

Edward Edmund Yelloway, 1854 March.

# The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

"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, MARCH 22, 1856.

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## Review of the Week.

PEACE for Europe is to be presented to the "child of France" as a papspoon. Europe may be glad that his first toy is not a rattle. So entirely has England abandoned the "situation" to the arbiter at the Tuileries that Peace itself has become a mere effect in the Imperial *mise en scene*. Another "effect" is the amnesty which is extended to the few victims of the *Coup d'Etat* who have not been already amnestied by death, and who assuredly will not accept it, when LAMARTINE writes from his retreat that, if he were of the religion of CATO, he would die the death of CATO, so sick is he of the servitude of the age, and of his own loneliness.

The PRINCE has now become the prominent object of curiosity to Paris, and really it is a most lucky advent for the EMPEROR. Any "novelty" will take in the capital of Gaiety, and a Prince Imperial is a novelty of that kind, that he might fairly be reckoned the most precious of *étrennes*. It is the opportunity for which LOUIS NAPOLEON has awaited ever since his marriage. Fortune never favoured him so much, but, to the very latest, disappointment seemed to be threatened. His equivocal position had originated reports which, if not contradicted by the facts, would perhaps have haunted the PRINCE throughout his life, and thrown doubt upon his legitimacy. Hence it was necessary to adopt an excessive publicity; hence it was necessary to visit the very chamber of the EMPRESS with ceremonies and crowds and visible anxieties that created a new danger, a new chance that the hopes of the EMPEROR would be frustrated; but even these complications, which obstruct the exercise of his arbitrary power, have been surmounted. He has a son, he has an heir, he has bestowed a Child upon France; he has seized the occasion for bringing together the ceremonies of the Napoleonic Empire, of the French Monarchy, of the earliest Frankish Empire; he has revived the royal habit of fraternising with the market-women in the palace; he has exchanged compliments with all the public bodies of France,

he has seized the occasion for passing to them hints as to the light in which he desires the young PRINCE, the dynasty, and the policy of the EMPEROR to be regarded. The PRINCE is to inherit the vote of 8,000,000, and to be by inheritance the elected of December. The dynasty receiving its fourth member is to be considered as permanent, and the policy of the EMPEROR is, that the NAPOLEON for the time being shall be regarded as acting for the whole body of the people, for the interests of all, in short, as the general agent. When Paris and France have any pretext for festivities their hearts open, their wits become quicker, and then is the time to insinuate these delicate hints. Never did a public man know how to hit his time more adroitly than this man, or watch for it more patiently.

The crowned heads, with their servants, the official statesmen, have come to the wise conclusion that they must not risk another year of war, that they must not be found at loggerheads by the summer of 1856. Brother, brother, we are both in the wrong, has been the burden of the concerted music in the Conference, and as Russia had most broken the compact of the band that is in possession of Europe for its own profit, it is Russia who has had to pay the largest amount of penalty and to make the largest concession. It is now admitted by general consent, that before this cold, dusty, and blowing month is over, Paris will be illuminated for a peace concluded, and it seems probable that the illumination, the rejoicing, the welcome of that peace, whatsoever may be its terms, will extend not only to Turkey, to Austria, and to Germany, all of them trembling for the consequences of a protracted war, but to Russia, glad of peace at any price, and even to England, glad of peace for the sake of the thrones at stake.

Prussia has been admitted, judiciously, to a participation in the final formalities of the Paris Conference. This admission completes the consent of Europe to the Treaty signed this day. But the Prussian King is ill at ease in his own capital. The death of HINCKELDY is an incident which disgraces the community in which it occurs, but it is more detrimental as an evidence of impaired authority. He was the Director-General of Police, charged with

many duties that are in this country performed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department. He was a reformer, and to him is ascribed the merit of many improvements in the Prussian capital. He has been said to belong to that class of men "who have made Prussia great." It is probable that he carried out his administration with something of the priggish spirit that distinguishes the executive officers of German States, but it was part of his pedantry to impart equal justice to all, high or low. It was perhaps some spice of party feeling which induced him to carry out the laws against gambling, upon young noblemen as well as upon the vulgar sportsmen. He had instituted a crusade against a Jockey Club in Berlin. The nobles connected with that club, mingling, perhaps feelings of personal irritation with party feelings, organised a conspiracy in which the conspirators had arranged to offer a series of insults to the minister, for the purpose of forcing him into a succession of duels until he should fall. They succeeded at the first blow. All this is bad enough, but not so bad as the sequel. The young officer who shot the Minister of Police has become an object of favour with the Conservative party of Berlin. After a formal arrest, they procured his release on parole, they attended assemblies at his house; the President of the Upper Chamber expressed regret at the disagreeable circumstances which had rendered it necessary for the young gentleman to be absent. In short, the majority of the Upper Chamber, and the Conservative party, recognised the young officer as the *Mutius SÆVOLA* of bureaucratic Prussia, and in adopting him they adopted the killing of HINCKELDY as an act of capital justice executed on their behalf. While the Tory party was thus triumphant in the justice inflicted upon their enemy, the KING gave weak tears to the fate of his servant, followed him to the grave in black garments, and frowned sadly upon his banded murderers, who care as little for the KING's tears as they do for his black.

We have this week had a change of the Minister here. Mr. BUCHANAN, who has been beseeching his Government to resign, has at last set free by the arrival of his successor, Mr. DALLAS. We do not know what effect this



change of persons may have upon the communications between the two countries; it may be beneficial. Those who are in the wrong sometimes take the opportunity of a change of persons to make a change of conduct on their own side, and to lay it to the account of the altered circumstances; and it will be fortunate if our Ministers should take the opportunity now afforded to them. Certain, however, are we that the best which Mr. DALLAS can do will be, to equal his predecessor in fidelity to the interests of his own country, in discretion, and in an unaffectedly kind and conciliatory demeanour.

Mr. BUCHANAN'S return home has for some time been anticipated by a proposal to put him forward for the Presidency. He does not appear to have made any movement in that direction on his own part: and we can well imagine that no man who cares for his own peace and quiet would care to occupy the thankless seat of the American President. There are few, however, who have so complete an understanding of the political affairs of the world as Mr. BUCHANAN. He has shown an extreme aptitude for acquiring a knowledge of different countries,—of their inhabitants, their institutions, their trade, and even of their leading men. He has acquired by habit a keen insight into personal character. In this knowledge he does not omit, as so many statesmen do, his own country; and it would be difficult for the Americans to choose a man more fit to conduct their affairs at the present day than their sometime ambassador in Russia and in England. He would sustain their principles and interests, we are convinced; but he would know how to do so without arousing the antagonism of other countries; although he would not fear the antagonism if aroused.

"WALKERS rush in where statesmen fear to tread:" the General who "does for" the states of Central America, has made a BONAPARTE blow at settling the question of that region; he has declared that San Juan de Nicaragua belongs to Nicaragua State, and he warns Colonel KINNEY and any other persons who may be trespassing on the same that he will balance their account as soon as he has leisure. This would put both Great Britain and the United States out of the field—if WALKER can succeed.

Our American friends smile rather sarcastically because, while we deprecate annexation in America, we are carrying on annexation in Asia. Oude is no sooner taken within the direct rule of the East India Company, than we hear reports that another great province, the NIZAM'S territory, is to be treated in like manner; and we may add our own hope that before many years not a vestige will remain in East India of those separate States. But the distinction between the Indian process and the American is that between "annexation" and consolidation. This consolidation does not in the slightest degree disturb the outward boundaries of India. It is no extension of territory. All these States have been in fact founded by British power upon terms for the natives which the natives have broken. It is true that annexation in America extends the power of a higher race, benefits the territory annexed, and enlarged the frontiers of civilisation: still we are not so anti-ministerial as to be blind to the distinction between consolidation and annexation.

At home the balance of activity continues to lie with the distinguished persons in criminal society. The leading political men scarcely get on anywhere. Mr. CORBEN has accompanied a peace deputation, asking Lord PALMERSTON to prefer arbitration to war; but Lord PALMERSTON'S experiences do not enable him to promise compliance. The Literary Friends of Poland likewise approach our Premier,

and request the restoration of Poland; and some gentlemen of a serious turn have been requesting Sir GEORGE GREY to make another attempt at closing houses of public entertainment on Sundays. But none of these movements move. They get on about as well as Lord PALMERSTON'S Government; which, though it succeeds in the Paris Conference, has lost two votes in the House of Commons by the last elections for Sligo and New Ross. We contrast this non-success with the success of the distinguished persons to whom we have alluded. There is no question as to the efficacy of the strychnine given to Mrs. DOVE; and DOVE accordingly has been found by the Coroner's jury to have been successful in his measures for getting rid of his wife. PALMER'S agent, Mr. JOHN SMITH, is even making some way in getting up a scientific defence, by converting the testimony for the prosecution into evidence for the defendant; and the grand jury have ignored the bill in the case of WALTER PALMER. This week we have another branch of criminal business opened to the public view—the export of young girls from London to Hamburg. We see that the high politicians of Hamburg are vaunting that the attempts of the English Government agents to enlist soldiers for the Foreign Legion, although continued with great activity, are defeated by the greater activity of the local authorities, who arrest these lawless agents. The police of Hamburg do not arrest the agents who enlist young girls in London, or abduct them by force and guile. On the contrary, to the enlistment of that fated legion the police of Hamburg give passive assistance. That is the grand way in which Hamburg retaliates the English attempts to undermine its moral neutrality.

#### WHERE TO FIND NURSES.

A VERY good suggestion is put forward by the Epidemiological Society. It is to provide, throughout the country, nurses for the labouring population in case of epidemic disorders, and the frequent sickness which attacks the poor, or during the period of child-birth. In a public address it is justly remarked that the want of such assistants materially aggravates the suffering in sickness among the poorer classes, by withholding assistance from the invalid, by deranging the economy of the home, and perhaps, abridging the industry even of the part of the family that retains health. This opinion will be generally accepted, but it is here supported by the authority of Dr. B. G. BABINGTON, President of the Society; Dr. SIBSON, Chairman; Dr. HALL DAVIES; Mr. GRAINGER; Dr. WALLER LEWIS; Dr. M'WILLIAM, and others, who are in fact among the very highest authorities on such subjects. There is a class from which the nurses could easily be drawn. In the 553 unions of England it is computed that there are nearly 20,000 able-bodied women. "The committee propose that by an order of the poor law board, it be made imperative upon the master and matron of each workhouse to put the able-bodied females through a systematic training in the kitchen and infirmary; that when found sufficiently qualified to act as nurses, they shall receive a certificate of fitness, signed by the medical officer and master; and that a register of all such qualified nurses, whether residing in or out of the workhouse, be kept at the workhouse, and be open to the public as a means of obtaining nurses." The Committee of the Epidemiological Society invite assistance in the form of subscriptions. The charitable institutions hitherto attempted do not afford any such general supply of nurses as is here contemplated. It is an essential trait in the proposal, that the women should belong to the same class with the patients upon which they may be called to attend, as their habits in life will render them more cheerful inmates of the narrow homes of the humbler classes.

## THE WAR.

THIS is probably the last week that we shall have to repeat the heading of "THE WAR." Peace is now assured, and the world will again jog on without its breakfast-table excitements of blood and wounds.

The armistice has already anticipated peace. Lord Panmure announces that he has received intelligence from Sir William Codrington, under date March 15, that the armistice had been signed by the allied Generals, and that the exchange of documents would take place on the 16th. Omar Pacha has reached Constantinople, and the Italian Legion has arrived at Malta. The Russian prisoners made by the French are to be sent to Odessa, to be exchanged for Turkish prisoners. A few scraps of Crimean intelligence are furnished from Constantinople, where the telegraph reports that—

"There is still a good deal of sickness in the Crimea. A number of French officers intend to proceed to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage during the armistice. The merchants of Kamiesch have applied to leave to establish fairs on the neutral territory lying between the allied and Russian armies. The Constantinople Journal announces that the Tartars of the Crimea, who compromised themselves by joining the Allies, have called for protection, and asked to be allowed to follow our troops when they evacuate the Russian territory. General Mitchell has succeeded General Vivian, who is ill. Russian reinforcements continue to arrive in Bessarabia. Letters from Smyrna of the 6th state that a battalion of the Anglo-German Legion has landed in that port."

The appearance of the German and Italian Legions on or near the scene of action a day too late for service, may be regarded as the last act of the great European struggle.

#### MR. COMMISSARY-GENERAL FILDER'S REPLY.

Availing himself of the promise given by Government, that any reply which he might make to the Report of the Crimean Commissioners should be laid on the table of the House, Mr. Commissary-General Filder has issued a long document, in which he answers the charges brought against him by Sir John McNeill and Colonel Tulloch. In some general observations with which he prefaces his more specific statements, he asserts that the duty of the Commissariat is to provide for the wants of the army in accordance with established rules: but that it has no power of altering those rules in the most minute particular. The Commissary-General, therefore, has no means of providing for particular contingencies; and on this statement Mr. Filder may be said to base the whole of his defence. He asserts also that he had from the first an insufficient staff of assistants, afterwards still further weakened by the ravages of death and sickness, and originally gathered in haste from our colonies in various parts of the globe. In the meantime he "had to carry on the duties with the temporary assistance of gentlemen furnished from other public departments, and wholly without experience in Commissariat service." He doubts whether the French were so entirely successful in their arrangements as generally supposed; but their superiority he believes to be chiefly owing to their maintenance of all commissariat arrangements during times of peace in a state of efficiency, though of reduction, while ours are wholly neglected until the necessity arises for their immediate use. Another difficulty under which Mr. Filder says he laboured was "the uncertainty of the intended or probable position of the army" during the winter of 1854-5. It was not until the 12th of October, 1854, that Lord Raglan gave any orders with respect to wintering the troops; and the Commissary-General contends that, until he received these orders, he had no power to make arrangements.

Mr. Filder then proceeds to reply to the specific charges of the Commissioners, which he distributes under various heads. Of the supply of rice and fresh vegetables, we read:—"In the month of February, all the troops, without exception, received regular rations of rice; more vegetables, also, were issued to them in that month—that is, before the arrival of the Commissioners in the Crimea—than in the month preceding their departure, when, according to their Report, the diet of the soldiers was better than any army had, in any former campaign, been supplied with." The order to send a vessel for the purchase of vegetables was given by Lord Raglan on the 24th of October. With respect to specific articles of diet required by the men in times of sickness, the Commissariat is guided by the advice of the medical men, and it is not expected to originate any departure from the ordinary rules. An omission in the supply of rice to the Highland Brigade at Balaklava, during fifteen days, Mr. Filder is at a loss to explain, in the absence of the Commissariat officer attached to the brigade. No order to supply the troops at Balaklava with porter was ever received by the Commissary-General.



**Fresh meat:**—"The return shows that the average quantity of fresh meat supplied by the Commissariat during the five winter months, from November to March, was nearly 10lb. per man per month, exclusive of that furnished for the troops on board hospital ships in harbour, the aggregate force being 158,617, and the quantity of fresh meat issued by the Commissariat, 1,525,949lb. The issues in December fell greatly below the average—that is, to 6½lb. per man, in consequence of the cattle vessels, which had been damaged in the hurricane, being still under repair during that month.

"I at no time ceased to make every exertion to increase the supply of fresh meat, and before the month of August last, when I was obliged to resign the charge of the Commissariat on account of ill-health, I had brought the issues to five times a-week, which is as much, considering its inferior quality, as the military authorities think desirable.

**Lime-juice:**—"Lime-juice had never been supplied by the Commissariat for general issue to the troops, nor had I received any intimation that it was to be so for the future." Dr. Hall, adds Mr. Filder, had the regulation of the lime-juice in the early months of the siege. It was not till the 29th of January that the Commissary-General received letters from the Adjutant-General and from Dr. Hall, ordering the general issue of this anti-scorbutic.

**Fresh Bread—Fuel:**—"The demands for the army hospitals being unlimited and uncertain, the Commissariat only provides supplies for that service on special requisitions. When a requisition for bread for the General Hospital at Balaklava was first presented to the Commissariat, immediate arrangements were made for supplying it to the full extent of the demand." The want of portable ovens and military bakers greatly impeded the supply of fresh bread; but this want was afterwards supplied from England. As regards fuel, Mr. Filder says that, as it had never been the custom to supply fuel to an army in the field, he was not prepared with transport for its conveyance; but he pointed out the peculiar circumstances under which the Crimean army was situated. "Eight hundred thousand rations of charcoal, which had been brought up in steamers by the navy, at the request of Lord Raglan, and given over to the Commissariat early in November, remained untouched up to the 4th of December, when the order was given to commence the issues." The Commissary-General then immediately took all the means in his power to keep up the supply, and he states—"There was never, at any time, a want of fuel at Balaklava: the only difficulty was to find the means of conveying it to the front."

**Forage:**—"In answer to the alleged omission of timely arrangements for the provision of forage, I have to state that, so early as when there was full expectation of the army advancing to the Danube, I made a contract for about 3,500 tons of hay, to be delivered loose at different places in the neighbourhood of Constantinople; and I also desired the Commissariat officer there to form a dépôt of chopped straw, in case the army should return and occupy cantonments in Turkey during the winter. Subsequently, when it became known that we were to proceed to the Crimea, the contractors, at my request, were willing to engage to deliver about 500 tons of the hay pressed instead of loose; but learning in the early part of September, when the army was on the way to the Crimea, that I could not rely on the fulfilment of this contract, I wrote to England, requesting that 2,000 tons of hay might be sent thence. Of this demand, only about one-tenth was forwarded, and that portion reached Balaklava on the 30th of November." Replying to the M'Neill and Tulloch Report, Mr. Filder says—"The Commissioners have assumed that I obtained no supplies, except by means of contracts and tenders, and that I had only followed the beaten track. I am unable to say whence they have derived the opinion, but, however derived, it is inconsistent with the fact. I obtained supplies by every variety of mode in which it was possible to procure them, that is, by means of agents having a knowledge of the resources of the country and of the language and habits of the people, by direct purchases made by Commissariat officers from the parties holding the supplies without either written tender or agreement, by public competition and by special tender, and, when necessary, by requisitions on England."

The Commissary-General, in summing up his case, says he trusts he has shown that it did not lie within his power to alter or amend the arrangements of the army; that, when the army was suffering from the want of various articles, he had not been authorised to provide them; that he always took the utmost pains to carry out the orders of his superiors as soon as he received their commands; and that the failures which occurred resulted from causes over which he had no control.

#### WAR MISCELLANEA.

**AN ACCIDENT AT THE EXPLOSION OF THE WHITE WORKS.**—Major George Ranken, of the Royal Engineers, was killed in the zealous discharge of his

duty at the explosion of the White Buildings on Thursday evening last (Feb. 28th). The accident occurred at the south-western corner of the edifice, and has been related as follows:—A mine having failed to explode, and some minutes having elapsed, Major Ranken sent his men to a distance and himself entered the place to renew the train, scattering loose powder over it. From the position in which his corpse was found, it is supposed that he had completed his perilous task and was about getting through a window when the explosion took place and the building fell in. His arm was broken, and there were injuries to the skull and spine which must have occasioned instant death. Army Works Corps men dug for his body until midnight on Thursday; they were then relieved by Sappers. The body was not extricated until past eight o'clock on Friday morning.—*Times Correspondent.*

**ISMAIL PASHA** (of Kalafat celebrity) has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the army of Anatolia. General Kmety will accompany him.

**THREE RUSSIAN OFFICERS** have entered the regiment of Ottoman Cossacks.

**THE POLISH LEGION.**—General Count Zamoyski has proceeded to Constantinople to complete the organisation of his legion of Cossacks of the Sultan. Several very eminent officers have tendered their services. The existing body of men is to be formed at once into four regiments of infantry, two of cavalry, and a battalion of rifles. The General was recently at Paris, when he had an interview with Lord Clarendon, who urged him to press forward the organisation of the corps.

**SIR EDMUND LYONS.**—We find it stated by the Marseilles correspondent of the *Times* that orders have been received from the Admiralty to land the baggage of Sir Edmund Lyons, which has remained on board the *Caradoc* since the arrival here of the gallant Admiral from Constantinople, as it appears he is not to return to the Black Sea.

#### THE PEACE.

PEACE has at length been safely arrived at, and we believe the treaty will be signed this day (Saturday). The precise nature of the terms which have been agreed to by all parties is, of course, at present a secret; but it will not be long before the patient public will be enlightened. The Russians, it is said, have presented no serious difficulty, but have conceded the neutralisation of the Black Sea, the transformation of Nicholaieff into a purely commercial port, the neutrality of the Aland Islands, and the rectification of the Moldavian frontier, based on the report of a commission. *Le Nord* believes that the question of the Asiatic frontier is solved as far as concerns the restitution of the districts occupied by the Russians. The latter will restore Kars, the Turks will evacuate Mingrelia, and so the *status quo ante* will be restored. "Only the presence of M. Manteuffel is waited for, in order to the signature of the first protocol of peace." All parties, however, are not likely to be satisfied; and already we hear of the Moldo-Wallachians petitioning the Porte to cause the restitution of Bessarabia, which they contend was originally a part of their territory. The line of frontier now proposed will not, they assert, protect them from invasion, since it consists only of a line of low hills, not mountains, sinking at last towards the south into a flat morass.

A commission composed of the following members, has, it is said, been named to draw up the treaty:—Lord Cowley, for England; M. de Bourqueney, for France; Baron de Brunow, for Russia; M. de Hubner, for Austria; and Aali Pacha, for Turkey. Sardinia and Prussia are unrepresented. The *Independence Belge* states that, when the treaty shall have been signed, it is intended that the Conference shall be dissolved, but that a committee shall be left sitting to carry out the details which there is not now time to arrange. The question of the Principalities and of the Turkish Christians will probably receive the attention of this body.

At the conclusion of the peace, conferences will be held at St. Petersburg for the purpose of examining and discussing projects of reform in commercial policy.

#### THE DESTRUCTION OF COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE.

THE inquiry into the cause of this fire was resumed last Saturday, when one of the witnesses was Mr. Sidney Smirke, brother of the original architect of Covent-garden Theatre, who said that, on searching his brother's drawings of the theatre, he found that over the proscenium there had been a thick wall, so that a fire occurring at one end of the roof would be cut off before reaching the other. That wall had been removed, to which fact he attributed the extensive progress of the fire. He could not form any idea of the cause of the fire, but he thought there was a laxity in respect to access allowed to the carpenter's shop.

Several conflicting opinions were given as to whether this shop could be reached by persons on the stage or in the audience part of the house; some being of opinion that such access was possible, and others asserting that it was not. Mr. Anderson had the key of this shop, and lost it. On the night of the *bal masque*, Mr. Anderson ordered that the batten-lights should be turned on strong. These were lights suspended from the floor of the carpenter's shop at a distance of about twenty or thirty feet, and their object was to throw a light on the stage from above. They were formed of barrels lined with sheet iron, running across the upper part of the stage, and supported by lines reaching to blocks and attached to the flies. Two of the witnesses were of opinion that one of these lines may have caught fire, and communicated it to the floor of the carpenter's shop. William Daliston, a carpenter employed about the theatre, said that, "if one of the battens was unlighted, but charged with gas, the gas would ascend and fill the carpenter's shop with gas, and, if the gas got over the front of the house under the carpenter's shop, it might be ignited. The flooring and materials of the carpenter's shop were very dry." Richard Jones, engineer to the London Gas Company at Vauxhall (the company employed by Mr. Anderson in preference to that already connected with the theatre), said he was almost convinced that escape of gas had nothing whatever to do with the fire.

Mr. Anderson gave evidence, and mentioned that there had been some dispute between Mr. Sloman, master carpenter, and Mr. Palmer, the gasman, both of whom referred the disagreement to Mr. Anderson, who settled it, and the two disputants became better friends than ever. There had been a summons from the police-office; but no threat had been held out. Mr. Anderson said he had sustained a loss by the fire; but he could not as yet say to what amount. He was insured in the Sun office, to the extent of £2,000. This insurance expired about a week after the fire; but he did not know whether it would extend to the property if moved from the theatre. He was no longer liable for rent. His leasehold terminated on the night of the *bal masque*. He was aware that there had been an escape of gas, but he did not think that could possibly have caused the fire, and he had told Mr. Sloman that, considering his short term, he could not undertake to remedy the defect. There had been a great deal of smoking during the night, and Mr. Anderson said he had been in six fights while endeavouring to prevent it, but that it was beyond his power to stop the annoyance.

The inquest was once more adjourned; Wednesday being appointed for its resumption.

On that day, a little additional testimony was received. The son of one of the carpenters admitted that he had, on the night of the masquerade, lighted his father to the foot of the step-ladder leading into the carpenter's shop, and that he carried a candle, because there was no lamp trimmed for use; but the candle was not taken into the shop. From the evidence of a man named Cooper, it appeared that, about five weeks ago, some carboys of what he conceived to be vitriol were hoisted on to the roof of the theatre; from which he augured that a fire would be very likely to occur. Mr. Anderson, being asked for an explanation, said that the Electric Light Company applied to him for permission to burn their light over the portico of the theatre, as they had done over the Lyceum. The company used sulphuric acid; and they had the entire arrangement and responsibility of the matter, Mr. Anderson not troubling himself with it. It appears, however, that his carpenter placed the acid on the roof, where it remained about three weeks, and was then taken away. Mr. Anderson said he had two private rooms, which he kept locked, because he had properties there, the nature of which he did not wish every one to see; but the firemen had the keys, and were instructed to look into the rooms in their rounds. A portion of these properties had been removed before the fire broke out. Mr. Anderson had wires communicating from the stage to various parts of the theatre, for the use of his galvanic batteries. Both sulphuric acid and nitric acid were used by Mr. Anderson in his proscenium box; but it appears he had never more than fourteen or fifteen pounds in that box at one time. Mr. Sloman stated that, when first he saw the fire, it was rising out of the ventilator in the roof, which was from forty to fifty feet from Mr. Anderson's proscenium box. Mr. Grieve, the scene-painter, mentioned that he had often called attention to the heaps of combustible matter which were allowed to accumulate in the property shop, and which he once found smouldering; and Mr. Braidwood, the superintendent of the Fire Brigade, confessed his inability to state the cause of the fire, though he thought the most probable reason was to be found in the over-fatigue of the watchmen, some of whom had been on duty for forty hours. The jury returned an open verdict.

**MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS OF COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE.**—A meeting of about fifty renters or share holders of Covent-garden Theatre was held last Saturday, at Mr. Robins's auction-rooms in Covent-garden for the purpose of receiving from the proprietors in

formation as to their present condition and future prospects. The renters or "annuitants," as they term themselves, consist of a body of one hundred and ten persons, who hold between them one hundred and fifty shares of £500 each, bearing an annuity of £25 a-year during the continuance of the lease, and conferring the right of transferable free admission on the holder. Dr. Smethurst occupied the chair, and a statement of the position of the property was made by Mr. Surman, solicitor of Lincoln's-inn-fields, who attended on behalf of the proprietors. From this it appeared that the theatre was held on six leases from the Duke of Bedford, with a rent of £2,085 per annum. Thirty years of the term are yet unexpired. The theatre was in great difficulties in 1832, the shareholders having then received no annuity for seven years, and an execution was put in the house. An arrangement was then come to, by which the Duke of Bedford reduced the rent £500, and the shareholders agreed to take half their usual dividend of £25 a-year until the theatre should be free from debt. From 1832, the average profit at the letting of the theatre has not been more than £600. "With respect to the property," said Mr. Surman, "it is held in twelfth shares, and they are divided in the following manner:—The executors of the late Charles Kemble hold two-twelfths. At the death of Charles Kemble, those shares were left to his children—two daughters and a son—and at the present time all his affairs are in the Court of Chancery. The remaining part of the property belong to the Harris family, and that is represented by myself as the executor and trustee of the family. My friend Mr. Harris died in 1839, and I am sorry to say that he owed at that time £50,000 of private debts, which were secured by mortgages on his shares in this theatre, not one shilling of which has yet been paid, or is likely ever to be paid." The general debt of the theatre now stands at about £9,000, and the property, said Mr. Surman, is not worth £7,000. Mr. Gye is in debt to the shareholders £1,700. At the conclusion of the meeting, a resolution, to the effect that a committee of twelve renters should be appointed to investigate and decide upon the affairs of the theatre, and to report the same to a general meeting of the renters, was agreed to without dissent.

#### THE ORIENT.

##### INDIA.

THE annexation of the kingdom of Oude was announced by official proclamation on the 7th of February. In this document, the Governor-General sets forth that, by the treaty of 1801, the East India Company engaged to protect the territory of Oude, provided that certain reforms in the administration were carried out. The protection has always been strictly accorded, but the reforms have not been instituted. For more than fifty years, the British Government has acted with the utmost toleration, and some years ago Lord Bentinck warned the king of Oude of the consequences of his lawless government—a warning which was repeated eight years since by Lord Hardinge. But the evils have increased; "armed violence and bloodshed are daily events;" the army is little better than a band of brigands; the king takes scarcely any part in the government of his territory; and the consequence is annexation. An offer was recently made to the king to vest the government in the hands of the East India Company, with an ample allowance for himself; but this was refused, and his kingdom is therefore seized. Such is the substance of the proclamation, which adds:—"If any officer of Durbar, Jagardar, Zemindar, or other person, shall refuse to render such obedience, if he shall withhold the payment of revenue, or shall otherwise dispute or defy the authority of the British Government, he shall be declared a rebel, his person shall be seized, and his jagheers or lands shall be confiscated to the State. To those who shall immediately and quietly submit themselves to the authority of the British Government, full assurance is hereby given of protection, consideration, and favour. The revenue of the districts shall be determined on a fair and settled basis. The gradual improvement of the Oude territories shall be steadily pursued. Justice shall be measured out with an equal hand. Protection shall be given to life and property, and every man shall enjoy henceforth his just rights without fear of molestation." The king's pension is to be £150,000 a-year.

Hyderabad, in the Deccan, is now the only independent native state of magnitude in India. A plan for tranquillising this country has been formed by Mr. Buxby, the resident of Hyderabad, who proposes to send away all the Arab soldiers, and, by a loan of £4,000,000 sterling, to enable the Nizam to liquidate his debt. For these ends, an army of 80,000 men is to be sent from the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, and, as security for this expense and for the loan, a cession of territory will be required yielding a revenue of £300,000 a-year.

The Santal rebellion has again broken out. The wretched savages, being seized with a panic, attempted to fly into the territory of the Ooles, who resisted, and it was evident that, if the emigration continued, the latter tribe would soon be in rebellion. The

flight of the Santals was therefore opposed at the point of the bayonet; and, being desperate with fear and starvation, they fought. This fresh rising, however, has been put down for the present; but uneasiness is felt. A great increase at Calcutta in the price of rice has created some alarm. The rice trade of Rangoon, which was expected to be very large, has proved at present to be but small.

Lord Dalhousie has published his order upon what is called Brigadier Mackenzie's affair. That officer had interfered in a religious procession, and was wounded by some of the native soldiers. The Governor-General reprimands Brigadier Mackenzie, and declares that his "wounds" will compel him to leave Bolarun; but he refuses to exculpate the soldiers. Bills for legalising the re-marriage of Hindoo widows, and for altering under tenures, have passed a second reading. The former measure has created no discussion, and will probably be passed. Lord Dalhousie is extremely ill.

##### EGYPT.

The Viceroy of Egypt (says a letter from Alexandria) is desirous at the same time that he opens the Isthmus of Suez to the peaceful operations of all nations, of solving the great problem of African geography—that of the sources of the Nile. He has manifested his intention to confide the command of a new expedition to Count d'Escayrac de Lauture, member of the Central Commission of the Geographical Society, a man well known for his travels in the interior of Africa, and for his works on that part of the world.

##### AMERICA.

THE debate on the correspondence relative to the differences between Great Britain and America came on in the Senate on the 29th ult. After various opinions had been expressed, Mr. Mason moved that the printing of the British enlistment documents be increased to 10,000 copies; which was agreed to. On the 3rd inst. the Senate passed a bill authorising the construction of ten sloops of war, each vessel estimated to cost 507,000 dollars, including equipment and steam machinery. During the debate, it was stated by a member that the bill was unanimously recommended by the Naval Committee, not founded on any existing alarm on the subject of war, but merely for the protection of commerce. The Minister of War has been recommending the repair and increase of the fortifications.

Mr. Cass has called attention in the Senate to a statement made in a newspaper by Mr. James Watson Webb, with reference to Lord Clarendon's declaration in the House of Lords, in January, 1854, that the alliance between the English and French Governments was perfect in relation to all parts of the world. This was understood by Mr. Cass to imply a threat against Cuba; and Mr. Webb brought this interpretation under the notice of Lord Clarendon, who emphatically disavowed it, and said he alluded solely to the misunderstanding which had existed between France and England in South America, and at Tahiti, in the Pacific. The explanation having been repeated two or three times, Mr. Webb was satisfied, and communicated the facts to a member of the Senate. Mr. Cass, however, on the 3rd of the present month, expressed to the Senate his wonder that Lord Clarendon had not made his explanation openly in the House of Lords, instead of sending it in a private communication which few would hear of. It now appears that Lord Clarendon, on the 10th of November, wrote to Mr. Crampton, directing him to communicate officially to Mr. Marcy the offer of his Lordship to Mr. Buchanan to submit the questions at issue to arbitration. The paragraph containing this direction was strangely overlooked by Mr. Crampton until the latter end of last month, when he transmitted the despatch to Mr. Marcy. The recall of Mr. Crampton is demanded by the American Government.

With respect to the recent progress of the Americans in Nicaragua and its neighbourhood, and their present indisposition to associate themselves with this country in the material improvement of those regions, the *Times* publishes a statement to the effect that the American company which was formed in 1849-50 for making a canal or railway through the Isthmus of Darien, offered half their rights to the capitalists of England, who, after much equivocation, refused to participate in the work under the pretence of its being impracticable, though Lord Malmesbury (when Foreign Secretary), and two English engineers appointed by him declared in favour of the scheme. What wonder, then, asks the *Times*, if the Americans, disgusted with such conduct, pursued their designs by themselves, and gave encouragement to the expedition of Walker?

It is now feared that the Pacific steamer is lost. Two vessels have been sent out in search of her; but they have discovered no tidings.

Vera Cruz has been the scene of a little bombardment. An ex-captain of bandits and guerillas, named Salcedo, contrived to get himself placed in command of the garrison; he then pronounced in favour of Haro y Tamariz, and sent a summons to the city to surrender in a few hours, on penalty of bombardment.

The summons was refused, and fire was opened on the houses. A few persons were killed, and a little damage was done; but the interposition of the French frigate *Penelope* saved the town, and shortly afterwards the garrison surrendered. Salcedo will be tried by court-martial, and will probably be shot, if the vengeance of the people do not anticipate the more legal punishment.

The New York commercial advices observe that the tone of the English journals in their discussions of American affairs is considered less belligerent, and conduces to the opinion that there is no probability of a collision between England and America. The money market is gradually growing easier.

##### IRELAND.

ANOTHER MURDER.—A farmer's son in the neighbourhood of Pallas-green, Limerick, has been waylaid and murdered within a quarter of a mile of his father's house.

EXECUTION FOR MURDER.—A woman, named Agnes Burns, has been executed for the murder of Margaret Withers, an old woman who kept a shop at Saintfield, Down. To gain possession of a small sum of money belonging to the old woman, Burns and her sister entered the shop, pretended to make a purchase, and while being served, attacked the woman and killed her. Fear seems then to have fallen on the murderers, and they fled without searching for the money, but with a few pounds of butter. Endeavouring to sell this spoil at a ridiculously low price, suspicion ensued, and detection followed. The sisters were arrested, and one of them turned Queen's evidence against the other, who was convicted in little more than a fortnight from the commission of the crime.

LIABILITIES OF THE TIPPERARY BANK.—The *Dublin Mercantile Advertiser* says that it has good reason for believing that the deficit to be made up by the shareholders is less by one-half than it was represented to be at the hearing before the Master of the Rolls.—Mr. M'Dowell, one of the junior fellows of Trinity College, has been nominated to the office of official manager of the Tipperary Bank. Mr. Meldon is to be the solicitor under him, and Mr. Gibson to be the solicitor having the carriage of the proceedings. Mr. M'Dowell, who owes his appointment to the strong recommendation of Mr. Longfield, one of the Commissioners of Encumbered Estates, was proposed in behalf of the Messrs. Scully as representing three hundred and thirty shares in the Tipperary Bank.

MR. SOMERS EXPLAINS.—Mr. Somers, the defeated candidate at the late Sligo election, writes to the *Dublin Express* to correct the report of his speech to the electors. He writes:—"I certainly did say that I thought my independent support of the party of which he is now the leader for the last nineteen years gave me some claim upon the Government, and that I should endeavour to turn any little influence which I might possess towards the improvement of the harbour, and to further the general prosperity of the town. Beyond this, I presume not to exercise any influence. It is true that I have been honoured by the support of Lord Palmerston for the last nineteen years, but during that long period I never obtained an official favour at his hands."

#### CONTINENTAL NOTES.

##### FRANCE.

A SON AND HEIR HAS BEEN BORN TO THE FRENCH EMPEROR. At a quarter past three on the morning of Sunday, March 16th, the Empress was delivered of a Prince, which, together with the mother is doing well.

The sufferings of the Empress are mentioned as unusually severe. They set in at five o'clock on Saturday morning, and the delivery did not take place until nearly four-and-twenty hours afterwards. During the greater part of the day, the Emperor walked to and fro in the Empress's chamber, looking through the windows at the crowds assembled below; and a sentimental account is given in the *Patrie* of the comforting assurances rendered by Napoleon to his suffering partner. "He told her," says the courtly scribbler, "that all the churches were crowded with the faithful, praying the Almighty for her delivery, and that all Paris was offering to Heaven the most ardent wishes in her behalf. The Empress then felt her courage redouble at the idea that she was the object of such universal sympathy." The same paper states that "the young Prince is of so robust a constitution that he is nearly as big as the child of his nurse, who is two months old." On seeing this, the Emperor remarked that "it was no wonder the Empress suffered so much." A lachrymose story is told of his throwing himself in a flood of tears on the neck of his cousin, Prince Napoleon, and saying, "You, I am sure, will love and protect this child." At the hour of mass, the boy was baptised, and was then removed to "his own apartment." During the religious ceremony, the annexed invocation was pronounced:—"Bestow on him the genius and magnanimity of his father, the kindness and inexhaustible charity of his mother, the sincere faith and devotion of both; and, to sum up



those wishes in one word, bestow on him a heart worthy of his destiny and of his name."

It is said that the delivery was not effected without an operation, which left a scar on the infant's brow.

His Highness Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte has fractured his toe, and in consequence of this accident was unable to be present at the Tuileries.

The Pope being the godfather of the Prince, and the Queen of Sweden the godmother, the Prince has received in addition to the names of Napoleon, Eugénie, and Louis, those of Jean Joseph. The Emperor has decided that he will be godfather and the Empress godmother of all the legitimate children born in France on the day of the 16th of March.

The Plenipotentiaries of the Congress presented an address (Count Walewski being the speaker), and received an acknowledgment couched in these terms:—"I thank the Congress for the well-wishes and congratulations addressed to me through you. I am happy that Providence has granted me a son at a moment when a new era of general reconciliation dawns upon Europe. I will bring him up imbued with the idea that nations must not be egotistical, and that the peace of Europe depends upon the prosperity of each nation."

The Senate and Legislative corps waited on the Emperor on Tuesday, to congratulate him on the birth of an heir. M. de Morny, the president, read the following address:—"Sire,—Providence has gifts in store for those princes who devote themselves to the greatness and prosperity of their people. It has just proved this to your Majesty by a most striking favour. But this great joy which it gives you by the birth of a son is also a happiness for the great family which gathers round you. Already France breathes more freely by the birth of this child; she associates her future with her destinies."

"When he shall reign over this Empire, which Grotius styled the finest under the kingdom of heaven, the 19th century, having reached its extreme period, will gather the fruits, the productive seed of which have been sown by our generation in the present. Africa, fostered by your powerful hand, will have become one of the brightest gems of his Crown. The East and the West, which have been seeking each other since the Crusades, and are only coming in sight of each other now, will have connected their seas and coasts to let forth the improving tide of the ideas and riches of civilisation. Let the future Sovereign of our children follow in the steps of his august father; let him call to mind a reign where the genius of government is guided by moderation of justice; and in this march of humanity France will still be, as she is now, a regulator for Europe, a lever of progress, a torch of intellect."

"Let us hail, then, this son of the Empire, the pledge of so many great destinies; let us greet likewise, and thank his graceful mother. A wife already so endeared to you, will be dearer still to your heart by this consideration of maternity."

"Allow the Senate, Sire, to place its homage for her at the foot of this throne, which she embellishes by her amiable qualities, and which she has cemented by this happy birth."

The Emperor replied:—

"Monsieur le Président du Sénat,—The Senate shared my joy when it learnt that Heaven had granted me a son, and you have hailed as a happy event the birth of an *Enfant de France*. I purposely make use of this expression. In fact, the Emperor Napoleon, my uncle, who had applied to the new system created by the Revolution all that was great and noble in the *regime*, resumed that old denomination of '*Enfants de France*.' And, in truth, gentlemen, when an heir is born destined to perpetuate a national system, that child is not only the offspring of a family, but he is truly also the son of the whole country, and the name indicates his duties. If this were true under the old monarchy, which more exclusively represented the privileged classes, with how much more reason ought it not to be so to day, when the sovereign is the elect of the nation, the first citizen of the country, and the representative of the interests of all?"

"I thank you for the good wishes you have expressed for this child of France and for the Empress."

To the address of the Legislative Corps, the Emperor replied:—"Monsieur le Président du Corps Législatif,—The expression of your sentiments on the birth of the son which it has pleased Providence to grant me has touched me nearly. You have welcomed in him the hope, which it is flattering to entertain, of perpetuating a system which is held to be the surest guarantee of the general interests of the country; but the unanimous acclamations which surround his cradle do not prevent me from reflecting upon the fate of those born in the same place and under similar circumstances. If I hope that his fate may be a happier one, it is that, first of all, confiding in Providence, I cannot doubt of its protection when I see it restore again by an extraordinary combination of circumstances what it was pleased to overthrow forty years since, as if it wished to mature by martyrdom and misfortune a new dynasty issuing from the ranks of the people. History has, moreover, lessons which I shall not forget. It tells me, on the one hand, that

we should never abuse the favours of fortune; on the other, that a dynasty has only then a chance of stability when it remains faithful to its origin, and when it occupies itself solely with the popular interests for which it was created. This child, whose birth is consecrated by the peace under preparation, by the blessing of the Holy Father, brought by electricity in an hour after he saw the light of day, and finally by the acclamations of the French people, whom the Emperor so much loved—this child, I say, will, I hope, be worthy of the destinies that await him.

"I thank you, gentlemen, for the well-wishes you have expressed for him and for the Empress."

The Council of State were addressed, in reply to their congratulations, as follows:—"M. le Président du Conseil d'Etat,—The Council of State, that intimate Council of the Sovereign and of his Government, which is initiated to all his thoughts, and which associates itself with all his acts, would, I was sure of it, take a lively participation in the rejoicing of the present and in the hope of the future. None labour more than yourselves, gentlemen, towards the consolidation of that future. Strong in the grand traditions of the Council of State of the first Empire, you elaborate the laws which, while they consecrate the grand principles of the Revolution, pacify the country, consolidate the ruling power, curb factions, and prepare the peaceful reign of a wise liberty. I count, therefore, upon the talents and patriotism of which you have already given me so many proofs to render easy to the child who has just been born the accomplishment of his future destinies."

A *Te Deum* will be performed to-morrow (Sunday) in all the churches in France.

Paris has been brilliantly illuminated, and some of our English provincial towns have followed the example. A congratulatory address has been despatched from Edinburgh. The Paris market women—*les dames de la Halle*—went to the Tuileries, on Tuesday, to congratulate the Emperor, who received them with great courtesy, and led them himself to the apartments of the Prince, and presented the infant to them. The corporations of workmen have also manifested a desire to wait on the Emperor; but he has postponed their visit till the period of baptism. The Imperial Courts of the various principal cities have sent in, or are now sending in, their addresses. Numerous pardons to military prisoners have been granted; several pecuniary fines and imprisonments have been remitted; and 803 pardons have been accorded to those culprits confined in the Bagnes who have exhibited signs of sincere repentance.

The Emperor has repeated an offer, already made at the inauguration of the Empire, to permit the return to France of all political exiles who will make a declaration to submit loyally to the existing form of Government. According to the statistics of the *Moniteur*, the number of persons exiled by the existing Government after the insurrection of June, 1848, was 11,000, which was reduced by Louis Napoleon, during his Presidency, to 306. After the *coup d'état*, 11,201 persons were deported, but the number was afterwards brought down by pardons to 1,058.

The health of the Empress continues satisfactory: the milk fever has set in a regular and favourable manner, and is now subsiding.

Prince Jerome is progressing towards recovery.

By Imperial decree, dated March 16, M. Paul Dubois, surgeon-accoucheur to the Empress, has been promoted to the grade of Commander of the Legion of Honour.

The King of Sardinia, on hearing of the birth, sent M. Polenzo, his Minister of Foreign Affairs, to the French representative, to offer him his congratulations.

It is a coincidence which cannot fail to challenge remark that the number of the *Moniteur* announcing the birth of an heir to the throne of the Bonapartes, contains a decree ordaining that all the money which still bears the effigy of Liberty shall cease to be current coin.

Some reflections on this event, of a very grave and ominous nature, are offered by the *Times*; for our contemporary, though willing and desirous to see the perpetuation of the Napoleonic dynasty, cannot shut his eyes to the lessons which French history plainly teaches. The "leading journal" observes:—"Not a little remarkable is it to observe that, from the accession of Louis XIV. to the present time, not a single King or Governor of France, though none of them, with the exception of Louis XVIII., have been childless, has been succeeded at his demise by his son. Louis XIV. survived his son, his grandson, and several of his great grandchildren, and was succeeded at last by one of the younger children of his grandson the Duke of Burgundy. Louis XV. survived his son, and was succeeded by his grandson, Louis XVI. Louis XVI. left a son behind him, but that son perished in the filthy dungeon to which the cruelty of the terrorists had confined him. The King of Rome, to whom Napoleon fondly hoped to bequeath the boundless empire he had won, died a colonel in the Austrian service. Louis XVIII. was, as we have said, childless. The Duke de Berri fell by the hand

of an assassin in the lifetime of Charles X.; and his son, the Duke de Bordeaux, is an exile from the land which his ancestors regarded as their own estate. The eldest son of Louis Philippe perished by an untimely accident, and his grandson and heir does not sit upon the throne of his grandfather. Thus, then, it appears that, for upwards of two hundred years, in no one of the dynasties to which France has been subjected has the son succeeded to the throne of the father. Amid the shipwreck of so many dynasties, amid the overthrow of so many hopes, amid the blasting of so many fair prospects of success, it were presumptuous to anticipate for this last child of a reigning family that good fortune which has been denied to so many of his predecessors. Who does not remember the prophetic poem in which Beranger represents the son of the great Napoleon as warning the youthful Duke de Bordeaux of the snares and difficulties that surround the path of the future heir of the French diadem? 'Fortune,' writes the heir of the Empire to the heir of the restoration, 'stretches to you a hand, and smiles upon your birth. My first day also was fair. Kings adored me in my cradle; and yet I am at Vienna. I slept upon laurels, and you are wrapt in purple: sceptres were my playthings, my head was bound with a crown, the Marshals swore fidelity to me—an oath which they have doubtless kept—and yet I am at Vienna.'

A pamphlet, entitled "*Les Conférences de 1856 et les Nationalités*," from the pen of a Pole, M. Joseph Reitzenheim, and recently published at Paris, contrasts the apathy of the French people with regard to the war—in some instances, their opposition to it—with the eagerness of the English. In France, observes the writer, the Government all along has had to urge the people into action; in England, the people have had to urge the Government, and to change an administration which they regarded as not in earnest. M. Reitzenheim contends that the material condition of France has prospered by the war, the merchant navy of the Mediterranean cities having greatly increased, owing to the reduction of the Russian Black Sea fleet; and he explains the opposition of portions of the people to the English alliance to a fear of accepting that alliance without a certain reserve. The French are satisfied with the glory they have attained; the English desire solid advantages. The writer repudiates the idea that the English (whose courage he eulogises) desire to continue the war for the mere sake of retrieving certain alleged slurs on their military reputation.

A remarkable case has recently been tried at the Correctional Police Tribunal of Privas (Ardeche). In the neighbouring commune of Saint Symphorien, there has long existed amongst the population a body of Socialists. A farmer named Chabanel openly pronounced the opinions of the Socialists to be those of thieves, and refused to join them in the insurrectionary rising of the people in 1851. A short time since, one of the Socialist party discovered that a fine branch had been cut off a walnut-tree belonging to him, and, upon investigation, it was ascertained that Chabanel was the culprit. This was considered by his enemies to be a favourable opportunity of doing him an injury; they therefore, caused him to be tried by the municipal council of Saint Symphorien, instead of the judicial authorities. When Chabanel was brought before the former body, it was decided by the majority of its members, although some of them were in favour of hanging, that he should be fined the sum of 400 francs, one half of which was to be paid to the owner of the walnut-tree, and the other to go to the poor. If the culprit did not pay, he was to undergo the sentence of a long imprisonment and a heavy fine. This so troubled Chabanel that he fled to the village of Privas, where he conferred with the authorities, who promptly took measures for proving to the municipal council of Saint Symphorien that it had no power whatever to condemn the man. As, however, the theft of the walnut-tree branch was still unpunished, Chabanel was tried before the Privas Tribunal of Correctional Police, which decided that, under all the circumstances, a fine of sixteen francs would meet the justice of the case, and passed a severe censure on the municipality of Saint Symphorien, for what it had done.

#### AUSTRIA.

According to letters from Galatz, received by Messrs. Charles Joyoe and Co., it appears that towards the end of February more than one hundred vessels, chiefly German, had come up the Danube, and that freights had declined considerably. At the date of the latest advices from Sulina, the depth of water on the bar was about ten Venetian feet. The Austrian Government is about to deepen the channel, and to place buoys, mooring-ships, and a light ship at the entrance of the Sulina mouth.

The treaty for the sale and concession of the Austrian railways in Italy to the section of capitalists headed by Messrs. Rothschild has been definitively arranged. They are to purchase two hundred and seventy-three English miles, which are already completed, and to undertake two hundred and twenty three miles which remain to be constructed, in addition to the Central Italian line. The total network

to come into their possession will therefore comprise about six hundred and eighty English miles. The company are to pay for the finished lines £2,400,000 by instalments spread over six years, with £660,000 additional in case the average profits during that time shall exceed seven per cent. The whole capital required is estimated at £10,000,000, on which the Austrian Government guarantees five per cent. A further reduction in the Austrian army is announced.

The Pope has convoked the Austrian Synod for April 6th. It is to take into consideration how the provisions of the Concordat may be best carried out.

#### PRUSSIA.

The Hinkeldey duel continues to excite great curiosity and discussion in Berlin. By the deceased's own arrangement, pistols were chosen as the weapon to be employed; but it seems that he was shortsighted, and knew nothing of the use of firearms, though he was an excellent hand at using the broadsword. Herr von Rochow is now being tried before the "Court of Honour," instituted by the King in 1845 for the investigation of such matters; but it is believed that the public prosecutor will, nevertheless, commence proceedings against the duellist. It is stated that, after the proceedings at the Jockey Club which led to the duel, Rochow and a friend called on Hinkeldey and demanded explanations as to his conduct. The Police Minister, answering merely as a private individual, and not binding his visitors to secrecy, indiscreetly said he had the express orders of the King for what he had done. This was repeated; demands were made on him for his written or official evidence of the royal authorisation; and, to save himself from implication with the King, it is asserted that Hinkeldey denied the authorisation. The other party obtained an official inquiry, and Hinkeldey repeated the denial. Rochow, it seems, did not reject overtures for an arrangement; but he is blamed for insisting too strongly on having Hinkeldey's signature to a form of explanation drawn up by himself. The King appears to have known of the duel beforehand, and to have discountenanced it, and exhorted the disputants to an amicable arrangement; but Hinkeldey precipitated the encounter, and hastened his own death.

Count Canitz, who, it was alleged last week had shot himself, has fallen in a duel at Potsdam. Nothing is yet known of the circumstances. As we remarked last week, "a strange stain of blood has come over Prussia," where, not to speak of the duels, murders have lately been almost as common as in England.

The *Leipsic Illustrated News* was seized at Berlin on the 12th inst. for an article against Russia.

M. de Zedlitz Neukirch, Chief Councillor of the government of Liegnitz (Silesia), is appointed successor to M. Hinkeldey in the Director-Generalship of Police.

In the course of last summer, several private papers and despatches, from the letter-cases of two persons of high and courtly standing, were stolen, and a manservant of the King's private secretary, Niebuhr, and another of General Gerlach, were arrested, on the instigation, it is said, of the Russian Government, which had evidence of the contents of the despatches finding their way to the French embassy at Berlin, and influencing the operations in the Crimea. From inquiries now made, it appears that there is a suspicion of Baron von Manteuffel and the late Minister of Police being implicated in the transaction. An ex-member of the secret police, named Tetchen, appears to have been the thief; and among the papers purloined was a copy of the report sent in to General Gerlach by a *mauvais sujet* he had employed to search out and report on all the Prince of Prussia's sayings and doings while on a tour of military inspection—a report full of odious imputations of his Royal Highness. The report was by this means brought to the knowledge of the Prince, and by him laid before the King. There were also the most private communications from Count Munster at the Court of St. Petersburg to General Gerlach, whether for communication to the King or not is unknown.

#### ITALY.

Major Count Valerio Magauli-Cerati, of Cari, Chamberlain to the Duke of Parma, and director of the Central House of Detention, was stabbed a few nights ago at the moment he was returning home from the theatre with his wife and a relation of his. He expired almost immediately after receiving the wound. The motive which actuated the assassin is not known; but it is asserted that the crime was caused by his adopting certain stringent measures in the exercise of his functions.

The King of Naples has come to a definitive understanding with the Pope. His Majesty consents that the celebrated privileges of the Sicilian monarchy shall be nearly all abolished; and has accepted the brief in virtue of which the Pope destroys the secular prerogatives of the Ecclesiastical Tribunal of Sicily.

It is positively stated that the King of Naples has authorised the exportation of corn at a duty of one or two decimes the cantaro. The corn-market continues to have a marked downward tendency. The

permission to export biscuit and macaroni from Naples applies only to a term of three months which expires on the 31st of May.

We find it stated by the *Times* Turin correspondent that "an article from the *Morning Post*, which, singularly enough, found its way here through the columns of the *Nord* (a fact not without significance), as well as some hints from Paris correspondents of German papers, have given rise to a belief that the Italian question will be brought forward for the consideration of the Conference after the terms of peace have been agreed upon."

The first stone of the Puglia railway, in the kingdom of Naples—a railway which is to unite the Mediterranean and the Adriatic—has been laid. The King was not present; but delegated one of his ministers.

#### SPAIN.

With all her recent advances, Spain is not yet thoroughly tolerant. The presence of a Protestant Minister at Barcelona has induced M. Arios, the Minister of Justice, to issue a circular directing presidents of tribunals to prosecute with vigour all "Spaniards who may pretend to break or disturb the religious unity to which it has pleased Divine Providence that Spain should owe her prosperity."

A contest is going forward between Senor Battles and the ecclesiastical authorities relative to the legality of printing the Bible in Spanish without notes. The latter deny the legality; the former asserts it, and will insist on the Government appealing to a tribunal nominated by the Cortes, in accordance with a law passed in 1822. Senor Battles contends that the ecclesiastical censure is only valid against comments or writings on the Scriptures. The question has been raised by Mr. Alton, an English clergyman at Gibraltar.

Some time since, Senor Figuerola, President of the Committee on the Budget, and, in virtue of his office, sitting immediately behind the Treasury Bench, declared "that the English holders of Spanish coupons had nothing whatever to expect, as they had been well paid, and their claims were untenable." Lord Clarendon instructed the English Ambassador at Madrid to demand explanations from the Spanish Government; but the ministers flatly refuse to render these. Such, at least, is the story contained in a letter from Madrid.

The discussion on the bases of the bill on administrative organisation has been brought to a close in the Cortes. The Government has declared that it will not make a cabinet question of the plan of finance presented by M. Santa Cruz. General tranquillity prevails.

#### RUSSIA.

A great demand for railways and other social improvements is now arising in Russia. The want of proper means of communication between the northern and southern parts of the Empire, and the immense loss of cattle in slowly traversing the vast, arid, fever-haunted steppes, causes a large enhancement in the price of many necessities of life.

"You have already learnt," says the *Times* Berlin correspondent, "something of the new frontier army which Russia is now organising, not for the purpose of directly menacing the West, but apparently with the view of extending the present existing system of military colonies on the East. The Cossack forces of the Russian army consisted hitherto of eleven separate bodies; a twelfth has now been added by the exertions of Count Perowski, who has succeeded in raising it from among the Baschkirs and Metschskerians, in the Governments of Perm and Orenburg, and in settling them as a regularly organised cordon army. This twelfth Cossack army, or *corps d'armée*, is located in twelve regimental districts, which again are also divided into two war districts, each containing six regiments. Each regiment is numbered according to the number of its district. These twelve districts contain 30,188 houses, with a male population of 91,780 occupants, and they are required to furnish twelve regiments of mounted Cossacks, one brigade of horse artillery, with three active batteries, and, in addition to the above, a military *sootnia* of mechanics. For the administrative department connected with the command in chief a civil staff of thirty-eight employees and an allowance of 10,000 roubles are allotted. The civil expenses of the whole twelve regimental districts are estimated at 82,268 in the budget."

The Poles are expecting great things from the benevolence of Alexander after the conclusion of peace; the new Viceroy, Prince Gortschakoff, having recently said that "they can have no idea what the Emperor intends to do for them shortly."

The Russian Government, it is asserted, has the intention of establishing journals, as organs of its views, in various capitals of Europe, or of purchasing journals already established. *Le Nord* is said to fulfil in a very small degree the expectations and intentions of its founders.

That most liberal millionaire, the Straatsrath Jakowleff, the proprietor of the Werch-Isetz mining and smelting works, who on a former occasion supplied 1,000,000 silver roubles to make up for the defalcations and peculations committed in the funds of the *Invaliden*, has just signalled himself again by a

patriotic gift of 4,000,000 lb. of gun metal for the purposes of the army and fleet.

#### SWITZERLAND.

The *Ticinese Gazette* announces that the ratifications of the commercial treaty between Great Britain and Switzerland were exchanged at Berne on the 6th.

#### TURKEY.

A few items of Constantinople news are transmitted by telegraph to Marseilles. The Divan, taking into consideration the remonstrances of the merchants, has given up issuing the one hundred million paistres of paper money in contemplation. The judgment pronounced against Rustum Pacha, who was convicted of malversation, has condemned him to pay back to the State several thousands of francs and to be imprisoned during a year; but it is reported that the Sultan has commuted his penalty to banishment. Severe frost has recommenced at Constantinople, with heavy snow, and sickness is again on the increase. Two other French physicians have died. The chiefs of the board of health of the allied armies have, in consequence, ordered several wise sanitary measures. The Sultan has given audience to the Moldavian Hospodar, Ghika. Five hundred Bashi-Bazouks have arrived from Adrianople.

The Armenians and Greeks have protested against the late decree of the Sultan. The Greek petition is especially directed against the articles relating to the clergy.

#### THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

It is said that Prince Ghika is greatly dissatisfied with the resolutions for the reform of the Principalities which have been arrived at in the Constantinople Conferences. The effect of those resolutions would be to place Moldavia and Wallachia more in the light of integral parts of the Turkish Empire. The Prince and the boyards have transmitted a protest to the Paris Plenipotentiaries; and the former demands that the Principalities shall be united.

## OUR CIVILISATION.

### THE HAGS OF BELGIUM AND THEIR ENGLISH VICTIMS.

SOME investigations recently made at the Mansion-house exhibit the too often successful working of an iniquitous system of seduction. A few weeks ago, Susannah Evans (a young woman about sixteen years of age) and a female acquaintance were met at the corner of Fenchurch-street by a Belgian Jewess, who appeared to be known to the latter, and who, in a very friendly manner, asked them to go with her to see two or three young girls like themselves, who resided in Lambert-street, Leman-street, Goodman's-fields. They consented, and accompanied the woman in a cab to a house where they were introduced to two young women in a room on the second floor. The appearance of the place and of the women was not satisfactory to Susannah Evans, who expressed much anxiety to get away, but was prevailed upon by the Belgian Jewess to stay to dinner, while the new acquaintances informed her that they were going next day to Hamburg to get into splendid situations, in which they would be enabled to live in high style, wear gold watches and other jewelry, and supply their parents with the luxuries as well as the necessities of life. The girl Evans was desirous to return home, but was at last prevailed upon to go to bed after having in vain attempted to leave. In the morning, at an early hour, there was a bustle in the house, and she was hurried off in a cab with the two girls to whom she had been newly introduced, and was taken on board a steamer which lay near St. Catherine's-wharf. These facts were communicated by her companion, who contrived to escape, and, application having been made at the Mansion-house for assistance, the fact of the abduction was telegraphed to Hamburg, with directions to the police there to detain the girl. Two English detective officers were then despatched to the destination of the Belgian Jewess, and, after much trouble, the girl was rescued. But the Belgian was determined to make every effort to secure her prey, notwithstanding the interposition of the police; and she had actually assured the officials that the young woman had accompanied her from England under a regular engagement to receive the visits of gentlemen. Furthermore, she charged the poor girl with having robbed her parents of £5, and referred to a letter found in her pocket, but not at all liable to any construction of the kind as evidence of her dishonesty. The young woman complained much of the attempts of a person who, she was told, was the doctor appointed to examine all the fresh female arrivals under engagements to the Jewess by whom she had been forced on board. The detective officers brought the matter before the attention of the English consul, Colonel Hodges, who said he was aware of the existence of the system, but thought the only means to prevent it would be to memorialise Lord Clarendon for his immediate interference.

SUCCESSFUL GRADUATES IN CRIME.—James and Charles Green, youths, have been examined at Lambeth on several charges of stealing from dwelling-



houses. It appeared that the elder of the two, together with his sister, was an old offender. As far back as July, 1850, James Green had been in custody as a suspected person, but, on account of his age, and the apparent respectability of his appearance, he was discharged. In the same year, he again appeared on a similar charge, and was again released. In May, 1851, he was in custody on a charge of felony, and was then sentenced to three months' imprisonment. In June, 1852, and in September of the same year, he was delivered up to his parents. In January, 1854, James and his sister Martha, then a girl about twelve years of age, were tried at the Surrey Sessions, on a charge of housebreaking, when both were convicted and sentenced, the boy to six, and the girl to one month's imprisonment. In May, 1854, Martha was tried at the Surrey Sessions, on two distinct charges of felony, and was sentenced to four months' hard labour. In September, 1854, Charles made his first appearance at Lambeth as a suspected person, but was given up to his father. In October, 1854, James was again tried at the Surrey Sessions on the charge of house-breaking, and was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour. In December, 1854, Martha and Charles were tried at the Surrey Session for stealing a quantity of tools, and sentenced to imprisonment. In November last, James and Charles were brought up on a charge of being found in enclosed premises, and on that occasion the elder prisoner gave his name as Walter Scott, and both were sentenced to three months' imprisonment, so that they could not have been many days out of prison, before they recommenced their former practices. When taken into custody, there was found on each a well-executed photographic likeness of the owner, and some cotton wadding, saturated with rouge.

**EXTENSIVE FRAUD ON THE LIVERPOOL IRON WORKS.**—A clerk of the Mersey Iron and Steel Works, named John Locke, was, on Saturday last, charged before the Liverpool stipendiary magistrate, together with two dealers in scrap-iron, named Patrick Gallighan and Robert Murray, with having defrauded his employers, Messrs. Horsfall, of a considerable amount of property. For the last two years, Locke had been engaged to receive and weigh any quantity of scrap-iron that might be offered for sale at Messrs. Horsfall's works, while the clerk, who ordinarily attended to that business, was otherwise engaged. Having for some time suspected the honesty of Locke's transactions with the cast-iron dealers, the manager of the works set a watch over him to ascertain if his suspicions were well founded, and, on Friday week, shortly after twelve o'clock, seven loads of scrap iron, five of which belonged to Gallighan and two to Murray, were brought to the works for sale. The carts were put upon the weighing-machine in succession, and the weight, or alleged weight, of each was entered in a book by Locke, as was his duty; and from the weight entered in this book, the value of the iron, £4 15s. per ton, was paid. After the carts had been duly weighed and entered, the foreman of the yard came up, and the contents of one of the carts were immediately shot upon the scrap-iron heap. This having aroused the foreman's suspicions, as it was contrary to his express orders, he took care to prevent any of the other carts being emptied, and afterwards examined the weighing books, when it was found, on comparing the quantity of iron entered in the books with that in the carts, which was re-weighed for the purpose, that the latter was deficient in weight four tons, nineteen hundred weight, amounting in value to nearly £24. After this discovery, Locke was charged with making false entries, which he at once acknowledged, and stated that he had done it purposely, the practice having been originally suggested to him several weeks previously, by Gallighan, who had paid him half-a-crown for a hundred weight of the scrap-iron. These fraudulent transactions had been continually repeated at intervals, between Locke and Gallighan, in consequence of which the former had made several sovereigns. As regarded Murray, it appeared that Locke had himself suggested the practice to him in the first instance, and that it had not been continued so long with him as it had with Gallighan. The manager of the works said he believed that Locke could not have made less than £100 altogether by the fraud. The solicitor for Gallighan and Murray submitted that there was no case against them, and that they ought to be discharged. They were remanded, however, until Monday, together with Locke, ; bail being refused.

**ANOTHER CASE OF ALLEGED POISONING.**—Mary Brown, a young girl seventeen years of age, has died suddenly after a very short illness at Hartlepool. She lived as servant to Mr. George Wilkinson, a surgeon, by whom report says she was pregnant. She had been in the habit recently of eating sandstone, and a course of medicine was given to her, by her master's orders, and was generally administered by Mr. Wilkinson's housekeeper. She complained of pains in the head, and alleged that the medicine was very nasty. She vomited a good deal for some few days before her death, and her right hand became paralysed. One day, on being lifted out of her bed, she exclaimed, "It's death—death—death!" She died

on Friday week. An inquest has been opened, but is not yet concluded.

**EXECUTION AT LEICESTER.**—The execution of John Fowkes for the murder of his nephew at Snarestone on the 25th of November last by firing at him through a window, took place in front of the Leicester County Gaol on Wednesday morning. The culprit for a long time denied his guilt, but at length confessed.

**JUVENILE REFORMATORY FOR WORCESTERSHIRE.**—It has at length been determined, after a great deal of discussion, to establish a Juvenile Reformatory for Worcestershire.

**THE RIVAL CORN-CUTTERS.**—Two "chiropodists," of the respective names of Rendall and Bernard, reside in Regent-street, in consequence of which, mistakes frequently happen, the bunion-afflicted sometimes resorting to Mr. Rendall in mistake for Mr. Bernard, and being (according to his own admission) received by that practitioner, and told that "that scamp," Mr. Bernard, had gone to Scotland, which was not the fact. The "scamp" at length went with a horsewhip to his rival's house, and was received with a kick on the shins, which he retaliated by a severe flogging. Mr. Bernard was then given into custody, and brought before the Marlborough-street magistrate, who sent the case to the sessions.

**THE CASE OF SELF-MUTILATION.**—Lucy Constable, the servant-girl charged with wilfully maiming her person in order to exculpate herself from any suspicion of having abetted a burglary in her master's house, has been discharged. The wound in her throat was very serious, and, with a little greater pressure, might have been fatal.

**THE RUGELEY POSTMASTER.**—Sam. Cheshire, the late postmaster at Rugeley, was tried at Stafford on Friday week on the charge of opening a letter from Dr. Taylor, containing the report of his analysis of the remains of Mr. Cook, supposed to have been poisoned by William Palmer. Mr. Huddleston, who defended the accused, admitted that his client had taken the letter out of the cover and read it; but he argued that there was not sufficient evidence to show that Mr. Cheshire broke the fastening of the envelope. He was found guilty, with a recommendation to mercy, on account of the good character which he had received from several witnesses. Sentence was deferred.

**THE RUGELEY POISONINGS.**—True bills were found on Friday week at the Stafford Assizes against William Palmer for the murder of Mr. Cooke, and of his wife, Ann Palmer; but the bill was ignored in the case of Walter Palmer, the brother.

**BURGLARY BY A TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN.**—A young man, of one-and-twenty—a ticket-of-leave man—has been sentenced at the Surrey Sessions to six years' penal servitude for burglary. He had been heard, while in prison for a previous offence, to give notice to a fellow convict that, on coming out, he meant to break into the shop of the prosecutor, a jeweller; and hence he was arrested while in the act.

**THE ADMIRABLE CRIGHTON.**—"A row," as Lord Campbell would say, occurred in the pit of the Standard Theatre a few nights ago, and, on an officer of the establishment going to pacify or eject the disputants, one of them, named John Crighton, a carver, became very violent, struck the officer on the head, knocked him down, threw himself on his body, and bit his hand. He was taken into custody, and, being examined before the Worship-street magistrate, at first denied the biting, but afterwards begged for mercy. The admirable Crighton was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment.

**THE CASE OF ALLEGED PERJURY BY A GENTLEMAN.**—Mr. Noldwitt, the gentleman charged with perjury in connexion with an action against him for the amount of a bill of exchange, his signature to which, as endorser, he swore to be a forgery, has been committed for trial.

**A PIOUS FRAUD.**—Mary Ann Bennett, a single woman, has been tried at Oxford on a charge of causing a false entry of baptism to be made in the register of the parish of Church Eaton. It appeared that the woman had a child whom she desired to be baptised, and that she also wished herself to be churched, and therefore represented herself as the wife of a farmer named Bellas. It was proved that this was false; but Mr. Baron Bramwell directed that, if her object was not to falsify the register, but to procure the offices of religion for herself and her child, she could not be found guilty. She was therefore acquitted.

**THE LEEDS POISONING.**—The inquest on Mrs. Dove has concluded with a verdict of Wilful Murder against her husband. On the last day of the examination, Mr. Nunnely, the analytical chemist, stated that, to place the result of the examination beyond any doubt, he and Mr. Morley gave some of the spirituous extract obtained from the contents of the stomach to a guinea pig, two rabbits, and two mice, with the exception of one of the rabbits, died from effects exactly similar to those following the application of strychnine. Some strychnine was also given to various animals, with precisely the same results.

**ALION GRAY** has been found guilty at the Oxford Assizes of perjury, and has been sentenced to penal servitude for four years. She observed to Mr. Baron

Bramwell that she hoped he would pronounce sentence with as little ceremony as possible.

**THE CHARGE AGAINST A MAGISTRATE OF ATTEMPTING TO SHOOT A MAN.**—Dr. Pigott, a magistrate of Nottingham, was arraigned at the Nottingham Assizes on a charge of attempting to shoot a bailiff, who was sent to take possession of his furniture. The counsel for the prosecution said he did not consider the evidence sufficient to support the accusation, and the doctor was accordingly discharged. George Grealing, the bailiff, who was indicted for an assault upon the doctor, was also discharged, no evidence being offered against him.

**ALLEGED BURGLARY BY A TRADESMAN.**—Frederick Stapleton, a man who described himself as a map publisher, in Verulam-buildings, Gray's-inn-lane, is under remand at Clerkenwell, charged with a burglary in the house of a jeweller, in Marchmont-street, Brunswick-square, and with stealing several articles of great value.

**ITINERANT TRADERS.**—Several hawkers have been summoned by the police at the Westminster Office for obstructing the thoroughfares by the sale of their commodities. They were all discharged with a caution; and Mr. Arnold, the magistrate, commented severely on the conduct of the police in conniving at the practice in some instances, and summoning the offenders in others.

**THE SWINFEN CASE.**—A great deal of time has been occupied at the Stafford Assizes by an action to try whether the late Samuel Swinfen, of Swinfen Hall, Staffordshire, was in a sound state of mind when he made his will on the 7th of July, 1854. The plaintiff was the wife of his son, who died about a month before the father's death. To this lady the old man left all his real estate at Swinfen, with the moveables thereon, leaving personal property to the extent of about £20,000 undisposed of, and divisible among his next of kin. The defendant was a half brother of the late Mr. Swinfen, and he alleged that the testator was not of sound mind at the time he made the will. Mr. Swinfen, junior, had married a woman in humble life—a servant—and had thus given offence to his father; but, after a temporary separation, they came together again, and the wife was received with the greatest kindness by her father-in-law. Old Mr. Swinfen was physically infirm, and was attended by Mrs. Swinfen, junior. On the death of her husband, according to her own account, Mr. Swinfen, senior, said to her, with the greatest kindness, "Don't cry, don't cry, my dear: I will take care of you," but other witnesses said he was not sensible of his loss. A medical examination was made, and the doctor thought the drawing out of the will should be postponed; but it was signed a day or two afterwards (the 7th of July), and the testator died on the 26th. It appeared that old Mr. Swinfen was not on very good terms with his half brothers, on account of his father having left a good deal of his property to them.—An arrangement between the litigants was arrived at on Monday, after considerable difficulty, by which it is understood that it was agreed that the Chancery proceedings should be abandoned; that the defendant, the heir-at-law, should have the estate; and that the plaintiff, the devisee, should have an annuity of £1,000 a-year and the sum of £1,200 for costs.

**A PRECOCIOUS POISONER.**—Flora Everett, a girl of fifteen, was tried at Dorchester on a charge of administering poison to William Martin and Priscilla Martin, in whose house she lived as servant. Having been accused of taking some stockings, she put a piece of blue vitriol into the kettle, in consequence of which Mr. and Mrs. Martin perceived a strange taste in their tea, and the latter, who had taken the most, was made very ill. The girl was found guilty of the charge as regards Mrs. Martin, but acquitted as respects Mr. Martin. She was sentenced to penal servitude for six years.

**MURDER AT SHEFFIELD.**—James Hill has been tried at York for the murder of Alfred Deakin, a child between three and four years of age, whose throat he cut while out for a walk which he induced the boy to take with him. No motive for the act could be discovered; and various circumstances indicated the unsoundness of Hill's mind. On this ground he was acquitted.

**A LIGHT PUNISHMENT FOR MANSLAUGHTER.**—Samuel Compton and William Abram have been found guilty at Bedford of the manslaughter of John Wagstaff. They were all labouring men, and Wagstaff, having made an accusation of dishonesty against Compton, was challenged to fight with the latter. In the course of the contest (Abram being Compton's second), Wagstaff was killed; but, considering the provocation and the facts that no unfairness was resorted to, and that the accused had been in prison since the 24th of September, they were sentenced to a month's hard labour each.

**CAUGHT ON THE ROOF.**—Frederick Trevors, a well-known thief and housebreaker, whose brother has just been committed at the Surrey Sessions for highway robbery, was caught on the roof of an empty house in Newington, over the parapet of which he was in the act of climbing in order to enter the adjoining

house. The owner of the house was awakened by the proceedings of the intruder, and, with the assistance of a policeman, secured him. He was an old offender, and had come of a family of thieves. The Southwark magistrate, before whom he was brought, sentenced him to three months' hard labour.

**A LIVELY OLD LADY.**—Mrs. Alcott is a lady past the bloom of life, and has but recently been "united in the bonds of wedlock" with a gentleman who has also entered into the shady part of life. Nevertheless, the gentle pair are jealous, and the cooing of the bridal month has been interrupted by a resort to hostilities. One night, Mr. Alcott came home drunk, and in possession of a dagger. He asked if it was the intention of his wife's son to give him a thrashing; and the bride sweetly answered that her son would be very much to blame if he did not. Afterwards, Mr. Alcott (having Lord Campbell in his mind) said "there would be a row;" and his bride rejoined, "I intend there shall be." "Perhaps you will not be alive in the morning," said the bridegroom, and, taking a poker, he smashed the looking-glass and part of the furniture. He was then given into custody. Before Alderman Wire at the Mansion-house, Mrs. Alcott said, "The fact is, my lord, there is a reasonable jealousy on my part." The husband said the same, and added that he "felt uncomfortable about the business." "Why," observed the Alderman, "you don't say that you are jealous of this old lady?" however, he did say so, and he was bound over to keep the peace.

**MANSLAUGHTER.**—John Beauchamp, a publican at Lambeth, has been found guilty at the Kingston Assizes of the manslaughter of his wife. The woman was very intemperate in her habits, and the husband, finding her drunk one day when she was about to go out with him, struck her with his fist (as it would seem from the evidence), and caused the rupture of a blood-vessel in the head, from which she died. Beauchamp was sentenced to penal servitude for four years.

**FRAUDULENT DEBTORS.**—John Scott was indicted at the York Assizes for having, in contemplation of and after bankruptcy, mutilated his books of account, by tearing four leaves out of his ledger, and also for making a false entry and an alteration in his accounts, with intent to defraud his creditors. He was found guilty, but sentence was deferred.—Samuel Thomas Sloggatt has been found guilty at the Exeter Assizes of forging a letter purporting to come from his father, and vouching for the solvency of the son; his object being to satisfy one of his creditors to whom he was largely indebted, and who refused to give any more credit without a reference. He was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

**DESERTION OF PARENTS.**—Three young men, getting good incomes, have been summoned before the Thames magistrate for refusing to support their old and infirm parents, and leaving them chargeable to the parish. The sons made out no case to themselves, and were ordered to pay 2s. 6d. a-week each.

**A CLERGYMAN AND HIS MISTRESS.**—The Rev. Mr. Harris, a clergyman of the Church of England, has been living for some years past with a Miss Oakford as his wife. A few mornings ago, however, the reverend gentleman suspected the fair lady of stealing his watch, and he brought a policeman to the house. The lady asked to be allowed to go into her room to put on her bonnet: this being accorded, she lowered herself from the back window by means of a rope, and escaped. Calling on her solicitor, she directed him to write to Mr. Harris, and say she would be in attendance at the Lambeth police-office the following morning, to meet the charge. She did not appear, however, but her solicitor did. An officer was then despatched to the house, but, on his return, said he found the clergyman and the lady on most amicable terms, and the former said it was not his intention to pursue the case. "And thus," observe the reporters, "has ended this delicate, though, to a clergyman, not creditable affair," which would seem to imply that it would be creditable to a layman.

**MURDER IN SCOTLAND.**—An old woman, living by herself in a miserable cottage at Obsdale, Rosss-hire, has been murdered for the sake of some small sums which she had hoarded. The murderer cut her throat with a knife; but whether he succeeded in getting any booty or not is doubtful, as £3 15s. was afterwards found in a trunk.

**EMBEZZLEMENT AND SUICIDE.**—Mr. Edward Burfield, actuary of the Crickhowell Savings Bank, has appropriated various deposits, and made a number of fraudulent entries in the books. A police-inspector went to his house to arrest him, when he went up stairs as if to fetch his hat, and shot himself.—A lace manufacturer at Manchester has killed himself with prussic acid in a fit of temporary insanity.

**BURNING OUT A BED-RIDDEN MOTHER.**—Sarah Fountain, a young woman, was tried at Kingston on a charge of setting fire to the dwelling-house of her mother, who was a bed-ridden invalid. She set some combustibles aflame in a coal-shed adjoining the cottage; but it seems that the latter did not catch fire, the flames being discovered in time. To a policeman who arrested her, the young woman at first denied that she had committed the act; after-

wards she acknowledged it, saying she was "in a temper" at the time, but, if the magistrate would forgive her, she would not do it again. She was found guilty of an attempt to set the house on fire, and was sentenced to hard labour for twelve months.

**MORE FLOUR ADULTERATION.**—Mr. Joseph Crossley, miller and flour-dealer, was charged at the Rotherham court-house with adulterating his inferior flour with a considerable quantity of gypsum—a mineral substance composed of lime and sulphuric acid. He was fined £18 3s., including costs. His solicitor gave notice of appeal.

**BURGLARY AT SHEFFIELD.**—The house of Mr. Birtles, a stone merchant, living at Sheffield, has lately been robbed by a gang of thieves, under rather curious circumstances. His wife was awakened at half-past one o'clock in the morning by a noise as of some one boring a hole in the door of the kitchen cellar, which was immediately underneath the room in which she slept. Having alarmed her husband, he got up, and the thieves, hearing him, ran off. Mr. Birtles, however, though scarcely half dressed, pursued them, and caught one in a field, upon which the man called out for assistance, and one of his comrades arriving on the spot, the two together threw Mr. Birtles down. While one of the ruffians watched over him with a life-preserver, with which he twice struck Mr. Birtles, on that gentleman endeavouring to escape, the other man proceeded to the house for the purpose of robbing it. He accordingly entered the premises with five others, all masked and armed, and, after some parleying with Mrs. Birtles, they finally succeeded in terrifying her into giving them her keys. They then proceeded to plunder the house, from which they stole £29 in notes and gold, a life policy for £200, and a few smaller articles. In the meantime, the man who was keeping watch over Mr. Birtles in the field without, beginning to suffer from the inclemency of the weather, asked him whether, if he left him with his hands tied, he would lie still. Mr. Birtles replied that he would, and the man tied his wrists with strong cord. No, sooner, however, was Mr. Birtles left to himself, than he raised an alarm, and ran in the direction of the stone quarries which were occupied by his workmen. The burglar ran after him, but was soon obliged to give up the pursuit. Some of the men in the house hearing Mr. Birtles' cries for help, gave the signal to their comrades, and they all made off with what they had stolen, part of which, however, was afterwards found in a hedge near the house, where it had probably been dropped by the thieves in their hasty retreat.

**MURDER OF A PRIVATE IN THE BRITISH GERMAN LEGION.**—One of the men in the Jagar Rifle Regiment of the British-German Legion was murdered about ten days ago, by another man in the same corps, named Hans Hansen. The regiment is at present encamped at the Maker Heights in Cornwall. Jacobi, the murdered man, was a surgeon and of good family, although merely a private in the regiment. On the evening of Thursday week the two men were drinking together at a public-house at Millbrook; about eight o'clock they bought some penny loaves at a chandler's shop in the neighbourhood. They were soon afterwards seen proceeding towards their barracks, both in a state of intoxication, but more especially Hansen. It was twelve o'clock at night before Hansen arrived at the barracks when he was placed under arrest for being out after hours without leave. His captain, who arrested him, having remarked upon some spots of blood which he saw on his jacket, Hansen declared that he had killed nobody, but had had a bleeding at the nose. On the following morning, when the muster roll was being called over, Jacobi was not forthcoming, and, shortly afterwards, information was received at the barracks that the dead body of a soldier had just been discovered in a turnip field on the heights near Maker Church. A picquet was therefore sent to the spot, and the body of the murdered man was ascertained to be that of Jacobi, whose death had apparently been caused by numerous violent blows about the head and face. A few yards from the body, a great stone was found, smeared with blood, and with a few human hairs sticking to it. An inquest has been held and a verdict of Wilful Murder returned against Hansen, who was committed to gaol, and who will be tried at the next Cornwall Assizes.

**ROBBERY OF ROYAL PLATE.**—A waggon belonging to Mr. Thumwood, who for many years has been employed to convey plate to and from London and Windsor Castle, left Buckingham Palace, on Saturday afternoon, with about twelve chests of plate and other articles for the Paddington station under the charge of five men. On their way to the station, these men stopped at a public-house in the South Wharf-road, and all went in to drink, and by their own statement they had not left the waggon more than five minutes. On their return, they observed that the rope was cut which had confined the waggon cloth placed over the goods. This caused them to suspect that something was wrong, and, on looking over the waggon, they discovered that a chest of plate, which had been packed in the middle of it, and fastened to the rail, had been stolen. The waggon was after-

wards driven to the Paddington station, sent on the trucks to Windsor, and arrived at the Castle at seven o'clock, when Mr. Thumwood, on being informed of the robbery, returned to town with the man who had had charge of the goods, to institute an inquiry into the affair. The two helpers and the driver were subsequently taken into custody, but admitted to bail. The chest which was stolen was considerably lighter than the others, and consequently more easily removed. It contained a quantity of the royal nursery plate used by the princes and princesses. The value of the plate stolen is under £500. From subsequent discoveries it appears that this plate was packed in a very strange manner—petticoats, stockings, and other articles of female dress being employed to wrap round the various articles, instead of straw. The box containing the plate has been found by a young man in Bonner's Hall Field near the entrance to the Victoria-park. The stockings, &c., were found still in it, and also the blades of two dozen knives, from which the silver handles had been removed. A cab with two men in it drove up to the South Wharf-road, Paddington, just before the box was missing from the waggon, and there is little doubt that the property was carried off in this vehicle.

**A ROMANCE OF REAL LIFE.**—A singular application was made at the Westminster police-office by a young man, accompanied by his wife. He said that his wife's mother, an aged lady, who had resided at his house, died on Sunday, and, as he had no possible means of defraying the funeral expenses, he had applied to her family, who exhibited the most extraordinary apathy upon the subject, and declined to interfere. The deceased lady was the cousin of a viscountess, and her two sons possessed her wealth. Mr. Arnold said it was a matter in which he had no jurisdiction.

**MURDER NEAR STOURBRIDGE.**—A working man named Daniel Taylor has been killed in an affray near Stourbridge. Joseph Chivers, a young man, appears to have been the dealer of the death blows; and his father and brother are implicated as accessories.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

**SIR CHARLES NAPIER AT ACRE.**—With reference to the recent debate, Sir Charles Napier writes to the daily papers:—"Sir James Graham stated in his speech that I had advised Sir Robert Stopford not to attack Acre; and Admiral Berkeley went further, and said that the night before I told Sir Robert Stopford that if he sent him into the position marked out for him his ships would not swim for half an hour. My reply is not correctly reported, and I have to request you will give insertion to this letter. I stated in my reply that, upon my honour I did no such thing; and I now beg to say that there is not one word of truth, or even a shadow of truth, in those statements; they were got up to damage me."

**"REDAN MASSEY."**—Lieutenant Massey, of the 19th, popularly known as "Redan Massey" on account of his singularly courageous conduct on the 8th of September, has just arrived from the Crimea, by the steam transport *Andes*. He is slowly recovering from the wound in the thigh he received during the assault, but is not yet able to walk.

**THE MILITARY COURT OF INQUIRY.**—The dining hall at Chelsea Hospital is being fitted up for the sittings of the Court. Ample accommodation for the press and the public will be made, about 1,200 of whom will be admitted. The arrangements will be concluded forthwith, and early next week the Court will assemble formally, and adjourn to about the end of the following week, when the business will be at once entered on. Sir Thomas M'Mahon has forwarded a medical certificate of his inability to be a member of the board. Colonel Wetherall, Director-General of Land Transport in the Crimea, son of the Adjutant-General, has been telegraphed to return to England to attend as a witness, and the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief has directed that several of the officers who are on leave of absence in England, from the Crimea, shall not return to the East until the breaking up of the board. The Earl of Cardigan has sought the assistance of Mr. Merewether, Q.C., in preparing his answer. Sir Richard Airey has been for the last three weeks preparing his answer. He is assisted by Mr. Kinglake, Mr. Towers, solicitor, Colonel Steele, and Major Hackett.—*Globe*.

**GENERAL CAVENDISH AND GENERAL HALL.**—A letter from Major-General Hall, in answer to the communication from Colonel Cavendish with reference to his father, General Cavendish, of which we gave an abstract last week, has appeared in the *Times*. General Hall asserts that, so far from his having made a secret charge against General Cavendish, that officer had in fact done so against him, having in the course of the year 1847 written an anonymous letter, charging him with some offence "of a very grave nature." The letter was submitted to several persons, including professional judges of handwriting, and an unanimous opinion was given that it exhibited the penmanship of General Cavendish. With the sanction of Lord Combermere, the colonel of General (then Colonel) Hall's regiment, the whole case was laid be-



fore the Duke of Wellington, who resolved to take no steps in the matter, and who commanded General Hall to let the subject drop, and not to talk of it. In the following year, another anonymous letter from the same writer was received at the Horse Guards, containing twenty-one charges against General Hall of a still more serious character. The Duke of Wellington ordered the General to reply to these, and an inquiry was made by various officers of the army, the result of which was that General Hall was complimented for the facilities which he gave for the investigation, and for the discretion and forbearance he had exhibited. In a subsequent interview with the Duke of Wellington, his Grace cordially concurred in this feeling. But in March, 1853 (in consequence of General Hall objecting to serve under General Cavendish), a Court of Inquiry was instituted, to ascertain whether General Cavendish was the author of the anonymous letters, or cognisant of their being sent; and the result was that, after a great deal of very nicely-balanced evidence, the Court decided that General Cavendish was not the writer. To the statement of these facts, General Hall adds:—"I have applied to Lord Hardinge to know whether the language attributed to him by Colonel Cavendish—namely, 'to treat me and my supporters with the contempt which our despicable conduct deserved'—had been used by his Lordship. Lord Hardinge, in answer, 'most unequivocally denies having used these expressions, or anything like them, at any time.'" With reference to this statement, General Cavendish has written to the *Times* to say that he has appealed to Lord Hardinge to direct a public military inquiry on oath.

**WIDOWS' PENSIONS IN THE ARMY.**—A Royal Warrant has recently been issued, making certain rules and regulations for granting a fixed sum of money in lieu of pensions, compassionate allowances, and gratuities to widows, families, and relatives of officers killed in action, or dying of wounds received in face of the enemy within six months after being wounded.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**THE COURT.**—The King of the Belgians arrived at Dover on Monday night, on a visit to the Queen; and on Tuesday he reached Windsor.—The Princess Royal was confirmed in the private chapel of Windsor Castle on Thursday; the Archbishop of Canterbury presiding. The Queen and the various members of the royal family were present, together with the Princess's godfather, the King of the Belgians. The Court newsmen is rather meagre in his details of the ceremony; but he gives an ample list of the "distinguished" company (which included the Ministers), and he does not forget to chronicle that "the Princess Royal wore a rich white satin glacé gown, with five flounces pinked, the body richly trimmed with white riband and Mechlin lace"—very sumptuous humility indeed. After the ceremony, the Queen entered the Green Drawing-Room, where she received the "congratulations" of "the distinguished company."

**MR. ROEBUCK ON THE FALL OF KARS.**—A letter from Mr. Roebuck has appeared in the *Sheffield Times*, stating, in allusion to some remarks recently made in a lecture, that he believes the charge against Lord Palmerston of being a traitor to his country, and of having caused the fall of Kars by means of the money furnished by the Turkish Loan, is wholly unfounded. He disagrees with many of the Premier's official acts; he thinks Lord Stratford to blame, and therefore the ministry; but that Lord Palmerston has designedly betrayed England, he regards as a "monstrous calumny."

**VON BIELA.**—The continental papers record the death of the Austrian astronomer, Von Biela, discoverer of the comet which bears his name. He died at Venice on the 18th of February.

**THE REV. MICHAEL GIBBS REPROVED.**—Some important observations in connexion with the Sabbath question, recently put forth by the Rev. Michael Gibbs, have been reprinted, with admirable spirit and temper, in a letter which we here reproduce:—"Carey-lane, City, March 13, 1856. Reverend Sir,—I have received a small pamphlet called 'Fourteenth Annual Report for the united Parishes of Christ Church, Newgate-street, and St. Leonard, Foster-lane.' It is addressed, 'My respected Parishioners,' and signed 'Michael Gibbs, Vicar and Rector.' I presume it is in the nature of a circular, and that it is sent to every householder. The second paragraph commences thus:—'But while there is a prospect of peace from foreign war, it may be feared that there will be strife at home. The enemies of true religion are not backward in showing their determination to do all in their power to separate the laws of God from the laws of the land, so that the latter shall no longer promote the observance of the former.' It is evident from a subsequent passage that you are alluding to recent attempts to repeal the laws which prevent the opening of the British Museum and other places of amusement on the Lord's day. That you should oppose such attempts can be no subject for criticism: all men should act up to their opinions. That you should believe such attempts to be wicked, and their supporters to be enemies of true religion,

affords no ground for remonstrance: we must all decide for ourselves wherein lies the essence of true religion. That you should express your belief to persons of your own sect and way of thinking is natural, and in accordance with the rights of all; but that you should circulate it indiscriminately to all residents in the parish is, I think, a piece of priestly assumption, requiring a public protest from those who are not content to be stigmatised as enemies of true religion because they have the misfortune to differ from the Rev. Michael Gibbs. I shall only add, that I consider the intense intolerance of the observation to be as much at variance with the spirit of Christ's teaching, —with the charity that 'vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil,' whose law is to 'judge not, that ye be not judged,'—as I believe the Sabbatarian views in support of which it is enounced to be in direct contradiction of every word recorded as spoken on the subject by Christ or by his Apostles. I have the honour, &c., P. A. TAYLOR."

**THE QUEEN THREATENED BY A MANIAC.**—Mr. Jardine, solicitor to the Treasury, and Sergeant Lockyer, of the detective police, have been conducting an inquiry at St. Alban's, into the conduct of a Mr. Parker of that town, who has recently addressed two letters to the Queen, describing himself as "the prophet Elijah," asserting his claim to the Crown, requiring her Majesty to surrender her rights and dignities to him, and adding that, if she refused, he should seize the throne by main force at the point of the bayonet, and that she must take the consequences. From a medical examination, it became apparent that the man is of unsound mind, and he has therefore been removed to Bethlehem Lunatic Asylum.

**MR. LAYARD** has been reinstated as Lord Rector of Marischal College and University, Aberdeen. He was entertained at a public breakfast, when he expressed doubts as to the peace which is about to be concluded being satisfactory to the English people.

**THE METROPOLITAN THOROUGHFARES.**—A motion submitted to the Metropolitan Board of Works, directing "that it be referred to the Committee of Works and Improvements to take into consideration and report upon a comprehensive plan for making, widening, and improving streets, roads, and ways for facilitating the passage and traffic between different parts of the metropolis," has been carried after some discussion.

A FIRE has occurred at University College, Oxford; but it has not done much damage.

**MR. AUGUSTUS STAFFORD, M.P., ON THE CRIMEAN CAMPAIGN.**—A lecture by this gentleman, giving an account of his experiences in the Crimea, has been delivered by him at the Assembly Rooms, Stamford. The details were of the same nature as those with which we are already familiar.

**THE BAND IN KENSINGTON GARDENS.**—A deputation from the West London Sunday Rest Association has waited on Sir Benjamin Hall, at the office of Public Works, in order to urge on him the propriety of putting a stop to the playing of the band in Kensington Gardens on Sundays. Mr. Haldane, in introducing the deputation, said that a large number of the constituency of Marylebone are opposed to the Sunday performances of the band, and he held out a threat that they would make their displeasure manifest at the next election if the cause were not removed. Sir Benjamin Hall said it appeared to him that the deputation viewed with even greater horror the playing of the band on Sundays, than the opening of the British Museum, &c., on Sundays. (At this there were cries of "Hear, Hear.") Now, from his own observation, and from information supplied by a police superintendent, he could state that the 76,000 persons generally attending the gardens on Sunday during the performance of the band behaved with the most remarkable propriety, not even plucking a flower. He wished distinctly to understand what those who were originating this movement wanted to do. If they wanted to deprive the people of every species of recreation on the Sunday, let them plainly say so. First, they said they wanted to get rid of the band in Kensington gardens. It would seem that the industrious classes were to have no recreation—no band in Kensington gardens, no steam-boats, no admittance to Kew-gardens nor to Hampton-court; but that they might walk about the streets of London where no recreation is to be found, excepting in the gin-shop and public-houses. He had as much respect for the Sabbath as any one; but military bands played on Sundays in the courtyard of the Regent's-park barracks, in the Colour Court of St. James's, and on the terrace of Windsor Castle, as well as in many of the garrison towns throughout the kingdom; and, unless in those places it could be shown that the people are worse Christian or worse subjects than in other places, they could make out no case.—Mr. Haldane said, with regard to the playing of the band in military places, they were not at liberty to interfere with discipline, however wrong they might think the act. Sir Benjamin Hall, said discipline had nothing to do with it. Mr. Wayland, a tract deliverer to the London Missionary Society, stated that he distributed tracts in Kensington Gardens during the performance

of the band, and he found that, after the conclusion of the music, all the public-houses in the neighbourhood were filled; but, in answer to a question from Sir Benjamin Hall he said he was not prepared to say that the police courts on the Mondays following the playing of the band have more charges of drunkenness than on any other Mondays. Sir Benjamin furthermore asked if the deputation looked upon skating in the parks on Sundays as improper: Mr. Wayland replied that they certainly did; but Mr. Haldane added that it might be impolitic to interfere with that which had been so long established, although it was certainly a desecration of the Lord's-day. Finally, Sir Benjamin Hall gave a direct negative to the wishes of the deputation, but promised, with reference to a wish expressed by several of the members, that, should anything like "revelry" ensue on the playing of the band, he would consider how far it would be his duty to advise that it should be stopped.

**PEACE DEPUTATION TO LORD PALMERSTON.**—The Premier has received a deputation from Mr. Cobden, Mr. Milner Gibson, and other members of the Manchester peace party, who urged the insertion in the approaching treaty of Paris of a clause binding the Powers to adopt arbitration in all subsequent disputes. Lord Palmerston replied with great courtesy that the Government would give to the memorial all the attention due, not only to the spirit in which it was conceived, but to the persons from whom it emanated; but he suggested various reasons why arbitration, though adopted with success between individuals, is impracticable between nations.

**DEPUTATION IN FAVOUR OF POLISH INDEPENDENCE.**—A deputation, consisting of the Marquis of Breadalbane; the Marquis of Townshend; Viscount Raynham, M.P.; Colonel Pinney, M.P.; Mr. E. Beales; Mr. W. L. Birkbeck, and Captain Charles Szulcowski, had an interview with Lord Palmerston, on Saturday, for the purpose of presenting to him a memorial from the Literary Association of the Friends of Poland, and of begging that he would impress on the English Plenipotentiaries at Paris the necessity of bringing before the Conferences the claims of Poland to be emancipated from her present state of subjection. Lord Palmerston, who appeared to listen with great attention, promised that the question should receive the earnest consideration of the Government; and the deputation withdrew.

**HAMPSTEAD HEATH.**—A motion by Mr. Turner at the Metropolitan Board of Works, for referring the memorial from the vestry at Hampstead, as to securing the heath as a place of public recreation, to the Committee of Works and Improvements, has been rejected by a large majority.

**STATE OF TRADE.**—The reports of the general trade of the country during the week ending last Saturday, are most favourable. At Manchester there has been a good average business, and the transactions would have been larger but for the firmness of prices. At Birmingham, the iron trade continues dull, owing chiefly to the orders from the United States being unusually limited. The other manufactures of the place are also, with some exceptions, inanimate. A meeting has been held in the Potteries for the purpose of memorialising the Government to propose a mutual abolition of import duties between France and England. At Wolverhampton it has been resolved to establish a Chamber of Commerce. The proposals for creating new joint-stock banks in Birmingham are no longer viewed with favour. The Nottingham report describes great activity. In the woollen districts, also, the transactions have been large, stocks are low, and confidence prevails. In the Irish linen-markets the tendency to improvement is well maintained.—*Times*.

**DEATH OF A CONVICT FROM ALLEGED NEGLIGENCE.**—An inquiry which had been six times adjourned was resumed, and concluded on Monday on board the Unity Hospital (convict) ship before Mr. Carter, the coroner for Kent, respecting the death of a convict named Charles Seddon, aged twenty-five. Seddon was ruptured, and had undergone an operation a few weeks ago. On the 15th ult. he complained of a severe pain in the stomach, but it seems that he was not properly attended to, and at length he died from strangulated hernia. The jury returned a verdict to that effect; but, considering that there had been considerable neglect on the part of the officials in charge of the convicts on the night of the death, they recommended that the coroner should report the facts to the Secretary of State, with a request on their part that the Government would order an inquiry to be made into all the circumstances.

**SUICIDE IN ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.**—The metropolitan cathedral was on Friday week the scene of a most appalling suicide. Alexander Smart, a man who was once a watch and clock-maker, but who has recently retired from business, went to the whispering gallery, and, exactly as the clock struck twelve, mounted the handrail, gave three hysterical laughs, crying out each time "Ah! ah! ah!" and flung himself over. Two of the vergers observed the preliminaries of the catastrophe from a distance, and instantly rushed forward; but they were too late, and the man

was dashed to death on the pavement of the nave. The body was terribly fractured; but it is stated that no blood flowed from the various wounds. It is thought that the event will cause the covering in of the gallery in the way which has been carried out at the Monument and the Duke of York's column.

**SUICIDE AT A PUBLIC HOUSE.**—Another suicide, similar to that in St. Paul's Cathedral, was committed on Sunday morning last at the Swiss Stores public-house, Cranbourn-street, near St. Martin's-court. Shortly after twelve o'clock, the head cook on the establishment, named Francois, got on to the stone coping of the parapet of the house in St. Martin's-court, and, with a loud shout, precipitated himself on to the stone flags beneath. In his descent, one of his legs struck a woman who was passing, and knocked her down. He pitched on his head, and completely crushed his skull. The suicide is supposed to have been occasioned by pecuniary embarrassment, brought about by extensive losses through betting on horse-racing.

**SUICIDE OF A PANTALOON.**—A man named Griffiths, a pantaloon at various theatres, has committed suicide by cutting his throat. He had for some time resided in Valentine-place, Webber-street, Blackfriars-road. It appears he had been much depressed in mind by the failure of the theatrical season at Preston, at which town he had an engagement; and though, on his return to London, he got an engagement at a small weekly salary, his mind still appeared much affected. On Sunday morning, his wife left him in bed with a child about three years old, and during her absence he nearly severed his head from his body with a razor. Pecuniary difficulties, and the fear of losing his situation, appear to have induced him to put an end to his existence.—Herr Van Der Mast, noted as a very expert swordsman, who has frequently performed at Lord Holland's park, at Saville-house, Leicester-square, and before the Queen, has cut his throat owing to despondency resulting from want of work.—A man has cut his throat with a knife in a hospital at Liverpool. He had been placed in the hospital on account of injuries received from jumping out of window in a fit of *delirium tremens*.

**NEW ROSS ELECTIONS.**—Mr. Tottenham has been elected member for New Ross, the numbers being—Tottenham, 84; Redington, 65.

**HEALTH OF LONDON.**—The deaths registered in London rose from 1,029 and 1,082 in the two previous weeks to 1,118 in the week that ended last Saturday. If the rate of mortality had been the same last week as it was, taking the average, in the corresponding weeks of the ten years 1846-55, it would have produced 1,296 deaths, which is more by 178 than the number actually returned. Of the 1,118 deaths, 563 were those of males, and 555 of females. From diseases of the respiratory organs, the deaths in the preceding week were 191; last week they were 223, of which 101 were caused by bronchitis, 92 by pneumonia, 9 by asthma, the remainder by laryngitis, pleurisy, and "disease" of the lungs. Phthisis was fatal in the two weeks in 129 and 148 cases; influenza last week in 2, croup in 7, hooping-cough in 47 cases. Forty-five persons died of typhus and common fever. The widow of a farmer aged fifty-six years died in St. Luke's Workhouse of "fever and destitution." Four children died of measles in Poplar; three of these in the workhouse. Eight deaths from typhus occurred in the London Fever Hospital. The body of a man who had died of typhus in Capland-street, Marylebone, was kept without burial for a fortnight, in consequence of the poverty of his relatives. Two women had arrived at the age of 93 years, one at 95 years, and one is stated to have been 104 years old. These four aged persons were all widows. The centenarian died at 3, Hutchison-street, Aldgate, on the 10th of March; she was a native of Prussia, but had been in this country several years. Mr. Spencer, the registrar, adds that she enjoyed good health and the use of her faculties to the last, and that her son, the informant of the death, stated that he himself was sixty-six years of age, and the youngest son of a large family.—Last week, the births of 982 boys and 812 girls, in all 1,744 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846-55, the average number was 1,582.—*From the Registrar-General's Weekly Return.*

**MR. CHARLES MATHEWS AND MR. E. T. SMITH.**—The company of Drury-lane Theatre, on Saturday evening, presented Mr. E. T. Smith, the lessee, with a silver vase in commemoration of the successful season. It was accompanied by the following characteristic note:—"T. R. Drury-Lane, March 15th, 1856.—My dear Smith,—the accompanying vase will, I trust, testify to the general ill-will of myself and the whole of your company, the malignity of your scene-painters and the acrimony of your band, towards you, for your unvarying brutality towards us all during the past ruinous season. When you turn testotaller (which we all feel must be very shortly), you will perceive that the vase can be converted, at the shortest notice, into a teaturn. Should you fall into difficulties, it would be superfluous to point out to you the advan-

tages of the spout. You are thus made aware of our mutual hostility. For myself, I have only to assure you that I am your constant and bitter enemy.—C. J. MATHEWS."

**THE "ESTABLISHED CHURCH" AND THE WESLEYANS.**—Several meetings have been held within the last few weeks at the Rectory House of St. James's, Piccadilly, with a view to causing an amalgamation of the Wesleyan body with the Church of England. A committee has been appointed, who recommend a petition to Convocation, and express their opinion that the property of the Wesleyans should remain intact, and that they should be allowed to retain their ordinary customs, but should, if possible, be induced to revert to the principles of their founder by receiving the Sacrament in the parish church only. It is said that this movement has its origin in some well-known preachers of the Wesleyan body.

**THE WEST INDIES.**—Very serious disturbances have broken out among the African population of British Guinea. The Portuguese immigrants, being very industrious, money-saving people, have excited the special enmity of the blacks—a feeling of animosity which has been kindled to the utmost height by a Creole and native of the colony, named John Sayers Orr, commonly known as "the Angel Gabriel." This man preached a sort of crusade against all Portuguese and Roman Catholics; and he was arrested. Riots ensued; the flame of disaffection burst out first in one place, then in many; and at length it was found necessary to place the whole colony under a species of martial law. The military were called forth, and special constables were sworn in. A great deal of property has been destroyed, and the negroes exhibit an ill-feeling towards the whole white population; but the movement is for the present held at bay, though disturbances have also taken place at Queen's Town and the other parts of Essequibo, the Arabian coast, and on the islands of Leguan and Wakenaam.

**MADAME GOLDSCHMIDT AND THE NIGHTINGALE FUND.**—Madame Goldschmidt and her husband have just contributed the munificent donation of £1,872 towards the Nightingale Fund, being the proceeds of the concert given by them at Exeter Hall on the evening of Tuesday week. This contribution is presented by Mr. and Madame Goldschmidt as (to use their own words) "a testimony of their warm interest in the purposes to which the fund is destined, and of their sympathy and admiration towards the lady whose name it bears." The money has been handed over to the committee of the fund free from all deduction on account of the expenses of the concert, which have been entirely defrayed by Mr. and Madame Goldschmidt.

**AN EARTHQUAKE IN WILTSHIRE.**—A rather severe shock of earthquake, causing the displacement of bricks and flooring, the ringing of bells, &c., took place on Friday week in the villages of Sedgell and Knoyle, South Wilts.

**MR. E. STRUTT, M.P.,** has declined the offer of a peerage.

**ABYSSINIA.**—The *Trieste Gazette* has an account of a new Ethiopian kingdom, which one Theodore, a native Christian, is founding by conquest, and in which neither slavery nor polygamy will have place.

**A HIGH SHERIFF FINED £100.**—Major Rice, of Lwynybrain, Carmarthenshire, the high sheriff, has been fined £100 by Mr. Justice Williams for neglecting to provide the usual and necessary attendance of bailiffs, &c., at the Assizes. Major Rice was himself unable to attend, owing to illness. There was not one prisoner for trial.

**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS IN PALL-MALL AND DOWNING-STREET.**—Some glimpses into the proposed alterations in the neighbourhood of the Government offices are given by the *Observer*, where we read that it is proposed to pull down Buckingham-house and the houses that intervene between that and the present Ordnance-offices, and to erect a set of offices under the roof of which all the departments connected with the Minister-of-War may be carried on. The frontage thus gained will be more than one hundred and fifty feet, and will fill up the space between the Carlton Club and the Ordnance-office. With respect to the neighbourhood of Parliament-street, the Chief Commissioner of Works proposes to purchase the entire block of buildings commencing from Downing-street to Great George-street, including the north side of Parliament-street. Supposing this done, there would be an open space from Parliament-street to St. James's-park. It is then proposed to erect a magnificent range of public offices in a direct line from the Treasury-chambers to George-street, Storey's-gate; so that one portion would look to the west and the other into Parliament-street. By these means the road from the Horse Guards to Great George-street would be of the same width, and would form one of the most magnificent thoroughfares in Europe.

**SUBMARINE TELEGRAPHS BETWEEN EUROPE AND AMERICA.**—A charter granted by the King of Sweden to the American citizen, Mr. T. P. Schaffner, contains the exclusive permission to lay down a submarine telegraph wire between the coasts of North America and Norway, and is dated the 24th of January.

**AN HISTORICAL COMET.**—Astronomers, it is said, expect the appearance this year of the comet of 1556, called Charles V., and so named from having, according to some historians, caused that monarch to abdicate and retire to the Convent of St. Just. It is the identical wandering star, some say, which appeared in 1264, in 995, and 683. Its return was fixed for 1848, but it did not answer the call, frightened perhaps, as a monarchial comet, by the eccentricities of that epoch. The new calculations of the *savans* do not, however, admit of much doubt as to the present nearness of its visit.

## Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, March 22.

### PRUSSIA AND THE CONFERENCES.

**THE Constitutionnel** publishes a letter from its correspondent at Vienna, dated the 15th, on the subject of the admission of Prussia to the Congress. It says:—"The invitation which Count Walewski, as organ of the Congress assembled in Paris, has addressed to Prussia to take part in the deliberations of the Congress, appears at first glance so unforeseen that we must not be surprised if it gives rise to the most erroneous commentaries and the most hazardous suppositions. But a succinct account of the facts which induced the Congress of Paris to address that invitation to the Court of Berlin will suffice to reduce the signification and bearing of it to its just value. The idea of associating Prussia in the deliberations of the Congress, in order to place the definitive treaty of peace under the general guarantee of Europe, was brought forward by Austria as soon as the Court of St. Petersburg had accepted purely and simply the Austrian ultimatum." In proof that Austria did this, the letter quotes an extract from a despatch addressed by Count Buol to Count Esterhazy, at Berlin, announcing his intention of directing the Austrian Ministers at Paris and London to recommend strongly to the Western Powers the admission of Prussia.

### SPAIN.

A slight disturbance has taken place at Lorca, but the movement was not of any importance. Differences of opinion continue to exist among the democratic party. The Statutes of the *Crédit Mobilier* Company will soon be officially approved of.

**MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCESS ROYAL.**—We have good reason for stating that the marriage of the Princess Royal to the Crown Prince of Prussia has been finally determined on, and will take place in about two years.

**IMPORTANT CONVERSION.**—The only daughter of the Bishop of Oxford has become a Roman Catholic.

**THE TALBOT CASE.**—The Easter recess has stopped the progress of this case before the House of Lords. Judgment, therefore, is not yet pronounced. The readers of this paper, who recollect the article in our leading columns of February 9th, in which we related the facts of the case, will probably participate in our sympathy with the unfortunate lady.

**TWO SHIPS DESTROYED BY FIRE.**—The *Martha*, Captain Christie, and the *Saracen*, both of Liverpool, were totally destroyed by fire in the river Bonney on the 11th of last January, the flames or sparks from the one setting light to the other. Both belonged to the same proprietor. No lives were lost.

**THE SADDLE FORGERIES.**—It has transpired that forgeries, in the shape of promissory notes to the amount of £25,000, have been committed by the late John Saddle on Mr. Dargan.

**ROGERS V. DALE.**—An action for criminal conversation has been brought at the Stafford Assizes. The husband was a theatrical man, and the proprietor of an hotel; the wife had been an actress; Mr. Dale, the defendant, was a surgeon. The evidence showed very deliberate infidelity on the part of the wife, who would drug her husband with extra quantities of brandy, and would admit her lover to her room in the night, or repair to his own room in the hotel, or to his house, in the most open manner. But it appeared that the husband systematically ill-used her, and that he was himself a drunken profligate. A verdict was given for the plaintiff: damages, £50.

**THE RUGELBY POISONING CASE: PALMER'S DEFENCE.**—Mr. John Smith, Palmer's solicitor, has made an application, first to the solicitors for the Crown, and afterwards to Sir George Grey, for copies of Dr. Taylor's written reports with respect to the *post mortem* examination of the deceased persons. It is contended by Mr. Smith that these documents are substantive portions of the depositions, and are needed for the defence of the prisoner; but his application has been refused on the ground that it is unprecedented.



## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of his good faith. It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. During the Session of Parliament it is often impossible to find room for correspondence, even the briefest.

# The Leader.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1856.

## 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.

### THE "CHILD OF FRANCE."

WE must all, as men, sympathise with the hopes and affections of a woman enduring the sufferings that make her a mother. But what felicitations can we offer to EUGENIE, Empress of the French? Another Pretender is born to France; another NAPOLEON; another Discord. The ritual of usurpation, ordained by the first Empire, is copied by the second. 1856 is the reflex of 1811. From the GRAND CHAMBERLAIN'S programme of official joy, to the non-official report in the *Moniteur* of festivities and congratulations, NAPOLEON the THIRD borrows the forms, the illustrations, the words that were employed to inaugurate the cradle-career of the Second. Names and dates being changed, Paris has lived over again, exactly the week of ceremonial lustre that marked the birth of the King of Rome. NAPOLEON, fourth of the name, is given to the French as their Emperor, and is proclaimed "The Child of France."

Whereupon, the response of the leading journal in England is, that the child of the *Coup d'Etat* has a better right to the throne of France than any other Frenchman? What right? The right to a Crown is acquired by hereditary descent, or by election. If NAPOLEON the THIRD reigns, as the elect of France, France has not elected his baby. The nation that gives may take away; it cannot confiscate its own sovereignty; still less can this generation renounce the rights of posterity. But, if the new NAPOLEON is to inherit the Empire, under the principle of hereditary succession, there exists a line of princes with claims prior to his, paramount to his, and these are the branches of the BOURBON monarchy. Unless respectable conservatism in England has been seized with a revolutionary infection, it must be blind indeed to write against the very principle of hereditary government, against all vested titles, all prerogative and prescription. The sycophants of the French empire do not know on what grounds to congratulate France, or to flatter the new child of the Tuileries. They would be frank if they confessed that, NAPOLEON the THIRD being Emperor, powerful, triumphant, irresistible, they flatter him, as they would flatter WASHINGTON, if a WASHINGTON could be in that position. It is not his character they regard, but his success. They would salute, with the same praises, a worse or a better man. LOUIS NAPOLEON, grasping the sceptre, was the avatar of the party of Desperation. Himself a bankrupt, when by leave of the Republic, whose laws he outraged, he set foot on the soil of France, he gathered to his cause a band of adventurers, without position, character, for-

tune, or even hope, played before their fancy the prizes of the most vulgar lust, and, by means which it is not for us to recur to in detail, attained an unparalleled success. Suddenly, when that success appears complete, English journalism, which affects to hold sacred the principles of legality, and still more sacred the debts of "honour," transfigures the usurpation into a conquest, and speaks of the "vast acquisitions" of NAPOLEON the THIRD,—acquisitions including the spoliation of the Orleans family, the results of stupendous jobbery at the Bourse, the seizure of the entire revenues of France.

After this, the people of France may well doubt whether they belong to themselves, or the BONAPARTE family. Are they a nation, or are they an "acquisition?" And the people of England may well find their ideas of right and wrong confused, and hesitate whether to esteem WASHINGTON as a patriot, or to despise him as "unsuccessful." Had he "acquired" the United States of America, grasped the sceptre before it was offered to him, abolished the central and local legislatures, sent the chiefs of the War of Independence to pestilential colonies, ruled by decrees under the pretorian ægis, and given a "Child" to America, would his have been a household name in England, would he have been our admiration, our example? But he would have been a Successor, and what more, or better, is NAPOLEON the THIRD? Or, if WARREN HASTINGS had constituted himself, by force, the heir of the GREAT MOGUL, which the English Government could not easily have prevented, would not the purple of Delhi, adorning the splendid crime have changed it into a virtue?

It is our calamity that we no longer approve or blame by any standard of right; we observe no distinction between good faith and perjury, usurpation and justice. This is a hard saying, which must be said; but it is not said by us from any desire to turn the late event in Paris into an occasion for railery or personal rancour. Our readers know as well as we that things have come to this result. We have seen a political robbery in France, and we hear it called an "acquisition;" we see the hereditary and the elective principle ignored by a government of bayonets, and we are told that the usurper transmits a right superior to that of all other Frenchmen. If we could believe the God of Justice to be the regulator of human success, there would indeed be a chaos, and all moral and Christian laws would be figments when weighed against the results of a midnight fusillade. *Vae Victis*. No other maxim would be safe.

It must be satisfactory to the self-respect of all intelligent Frenchmen to know that beyond the blind excitement of the populace, and the salaried servility of the Chambers, much of this adulation is not current in France. Nor is it wholly inexcusable in England. Through the humiliating rhapsodies of the press, and the haze of public opinion, runs the radical fallacy of the Alliance. NAPOLEON is France—in the sight of the English people. But in the sight of history, NAPOLEON is not France, for if a country be represented by any men, or set of men, it is by its wisest and best, and the best and wisest of France are in eternal and ineradicable hostility to the régime of the *Coup d'Etat*.

But, with eighteen years between us and the possible accession to the French throne of a fourth NAPOLEON, it would be absurd to exaggerate the importance of the birth that happened last Sunday at the Tuileries. Legitimacy was absent, the elective principle was absent, the principle of power was only present in the person of the EMPEROR, who, again, is only powerful because he came upon

France in the night, when the nation was enervated, and had lost for a time its senses and its dignity. Since the first Revolution we have not seen, in that country, an eclipse of eighteen years. Were the throne to become vacant to-morrow, the actual occupants of the Tuileries must vanish like *fantoccini*, and the Infant of France would remain to be educated as a Pretender, perhaps to originate, at a future day, new conflicts and miseries among his countrymen. He is not born with brighter omens than that KING of ROME who came into a world of purple, who was received by the people as though he had been the Dauphin of the BOURBONS, who was saluted by cannon, bonfires, imperial *panem et circenses*, and whose birth exasperated the animosity of the royalists and strengthened the confederacy of the republicans.

The offer of a political amnesty has been elicited by "the universal congratulation and joy;" that is to say, the Empire implores the adhesion of those good citizens who defended the laws and institutions of France, and who, for their attachment to legality, were transported or immured. How many of the eighteen hundred survivors of Algeria and Cayenne does NAPOLEON expect to win by this act of conditional grace? It is but one form of the official fanfaronade that now overwhelms the political existence of France. Surely it is cynicism or irony to review these manifestations in the *Moniteur*, and to pronounce them, "to all appearance, sincere." Let us be just to all men. As a governor, NAPOLEON the THIRD has displayed intelligence and vigour; but to speak of his sincerity, of his protestations, is to recall the oaths of the Presidentship, gratuitously repeated, and ratified by solemn appeals in the presence of God and man.

### THE LATEST AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC PAPERS.

THE correspondence between the Governments of the United States and Great Britain on the recruitment question, which has been officially published in America, is in our hands. The correspondence on the subject of Central America has also been received, and we are in a position to judge of the actual state of the relations of the two countries. Thanks to the share which the public has now been enabled to take in these questions, the relations grow more favourable. It is quite too late in the day to render it necessary for us to resume the whole of these papers; the less since they do not come up to the present date, and we are not necessarily limited to the space of time which they cover. We shall, therefore, deal entirely with the main results.

The recruitment question itself may now be considered completely obsolete. It has descended entirely to a personality; and we think that the relative position of persons can be distinctly assigned. The Americans complain that we had, by our agents, broken the express statute law of the United States. Lord CLARENDON replies by arguments intended to show that, although in old countries "*civitas carcer est*"—that is, the citizen is bound to the town by the customs and obligations of citizenship, as if the town were a prison—yet in free countries "*civitas carcer non est*"—the citizen is free, and may enlist in the armies of Great Britain, if it so please him. For there is no demagogue will go so far as your British peer when he is on Yankee land, and is in opposition to the administration for the time being. No barn-burner can outrun Lord CLARENDON in his argument against centralised authority. The argument, however, matters little. The British Government has given up the legal point, and the question has

contracted to that of apology. Our Government asserts that it abandoned the enlistment, and apologised. This is a quibble. When the apology was made to Mr. BUCHANAN, he wrote to Lord CLARENDON that he should forward the despatch to his Government "with great satisfaction;" and our Government (Premier and Foreign Secretary) have cited this despatch over and over again, as expressing the "satisfaction" both of Mr. BUCHANAN and of his Government with the apology. Now, this boasted apology was made without reference to the fact that Mr. CRAMPTON was personally implicated in the recruitment, and that at the time when Mr. BUCHANAN wrote the American Government knew nothing of that aggravation of our offence.

Nay, Lord PALMERSTON has stated in Parliament recently, that the American Government was satisfied, as if nothing had happened since the writing of Mr. BUCHANAN's note. That is, Lord PALMERSTON has spoken to the House of Commons, as if Mr. CRAMPTON's complicity had not subsequently been found out; as if Mr. BUCHANAN's satisfaction in forwarding a note amounted to the satisfaction of President PIERCE at the contents of the note; and as if that contribution to the correspondence expressed the latest state of it, although the interpretation put upon it has been expressly disavowed. Lord PALMERSTON might exactly as well state to the House of Commons that the Czar NICHOLAS had no designs upon Turkey in proposing to arrange for dividing the inheritance of the "Sick Man." If you will select your date you may make any statement whatever, by omitting subsequent contradiction and disproof. You may state, for example, that King WILLIAM is King of ENGLAND, if you think yourself licensed to ignore the fact that King WILLIAM has died and has been succeeded by Queen VICTORIA. At the beginning of 1837, it was true that King WILLIAM was King of ENGLAND, and it was true that in the middle of July, 1855, Mr. BUCHANAN had much satisfaction in transmitting the copy of Lord CLARENDON's note to Washington. But it is as little true that the Government of the United States is satisfied with the acknowledgments of the British Government as that King WILLIAM is King of ENGLAND. As to the fact itself, it is now of minor importance; but it is of importance that English statesmen should make truthful representations to the House of Commons.

The letter to General WATSON WEBB, which has been published, showing that Lord CLARENDON had, on a particular occasion, no hostile feeling to the United States, has, as the reader will at once see, comparatively little bearing on this question. Everybody who is acquainted with Lord CLARENDON shares the common belief, that, personally, he has no hostility to the United States, and that, if it depended upon that single statesman, it would be as easy to arrange all difficulties as it would have been to settle them with Lord ABERDEEN.

Laxity becomes criminal where such frightful consequences are at stake. It is worse than carelessness in playing with fire to play with the friendships and hostilities of two vast empires. But carelessness must be the very excuse of our official. It has been said that Lord CLARENDON offered to refer the Central American question to arbitration; he did throw out the offer, but it was simply in conversation with Mr. BUCHANAN. He did not say that the offer was made in the name of the Cabinet; he did not, according to all precedent, put the offer into black and white. The American Minister appears at all times to have reduced his statements to writing; a very safe rule where misunderstandings are

possible. Lord CLARENDON neglected that rule while speaking to Mr. BUCHANAN on the subject of arbitration. So far our foreign secretary was guilty of culpable laxity. Subsequently he did put the proposal into writing; but here again, as if to carry out the fatal rule of laxity instead of regularity, his more accurate method was defeated by the negligence of his subordinate. He stated his offer in a letter dated November 10, 1855, addressed to Mr. CRAMPTON, at Washington. After stating the offer, he said, "You are instructed to communicate this despatch to Mr. MARCY." Mr. CRAMPTON did not communicate it; he kept it to himself until February 7, 1856. In a note to Mr. MARCY he explains his neglect thus:—"As I was aware that the negotiation of the question regarding Central America was in Mr. BUCHANAN's and Lord CLARENDON's hands, I considered the despatch as meant merely for my own information as to what was going forward upon a subject in regard to which I inferred you were already informed." Thus Mr. CRAMPTON receives the most important despatches, assumes that they are only sent *pro forma*, and puts them in his portfolio half read, when peace and war are at stake! Really we are compelled to acquit our officials of malignity at the expense of their repute for decent attention to business.

How can we accept the judgment of such men on the accurate interpretation even of their own treaties? They profess to give us the real interpretation of the BULWER-CLAYTON treaty; but positively we are justified in asking whether they have read that treaty? The treaty has been explained over and over again, but the explanations themselves rather suggest the negative of the question we have just asked,—rather imply that none of our ministers have read the treaty. Sir HENRY BULWER signed it: has he read it? Perhaps if they were to apply to that source of information, they would find that their arguments do not stand upon very good ground.

Colonel WALKER has indeed cut the ground from under their feet. To dispute about the possession of Central America is like disputing the tenancy of the whirlpool of Scylla or of the Maelstrom. It is clear that as the negotiations have hitherto been conducted, upon the grounds hitherto occupied, by our side at least, we never can come to a conclusion. The question must be taken up on other grounds. We know that it is possible to rest it upon grounds totally different from any yet taken, and we are convinced that when those grounds are stated to the public,—when we are enabled to show, as we shall be enabled to show, that the whole dispute may be settled in the simplest manner, the public will be indignant indeed if it should still remain unsettled.

#### PRUSSIA AT THE CONFERENCES.

We have invariably recognised the right of the King of PRUSSIA to preserve a strictly German policy with reference to the Russian war. We were the first to suggest the admission of Prussian representatives to the Paris Conferences. And now that Baron MANTEUFFEL and his colleagues sit at the Council Table of the Plenipotentiaries, it is supposed by liberals and "patriots" that the scale is turned in favour of "despotism," and that Russia has gained a vote. But there is an obvious reason why the Prussians at Paris are harmless. Their diplomacy is not more sinister than that of the other powers. Prussia is a part—and not the worst part—of the continental system, which, from one limit to another, is dynastic, corrupt, and tyrannical. If Englishmen desire to obtain abroad a real reputation for political liberality, they must consider the European Governments less self-

ishly, and more generally. Had they judged the King of PRUSSIA, not as his acts seemed to bear on their incidental interests, but as they were related to the interests of the nation he governs, they would have perceived that he has been wise in his generation; for he well knew that, after standing aloof from the war, enriching his treasury and preserving the friendship of a powerful neighbour, his sanction would be invited to the conditions of the general peace. To accuse him of perfidy, and, at the same time, to approve the consistency of Austria, is a folly only equalled by the cowardice of reviling the King of NAPLES, and encouraging the military scourge of Lombardy.

The English public should at once reconcile itself to the certainty, that liberty has gained nothing from the Russian war; that the presence of one German diplomatist, more or less, at the Conferences will make not a shadow of difference in the diplomatic result, that the negotiating powers form a confederacy of absolutism and aristocracy, and that the lords and gentlemen who went last week to raise the Polish sympathies of the Premier, committed an act of puerile insincerity. Does the public believe that they, for a moment, imagined that Lord PALMERSTON would ask Russia to tear herself in pieces at the Paris Conference? It is the practice in Japan, when a noble has offended the throne, to send him a poniard with a request that he will disembowel himself, without delay. He complies because, by submitting to suicide, he escapes execution. But did it enter into the hearts of BREADALBANE or BEAL to think of Count ORLOFF listening to a proposal for the rehabilitation of Poland? It is time that this insincere and self-deceiving infatuation should be put aside—"that this old, hysterical, mock disease should die." A revolution that would cleave into fragments the most absolute empire on the earth, is not to be effected by the bland "representations" of a knot of dilettanti deputed to Downing-street by the patrons of an annual ball. What is to be done in Europe must be done by another process.

Prussia is at the Conference. Well, the Conference, with or without Prussia, could have been no more than an assembly of diplomatists convened in the interests of monarchy and aristocracy.

#### OUR HAMBURG EXPORT TRADE.

THE charge which we make against this present system of management in moral matters is, that it results in the most atrocious profligacy. If the proof of the pudding is in the eating, then we say that our cooks stand convicted. Scarcely a fact comes out which does not prove some widely-extended disease. When Mrs. WOOLER was poisoned, much indignation was expressed at the suggestion that the poisoning of people was not uncommon in this country. Was England, cried the champions of our fame, to be confounded with Italy in the middle ages? Unquestionably; if frequency of poisoning is enough for the parallel, we do stand convicted of sharing the crime of mediæval Italy—the spread of Christianity, better enforcement of the law, advance of civilisation and progress of the intellect notwithstanding. What is more, the persons who are implicated in these crimes are for the most part educated persons. In Mrs. WOOLER's case the hand that administered the poison is unknown, but PALMER had passed the College of Surgeons; DOVE has had rather an unusual amount of schooling and experience for a farmer; in MONOGHAN's case the men were principally of a somewhat lower grade—but they were still surgeons and insurance officer; moving perhaps among the working classes, but possessing some degree of



education; and the latest person accused of poisoning is a surgeon.

So, again, when SUSANNAH EVANS is inveigled away to Hamburg by a Belgian Jewess, we discover, first, that we have to make a compensation in kind for the crimes which we committed in permitting ALICE LEROY and girls from the Continent to be inveigled into this country; and, secondly, that the conspiracy to which SUSANNAH EVANS was nearly sacrificed was not an isolated case, nor one, it would appear, of a few cases; but it was the example of an organised trade. Its character is well understood by our representatives in Hamburg, by the local police, and of course by the clients of people like the Belgian Jewess that carried the girls over.

Now conspiracies of this kind are not to be carried out for nothing; there must be plenty of money in circulation. The trade, therefore, must be supported by classes that are well to do. We have no statistics as to the number of girls that are thus sacrificed; but we know enough to be sure that the outlay of money upon the class per head must be large. It has been a rule amongst certain African slave-dealers of tropical America, that it costs less to transport a great number of blacks than to treat a few with comparative care; and regular calculations have been made as to the amount of bad treatment which a negro will undergo. A negro, they will tell you, will last so long in a sugar plantation; so much shorter time in a tobacco plantation; but it will pay you better to carry over several negroes than to expend much upon a very careful treatment of one. Exactly the same kind of calculations are made with London omnibus horses. Five years they reckon as the term, and if we had to import our horses, we should of course have to reckon the price upon the basis of that five years' duration. We know that there must be the same limit in the endurance of the poor girls who are taken to Hamburg to be destroyed.

According to the police accounts, Colonel HODGES has expressed the opinion that so monstrous an evil will not be checked without the immediate interference of Lord CLARENDON. This is a very delicate matter. Upon what ground can Lord CLARENDON stand forth to rebuke the authorities of Hamburg, after England has been convicted of a similar traffic? He might say we have stopped the traffic; but *have* we? There is indeed one ground upon which he could take a firm stand: it is the ground of hypocrisy. In this country we pretend to abolish and suppress such trades as that of the Belgian Jewess, although it is well-known that among the very class to which Lord CLARENDON belongs, Belgian Jewesses look for their clients. Lord CLARENDON, however, would find hypocrites upon the other side of the water as well as upon this, and complicity in encouraging the traffic would by no means debar magnates from co-operation in assisting overt acts to suppress it.

Sir ROBERT CARDEN sent two policemen to Hamburg to rescue SUSANNAH EVANS—one girl out of many. A contemporary suggests a shorter mode of effecting the same object for a larger number of victims. It would be to enforce on board every out-going ship an inspection of emigrants for the purpose of ascertaining that they proceed abroad of their own free will. For our own part we can imagine a still shorter process; it would be for the moneyed class of this country to withhold all kind of patronage and pay from Belgian Jewesses. If we could succeed in effecting that reform here, they might copy us in Hamburg and Ostend; and poor girls, Belgian or

British, would cease to be carried over by Jewesses or superannuated *courriers de place* to be cast away. Is it impossible to put that effectual stoppage on the trade? Alas! we shall be scouted by the "moral" classes for talking of such a thing!

#### THE COLLAPSE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMERS.

THE Administrative Reform Association, led by Messrs. MORLEY, TRAVERS, and GASSIOT, and represented in its circulars by the Conservative, Mr. BROWNE, have proposed a new alliance with the press. The Association is to supply the self-laudatory epilogues—the press is to supply the publicity. After the experience of a year, we do not see why the press or the nation should confide the interests of reform to this civic league. Its operations have never been effective, and its last manifesto is a specimen of inflated incapacity. The liberal party must, we think, decline to associate itself with a body of men, who are neither politicians nor reformers, who have committed a succession of blunders, and have given few proofs of sincerity.

Their original constitution violated the principles they affected to maintain, and their last "address" is a wordy and feeble deception. First, in their associative organisation they fixed a high pecuniary assessment as the qualification of their Committee-men. They declared money equivalent to influence. They sold the seats of Committee-men for fifty pounds sterling. They invited none but wealthy men of their own class to compose their governing council. When they helped an "Administrative Reformer" to a seat in Parliament, it was a person who could do no possible good in that assembly, except by his vote, and who used his vote capriciously and inconsistently. They disclaimed all deep sympathy with the principles of political reform; they elected a Tory Secretary, and implied, plainly, "This is not even a class agitation; it is purely sectional, limited, superficial." At their meetings things were done and said which brought the entire movement into ridicule.

The only occasion on which a gleam of vitality struck into this unwieldy weight of commercial influence was at Drury-lane, when the genius of CHARLES DICKENS illuminated it for an hour, and when Mr. LAYARD lent it the influence of a new and rising position in Parliament. Before and after that evening the Administrative Reform Association was a pretence, a mistake, and a failure.

In their recent circular, signed by Messrs. MORLEY, TRAVERS, and GASSIOT, and enclosed in a letter of recommendation from Mr. SAMUEL BROWN, they claim the credit of all the finished and unfinished reforms of the day. First, they take the evidence of the two hundred officers who supplied the materials of Sir JOHN McNEILL's report as a "special demonstration" of their corporate utility. Then, antedating their labours—or uttering an unnecessary platitude—they record that Mr. ROEBUCK's motion was carried on the 29th of January, 1855, that Lord ABERDEEN resigned, and that Lord PALMERSTON, "after half a century of active political life, arrived at the Premiership of this great country; and, in spite of the utmost exertions of the proud oligarchies of England, his Lordship wielded that sceptre they so much coveted."

Whose is this flourish? Is it Mr. GASSIOT's or Mr. TRAVERS'?—Mr. MORLEY's or Mr. BROWN's? CUFFY could not have weltered in a deeper flux of indignation. With alliterative impetus, the circular regrets that, while "disease depressed and death devastated" our army, Lord PALMERSTON laughed; but the administrative reformers met, and the Premier

adopted a new policy. "A committee was appointed, many of whom (of what?) had never before been connected with any political movement." Just so. They were inexperienced, and had, all their lives, pondered over private "estimates" in their ledgers—apathetic, exclusive, and obscure. But the results came rapidly. "Only sixteen days after the public meeting, an order in council was issued," establishing civil service examinations. "Within two months," Sir WILLIAM MOLESWORTH, who had never been mentioned by the association, was appointed Colonial Secretary, and Mr. ROWLAND HILL, whom the Association recommended, was *not* appointed Postmaster-General. Was the Duke of ARGYLE Mr. MORLEY's candidate? However this may have been, Ministers were docile in their law appointments; and owing "to the demand for administrative reform," Mr. WILLES was elevated to the bench. Is a "note of admiration" necessary? Mr. OSBORNE's minute, with reference to the dockyard artificers, and the additional orders in council, were new corruscations of the radiating glory of them who talked at the London Tavern. But here a blighting suggestion interposes. Has Lord PALMERSTON taken the wind out of the sails of the Administrative Reform Association? The chairman and treasurers protest, in a fussy, puffy manner, "No." Most effectually, we say, and we are not "Government writers."

Next, in a glancing way, Prince ALBERT is menaced with the displeasure of the reformers, *à propos* of the round-robin of the Guards, which memorial being rejected without any reference to Mr. MORLEY, we do not see why it should be mentioned in the circular. But the aim of the allusion is at the Lion Rampant (on a sign-post) of journalism, the mystic Englishmen whose roar is as the rolling of a tun, who insinuate that there are more things done in England by Prince ALBERT and the King of HANOVER than they, or any others, "are aware of." Again, the new Crimean Commission is to be open, not secret, because the Association willed it. "Under pressure of the Administrative Reform Association," a committee to inquire into the system of contracts has been granted; and, among the results, we seriously hope that something may turn up to the advantage of certain gentlemen in the City.

For the present year the work proposed is that which will never be carried out, except by the proper impulse of Parliament, or under the pressure of an union of true reformers. Men who associate, and ask for the "test of merit and fitness," in public appointments, and at the same time offer an indirect support to the false aristocracy by which this country is governed, will not be the fathers of reform. It is not for them, or for any other agitators, to raise a cry against "proud oligarchies," or to deal in the denunciatory trash of old-fashioned Chartism. But, wherever corrupt influence exists, it must be struck at; and the centre of corrupt influence is in Parliament, which cannot be purified except by general measures of reform. We ask that the country shall be governed by its best men, upon the principles of public justice and morality. The Association tells us to "go in" for improved methods of book-keeping; for the propagation of scandals against Prince ALBERT; for the removal of abuses from that official depth in which abuses are continually deposited by the stream of Parliamentary influence. We by no means imply that the gentlemen of the Association have not, for several months, given their best services to a public cause; but the organisation they have established has no capable leaders, and by filling up, without effect, the gap of a great

opportunity, has brought ridicule upon a thoroughly good cause. Without ability, and without political sincerity, what can it hope to effect? The public has a right to withhold its confidence and its subscriptions. The apathy of the Administrative Reformers on subjects of political interest has lost them the sympathy of the political classes; and all classes have been disappointed by their presumptuous incapacity. Reform is not yet so dead that it must be dragged round the circus by such a team.

#### THE CLOUD OF COMPANIES.

A PARLIAMENTARY return has been printed, and the number of Joint-stock Companies formed under the Act of 1855, with the names of the Directors, the amount of the proposed capital, and the object for which the Company was established. The returns include also the number of applications not completed under the Act, with, in some cases, the necessary financial, and personal, details. But as many of the persons applying have not stated either the number of shares they propose to issue, or the amount of each share, it would be useless to compute the aggregate capital ideally represented by these half-born undertakings. The total number of companies registered since the introduction of the Limited Liability Act, has been a hundred and sixty-nine, distributed under four separate heads:—Companies formed before the passing of the Act;—Companies of which the formation had been begun, but not completed; Companies of which the formation has been begun, and completed since the Act came into operation; and Companies which have applied for but not yet obtained complete registration. It is to be noted that several important associations organised under the old law, already in the enjoyment of corporate powers, and supposed to be interested in keeping competitors out of the field, not only supported Mr. Lowe's Act, but, when it had passed, reformed their constitutions, and placed themselves within its scope. Among these were one navigation, one gas, one manure, and one patent candle company; a gas and a coal company that were in progress of formation, under the unlimited, at once took the advantage of the limited principle, since the introduction of which six Joint-stock Associations have been fully established. There remain ten "which have applied for, or taken steps towards obtaining, but have not yet obtained, complete registration," and a hundred and forty three, "the formation of which has been begun." Analysing these sections of the return, we find seventeen Companies established to supply gas, eleven for general or local navigation, thirteen for mining in Great Britain or the colonies, seven for advancing money on real and personal security, two for dealing in reversions, seven for publishing books and papers, or "promoting the circulation of first-class periodical productions," six for cultivating the vine as foreign estates, or brewing malt liquors, or distilling spirits, two "Armoury Companies," a "National Opera Company," five for developing new sea fisheries, and a "Crystal City or British Madeira Company," to construct a city—of glass it may be assumed—in which consumptive patients may live close to London, enjoying the warm and equal climate of Madeira. There are three or four law-reporting companies in the list, several hotel companies, a "Ladies' Guild" for the manufacture of decorated glass, a company for bringing bitumen from Trinidad to be used as fuel, a general company of European credit—not, however, on the "Credit Mobilier principle," and several companies which have taken advantage of the adulteration disclosures to promise pure tea, pure

bread, pure drugs, and pure beer. Two or three popular clubs exist in these prospectuses; a company for establishing a perpetual carnival in Surrey, a Dutch laundry, an Universal Purveyor, and two or three Bath companies. One annulled Corporation proposes to revive itself by "purchasing, cultivating, and selling lands and the produce thereof in the islands of Borneo and Labuan," another sets afloat a scheme of joint-stock pawnbrokerage, another of marine surveying, and raising and recovering sunken vessels. Two or three associations of omnibus proprietors offer to compete, under the Limited Liability Act, with the great French company, while twenty-five prospectuses declare the readiness of as many bodies of men to enter into large manufacturing partnerships, by the establishment of cotton mills, iron works, tanneries, &c.

Many of these schemes are rather ingenious than sound, and rely for success more on the credulity of the public than on any real wants which they propose to supply. But the number and variety of the registrations proves that a vast amount of enterprise has been held back by the terrors of unlimited liability. The parliamentary return is worth studying.

#### PLEA OF THE DEBTORS' CAGE.

WHEN one has perused forty long pages, giving the list, and the circumstances, of persons imprisoned for debt, the first question is, what is the use of subjecting those persons to the particular kind of torture; for imprisonment, in that particular sense, is nothing more nor less than torture. Debt is not a crime, and not to be punished as such, in modern times; although, in olden times, the forfeiture of promise in the non-payment of debt was treated as a penal offence. When noblemen could cast the Jew that importuned them for payment into a dungeon, or could flog the means of payment out of their villeins, they did not think it necessary to mitigate the penalty of the law; but in modern days, when scions of high lineage have been before the Bankruptcy Court, we find co-operation in moderating the code, from the House of Lords;—a great improvement. The man who gets into debt is not detained simply to prevent mischief to society, as a lunatic or pickpocket is detained. The detention, therefore, is not preventive; except that it is preventive of the very thing which is desired—payment of debt. It is torture—pain inflicted for the purpose of compulsion; and it presumes, therefore, that the debtor is in a position to pay. Now, it is a singular fact that the very qualification of a man for going to prison implies inability to do that which the imprisonment is to compel. He becomes a non-paying debtor, in most cases, because he cannot pay his debts. The return made from York Prison naïvely represents this case:—"The chief reason why the debtors are detained in prison," says the return, "is the inability to pay their debts." This reminds us of the exquisite nursery poem:—

"There was an old woman, and what do you think?  
She lived upon nothing but victuals and drink!  
Victuals and drink were the chief of her diet;  
Yet this plaguy old woman could never be quiet."

The principal difficulty under which debtors lie is the difficulty of paying their debts. But the application of torture to their case presupposes the ability. As they have no money in their purses, it subjects them to pressure for the purpose of squeezing out their money.

Let us see the direct consequence of this ingenious process for getting sunshine out of cucumbers. In the first place the money is nearly always obtained out of somebody else's pocket; but, in a great number of cases, it is drawn, including the law expenses, from the

pocket of the creditors. Sometimes it is old creditors who lend "a little" in the hope of recovering more; sometimes new creditors; sometimes relatives, who are not the less creditors because the loan is extorted from them through family influences. That is the first consequence. The next consequence is still more absurd and mischievous. We may say, broadly, that nine-tenths of the creditors would not give the credit—would not permit the debt to be created—if they did not cherish an expectation, that by means of imprisonment they could screw the money out of somebody or other. In the larger proportion of cases they are disappointed, and only have to pay their own lawyer's bills. In the exceptional cases, they screw the money out of somebody else; but, in order to balance their books at the end of the year, they make their *other* customers pay for those wrongly contracted debts; and it is the false reliance on this presumed but fallacious screw, which induces them thus to add to their real trade an appendix of false trade.

The third consequence is less in extent, but almost worse in the nature of the evil. We look to the men actually imprisoned. They are the representatives of the indebted class, thus assembled in an involuntary parliament—in that parliament into which bills can be introduced, but never to become law—a parliament without a recess, with no royal speech to inaugurate it, and none but dishonourable members. Who get in?—the abandoned, the reckless, the eccentric, the soft-witted; the frowsy fool that is content with the prison for a residence. One man stops in prison (as this return tells us) because, through some perverseness of wit, he will not file his schedule; another because he will not make over a petty annuity of twelve shillings a-week; a third because he has not the means to pay for his schedule and his friends will not; a fourth for some sillier and sadder reason. Take one example, and let us learn how bad may be the instrument of which such a use can be made. In one of our prisons is an old man of ninety-four, placed there at the suit of his son, because that son is tired of supporting him, and wishes to impose on the county the expense, not yet incurred, of burying his father! We do not see that the debtors' prison is of much use to honest creditors, or to the community, amongst which it encourages the creation of debt; but we do see that it has its use for that pious son!

ELECTION OF A NEW BISHOP.—The ceremony of electing the new Bishop of Carlisle has taken place in the Chapter house. It is now nothing but a ceremony. The assembled chapter stood in mute attention while their registrar, Mr. Saul, read the Queen's gracious letter to them, granting them her leave to proceed to the election of a bishop and pastor of their cathedral church and diocese in place of the Hon. and Right Rev. Dr. Percy, deceased. It sounded like a reality for the moment. But, without a pause, the registrar read on her Majesty's letters commendatory, nominating the Hon. and Rev. Henry Montague Villiers, and charging the Dean and Chapter on their allegiance to elect him. The antique phraseology of the Queen's letters, unchanged probably since the days of Henry VIII., and the mute, passive appearance of all present (the registrar only excepted), strikingly illustrate the tenacity of ancient formalities among us after all substance and reality have departed from them. No one thing apparently connected with another can have less to do with it in reality than the capitular election of a bishop has to do with his real appointment.—*Carlisle Patriot*.

THE LATE DUKE OF NORFOLK.—A solemn service and requiem have been performed at the chapel attached to the Bavarian Embassy, in Warwick-street, for the late Duke of Norfolk. The interior of the chapel was hung entirely with black cloth and silver, and illuminated by silver sconces. The service was attended by most of the Roman Catholic nobility in town and several distinguished foreigners. This circumstance seems to confirm the assertion of an Irish paper that the late duke was reconverted to Papacy a short time before his death.



## 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*.

IF the French have been since '89 somewhat revolutionary and impatient in the sphere of politics, they have in all periods been remarkably patient and slavish in their endurance of Literary authority. The dread they have in Literature for anything like innovation is singularly illustrated in the case of ROBESPIERRE, who, while devoting himself to the overthrow of the monarchy, remained a rigorous adherent to all the classic rules. It is this slavish acceptance of authority which gives their critical writings so uniform and fatiguing a character. We are not disputing their admirable qualities, when we point to a fact which must have certainly struck the reader, namely that BOSSUET, FENELON, RACINE, BOILEAU, MOLIERE, PASCAL—all the great names, in short—are always spoken of in stereotyped phrases. Even in the vehement quarrel of the Classic and Romantic schools, when a broad schism was proclaimed, the same monotonous uniformity was preserved: instead of one opinion uttered in stereotyped phrases, there were two opinions; that was all the change. For a Frenchman to think independently, and express himself as he thinks, about *le grand* BOSSUET, would be the height of audacious paradox. To play with ideas is permissible; the natural vivacity of the Frenchman must break out; but it is awed by names; it holds a reputation more sacred than a system; and no levity, no liberty seems permissible when *les grands écrivains* are in question. Unanimity is uninterrupted by independence. Opinions are as much a matter of course as "yours truly." In England, with all our respect for names and ideas, there are only two names which receive this stereotyped applause. SHAKESPEARE, whom it is heresy to mention without hyperbole, and the "judicious HOOKER," whom it is erudition to have read. With regard to all other writers, every thinking man has his own view; there is a general estimate, but each critic adopts it with some modification, and expresses himself as he feels.

There is a general estimate of BACON, for example, which is assuredly high; but scarcely two writers quite agree about his merits, and the degree of his influence. Some are only fascinated by the style, some by the weighty pregnant thoughts, and some by the far-reaching Method. If we pass from English writers on BACON, to French writers on DES CARTES, the contrast becomes striking. There are men who disagree with DES CARTES, who disbelieve in the possibility of metaphysical systems reaching the truth, or in DES CARTES having reached it; but to find one man expressing even an individual modification of the general estimate, using any but the stereotyped expressions, is as rare as to find a white crow.

We will not push the parallel further. It has brought us into the presence of two great names, the two Fathers of Modern Philosophy, whom we find contrasted in *La Revue des Deux Mondes* (March 1), by M. SAISSET in an essay on "Philosophy since Ramus" agreeably written, as his essays usually are, though thin in substance. In these days of *entente cordiale*, M. SAISSET thinks it right the rivalry between the admirers of the two great men should give place to an impartial estimate of both. It is easy, he thinks, to disengage the question from all national prejudice, and reduce it to its veritable terms: BACON, assuredly a "grand esprit," merits the magnificent eulogy of WALPOLE of having been the prophet of those truths which NEWTON taught. But celebrate this powerful imitator as pompously as you will, he will always want something which could entitle him to rank beside DES CARTES: "*il lui a manqué l'esprit d'invention, le don supérieur des grandes découvertes, en un mot le génie créateur.*" "Of what use is his magnificent Method which he describes with precision, which he celebrates with enthusiasm? He does not employ it; nor has it had much influence even in his own country. But DES CARTES, on the contrary, has had an incomparable influence because his genius was essentially creative. Not only do his discoveries of the law of refraction and explanation of the rainbow place him beside GALILEO (!); not only does he share with PASCAL the honour of having made experiments on the weight of the atmosphere, but he has done that which neither PASCAL nor GALILEO could have done—he has created sciences. The application of algebra to geometry, physical mathematics, and rational mechanics did not exist before DES CARTES, who created them at one stroke. Finally he created a system of Philosophy which is one of the glories of the human race."

We cannot in our limits discuss the legitimacy of the assertions M. SAISSET makes, but leave to the meditation of the reader, to separate what is specious from what is true in them. The nonsense (we can use no milder term) M. SAISSET speaks in this article about LEIBNITZ and SPINOZA, is of the stereotyped order. Let us pass from it to the interesting paper on DAVID D'ANGERS by GUSTAVE PLANCHE, who is one of the few critics capable of expressing an independent opinion, although he does it generally with an insolence of manner which reminds one of a pedagogue, ruler in hand, laying down the law to his uplooking pupils. Another, and a very interesting paper in the same *Revue*, is that by M. PAUL DE REMUSAT sketching the history of CLAUDE BERNARD's discovery of the function of the liver, and the disputes which have latterly agitated the Academy, and occupied France respecting the truth of the discovery. We have kept our readers informed of all the stages of this dispute, which is really of immense importance, for M. BERNARD's views, if true, not only solve a problem which has occupied

and baffled all physiologists from HIPPOCRATES downwards, but they also profoundly modify certain principles of chemistry and physiology which have been considered as established. This importance it is which has made us bring the question before our readers, at each new turn taken by the discussion, and which makes us refer those who have not followed the discussion to M. REMUSAT's article, where the story is ably narrated (with two or three unimportant inaccuracies) from first to last. LIEBIG and his followers consider it an established principle that the animal organism can form no organic substances, it can only transform the materials furnished by the vegetable world. But M. BERNARD's discovery proves that the animal can form sugar, not furnished by the vegetable. Here then the LIEBIG generalisation is shown to be incomplete. If one organic substance is producible without the intervention of vegetables, others may be.

M. ESQUIROS continues his interesting articles on Life in Holland; and the *Revue* closes with a simple and touching story of Russian life, translated from the Russian of M. TOURGENEF, which makes us very curious to see the other works of this writer. Altogether the *Revue* this time is remarkable for the variety and excellence of its articles, and is well worth our readers looking after it.

## THE ART OF THE ANCIENTS.

*Torso. Kunst, Künstler und Kunstwerke der Alten. (Torso. The Art, Artists, and Art-remains of the Ancients.)* By Adolf Stahr. In Two Parts. Part Second. London: D. Nutt.

A YEAR ago we directed our readers' attention to the first volume of Professor Stahr's *Torso*, as a delightful introduction to the study of Greek Art. The recent appearance of the second volume enables us to enforce our previous recommendation by the assurance that the author has worthily ended what was so well begun.

We were going to say that *Torso* is as interesting as a novel, but we remembered that this stock phrase of eulogistic reviewers has become nearly as vague as the celebrated comparison, "about as big as a potato;" the interest of novels varying as much as the size of that invaluable but too uncertain root, and indeed the majority of them being, next to volumes of "poems," the hardest reading inexorable duty calls on us to perform. Let us be content to say, then, without any comparison, that *Torso* is a deeply-interesting book, telling, often with warm eloquence, and always with ease and grace, the wonderful history of Greek sculpture as it may be gathered and conjectured from the fragmentary remains and fragmentary records which have escaped the ravages of time and barbarism. A history of art necessarily includes a large amount of description and criticism, since to such a history, pictures, statues and buildings, bear the same relation as the actions of men bear to the history of nations; description is there equivalent to narrative, and criticism to the analysis of character. And the discrepancies of the Whig and the Tory, the Protestant and the Catholic historian, are trivial compared with the discrepancies of art critics; so that in such a work as Professor Stahr's there are sure to be plenty of questionable judgments, of which other writers on art will tell you that the contrary is "evident to the plainest understanding." His mistakes are likely to be on the amiable side of over-estimation; but though enthusiastic, he is never cloudily rhapsodical like some of his confraternity in Germany. He is as far as possible from that state of criticism which sees in a simple, playful subject like the "Boy with the Mask," "the divinely-inspired longing after the highest summit of earthly existence in contrast with the nothingness and emptiness of all earthly joys." He has too intense a feeling for art as art, to wash away its language of form in a flood of vague philosophising; he loves the outward fact too well to let it be screened from him by the *Grand-idee*. Nevertheless he is a philosophic critic in the best sense; he judges of art in its relation to the other phases of human development; he traces it to its originating principles, and he notes the causes and the reactive influences of its development and decline. The reader will perhaps find him now and then a little too arrogant in his decisions, a little too vague and allusive in his statements; but these faults are unfortunately much commoner than the merits by which they are redeemed in the author of *Torso*.

Almost all the greatest works of ancient art remaining to us are described in the first volume, Professor Stahr having wisely adopted the plan of arranging them according to the period of their origination as ideals by the greatest masters of Greece, and not according to the date at which the sculptures we actually possess are supposed to have been executed. For, apart from the Parthenon sculptures, which enable us to know, not merely by faith, but by sight, that Phidias was the sublimest artist the world has produced, our acquaintance with Greek art in its grandest periods is almost entirely due to copies executed by Greek artists who wrought under Roman patronage in the days of the early Emperors. Thus the Jupiter Otricoli only represents to us the Jupiter of Phidias; in the Juno Ludovisi we see only the ideal of Polykletes; in the Discobolus only a marble copy of Myron's bronze original; in the Venus de Medici the emulating skill of an artist who, many generations after Praxiteles, sought to surpass, while borrowing, the ideal of the Venus of Cnidos. Hence the second volume of *Torso* has less description than the first, and more narrative and disquisition; it is occupied less with the productions of art than with the conditions under which art was either further developed or simply continued to exist from the Macedonian period, when it ceased to be a vital function in a political and religious organism, and became an affair of royal and aristocratic patronage, down to the time of Hadrian, when it sent forth a few gleams of originating power before its setting. Still there is enough of the description in which Prof. Stahr excels to render the contents of this volume sufficiently various. There are the works which may with more or less probability be attributed to Lysippus, the Phidias of portrait sculpture, whose genius initiated that phase of development on which sculptural art entered in the time of Alexander. The portraits of Alexander we possess, the Hercules Farnese, the Hercules-Torso of the Vatican, and the Horses of the Sun at Venice, are among the many works of which the originals are attributed to Lysippus. In the history

of a later period, when, under the successors of Alexander, the schools of Asia Minor and of Rhodes eclipsed the waning glories of Athens, Sicyon and Argos, we have the Laocoon, the Farnese Bull, and the Dying Gladiator; and in the sketch of Greek art under the patronage of Imperial Rome we have the Bacchus of the Vatican, the Barberini Faun, the Nile, and the Apollo Belvedere.

One of the most interesting parts of the present volume is the chapter on the growth and character of artistic taste and culture in Rome after the close of the second Punic War, including a special discussion of Cicero's relation to art, a relation which may be taken as typical of the Roman point of view. Perhaps our readers will like to hear Professor Stahr himself speak on this subject:—

In Cicero we have a man who attached less importance to his love of art than did many of his contemporaries—a statesman and man of affairs whose calling and inclination drew him towards altogether different pursuits—an author, among whose numerous works there is not one which is especially occupied with plastic art either historically or æsthetically considered; and yet we find in him a knowledge of the history and productions of ancient art, and a correctness of judgment in relation to both, such as we rarely find under like circumstances in a similar personage of our own time. For Cicero is the man to whom, next to Pliny and Quintilian, we owe the greatest part of our information concerning the style of the earlier Greek artists. In his works generally, he shows himself to be an accomplished connoisseur of ancient art, and his books on oratory are full of traits which give evidence of this. He is accurately acquainted with the various styles which characterised the development of Greek art; he knows the relation of the individual great masters to each other, and the rank due to each in the history of art, and he not unfrequently derives from this knowledge very striking comparisons and illustrative parallels for the history of oratory. Now the writings in which these illustrations occur were destined for the cultivated public in general, for young and old statesmen and orators, in a word, for readers who had no pretension to be regarded either as dilettanti or connoisseurs. Thus, even in addressing this general public, he could depend on being understood when he spoke of the characteristic style of Calamis, Canachos, Myron, Phidias, and Polykletes, and of the respective value of the great Greek painters, Zeuxis, Polygnotus, Timanthes, Nicomachus, Protogenes, and Apelles—when he compared the oldest Latin version of the Odyssey with a Dædalian statue, or the songs of the old Roman poet Nævius on the Punic War with a work of Myron's. How many statesmen of our time can boast of a corresponding knowledge either in themselves or their readers? . . . Both Cicero and the public to whom his works were addressed must be regarded as having a love and knowledge of art, even in spite of his protest to the contrary. Such a protest he makes where it suits him to assume that haughty contempt with which the old Roman spirit, still strongly represented among his countrymen, loved to look down on everything that bore the name of Greek culture. Cicero himself relates, that at the time when he was a boy, even those distinguished orators and statesmen who had prosecuted the most thorough study of Greek philosophy, literature and science, endeavoured carefully to conceal this from the great public of their own nation; nay, even put on the air of despising all such studies. In his great work *De Oratore*, he makes the celebrated statesman and orator Antonius express himself quite openly on this kind of inverted hypocrisy. Indeed Greek science, literature, and doctrine, stood with the pre-eminently practical Romans, who were averse to all speculation, in much the same sort of reputation as the existing *doctrinaires* and "ideologists" with the practical men of our own day. Hence Antony declares quite naively, that he had certainly studied in secret and by stealth the rich and profound literature of Greece, for not to have done so would have shown too brutal a stupidity; but at the same time he had, throughout his life, held it discreet to pay homage to the repugnance of his nation, and in his public orations to avoid the faintest sign of his having occupied himself with such "Greek matters," lest he should lose authority among his own people.

As a specimen of Professor Stahr's style on another kind of subject, we give some of his observations on the Apollo Belvedere:—

It is probable that this statue belongs to the time of Nero. The spot where it was found was the favourite residence of this Emperor. Here he was born—here he made his magnificent entrance after his return from his artistic travel in Greece—here he remained during the tremendous conflagration, which laid two-thirds of Rome in ashes; and the Dying Gladiator, which was also found in the ruins of Antium, shows, no less than the Apollo, that the noblest works of plastic art adorned this imperial summer residence. It is a deeply poetical thought of Feuerbach's, that the Fury-dispelling god stood in the house of the crowned Orestes, who had ventured, with the guilt of matricide on his own soul, to act the part of Orestes on the stage. Not seldom, as his most confidential companions admitted, his disturbed senses were shaken by visions of the avenging deities with their whips and torches; and it is quite conceivable that his guilty conscience sought refuge under this image of the protecting God. But even if this were nothing more than an ingenious conjecture, one thing remains certain, namely, that in the expression of the Apollo's head lies the nobleness of that divine indignation which Tacitus felt in the contemplation of that age and its hideous crimes. And if it was really Nero who gave the commission to the artist of the Apollo, one can understand that the great soul of the master, who was capable of producing this work, stamped on the lofty god of light and purity that expression of scornful indignation which every noble heart must experience in the contemplation of a world full of the most debasing iniquity. For every great artist, in his best works, can only embody the mental state which is produced in him or suggested by the subject he undertakes to represent. Thus Titian, when he was called on to paint the lovely blonde poisoner, Lucrezia Borgia, with her husband, opposite to the Holy Family, expressed, in the famous picture in the Dresden Gallery, all the scornful reprobation of hypocritical vice which he felt in his own soul.

Our extracts, however, do no justice to a work which is chiefly valuable as a whole, and not for the sake of special information and beauty here and there. Those who can read German will, we hope, since the number of pleasant German books is not overwhelming, be induced to procure *Torso* for themselves, and for those who do not read German it might be as well if some spirited publisher and industrious translator would undertake to give the public an English edition.

#### RUSSIA SOUTH OF THE CAUCASUS.

*Kara and Erzeroum; with the Campaigns of Prince Paskiewitch in 1828 and 1829; and an Account of the Conquests of Russia beyond the Caucasus from the time of Peter the Great to the Treaties of, Turcoman Chio and Adrianople.* By Lieutenant-General W. Monteith.

This volume contains a military record of the progress of Russia beyond the Caucasus, from the first inroad of Peter in 1721, to the successful warfare

of Paskiewitch a little more than a hundred years later. Russia, therefore, was occupied a century in converting the Caspian into a Russian lake, in establishing her power in the heart of Georgia, in wresting three or four provinces from Persia, and in carrying her frontier in Turkish Armenia, from Mount Ararat to the bounds of Gouriel and Immeritia. No doubt the late Czar hoped that the upshot of his last fatal quarrel with the sick man, would at least give him the entire control of the Ararat chain, the port of Batoum, and Erzeroum so greatly desired. The importance of these conquests to the realisation of the views of Russia south of the Caucasus we need not discuss here. For the present those conquests seem to have been frustrated; or to have been only temporarily and partially accomplished, to be renounced and wholly given up. But we cannot expect that Russia will so give up her long-cherished designs because she has been once beaten. Nadir Shah compelled the Russian garrison to quit Derbend; we have seen their successors bound back again as far as Nakshirvan. Peter himself, as all men know, was defeated on the Pruth; but a general of one of his successors carried the Russian flag to Mesembria and Rodosto; and dictated peace from Adrianople. The allies have destroyed at least one Russian army; and they have swept the seas of her fleets and her commerce; but these are incidental checks, passing calamities, interruptions in the great dreams of the Romanoffs; obstacles to be overcome rather than to be estimated as insuperable; like the trials inflicted by Providence upon a chosen people. Whose will is the stronger, the will of Russia to conquer and break up Turkey and seize upon its potent capital, or the will of the Western Powers that Turkey shall not be broken up, at least not to the profit of Russia, and that her capital shall not be so seized? It all depends on that. If we are the stronger we shall prevail. But to say that the struggle is over because Sebastopol is destroyed is perfectly preposterous. It has only begun; and all the treaties of peace will not prevent its renewal at some day of not far distant date—a little later or a little earlier. The question is neither more nor less than this: what is to be the position of the Russian race or races on this globe?—a question not to be firmly settled, we fear, by peace conferences, but by fierce and sanguinary wars.

General Monteith's book throws a strong light upon the past. The lesson it teaches is that what Russia has done Russia may do again under favourable circumstances, and those favourable circumstances are unfortunately of but too common occurrence in the history of Eastern monarchies. They are sure to recur.

It was one of the many vast designs of Peter the Great to extend his empire to the Indus and the Persian Gulf, including, of course, the mastery of the Caspian Sea. With that view he prepared a fleet, and only awaited a favourable opportunity. Persia soon furnished one. In 1721 the Shah Hussein, apprehensive of being conquered by the Affghans, applied for aid to Peter. The Czar met the request by an instant and cheerful promise of assistance. Troops were collected at Moscow and sent down the Moskawa and Oka to the Volga. The Emperor repaired to the head-quarters of the Calmucks, and easily obtained from the Khan a body of 5,000 horse. The fleet emerged from the Volga, and "on the 19th July, 1722, the imperial standard of Russia first waved over the Caspian." How great have been the advances of Russia in that quarter since that eventful day! The troops landed at Agrakhan a little to the south of the embouchure of the Terek, and mustered 30,000 fighting men. With this force Peter advanced as far as Derbend, which he entered and occupied on the 30th August. But here his career was brought to an end. A hurricane wrecked his transports and destroyed the stores accumulated for the campaign; and leaving a strong garrison in Derbend, he carried back the main body to Astrachan. Such was the first move of the Russians towards Persia. Peter was far enough from assisting the Shah against the Affghans; but he had succeeded in planting a Russian force in an important post, and from that day to this, with slight intervals of misfortune, the arms of Russia have gradually extended, not only round the shores of the Caspian Sea, but far beyond the Caucasus. It is significant of the estimate formed by the Persians of the dangerous character of the aid to be expected from the Czar, that the Persian Governor of Bakoo would not surrender that fort until compelled by a bombardment to do so. The price, in fact, of Russian aid was the cession of the southern and western shores of the Caspian; but Russia found to her cost that the expense in blood and treasure of establishing herself in the ceded territory was far beyond what it was worth; nevertheless, she persisted with her wonted tenacity until Nadir Shah, sweeping with conquering strides over the whole region of the East, forced the Russians in 1736, not only to quit the southern and western shores of the Caspian, but to evacuate Derbend under a threat from the terrible conqueror of being pitched into the sea.

But the eyes and hands of the Czars and Czarinas were thenceforward never turned from the great mountain chain dividing Europe from Asia. Domestic quarrels in Georgia soon furnished an occasion and a pretext for intervention. As early as 1752, Tamaris the Georgian chief, and Heraclius his son, besought the Empress Elizabeth to accept their submission, and protect them from the Turks. In 1760 Heraclius imprisoned his father, and the old man escaping laid his grievances at the foot of the Russian throne. The usual consequences followed. "In 1768 the first Russian troops passed the Caucasus," after overcoming tremendous obstacles. The Russians never wholly gave up possession; and subsequent invasions took place, sometimes to resist the Turks, sometimes to defend Georgia from the Lesghians, until at the close of the last century, the Empress Catherine, "deeply affected" by the misfortunes of Georgia, made arrangements for its permanent annexation to Russia. The final act, however, was not consummated until the reign of the Emperor Paul, when Georgia agreed to a treaty of submission. "According to this treaty, Georgia became an integral portion of Russia, and the plans of Peter the Great for the subjugation of all the adjacent kingdoms—plans which had never been lost sight of by his successors, however they might differ in opinions and character—were now made an object of attention, and every endeavour was made to carry them into execution." How those plans were carried out up to the year 1829 will be found from the narrative of General Monteith who carries the reader on from the acquisition of Georgia, through all the wars and intrigues and usurpations of Russia against Persia and Turkey, down to the signature of the treaty of Adrianople in 1829.



It is the old story of which we have heard so often, of gradual encroachment on one side and gradual decline on the other. We see in the wars between Russia and Turkey and Russia and Persia, admirably-organised and ably-commanded armies opposed to masses of brave soldiers, ill-fed, and badly-clothed, indeed, but still worse led and handled in the field; officers incapable of forming plans and still more incapable of executing them; great tenacity in holding on to defensive works, but almost utter powerlessness in battle and utter powerlessness in manœuvring. Those who desire to read a simply and clearly-told narrative of the conquests of Russia in these regions will find that narrative in these volumes, and we think nowhere else in the same compass. General Monteith had peculiar opportunities of collecting accurate information. For twenty years he was attached to various missions in Persia; he served in the field on many occasions; and an official connexion with General Paskiewitch, brought much of the two brilliant campaigns of that great soldier under the personal observation of General Monteith. No other volume that we are aware of, in the English language, at least, gives such a clear, succinct, and spirited account of the campaigns of 1828-29, than the one before us. The general reader will peruse it with pleasure, and the military student with pleasure and profit.

We place one extract before the reader, an estimate from an impartial pen of the character of Prince Paskiewitch:—

General Paskiewitch fortunately possessed an instinctive knowledge of character, and he completely trusted those whom he employed. In his attention to the civil administration he was indefatigable, and he put a stop to the abuses which had so long disgraced and ruined the Russian affairs. Men of every rank and class had free access to him; they might bring their own interpreter and be sure of having justice quickly administered. His loss was deeply felt in Georgia, which he was rapidly getting into order; and he had nearly succeeded in bringing the tribes of the Caucasus into pacific relations with the Russian government, by employing a portion of their troops and not interfering with their internal government—the only system of policy, as I often heard from his own lips, that he thought likely to succeed. A commencement was made by forming a Circassian body-guard at St. Petersburg, with high pay and great advantages, privates ranking as officers. The four Mahomedan regiments raised by him still form part of the Russian army; and had the Polish war not summoned away the Prince, the native troops would have been augmented to 25,000 men.

In his outward deportment Prince Paskiewitch was hasty and sometimes even violent, which appears to be a fashionable piece of affectation among the Russian officers—perhaps from a desire of imitating the eccentricities of Suwaroff; but in his actions Paskiewitch was as remarkable for his cool deliberation as for the rapid execution of whatever he had decided upon. It has been said of him, (reversing the epigram on Charles II.) that he seldom said a wise thing and never did a foolish one. I had myself a great deal of communication with him regarding the payment of the contribution levied on Persia, which I had been appointed to superintend, and always experienced great kindness and consideration from him, having access to him at all hours when any difficulty arose about the payment, an annoyance that was constantly taking place from the caprice or insolence of the inferior agents.

We may remark, in conclusion, that the book is accompanied by a very valuable map, and an equally valuable index. It only required a few plans of the movements of the Russian armies, especially in 1829, to make it a perfect work of its kind.

#### THE LONDESBOROUGH COLLECTION.

*Miscellaneous Graphica: A Collection of Ancient, Mediæval, and Renaissance Remains in the Possession of Lord Londesborough.* Illustrated by F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A. Chapman and Hall.

LORD LONDESBOROUGH is issuing a work in twelve parts, containing illustrations of his ancient, mediæval, and Renaissance collection. The principal plates, executed in gold and colours by the process of chromo-lithography, form a series bright with the lustre of antique gems, enamels, and burnished cups and vases. The others are carefully finished lithographs, drawn and engraved by Mr. Fairholt, whose pencil is firm and fine, and who seems to live and move in the religious light of early centuries. Among the most interesting of the gilded and tinted specimens are two metal filigrees, probably the decorations of an altar. The figures are those of Solomon and David, clothed in Plantagenet splendour, the one bearing a harp, the other a book, and both sceptres. They are in gold, raised on a surface of copper, encrusted with enamel of a deep opaque blue, varied by lines and touches of white, red, yellow, and green. In the same "part" Mr. Fairholt represents six rings from Lady Londesborough's remarkable collection, of two hundred and fifty jewels. One is a ghostly design, intended as a mourning ring, and is composed of two skeletons, covered with white enamel, that support a coffin, enamelled with a red Maltese cross, on a black ground studded with gilt hearts. Removing the lid, a third skeleton is discovered in the sarcophagus. It must have been a singular genius for the Dismal that prompted an artist to mould into a ring the contents of a sepulchre. The Hebrew betrothal ring, the "Joy be with you," is a circle of enamelled gold, bearing a domed temple, another has the model of a square building on it, with a steep roof, dome-windows, and moveable vanes. In this specimen the congratulatory inscription is in relief on a dark granulated ground.

Some of the old makers of cups displayed a more cordial genius than the workers even of the betrothal rings. In one specimen designed by a German, the goblet is of silver, in the form of a windmill; it was held in the hand to be filled, and its peculiar merit was that it could not be set down until emptied. The same principle regulated the design of many of these cups, in which the Rhine wine lay a moment bright, then gone for ever. One, of bronze, took the form of a crowned maiden with flowing hair, her dress adorned with delicate dotted lines, the bodice red, the girdle green, and holy quotations on the border; in one hand she holds flower of red enamel, in the other a salamander typical of innocence and purity. This lady must be reversed to be filled with the warm South, and when emptied may be restored to the table. Some of the cups, moulded to represent women, unscrewed at the waist, and were for the use of more deliberate drinkers.

A morsel of the fourteenth century is one of the most brilliant of the specimens illustrated by Mr. Fairholt. The circular plate is wreathed with foliage, interspersed with groups of animals, birds, and shells in bold relief,

with small floriated filigrees between, enamelled in blue and green, and screwed to the base, which is of gilt-silver. Upon each filigree is a fanciful bosse, set with turquoise; in the centre is a sapphire surrounded by rubies and smaller sapphires, ornaments in filigree, flowers of blue enamel, with pearls between the petals, and birds, each bearing on its head a gem. This is a very rich and intricate design. Birds were favourite objects with the artists of the Mediæval and Renaissance periods, the plumage tempting them to the use of gorgeous colours. Mr. Fairholt represents a variety of drinking cups designed in this form, less for utility than for the decorations of the table—doves and swans being cut in crystal, or silver gilded, and sumptuously bejewelled. One ingenious artist made a watch in the shape of an eagle, with a small figure of Ganymede seated on the neck. It is constructed to stand upon the feet, the body containing the mechanism, and opening at the lower part to display the dial, richly engraved with scrolls and flowers on a ground of niello. Still more quaint is a watch shaped like a duck, with every feather elaborately chased. It was appended to a chain, passed through a ring at the back of the neck. The wheels work on small rubies, and the dial-plate exhibited by opening the lower part of the bird, is enriched with a floriated scroll, adorned with angelic heads. As an illustration of the quaint fancies which prevail in rude periods, the Bell of St. Maura is one of the most singular relics in the collection. It was long preserved in the Abbey of Fahan, in County Donegal, but came ultimately into the possession of a poor peasant, who sold it to an antiquarian of Anglesea. From him Lord Londesborough purchased it for £80.

The legendary history relates that this bell came slowly down from heaven, ringing so sweetly, that a concourse of persons assembled to witness its descent, and to hear its marvellous tones. As it approached the earth, however, the tongue detached itself, and returned to the skies; and from this circumstance the people concluded, with self-denying piety, that it was never to be profaned by being rung in this mortal world. The material is of bronze, and the form quadrangular, like that of the Irish bells of the seventh century. Being enclosed in an elaborate casing, it was only by accident that the enrichments underneath were discovered. These, as far as they have been laid bare, consist of a tracery of Runic knots, wrought in brass, and firmly attached to the belt by a thin plate of gold. The external decorations form a series of silver plates, variously embossed with a large crystal in the centre, and sockets for other jewels around it. Only one, of amber, remains. Settings of gold in several parts indicate that other precious stones enriched this singular relic, the workmanship of which is remarkably fine. Who made the bell it is impossible to discover, unless, indeed, the quaint artist's name be concealed among the ornaments under the external coating. As it is, the relic tells no story, except that, in the early periods of Irish art, the workers in metals and jewellery attained to high perfection in their calling.

The subjects of Mr. Fairholt's illustrations are exceedingly varied, the dignity of gold and colours being usually reserved for specimens of ecclesiastical ornament. One plate represents examples of middle age altar furniture, candlesticks of copper gilt with the figures of angels executed in incised lines, the heads only in high relief, a pyx of gilded copper ornamented with crystal and coloured glass, and eight emblazoned shields.

The plain lithographs contain examples of silver, ivory, bronze, steel, and wood work. Thus to recur to drinking cups, there are two from the Bernal collection which are perfect contrasts of design. The one is bell-shaped, with a skeleton globe where the handle should be, with a little bell inside, which rings when the cup is reversed by the drinker. On the globe sits a demon, who supports upon an inverted arch of silver a smaller cup.

The companion specimen, of silver gilt takes the form of a woman, dressed in the stiff elaboration of the early part of the seventeenth century. Her extended arms are raised to support a smaller cup above her head. Another goblet, heart shaped and glowing with gilt, stands in contrast with an ivory bowl, mounted with silver, in the form of a shell, and placed upon the head of a crowned nymph of the sea. The mediæval artists introduced the figures of women with extraordinary freedom into objects of art and utility. Not content with turning them into goblets, laying them at the bottom of dishes, forcing them to support, like Carians of the feast, the bowls and beakers of wine, the Italians made poignards, with ivory hilts, carved to represent the female figure, which was often introduced in various degrees of beauty and modesty upon the sheath or scabbard; perhaps, however, none of the curious objects in this collection typify so clearly the manners of the three epochs illustrated as the implements of disgrace and torture. We know who invented padlocks for the mouths of slanderers and cleft sticks for the tongues of railing women. From the old castle of Nuremberg, Lord Londesborough obtained a mask of punishment which would have done good to the heart of John Endicott. It was no doubt as effective in its way as the Scarlet Letter or the Short Halter. It is formed of bands of iron which fold over the head, and are fastened behind by a padlock. A pair of spectacles and asses' ears are attached; a double plate fastens over the mouth, and a whistle passes over the nose, "producing," says Mr. Fairholt, "a loud sound should the wearer attempt to speak." The mask is painted a flesh colour with a mouth delineated on the lower plate, and the eyes and ears shaded with an asinine grey. The appearance of such a machine upon the head of a culprit must have been at once diabolical and grotesque. The brand to mark the felon indelibly with the wheel and gallows supplied the suggestion of many a romance, from the tale of that fair Florentine who found the ignominious mark on her husband's shoulder to the audacious invention of Dumas, whose heroine in the *Three Musketeers* is discovered by her husband to have the brand on her bosom, who is privately hanged by him, and who survives this and a thousand and one impossible perils to be decapitated at last by midnight on the bank of a river. If there were no other value in antiquarian relics, they are interesting because they illustrate not only the successive gradations of art and ingenuity, but the changes of habits and manners. Who can now imagine a policeman even in Germany rushing down the street with a gigantic pair of pincers to catch hold of a thief? Who can conceive a criminal (except a patriot at Cayenne) wearing a collar so knobbed and spiked as to suggest that the devil took far better hints from them than he ever took from Coldbath-fields? It would be curious also to see a General of Division wearing a

dagger, so serrated at the edge that it would mangle the flesh as it entered; or a poniard so small and fine that, being pressed into the body through a perforated plate, it would kill, but leave only an invisible puncture.

#### BRITISH HISTORIANS.

*The Lives of the British Historians.* By Eugene Lawrence, 2 vols. New York.

Scribner.

THERE being no categorical work on the British historians, Mr. Lawrence has undertaken to compose their "Lives," beginning with Gildas, and ending with Arnold. Upon the whole they have been prudent and serious men, generally politicians, always in earnest on one subject or another, and rarely impartial. The grave procession, as far as Mr. Lawrence has yet passed it in review, closes with Charles James Fox. It is headed, as we have said, by Gildas the monk of Bangor, whom Mr. Lawrence marshals to the front, after some preliminary generalities on the attributes of British "history." As an American it would not have been surprising had he regarded this class of English writers with a sceptical eye. But he is unnecessarily generous; our "great historians," we are told, have no rivals later than Tacitus. Gibbon and Hume are more philosophical than Guicciardini, more profound than Voltaire, more learned than Schiller, more interesting than the "critical" Niebuhr—whose criticisms on early Roman history, we must remind Mr. Lawrence, have been triturated into impalpable legendary. However, he who purposes to exalt is likely to be quite as accurate as he who writes to disparage, and we must be grateful for this, the only book devoted specially to the biographies of our historians. In this nineteenth century, with London-bridge not yet in delapidation, and no New Zealand Marius sketching St. Paul's, it is curious to remember that the first English history was entitled *The Ruins of Britain*. In this work Gildas affirmed that the British nobility had fallen away from their ancient virtues, and that the clergy were no longer what they once were, but degenerate and immoral. This Jeremiad was poured forth by the Monk of Menai because he saw the Saxons shedding blood, and pillaging the native population. In the next century appeared the Ecclesiastical History of Bede, and after the Norman invasion the Chronicles of Croyland, by Ingulphus. Mr. Lawrence, by a somewhat puerile analogy, describes Jeffrey of Monmouth, as the Lady of the Monkish historians. To him, to Mathew Paris, Fabian, Stow, Speed, and Baker, only paragraphs are devoted, and the plan of the work admitted of no fourth detail. But it would have been as well to give some indication of the nature of the "histories" referred to. What, for example, does the reader learn from Mr. Lawrence concerning Sir Richard Baker? That he was "renowned," learned, and able, and wrote the Chronicles of England from the Roman conquest to the death of James the First. But how did he write it? No account is given of the "Chronicles" which, with all their gross and credulous absurdities, are worth the student's attention. Some notice, also, was due to Kenneth's collection. The sketches of the lives of Sir Walter Raleigh, Camden, and Clarendon, though incomplete and uncritical, are suggestive and not uninforming. That on Burnet has obviously been compiled without reference to the investigations which have of late years thrown a new and clear light into the recessed departments of history, the personal character and acts of public men. All the allusions to Penn are strangely out of date.

Of the lives of Hume and Gibbon the facts are well known. Mr. Lawrence's summaries are hardly needed in England. A more original sketch, which would have borne some amplification, is that on Catherine Macaulay, a very meritorious writer, very unjustly neglected. Horace Walpole fell into one of his characteristic impertinences when he placed her on a level with Robertson, and in advance of Hume. It was impertinent to imply that Hume was not superior to Robertson: but she was a woman of unusual talents, was admired by Washington, and among her contemporaries gained a distinguished reputation. The rector of Walbrook, Dr. Wilson, beatified her in effigy, by placing her statue in the chancel of his church. If she has been forgotten, if her books are not to be found among reprints and references, it is because their political tendencies brought upon them the suppressing power of the clergy, of "gentlemen" and of "ladies," while they were not sufficiently substantial or authentic to interest the liberal critics in restoring the freshness of Mrs. Macaulay's deciduous fame. Her attack upon the Stuarts abounded in expletive exaggeration: her reply to Burke was hot, weak, and unequal. But she was, as Mr. Lawrence says, well read, laborious, and sincere, and her productions were not without a certain sort of power. At all events, writers of inferior importance have been less effectually suppressed.

In his treatment of Mr. Fox, Mr. Lawrence is scarcely just. He says that he was without any of the qualities necessary to an historian. But the "History" was a study, not a finished work; it came rough from the writer's hands, and should be considered only as the summary of a great design. In the same way Mr. Lawrence repeats a vulgarity when he describes Milton's prose style as unpolished, impure, and dissonant, without delicacy, ease, or grace. It is easy to see whence the idea has come. That melting-pot of prejudice, the mind of the General Reader, is familiar with certain ruthless and terrible quotations from Milton, and as G. R. seldom or never read one of the prose works *in extenso*, the popular notion is that the author of *Lycidas* could not write elegant prose. But he could, and it was more than elegant—it was rich and musical, full of dignified variations and imposing figures. But an admirer of Lord Kames can hardly be expected to appreciate the unpopular works of Milton.

A positive defect in Mr. Lawrence's book, which aims at the utility of a manual, is, that the well-known "lives" are written at length, while others, which, though more obscure, might not be less interesting, are given with unsatisfactory succinctness. Thus, on Goldsmith, to whom one charming biography has been dedicated by Forster, and another by Irving, we have an elaborate chapter, as well as on Gibbon and Hume; but of old Mixen Mr. Lawrence has little to say, and of the curious Rapin still less. It may surprise the reader to find Rapin, of Languedoc, among the "British historians," but the book has been compiled without severity. If by "a British historian" is meant, one who has written British history, Rapin's was not the only name to be introduced; if it mean a British writer of history,

Rapin should have been excluded; but, having given him a place, it should have been a fair place, and not an ambiguous corner. The erudite chronicler was born at Castres, in Languedoc, in 1661. He studied first law, then military affairs; he was a captain of dragoons, then a private, and lastly a recluse, devoting eighteen years to the composition of his eight Cyclopean quartos. Mr. Lawrence says "he died of hard study," adding:—

He is said to have been of a serious disposition, fond of music, and well skilled in many languages. He knew French, Italian, Latin, Greek, and Spanish, and had read much in the literature of every country. His mind was of a speculative character, fond of reasoning and general inquiry. As an historian, he was careful and laborious, pursuing his great theme with ardour, and omitting no researches that could serve to illustrate it.

The history begins with a clear exposition of the leading principles of the English constitution, of which Rapin seems to have been an ardent admirer. He then describes the shape, size, and nature of the British Isle; relates the fable of Brutus, the grandson of Eneas, and paints the early Britons, tall, well-formed, and savage, living in huts of turf, skins, or boughs, and hiding in the shades of impenetrable forests.

It is impossible to read Rapin's clear and laborious narrative, without admiring the patience and ardour with which he has studied the annals of a foreign country, and became imbued with the spirit of its people and its institutions. A sincere lover of freedom and a reformer in religion, Rapin found here a congenial subject, and wrote with untiring interest of a people, who so perfectly represented his own political and religious principles. His history, with the exception of that of Hume, is still the best account we have of England; and, although Rapin was neither a philosopher nor a fine writer, he perfectly mastered his subject, and has given a clear and interesting account of England, under the Saxons, the Normans, and in later ages. Hume has borrowed liberally from him, particularly in his earlier volumes, and probably no writer upon English history will ever make any progress without deriving considerable aid from Rapin.

Surely, old Rapin, soldier and scholar, deserved ten pages of biography. Mr. Lawrence gives him three. But, other parts of the book are on a better plan, and the whole is light and readable.

#### A BATCH OF BOOKS.

*Cross Purposes; or, the Way of the World.* By Margaret Casson. (Ward and Lock.)—It is not long since an absurd and maundering novel with this very title, or the first half of it, came under our notice. We do not know which author was first in the field, nor is the question very important; for the points of resemblance are few, and those of divergence many, between *Cross Purposes; or, the Way of the World*, and *Cross Purposes*, or—whatever mundane alternative may have constituted the secondary title of the story which we may speak of, retrospectively, as "the other." Both novels, to be sure, fall within the same category—the unreal and lifeless fiction of "real life." In both we see and never lose sight of those stereotyped generalities under which bad novelists continually strive to hide their ignorance of human motives, passion, character, and even the commonest customs of the society they attempt to depict. In both we see and never lose sight of that beautifully fine writing which endows a spade with nameless interest. In both novels happiness is indifferently mentioned as a "ray" and a "cup;" in the first case it is apt to be "solitary," and to "cheer a life of darkness and desolation;" in the second case, it is always "quaffed to the dregs." In both novels, again, we read about those "noble natures" whose nobility is assumed, and thenceforth taken for granted; those "cold, proud beauties," with the remarkable "brows," which are generally of "chiselled marble," and which always "bear an impress" either of birth or some mental or spiritual quality not otherwise manifest; those people who talk rapidly in "trembling accents," or in "low, deep undertones;" and those other people who are first presented to us as tremendous fellows for "will," and "power," and "energy," and, in short, for all that we usually express or understand by the phrase, "that sort of thing," but who directly lapse into very sketches of inanity, and drivelling, purposeless boredom. So far, there is not a conventional pin to choose between the two novels. But we have reached the limit of the analogy; and by way of indicating their vast difference in all respects beside, we need only observe that the story of *Cross Purposes*—this one—is unintentionally amusing; whereas, the other *Cross Purposes* had some claim to be considered the dreariest nonsense that ever went forth in the guise of a three-volume novel. We may mention, by-the-by, that the *Cross Purposes* now in hand appears in the more modern form of a single cheap volume.

*Sebastopol; the Story of its Fall.* By George R. Emerson. (Routledge.)—In this book—one of the many cheap publications relating to the war—some attempt has been made to connect the scattered statements of the newspapers, from the declaration of war to the fall of Sebastopol. The whole narrative appears to have been re-written, with creditable care and a modest pretence of style; but the story is too evidently told in the heat of the national war-feeling to be worth much as an authority.

*The Planter's Victim; or, Incidents of American Slavery.* (Trübner.)—We speak of this book quite apart from its purpose (which is the condemnation of the negro slave system) when we say that it is one of the worst books that have recently come to us from America. To criticise it in reference to the slavery question would be merely to establish one poor case in support of an admitted truth—that the most incapable advocates are generally found damaging the best cause.

*The Match Girl; or, Life Scenes as they are.* (Trübner.)—We have no faith in such titles as this. They are too frequently a mere begging of the question. Writers who know no touch of their art make confession, in a tone of boastful humility, that theirs is not the power to create or conceive; but, say they, if we shall have only succeeded in presenting pictures of life as it is, then will our end be accomplished.—If, truly! Some little conception, some slight creative faculty is wanted, perhaps, for the poor work of depicting human nature. Not that the author of *The Match Girl* pretends to have written that touching story without the aid of genius. Although we are told that "the characters are taken from real life," and that, "no imaginary beings are introduced to give effect, or to finish the picture," we are also informed, in an appended criticism of the kind which certain publishers are in the habit of quoting from nowhere, that the book is "written with a power and directness



which cannot fail to command immediate attention, and will at once create an intense interest, as to the characters, as well as to the incognito who wields a pen which fairly glows with the brilliant impulse of genius."

*Rustic Adornments for Homes of Taste.* By Shirley Hibberd. (Groombridge.)—The *Leader* was not tardy in recognising the public value of the Vivarium established some time since by the Zoological Society in their gardens in the Regent's-park; and the popular appreciation of the boon has fully justified all that was written in these pages on the occasion. The flourishing appearance of at least a score of new shops, principally stocked with the compact crystal tanks, which have quite superseded the old unvarying globe of gold and silver fish, is evidence that the Vivarium has filled the part of a useful public instructor. A fit companion for this new and agreeable ornament of London houses is the Wardian Case, for ferns and other botanical specimens; and here is a little book which we can honestly and cordially recommend to all urban lovers of nature, as treating, in a simple, pleasant way, of the Vivarium, the Ward's Case, the Aviary, and other rustic adornments of the town dwelling. It should be urged on all who would desire to become acquainted with the mysterious habits of corallines and testacea, but dread the trouble and risk of a perfect marine establishment in a parlour-window, that the difficulty of managing such an establishment is far less than that of keeping up a show of three or four stupid, gulping gold-fish in a globe which requires frequent replenishment with fresh water. The secret of the Vivarium is to maintain such a natural balance of elements as will satisfy all the requirements which are fulfilled by constant changes. For instance, we are told by Mr. Hibberd that the sea-water in the great tanks at the Zoological Society's gardens has been kept in equilibrium for many months by the due apportionment of animal and vegetable life. On a smaller scale the same thing is more easy of practice, as the domestic naturalist will soon discover. With Ward's cases, indeed, the trouble is infinitesimal. The inventor has in his own possession ferns which have, in a space of eighteen years, attained a perfect and beautiful growth under their glass dome—having never once been uncovered, or supplied with a drop of water in addition to the little store which was given them eighteen years ago! Mr. Hibberd's book, let us add, is embellished with remarkable taste, and contains some excellent specimens of colour-printing.

*Longfellow's Golden Legend, and the Song of Hiawatha, with a Sketch of the Author's Life and Writings.* By W. B. Rands. (Knight.)—This is a new edition of Longfellow's two principal poems, and the book calls for notice on several grounds. It is prettily got up, at a moderate price; the illustrations, by Gilbert, show all the mastery of drawing and of touch, in the effective display of which he is unapproached by any artist of the same school; and the introductory notice is a well-considered paper, which is likely to surprise any literary man who may come upon it accidentally, with preconceived ideas upon the general subject of biographical introductions. One passage we are tempted to transcribe. Mr. Longfellow, it seems, is buoyant and playful in his general demeanour; and, though physiognomists would discern in him the evidence of latent self-control, yet coarse or superficial observers—especially, we may imagine, such as are conventionally uninformed upon the manners of poets—would be apt to set him down as "flippant." On this point the biographer says:—

But it is the rankest stupidity and conceit of moral criticism to suppose that this mobility of demeanour is not compatible with deep feeling. Sullenness and silence have nothing to do with intensity. Coleridge tells a story of an elderly gentleman who got credit in company for profound wisdom merely on the strength of a stolid taciturnity and a long face, but who at last disclosed his real nature by the unphilosophic exclamation, of "Them's the jockeys for me!" when some apple-dumplings were brought smoking in. We once met a mourner of the stolid order. His sister was just dead, and from his demeanour we should have supposed his grief was eating away his heart; but he soon overthrew at once our gravity and our sympathy, by observing that the dead girl "made a very neat corpse." All our observation of life leads us to the conclusion that it is the mobile and playful natures that suffer the most continuously.

#### CIVILISATION IN BOMBAY.

*The Bombay Calendar and Almanac for 1856.*

Bombay Times Press.

HAD "good Cob" lived in these our days, he would hardly have been so bitter against "these filthy almanacks," or have ascribed their manufacture to some fishmonger's son, who "puts in more fasting days than he should do, because he would utter his father's dried stock-fish and stinking conger." It would be as easy for the Administrative Reform Association to turn out a genuine statesman, as for any but a professional scribe to compile such a complete and useful book of reference as the one at the head of this notice. The contents are naturally, indeed, more serviceable and instructing to our fellow-countrymen in India than to the general reader at home. And yet so few families are there which have not some connexion with our Indian empire, that it would be difficult to find one altogether indifferent as to the varied information so ably condensed into a small compass. To the civilian or Company's officer, the *Bombay Calendar* is almost indispensable; and those who desire that the government of India should be conducted on principles analogous to those which prevail in Europe will thence discover that hitherto at least such has not been the case.

From 1838 to 1848 the Bombay Marine, it appears, was under the superintendence of Captain, afterwards Sir Robert Oliver. Possessing the coarseness, but not the kindness of a Commodore Fennimore, this great sea-king ruled his subordinates with a rod of iron, which he swayed with little regard to either justice or common sense. The Hugh Lindsay having been laden with stores for Aden, to an extent that not only seriously impeded her progress, but even compromised her safety—a letter appeared in a local newspaper describing her sad plight. Lieutenant Balfour, one of the officers, being suspected of its authorship, was immediately placed under arrest, and sent on board the hulk *Hastings*, where he was detained four months exposed to the inclemency of the rainy season. On the return of the Hugh Lindsay, Mr. Balfour was brought before a court-martial and fully acquitted. Not only was there no evidence of his having written the letter in question, but it was proved that he had never held any intercourse whatever with the editor

of the journal. Another officer, Lieutenant Bird, having fallen ill in the 17th year of his service, proceeded on two years' leave to the Neilgherry Hills. While enjoying the repose so necessary to his shattered health, he one day received a packet from head quarters which he opened with the gleeful anticipation of finding himself promoted to the rank of Commander. Instead of this, he read that he was summarily dismissed the service. Only a portion of the court's letter which furnished the pretext for this tyrannical injustice was ever made public. Two grounds of offence were alleged. The one, that some years previously, the *Berenice* had gone ashore under his command, although he was honourably acquitted at the time by the court-martial that tried him. The second, that he had once incurred the displeasure of Sir C. Napier, though it was well known that the hasty old general, on being made acquainted with all the circumstances of the case, had expressed his entire approbation of Mr Bird's conduct. So grievous was the Oliver despotism, that the junior officers at length took heart of grace and memorialised the India House. The only result was a violent reprimand to themselves. Mr. Willoughby, a member of council, and a most distinguished public servant, fared no better when he recorded an unfavourable opinion of Sir Robert's proceedings—being told that his views were calculated to promote discontent in the service—and were, therefore, highly disapproved at home. As a pendant to this picture, we have a similar portrait of a Bombay Puisne Judge. In 1841, this high functionary on a certain occasion commenced his address by the admission that "an impartial or soothing judgment on this subject can hardly be expected from me; but, as my opinion regarding it is already formed, and is, I believe, unalterable, I shall not concur in any opinion of the chief justice that he can be entitled to order a petition, on which I have endorsed my reasons for refusing the application to be taken off the file." This same Sir Henry Roper, when he became chief justice, conducted himself in such a "stupendously outrageous" manner, that the mercantile community were at length compelled to petition the Queen in Council for his recall.

The territory of the Bombay Presidency is computed to contain 120,000 square miles, and a population of 11 millions—the annual expenditure being nine millions and a-half. Now, the Court of Directors at home have for some time past professed the greatest interest in the cause of education, and have uttered many brave words as to the encouragement afforded by themselves. In 1852 they made a vigorous effort, and actually sanctioned the yearly outlay of £25,000. This was the extreme assistance they could lend towards the education of eleven millions of people scattered over so wide a territory. In consequence of this marvellous liberality the Government institutions at the close of 1854 numbered 18,000 pupils, of whom not one-sixth received any instruction in English. The total amount annually expended by them on that account throughout the Indian Empire is less than £100,000, of which nearly one-half is consumed by the salaries and travelling expenses of the Inspectors, chosen for the most part from the Civil Service, as indifferent magistrates or keen collectors were the best judge of educational progress, and the best fitted to criticise the labours of gentlemen vastly their superiors in intellect, and trained for this particular pursuit from their youth upwards.

It is more amusing to turn to the very imperfect notice of the newspaper press in India. So much has been said about the scurrilous personalities exchanged by rival editors, that the English reader will perhaps scarcely be surprised by the following extracts from a list of the most remarkable events connected with the journals of the different Presidencies. But if such be the tone of the press, what must be the tone of the public that so liberally supports that press?

1825.—Mr. McNaghten, editor of the *Hurkaru*, challenges Mr. Greenlaw of the *John Bull*. Capt. Hubbard, the friend of Mr. Greenlaw, refuses to be his second. Mr. McNaghten having permitted himself to be called "a crest-fallen bully," "a bravo," &c. &c., a violent altercation ensues, discussions lead to two courts-martial, &c. &c.

Mr. McNaghten and Mr. Greenlaw having for a time withdrawn from the press, the *Hurkaru* is conducted by Mr. Theodore Dickens, barrister, the *John Bull* by Mr. Meiklejohn, brother-in-law of Dr. Bryce. The parties, who had been friends before, quarrel and fight a duel.

1831.—Capt. McNaghten goes to the house of Mr. Alozario, of the *East Indian*, and chastises him for some expressions made use of in that journal towards a writer in the *John Bull*, subscribing himself "Tit-for-Tat."

1833.—Mr. John Cochrane, the Company's Standing Counsel, challenges Mr. Sutherland, editor of the *Hurkaru*, for a misrepresentation of his speech at a steam meeting. Mr. Sutherland declines, and Mr. Wm. Smith, the proprietor, is challenged. He also declines. Mr. Cochrane posts Mr. Cobb Hurry, Mr. Sutherland's friend, and Mr. Sutherland and Mr. Smith as cowards, for refusing him the satisfaction of a gentleman. Mr. Hurry denounces Mr. Cochrane as a public liar, he (Mr. Hurry) never having been asked to fight, or having had any intercourse with Mr. Cochrane.

Mr. Murphy, editor of the *Gazette*, challenges and, on the challenge being declined, posts General Vans Kennedy; is prosecuted, and fined rs.500.

May.—A letter having appeared in the *Bombay Gazette* complaining of the injustice done the Queen's troops by the rates of exchange at which their pay was remitted, the editor, Mr. Boden, was threatened with instant deportation unless the author was given up. The author came forward and gave his name—Private O'Connell, of the Queen's Royals, and was condemned to receive corporal punishment and six months' imprisonment, the letter having been pronounced false and dangerous. The whole of the statements contained in it were soon afterwards found true—the letter unexceptionable in point of expression, and so sound in practice that the grievances complained of were redressed.

1836.—The *Delhi Gazette* announces the retirement of its editor, in consequence of the violent and personal nature of the attacks of the *Agra Uchdar*. The *Hurkaru* describes the great object of editorial life in the mofussil (i. e., in the provinces) to be to spatter each other with mud in every number of their respective journals.

Duel at Meerut in consequence of certain newspaper discussions.

1838.—The proprietor of the *Madras Examiner* cast in damages rs.800.

Sir C. Malcolm prosecutes Mr. McAllum, editor of the *Bombay Gazette*, and obtains damages rs.1,000.

1854.—Editor's Room opened in the Bombay Secretariat, when extracts from the Government records are placed at the disposal of the newspapers.

1855, Dec. 10.—The Governor General issues an order, directing Editor's Rooms to be established under all the Governments.

## A TEA-TABLE NOVEL.

*The Daisy Chain.* By the Author of *The Heir of Redcliffe*, etc.

J. W. Parker.

THERE are two classes of juvenile books; we do not mean the bad and the good, but the books which are the *pabulum* of children *proper*, and those which are the delight and refreshment of men and women who have long passed that happy moment of life when almost everything that contributes to amusement, charms. To the former of these two classes of readers no doubt *The Daisy Chain* will be found to contain much that is pleasing, and in some sort interesting. To young ladies generally, whose sunny ringlets confess to teens, perhaps even to those presumably young ladies who have ceased to count birthdays, the *Heir of Redcliffe* and the other equally nice and pretty though somewhat lengthy stories which have been flowing from the same facile and agreeable pen are treasures of harmless intellectual recreation. We have heard of a young lady who is in the habit of perusing that bepraised tale continuously and perennially, beginning it over and over again as often as she arrives at the last sentence.

It is not for us to suggest how well-constituted and well-regulated the mind of that gentle reader must be, how patient, how easily contented, how unsuspecting of ennui. Nevertheless, it is impossible to refrain from imagining young ladies, to whom certain long dialogues to be met with in these pages will seem a little prosy, and who may deem it something more than a labour of love to get to the end of this new and singularly thick production now before us, recounting as it does, without stint, the very copious sayings, and the very exiguous doings of a large but not remarkable family of eleven brothers and sisters. Let us see for a moment what it is all about, this *Daisy Chain*. It opens with some painful excitement occasioned by a fatal accident to the mother of the eleven. As the book progresses, we have a sprinkling of births, deaths, and marriages, and an exciting episode in the building of a new church in a very wicked neighbourhood, with church-schools and various other dilettante reforms, chiefly set on foot by one of the eleven aforesaid, whose bereaved father, by-the-bye, is described as a pattern physician; a sort of LUKE M.D., of our day. Come, now, a remorseful voice whispers, is it fair for any gross and muscular mind to sit in judgment upon a book, written for the enjoyment and edification of a peculiar class of readers, whose feelings it stirs with innocuous emotions, and whose little world of incident it so pleasantly and faithfully represents? No: *Robinson Crusoe*, *Miss Edgeworth*, and a few others, are for the delight of all ages and of both sexes; the *Daisy Chain* is more exclusively for the delight of that "epidemic sect" of enthusiastic but severe young *dévoies*, who are addicted to the cultivation of pastoral theology, with the sister sciences of Gothic architecture and mediæval upholstery.

## The Arts.

## EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

WE will get over a disagreeable duty at once and say that this is the worst exhibition of pictures we ever saw in the Portland Gallery; therefore, the worst we ever saw anywhere. We glance down whole columns of the catalogue and can only bring to mind a doleful recurrence of bad pictures. The landscapes and a few small works of *genre*, by PROVIS and PASMORE, nearly exhaust the stock of redeeming merit. We looked confidently to the name of LAUDER for some relief in this evil case; but the two pictures by Mr. R. LAUDER, and the three by Mr. J. LAUDER, do not, even from the dismal background, show with any brilliant or impressive effect. For anything comparable with the picture of the *Glee Maiden*, from the *Fair Maid of Perth*, exhibited last season by Mr. R. S. LAUDER (the president of the institution), it is vain to search. While the leading members are behindhand in the number and character of their specimens, it is impossible to escape a conviction that the "promising men" of some five years since have gradually receded from their pledges. Again, we have to regret more than one secession—that, for instance, of Mr. GLASS, an artist of singular inventive power, and possessing, in various degrees, all the qualities that make a painter. Mr. O. R. CAMPBELL has nothing; Mr. MARSHALL CLAXTON, nothing; Mr. DUKES, only one tolerably well-painted piece of common-place, called *The Wanderers*. Mr. M'IAN, to whom the term "clever" applies with shocking fitness, would have been a godsend in this dearth of ordinary ability; but we miss also the M'IAN patronymic from the alphabetical list of artists. So that, putting out of sight for a moment the respectable works of the two LAUDERS, and the pleasing, but small and unimportant, pictures of PASMORE and PROVIS, the subject-painting is left, this year, in the hands of BARRAUD, MIDDLETON, ROSSITER, WATT, W. A. SMITH, BLAILEY, PARKER, STACY MARKS, and the less-known crowd of bad painters who are to be found only at this exhibition.

The great picture, superficially speaking, is Mr. J. E. LAUDER's *James Watt and the Steam Engine—the Dawn of the Nineteenth Century*. The chief fault lies in the disproportion of space to matter. There is a loose-limbed giant, sprawling across a vast field of Vandyke brown, and there is a rude model of a steam-engine, with its furnace; and there is a table with plans and instruments and a lamp; but all these objects, including the giant, do not fill half the picture, the prevailing idea of which seems to be background. Mr. J. E. LAUDER's two other works are mere studies; the first, of *An old Jew*, very characteristic, and equally hideous; the second, of a certain *Mill Dam, Traquar*. Mr. R. S. LAUDER, usually the more ambitious and successful of the two artists, exhibits a portrait, not very pretending nor very attractive, and an exterior study of Abadour Castle, with some effective points of surrounding scenery. The seven small works exhibited by PASMORE are of pretty equal merit. They are faintly painted, as are his pictures invariably; and they have, at the same time, far more force and character than such works ordinarily display. We hold them to be superior to GOODALL'S, for instance, and that implies high praise. Both artists derive their best inspirations from the picturesque homes of Brittany; but Mr. PROVIS has this season a WATTEAU subject (very unlike WATTEAU in manner), showing a group of gaily plumed cavaliers and semi-pastoral dames, on the terrace of the old Manor House,

Warlaston, Lincolnshire; and this little painting, to be found on the fourth screen, is quite equal to any of his other half-dozen productions.

Among the landscapes are several that would make themselves conspicuous in the exhibition of the Royal Academy. The Williams family are contributors of the best. Mr. E. C. WILLIAMS revels in moonlight, and, we must add, in ridiculous titles, such as the following:—*In the Highlands, majestically arises the Lunar Majesty of Night*. A night scene, *Moonrise—Hastings*, by this artist, is remarkable for a fine study of clouds. Mr. G. A. WILLIAMS sticks to his famous yellow dawns and evenings. *In the Marshes—Morning*, is a piece of bold landscape-painting, as rich in colour and as natural in its arrangement as any landscape of Cuyp's. Mr. H. B. WILLIS paints cattle to perfection. His *Morning Rest in Ploughing Time* displays a team of oxen such as SIDNEY COOPER might be proud to acknowledge. HULME and CARTER—the last especially—have contributed works of merit; and Mr. A. W. H. HUNT deserves notice for a forcible though rather too rough piece of landscape-painting, called *A Summer Eve by Haunted Stream*, with a bat flitting across the twilight solitude, in a very spectral manner.

## PORTRAIT OF CHARLES DICKENS.

ARY SCHEFFER has just finished a magnificent portrait of CHARLES DICKENS; we hear it described as "really a noble picture and likeness." We are glad to find that it is destined to adorn the Royal Academy Exhibition this year, and we know that it will be welcomed with all the interest and admiration due alike to the subject and to the artist.

## THE THEATRES IN PARIS.

WE extract from the letter of one who speaks with authority a few bits of pungent gossip on some recent performances in Paris:—

"What I have seen has been, with one exception, unspeakably disappointing. For example, RISTORI in *Mirra* is, to my mind, the greatest delusion (considering her pretensions) that ever appeared in public. Personally, she has a very fine profile, but she is too thin. As to her acting, it is the climax of commonplace: vehemently exaggerated in expression and gesture, but *always commonplace*. The old, old stage-walk; the raising the voice suddenly, and then depressing it,—the speaking sometimes very slowly, and then changing suddenly to rapid muttering,—all these wretched conventionalities she shows in every sentence she speaks. Her actions are all of the old kind, too: unnatural, artificial: mere straddlings of the legs and outstretchings of the arms, like the classical figures in LEBRUN'S pictures. Her face has no medium between distortion and repose: in short, she is a bad actress, and it is a disgrace to French criticism ever to have mentioned her in a breath with RACHEL. On the first night of her re-appearance the theatre was crammed with friends and *claqueurs*: nothing but shouting, and recalls, and bouquets, *before the play was over*, which shows how little of genuinely tragic impression she had produced on the audience. I make all allowances for the dull bestiality of the play, in which she appeared, but she was too fatally commonplace in it for me to have any hope of her in any other part. I am glad to say that the *real* public are coming to their senses about RISTORI. The second night, when the friends were exhausted, I heard there was a very poor audience.

"The next failure has been FREDERIC LEMAITRE in *Henri III.*—a dull verse-play, with a wretched part for FREDERIC. . . . He did nothing, absolutely nothing, but appear in different dresses, and swing his arms about. I would never have believed that he could be an absolute nonentity on the stage unless I had seen it. This lamentable exhibition of a great actor in the smallest possible view of him has followed (at the GARTÉ), the genuine attraction of the *Médecin des Enfants*. . . . The only pleasant dramatic evening, thus far, has been at the GYMNASÉ. Two little pieces, both produced months ago, and both excellent: *Le Camp des Bourgeoises*, a farce, making fun of the present dramatic rage for "Unfortunate Female" heroines, and *Je dîne chez ma mère*, the most perfect and pathetic little one act-play since *La Joie fait peur*, with a charming vein of comedy running through its earlier parts. Both pieces were acted to perfection in every part. Their run is over now. I would not have missed them for the world."

THE GREAT GLOBE.—Mr. Wyld's artists having exhibited for a whole summer the siege operations on the plateau before Sebastopol, have prepared for the re-opening of "the Great Globe itself" on Easter Monday, a dioramic view of the route, "there and back again." Hamburg, Berlin, Dresden, Prague, Ratisbon, Vienna, Buda, Pesth, and the line of the Danube, are introduced on the way out, and on the way home, the Adriatic, Rome, Venice, the Lago Maggiore, Monte Rosa, and other haunts of pilgrims in search of the picturesque.

ENGLISH "INSULARITY" IN DRESS.—On the continent of Europe, generally people dress according to their personal convenience and inclinations. In that capital which is supposed to set the fashion in affairs of dress, there is an especial independence in this regard. If a man in Paris have an idiosyncrasy on the subject of any article of attire between his hat and his boots, he gratifies it without the least idea that it can be anybody's affair but his; nor does anybody else make it his affair. If, indeed, there be anything obviously convenient or tasteful in the peculiarity, then it soon ceases to be a peculiarity, and is adopted by others. If not, it is let alone. In the meantime, the commonest man in the streets does not consider it at all essential to his character as a true Frenchman, that he should howl, stare, jeer, or otherwise make himself offensive to the author of the innovation. That word has ceased to be Old Bogy to him since he ceased to be a serf, and he leaves the particular sample of innovation to come in or go out upon its merits. Our strong English prejudice against anything of this kind that is new to the eye, forms one of our decided insularities. It is disappearing before the extended knowledge of other countries consequent upon steam and electricity, but it is not gone yet. The homotically-sealed, black, stiff chimney-pot, a foot and a half high, which we call a hat, is generally admitted to be neither convenient nor graceful; but, there are very few middle-aged gentlemen within two hours' reach of the Royal Exchange, who would bestow their daughters on wideawakes, however estimable the wearers.—*Household Words*.



**A PERILOUS LEAP.**—A young ensign of the 98th regiment, named Brett, who has recently exhibited considerable excitement of mind, was travelling from Yorkshire to his friends at Cheltenham in company with a man-servant, when he leapt from the window of the railway carriage he was sitting in. The train at the time was going at the rate of fifty miles an hour. On the train stopping at Ambergate, a telegraphic message was sent on to Derby, and parties proceeded up the line. In about three hours afterwards, Mr. Brett was discovered about a mile and a-half on the Derby side of Clay Cross tunnel, curled up like a snake between the two lines of rails, and it is calculated that no less than ten engines with trains had passed him since he first jumped out, and so close was he to the line that every train had grazed one of his heels. At the time he was found, he sat with one hand raised as if he wished to stop the engine. He was immediately conveyed to the Midland Hotel, Derby. The company's surgeon was speedily in attendance, and on examination it was found that he had not sustained any very serious injury.

**UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD ON CHURCH-RATES.**—In a congregation recently held in the Convocation House of Oxford University, and attended by heads of houses, &c., it was unanimously resolved to affix the University seal to the petition to the House of Commons, praying that church-rates should not be abolished.

**ST. DOMINGO.**—General Santana, confident in his strength, as proved by his late victory, has raised the state of siege in the provinces of Santa Cruz, Seybo, and St. Domingo.

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

#### BIRTHS.

**ARGYLE.**—On the 13th ult., at Bishopston, the wife of the Bishop of Argyle: a son.

**DIXON.**—On Monday, the 17th inst., Mrs. Hepworth Dixon, Essex-villas, St. John's-wood: a daughter.

**GREENOCK.**—On the 16th inst., at Woodend, the Lady Greenock: a son and heir.

#### MARRIAGES.

**BEAUMONT-POUCHALON.**—On the 15th inst., Monsieur du Bosq de Beaumont, of Airel, Normandy, to Elizabeth Elia, only daughter of Monsieur des Francois de Pouchalon, of Radon, Normandy, and niece of F. Curwen Smith, Esq., of Frogual-hall, Hampstead.

**BOYCK-VALES.**—On the 18th inst., John Ashton Boyck, Esq., Scots Fusilier Guards, to Harriet Anne, youngest daughter of the late Joseph Brooks Yates, Esq., West Dingle, near Liverpool.

**DURANT-LORD.**—On Saturday last, the 15th inst., Lieut. Augustus Honour Augustus Durant, youngest son of the late Colonel Durant, of Tong Castle, Salop, and Childwick-hall, St. Alban's, to Emma Eliza, youngest daughter of Edward Lord, Esq., of Portland-place, Reading, and niece to Sir John Owen, Bart., M.P.

#### DEATHS.

**BERKELEY.**—On the 26th ult., at Date-hill, in the island of Antigua, the residence of her son, the Rev. A. F. M. Berkeley, rector of St. George's parish, in that island, Mrs. Berkeley, relict of the late John Berkeley, of the island of Grenada, aged 63.

**COCHRANE.**—On the 18th inst., in Eaton-place, the Hon. Lady Inglis Cochrane, relict of the late Admiral the Hon. Sir Alexander Inglis Cochrane, G.C.B.

**EVANS.**—On the 5th inst., at Norwich, in the 72nd year of his age, Lewis Evans, M.D., Physician to the Forces, and a Peninsular Medalist of eight clasps.

**WELLS.**—In June, 1855, Arthur Montagu Wells, R.N., youngest son of the late Nathaniel Wells, of Piercefield, Monmouthshire, Mate of H.M.S. Nerbudda, supposed to have foundered at sea, off the south coast of Africa.

### FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, March 18.

**BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.**—GEORGE BROWN and WILLIAM RUSBY, Bankside, and Idle, near Leeds, stone merchants.

**BANKRUPT.**—CHARLES BOWEN, Cullum-street, tailor—ANN SOPHIA POLES, Great Suffolk-street, Southwark, pawnbroker—LIVIAN BENSON PEARSE, York-road, King's-cross, brick merchant—CHARLES FORD, late of Great Marlborough-street, tailor—JOHN ALLIN JONES, Birmingham, tailor—MORTON MITA and JOHN WHITCOMB, Kidderminster, carpet manufacturer—PETER JACKSON, Manchester, druggist—FREDERICK CO. K., Oldham, machine maker.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—A. A'PHAIL, Glasgow, cotton spinner—G. MACFARLANE, jun., cotton spinner—H. DAVINE and A. MORTON, Glasgow, potters—J. WATSON, Edinburgh, butcher—R. MACINTYRE and G. MACKAY, Glasgow, wholesale stationers—A. SUTHERLAND, Latherton, Calthness, furrier.

Friday, March 21.

**BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.**—HENRY, JOHN, and JAMES SMITHIES, ironfounders, Blackburn.

**BANKRUPT.**—JOHN JULIUS STUTZEN, Groville-street, Brunswick-square, shipowner—JOHN COLES FOUNDRINER, late of Bush-lane, paper maker—WILLIAM TUNING CURRIE, Great St. Helen's, merchant—SAMUEL SUREN, Norwood, victualler—EDEN DAVIS, Oxford-street, cabinet manufacturer—RICHARD NICHOLSON, Holborn, carpet bag maker—PETER HEWITT, Ossett Common, Yorkshire, cotton spinner—EDWARD POWELL, Newtown, Montgomeryshire, grocer—ROBERT CLARK, Liverpool, dealer—JOHN PROUT, Sutton, silk manufacturer—JOHN SMITH, Manchester, tobaccoconist—JOHN PHILLIPS VERNER, Exeter, hatter—JOSEPH MARSDEN, Derby, iron founder.

### Commercial Affairs.

#### MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

London, Thursday Evening, March 20, 1856.

To-morrow being a holiday (Good Friday), there will be no business in the Stock Exchange or other places of business. There has been little doing since last week. Consols are still hovering between 92 and 92½. The birth of an heir to

the unstable empire of France has caused no alteration in our Securities. Money is still scarce, and the payment on loans, &c., and the expenses of the war yet to be settled will keep any great superfluity of an invested capital. Peace is now, we may suppose, virtually concluded, and it has been discounted so long since here that there would be no great rise. The speculators for a rise having got to their top price, will probably close their accounts, and thus we may see a slight fall before the next settling. It would seem that the man who rules the French nation at this present time, afraid of rash speculations consequent upon peace being concluded, has declared against granting fresh concessions. One effect will be to drive the French speculators over to London and Vienna, and it behoves the public to be wary of the thousand-and-one bubbles that will be blown during the next two years. Great names on a Board of Direction must not be allowed to influence one. The last two years have shown that neither wealth, station, nor the greatest respectability, have hindered the perpetration of rascally frauds and unscrupulous robberies by the holders of these virtues.

Spanish Securities have been much dealt in this week, and have improved in price. In English railroads there is firmness, and an upward tendency. Belgian lines, such as Luxembourg, Sambre and Meuse, Namur and Liege, are much sought after. Turkish Six per Cent. Stock is hardly so good; the Four per Cent. steady, at about 100½.

In Mines there is little doing. A heavy sale on Tuesday in Stourbridge Consols—a Devonshire mine that has enjoyed great repute—brought the shares down considerably, but they are slowly recovering. Joint-Stock Banks remain nearly the same—not much business doing in them.

There has been a marked improvement of ½ per cent. throughout the markets this afternoon, but closing prices are scarcely so good. Consols leave off at four o'clock at 92½, ¼ for account.

Aberdeen, 26½, 7; Bristol and Exeter, 89, 90; Caledonian, 60½, 1; Chester and Holyhead, —; East Anglian, 14, 14; Eastern Counties, 9½, 4; Edinburgh and Glasgow, —; Great Northern, 93, 4; Ditto, A stock, 78, 80; Ditto, B stock, —; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 104, 6; Great Western, 62½, 2; Lancaster and Carlisle, 64, 72; Ditto, Thirds, —; Ditto, new Thirds, —; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 83½, 4; London and Blackwall, 7½, 4; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 100, 101; London and North Western, —; Ditto South Ditto, 93, 4; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, —; Metropolitan, 4, 4 dis; Midland, 7½, 2; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 42, 4; Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, 11, 13; North British, 30½, 15; North Eastern (Berwick), 76½, 71; Ditto Extension, 6½, 4; Ditto, Great North Eastern purchase, 15½, 16; Ditto, Leeds, 55, 6; Ditto, York, —; North Staffordshire, 56, 3 dis; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 26, 8; Scottish Central, 104, 6; Scottish Midland, 75, 7; South Devon, 13, 14; South Eastern (Dover), 68, 9; South Wales, 68, 69; Vale of Neath, 19, 20; West Cornwall, 61, 7½; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8½, 4; Eastern of France, Paris and Strasbourg, 38½, 9; East Indian, 22, 4; Ditto Extension, 21½, 2; Grand Trunk of Canada, 10, 9 dis; Great Central of France, 6½, 6 pm; Great Indian Peninsula, 21½, 2; Luxembourg, 6½, 2; Great Western of Canada, 25, 2; Namur and Liege, 6½, 7; Northern of France, 39½, 40; Paris and Lyons, 49½, 50½; Paris and Orleans, 50, 2; Sambre and Meuse, 10½, 11½; Western and N.W. of France, 34½, 5½; Agua Fria, —; Brazil Imperial, 1½, 2; Cocas, 2½, 3; St. John del Rey, 24, 6; Cobre Copper, 66, 69; Colonial Gold, —; Great Polgoth, 1½, 2; Great Wheel Vor, —; Linars, 7, 2; Lusitanian, 4, 3 pm; Nouveau Monde, —; Pontigibaud, 11, 13; Port Philip, —; Santiago de Cuba, 3½, 4; South Australian, 3½, 4; United Mexican, 3½, 4; Waller, 1½, 1.

### CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Thursday, March 20, 1856.

SUPPLIES of all kinds of grain continue very moderate. English wheat has advanced 5s., and Foreign 2s. per quarter. There has also been a fair demand for barley, at 1s. improvement, and the oat trade remains firm at last week's quotations.

### BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.
Bank Stock .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 per Cent. Reduced .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 per Cent. Con. An. .....	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½	...
Consols for Account .....	93½	92½	92½	92½	92½	...
New 3 per Cent. An. .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
New 2½ per Cent. .....	...	...	...	75	75	...
Long Ans. 1850 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
India Stock .....	...	...	...	...	222	...
Ditto Bonds, £1000 .....	...	...	10 dis	...	10 dis	...
Ditto, under £1000 .....	8 dis	8 dis	...	6 dis	12 dis	...
Ex. Bills, £100 .....	1 pm	1 pm	2 pm	2½ dis	2½ dis	...
Ditto, £500 .....	1 pm	1 pm	2 pm	2½ dis	2½ dis	...
Ditto, Small .....	1 dis	1 dis	2 pm	2½ dis	2½ dis	...

### BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.

This preparation is one of the benefits which the science of modern chemistry has conferred upon mankind, for, during the first twenty years of the present century, to speak of a cure for the Gout was considered a romance—but now the efficacy and safety of this medicine is so fully demonstrated by unsolicited testimonials from persons in every rank of life, that public opinion proclaims this as one of the most important discoveries of the present age.

Sold by PROUT and HARSANT, 299, Strand, London, and all Medicine Vendors.

Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

### FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH.

The manifold advantages to the heads of families from the possession of a medicine of known efficacy, that may be resorted to with confidence, and used with success in cases of temporary sickness, occurring in families more or less every day, are so obvious to all, that no question can be raised of its importance to every housekeeper in the kingdom.

For females, these Pills are truly excellent, removing all obstructions, the distressing headache so very prevalent with the sex, depression of spirits, dulness of sight, nervous affections, blotches, pimples, and sallowness of the skin, and produce a healthy complexion.

Sold by PROUT and HARSANT, 229, Strand, London, and all Vendors of Medicine.

Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

**ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.**—Under the Management Mr. ALFRED WIGAN. Easter Monday and during the week will be presented the new and original Comedy of STILL WATERS RUN DEEP, as performed before the Queen at Windsor Castle. John Mildmay, Mr. Alfred Wigan; Mrs. Hector Sternhold, Mrs. Alfred Wigan. To conclude with the Fairy Extravaganza of THE DISCREET PRINCESS; or, THE THREE GLASS DISTAFFS. Prince Richcraft, Mr. F. Robson; Prince Belavori, Miss Maskill, King Gander, Mr. Emery. Princesses Finetta, Babillarda, and Idellouza, Misses Julia St. George, Fernan, and Marston; Mother Goose, Miss Stephens. Commence at Half-past Seven.

ENGLAND TO THE CRIMEA. GREAT GLOBE, LEICESTER-SQUARE, ON EASTER MONDAY.

**A DIORAMIC TOUR from BLACKWALL to BALAKLAVA.** through the principal Cities of Europe, Hamburg, Berlin, Dresden, Prague, Ratisbon, Vienna, Pesth, Buda, the River Danube, the Iron Gate, Constantinople, Balaklava Harbour, and Encampment at Balaklava, the Adriatic, Rome, Venice, Lago Maggiore, across the Alps by Monte Rosa, the Galleries of Isella and Gondo, the Simplon, Interlachen, the Jungfrau, Geneva, and up the Rhine to Cologne and England, at 11 a.m., 3 p.m., and 8 p.m.

**MODELS of the SIEGE of SEVASTOPOL, CRONSTADT, the BALTIC, SWEBORG and HELSINGFORS.** The large MODEL of the EARTH, with Lectures and Illustrations. A collection of Russian Arms, Dresses, Pictures and Trophies, a Military Gallery of the Armies of Europe. Open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission to the whole Building One Shilling. Children and Schools half-price.

**REOPENED,** with many important additions to the scientific department.—Dr. KAHN begs to acquaint the Public that his celebrated Museum, which has been elegantly redecorated and enriched by many interesting additional objects, is NOW OPEN (for Gentlemen only). Amongst the new features of interest will be found a magnificent full-length model of a Venus, from one of the most eminent of the ancient masters.

The Museum is open daily from Ten till Ten. Lectures are delivered at Twelve, Two, Four, and Half-past Seven, by Dr. Sexson, and a New and highly-interesting Series of Lectures is now in course of delivery by Dr. KAHN, at Half-past Eight precisely, every Evening. Admission, One Shilling. No. 4, Coventry-street, Leicester-square.

### DR. DE JONGH'S

### LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.

Prescribed with confidence by the Faculty for its purity, efficacy, and marked superiority over every other variety.

EXTRACTS FROM SELECT MEDICAL OPINIONS:—

The late JONATHAN PEREIRA, M.D., F.R.S.E.

Professor at the University of London, &c. &c.

"It was fitting that the author of the best analysis and investigations into the properties of this Oil should himself be the purveyor of this important medicine. I am satisfied that for medicinal purposes no finer Oil can be procured."

### DR. LETHBY,

Medical Officer of Health to the City of London, &c., &c.

"The Oil corresponds in all its characters with that named 'Huile Brune,' and described as the best variety in the masterly treatise of Dr. de Jongh. From my investigations, I have no doubt of its being a pure and unadulterated article."

ARTHUR H. HASSALL, Esq., M.D., F.L.S.,

Chief Analyst of the Sanitary Commission of the Lancet, &c. &c.

"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."

Sold by ANSAR, HARFORD, and Co., 77, Strand, London, Dr. de Jongh's sole British Consignees; in the country by many respectable Chemists.

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

**CAUTION.**—Each bottle is sealed with a stamped metallic capsule, and bears beneath the pink outside wrapper a label with Dr. de Jongh's stamp and signature. All Oils offered as Dr. de Jongh's, or as of the same kind, without such marks, are fraudulent impositions.

### TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, AND FAMILIES.

By her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent (the only patent existing for these preparations).

Strongly Recommended by the Medical Profession.

### ADNAM'S IMPROVED PATENT GROATS

and BARLEY are manufactured by a process which entirely removes the acidity and unpleasant flavour, so universally found in similar preparations. They produce Gruel and Barley Water in the highest perfection, and, being manufactured perfectly pure, yield food of the most light and nourishing quality for the Infant, the Invalid, and the Aged. The Barley also makes a delicious Custard Pudding, and is an excellent ingredient for thickening Soups, &c.

The Patentees publish one only of the numerous testimonials they have received from eminent medical professors, relying more confidently on the intrinsic quality of the articles, of which one trial will not fail to convince the most fastidious of their purity and excellence.

(Copy.)

"Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital,

February 19, 1856.

"I have submitted to a microscopical and chemical examination the samples of barley 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.

**CAUTION.**—To prevent errors, the Public are requested to observe that each package bears the signature of the Patentees, J. and J. O. ADNAM.

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

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No. 35, KING WILLIAM STREET, near LONDON-BRIDGE.

Established 1823.

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**RESIDENT PROPRIETOR.**—Mr. John Voce Moore.  
The Company are one of the oldest firms in the City of London, and have for nearly thirty-three years been distinguished by the excellence, cheapness, and purity of their Teas and Coffees.

They supply families properly introduced to them, or who can give them any respectable reference, upon the best trade terms, in parcels of any size exceeding 1lb. weight.

Teas, when desired, are packed in 10lb., 14lb., and 20lb. canisters, without extra charge; and £3 value (including Coffee) forwarded carriage paid.

Good to Strong Congou Tea .. 2s. 8d. to 3s. 0d. per lb.

Fine to very fine Pekoe Souchong 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. "

Very Choice Souchong .. .. 4s. 0d. "

Good Ceylon Coffee .. .. 1s. 0d. "

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The finest Mocha, old and very choice 1s. 6d. "

For the convenience of their customers, the Company supply Sugars and Colonial Produce at a small per centage on import prices.

Monthly Price Circular free.

**THE COMMISSION TEA COMPANY,**  
35, King William-street, near London-bridge.

**THE BEST AND CHEAPEST TEAS**  
In England are to be obtained of PHILLIPS and COMPANY, Tea Merchants, 8, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, LONDON.

**Strong Congou Teas, 2s. 8d., 2s. 10d., 3s., 3s. 2d.**

A general Price Current is published every month, containing all the advantages of the London markets, and is sent free by post on application.

**SUGARS ARE SUPPLIED AT MARKET PRICES.**  
TEAS and COFFEES to the value of 40s. or upwards sent carriage free to any railway station or market town in England.

**SISAL CIGARS, SISAL CIGARS, at GOOD-**

**RICH'S Cigar, Tobacco, and Snuff Stores** (established 1780), 407, Oxford-street, London, near Soho-square.—Box, containing 14 fine Sisal Cigars, for 1s. 9d. post free, six stamps extra; 1b. boxes, containing 103, 12s. 6d. None are genuine unless signed "H. N. Goodrich." A large stock of the most approved Brands.

**KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.**—The

vast increase in the demand for these Cough Lozenges, and the numerous testimonials constantly received, fully justify the Proprietor in asserting they are the best and safest yet offered to the Public for the cure of the following complaints:—

**ASTHMA, WINTER COUGH, HOARSENESS, SHORTNESS OF BREATH, and other PULMONARY MALADIES.**

They have deservedly obtained the highest patronage; very many of the Nobility, the Clergy, and the Public generally use them under the recommendation of some of the most eminent of the Faculty.

Prepared and sold in boxes, 1s. 1d., and tins, 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each, by **THOMAS KEATING, Chemist, &c., No. 79, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.** Sold retail by all druggists and patent medicine vendors in the world.

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**COD LIVER OIL**, perfectly pure and nearly tasteless, having been analysed, reported on, and recommended by Professors Taylor and Thomson, of Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals, who, in the words of the late Dr. Pereira, say, "the finest oil is that most devoid of colour, odour, and flavour," characters this will be readily found to possess.

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Half-pints, 1s. 6d.; pints, 2s. 6d.; quarts, 4s. 6d.; five-pint bottles, 10s. 6d.; imperial measure.

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**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS an EXCELLENT**

**MEDICINE.**—Perfect digestion and pure bile produce good blood, and if the functions of either the Stomach or the Liver are disordered, Holloway's Pills will assuredly repair the mischief, and enable them to supply the channels of circulation with an uncontaminated fluid; then, in cases of Bile, Indigestion, or disordered Stomachs, why not use this invaluable remedy, which has cured thousands, when every other medicine failed? The number of years these Pills have been in use confirm the efficacy of their good effects.

Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World; at Professor **HOLLOWAY'S** Establishments, 244, Strand, London, and 80, Maiden-lane, New York; by A. Stampa, Constantinople; A. Gulley, Smyrna; and E. Muir, Malta.

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**TRIESEMAR.**—On the 29th of May, 1855,

an Injunction was granted by the High Court of Chancery, and on the 11th of June following was made perpetual, against Joseph Franklin and others, to restrain them, under a penalty of £1,000, from imitating this medicine, which is 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, Spermatorrhoea, and all the distressing consequences arising from early abuse, &c., and its effects are efficacious in youth, manhood, and old age; and to those persons who are prevented entering the married state from the results of early errors it is invaluable.

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

**TRIESEMAR, No. 1, 2, 3**, are sold in tin cases, price 11s., or four cases in one for 33s., which saves 11s.; and in 5s. cases, whereby there is a saving of 1s. 12s.; divided into separate doses, as administered by Valpeur, Lallemand, Roux, &c. To be had wholesale and retail in London, of Johnson, 68, Cornhill; Hannay and Co., 53, Oxford-street; and Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; in Birmingham, druggist, 46, Market-street, Manchester; H. Bradbury, bookseller, Deansgate, Bolton; J. Priestly, chemist, 62, Lord-street, Liverpool; Powell, bookseller, 15, Westmoreland-street, Dublin; Wainall, bookseller, High-street, Birmingham.

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The **REAL NICKEL SILVER**, introduced twenty years ago by **WILLIAM S. BURTON**, when plated by the patent process of Messrs. Elkington and Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally, as by no possible test can it be distinguished from real silver.

	Fiddle Pattern.	Brunswick Pattern.	King's Pattern.
Tea Spoons per dozen .. 18s. ....	26s. ....	32s. ....	32s. ....
Dessert Forks .. .. 30s. ....	40s. ....	46s. ....	46s. ....
Dessert Spoons .. .. 30s. ....	42s. ....	48s. ....	48s. ....
Table Forks .. .. 40s. ....	56s. ....	64s. ....	64s. ....
Table Spoons .. .. 40s. ....	58s. ....	66s. ....	66s. ....

Tea and coffee sets, waiters, candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process.

## CHEMICALLY PURE NICKEL NOT PLATED.

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Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen .. .. 12s. ..	28s. ..	30s. ..	30s. ..
Dessert ditto and ditto .. .. 10s. ..	21s. ..	25s. ..	25s. ..
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The alterations and additions to these extensive premises (already by far the largest in Europe), which occupied the whole of last year, are of such a character that the entire of **EIGHT HOUSES** is devoted to the display of the most magnificent stock of **GENERAL HOUSEHOLD IRONMONGERY** (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated Goods, Baths, Brushes and Turnery, Lamps and Gaseliers, Iron and Brass Bedsteads and Bedding) so arranged in Sixteen Large Show Rooms as to afford to parties furnishing facilities in the selection of goods that cannot be hoped for elsewhere.

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## ARE YOU ABOUT TO FURNISH?

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Furniture warehoused at a moderate charge for families leaving town, or going abroad.

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FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

**MESSRS. MOGGRIDGE AND DAVIS**, Surgeon-Dentists to the Royal Family, 13, Old Burlington-street, Bond-street, Patentees of the self-sustaining principle of fixing Artificial Teeth, and Inventors of the Pneumatic Palate, continue to supply their inimitable inventions, which, copying nature, obviate the necessity of the unsightly fastenings which, while laughing or speaking, have hitherto betrayed the wearers of Artificial Teeth. This invention renders the articulation clear and distinct, and the unpleasant whistling so long complained of, impossible.

To all public speakers, whether in the senate, in the pulpit, at the bar, or on the stage, teeth, real or artificial, are a *sine qua non*. Without them the graces of eloquence are lost, and the powers of oratory very much diminished.

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## THE FORTY-SEVEN SHILLING SUITS,

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The **PELISSIER OVERCOAT**, 21s. and 28s., adapted for the season; the **TWO GUINEA DRESS** or **FROCK COATS**; the **GUINEA DRESS TROUSERS**; and the **HALF-GUINEA WAISTCOAT**.

N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

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same beautiful Fabric as **POPE** and **PLANTE'S ELASTIC STOCKINGS** for Varicose Veins, for Ladies' use, before and after accouchement, are admirably adapted for giving adequate support, with *extreme lightness*—a point little attended to in the comparatively clumsy contrivances and fabrics hitherto employed.

Instructions for measurement and prices on application, and the articles sent by post from the manufacturers, **POPE** and **PLANTE**, 4, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall, London.

## "PALMER'S PATENT LEG

is far superior to all others that have hitherto been invented, and is a valuable addition to our means of removing the inconvenience arising from a severe mutilation."—*The Lancet*.

Adjusted with perfect accuracy, by the aid of Machinery, to every form of Amputation, by **MR. EDWIN OSBORNE**, of 24, Saville row, London.

## BUY of the MAKERS.—BRUSHES, COMBS,

and **BROOMS** of every description, whether for the dressing-table, household, or stable use, thirty per cent. lower than any other house in the trade, at the Manufacturers, **J. and J. WITHERS**, 36, Tottenham-court-road (opposite Bedford-street, Bedford-square).—Warranted tooth brushes, 3d.; superior ditto, 4d.; the best that can be made, 6d. each.—N.B. The lowest price asked, and no abatement.

## THE LARGEST STOCK of BRUSHES and

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## SOCIETY OF ARTS PRIZE SHILLING BOX OF

WATER COLOURS, USED BY THE ROYAL FAMILY.

## CAUTION.—Boxes containing the worst de-

scription of Colours, Brushes, &c., are being sold as the Society of Arts Prize Box of Water Colours. To prevent any further imposition on the Public, the **GENUINE SOCIETY OF ARTS PRIZE SHILLING BOX OF WATER COLOURS** can be had of the successful competitor, **JOSHUA ROGERS**, 133, BUNHILL-ROW, Finsbury, London, or sent by post on receipt of 1s. 10d. in Stamps. Every other article required in the Fine Arts can be had Wholesale and Retail, of the Manufacturer, **JOSHUA ROGERS**, as above.

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RESISTING SAFES (non-conducting and vapourising), with all the improvements, under their Quadruple Patents of 1840, 51, 54 and 1855, including their Gunpowder-proof Solid Lock and Door (without which no safe is secure).

THE STRONGEST, BEST, AND CHEAPEST SAFEGUARDS EXTANT.

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