LINDSAY AND SIR C. WOOD.

Mr. LINDSAY gave notice that he should take an early opportunity of replying to Sir Charles Wood's defence of the Admiralty against the charges made by him at Drury-lane. He complained that Sir C. Wood had unfairly read one of the letters in his speech, which was garbled and cut short at the point at which it would have made for him (Mr. Lindsay.)

A short discussion followed, which was stopped at the remonstrance of Sir F. Baring, on the inconvenience of this sort of debate on the motion for the adjournment of the House to Monday.

THE AUSTRALIAN BILLS.

The Victoria Government Bill, the South Wales Bill, and the Waste Lands (Australia) Bill were read a third time, and passed.

LAW OF PARTNERSHIP.

Mr. BOUVIERIE then moved at length the second reading of the Partnership Amendment Bill and the Limited Liability Bill, the principles and provisions of which have been for some time before the public.

A discussion followed, in which Mr. COLLIER, Mr. GLYNN, Mr. CARDWELL, Mr. LOWE, Mr. CAIRNS, Lord PALMERSTON, and other members took part.

The bills were read a second time.
The other orders of the day were then proceeded with.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

During the Session of Parliament it is often impossible to find room for correspondence, even the briefest. 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.

* * * The *Leader* has been "registered" at the General Post-office, according to the provisions of the New Act relating to Newspapers, and it has, therefore, the privilege of transmission through the post beyond the United Kingdom, if the proper postage in stamps be affixed on a conspicuous part of the wrapper enclosing it.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1855.

Public Affairs.

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

REALITIES.

AMIDST the flood of rant and bluster which is pouring from the contemporary press, we are sure we cannot do a better, though we might do a more popular service to our readers, than by endeavouring to keep before them the practical objects of the war. A true sense of that object must sustain our efforts, measure our sacrifices, and, we must add, regulate our conduct towards an enemy who, if things go well, may soon have to cry for quarter.

Technical diplomacy is to us simply a mystery of folly and iniquity. To go to war, or to remain at war, for any of its objects, is a folly and a crime. The objects which it puts forward on this occasion are on the face of them hypocritical and absurd. It is hypocritical to go to war for the integrity of an empire which we are ourselves morally dismembering. It is absurd to go to war for the purpose of binding Russia by a paper treaty to dismantle her fortresses or reduce her fleet in the Black Sea. To restrain by such treaties the natural expansion of a great power is an attempt which, as history ought to have taught us, is perfectly chimerical. The restraining treaty will only lend increased energy and some justification to the intrigues of Russian diplomacy in the West. It will give the Czar the strongest interest in disturbing the peace of Europe for the future; and directly he succeeds in doing so, all the direct fruits of this war will be lost in an hour.

But, as we have said before (and proud we are to say it), the nation imagines itself to be fighting for nobler objects. The people forced their rulers into war, as they believed, to vindicate the liberty and civilisation of the world. They did not see that with Western despots for our allies and Turks for our clients, civilisation and liberty were not to be advanced. Lord ABERDEEN, to do him justice, perceived this, and will get credit from history for having perceived it. He knew that the war into which he was being driven was a diplomatic war. He discerned, and shrunk from, the consequences of an exclusive alliance with French absolutism. But he had not strength to save himself from

plunging in. The Whig members of the Cabinet promised themselves a safe and popular Whig expedition. The *Times* ordered its sub-editor to prepare a plan for the campaign. The people shouted madly, and the Tories rejoiced with better reason.

Had we gone to war in 1849 for Hungary and Italy, we should have been indeed fighting in a great cause, and a cause in which the greatest nation in the world need not have been ashamed to fall. It would have been a great cause, and, like all great causes, a rational cause, too; and its fruits, if we had won, would have endured for ever without any paper treaty to secure them. We do not know what to do with the Crimea when we have taken it. The thriving and progressive Turkish Empire, as Lord PALMERSTON holds it to be, with all its vigorous vitality, is not equal to the annexation (or rather the reannexation) and defence of a singularly defensible province within eighteen hours' sail of its capital. We shall reproduce for an instant the political vacuum which existed in the Crimea and all the neighbouring regions till Russian enterprise flowed in. This vacuum will probably be guarded and guaranteed by the most elaborate efforts of diplomatic pens. Had Hungary and Italy risen from the grave not a line need have been written. Without protocol or guarantee there would have stood, as a rampart to freedom and a curb to despotism for ever, the unconventional barrier of two free nations. But it was not etiquette to fight for insurrectionary republics. Lord PALMERSTON and his anti-Russian diplomatists wasted in paltry and aimless intriguing the hour of which every second was precious to humanity. The nation stood by in stupid inertness, while Russia did the last of all wrongs to liberty and civilisation. And journals which now find it convenient to outbluster FALSTAFF, slandered Italian and Hungarian patriotism, and triumphed at the entry of PASKIEWITCH into Pesth and of RADETZKY into Milan.

Lord LYNTHURST may talk about our riveting the bonds of Germany if we fail; but, if we succeed, how shall we loosen them? The EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA and the KING OF PRUSSIA will be left masters of the situation; and Russia will be as ready to assist them against their subjects as ever, and not much less able. Nay, her arms and her designs will be more concentrated on the West, if we succeed in closing against her for the future what has hitherto been the great outlet for her ambition—her India—in the void places of the East. What was the attitude of Lord LYNTHURST and his party towards German democracy when it did rise and endeavour to strike a blow which, in freeing Germany from despotism and aristocracy, would have also freed it from Russian influence for ever? And now, out of our extreme zeal for German liberty we are pouring our blood and treasure on the Crimea, leaving the subsidised despots and bureaucrats of Germany itself in peace. Surely the shortest way of putting down treason in your own camp is at once to strike the traitor.

If the Czar can be made distinctly to feel that the blow he is now receiving, though dealt at the wrong time and in the wrong place, is intended by the moral sense of the world as a punishment for his wickedness and insanity, in attempting to propagate or prolong in nations ripe for freedom the despotism which is still a real necessity to his own, something will be gained. But the sooner we give this turn to the war the better. At the present we stand before liberal Europe and America as fighting, not in the cause of nations, but for the fiction of Turkish in-

dependence and the conventional difference between the two senses of the Vienna note. This at present is our profession to the world, and our bearing at home corresponds to it. Never was there so much treason talked against liberty, such abject homage paid to usurping despotism and sabre sway, so little public spirit shown by the parliamentary rulers of this country as in this war, which people flatter themselves is being waged for the freedom of the world. The position assumed by the constitutional government of Sardinia is the only tangible gain which has yet resulted to the good cause.

There can be but one thought now—Victory—heartysupport to our heroic army—honourable co-operation with our brave allies. But we are pouring out the blood of our best and noblest; it must not be poured out in vain; we must not drift on without an object into an interminable war; we shall never make Turkey young and strong; we shall never make Austria heroic; and if we could throw back the Russian people a century in their social and commercial progress, we should simply inflict an unmixed evil on humanity. Let us look before us, then. England herself may be risked in a great cause, but she is not to be wasted in a petty one. If we are really going to struggle against the political and spiritual despotisms of the world, let us gird ourselves for that work. If we are only going to rectify the diplomatic status of the Black Sea, let us be satisfied with an early rectification.

SURVEY OF THE WAR.

ALTHOUGH the Allies received a serious check at the moment when, confident in their prowess, they dashed against the strongest bulwarks of Sebastopol; although hundreds of the bravest soldiers of both armies, including two generals, fell under the murderous fire of the enemy on the 18th of June; although the fall of the southern side of Sebastopol was thereby deferred, yet, upon a calm survey of the relative position of the enemy and the Allies after that fatal morning, we do not find that the prospects of the former are in any degree positively improved. The Allies failed to take what they desired; but the Russians recovered nothing they had lost. Our reverse was positive, because it involved a loss of valuable lives; their success was negative, because they simply frustrated an assault, and inflicted a wound from which we have rapidly recovered. Success was adjourned, not *sine die*, but until the next opportunity.

The reader is sufficiently informed of the position won on the 7th. The fire that preceded that assault, which gave us the Mamelon, the Quarries, and Mount Sapoune, proved our great superiority over the enemy in gunnery. The destructive effect of the brief cannonade upon the Mamelon, which, strong as it proved, was rent, and smashed, and reduced to a shapeless mass, the embrasures crumbled into heaps, the traverses overthrown, the guns broken or dismounted, is to some extent an index of the effect of our fire on the other works. It is clear that we can beat the enemy in a cannonade, and that his real superiority now alone consists in the cover afforded by the mighty mounds of earth which girdle his position. That superiority being fully established, on the 7th, it is difficult to conceive how the assault could have failed on the 18th, unless we suppose that unlooked-for obstacles were interposed between the enemy and the storming columns; that, as at Badajos and San Sebastian, it was found, on reaching the point of attack, that unlooked-for advantages re-

mained with the defenders. That being the case, it may be reasonably inferred that in the next assault means will be taken to surmount those difficulties which frustrated our gallant men.

But, as may have been anticipated, the failure of the 18th, far from discouraging the Allies, has stimulated their courage and their exertions. General PELISSIER informs us that the batteries on the Mamelon have been strengthened; that the attack has been pushed forward towards the Malakoff; that the batteries on Mount Sapoune, which command the great harbour, have been increased in extent and power; and, what is equally important, that renewed efforts have been made to push on the advances of the great French attack upon the western face of Sebastopol. By these measures the Allies will be able to direct a heavy fire upon the Malakoff and Redan, and upon any ships that may come within range to take part in the engagement; while, at the same time, sapping ever onward, they will be able to assemble the next storming columns near to the ditch that yawns before the enemy's works. Nor can it be supposed that we have been idle. Our position in the Quarries is only two hundred yards from the Redan, and from this position our riflemen make good practice on the gunners of the enemy, and in this position we have erected a powerful battery. We also, on the 18th, actually gained ground in front of Chapman's Attack, driving out the Russians and retaining it. In the next assault it is probable that a precaution, neglected in the last, will be observed, namely, that a diversion will be made upon the western side. The position, therefore, of the enemy is by no means favourable to success. The investment of the south side is in a manner completed; the enemy can only return our terrible fire by a fire comparatively feeble; his retreat to the north side, except by detachments fleeing in the night, is, or will soon be, cut off by the batteries on Mount Sapoune; and therefore, even if the assault were not renewed—an improbable supposition—he would be compelled to make the most of the resources actually in hand. He can obtain scarcely a foot of ground beyond his batteries; and it is no wonder that officers, by no means sanguine in their expectations, look upon the fall of Sebastopol as inevitable within a given time.

In the field the Allies still maintain their position on the Tchernaya. Nearly all the troops forming the Kertch expedition have returned to the camp, which shows that operations in that quarter are for the present in that direction suspended. Should any means be taken to bring the Russian field army to account, it must either be by a direct advance, when a bloody battle would be fought for the position in front of, and on the high ground comprising the country between, Mackenzie's Farm and Inkerman; or else the army must be disembarked upon the Katcha, and act thence on the Russian rear and line of communications. But we rather incline to think that the Allies propose to root out the enemy from the south side before they begin extensive operations in the field, unless, as may prove to be the case, they find themselves compelled to move upon the Russian army. It is remarkable that while large bodies of troops have been moved down from Poland since Austria, declining to declare war, reduced her army, the troops actually intended for the Crimea have been directed upon Nicolaieff, not, as might be supposed, for the purpose of covering that port, but because the Russians find it difficult to feed the troops they have already in the Crimea, now that they are cut off from the Sea of Azof.

SUNDAY IN HYDE PARK.

THE outburst of popular feeling on Sunday last is a lesson which the more intelligent of the governing classes are not disposed to forget.

It is useless to preach to the multitude that Sabbath observers do not generally belong to "the aristocracy;" that the peers and high ladies who frequent Hyde Park are not the persons who adorn the platforms and benches in Exeter Hall. The "lower classes" do not discriminate in this way between the different grades of "the aristocracy;" and the wealthy shopkeeper who oppresses his shopman, as much belongs to the tyranny of wealth, as the peer who does what he likes with his own. If it is not the aristocracy born, it is the aristocracy that nominates the House of Commons, and passes laws according to its own pleasure for the restraint and vexation of the greatest number.

Nor is a revulsion against the attempt to impose particular religious observance the only reason which dictated the demonstration on Sunday. The settled conviction of the working classes is, that their interests, if not opposed, are disregarded, that their opinions are unsought, and that they are subjected to laws made by other classes, while they have as little power of influencing their rulers as if they were not in a free country. They say that America, the freest country in the world, is not free for the slave; and England, if somewhat freer than America for persons of black colour, is still not a free land for the disfranchised Englishman. Hence the disfranchised Englishman is not allowed to arrange his own manners and customs according to his convictions. He is not allowed to go in or out of the tavern as he wishes, but as the vicarious religiosity of the member-electing class wishes; he is not allowed to arrange the buying and selling even amongst his own set, without permission of Exeter Hall, Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR, and Evangelical publicans, who prefer the closing. He resents the interference. He would not oblige an Oxford-street shopkeeper to live by the rule of Bethnal-green; he would not interfere with religious opinions of any lord or lady in the land; but he is doubly exasperated when he learns how much there is of hypocrisy in all this. The Methodist preacher, who is himself sanctimonious on the Sabbath, has some justification; but the noble lord or honourable member who puts down the tavern of the working man and tries to force him into church, lounges at his club and takes his ride in the Park. "The governing class," cry the demagogue, "are not only sanctimonious, but they are hypocritical: go to the Park, and see how they spend their Sunday." The working man does go to the Park, and catches the governing class in *flagrante delicto*. It is of no use to tell him that all the riders he sees are not lords: they are all "carriage company," having a vote in or out of the House, and, therefore, dictating to him.

If the predominant feeling in the multitude at the sight of that company was disgust, it did not rise, we trust, to personal execration; although some of the cries were formidable. A terrified lady in a carriage held up her Prayer-book, as MARIE ANTOINETTE held up one of her children. "*Pas d'enfants*," cried the *sans-culotte*. MARIE ANTOINETTE was made to get out of her carriage and walk. When the lady held up her Prayer-book, the people shouted, "Get down and walk, and let your coachman go to church." Probably the coachman knew his place better than to exchange the coach-box for the church, and would have declined the liberty intended for him by his countrymen; for there is no aristocrat like your coachman—except your foot-

man. But all the carriage company were not untitled folks. There was one Bishop, or more; there was a sprinkling of temporal Lords. The Duke of BEAUFORT contradicts the story that he and his Duchess, with their children, were made to walk; he came late in the day, after the numbers had departed, and was not to be frightened by a few hooting boys. The story of Lady GRANVILLE's humiliation may be equally apocryphal. Certain it is, however, that from the Bishop or the Duke, to the tradesman, the leisurely classes had to face a shout of dislike, because they interfered with the manners and customs of the native English; and since there are other kinds of interference besides Sabbath observance, the moral of last Sunday has a tolerably wide application.

There is also another moral to it, which Lord PALMERSTON at least is too practical a politician to miss. When the mob got into Hyde Park, the policemen were sufficient to prevent individual speakers from delivering orations, because it was possible to take individuals into custody. But they could not prevent the number from besieging the carriage ground with far more effect than our armies have besieged Sebastopol. The police are not strong enough to arrest a crowd in the middle of Hyde Park. It is true that the military might be called out, but how awkward would it be for the Executive to be besieged by the native English at the same time that we are besieging the Russians! One war is enough on our hands, without a domestic war, and our rulers should just now show a little respect for their countrymen who are excluded from the constitution.

MR. CHARLES DICKENS A REFORMER.

THERE is not a name in the whole range of European literature more trusted, honoured, and beloved, than that of CHARLES DICKENS. It is a name that speaks to literary men of all that makes genius felt as a divine gift and a sacred human trust, of all noble faculties, of all generous sympathies. It speaks of an honest self-reliance and a perfect modesty united, of manly virtue without austerity, of true Christian piety in the heart and in the life, of work done thoroughly and conscientiously, of charity ever doing good by stealth, of steadfast friendships, of pure home affections. It speaks of that independence of character, equally removed from grudging and from servility, which raises a man's calling to the height of his own self-respect, and which neither fawns nor frowns, but takes its place with cheerfulness and dignity, incapable of sordid envies and vulgar cravings. To the world, the name of CHARLES DICKENS sounds like the vibration of that universal chord of which the tones are the symphony of human experience. No wonder he is greeted with the affectionate enthusiasm of personal gratitude by his countrymen, when for a moment, and only for a moment, he comes forward to accomplish a public duty as the citizen of a free commonwealth. Nothing could be more frank and graceful than the manner in which Mr. DICKENS disclaims any political ambition. He was, he said at Drury-Lane, content with his own sphere of duty, and well may we all be content with the peaceful labours of the humorist who has enriched our national literature, and shed the warmth and light of his genius on so many of the better moments of the nation's life. Of course it was easy to foretell that the cue of ministerial apologists and original thinkers in general would be to tell Mr. DICKENS that, being a great and successful writer, a poet, a humorist, who had sounded every depth of human nature, he

could not possibly know anything about "politics."

Perhaps, however, it will be difficult to persuade the vast audience who rose like one man at that solemn peroration last Wednesday, that a speaker who delivers more pertinent common sense in fewer words than any member of the House of Commons now extant, is inadequate to the public expression of opinions on the maladministration of public affairs. We do not here speak of the exquisitely finished elocution, the compact fulness of the matter, the sustained richness of illustration, the prodigal variety of humour—these graces of style may be stigmatised by severely independent critics as mere literary "business;" but we have a right to dwell emphatically upon the strong English sense and the sound English feeling, so temperate and yet so firm, which held that audience suspended on the speaker's lips. It may be unpalatable to the optimists who derive their inspirations from the parlours of Downing-street, but it is nevertheless a certainty that the conspicuous accession of Mr. CHARLES DICKENS to the ranks of the Administrative Reformers is as good as a host, and that his wise and penetrating words, in which there was nothing that bespoke the agitator or belied the patriot, will carry conviction to the minds of thousands of loyal and sober-minded men who desire nothing more revolutionary than order where there is now disorder, and honesty where there is now corruption—in the Government itself.

Perhaps there was a certain cruelty in bringing forward the heavy metal of the Association after Mr. DICKENS. To listen to Mr. TORRENS M'CULLAGH's bewildering platitudes, or to Mr. BENNOCH's sturdy, but dull, statistics and details, was like a lapsing from champagne to table-beer. The Administrative Reform Association has not as yet been happy in its figures and its facts, but, as Mr. DICKENS suggested, no sane man denies that it has a very strong general case. It may be that what the French are fond of calling the "unforeseen" may some day impart an unexpected animation to its councils. But without joining in the apprehension that Mr. SAMUEL MORLEY is the unconscious president of a Convention in disguise, it is easy to perceive that as the strength of the Association increases its objects will extend, and the "Four Points" will have to make way for larger conquests. Meanwhile, let it take heart of grace under the inspiration of Mr. CHARLES DICKENS (whose programme of reform includes a Government that will have heart and brain enough to bridge the tremendous social chasms of our society, and to grapple with the problems of an industrial epoch so far transcending House of Commons "politics"); let it throw open its committee to intelligent representatives of the toiling millions, and convert a middle-class movement into a national restoration.

DRIFTING.

THE Administrative Reform movement holds on its course: and we must hold on ours, of calling the serious attention of our countrymen to the real direction in which that movement points, and the real nature of the crisis at which we have arrived. We did not help to make that crisis, nor do we desire to precipitate its result; much less do we wish to pander to class hatred, or to goad on that of which there are some ugly symptoms—a violent revolution. Our aim is as much the contrary of all this as possible. We wish to present the great political question now definitively raised as one which must receive a timely solution from the united intellect and virtue of all

classes. We wish to rid it of that narrow, rancorous, envenomed form which, under the treatment of short-sighted agitators, it is too rapidly assuming. We wish to place it, ere it is too late, in its true magnitude before the manly mind of the nation. Solve it whichever way reason may bid, but solve it. Say whether you will have hereditary government or not; and rest henceforth on conviction, not on blind precarious sentiment, which may give way in a moment if we lose another army, or have another GEORGE IV. on the throne. Here are men assiduously undermining an edifice which they profess to hold sacred—putting the torch to a mine to the explosion of which they call it treason to allude. Is it a great crime against society—does it manifest a love of anarchy and confusion—to tell them what their professions are really worth, and to bid them perform the proper function of humanity by looking before them instead of rushing on with their eyes shut and their ears full of each other's protestations?

We want words to describe the inconsistency and hypocrisy that are resounding all round us. Of all those professing friends of aristocracy who must know that they are trenching so closely on its existence with their crusade against family influence, not one has shown that he has thought for five minutes on the position of the aristocracy in our political system, or the basis on which it rests. Not one has tried to explain why family government is absurd and detestable, and family legislation reasonable and right. Everything is said—many things are falsely said—which can rouse the suspicion and hatred of the people against the governing class, and yet the governing class is encouraged to stand its ground, and every effort is used to prevent men from reflecting on the result of the agitation. Radical journalists—we must once more recal the fact—have called upon the Crown for its direct interference, in language such as might have been addressed by a French courtier to Louis XV. The Crown does interfere with a speech, savouring, of course, strongly enough of a readiness to increase monarchical influence, and perhaps of a certain community of sentiment with that august object of Radical admiration, who not long since celebrated his triumph over Parliamentary government in our shouting streets. Instantly there pours forth a torrent of abuse, rendered more odious by the pretence of not believing the truth of a report notoriously true, and all the other Judas' devices of loyal insurrection. This is the way in which nations drift into revolutions.

We have proposed a problem, not dictated a solution: we have not shrunk from giving our own conviction on the subject. We believe the period is not very distant, though we do not wish it more near than it is, when the last relics of the monarchical and feudal system will give way under the general sense of anomalies and hypocrisies too great even for the most illogical of nations; and when we shall have to choose our rulers by the faculties God has given us for that purpose, and honour and obey them as the objects of our own deliberate choice. People, foreigners especially, cannot separate the idea of an English Commonwealth from that of a French Republic, but the two are very separable and separate in our minds. We appreciate the results of the French Revolution. We make large allowances for the difficult position of the actors in it, and extend our sympathies even to some who erred most deeply. But the extravagant and sanguinary puerilities of the French Republicans having been can never be again. Federations of Humanity, worships of Reason, clockwork Sieyès consti-

tutions, Spartan banquets, and Athenian burlesques, were possible only once in the history of humanity. Nobody need fear that in England of all countries in the world we shall raze the whole edifice of politics, religion, and society, and begin again on clear ground with the year of the world One. And therefore, it is not fantastic fears of that kind that should make us shut our eyes to the possibility of a change till the rolling snow becomes an avalanche, and all power of guiding events is gone.

THE AUSTRIAN DEBATE.

LORD CLARENDON's feint reply to Lord LYNDHURST's masterly exposition explicitly confirms the interpretation we have put upon the conduct of Austria. The Foreign Minister condescends to inform us that Austria will continue in possession of the Principalities—and no more. She has played her game, has won, and retires from the table. This policy is commendable for its discretion, but Great Britain and France are its dupes, and Turkey is its victim.

Austria, then, is to occupy the disputed Principalities until peace is obtained between the Western Allies and Russia. Such is the sum of Lord CLARENDON's explanation. He stated nothing in reply to Lord LYNDHURST's inquiries as to the reduction of her armaments, or as to the spirit of her intercourse with the people of the Danubian Provinces. All this was eluded; but the Minister threw out an idle and wanton insinuation against the English press when he ascribed to it, in conjunction with a certain class of politicians, the practical estrangement of "Germany." The heads of the German States, he affirmed, were friendly to England and to its policy, until the tone of our public discussions offended and estranged them. A more impertinent fallacy was never breathed even by official lips. The ground on which Lord CLARENDON said the German Governments based their concurrence in the cause pursued by France and England was, that it tended to diminish the injurious influence of Russia in Germany. Either this conviction did not exist, or it could not have been dispelled in the way described by the Foreign Minister. Lord CLARENDON is but a clumsy apologist for the ruling minds of Northern Europe if he wishes to persuade us that they would be moved from their purposes, or induced to sacrifice their interests by the clamours of irresponsible sympathisers, or the criticisms of a free press. The statement is even in absolute contradiction to that which follows it, to the effect that Austria is consulting her own views, which she has uniformly pursued from the beginning. But let us mark the course of mystification. When Russia invaded the Principalities, Austria joined in a protest against that aggression, expressed her discontent with the conduct of her neighbour, and placed her military establishments on a war footing. Her armies hung upon the rear of the Russians on the Danube. It was then—while those armies hovered upon the Turkish horizon—that an outburst of impatience took place in this country, and the Vienna government was alternately wheedled and bullied by blandishments and taunts, in Parliament and in the official journals. But Austria did not display any petulant resentment at these expressions of public feeling as Lord CLARENDON would have us believe. On the contrary, Count CORONINI, with or without a secret understanding with the defeated Russians, descended into the valley of the Danube, threw his columns between OMAR PACHA and GORTSCHAKOFF, and permitted the Czar to accumulate new forces in the Crimea.

At this point Lord CLARENDON skips with

perverse agility to the Vienna Conferences, and finds a new explanation of Austrian policy. And his explanation is this,—that Austria's policy is—expectant. The Earl believes that, "if while these negotiations were pending, Sebastopol had fallen, we should either have secured peace with Russia, or obtained the active co-operation of Austria." From the confusion of this logic we infer, that the Emperor FRANCIS-JOSEPH at first sympathised with Turkey and the Western Powers; next, that he was estranged from them—that "his feelings greatly changed,"—through manifestations of opinions over which the Cabinet of England had no control, and which were not permitted in France. Thirdly, he affected to expel the Russians from the territory they had seized, and only waited for their discomfiture in the Crimea to coerce them, if necessary, by arms. One of these contradictory phrases confutes the other. To us it appears that Austria adheres to a distinct line of action. She raised her military forces at an enormous cost to a formidable efficiency. She stationed herself upon the Danube—the long-sought object of her ambition—she maintained her armies in a threatening attitude while she demanded concessions from Russia at Vienna—concessions for herself, not for Turkey, which she abandoned. Russia acquiesced, and after a last pretence at negotiations, which Lord CLARENDON admits to have been a sham, the imposing panoply of Austria dissolves, and the flower of the CZAR'S troops, which had been detained upon the Gallician frontier, march southwards to press upon the Western Allies.

If there be a logic in human policy, this proves, not that Austria has been irritated by England, but that she has been drugged by Russia. Count BUOL has declared so much. Let Turkey be guarded, he suggests, by a tripartite treaty. Let the SULTAN open the Straits when he is in danger. Austria, meanwhile, will continue to occupy the Principalities, and Russia agrees to ratify the privileges of her neutral ally on the Danube. Is there more than this in the speech of the Earl of CLARENDON? The infatuation of the British Government consists in its regarding as an advantage the maintenance in the Principalities of an Austrian army large enough to enforce martial law, but too small to menace Russia. Lord LYNCHURST put this with perfect clearness to the House of Peers. He demonstrated that the diminution of the Austrian forces in Galicia afforded a corresponding opportunity to the Russian generals; and he hinted at the secret and sinister understanding on this subject which may be supposed to exist between the Cabinets of Vienna and St. Petersburg.

Lord CLARENDON, on the part of the Government, gave no explanation on this point. His nerveless speech was the shy and sickly plea of a helpless applicant affecting to prize even the negative duplicity of an equivocal ally. Incapable of dealing with the question, he glided over its surface, fluttering about the writings and speeches that have wounded the susceptibilities of Germany, forsooth!—as if the Germany of Courts and Camarillas were the German nation—excusing the retreat of Austria from her engagements, alluding vaguely to future terms of peace, and trying to show that the presence of an Austrian division on the Danube was of importance to the Allies. He did not utter a word to satisfy the nation as to the tenure by which the Austrian Emperor holds his ground, or as to the condition of the provinces which his barbarians scourge. He confounded a gratuity which that potentate has received with a service rendered. It is necessary to insist on this distinction. It may be well that Austria should

arm her legions, as it has been pretended, to extort concessions from Russia, and disarm as soon as these concessions have been obtained. She thus fulfils her own policy, and leaves Russia free to fulfil hers. But it is as silly as it is false to represent this conduct as serviceable to the Ottoman Empire or to the Western Powers. Lord CLARENDON did not even attempt to meet the powerful and comprehensive statement of Lord LYNCHURST with a reply. He simply exhibited himself and his colleagues as the voluntary dupes of a Power whose ambiguous neutrality in London is lawless domination at Bucharest.

THE SUICIDE OF COMMERCE.

COMMERCE has come to the criminal court; the banker takes his stand in the place of the felon. It is no young house of commission agents, but one of the oldest and most respected houses in the metropolis that thus represents commerce in that tribunal. We have never been among the adulators of trade; the old boasted soundness of the English commercial world was not quite sound—the plain, downright, pay-your-way, solid man of business had his virtues, but also his narrownesses; and he it was who paved the way for the vices which have sapped the very life of commerce; have poisoned it with depravity until it becomes criminal. If there is anything real in the world, it ought to be trade, commerce, "business." It deals with solid, tangible things; its laws are simple, its results are palpable, personally appreciated; yet commerce, as we have said before, partakes the same unreality, the same hypocritical smoothness of surface over a disordered interior which it has been our business to expose in reference to many other sections of society.

With what object have we insisted upon the uniform characteristic of these exposures? Has it been in the love of decrying our fellow-creatures; in the pleasure of exposing sore places, and of making human fallibility feel its shame more bitterly? Quite the reverse. We know that our purpose in persevering with that great task has been by some misinterpreted, but by many more it has been clearly understood. We know that the body of the English people, high and low, is more "genuine" than the artificial product into which it converts itself, called "society;" that its real motives, its flesh-and-blood sympathies, are more healthy, and in the long run are stronger than its factitious requirements and convenances. But it is precisely because we know man to be better than the best disguise which he puts on, for the purposes of the "world," as it is called, that we urge him to throw off the disguise; that we point out its shocking effects on himself and on all that he holds dear. The man, we say, is better than the tradesman, the clergyman, the aristocrat, the representative of any class; and if he will but look boldly into his own experience, he will find that the basest practices which he thinks necessary to get on in the world, bring with them their own penalty, and are indeed useless and profitless.

There is no part of society in which the reality is not disguised by the unreality. In this free country we have a majority of men who are bound by laws, in the formation of which they have no voice. The Church, as we have shown over and over again, is thronged with dissenters and unbelievers, who conceal their non-conformity for the sake of the pay and position. The aristocracy, which professes to be so elevated by high birth, wealth, and refined training, is detected in cheating at cards; a VILLIERS runs away from fraudulent turf liabilities;

a GORDON is before the police-courts for making away with securities; a Baronet stands in the same place on the same charge; and now commerce seems to convict itself as the most unreal among all these disguises and artificial creations.

It will be almost a safe rule for the Englishman not to believe anything that he sees. What was once genuine, may now be spurious. If he sees a man preaching in the pulpit, let him not be sure that that man is not a Papist, a Unitarian, or an Atheist; for such things are, and we can point to individual instances,—which are not solitary. If he sees an "Honourable" welcomed in the highest society, let him not be sure that the man is not a swindler or a blackleg. If he sees a peculiarly well-ordered domestic circle, let him watch the proceedings in the courts matrimonial or testamentary. If he sees a British merchant, let him not be sure that he has not before him a dealer in flash goods; if a banker, that he is not an embezzler. We have from time to time made out the case against the peculiar sustainers of "our civilisation" in other circles of society; our business now is with the banker and with the trader.

There is no country in the world that should serve the purpose of the commercial enterprise better than England. It is the spoilt child of fortune; and this season of all others is nearly the brightest that commerce could desire. The war is kept aloof by the power of our marine; we have opened up communication with every centre of population in the world; commerce has procured its great measure of free-trade,—the monopoly of the landowner has been destroyed; and while this country, at the present season, smiles with a growing harvest everywhere of the finest promise, we have the same cheering reports from abroad, and especially from America. We are suffering from the failure of a past season, but there is every prospect of plenty. By relieving the labour-market, emigration has caused an actual rising of wages; yet the rise is not more than sufficient to relieve the poor-rate, leaving to commerce still an abundant supply of hand-labour. Markets more widened, therefore, either at home or abroad, machinery more perfect, roads of transit more open, commerce could not have. Yet in the very midst of this prosperity, while constructive enterprise of various kinds is still opening new investments, and laying the foundation for future successes, commerce brings bankruptcy upon itself. It is not that it is unprotected. It has laws to restrain the swindler; and policemen aid to protect the quiet entrance to the bank. But it is the banker himself who enters into the stronghold of the establishment, and carries away the property. It is the merchant himself who tampers with securities, and competes with the ordinary swindler in unlawful acts. Go wherever you will into trading society, you find some element introduced foreign to the very nature of the trade. Manufacturers become petty dealers in provisions, competing with the village "shop," by forcing their workpeople into the truck system. The same manufacturers compete with another branch of trade, and becoming their own agents, assist to heap up that glut in Australian, American, and Indian markets, which put the last great general check to our commercial prosperity. The retail tradesman hardly sells an article which is not adulterated, and the conduct of traders has entirely destroyed faith in the wares they sell. Merchants profess to be very exact in their dealings, but from the cases of DANIEL MITCHELL DAVIDSON, and COSMO WILLIAM GORDON, we find an existing practice of strangely dealing in mis-

appropriated securities; and the case does not involve that only young commission house, but is the subject of an action at law, in which the house of OVEREND, GURNEY, and Co. are defendants. Banks, at all events, were supposed to be immaculate; but in one at least, outwardly and undistinguished from many other private banks, we find that the partners themselves have been carrying away the property of the customers that trusted them; have been using expedients of that kind to keep up an appearance of means that did not exist, and leave their creditors to divide enormous losses. As the mustard you buy is turmeric, the pickles are seasoned with poisons, so the securities are vitiated, and in the strong-box of the bank there is the lawless hand of the banker.

What guarantees can be a protection where the criminal law itself is insufficient? Those who object to limited liability in partnership do so because they say the property of the partner should justly be surrendered to the creditors of the firm, and the possibility of losing it is the best of checks upon reckless trading. A fortune of 180,000*l.* would generally be thought a sufficient caution-money; yet Mr. STRAHAN, a man personally esteemed, allows that money to be invested in the bank, and is not prevented by his own liability from letting the firm to which he has belonged drift through an eventful course into bankruptcy and the criminal court. In fact, all liability is limited; a man cannot be liable for more property than he possesses, except by his body, and we are not aware that any dissecting academy would give sufficient for the bodies of the three partners to make up the balance of 400,000*l.* and odd for their creditors. The liability of banks, then, is limited to their means of meeting it. The second partner must virtually have made away with a fortune not less considerable: he now has to face the consequences; and we see that these outside checks—this forfeiture of property, this prospective penalty of the criminal law—are of no avail when the very life-blood of commercial integrity is vitiated.

Commerce, we say, has drawn the disaster upon itself. The grandfather of the present tradesman, the plain man who paid his way and was proud *not* to possess a house at the West-end, laid down the law in commerce, that that is right which "pays." This has been taken as the grand test of commercial correctness. Any transaction which would pay was thought to be right. By a perfectly consistent application of the rule, that which would pay on the books was correct. Hence, if on the books a merchant can calculate that he has only incurred certain liabilities within a given time, and that returns will accrue within a given time, the whole is correct, though no allowance be made for friction in demurrage of ships, failure of sale, or delays of payments. Hence many a house is bankrupt in fact, though not in the theory. The *paying* rule having become the sole test and guide, no moral check is offered to expedients for securing payment; hence speculations upon the very subject of bankruptcy, and we find some houses which are ranked with others of high character dealing in securities of doubtful liability—that is, trading in the bankruptcy of their fellows. It is but one more step to trade in one's own bankruptcy—only a step further to the embezzlement of securities. Indeed, if once absolute personal integrity be abandoned, there is no control or guide for the trader. All is confusion; bankruptcy becomes one of the normal attendants of commerce. Now, the whole mass of property forfeited in consequence is an aggregate loss to trade. It is the penalty imposed upon com-

merce for its own moral depreciation. If men are too lax or too lazy to look after their own characters, they will scarcely look after the character of their customers. Even commerce, therefore, cannot give up that high feeling of honour, that *sentiment*, which in any one transaction may appear as if it would not pay; in the aggregate it is, we see, the great safeguard, the sacred fire without which British commerce would die out. The plain man's father knew as much in his day, three generations back; but the march of intellect has made us wiser!

THE VON BECK CASE UNMASKED.

AN appeal has been made for justice to English gentlemen, who had been unjust and had the opportunity of atonement; but they have refused, and the case is carried to the public. The case of the Baroness von BECK must be in every reader's recollection; she appeared before the public as a victim to patriotism; she sought assistance from Englishmen on that ground; travelled about the country accompanied by a Polish gentleman, and thrust herself upon the hospitality of those who had sympathy for Poland and means to spare. It came to the knowledge of Mr. TOULMIN SMITH that this woman was an impostor, and that she had, in fact, acted as a spy upon refugees, under the foreign department of the English police. She visited Birmingham, her imposture was stated to persons there, and it will be remembered that Mr. GEORGE DAWSON was one of those consulted as to the propriety of bringing her to justice. Anxious to save her from any undue vexation, he used some pains to ascertain her identity. That ascertained, justice took its course. It was an accident that the woman died in the custody of the police, and while a very piteous case was made out on her behalf, those who had exposed her infamous function were represented as her traducers, if not as her assassins. An appeal was made by Mr. TOULMIN SMITH to Lord PALMERSTON, who declined to interfere, and the course taken by Government, was such as to make the public believe that the Baroness VON BECK had been wronged. It now turns out that Lord PALMERSTON had written the following letter in reply to a question from Mr. IRONSIDE, of Sheffield, who has published the fact in his vigorous newspaper, the *Sheffield Free Press*:

"Broadlands, 3rd January, 1852.

"Sir,—I received your letter of the 1st instant, and can reply to the question put in your missing letter, as now restated by you. When I saw, some months ago, a statement in the newspaper that the person who called herself the Baroness Von Beck had been employed by the police in this country, I made inquiry upon the subject, and I ascertained that she had offered her services to the Government, but that her offer had been declined, and that she never had been so employed. I state this for your own information, but I do not wish to be brought into the controversy by the publication of this letter, or by having my name quoted in regard to the matter.

"I am, Sir, yours faithfully,—PALMERSTON."

To this Mr. TOULMIN SMITH adds:—

The following written testimony, by an *employé* of the English Police, is in my possession. It now acquires an importance which cannot be exaggerated:—"I beg to inform you that the person styling herself 'Baroness de Beck,' is the same who, accompanied by Dr. H—, offered *personally* her services as a spy and informer to the recently established (1851) foreign branch of the English police force. I know likewise that for a fortnight or three weeks she has obtained for such services the sum of 5*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* per week."

To what foreign sum 5*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* corresponds, is a question not difficult to solve. The sum, however, proves the complicity between the English and Foreign Police.—T. S.

Mr. IRONSIDE is the friend of the gentlemen who were so slandered at the time of VON BECK's death. He felt himself, however, under an obligation not to publish Lord PALMERSTON's letter.

HOW TO ORGANISE AN ARMY.

THE following remarks were made during a conversation held in Paris in 1853:—

"A military nation," said M. Th—s, "can, without much preparation, invade an unwarlike neighbour. It would not take us long to make a rush on Belgium. But if a serious invasion is to be attempted, if good troops are to be encountered, and an army is to be got ready to which the honour of the country can be trusted, six months is a very short period. First, the different regiments must be sifted, to get from each of them two *bataillons d'élite* for foreign service. These battalions must be united in brigades, and the capacity of the regimental officers tested by the *chef de brigade*, in the same way in which those officers tested that of their own privates and *sous-officiers*. The brigades again must be united in a division. They must be accustomed to act together, and to know how far one regiment and one brigade can rely on another. The general of division has to do only with the colonels. He sends away all those whom he finds too old, or too negligent, or too ignorant, or too dull for real fighting: and the comparatively low social position of our regimental officers—more than two-thirds of whom have risen from the ranks—enables him to do so without mercy. It is thus by a long-continued process of selecting, and training, and changing, and promoting, and discharging, that a division is moulded and welded into one mass of homogeneous materials, the efficiency of which can be relied on, as we rely on that of a well-constructed machine. If any one step in the process be omitted, or even hurried over, the machine becomes imperfect, and, if it be opposed to one that has been properly prepared, it will break in the general's hands. But this takes time: six months is too little. The army that won the battle of Austerlitz had been subjected to this training for more than two years.

"The army of the Hundred Days, which gained the battle of Ligny, was raised by Napoleon in less than six weeks; but you must recollect what were his materials. More than 180,000 veterans, men who, though young, had passed years under fire, whom he had scattered over all Europe, from Dantzic to Alexandria, were restored to France by the peace. He had only to stamp and the legions sprang up. And, after all, what was the result? This hastily-collected army was broken, was scattered, was actually dissolved as no French army ever was before in a single battle. Would the army of Austerlitz have thus fallen to pieces? I will not say that that army would have gained the battle of Waterloo; though if it had been ready, as it would have been, to attack at eight in the morning instead of at eleven, the chances would have been in its favour; but I affirm that it would not have been ignominiously beaten. It might have failed, but it would not have been destroyed.

"Now, nothing but a first-rate army could invade England. They must be men, like those of Cortez, whose courage would not flinch when they saw nothing but the enemy before and the sea behind them. Napoleon thought 180,000 men necessary—and 180,000 of his men were worth 300,000 of ours. Where can a double fleet be found, one to carry the troops, the other to defend them? For the transports, even if ships of war, could not fight: the soldiers would rise on the crews. No men could bear to stand or be inactive behind a ship's sides through which shots were driving. It is difficult to keep them steady under a cannonade in the field when they are encouraged by the constant hope of attacking in their turn. The transports must be kept out of fire, and how is this to be done unless a fleet large enough to keep yours at bay—that is to say, larger than yours—accompanies them. We have no such fleet, and it would take at least a year to form one. Therefore, I repeat, you will have a year's warning.

"London could not be entered by less than 25,000 men—and to bring 25,000 men to London, 50,000 must be landed in Kent or Dorsetshire. Such an army and the fleets that would have to carry and protect them could not be got ready in six months. The idea, however, of a dash on London is preposterous. Fifty thousand men thrown on your shores might, indeed, do you enormous mischief, but they would be ultimately sacrificed, and such a sacrifice would be fatal to the best-established government. Depend on it, that if he attacks, and I still believe

that if his career be not cut short, he *will* attack you—he will attack you seriously. It will not be to burn London, but to dictate a peace there.

"The Egyptian expedition," continued M. Th—s, "was the rashest attempt that history records; rasher even than Moscow. It contained the germ of Napoleon's subsequent life. It showed his marvellous powers of combination and execution, and the wildness with which his imagination led him to despise moral and physical obstacles. No one would compare the political and military ability of Turenne with that of Napoleon; but I have often thought that if we had had the former in 1796 instead of the latter, we should have preserved the Rhine and the Alps. We should have been the first Power in Europe instead of one of the five Powers.

"Now we have no one to form an army except those who are in exile. Vaillant is good in his own line, but not as a general or an administrator. We have, indeed, the largest *matériel* in Europe. I myself had 3500 cannon cast; and as I knew that in our next war we should have to rouse the people of Italy and Germany against their sovereigns, I provided for *them*, as well as for ourselves. But while this man retains his power our *personnel* will be inferior."

C. W.

THE GERMAN LIBERAL VIEW OF THE RUSSIAN QUESTION.

(From a Berlin Correspondent.)

SINCE the breaking up of the Vienna Conferences, public attention has once more concentrated itself upon the events of war alone. While the total failure of those conferences produced a general disgust for diplomatic transactions of every kind, the revived activity in the camp before Sebastopol, the progress, howsoever slow, of that siege, and the news of the Kertch expedition, could not fail to revive the interest every liberal heart takes in the present crisis. At the same time a new and equally great arena of war has been opened in the Baltic Sea, where the allied fleets again are threatening the northern coasts of the enemy. It is quite natural, therefore, that towards this gigantic theatre every eye should be turned, that public expectation should cling to the sails of your ships, and to the folds of your soldiers' tents, and that from Sebastopol especially we should be induced to hope for the solution of the great European Question.

But, while rejoicing in the revived energy of your warlike preparations, we must beware not to anticipate too great a result, and while looking with pride on this year's expedition, we must be careful not to be blinded by the brilliant prospects it offers. The solution of the great European Question does *not* lie in Sebastopol; only the solution of momentary difficulties lies there, nothing more. As far as your military honour—yours and that of France—is concerned, so far, but so far only, the result to be expected from Sebastopol is a decisive one, but the destruction of the Russian fleet, the *de facto* annihilation of the Russian preponderance in the Black Sea, will not settle the question of that preponderance *de jure*, in any way satisfactory to the claims of the Western Powers, to the future tranquillity of Turkey, and to the interests of Europe. Those who hope that the taking of Sebastopol will be sufficient to secure such a lasting political result, undervalue far too much the pertinacity of Russian policy, and have too soon forgotten the answer Prince Gortchakoff gave to Lord John Russell—and, no doubt, it was one of the few true words he said at Vienna—that before submitting to any limitation of her rights of sovereignty, Russia must undergo a succession of heavy defeats.

Now, important as the military point of view must be to the people of England and France, still it needs not to be proved that it is far from being the highest one, far from being the point of view we must take, if we would do justice to the present emergency. For such has been the nature of this Eastern Question, that by degrees the depth of its importance has disclosed itself even to the most short-sighted eye, that from seeming at first the mere trifling question of a pawnbroker's pledge, it now manifests itself as the greatest question put to the statesmen of Europe since the days of Napoleon I.—that, in a word, it has shown itself to be nothing less than the reverse of that enormous struggle in the beginning of this century, with inverted names, and, unfortunately, with lessened wisdom and energy on the side of the defenders of Europe. Of this European meaning of the Eastern Question even Lord Palmerston has lately seemed to catch a glimpse, and since he, never over discerning in anything concerning Russia, has been compelled to confess that at present the whole political position of England and France is at stake, we may without further notice pass over those Gladstones and their like, who waste their time and the keenness of their wit in splitting differences between a defensive and offensive war, and may take it for granted that that European point of view is the right

one, which the instinctive judgment of popular feeling has taken long before our statesmen thought of admitting and adopting it.

From this European point of view we deny, as I said before, that the solution of the Eastern Question lies in Sebastopol. Where, then, does it lie? Exactly where it lay in the contest of Europe against French preponderance: the solution rests with Germany. The conquest of Sebastopol may be as glorious a success as your battles of the Nile and Trafalgar were in their turn, but it will be as little decisive against Russia as Nelson's victories were against Napoleon. The Russian Waterloo still remains to be fought; it must be fought on the Russian-German frontier.

Russia is a continental power; the attacks against her have the sea for their basis, and it cannot be denied that even with the best success, both in the Baltic and in the Black Sea, you will not be able to cleave asunder her vital nerve. Besides, those two attacks can never be combined, as between your two bases there is a distance of about 1500 miles. This line of distance is the Russian-German frontier; it is, therefore, protected against any attack by land by Prussia and Austria when neutral or allied to Russia, and open to their attacks when hostile to her. Russia has never to fear any decisive military defeat, as long as she is not defeated on this side, and, for the same reason, the political contest of Western and Russian preponderance will never be brought to an end, as long as the Western Powers have not succeeded in striking the enemy at this vital point. Of this circumstance the contending powers on both sides have been well aware; Russia has put into full play all her influence to secure either the alliance or the neutrality of the German States, and the very fact that, on the other side, England and France have allowed Austria to play them her tricks for so long a time, proves—so to say—officially that *we* are not now claiming a greater importance for the military and political position of Germany than the Governments of England and France themselves have done for some time past. But Russia won the diplomatic game in Germany completely. Very soon, that is, nearly a year ago, you gave up every hope as to the smaller kingdoms, as well as to Prussia. In Austria alone you set all your confidence. But there, also, has a change lately taken place. Austria has dropped her mask; your "faithful ally" turns out to be as false as those who knew her prophesied from the beginning. Her friends in your country—and very numerous indeed they are,—and of high standing, too—are disappointed and vexed, and, in order to hide the defeat of their unfounded confidence, they all of a sudden tell us that you don't want Austria, that you can do as well without Germany, that you had better "put her aside." Why? If you stood in want of Austria, while you still undervalued the difficulties of a war with Russia, do you not want her now, when you have become aware of those difficulties in rather an unexpected manner, and feel, by your deep scars, how heavy are the blows she is able to deal? And even if you make the most of your success in the Crimea, are you masters of the war to such a degree as to "put aside" the greatest military powers on the Continent? Put aside Germany, indeed! Put aside a country that is the very barrier and shield of your enemy's territory; take no notice in your political combinations of governments of first rank; leave out of your military calculations a group of states which command a million of well-disciplined, highly-finished soldiers! It is as easily said as any folly ever was, and, if acted upon, it would be as heavily punished too. The increasing dimensions of the war and, at the same time, of your demands on Russia, point rather to the contrary policy. In that "saying old and true,"

If that you will France win,
Then with Scotland first begin,

the names only need be altered, and it is as true now as it was of yore.

The question then arises, have you already tried the right means for securing this necessary alliance of Germany, or are they still to be tried? In other words, is it without your fault that you miss the co-operation of Germany; and, if not, can these faults be amended? It is a remarkable fact that to this point no serious attention, worthy of its importance, has yet been given, and that, while into the management of the war in the East, where, after all, you can boast of some success, the strictest inquiry has been made, nobody has inquired into the management of your diplomatic campaign in Germany, where, after all, you are most completely defeated. And yet, for such an inquiry there was room enough here quite as well as there, and here not less than there an astonishing amount of mismanagement would have been brought to light. To be just, you must admit that on your side the diplomatic battle was half lost when only begun. Since 1848 your policy towards Germany had as much been against your own interest as that of Russia was prudent and well calculated. The natural allies in Germany, of Russia, are absolutism and aristocracy; towards Russia as their natural protector look all those petty

princes who delight in despotism, on how small a scale whatever—all those ministers, as Manteuffel, Hassenpflug, Beust, Pfordten, whose ambition it is to be the wilful instruments for breaking down constitutions and liberties—all the members of that feudal party, who know of no fatherland than their estates, and of no rights than their egotistical privileges. Your allies, on the other hand, are constitutionalism and liberalism; towards the alliance with you lean in Germany all members of the popular, liberal, national, and free-trade party. When, in 1848, a fierce contest between those two opposite principles broke out, Russia, on her part, assisted as much the powers friendly to her as you neglected those to support which ought to have been your duty. One question there was in that struggle which brought the national movement of Germany into direct contact with the foreign policy of the European Powers. It was the Danish or Schleswig-Holstein question. With regard to it, the policy of England has been a long succession of the grossest blunders. England acted throughout as the champion of Russia. Her interest was to support the Danes. England did so likewise. England helped her, as best she could, to put down the opposition of the German Duchies against Danish oppression. England helped her to get by the London treaty of May, 1852, the acknowledgment of her eventual hereditary right to the Danish crown, and thus brought to a temporary conclusion, most favourable to Russia, a question of whose European importance few at that time had an idea, and which, perhaps, now at last, in the middle and under the influence of the present crisis, some few people perceive to have been nothing less than the first act of that great drama, of whose bloody catastrophe you now are witnesses and partners. The same policy was pursued by Russia in the interior affairs of Germany. While England remained stranger to the defeats German liberalism underwent since 1849, Russia, with most eager attention, watched the proceedings of German politics, and took a large share in the progress of her allies, the reactionary party; every triumph of absolutism in Germany was a triumph of Russian influence, and thus, by means of an indefatigable and highly circumspect policy, Russia had succeeded, at the time when the present crisis broke out, in securing in every German court and government her ascendancy over the diplomacy of England. But, unfavourable as the state of things in Germany appeared, still England was by no means destitute of resources by which she might have brought Germany over to her side. I need not here enter into the intricate details of the constitution of the German Confederation, nor pass in review all the little states of which unhappy Germany is composed; it is sufficient to speak of Austria and Prussia; for, although the other German states retain the forms of sovereignty and independence, still the decision of every great question rests entirely with Austria and Prussia; and, in case of war, the other states have no choice but to follow the two great powers. For either of them there were, a year ago, many circumstances which, notwithstanding the mighty influence of Russia, might have given to the diplomatic game a decisive turn in your favour. Austria felt the necessity of getting out of the dependence she stood in towards Russia since the suppression of the Hungarian revolution; her traditional policy, moreover, has always put her in opposition to Russia in every question concerning the Lower Danube; the invasion by the Russians of the Principalities threatened totally to destroy the Austrian influence in those parts, and an insurrection in Servia in favour of Russia might have become as fatal to Austria herself as to Turkey. Prussia did not take such a direct interest in the Eastern Question; neither the fantastical king nor his court have that feeling for the interest of their country which is felt so keenly by the Austrian statesmen; but in Prussia the heir of the crown, the king's brother, and all his followers, men of high standing and in high office, were in favour of the Western Alliance; the whole liberal party in that country most strongly hoped and worked for it, because it would have effected the complete ruin of the anti-constitutional Russian party. And, indeed, Austria as well as Prussia joined the Western Powers. Most eagerly did the young Emperor of Austria catch the opportunity to prove himself master in his own house; and so strongly were the injustice and danger of the proceedings of Russia felt in Prussia, that the king and his court were obliged to comply with public opinion. Austria and Prussia signed the Vienna protocols, where, in words at least, the policy of Russia was so severely condemned. Russia was utterly disappointed. The Western influence was on the best way to gain an undisputed ascendancy. Then was the moment to bind the two German Powers to the fulfilment of their words, and to the condemning by deeds of the policy of Russia. But that moment unfortunately was lost; and from that time date blunders and defeats. Two means there were by which England and France might have put the German Powers into active co-operation against Russia. These means were hope and fear. You might have either induced them by

the one or compelled them by the other. You have done neither the one nor the other. You have allowed Austria to enter the Danubian Principalities, and to establish herself there; but the one condition on which this permission was given, that she must defend them against Russia, was utterly superfluous, as the Russians preferred sending their troops from Bessarabia into the Crimea; and the only decisive condition, that being admitted into Turkish dominions, she ought to declare herself an active ally of Turkey, you have been good-hearted enough not to make. On the other hand, you might have compelled Austria by fear. Her weakest point is Italy, accessible as well to England by sea as to France by land. But you have hastened to put Austria at ease by guaranteeing to her her Italian territory; you have, moreover, removed the Sardinian army from the frontiers of Lombardy, where it might have become inconvenient to Austria; and all this you have done without having got one single reciprocal service worthy of such a security. The natural consequence of such a course lies before you: the greater your concessions, the less have become her offers; the softer your treatment, the more obstinate her reluctance; and if you go on in the same direction, you may be sure that that power, which after Turkey was threatened the most by the present crisis, will make the best of it, without any sacrifice of its own and at your expense.

Still less reasonably has Western diplomacy dealt with Prussia. As soon as she began slowly to withdraw from diplomatic co-operation, you most quietly let her go and "put her aside," and only then took notice of her when the uncertainty of her policy was artfully used by Austria as a pretext for refusing her own assistance. Strange contradiction, no doubt, that a country, which was allowed to form such a puzzling item in the calculations of "your faithful ally," was in your own calculations hardly more than a nonentity. And yet, the Western Powers have even more efficient means to act upon the resolutions of Prussia than upon Austria. The preponderance of Russia in the Baltic is deeply felt in Prussia; the Prussian merchants wish most strongly to be rid of the heavy tax of the Sound-dues; the national party, through all Germany the best friends of Russia, would most willingly accept every opportunity to redress the wrongs the German Duchies and the German interests at large have undergone in the Danish question. In all these points Russia is the strongest opposer to the interests of Prussian trade, to the wishes of the German party; and any offer, therefore, in this direction from the Western Powers would be heartily welcomed by the popular feeling in Prussia. But such an offer has not been made. Neither have you tried stronger means against the Prussian Government. The Prussian coasts are open to your fleets, but you blockade only the harbours of Russia, and thus, by directing the Russian trade to the eastern ports of Prussia, you, instead of threatening, enrich them. Quite as easily as you could act upon Prussia in the Baltic, France could act on the Rhine; by such a pressure, at the same time, a wholesome and most efficient lesson would be given to the stadholders of Russia in Cassel, Darmstadt, and Stuttgart, and the German Diet itself would feel the necessity to come to an understanding with the Western Powers. For there are, in the history of modern Germany, instances enough which show how much any misunderstanding with France is feared by the German governments when they are conscious that popular feeling is against them, and at present it would be so the more, as the sympathies of the Liberal party, which the Government of the French Emperor alone never would win, are secured by the fact of England being a party in the game.

Those means I speak of are quite within the reach of the Western Powers. What we, German liberals, urge is, indeed, nothing but the practical application of what government and people, both in England and in France, generally feel with regard to Germany. Much has been said about the weakness of Germany, much bitter scorn has been thrown, and many contemptuous jokes have been made, on the wavering policy of the King of Prussia; but what has been done has not been in accordance with what has been said. Let it, then, be received as admitted—and we, for our part, not only admit it, but most strongly contend for it—that in the councils of Germany, above the heads of her princes, pale fear presides and decides; let it be admitted, but also acted upon. And although the best moment is gone by, you are now approaching a time highly favourable for regaining in Germany what has been lost. The conquest of Sebastopol will restore the Western Powers to their former prestige; the military success there will again inspire the German governments with the necessary respect; and if your diplomatists will but fight with half the energy of your soldiers, the battle may yet be won.

F. S.

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK.

PARLIAMENT potters and chatters: Palmerston jibes; and the club gibbers. Questions this week: Whether Rothschild, who, in any case, can't legally sit, is not

legally incapacitated by reason of having accepted a Government contract from finding himself in a condition of not being able to sit? Whether a committee should be granted on Scholefield's motion to consider how the House of Commons can prevent tradesmen from sending their sugar before going to those prayers in which they pray for a daily bread that is horribly adulterated when they get it?—the question really being whether the imperial wisdom can govern prices in attempting to regulate quality. Whether, as asked by Lord Seymour—who, as Marionette of Showman Edward Ellice, was put up to effect a diversion for the Government, and did divert everybody by his Punchy performance—it was worth while to debate a bill (Irish Tenant Right) which had no chance of passing, in which nobody believed, which the Tories had emasculated, which the Government had maimed, which those who had at first clamoured for it now repudiated as an accursed and unsightly object—question being answered in the negative, by majority of 20, and a bill which had no hope of being passed, and which everybody disdained, being debated accordingly for five solemn hot hours on tropical Thursday night? Whether, on the motion of Mr. Henry Berkeley, who hopes to play the Diable Boiteux with a canting community, a committee ought not to be appointed to inquire whether the Sunday Beer Bill, which had cut off the supplies of beer to a drunken country at ten P.M. every Sunday evening, had not proved rather an inconvenience to those who had suffered from it,—motion being granted? Whether, at the instigation of that haughty Christian, Lord Robert Grosvenor, who would indubitably hand over to the beadle any ragged Briton that might happen, under legal pressure and want of amusement elsewhere, to stray into Lord Robert's chapel of ease, it was not desirable that, in consideration of this being a Christian land, which inherited the laws of Moses, but will not let Rothschild (the standing Jew, who must be a periodical sight to the revolving Wandering Jew) take his seat; which has, according to Lord Shaftesbury, 5,000,000 heathens within its home territories; which has a class of tradesmen, who, according to Lord Seymour, are all fraudulent; which has a class of merchants, who, according to the press, are all Strahans, and Pauls, and Bates; which has a press, which, according to all sensible persons, adulterates opinion and facts more than the shopmen adulterate provisions; which has an aristocracy, who, according to everybody, adulterate Government, and sell the country at auction among themselves—Lord Robert Grosvenor asks whether, in consideration of all these things, it is not the duty of our Parliament to endeavour to reconcile ourselves to God, and reorganise our life by prohibiting the sale of (adulterated) milk after the hour of nine A.M. on Sundays?

However, there is still some hope. Part of the recommendation of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners is to be complied with. Lord Palmerston retains his belief that we are all born good; but he is going to oblige us with four more Bishops.

"A STRANGER."

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.

HOW THE SUCCESSORS OF THE APOSTLES TRAVEL ON A SABBATH.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

London, June 27.

SIR,—Passing along Jermyn-street a short while ago, on a Sunday morning, my attention was arrested by a very handsome carriage and horses, which dashed up the opposite street, and drew up at St. James's Church. The whole "turn-out" was so uncommonly handsome and stylish, that I stopped to examine it more minutely. The carriage was a bright yellow, with very handsome silver fittings; the horses, a splendid pair of bays, worth at least 300 guineas; the harness covered with silver; the coachman and two footmen, dressed in pure white liveries, trimmed with black and white chequer lace, and edged with silver lace, with silver hatbands, garters, &c., altogether forming one of the most attractive "turn-outs" I have seen in London. But, on examining further, you may judge my surprise on seeing a bishop's, on, rather, an archbishop's,

mitre on the panels of the carriage. I doubted the evidence of my senses, thinking that our great Church dignitaries eschewed such gaieties, and drove about in carriages of more sombre hue, and dressed their servants in darker colours. But, on further inquiry, I found that the equipage belonged to the Archbishop of Armagh, who, residing in Charles-street, St. James's-square, requires the services of a coachman, two footmen, and a pair of horses to convey him from his residence there to the distant region occupied by St. James's Church—the distance being not further than a very slow walker would manage to cross in four or five minutes. I ask you, sir, is this *needful work* for a Sunday? In addition to the three servants named, we may calculate the services of one or two stable-helpers, who will be engaged in attending on the horses before and after their arduous journeys to and from Church. It may be said that his Grace is an aged man; so he is, but not an infirm one, for I have seen him, not long ago, riding on horseback in the park, and a finer or more upright figure one don't often see. Indeed, I never see him but I consider how misplaced he is in the Church, and how much more fitted he must originally have been for the head of a dragoon regiment.

Lord Robert Grosvenor, the representative of the so-called religious party, would do well to leave alone the poor mechanic to do his *needful work* on a Sunday, and might be better employed in trying to prevent such *needless* employment for men and horses as is involved in a journey from his Grace the Archbishop of Armagh's residence in Charles-street to St. James's Church.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
AN OBSERVER.

GENERAL GUYON.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

June 26, 1855.

SIR,—It must be a matter of deep regret to every one interested in the success of the Turkish forces, to learn that the services of the brave General Guyon (through Turkish intrigue in high quarters) have been lost, and that, too, at a time when an important battle is imminent at "Kars." The Turkish troops are lamenting the absence of this brave British general, whose presence in the battle-field inspired them with confidence and success, and whose "judgment" and "courage" were last year recorded in the pages of the *Times*, and received the general commendation of the London press.

The fame of General Guyon as a great and accomplished soldier has spread throughout Europe, and the faculty which he had acquired of addressing the Turkish army in their own tongue, a power which the present English commanders in the East are not reported to possess, is an additional reason for regretting the prevailing apathy and want of forethought on the part of the Sultan's Ministers, whereby the services of this most distinguished general have been hitherto disregarded.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ANTI-RUSSIAN.

A CHINESE GENTLEMAN AND MAN-OF-LETTERS, named Cheuk-seen-lan, is now in London, having been brought to this country by the Rev. Dr. Hefler, the American missionary. This learned Oriental, who is about thirty-five years old, speaks three separate dialects of the Celestial Empire, is well versed in literature and the arts as cultivated in China, and is not only a poet and writer, but also a clever painter and musician. Literature appears to be his favourite pursuit; and, on his return to his own country, he intends to publish a volume of poems. He went with Dr. Hefler to the British Museum on Thursday week, where he examined the extensive Chinese collection belonging to the library of that institution.—A similar instance to the above took place about forty-two years ago, when a Chinese gentleman, having accompanied an English Eastern traveller to London, published a poem descriptive of the metropolis and its sights, amusements, &c. A translation of this poem appeared, together with the author's original, in an article "On the Poetry of the Chinese," published in the "Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society." The general style of the poem, as rendered into English, does not sound very metrical.

ARISTOCRATICAL MANNERS AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The following notification has been put forth by Mr. Owen Jones, of the Crystal Palace:—"Hall of the Abencerrages.—The cushions and divans in this hall having been much injured by persons carelessly reclining upon them, and for OTHER REASONS, the directors of the Crystal Palace Company have requested Mr. Owen Jones to remove them. Mr. Owen Jones, feeling that the general effect of the hall would be very much injured were this decision of the directors carried out, appeals to the public, and earnestly hopes that greater attention and decorum on their part will render it unnecessary.—Crystal Palace, June 23, 1855." We understand that the more aristocratical visitors are the persons by whom these extraordinary breaches of decorum have been committed.

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*.

"SIR, no man but a blockhead ever wrote except for money." This was the emphatic assertion of dear old dogmatic, keen-sighted JOHNSON; and the assertion contains that amount of truth usually found in his sayings, emphasized into a generalisation which becomes not strictly true. For although, accurately speaking, there are many men, not blockheads, who write from quite other than pecuniary motives, write, indeed, in defiance of all such motives, yet it is certain that a numerous obtrusive class of blockheads do write irrespective of monetary considerations; and it is always the articles and books offered gratuitously which editors and publishers avoid with the keenest alacrity. Your genuine blockhead is ever so eager to assert himself—to manifest his blockheadism in public—to render himself "a more definite object of contempt"—that the motive of money is altogether in abeyance. He writes "for fame, Sir." Much foolish rhetoric has been let loose on the subject of writing for money. Money, indeed, has from time immemorial been the topic upon which foolish rhetoric has loved to discharge itself. But there is, among other advantages, this practical advantage in keeping the money motive steadily present, namely, that as money is a rough gauge of utility, and will only be given for what is wanted by the public, the man who writes with an eye to money will write with a view to public needs.

We were led into this train of reflection by an article in the *Irish Quarterly Review* (always a good half-crown's worth of agreeable literature), in which the writer brings together some curiosities on the subject of "Odd Books." Here is a specimen:—

A shoemaker of Amiens published, in 1615, a tract in which, tracing the history of boots, he asserted that Adam was the first to make them from the skins of beasts, and that he learned the art from God himself.

A Member of the Academy, in a laborious dissertation on the weights and measures of the ancients, favours us with the following chronological scale of the various heights of men since the creation:—Adam 123 feet 9 inches, Eve 118 feet 9½ inches, Noah 103, Abraham 27, Moses 13, Hercules 10, Alexander 10, Julius Cæsar, 5. He sagely adds, that if Providence had not been pleased to suspend this progressive decrease, men would now be no bigger than the smallest insect.

The writers of these "Odd Books," if they had an eye to money, must have squinted somewhat. In the same article there is this curious passage:—

Surgery, through the prohibition of the church, was, like money-lending, through the prohibition of receiving interest, confined solely, in its higher branches, to the Jews. The Jews were pronounced impious, and medicines received through their prescriptions declared accursed, and by a decree of the council of Lateran, the physicians were directed, under heavy penalties, to require that the patients should receive the sacraments of penance and the eucharist, before medicine could be prescribed for them—thus it was supposed that the Jewish physicians would be readily discovered, as through bigotry they would refuse to obey this direction. The prescriptions were curious, but amongst the most strange of all was that commonly known as the Doctrine of Signatures—that is, certain herbs and plants were presumed useful in curing those parts of the human body to which they bore, or were fancied to bear, a resemblance. Capillary herbs were good in diseases of the hair. Walnuts were presumed to be a sovereign cure in all diseases of the head, from the great resemblance between them and that portion of the human frame—the green covering of the outer husk represented the pericranium; and salt made of the husk was good for injuries to the outside of the head. The soft inner shell was like the skull, and the thin yellow skin was like the dura and pia mater. The kernel was so like the brain that it must of necessity be a perfect remedy for all diseases or injuries of that organ. William Coles, the herbalist, writes, that the "Lily of the Valley is good to cure the apoplexy, for as that disease is caused by the dropping of humours into the principal ventricles of the brain, so the flowers of this lily hanging on the plants as if they were drops, are of wonderful use herein." Kidney beans, from their perfect resemblance to the kidneys, were considered of great service in all urinary diseases. The yellow and purple spots upon the flowers Eye-bright, resembling the marks upon diseased eyes, the flowers were esteemed most efficacious in curing these disorders. Thistles and Holly, from their stinging the hand which touched them, were believed to be useful in curing the pricking pains of pleurisy; and the Saxifrage, from the manner of its growth, was esteemed a most powerful dissolvent of the stone. And because the cones of the pine-tree resembled the front teeth, a gargle of vinegar in which they had been boiled was classed as a most efficacious remedy for the toothache.

Lovers of thrilling and horrible stories may turn to the article in this Review on "The Romance of Life," in which the original stories, worked up into *Monte Christo*, are told by the writer, who for the present reserves his authorities. An article on the "Poets of America" will also be read with pleasure, containing, as it does, "elegant extracts" very delicately chosen.

Are you at all interested in the last Spanish revolution? We mean the revolution of 1854 (in Spanish revolutions it is necessary to be precise). If so, the *Revue des Deux Mondes* will furnish you with an ample history written by M. CHARLES DE MAZADE. The same review concludes AMPÈRE's papers on *L'Histoire Romaine à Rome*, with an interesting survey of the works of Greek Art. Speaking of MYRON's masterly representation of animals, M. AMPÈRE makes this remark, which although not altogether new, is worth repeating. The truthful fidelity of representation in the forms of animals when these animals are presented away from man, is strikingly contrasted with the want of fidelity in the representation in all statues which present animals accompanied by the human figure. The horses of the Monte Cavallo group; the deer which Diana holds; the lizard on the tree against which the young Apollo leans, are treated with great negligence. M. AMPÈRE thinks this negligence intentional, the animals being accessories sacrificed to the divine principal—and this subordination is the law of ancient art. But when animals were figured by themselves, when they

ceased to be accessories, they were depicted with great fidelity. It is on reasons of this nature that we may suppose DANNECKER to have created the extremely mythological panther on which the exquisite Ariadne reclines; for in that animal there is assuredly no attempt at faithful representation of nature. And on this ground we may explain the horses of the Parthenon friezes, about which critics pretend to fly off into raptures, but which the most superficial knowledge of horseflesh suffices to condemn as unreal. Perhaps, however, the real reason is, after all, much simpler. In all times there have been artists who excelled in the representation of animals, and artists who failed in such representations; and the school of MYRON, like our own LANDSEERS, ANSDILLS, and COOPERS, may have been more faithful, because their love of animals had made them more diligent students of animals. It is dangerous sometimes to be ingenious in our suggestion of reasons; ingenuity lures us far from the simpler track of fact, and overlooking what lies at our feet soars with daring flight into the clouds. An illustration of such ingenuity is offered by M. BINAUT in his excellent paper on *La Comédie des Mœurs en Grèce*. He is puzzled by the fact that on the Grecian stage the gods and goddesses were solemnly introduced in the tragedies, and an hour afterwards as profanely ridiculed in the comedies. The Drama was a religious festival; the subjects were religious; and yet in the comedies the gods were made gluttonous, obscene, ridiculous. In this M. BINAUT sees more than "an inconsequence and a bizarrerie;" and he taxes his ingenuity to discern the cause, which on reflection he discovers to be this: there was in the public mind an instinctive desire to separate what was moral in the ancient myths from what was immoral—a germ of that religious criticism which the poets manifested before the philosophers. This thesis M. BINAUT illustrates. He points out both in HOMER and the dramatists a double aspect of the myths, and argues that we never see the gods ridiculed in the exercise of their divine attributes, but only when they manifested human attributes, human follies and weaknesses.

Now, it is scarcely credible that M. BINAUT could have reduced his thesis to a proposition so simple without at once seeing it to be false. He did not clearly place the proposition before his mind, and then proceed to develop and to illustrate it; but as we must suppose, wrought out his proposition during the process of composition, and thus was misled by his own ingenuity. Looked at in the light we have placed it, what does it amount to, more than saying that the Greeks did not ridicule what was grand and solemn, but only what was ridiculous. The god, considered under his divine attributes, raised religious thoughts; the god, considered under his human attributes, was as much a topic for mirth as man himself. What is there in a Greek tragedy followed by a comedy more than is seen every evening on our stage, when the tragic aspects of life are succeeded by uproarious farce, when the jealousy of an *Othello* is followed by the jealousy of a bourgeois, personated by ARNAL or KEELEY? Then, again, does not universal experience tell us how religious subjects, even in devout minds, are often provocative of mirth? But we must not extend this remark to a dissertation. We mean it only as a hint to the reader of M. BINAUT's very interesting paper.

DANBY SEYMOUR'S RUSSIA ON THE BLACK SEA.

Russia on the Black Sea and Sea of Azof: being a Narrative of Travels in the Crimea and bordering Provinces; with Notices of the Naval, Military, and Commercial Resources of those Countries. By H. D. Seymour, M.P. Murray. 1855.

MR. DANBY SEYMOUR's book is one of the best of the many contributions to contemporary literature respecting Russia on the Black Sea. It is written with a scholarly ease, a vivid clearness, and a hearty feeling for the subject. It is at once succinct and comprehensive; and it supplies in a compact shape much valuable information, which could only otherwise be acquired by the diligent reading of many authors.

The plan on which the book is composed is not the least of its recommendations. Mr. Seymour lived many years in Russia, traversing the Caucasus, journeying across the desert steppes, or pitching his tent in the hospitable homes of the beautiful south coast of the Crimea. Thus he enjoyed great advantages over the traveller who speeds post-haste from city to city, making hurried notes as he flies along. Those advantages our traveller has turned to good account. But as no man can see everything, or seeing, know its relative value, and as the wise traveller makes a discreet use of the labours of those who have gone before him, so Mr. Seymour, far from disdaining the fruits of others' labours, has carefully studied them, and testing them by his own experience, and amalgamating them with his own observations, he has produced a most useful and entertaining volume. Nor has he been niggardly in acknowledgments to the many eminent travellers whose information he has interwoven with the texture of his own acquisitions. It is in the highest degree to his credit, and speaks well for the pains he has taken with his work, and is good evidence of its soundness, that he mentions with such tokens of goodwill the names of Haxthausen, Tego-borski, Hommaire de Hell, Pallas, Clark, Dubois de Montpereux, and various other authorities to whose researches he is indebted. On the whole we look upon this as one of the most satisfactory and informing works on Russia which has been published in these days.

The maps, also, and plans and illustrations are executed in a careful and distinct style, which makes them pleasant to the eye, as well as instructive to the mind. The Sea of Azof, the straits of Kertch, the mouths of the Don, and the delta of the Kuban, are clearly delineated; the relative positions of the Crimea, the mouths of the Danube, and the coast of Bessarabia and Kherson, as far as Perekop, and the connexion between the Putrid Sea and the Crimea on one side, and Southern Russia on the other, are shown at a glance.

Mr. Seymour has also kept closely to his subject, never venturing beyond its limits into larger surveys of Russia, except where it is needed to bring out the full importance of the Russian possessions under consideration, or to throw some light upon the deadly struggle now actually waging in the very countries that came under our author's ken. Thus we have a condensed but full account of the military force of Russia, acceptable, although rendered patent to some degree by the work of Haxthausen; a glance at her financial system, including an approximate estimate of the relation between her revenue and war expenditure; and some interesting speculations on the designs of Russia. Mr. Seymour has not failed to give us his estimate, rather a favourable one, of the Russian character; and on this subject his words are remarkable:—

I have lived among the Russians, and I have learnt to respect them as a strong, earnest, unprejudiced people, with a great principle of growth in them, and who will work out the defects of their character and become some day an honour to civilisation. They were the only nation in the world, I believe, with whom we had never been at war. None can regret more deeply than I do that we have been obliged now to try their mettle.

Indeed, Mr. Seymour considers that the Russians are naturally a peaceful commercial people; by no means a martial people, loving war for its own sake. But at the same time he admits that they are capable of military exertions for given objects—that, in fact, “theirs is the patient, enduring, indomitable courage which will face any dangers to compass certain ends.” In another part of his volume he points out that the cardinal point in the politics of Russia is to advance, in due time, her empire to Constantinople and Athens. Whence are derived the men who, with their swords, are to perform this great achievement?—

The army, the great instrument of Russian aggression, draws the main body of its recruits from the thirty-four millions of Great Russians who form a compact body round Moscow. This population is of pure Slave blood, and forms the heart and core of the Russian Empire. They give the tone to all the other populations, are superior to them in energy and grandeur of character, as well as numbers, and stand with relation to Russia much as the inhabitants of Britain do to the other nations of the British Empire.

And what do the Slaves believe? If we may take Mr. Seymour's word as evidence of their national belief, which agrees wonderfully with some speculators of our own country, “the whole nation, from the highest to the lowest, have a vague but deep-seated notion, that some future glories are in store for the Slavonic name, and they will always approve their Czar when they think that he is following out the destiny of the nation.” We may guess from this the effect of those appeals to Holy Russia, made so solemnly and constantly by the late and present Emperor. Indeed, the mighty designs of Peter the Great, who raised up and fostered with such care a new nation, have all the characteristics of youth, when ambition is boundless, when territorial extension, by the aid of the sword, presents irresistible fascinations, and when the founder of a new empire is insensible to all other glories. Peter's descendants have succeeded in filling the heart of the people with the passions of their kings, and Europe has been called to arms to arrest the progress of the hordes of the modern Atillas, and to carry destruction into their strongholds. The question, indeed, recurs to the philosophic-minded speculators who believe in the advent of Slavism, Is it not too late? Has not Russia made too much progress towards the Sound in the Baltic; towards Germany by turning Poland into a fortress; towards India by the Caspian; towards Asia Minor by the passes of Mount Ararat; towards Athens and Constantinople by the Crimea? For our parts, frankly admitting the extremity of the danger, we think it is late, but not too late. Russia is weak in men, weak in money, vulnerable in various parts of her huge body, and in no place more vulnerable than in the Crimea and the Caucasus. Strong in Poland, strong in Finland, strong beyond the Niemen and the Dnieper, she is weak in that precise part where it has been decreed that her preponderance must cease—the shores of the Black Sea; and no one can contend that her dominion south of the Caucasus could endure any determined assault from the Western Powers. It is for us, then, to persevere; and reap the harvest we have so painfully sowed.

With regard to the finances of Russia in relation to her army, Mr. Seymour's remarks, founded chiefly on the calculations of MM. Tegoborski and Léon Faucher, may be acceptable. After remarking that since 1840 1,350,000 men have disappeared through the agency of the Russian army, he continues:—

This enormous sacrifice of men to the military system is very severely felt, and must have gone far to neutralise any increase of the population of late years. Haxthausen says, “These oukases for levying the conscriptions always spread mourning and consternation. The nobility suffers great losses. The Scheremeteff, the Demidoff, and the Orloffs, are often obliged to furnish several hundred recruits. Families lose their best workmen, and their fathers and their brothers; for the number of bad characters, who possess the physical qualities necessary to enter the service, is not enough to realise the number of troops demanded by the Emperor.”

Now as to the expense of the Russian soldier to the state. It will be seen from the following passage that M. Tegoborski, the mouthpiece of the Russian Government on statistical subjects, estimates it at a very low figure. He says, “the military budget of Russia for 1854, for an effective of from 800,000 to 900,000 men, was estimated at 84,200,000 silver roubles, and that of the navy at 14,400,000 silver roubles, or nearly 16,000,000. altogether, which would give an average of 100 roubles, or 16l. per head per annum, for the maintenance of the troops. Admitting that the effective of the army was carried to 1,250,000 men in the year 1855, which would suppose an augmentation of 450,000 men, or 50 per cent., and adding to the military budget of 84,200,000 silver roubles, in a round sum 50,000,000 silver roubles, or 8,000,000l., the whole military budget of Russia for the year 1855 would then only amount to about 24,000,000l.”

In calculating the means of Russia to pay this sum, we do not know the exact amount of the Russian revenue beyond the year 1853, when, according to M. Tegoborski, it amounted to 37,884,660l. But the Russian revenue in the year 1839, which is the only other year he gives, is stated to be upwards of one-third less, so that in the last fifteen years there is stated to have been the enormous increase of 86 per cent. without the levying of any new taxes. As the accounts of the Russian revenue are not published, we cannot place implicit reliance on a mere statement of results by an interested party. But we all know that estimates are generally much below the real expense, and it is probable that the military budget, considering the enormous expenses of the transport of stores and materials, and the movement of troops, and the losses which have been sustained, must be nearly the double of M. Tegoborski's

calculation, or, let us say at least 40,000,000l. instead of 24,000,000l. On the other hand, considering the great injury to the peasants from the increased number of recruits and their own forced services for transport, and an acknowledged diminution of 20 per cent. in the exports and imports, which will be much greater next year if an efficient blockade be kept up, shall we be wrong in considering the Russian realised revenue of 1854 as very much below that of 1853?

M. Tegoborski calculates the diminution of the revenue in 1854 at about 2,000,000l. from the falling off of the customs duties alone. It is probable, therefore, that the revenue of the country, during the past year, will not have even sufficed by several millions to pay the expenses of the army and navy alone, while, besides these expenses, there is the interest of the debt and the expenditure of the civil government to be met, which is reckoned at about 8,000,000l. Thus it may be fairly supposed that Russia will want at least 48,000,000l. to cover the expenses of the year 1854, which is eleven millions more than the total amount of her revenue during the last year of peace, 1853. Her credit in Europe is indeed, pretty good, but it is notorious that she depends upon foreign capital for the cultivation of her soil. The precious metals have almost disappeared from the empire: paper alone is seen there; and if we press her hard during the next six months she must be reduced to very great straits. . . . When we look at the Russian forces now assembled in the Caucasus, the Crimea, and the German and Baltic frontiers, we see the whole of the Russian army, including its reserves, which cannot be easily augmented. Each man that falls now becomes of great importance to the Emperor; for the conscription is becoming more and more difficult, and bearing with increased severity upon all the interests of the empire. The age at which conscripts are taken is now raised to thirty-seven; and the sons of aged or widowed parents, who have hitherto been exempted, are to serve, and be formed into separate corps. I believe that in the manufacturing establishments in Russia as many as 25 per cent. of the workmen have lately been carried off for the conscription.

The difficulties of Russia are increasing every day; and it is hardly possible for her to carry on the war for another six months, if with our change of Ministry we likewise have a change of system, and if at home and in the Crimea our superior officials, both military and civil, have anything like that intelligence, activity, intrepidity, and single-minded love of their country displayed by the common soldiers and regimental officers of our army, who have hitherto been the only bulwarks to save us from national disgrace.

The reader will find two chapters at the end of this volume of peculiar interest, one on the Sea of Azof, the other on its commerce. They show pretty conclusively two things, that the troops in the Crimea did largely depend for supplies on this important waterway; and that the Russians have a natural aptitude for commerce and a natural tendency to Free-trade. It is the jealous policy of the Government, jealous of Western ideas, that restricts Russian commerce, and the military organisation of the whole empire that enables the Czar to pervert the tendency of his people from the paths of trade and industrial development into the bloody career of aggression.

LETTERS OF SYDNEY SMITH.

Memoir of the Rev. Sydney Smith. With a Selection from his Letters. Edited by Mrs. Austin. 2 vols. Longman and Co.

THE second volume of this entertaining work is devoted to a selection from Sydney Smith's letters, edited, we regret to say, in the most careless, do-nothing style imaginable, by Mrs. Austin. As there is every probability of a second edition being called for, let us not omit some of the remonstrance which the editing, or no editing, of the Letters, wrings from us. Mrs. Austin has confined her labours apparently to selection, and to striking out names (often with most superfluous fastidiousness, but the fault is on the right side). As many of the letters are undated, the editor has had to guess at the dates, and such rough guess-work, such precipitation in deciding, we do not remember elsewhere; the most careless reader, instructed solely by the contents of the letters, is painfully aware of the want of attention which has presided over the distribution. Still more provoking is the want of elucidative notes. To mention an example: Sydney Smith writes about “Scott's new novel,” and gives his opinion, or the opinion of Holland House, thereon. If this opinion be of any interest, it is necessary we should know what novel is spoken of. Mrs. Austin never takes the trouble of referring to Lockhart's *Life* to ascertain by dates the novels in question; yet surely this, not a laborious, is a very necessary part of editorial care.

Having thus discharged our duty, let us turn now to our pleasure, namely, the selection of some charming extracts from these Letters, which complete, by confirming, the character of the man given in the Memoir. They are of no worth except as throwing light on his character, and as containing some delightful pleasantry thrown off in his easy sportive style. They show him to be a perfect gentleman: candid, high-minded, truthful, independent, loving; a man whose friends are mostly aristocratic, but whose commerce with the aristocracy, unlike that of Moore and other favourites, is never purchased by the slightest sacrifice of manly dignity. He gives earls, barons, and countesses their due social recognition, but he treats them as an equal, and they treat him as such. The early letters are mainly about the *Edinburgh Review* and Reviewers—pleasant glimpses of that circle, with characteristic touches thrown in, such as that about Horner: “So extremely serious about the human race, that I am forced to compose my face half a street off before I meet him.” Or this:—

I have let my house at Thames Ditton very well, and sold the gentleman my wine and poultry. I attribute my success in these matters to having read half a volume of Adam Smith early in the summer, and to hints that have dropped from Homer, in his playful moods, upon the subject of sale and barter.

Or this:—

Horner is a very happy man; his worth and talents are acknowledged by the world at a more early period than those of any independent and upright man I ever remember. He verifies an observation I have often made, that the world do not dislike originality, liberality, and independence so much as the *insulting arrogance* with which they are almost always accompanied. Now, Horner pleases the best judges, and does not offend the worst.

And this beautiful tribute to his friend removed by death:—

I say nothing of the great and miserable loss we have all sustained. He will always live in our recollection; and it will be useful to us all, in the great occasions of life, to reflect how Horner would act and think in them, if God had prolonged his life.

This is capital;—

— is here, and will certainly settle in Scotland next winter. She is, for a woman, well informed and very liberal: neither is she at all disagreeable; but the information of very plain women is so inconsiderable, that I agree with you in setting no very great store by it. I am no great physiognomist, nor have I much confidence in a science which pretends to discover the inside from the out: but where I have seen fine eyes, a beautiful complexion, grace and symmetry, in women, I have generally thought them amazingly well-informed and extremely philosophical. In contrary instances, seldom or ever. Is there any accounting for this?

Amusing it is to read in Macaulay how, under Charles and James, the war was managed or mismanaged in precisely the same style as now under Victoria and a Reformed Parliament; the same thing meets us in Sydney Smith's lamentations:—

Many people are now quite certain Buonaparte is an instrument, etc. It turns out, however, that the instrument has been baking biscuit very diligently at Bayonne for three months past, and therefore does not disdain the assistance of human means. We (who probably are not instruments) act as if we were. We send horses that cannot draw, commissaries who cannot feed an army, generals who cannot command one. We take our enemy out of a place where he can do us no harm, and land him safely in the very spot where he can do us the greatest mischief. We are quite convinced that Providence has resolved upon our destruction, because Lord Mulgrave and Lord Castlereagh have neither sense nor activity enough to secure our safety.

Elsewhere he says, anticipating the *Times*, "Linendrapers and shoemakers might, perhaps, save Spain—in the hands of dukes and bishops it is infallibly gone." And to Lord Grey he writes:—

There is no man who thinks better of what you and your coadjutors can and will do; but I cannot help looking upon it as a most melancholy proof of the miserable state of this country, when men of integrity and ability are employed. If it were possible to have gone on without them, I am sure they would never have been thought of.

Is there, then, no difference betwixt our state and that of our ancestors and fathers? As respects Administration and Routine, none; but as respects the Nation, there is this enormous difference, namely, that if we are mismanaged we know the fact to the full extent—and the knowledge is one step towards rectification.

As a country parson Sydney Smith had two rules:—

I have laid down two rules for the country: first not to smite the partridge; for if I fed the poor, and comforted the sick, and instructed the ignorant, yet I should be nothing worth, if I smote the partridge. If anything ever endangers the Church, it will be the strong propensity to shooting for which the clergy are remarkable. Ten thousand good shots dispersed over the country do more harm to the cause of religion than the arguments of Voltaire and Rousseau. The squire never reads, but is it possible he can believe that religion to be genuine whose ministers destroy his game?

Here is a bit on Scotch love-making:—

My dear Lady Holland,

I shall be extremely happy to see —, and will leave a note for him at the tavern where the mail stops, to say so. Nothing can exceed the dulness of this place: but he has been accustomed to live alone with his grandmother, which, though a highly moral life, is not an amusing one.

There are two Scotch ladies staying here with whom he will get acquainted, and to whom he may safely make love the ensuing winter; for love, though a very acute disorder in Andalusia, puts on a very chronic shape in these northern latitudes; for, first, the lover must prove *metaphorically* that he ought to succeed; and then, in the fifth or sixth year of courtship (or rather of argument) if the summer is tolerably warm, and oatmeal plenty, the fair one is won.

This is excellent:—

I mean to make some maxims, like Rochefoucauld, and to preserve them. My first is this:—After having lived half their lives respectably, many men get tired of honesty, and many women of propriety.

And this:—

Brougham seems to have made an excellent stand against the Lonsdales; and if Lord Thanet will back him again he will probably carry his point. The Tories here are by no means satisfied with —, who is subjected to vacillations between right and wrong. They want a man steadily base, who may be depended upon for want of principle. I think on these points Mr. — might satisfy any reasonable man; but they are exorbitant in their demands.

A playful description of the establishment of a landed baby is given in this letter:—

Dear Mrs. Meynell,

It will give me great pleasure to hear of your health and continued well-doing. I suspect the little boy will be christened Hugo, that being an ancient name in the Meynell family; and the mention of the little boy is an additional reason why you should write to me before he comes. You will never write after, for the infant of landed estate is so precious, that he would exhaust the sympathies, and fill up the life, of seven or eight mothers. The usual establishment for an eldest landed baby is two wet nurses, two ditto dry, two aunts, two physicians, two apothecaries; three female friends of the family, unmarried, advanced in life; and often, in the nursery, one clergyman, six flatterers, and a grandpapa! Less than this would not be decent.

Here is a humorous argument for Peace:—

My dear Lady Grey,

In seeing my handwriting again so soon, you will say that your attack upon me for my indisposition to letter-writing has been more successful than you wished it to be; but I cannot help saying a word about war.

For God's sake, do not drag me into another war! I am worn down and worn out with crusading and defending Europe, and protecting mankind; I must think a little of myself. I am sorry for the Spaniards—I am sorry for the Greeks—I deplore the fate of the Jews; the people of the Sandwich Islands are groaning under the most detestable tyranny; Bagdad is oppressed—I do not like the present state of the Delta—Thibet is not comfortable. Am I to fight for all these people? The world is bursting with sin and sorrow. Am I to be champion of the Decalogue, and to be eternally raising fleets and armies to make all men good and happy? We have just done saving Europe, and I am afraid the consequence will be, that we shall cut each other's throats. No war, dear Lady Grey!—no eloquence; but apathy, selfishness, common sense, arithmetic! I beseech you, secure Lord Grey's sword and pistols, as the housekeeper did Don Quixote's armour. If there is another war, life will not be worth having. I will go to war with the King of Denmark if he is impertinent to you, or does any injury to Howick; but for no other cause.

"May the vengeance of Heaven" overtake all the Legitimates of Verona! but, in the present state of rent and taxes, they must be left to the vengeance of Heaven. I

allow fighting in such a cause to be a luxury; but the business of a prudent, sensible man is to guard against luxury.

This parody is perfect:—

It struck me last night, as I was lying in bed, that Mackintosh, if he were to write on pepper, would thus describe it:—

"Pepper may philosophically be described as a dusty and highly-pulverised seed of an oriental fruit; an article rather of condiment than diet, which dispersed lightly over the surface of food with no other rule than the caprice of the consumer, communicates pleasure, rather than affords nutrition; and by adding a tropical flavour to the gross and succulent viands of the North, approximates the different regions of the earth, explains the objects of commerce, and justifies the industry of man."

The following is like Charles Lamb:—

My dear Lady Holland,

I have written to Maltby, and stated (in order to accumulate motives) that you are a considerable scholar, but shy, and must be pressed a good deal before you develop such-like knowledge; particularly, that you have peculiar opinions about the preterpluperfect tense; and this, I know, will bring him directly, for that tense has always occasioned him much uneasiness, though he has appeared to the world cheerful and serene.

This also:—

I think the Jews should be kept for the private tyranny and intolerance of the Bishops. Thirty thousand Jews!—it is but a small matter! Do not be too hard upon the Church!

An English spring gives him this happy illustration:—

We have had the mildest weather possible. A great part of the vegetable world is deceived, and beginning to blossom,—not merely foolish young plants without experience, but old plants that have been deceived before by premature springs; and for such, one has no pity. It is as if Lady — were to complain of being seduced and betrayed.

Here is a letter full of charming, easy humour:—

My dearest Child,

Few are the adventures of a Canon travelling gently over good roads to his benefice. In my way to Reading I had, for my companion, the Mayor of Bristol when I preached that sermon in favour of the Catholics. He recognised me, and we did very well together. I was terribly afraid that he would stop at the same inn, and that I should have the delight of his society for the evening; but he (thank God!) stopped at the Crown, as a loyal man, and I, as a rude one, went on to the Bear. Civil waiters, wax candles, and off again the next morning, with my friend and Sir W. W——, a very shrewd, clever, coarse, entertaining man, with whom I skirmished à l'aimable all the way to Bath. At Bath, candles still more waxen, and waiters still more profound. Being, since my travels, very much gallicised in my character, I ordered a pint of claret; I found it incomparably the best wine I ever tasted; it disappeared with a rapidity which surprises me even at this distance of time. The next morning in the coach by eight, with a handsome valetudinarian lady, upon whom the coach produced the same effect as a steam-packet would do. I proposed weak warm brandy and water; she thought, at first, it would produce inflammation of the stomach, but presently requested to have it warm and not weak, and she took it to the last drop, as I did the claret.

Quite in his own vein of banter is this on the Church:—

I see you are destroying the Scotch Church. I think we are a little more popular in England than we were. Before I form any opinion on Establishments, I should like to know the effects they produce on vegetables. Many of our clergy suppose that if there was no Church of England, cucumbers and celery would not grow; that mustard and cress could not be raised. If Establishments are connected so much with the great laws of nature, this makes all the difference; but I cannot believe it.

And these two notes:—

My dear Lady Ashburton,

On one day of the year, the Canons of St. Paul's divide a little money—an inadequate recompense for all the troubles and anxieties they undergo. This day is, unfortunately for me, that on which you have asked me (the 25th of March), when we all dine together, endeavouring to forget for a few moments, by the aid of meat and wine, the sorrows and persecutions of the Church. I am sure Lord Ashburton and yourself, and your son Francis, feel for us as you ought to do.

Dear Lady Ashburton,

Miss Mildmay told me yesterday that you had been looking about for a print of the Rev. Sydney Smith. Here he is—pray accept him. I said to the artist, "Whatever you do, preserve the orthodox look."

This note to the geologist suggests "thoughts beyond the reaches of— anatomy:—"

Dear Murchison,

Many thanks for your address, which I will diligently read. May there not be some one among the infinite worlds where men and women are all made of stone? Perhaps of Parian marble? How infinitely superior to flesh and blood! What a Paradise for you, to pass eternity with a greywacke woman!

We have thus run through the volume, picking out all the plums which will bear separation from the pudding; so that our readers may suppose themselves to have turned over a "marked copy." If they want more than we have given, they know where to find it.

RUSSIAN CONQUEST OF FINLAND.

Narrative of the Conquest of Finland by the Russians in the Years 1808-9. From an Unpublished Work by a Russian Officer of Rank. Edited by General Monteith, Madras Engineers. 1854.

THE reopening of the Baltic, the presence of an English fleet within sight of Sweaborg and the Spit of Orinbaum, the prospective interest that is created by the name of Finland, will be our apology for recurring at this date to an excellent book which was published last year, and which then escaped our notice. General Monteith did a good service to history in translating and publishing this Russian narrative; and for military students perhaps he did more than for the general reader. The conquest of Finland is a new chapter in military history, although there was nothing new in the event, an ordinary one in the history of Russia. The policy of that power towards her neighbours has this peculiarity—that she ever seizes a moment of weakness to strike at them, and in making terms is never guilty of the weakness of mercy. Russia touches weak powers on all her confines—powers, at least, that have weak places, which she takes care to improve—for Prussia is weak, because she is timid and money-loving; Austria weak, because she

rules not by political institutions, but by bayonets; and as to the other conterminous states of Russia, they are all bound up with the fate of Turkey, waiting their turn to be devoured bit by bit.

If this be so, how utterly vain and foolish is this new-fashioned doctrine of consideration for your enemy—an enemy that is sapping towards Germany—lying in wait for Denmark, cutting off Sweden in detail—the open, the avowed foe of Turkey, and not less of Persia—the only power capable, if any be capable, of carrying the double-headed eagle to the left bank of the Indus, and at least to the left bank of the Rhine—the only power, in short, that threatens to bring Europe under dominion, and to take Asia Minor as an appanage—why tenderness, consideration, for her? If this war be a just war, let us mete out full measure to the culprit; since we have caught him in the lap of conquest, let us clip his locks and bind him whensoever and wheresoever we find him; take material guarantees as he took Finland; and not make peace until we have in hand the actual stipulations we require.

The conquest of Finland was one of the results of the treaty of Tilsit. It was covenanted on the fatal raft that Alexander should take Finland and France the Danish fleet. Europe, with the exception of England, was at the feet of Napoleon, and wherever he could march legions there he dictated terms of peace. As Napoleon dealt with the powers of Germany, so Alexander dealt with the Scandinavian kings—he looked upon them as superior vassals; and further, as Alexander seized Finland, and Europe let her go by default, Gustavus, like Abdul Medjid, resisting all he could, so, had the Western Powers permitted, Nicholas would have taken the Principalities, and—kept them.

Having obtained leave from the master of those days, the Emperor of Russia was not long in finding a pretext—the ostensible ground of quarrel is of no consequence; and early in 1808 Count Buxhoevden was ordered to seize Finland as a material guarantee that Sweden would obey the behests of Alexander; but he was also ordered, as we have said, to keep the guarantee.

Spreading alarming reports of the magnitude of the army of invasion, reports that went before the columns and prepared the way for success, Count Buxhoevden assembled his troops in the river Kymen, while the ice yet covered the waters of the Gulf of Finland and the rivers and lakes of the country. The light infantry were provided with snow shoes, and the artillery were mounted on sledges. Two days before crossing the Kymen, Count Buxhoevden prepared a proclamation to the inhabitants and the army of Finland, in which we find England described as “the enemy of tranquillity and peace,” and the King of Sweden denounced to his own subjects as the ally of that enemy; for which reason, the Fins are informed the Emperor Alexander thinks it necessary to take their country under his protection, save it from the horrors of war, and obtain due satisfaction, unless Sweden should abandon England, and accept the alliance of France and Russia. “We do not come as enemies,” said the sentimental invader, “but as your friends and protectors, to render you more prosperous and happy, and to avert from you the calamities which, if war should become indispensable, must necessarily befall you.” Why, no power but Russia could invade Finland, and therefore no power but Russia inflict on her people the calamities of war.

Save us from our friends. The spectacle of Russia protecting the people of Finland from Russia, and taking credit for her magnanimity, is sublime in its way. In like manner the people are informed that their laws and customs shall not be altered; that their institutions shall remain unchanged; that everything consumed by the Russian soldiers shall be paid for, and the indigent supplied from the Russian magazines. Upon such pretexts the Russians crossed the Kymen on the 20th February, 1808. Count Buxhoevden, at first, proposed to enter Swedish territory without opposition, and in the character of guardian of her safety; but the Swedish outposts fired on his flag of truce—the first shot in the war. Lulled by a false security, the Swedish army was still in cantonments, the frontier simply guarded by a chain of weak posts, and nowhere that preparation for resistance which can alone spring from a knowledge of the extent of the danger incurred. The King of Sweden did not believe in a war of conquest in Finland—and from the Conservative Emperor of Russia too!—hence the rapid success of the policy of surprise.

On the 20th of February Count Buxhoevden was at Aberfors; on the 26th, fighting once or twice, but mainly proceeding by turning the strong positions of the Swedes on the ice, he had reached Borgo, one of the most ancient towns in Finland; while Prince Bagration, acting further inland, was already close upon Tavastheus, one of the great strategic positions of the country; the point of junction for many roads. Buxhoevden pressed onward, and by a rapid movement placed himself between Tavastheus and Helsingfors, seized the latter, surrounded Sweaborg, and still speeding onwards, was actually in possession of Tavastheus on the 6th of March—fourteen days after he began the campaign—and the Swedes had been driven backward along their whole line of defence. Why had the Russian general gained this unlooked-for result? Because he had taken his foe by surprise; because he had created the impression that he commanded troops in overwhelming numbers; and because the king interfered in the war. The orders of Gustavus were that Count Klingsporr, his general, should retire before the enemy, and not endanger the safety of Finland by risking a battle. This was all that the Russian could have wished, and to this may undoubtedly be traced his success. For if at first he was in superior numbers, he was soon actually inferior at the point of contact, and had Klingsporr stood and fought at Tavastheus, he might have regained communication with Sweaborg, recovered the great coast road to St. Petersburg, possibly have compelled the invader to retire from the country. But Klingsporr fought under the shadow of rigid instructions, framed in ignorance of the real state of affairs, and of a council of war. Defeat became inevitable. Tammerfors, on which he had at first retreated, was untenable, as a position; and he soon abandoned the south altogether, and took post in the north, halting not until he had passed Brahestadt, followed rapidly by the Russian columns. Here he turned upon his foe, fought and won the battle of Revolax, and inflicted severe losses; but the Russians by this time were in

possession of every place of importance in the south of Finland, and had already begun the siege of Sweaborg. It was upon this siege that so much depended, and as the whole operation was most remarkable in itself, the reader may like to read a Russian account of it.

This fortress is built upon five islands, or rather rocks, in the Gulf of Finland. Three of these islands, Wester-Swärtö, Lilla-Oster-Swärtö, and Stora-Oster-Swärtö, are situated in sight of the city of Helsingfors, and even within long range of cannon-shot. On that side they mask the island of Wargön, which is considered as the citadel of the place; Langörn is a detached fortress upon a sixth island, nearer the coast than the others; and Gustavswärd, at the opposite extremity, has a citadel which sweeps the channel from a triple row of batteries.

All these islands are bristling with cannon, and the works are principally constructed of granite, and for the most part as massive as the foundation on which they are built. It would serve no purpose to describe all these constructions, many of which have been raised without any definite plan, and are whimsical, defective, and useless; but which, as a whole, render the fortification a work of the first order. The sea by which it is surrounded serves instead of a ditch, and where in some places artificial ditches have been necessary, they are cut in the rock.

Wargön is almost entirely bomb-proof. Basins and spacious docks were constructed by Chappman and Tunberg, and these imperishable trophies of their genius surround the monument of the founder, Marshal Ehrenswärdt, who lies buried in the fort of Wargön. Sweaborg has cost Sweden immense sums of money, and the construction of the fortifications occupied half a century.

The defence of this place was entrusted to Admiral Count Cronstedt, a veteran officer of the Swedish navy. The garrison amounted to above 7000 men, partly Swedes, partly natives of Finland; 721 among them were seamen.

The numerical strength of the Russians employed on the siege varied greatly, according as the demand for troops elsewhere was more or less urgent.

At first it was hardly a third as considerable as the garrison, but it was gradually augmented.

In the beginning of March the besiegers had eleven battalions, four squadrons, four field-batteries, two companies of pioneers, and one of artillerymen, without guns to serve the batteries.

The heavy artillery was brought with extreme difficulty on sledges to Sweaborg from Russian Finland. It was successively posted on the Cape of Helsingfors, the island of Skandetlandet, and the surrounding rocks, by General Suchtelen, who directed the engineer department. During the whole time hostilities were carried on against Sweaborg, the number of artillery never exceeded forty-six pieces of cannon, of which sixteen were mortars.

The blockade was gradually straitened, according as the augmentation of the Russian force permitted them to draw it closer and closer round a fortress of that extent. The batteries could only be established by means of the most arduous labour; the only possible means of constructing them was upon fascines and stuffed gabions, which had but little weight or power of resistance, rendering it necessary the parapets should be of very considerable thickness. Earth and turf were alike wanting upon those barren rocks covered with deep snow; and besides the difficulty of establishing approaches, and breaching batteries upon the ice, the poverty of the Russians in artillery, in ammunition, in workmen, in tools, and even in soldiers, rendered it perfectly impossible to attempt to conduct the attack upon Sweaborg according to the regular rules of a siege. The possibility of taking it by storm was at one time discussed, but at last the commands of the Emperor Alexander and the dictates of sound reason prevailed. The Emperor's orders were, gradually to make the blockade closer and closer, according as their augmented means might permit, to bombard the place, and not to venture an assault except as a last resource.

The first shots were exchanged on the 23rd of February (6th of March), the occasion being a Russian battery on a rock in the middle of the harbour and between the fortress and the city of Helsingfors. A fire was opened by it upon some hundreds of labourers employed by the Swedish commandant to break up the ice before the points he considered the most accessible, and consequently the most exposed to danger. It was vigorously replied to, and the guns being pointed high, every shot told upon the houses in Helsingfors. The city was threatened with total destruction, and in order to avert it a flag of truce was despatched to Admiral Cronstedt, to represent to him the disasters to which he was exposing the inhabitants, most of whom had relations or friends among the garrison, and pointing out to him the danger it involved of reprisals on any Swedish cities that might be reached by the war. Cronstedt coldly replied that the destruction of Helsingfors was necessary for his own defence; however, after holding a consultation with his council, he changed his mind, and it was agreed on both sides not to construct any works in that direction, and to consider that point as neutral ground.

The Russians were therefore able to establish their magazines, their military hospitals, and their parks of artillery, at Helsingfors, with perfect safety. This city afforded the only shelter to be found in all that neighbourhood for the troops and the head-quarters.

All the surrounding heights were gradually becoming crowned with the Russian artillery, and these batteries fired almost at random upon the mills, the magazines, the sailors' huts, and the wooden buildings left exposed by the ramparts. Fires broke out several times during the ten days this cannonade continued. The number of projectiles thus thrown amounted to 1565, and the fortress fired in return 2477 shots.

Various parleys took place on different occasions, in the course of which General Suchtelen thought he observed that the moral vigour of some of the chiefs was hardly what might have been expected from the material strength with which the fortress was provided. His plans for accelerating the surrender of the place were based upon this hint; he considered that one means of success would lie in keeping up a constant anxiety and alarm among the garrison, composed of good troops, but who were little accustomed to war, and in fatiguing and harassing them by keeping them constantly on the alert. This system was carried out: constant alarms were raised, sometimes in the daytime, but much more often during the night. Sometimes it was a party of drums and riflemen; sometimes one or even two field-batteries would take advantage of the shelter of the rocks to creep along the ice, even within the range of grape-shot.

Colonel Argoum, of the artillery, distinguished himself particularly in these expeditions. He was a positive *réveilleur* to the garrison. He continually varied his stratagems, and the time and place where the attack would be made never could be foreseen.

A strong effect was produced by these means. The Russian generals very soon became aware that Admiral Cronstedt, accustomed to look at everything with the eye of a seaman, felt unnecessary anxiety about some points he considered too much exposed, as well as about some faults in the construction of his works, and also that he exhausted the strength of his people by keeping them incessantly at work without their being allowed sufficient rest. In fact, he appeared to regard Sweaborg in the light of a ship in danger of being boarded. He persuaded himself, and his opinion was shared by many of his officers, that the winter, by surrounding the fortress with a field of solid ice, deprived it of its principal strength, and that it would not be secure from a *coup de main*.

A great number of fugitives had taken refuge in Sweaborg at the commencement of the Russian invasion,—worse than useless for the defence of the place, but consuming the provisions. Admiral Cronstedt was sensible of the error he had committed in receiving them in the first instance, and he tried to rid himself of their presence: but the rigorous laws of war prevented the Russians from showing a courtesy which would have been misplaced under such circumstances, and the unfortunate population was repulsed by their advanced guard. The Swedish admiral nobly refused an offer that was made him, to allow his family alone to quit the invested fortress.

Under the veil of military politeness, the Russian officers took care to supply the Swedish admiral regularly with the newspapers and gazettes they received from the continent. At that time they were filled for the most part with disastrous accounts of everything in Sweden. The bulletins of the Russian army, the proclamations, the letters from families dispirited by the loss or absence of their heads,—everything that could tend to depress the spirits of the garrison, and that it was to the advantage of Russia should be believed and discussed in Sweaborg, was transmitted there daily, and received with the eager curiosity naturally felt by men cut off from all other intercourse with the rest of the world.

A personal acquaintance with some of the superior officers enabled the Russian generals more and more to appreciate the characters of those with whom they had to deal. Colonels who for twenty years had been assiduously occupied in the cultivation of their military farms,—subalterns who had never seen the face of war—a sort of rivalry between the Swedes and Finlanders—the number of women—the dissatisfaction of many—the prodigal consumption permitted by inexperience of the provisions, always so precious in a besieged place—the firm belief entertained of the superiority of the Russian forces; such were the principal elements of the perplexity and anxiety which distracted the minds of the admiral and his officers.

Nevertheless, the high reputation borne by Count Cronstedt for talent, valour, and honesty, as well as attachment to his king and country, had a great effect upon men's minds. It was of consequence thoroughly to understand the man himself, and an opportunity of conferring with him personally was taken every advantage of.

In the interviews that followed, it was easy to perceive that he secretly disapproved of the politics of his Government, and he considered Sweaborg as a precarious possession, and that he was full of anxiety for the safety of the flotilla, on board of which he had distinguished himself at the battles of Wiborg and Swenksund, and which an ill-fated shell might reduce to ashes. He could not conceal his apprehensions concerning the alliance with England; and it must be confessed, the events at Copenhagen might warrant a distrust of their good faith towards any naval power. As a seaman, he was embarrassed by the defence of immovable walls; as a man, and the father of a family, his heart appeared to bleed for the sufferings of those dear to him.

Doubt and hesitation are great faults in war, and it rarely happens that they do not lead to the most fatal results.

Count Cronstedt was naturally of an anxious disposition; it is a sort of moral malady, from which neither courage nor even probity itself can preserve those who are not endowed with due energy of mind. Placed in a difficult situation, where he was abandoned to distrust of himself, without any one beside him on whose opinion he could rely, his feelings of uncertainty and want of confidence in his resources could not fail to become contagious. His high position had been given him by the King, and confirmed by the general respect in which he was held, and which he had well earned during a long and honourable career; his very reputation made it impossible the irresolution he evinced should fail to paralyse the energy of his subordinates—and,

“The fortress that deliberates is lost.”

Count Cronstedt was too fond of calling together his council; a middle course is too frequently the consequence of such assemblies: on the present occasion they considered it a great stroke of policy if they could contrive to gain time, to preserve the fleet, to save their honour, and not to run any risk at present.

It was agreed that unless the fortress were succoured in a month it should be given up. Of course it was not succoured, and the inestimable prize fell into the hands of the enemy.

The capture of Sweaborg entirely altered the conditions of the war, and vastly augmented the resources of the Russian army; but it did not necessarily decide the fate of the campaign. The Swedish general, as summer came, seemed to revive; and although now really inferior in number, by acting with resolution, well sustained by partisan corps, he gained considerable successes, and forced back the Russians upon the whole line of their advance northwards. Gustavus himself, having quarrelled with Sir John Moore, and thus lost 10,000 English troops to the defence of Sweden, undertook a direct control over the war in Finland. The open sea, the presence of an English fleet under Hood and De Saumarez, the facility for landing the troops at any point, and, with sufficient activity, of intercepting the Russian supplies sent by sea, were advantages which an able general would have turned with the utmost force against the enemy. But Gustavus was fickle; a good soldier, but no general, he followed no plan, scarcely adhered to any resolution for forty-eight hours, and thus constantly placed his troops in the power of the enemy. When winter reappeared, notwithstanding a really heroic defence and several brilliant actions, the Swedes were driven back as far north as Tornea. During the winter the Russians not only regained possession of the Aland Islands, they actually crossed the Gulf of Bothnia on the ice, under Koulneff and Barclay de Tolly, and “conquered a peace on the soil of Sweden.” The march of Tolly across the Gulf is very well described by our author:—

After a toilsome and difficult march the Russians reached a group of rocks on the 7th (19th) of March, and bivouacked there that night. The next day the guides lost their way in the midst of the frightful masses of ice and snow, confusedly heaped together by the storms of the winter. They appeared bewildered by the desolate appearance of everything around them, and were unable to find the stakes placed at distances, in the manner of landmarks, to direct the march of the troops, by the officers who had been sent beforehand to reconnoitre; and before long they had to depend upon the compass as their only sure guide. The sledges were continually stopped by wide chasms, either requiring to be crossed like rivers, or rendering so great a *détour* necessary, that there was the greatest danger of their being entirely lost in those trackless wastes. The horses stumbled and lamed themselves on the ice; the infantry was exhausted with the labour of walking; and, although every moment of time was precious, General Barclay was continually obliged to halt and allow his men to rest. The weather was intensely cold, but the air was still; had it been otherwise, had a snow-drift come on, a common occurrence in these regions, it must infallibly have proved fatal, and the troops and their brave commander must alike have perished.

But in the meantime a revolution at Stockholm had dethroned Gustavus, and a party had come into power, ready to purchase a peace by yielding up Finland. And thus, partly by fraud, partly by superior numbers, Russia, taking advantage of a critical moment in the history of Europe, and of a

temporary agreement with Napoleon, acquired possession of Finland. It is one of the most instructive lessons read to modern Europe, and should be intently studied not only by those who may have to direct operations against Sweaborg, recover Finland, and perhaps carve out a way to St. Petersburg itself, but by those who ask us to make peace upon easy, upon evasive, upon shameful terms, and to make that peace with the only power that, now-a-days represents a barbarous antagonism to modern civilisation.

FOUR STORY-BOOKS.

Fairy Tales. By the Countess d'Aulnoy. Translated by J. R. Planché. Routledge.
Brittany and La Vendée. Tales and Sketches. By Emile Souvestre. Constable and Co.

Stories from a Screen. By Dudley Costello. Bradbury and Evans.
Aspen Court. A Story of Our Own Time. By Shirley Brooks. Bentley.

WITH all possible respect for the modern authors on our list this week, we must claim permission to give the place of honour to a writer of the by-gone time, and to offer our first and heartiest welcome to the *Fairy Tales* of the Countess d'Aulnoy. We leave it to more elaborate critics to discover the defects in these charming stories—to suggest, no doubt truly enough, that they betray, here and there, traces of the formalities and pomposities, the elegant artifice and courtly mock-prudery of the time when they were written—the age of Louis the Fourteenth. Our own experience of the book leaves us nothing to record but the delight of having read it—of having renewed our familiarity, in the case of some of the stories, with the old friends of many a happy hour, and of having, in other instances, become acquainted with new Tales which have enabled us to catch fresh glimpses at the pleasant Fairy Land. The playful fancy, the charming grace, the elegant invention which these stories exhibit, the good lessons of humanity and loving-kindness which they so delicately teach, fit them to be treasured library-companions for readers of all ages and all ranks. We pity the hard-headed people who have no hearts to open to them; we rejoice, in the name of all the genial men, women, and children in England, on their present appearance in public; and we thank Mr. Planché most gratefully for having collected them in their present form. All listeners to fairy stories at the Theatre have owed him many and deep obligations for years and years past—all readers of fairy stories at home will owe him, for the future, a happy debt of gratitude for the work which he has now produced. He has translated the *Fairy Tales* faithfully, elegantly, and completely; has published them in a single volume, very nicely illustrated and got up; and has enabled his readers, by a preliminary sketch, to know something of the life and character of the original writer of the stories. With these recommendations he and the Countess of Aulnoy must make their way delightfully everywhere; and we leave them with our best wishes to attain their well-merited success.

The stories of Brittany by that good man and good writer, the late Emile Souvestre, form an excellent addition to “Constable's Miscellany of Foreign Literature.” The chief merit of these tales consists in the skill and picturesque vigour with which extraordinary events and superstitions peculiar to certain places are worked into the body of each story, and made to form the main basis of its interest. Thus the breaking up of the ice on the Loire, and the tremendous consequences which it brings with it to the population engaged in the river trade, produce the catastrophe of the first story in the collection. And, again, in “The White Boat,” the introduction of a strange and striking local superstition makes a pretty domestic story lay the strongest hold on the reader's imagination, by the most legitimate and impressive means. Tales written on this plan have an interest of their own, which every one must recognise. With singular dramatic power in producing his effects (as the painter would say), Souvestre is sometimes a little tedious in the arrangement of his preliminary details. But he has, to compensate for this defect, a tenderness of feeling which is very rare among modern French writers. There are passages of real artless pathos in the painful but very beautiful story of “The Lazaretto Keeper,” passages which place the writer almost alone among his contemporaries in his own nation. Persons who are violently prejudiced against modern French literature (and there are far too many of them in England), may take up this volume with perfect confidence. Its moral tone is unexceptionably and thoroughly pure, from the first page to the last.

Mr. Dudley Costello understands one great necessity of his vocation as a writer of stories—the necessity of being various in his choice of subject. The handsome volume which he has just published contains fourteen tales, which appeal to all sorts of tastes in matters of fiction. People who like historical stories will find him ready for them with “The Fate of Jobst of Rudenz,” and “The Chocolate of Chiapa.” People who are all for modern times and light comedy (to say nothing of a touch of farce now and then) may apply themselves confidently to “Advertising for a Wife,” “A Love Shift,” and “A Portsmouth Pic-nic;” and people of the “morbid” sort (ourselves among others), who like to feel their flesh creep and their hair stand on end over a really terrible ghost-story, may find one of the most appalling kind in Mr. Costello's collection. We especially congratulate the author on the manner in which he has told the tale of the “Haunted House in Yorkshire.” Great part of the effect of the story on the reader's mind is derived from the simple, quiet, and skilfully subdued tone in which it is related. It is something to make a critic (whose business is never to feel any emotions) shiver in his awful chair of judgment, and start when his lamp begins to sputter, at the dying shadows which it casts upon his grim study-walls. This effect Mr. Costello certainly produced in our own case. We always believed in ghosts, and he has fortified us in our dread convictions. He hints, we observe in the introduction to his stories, that if the present collection should prove acceptable, we may expect another series of tales, suggested like those now before us by the odd varieties of prints stuck upon an old screen. We cordially wish him, at parting, such a reception from the reading world as may soon justify the publication of a second volume.

Mr. Shirley Brooks's novel, *Aspen Court*, has already appealed successfully to the public in the pages of *Bentley's Miscellany*. We are glad to

have an opportunity of now announcing its republication in the orthodox three volume form. The principal merit of the book, in our estimation, is the cleverness of some of its sketches of society. Mr. Brooks touches a great variety of characters with a light hand. He sees readily, discriminates clearly, and possesses generally that first great knowledge—the knowing when he has done enough. His present defects as a novelist seem to us to be principally caused by haste. Passages of *Aspen Court* read as if the author had hardly had time enough to mature his subject before he wrote on it. On the other hand, it is only fair to say that this very haste seems often to have dashed off most felicitously in one sentence a thought which inferior novelists would have cumbrously drawn out to the length of a whole page. The tone of the story throughout is manly and straightforward. We feel that the author honestly speaks what he really thinks; and that good quality of itself will go a great way towards winning him the confidence and esteem of his readers.

The Arts.

SIGNOR MONTI ON CHRISTIAN ART.

SIGNOR MONTI having in the preceding Lecture brought down his examination of the Greco-Roman Sculpture to its total decadence at the time of Constantine, entered in his Fifth Lecture into a criticism on the application of that art to the purposes of the new religion which was then being established.

The Lecturer pointed out the spiritual character of this creed of charity, faith, hope, and dwelt on the moral advantages it conferred on humanity at large, and the inevitable changes it would not fail to work upon the art of sculpture, when brought to express the new ideas, and their noble aspirations.

The first symptoms of such changes were illustrated by the Lecturer, with diagrams of early Christian works from Rome, in which the Pagan materialism of forms is almost entirely subdued, and a tendency to mystic symbolism is obviously displayed. The practical treatment of those works showed, however, either the hand of an art in its decadence, or the weak and still copying efforts of a new school.

More decided modifications in the Christian art at Byzantium were also illustrated by the Lecturer, who showed that the subsequent dispersion of Greek artists, in consequence of the predominance of Iconoclastic doctrines, spread a knowledge and love of sculpture amongst the western nations, and affected also the efforts of Christian Art in Central Italy.

The Lecturer then traced out the influence which the prevailing element of the Germanic nations has exercised over Byzantine Art itself—exemplifying his assertions by diagrams from works of different countries, such as France, England, Germany, Italy, &c.

This influence tended to abrogate the decorative display and meaningless hieratic forms of the Byzantine school, and substituted for them the more sublime expression of the inward soul, under a simplicity of exterior that added to the importance of sculpture.

The last part of the reading was intended to show the final traces of this Germanic influence in the art of the fourteenth, and the beginning of the fifteenth centuries in Italy, and to prepare thus for the subject of the concluding lecture, the progress of sculpture from that period down to the present day.

THE THEATRES.—“HELPING HANDS.”

THE acting success of Mr. TOM TAYLOR's drama, *Helping Hands*, at the ADELPHI, is, we think, more attributable to the comic than to the serious interest of the piece. The passion of the old man for his violin is in itself not

half so far-fetched and unreal as some critics have supposed: it is eccentric, in doubt, but like many eccentricities, perfectly natural, and susceptible of highly pathetic manifestation. It does not require an audience of RODES, and PACANINIS, and BAILLOTS, and KREUTZERS, to sympathise with the twin-like affection of the musician for his barbiton. Sir EDWARD BULWER LYTTON has given us a very touching picture of the same fond weakness in the first chapters of “Zanoni.” Mr. TOM TAYLOR has elaborated the idea with a finish and refinement almost beyond the perceptions of the audience in the Strand, and the snatches of German gutturals which Mr. WEBSTER delivers with all the unction of a man familiar with sour krout from his childhood, rather puzzle than amuse the pit. But there is abundance of wit, feeling, and ingenuity in the play, and the acting of Mr. WEBSTER is a very careful and elaborate study, indicating a nice sense of art in the actor. But KEELEY, as a sort of ragged schoolboy, and Mrs. KEELEY, as a sort of servant-of-all-work, are unsurpassably true, and irresistibly funny, and to the ADELPHI audience perhaps they constitute the zest of the performance.

THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL AT THE OLYMPIC.

THE difficulty of getting a good “cast” for a comedy of manners cannot be denied. It is a favourite truism with those impartial judges of modern acting who boast that they never go the theatre—having retired from that business on a competency of unqualified belief in the merits of a departed school. To such critics we say, Go to the OLYMPIC any night that the *School for Scandal* is performed, and then write us a description, from the highest point of view which the strict dramatic rules of the last half-century may afford, of the *Joseph Surface* represented by Mr. WIGAN.

Our oldest recollection of the stage enables us to tell off a long list of *Joseph Surfaces*, differing in nothing but the names of individual actors in that extensive walk of the profession, which is called, we believe, the “heavy business.” Mr. WIGAN—we were about to say, teaches the actors of such parts how to act them. Unfortunately that is beyond his power. The “fascinating villain” is ordinarily represented by some worthy mediocrity who has, at the utmost, one expression at his command—that of open, unmistakable baseness. We do not say that Mr. WIGAN so thoroughly conceals the real nature of *Joseph Surface* as to deceive the audience; but he makes it appear not only probable but certain that such a nature would have precisely the influence necessary to the attainment of that stage of success where the moral *Joseph* breaks down.

The *Lady Teazle* of Mrs. STIRLING, is a well-known piece of comedy. Not so the *Mrs. Condour* of Mrs. ALFRED WIGAN, nor the *Sir Peter* of Mr. EMERY, nor the *Moses* of Mr. ROBSON. The parts and the actors are as well suited as we could reasonably desire; Mrs. WIGAN confirming our belief that she is an actress whose full power has yet to be acknowledged; while Mr. EMERY subdues with great skill a natural roughness which is more useful to him in other characters than that of *Sir Peter Teazle*; and Mr. ROBSON throws everyone into a state of unbounded delight, by doing as little as the actor of a little part, if he be a great actor, knows how to do.

THE OPERA.

Don Pasquale was given at the OPERA on Thursday with the original cast—LABLACHE, TAMBURINI, GRISI, and MARIO—and a finer *Ensemble* is impossible. Mademoiselle JENNY NEY appeared for the last time in the *Trovatore* last evening, but we believe Mademoiselle BOSIO has studied the part of *Leonora*, and it is to be hoped that we shall hear more of the *Trovatore*, for an evening of vocal music and of natural emotion is to be valued in these latter days of “the lyric drama.” We are glad to hear that the rehearsals of the *Etoile du Nord* continue steadily, and that the cast of the opera, and all the stage preparations have given great satisfaction to MEYERBEER, a somewhat exacting judge. MEYERBEER, by the by, is one of the lions just now. He has been to the palace, quite in a friendly way, and at Mr. ELLA's last matinée, the composer of the *Huguenots* sat between—the BISHOP OF LONDON and the ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS, appointed to consider Earl Shaftesbury's bill for the limitation of the hours of labour amongst needlewomen, report that it is inexpedient to proceed with the consideration of the measure.

THE WEST INDIES.—By the last mail from the West Indies we learn that Jamaica has been visited with very heavy rains, which had done great injury to the sugar crops. Porto Rico had been visited with the yellow fever, and twelve per cent. of the troops had been attacked. The same disease is also rampant amongst the shipping at St. Thomas. The state of siege at Cuba has been raised, and the blockade removed from the coasts, all fears of a piratical invasion having ceased.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

HEYWOOD.—June 26, at 5, Eaton-place, the wife of James Heywood, Esq., M.P.; a daughter.
KIRWAN.—June 22, at the Vicarage, Wootton Wawen, Warwickshire, Mrs. Edward Kirwan; a son. [This is the first child that has been born at Wootton Wawen Vicarage for upwards of a hundred years.]
LONGMAN.—June 27, at Chorleywood, Herts, the wife of William Longman, Esq.; a daughter.
RICHARDS.—June 25, at 4, Torrington-street, Russell-square, the wife of Brinley Richards, Esq.; a son.

MARRIAGES.

BURROUGHS.—OLINTON.—June 21, at Hertingfordbury, Herts, Henry Negus Burroughs, R.N., eldest surviving son of H. N. Burroughs, Esq., M.P., of Burlington Hall, Norfolk, to Ida, youngest daughter of the late Henry Fynes Clinton, Esq., of Welwyn, Herts.
MONT-JUSTIN.—DE LUSIGNAN.—June 23, at the French Catholic Chapel, King-street, and afterwards at St. Mary-lebone Church, Le Vicomte d'Equivalley de Mont-Justin, to Mary, widow of Henri de Lusignan, formerly of Sierra Leone.
PARRY.—ENGLAND.—June 23, at Walcot Church, Bath, Richard Parry, Esq., late Royal Scots Greys, son of the late Edward Parry, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, to Louisa, daughter of Lieutenant-General Sir Richard England, K.C.B., &c.
PIXLEY.—ROBERTS.—May 1, at St. Stephen's Church, Dum Dum, near Calcutta, Arthur Watt Pixley, Esq., Lieutenant and Adjutant 9th Battalion Bengal Artillery, to Alice Frances, third daughter of the late Major Rodrick Roberts, of the Bengal Artillery.

DEATHS.

BARRETT.—June 18, at 50, Herbert-street, New North-road, Mr. William Francis Barrett, aged 26, after a lingering illness, induced by excessive application to business.
June 19, at the same place, Mrs. Sarah Barrett, aged 63, from the shock occasioned by the death of her son.
CARTER.—May 2, killed whilst on duty in the trenches before Sebastopol, Lieut. J. H. S. Carter, Royal Engineers, aged 21, eldest son of Rear-Admiral Carter.
FORSTER.—June 7, in action before Sebastopol, aged 32, Captain John Burton Forster, 62nd Foot, youngest son of the late Colonel Thomas Watkin Forster, formerly of the 24th Foot, of the Manor House, Holt, Wilts.
SIMPSON.—May 31, before Sebastopol, of intermittent fever, Walter Simpson, Esq., M.D., of the 17th Regiment of Foot.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, June 26.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—THOMAS RICHARDS, Riches-court, Lime-street, dealer in wood.
BANKRUPTS.—HENRY LOCKEY EDRIDGE, Monmouth-road, Bayswater, builder—WILLIAM EPWORTH TUKE, Mark-lane, wine broker—DANIEL GOLDING, Isleham, Cambridgeshire, butcher—FREDERICK DIVERS, Great Boll-alley, Bridge-street, licensed victualler—ROBERT MARTIN and DAVID WARDLAW SCOTT, Great St. Helen's, merchants—FRANCIS EDWARD TUCKER, late of Cophall-buildings, and Hornchurch, Essex, commission agent—RICHARD KIRKMAN LANE, Argyll-street, Regent-street, and Union-crescent, Wandsworth-road, bill broker—SAMUEL THRAVES and WILLIAM HARRISON, Nottingham, upholsterers—GEORGE BUTLER PONTING, Devizes, innkeeper—WILLIAM JONES, Brecon, builder—THOMAS ROBERTS, Llanstephan, Carmarthenshire, and Newport, Monmouthshire, builder—WILLIAM BRIDGEWATER, Cheltenham, coal merchant—JOHN WARBURTON, Sheffield, edge-tool manufacturer—GEORGE NORMAN BULT, Tiverton, druggist—JOHN BENTLEY CARR, Ashton-under-Lyne, brewer.
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. FORBES, Old Meldrum, druggist—D. M'RAE, Perth, surgeon-dentist—R. JACKSON, Glasgow, bookseller—W. M'KAY, Rogart, Sutherlandshire, merchant.

Friday, June 29.

JAMES BURFORD the elder, and JAMES BURFORD the younger, builders, Saint Neots, Huntingdonshire—JOHN STEVENSON, innkeeper, Barham, Suffolk—JOHN HOWICK, furnishing ironmonger, Blackfriars-road—WILLIAM DINWOODIE, draper, Gray's-in-road—HENRY BEAUVOISIN, fle chemist, Newton Heath—THOMAS KENYON, manufacturing tanner, Ruyton, Salop—HARRIETT SWINDELL, wine merchant, Ashbourne, Derbyshire—BAILEY SHERWOOD and NEWMAN SHERWOOD, builders and contractors—ARTHUR

EDWARD TROWSE coach and type smith and spring maker Holborn—ISAAC BROWN, licensed victualler, Tooley-square—ROBERT DENT, builder, Atherstone, Warwickshire—GEORGE EDWARDS, innkeeper, Old Swinford, Worcester-shire—HERBERT ROOM, metallic bedstead manufacturer Birmingham.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, June 29, 1855.

CONSOLS are still high, despite of a strong Bull account, and the absence of any very brilliant news. Cholera in the Crimea seems to be claiming its victims, not only amongst the rank and file, but among the staff and field officers. There have been rumours current during the week of differences between the two Governments, concerning angry messages from the Crimea on the part of the two commanding officers. Again, a sinister report found its way this morning, to the effect that Lord Raglan is dead, or has resigned, owing to ill health. The late Emperor of Russia was said to have trusted to Generals January and February doing his work, after their icy fashion. His successor may hope for Generals July and August to do their part, and thin the muster roll of our heroic countrymen. The insolvent banking-house, and the details of the losses of its poor victims, are still in every one's mouth. Your banking princes—self-lauded and puffed as they have been—are only greater masters in their art: while the poorer tradesmen, scouted by them for malpractices, are but lesser in degree. The Railway and Foreign Markets seem very flat; indeed, the amount of business done is very small. Turkish Loan hangs fire, Lord Palmerston having answered Mr. Ricardo's question in the House of Commons the other evening in his usual disingenuous manner. Mines are neglected. Crystal Palace Shares are slightly flatter. Joint Stock Banks Shares are firm in demand. Great Western of Canada very good—the new shares are at 10s. pm., and the old shares, 11 pm., ex div. and ex new.

Consols close at four o'clock, 90½, 91½. Turkish 6 per cent, 81½, 82. Russian 5 per cent, 98, 100. A notice from the contractors of the Turkish Loan issued this afternoon, to the effect that the Government will not guarantee any fresh loan on the present terms, has made the Turkish market firmer.

Caledonians, 62½, 63; Eastern Counties, 12, 12½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 57, 59; Great Northern, 62½, 63½; A Stock, 75, 77; B Stock, 126, 128; Great South and Western Irish, 90, 101; Great Western, 67, 67½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 81½, 82; London and North Western, 101½, 101½; London and South Western, 83, 84; London and Brighton, 100, 102; Midlands, 73½, 73½; Lancaster and Carlisle, 73, 78; South Eastern, 61½; South Devon, 13½, 14; Oxford and Worcester, 27½, 28½; Antwerp, 9, 9½; East In-

dian, 25½, 26; ditto, Extension, 3½, 3½ pm.; Bombay and Baroda, 24, 24; Madras, 1, 1½; Great Luxembourg, 4, 4½; Great Western Canada, 21½, 22; Trunk of Canada, 6, 5½ dis.; Sambre and Meuse, 9½, 10½; Namur and Liege, 6½, 6½; Ardenne, 1, 1 pm.; Central of France, 4, 4½ pm.; Northern of France, 36, 36½; Eastern of France, 35½, 36; Western of France, 9½, 10½; Lyons, 5½, 6½; Orleans, 46, 48; Rouen, 45, 47; Havre, 25, 26; Agua Fria, ½, ½; Brazil Imperial, 2½, 3½; Santiago, 5½, 6; St. John del Rey, 28, 30; United Mexican, 3½, 4; Pontgibaud, 16, 17; Linares, 7, 7½; South Australian Copper, ½, ½; Waller Gold, ½, ½; Clarendon Copper, ½, ½; Australian Agricultural, 30, 31; Peel River, 2½, 2½; Scottish Australian Investment, 1½, 2; N. B. Australian Land and Loan, ½, 1; South Australian Land, 36½, 7½ x.d.; British American Land, 57, 60; Crystal Palace, 2½, 3; Canada Government, 6 per Cent., 114, 115; Australasian Bank, 84, 85 x.d.; Union of Australia, 74, 75; Oriental, 38, 39; London and Westminster, 48, 49; Bank of London, 2½, 3 p.m.; City Bank, 5½, 6½ pm.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....			210½	210½	211½	211
3 per Cent. Red.	91½	92	92½	92½	92	92½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	92½					92½
Consols for Account	90½	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½
3½ per Cent. An.						
New 2½ per Cents.						
Long Ans. 1860.....	4	4	4	4	4	15-16
India Stock.....					30	
Ditto Bonds, £1000		30				33
Ditto, under £1000		27				32
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	13	10	11	17	16	21
Ditto, £500.....	18	13	11	17	16	25
Ditto, Small	10	15	15	17	19	

FOREIGN FUNDS.

LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds	101½	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents., 1822.....	99½
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cnts.		Russian 4½ per Cents.....	
Chilian 3 per Cents.....		Spanish 3 p. Ct. New Def.	
Danish 5 per Cents.....	102½	Spanish Committee Cert.	
Ecuador Bonds.....		of Coup. not fun.	
Mexican 3 per Cents.....	21½	Venezuela 4½ per Cents.	27
Mexican 3 per Ct. for Acc. July 17	21½	Belgian 4½ per Cents.....	
Portuguese 4 per Cents.		Dutch 2½ per Cents.....	64½
Portuguese 3 p. Cents.		Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	95

FRENCH PLAYS, St. James's Theatre.—Last Representation but Two of Mons. LEVASSOR'S and Maddle. TEISSEIRE'S Performances, Monday Evening, July 2nd. "L'Amour Pris Aux Cheveux," "Le Bougeoir," and "Rigolo," with other Entertainments. Mons. Levassor's Benefit, and Last Performance but One, on Wednesday Evening, July the 4th, on which occasion the following Attractive Entertainment will be given: "Le Village," comédie en deux actes, de M. Octave Feuillet, joué par M. Levassor, M. Vézian, et Maddle. Teisseire. "Roméo et Mariette," vaudeville, en un acte, joué par M. Levassor et Maddle. Teisseire.

Intermède: "La Directrice et le Tenor," duo bouffe, chanté par Maddle. Teisseire et M. Levassor. "Lucie de Lammermoor," parodie, exécutée par M. Levassor. "Une Romance Nouvelle," racontée par Maddle. Teisseire. "Le Chanteur Choriste," exécuté par M. Levassor. "La Mère Michel, au Théâtre Italien—La Gazza Ladra," grande scène comique, exécutée par M. Levassor.

To conclude with "Les Deux Profonds Scélérats," vaudeville comique, joué par M. Levassor et M. Vézian. The last representation will positively take place on Friday Evening, July 6.

Prices of Admission: Boxes, 4s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 2s.

Doors open—Evening at Eight: Afternoon at Three.

Boxes and Stalls may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street; and at the Box-office.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. WIGAN.

On Monday,

THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL

Sir Peter, Mr. Emery; Sir Oliver, Mr. F. Vining; Joseph Surface, Mr. A. Wigan; Charles Surface, Mr. G. Vining; Moses, Mr. F. Robson; Lady Teazle, Mrs. Stirling; Maria, Miss Marston; Mrs. Courdour, Mrs. A. Wigan.

To conclude with

POOR PILICODDY.

Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, Emery, Misses Castleton, Terman and Marston.

Tuesday, and during the week, will be performed the new Farce, called

PERFECT CONFIDENCE.

In which Mr. F. Robson Mr. G. Vining, Miss Marston, and Miss Bromley, will appear.

After which,

STILL WATERS RUN DEEP.

Characters by Messrs. A. Wigan, Emery, G. Vining, and Mrs. A. Wigan.

To conclude with the Farce of

POOR PILICODDY.

GORE HOUSE KENSINGTON.

THE ANNUAL SPRING EXHIBITION of advanced Works by Students in Metropolitan and Provincial Schools of Art is now open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission free.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.—An Exhibition of the finest English, French, and Italian Photographs is now open at the Photographic Institution, 108, New Bond-street. Open from 10 to 5. Admission, with catalogue, 1s.

MR. T. ATKINS' PANORAMA of CREATION, SCIENCE, and CIVILISATION, St. Martin's Hall, EVERY EVENING at 8. Admission, 1s.; Centre Seats, 2s.; Stalls, 3s. Mondays, Half-price.

DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM, 4, Coventry-street, Leicester-square.—Open (for gentlemen only) daily, from half-past 11 till 5, and from 7 till 10. A new Series of Lectures by Dr. Sexton, F.R.G.S., &c., at 12, 2, 4, and half-past 7 in the evening. Admission, One Shilling. A new Catalogue, containing Lectures on the most interesting branches of Physiology, by Dr. Kahn, illustrated. Price 6d.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY of LONDON.—NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN, that the NEXT EXHIBITION of FLOWERS and FRUIT, in the SOCIETY'S GARDEN, will take place on WEDNESDAY, July 11, at 2 p.m.

Tickets, price 5s. each, can be procured at this office, upon presenting the order of a Fellow; or on the day of the meeting, at Turnham Green, price 7s. 6d. each.

SPECIAL PRIVILEGE OF FELLOWS.—Fellows of the Society not only enter free at half-past 12, but can also introduce two friends, WITH TICKETS. Or the Fellow's power may be transferred to a brother, sister, son, daughter, father, mother, or wife, residing in the Fellow's house, provided the person to whom the transfer is made be furnished with a ticket signed by that Fellow. That is to say the power of entering early may be transferred, but not the right to FREE admission.—21, Regent-street.

ADNAM'S Improved Patent Groats and Barley.

THE ONLY EXISTING PATENT.

And Strongly recommended by the Medical Profession.

TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, AND FAMILIES.—The important object so desirable to be obtained has at length been secured to the Public by J. and J. C. ADNAM, PATENTEES, who, after much time and attention, have succeeded by their Improved Process in producing preparations of the purest and finest quality ever manufactured from the Oat and Barley.

The Barley being prepared by a similar process is as pure as can be manufactured, and will be found to produce a light and nourishing Food for Infants and the Aged.

A report having been circulated that preparations of so white a character could not be produced from Groats and Barley alone, the Patentees have had recourse to the highest authority for an analysis to establish the fact, a copy of which is subjoined:—

Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital,
February 19, 1855.

I have submitted to a microscopical and chemical examination the samples of Barley-meal and Groats which you have forwarded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in them only those principles which are found in good Barley. There is no mineral or other impurity present; and, from the result of my investigation, I believe them to be genuine, and to possess those nutritive properties assigned by the late Dr. Pereira to this description of food.

(Signed) A. S. TAYLOR.

"Messrs. J. and J. C. ADNAM and Co."

CAUTION.—To prevent errors, the Public are requested to observe that each Package bears the Signature of the PATENTEES, J. and J. C. ADNAM.

To be obtained Wholesale at the Manufactory, Maiden-lane, Queen-street, London; and Retail in Packets and Canisters at 6d. and 1s. each, and in Canisters for Families at 2s., 5s., and 10s. each, of all respectable Grocers, Druggists, &c., in Town and Country.

DR. DE JONGH'S

LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.

Prescribed with entire confidence by the Faculty for its purity, and superior, immediate, and regular efficacy.

EXTRACTS FROM MEDICAL TESTIMONIALS:—

ARTHUR H. HASSALL, M.D., F.L.S., M.R.C.P., Chief Analyst of the Sanitary Commission of the *Lancet*, Author of "Food and its Adulterations," &c., &c., &c.

"I have more than once, at different times, subjected your Light Brown Oil to chemical analysis, and this unknown to yourself—and I have always found it to be free from all impurity and rich in the constituents of bile. So great is my confidence in the article, that I usually prescribe it in preference to any other, in order to make sure of obtaining the remedy in its purest and best condition."

The "MEDICAL CIRCULAR" May 10, 1854:—

"We unhesitatingly recommend Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil as the best for medical purposes, and well deserving the confidence of the profession."

Sold only in bottles, capsuled and labelled with Dr. de Jongh's signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE, by ANSAR, HARFORD, and CO., 77, STRAND, London, Dr. de Jongh's sole Consignees; and IN THE COUNTRY by respectable Chemists.

Half-pints (10 ounces), 2s. 6d.; Pints (20 ounces), 4s. 9d.; Quarts (40 ounces), 9s. IMPERIAL MEASURE.

TRIESEMAR.—PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT OF ENGLAND, and secured by the SEALS of the ECOLE DE PHARMACIE de PARIS, and the IMPERIAL COLLEGE of MEDICINE, VIENNA. TRIESEMAR, No. 1, is a Remedy for Relaxation, Spasm, motorhood, and Exhaustion of the System.

TRIESEMAR, No. 2, effectually, in the short space of Three Days, completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders which Capsules have so long been thought an antidote for, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population.

TRIESEMAR, No. 3, is the Great Continental Remedy for that class of disorders which, unfortunately, the English physician treats with Mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the Patient's constitution, and which all the Sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove.

TRIESEMAR, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all nauseating qualities. They may lie on the toilet-table without their use being suspected.

Sold in tin cases, at 11s. each, free by post, 2s. extra, divided into separate doses, as administered by Welpau, Lallemand, Roux, &c., &c. To be had wholesale and retail, in London, of Robert Johnson, 68, Cornhill; Hanney and Co., 63, Oxford-street; Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; E. H. Ingham, Druggist, Market-street, Manchester; Priestley, Chemist, Lord-street, Liverpool; Winnall, Bookseller, High-street, Birmingham; and Powell, Bookseller, 15, Westmoreland-street, Dublin.

THE BEST SHOW of IRON BEDSTEADS in the KINGDOM is WILLIAM S. BURTON'S. He has TWO VERY LARGE ROOMS devoted to the EXCLUSIVE SHOW of Iron and Brass Bedsteads and Children's Cots, with appropriate Bedding and Mattresses. Common Iron Bedsteads, from 16s.; Portable Folding Bedsteads, from 12s. 6d.; Patent Iron Bedsteads, fitted with dovetail joints and patent sacking, from 17s. 6d.; and Cots, from 20s. each. Handsome ornamental Iron and Brass Bedsteads, in great variety, from 27. 13s. 6d. to 157. 15s.

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.

BATHS and TOILETTE WARE.—WILLIAM S. BURTON has ONE LARGE SHOW-ROOM devoted exclusively to the DISPLAY of BATHS and TOILETTE WARE. The Stock of each is at once the largest, newest, and most varied ever submitted to the public, and marked at prices, proportionate with those that have tended to make his establishment the most distinguished in this country. Portable Showers, 7s. 6d.; Pillow Showers, 37. to 57.; Nursery, 15s. to 32s.; Sponging, 15s. to 32s.; Hip, 14s. to 31s. 6d. A large assortment of Gas Furnace, Hot and Cold Plunge, Vapour, and Camp Shower Baths.—Toilette Ware in great variety from 15s. 6d. to 45s. the Set of Three.

TEA-URNS, of LONDON MAKE ONLY.—The largest assortment of London-made TEA-URNS in the world (including all the recent novelties, many of which are registered) is on SALE at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S, from 30s. to 67.

WILLIAM S. BURTON has SIXTEEN LARGE SHOW-ROOMS devoted to the show of GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY (including cutlery, nickel silver, plated and Japan wares, iron and brass bedsteads, and bedding), 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); 1, 2, and 3, NEWMAN-STREET; and 4 and 5, PERRY'S-PLACE.

HARRINGTON PARKER and CO., Wine and Spirit Merchants, 54, Pall-mall, London, offer to the Public Old and Superior Wines, pure, and of the finest quality, at prices not exceeding those charged for ordinary Wines.

HARRINGTON PARKER and CO. would call especial attention to their PALE and GOLDEN DINNER SHERRIES, as under.

IMPERIAL PINTS, 29s. to 34s. per dozen; or bottled in Reputed Quarts, 38s. to 45s. per dozen.

Agents for ALLSOPP'S PALE AND INDIA ALE.

FITCH & SON'S

CELEBRATED BREAKFAST BACON, AND FIRST-CLASS PROVISIONS.

"The City is the emporium for all good things; and the emporium for rich and delicious bacon is FITCH & SONS, 66, Bishopsgate-street."—Vide *United Service Gazette*, March 31st.

This celebrated Bacon has now been fifteen years before the public, and still retains its deserved pre-eminence. It is sold by the side, half-side, and separate pieces.

The half-side of 30lbs. 9d. per lb.

The Middle-piece, 12lbs. 10d. "

THE FINEST DESCRIPTIONS OF CHEESE, Stilton, Cheshire, Parmesan, Somerset, North Wiltshire, and others.

HAMS—namely, the far-famed and still unrivalled Yorkshire, together with Somerset, Westphalia, and Brunswick.

OX TONGUES CURED UPON THE PREMISES, both pickled and smoked.

Wiltshire Chaps and Chines, Anglo-German Sausages. FITCH & SON'S HOUSEHOLD PROVISIONS.

Cheshire and other Cheese.....	Per lb. 7d. to 8d.
Good Sound ditto, ditto.....	0 7½
Ditto Serviceable ditto, ditto.....	0 7
Fine New Salt Butter by Half Firkins.....	0 11½
Very good ditto, ditto.....	9d. to 10½
Fine Small and Large Hams.....	8 to 9

A remittance is requested from correspondents unknown to the firm. Deliveries free to all the London Railway Termini, daily, and the suburbs twice a week. A priced List of the parts of a side of their celebrated Bacon free upon application.

FITCH AND SON,

Provision Merchants and Importers,
No. 66, BISHOPSGATE WITHIN, LONDON.

Established 1784.

AMERICAN SARSAPARILLA.

OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S AMERICAN SARSAPARILLA. 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, urea, acids, serofulous 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.; mammoths, 11s.

INDISPUTABLE LIFE POLICY COMPANY, 72, LOMBARD-STREET; 24, CONNAUGHT-TERRACE; and 88, DENBIGH-STREET, BELGRAVE-ROAD.

At the Seventh Annual General Meeting, held at the London Tavern on the 15th inst., Lord Viscount TORRINGTON in the Chair, The following Report was received and unanimously approved:—

In submitting their Annual Report to your consideration, the Board are enabled again to present a statement showing a highly satisfactory advance in the business of the Company.

At the last Annual Meeting it was seen that the progress of the Company had been greater in that than in any previous year; and it is gratifying to observe that the new business of 1854 has again exceeded that of the previous year, while the business of the current year exceeds that of the corresponding months of 1854. This large and steadily progressive amount of business has been obtained, notwithstanding the obstacles to the extension of Life Assurance, arising from the pressure of a war taxation bearing heavily upon the means of all classes of the community. While the premiums of the new business of 1854 exceed those of 1853, the expenses have been less.

At the close of the year embraced in the accounts now presented the revenue of the Company was a little under, and now considerably exceeds, 20,000*l.* per annum.

At the last Annual Meeting a reduction of 25 per cent. was made upon the premiums of all participating policies of five years' standing, and it is recommended that the same rule of reduction shall be continued, which will embrace all the participating policies on which five annual premiums have been paid prior to this date.

The claims of last year have been greater, as was to have been expected, than in the preceding year, but considerably under what the expectancy upon which the calculations of the Office are founded would have warranted us to anticipate.

Great as the success of this Association has hitherto been, the Directors would again remind the Members that their own interests as well as the general benefit of the community may be greatly promoted by the exercise of their individual influence.

TORRINGTON, Chairman.

London, 72, Lombard-street, June 15, 1855.

FURNISH YOUR HOUSE WITH THE BEST ARTICLES

AT DEANE'S Ironmongery and Furnishing Warehouses. Established A.D. 1700. A Priced Furnishing List, free by post.

DEANE, DRAY, and CO. (Opening to the Monument), London-bridge.

GENUINE COCOA.—Cocoa has been designated by Physicians of eminence as one of the richest productions of the vegetable kingdom, and, when properly prepared, is justly celebrated for its peculiarly invaluable nutritive properties. So keen, however, has been the avidity to render this article a lucrative manufacture, and so strenuous the competitive efforts thereby excited, that the most flagrant adulterations have been resorted to, with the sole aim of lowness of price. The evils with which so baneful a system is fraught are strikingly manifest to the medical profession, who, highly esteeming Cocoa (in its PURE STATE) as an article of diet, frequently prescribe and recommend it to invalids as a remedial agent in promoting health. The results are, however, too often rendered nugatory by the impurity of the article supplied.

The magnitude of our legitimate business as Tea Dealers necessarily precludes our devoting a strict and essential supervision to the manufacture of Cocoa; we have therefore completed arrangements with the highly respectable firm of Messrs. HENRY THORNE and CO., Leeds, whose many years' successful experience in the preparation of this article, and the celebrity they have thereby acquired, together with their uncompromising determination to adhere to the principle they originally adopted, viz., to manufacture only from the choicest Nuts, and to rigidly eschew adulteration in any shape whatever, warrant us in recommending their "GENUINE TRINIDAD COCOA" to our numerous Friends, to the Medical Profession, and to the Public. Price—TENPENCE per POUND.

SIDNEY, WELLS, and CO., Family Tea-men.

8, LUDGATE-HILL,
SOLE AGENTS FOR LONDON.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S 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 VARICOSE 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.

ASTHMA.—DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS give instant relief, and a rapid cure of Asthma, Coughs, and all disorders of the Breathe and Lungs. To SINGERS and PUBLIC SPEAKERS they are invaluable, for clearing and strengthening the voice. They have a most pleasant taste. Price 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d. and 11s. per box. Sold by all Chemists.

30,000 NERVOUS MIND AND HEAD

SUFFERERS, from Nettle to Measles, having tried all advertised and other remedies without a cure, have, during eighteen years, been obliged to apply to the Rev. Dr. Willis Mosely, 18, Bloomsbury-street, Bedford-square, London, and 50 are not known to be uncured. Means of cure only to be paid for, and a relapse prevented for life. Novel Observations, a pamphlet on nervousness, franked to any address if one stamp is sent; or, for 80, Twelve Chapters on the Only Means of Curing Nervous or Mind Complaints; "the best book on nervousness in our language."

ANNUAL DIVISION OF PROFITS.

GREAT BRITAIN MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 14, WATERLOO PLACE, LONDON, and 30, BROWN STREET, MANCHESTER.

DIRECTORS.

THE CHISHOLM, Chairman.
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Deputy-Chairman.

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James John Kinloch, Esq.
Henry Lawson, Esq.
William Morley, Esq.
Robert Francis Power, Esq., M.D.
Archibald Spens, Esq.
Frederick Valiant, Esq.
Rev. F. W. J. Vickery.

This Society is established on the tried and approved principle of Mutual Assurance. The funds are accumulated for the exclusive benefit of the Policy-holders, under their own immediate superintendence and control. The Profits are divided annually, and applied in reduction of the current Premiums. Policy-holders participate in Profits after payment of five annual Premiums.

The Annual General Meeting of this Society was held on the 30th of May, 1855, when a Report of the business for the last year was presented, exhibiting a statement of most satisfactory progress. It appeared that during the two last years, 1853 and 1854, between 800 and 900 new Assurances had been effected, producing an increase of Premium income amounting to 14,000*l.* per annum. It also appeared that, notwithstanding the extraordinary mortality which prevailed during the last year in consequence of the visitation of the cholera, it had not been found necessary to reduce, in the slightest, the allowance previously awarded to the Policy-holders.

The Members present at the Meeting were fully satisfied with the Report, and resolved unanimously that a Reduction of 31*1*/₄ per Cent. should be made in the current year's Premium payable by all Policy-holders now entitled to participate in the Profits.

Credit is allowed for half the Annual Premiums for the first five years.

The following Table exemplifies the effect of the present reduction.

Age when Assured.	Amount Assured.	Annual Premium originally paid.	Allowance of 31 <i>1</i> / ₄ per cent.	Annual Premium now payable.
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1000	20 17 6	6 11 6	14 6 0
30	1000	25 13 4	8 1 8	17 11 8
40	1000	33 18 4	10 13 8	23 4 8
50	1000	48 16 8	15 7 8	33 9 0
60	1000	75 17 6	23 18 0	51 19 6

A. R. IRVINE, Managing Director.

14, Waterloo-place, London.

THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

CAPITAL, TWO MILLIONS.

ESTABLISHED IN 1836.

Empowered by Special Acts of Parliament.

OFFICES:

37, CASTLE STREET, LIVERPOOL;
20 AND 21, POULTRY, LONDON;

AND

61, KING STREET, MANCHESTER.

TRUSTEES:

Sir Thomas Bernard Birch, Bart.
Adam Hodgson, Esq. | Saml. Henry Thompson, Esq.

DIRECTORS IN LIVERPOOL:

Chairman.—Thomas Brocklebank, Esq.
Deputy-Chairmen.—Jos. C. Ewart & Francis Haywood, Esqrs.
Secretary.—Swinton Boulton, Esq.

DIRECTORS IN LONDON:

Chairman.—Matthew Forster, Esq.
Deputy-Chairman.—George Frederick Young, Esq.
Resident Secretary.—Benjamin Henderson, Esq.

DIRECTORS IN MANCHESTER:

Chairman.—Samuel Ashton, Esq.
E. R. Langworthy, Esq. | James Aspinall Turner, Esq.
Edward Tootal, Esq. | Thomas Wrigley, Esq.
Resident Secretary.—R. A. Kennedy, Esq.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Premiums received in 1853 were £113,612; and in 1854, £146,096.

INSURANCES may be effected in this department on terms as low as those of most other Companies.

FARMING STOCK Insured at 3s. per cent., free from the Conditions of average, and allowing a Steam Threshing Machine.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

Premiums received on New Business were, in 1853, £6013; and in 1854, £10,967.

Annuities Immediate and Deferred.

BONUSES GUARANTEED WHEN THE POLICY IS ISSUED.
No Stamp Duty Charged.

PROSPECTUSES AND FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICES OF THE COMPANY, OR FROM ANY OF THE AGENTS.

Persons whose Fire Policies with this Company expired on the 24th instant, are respectfully reminded that receipts for the renewal of the same will be found at the Head Offices, in Liverpool, London, and Manchester, and in the hands of the Agents.

SWINTON BOULT,
Secretary to the Company.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BANKING COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1847.

The Court of Directors grant LETTERS OF CREDIT and BILLS upon the Company's Bank at ADELAIDE at PAR. Approved drafts negotiated and sent for collection.

Business with the Australian colonies generally conducted through the Bank's Agents.

Apply at the Company's Offices, 54, Old Broad-street, London.
WILLIAM PURDY, Manager.
London, June, 1855.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.—CONVEYANCE OF NEWSPAPERS.

The London and North-Western, Midland, and Northern Railway Companies have made arrangements, in conjunction, for the conveyance from London of Newspapers, or other Periodicals, published at intervals not exceeding seven days, by the ordinary passenger trains, at a charge equal to one-half the existing rate for Parcels, provided that in no case the charge for a single package be less than sixpence.

A single Newspaper daily is conveyed to any station on the London and North Western Railway, at a charge of 2*1*/₂s. per annum, payable in advance; and for each additional Newspaper conveyed in the same parcel a further charge is made of 10s. 6d. per annum.

The London and North-Western Railway Company, in giving notice of this arrangement, require that the packages shall be open at the ends, and contain only Newspapers, or such Periodicals as above described; and that they shall have authority to examine them whenever they have reason to believe that this regulation is infringed.

By order, MARK HUISE.

General Manager's Office, Euston Station, June, 1855.

LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK.

The Temple-Bar Branch of this Bank was OPENED on Friday the 15th instant, at the Temporary Offices, No. 211, Strand.

The Capital of the Bank is 5,000,000*l.* sterling, in 50,000 shares of 100*l.* each. The sum of 20*l.* has been paid on each share, so that the paid-up capital is 1,000,000*l.* sterling.

The Bank has about twelve hundred partners, whose names are registered at the Stamp Office, and are printed with the Annual Report of the Directors.

Current Accounts are received on the same principles as those observed by the London Bankers.

Sums from 10*l.* upwards are received upon interest. For these sums receipts are granted, called deposit receipts.

Circular notes are issued for the use of travellers on the Continent.

J. W. GILBART, General Manager.

Lothbury, June 19, 1855.

SOVEREIGN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 49, St. James's-street, London.

Established 1845.

TRUSTEES.

The Earl of Talbot. | Sir Claude Scott, Bart.
Henry Pownall, Esq. | B. Bond Cabbell, Esq.

This Office, the new income of which was doubled during the last year, presents the security of a large paid-up Capital; Moderate Premiums for home and foreign risks; no Stamp Duty is charged, and all Policies are declared indisputable.

The last Bonus added four-fifths of the Premium paid to some of the participating policies.

Provision can be made for the payment of a certain sum on attaining any given age (as 50, 55, or 60), or at death if it occur previously.

By a small annual payment 100*l.* may be secured to a child on attaining the age of 14, 18, or 21.

Prospectuses and other information will be furnished on application.

HENRY D. DAVENPORT, Secretary.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT INSURANCE.

16,221*l.* 5s. have already been paid as compensation for Fatal and other Railway Accidents, by the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

EXAMPLES.

1000*l.* was paid to the Widow of J. G., killed on the 24th February, 1853, secured by a payment of 1*l.*

350*l.* was paid to H. C. H. J., who had his leg broken on the 31st Aug., 1853, secured by a payment of 1*l.*

200*l.* was paid to W. P., severely injured on the 19th September, 1854, secured by a payment of 1*l.*

For the convenience of frequent travellers, Periodical Insurances are granted, which now cover the risk of Fatal Accidents while travelling in any class carriage on any Railway in the United Kingdom or on the Continent of Europe, and insure Compensation for Personal Injury in any Railway Accident in the United Kingdom only.

To insure 1000*l.* at an Annual Premium of 20s.
Ditto 200*l.* ditto 5s.

Insurances can also be effected securing the same advantages for terms of five or ten years, or for the whole of life, at greatly reduced rates, which may be learned from the Company's Prospectus, to be had at the Offices, and at all the principal Railway Stations.

A new class of insurance has also been established in case of Death by Railway Accident alone, without compensation for Injury.

To insure 1000*l.* at an Annual Premium of..... 5s.
Ditto any sum not exceeding 1000*l.* for the whole of life by a single payment of 5s. per cent.: thus one payment of 5*l.* will secure 1000*l.*

The Premiums charged include the Stamp Duty, this being the only Company Insuring against Railway Accidents empowered by Special Act of Parliament to pay a commuted Stamp Duty.
WILLIAM J. VIAN,
Secretary.

Railway Passengers' Assurance Office,
3, Old Broad-street, London.

ST. GEORGE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 118, PALL-MALL, LONDON.

Capital, 100,000*l.*, in Shares of 5*l.* each. Deposit, 1*l.* per Share.

(On which Interest, at the rate of 5*l.* per cent. per annum, exclusive of Dividend, is guaranteed by the Deed of Settlement.)

Chairman.—Viscount RANELAGH, Park-place, St. James's.
Deputy-Chairman.—HENRY POWNALL, Esq., Ladbrake-square, Notting-hill.

Secretary.—W. O. URQUHART, Esq.

POLICIES ABSOLUTELY INDISPUTABLE.
Annuities and Endowments for families, children, and others on the most favourable terms.

Premiums payable yearly, half-yearly, or quarterly. No charge for medical fees or stamps.

Loans granted for long or short periods, payable by monthly, quarterly, or half-yearly instalments.

Defective Titles, reversions, &c., assured and guaranteed.

In the AUGUST-NUMBER of

THE DUBLIN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE,

Will appear the First Portion of a NEW TALE, to be continued Monthly, entitled

GLENCORE AND HIS FORTUNES.

By the Author of "MAURICE TIERNAY," "SIR JASPER CAREW," &c., &c.

DUBLIN: JAMES M'GLASHAN, 50, UPPER SACKVILLE STREET. LONDON: W. S. ORR & CO.

On the 2nd of July, No. 31, price 8s. 6d.,

THE JOURNAL of PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.

Edited by FORBES WINSLOW, M.D., D.C.L.

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London: JOHN CHURCHILL, New Burlington-street.

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