

*H. Edm und Galloway, 107 Strand.*

# 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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VOL. VII. No. 315.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1856.

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## Review of the Week.

THE Western Alliance became, on Sunday last, the Holy Alliance by favour of the new treaty of peace. Russia saw the policy of not appearing any longer to knock her head against a stone wall, and the Western Powers saw the policy of opening the door to Russia, that they might have the assistance of that power instead of its hostility. For the Governments all perceive that there are greater dangers for them in Europe than any Eastern question can be. There are *central* questions. So anxious were all sides for peace that they agreed to accomplish it at once, although they could not publish the treaty. It was signed by the Plenipotentiaries of Austria, France, Great Britain, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Turkey, on Sunday afternoon. Within twenty-four hours it was known over the whole of the United Kingdom, and it has been received with a striking moderation. The universal feeling appears to be that a Christian people are bound to welcome peace, but that *this* Christian people would not have been much chagrined if there had been another year of war, during which our fleets and armies might have done so much better than they have, and during which also we might have had some interesting events.

The text of the treaty is still withheld, and it was explained by Lord PALMERSTON on Monday, that it was withheld in deference to a form—it being considered peculiarly necessary on this occasion that the Sovereigns, whose Plenipotentiaries here affixed their signatures, should themselves have an opportunity of renewing the text; but, said Lord PALMERSTON, the objects of the war have been attained, the terms of the treaty are already known to the public, and England will be quite satisfied. We have no doubt that Lord PALMERSTON is well-informed on the subject; he has also so much knowledge of this country that he has a right to speak; and on such an occasion he would not venture to use language that would afterwards turn out to be inaccurate. We are inclined, therefore, to take Lord PALMERSTON'S word for the fact, and to

suppose that the objects of the war—the expulsion of Russia from meddling in the internal affairs of Turkey, its Principalities or Christians, from blocking up the navigation of the Danube, and from over-awing the commerce of the Black Sea—have been effectually attained. We very much doubt whether some of those to whom we are under obligations have obtained any corresponding advantage from their co-operation; whether Sweden has been in the slightest degree reimbursed for the assistance that she gave, which was so valuable at the latest point; whether Sardinia, who has stood by us so much longer, has been in any manner repaid her for outlay, her exertions, and her sacrifices. We do not know what France has got out of the matter, except some increase of prestige, some extorted acknowledgment for the Emperor NAPOLEON from the other potentates of Europe. We are sure that France has got even less than England, since this country will be one of the first, we avow, to reap all the advantages likely to be derived from the complete freedom of trade in the Black Sea, and the renewal of the Baltic trade on a much extended scale. These are real advantages, and no prejudice against any party can make us deny the fact; but what France will get in return for the sacrifices she has made it puzzles us to divine. If she is to get any extension of trade, she might have had quite as much without the war. Of all the parties engaged, France, we hold, has won the least, although the French Emperor has won the most.

The Conference continues to sit; the members do not return home; they have in some unaccountable way to make the actual arrangements of the Principalities. Other subjects, it is said, must come before them. Piedmont has some claims to new privileges—for instance, in the Danube; and Count CAVOUR is understood to have demanded the consideration of some larger Italian question. It is quite possible that other subjects may rise before the representatives of the five Powers. The Congress has become an Holy Alliance: amid the apprehensions pressing upon the Powers in the present day, the paramount desire must be to prevent any of those consequences which were threatened if the war had been protracted another year—that

is, to arrange amongst themselves that none of the peoples shall gain anything. The object must be to keep down "revolution" anywhere, because revolution in one place may teach the people that if they do but exert themselves they can obtain their rights in other places. LOUIS NAPOLEON has persuaded the potentates that a revolution of Frenchmen against him might be the signal for a revolution of Italians, of Hungarians, or Bohemians against Austria, of Poles or Fins against Russia, of "beloved Berliners" against King FREDERICK WILLIAM; and this is the danger which is now to be blocked out. It is possible that discussion of these subjects will not be recorded in the minutes of the Conference, but that they are taking place we have no doubt.

We cannot, then, reckon upon a continued season of quiet. Count CAVOUR has already told the Conference that if they do not settle the Italian question, it will present itself urgently during the next two years. The expressions employed by Duke ERNEST, of Saxe Coburg Gotha, the other day, show that he was quite prepared for the day when the Germans should ask for their own. It may be all very well for a German Duke to speculate in paying deposit upon the stock of a constitutional régime, but the potentates back their own stock, and they are resolved to insure their own goods. Their union shows their sense of danger. They will disappoint Sweden, or Sardinia, or any minor State. The union will make English statesmen feel all the inconveniences of their constitutional liabilities; but union against the peoples—that is, the thing that the Holy Allies must maintain. They do not count upon an easy season, and they are right. An eminent actuary once calculated that the duration of any peace is proportionate to the duration and exhausting effects of the antecedent war. On these grounds he allowed the peace to last till about 1850. A little margin was left in practice, but the calculation was very close. The war just terminated has lasted two years, and has not exhausted any of the parties concerned. Count CAVOUR has calculated that the peace will scarcely last two years—a remarkable coincidence between the actuary and the Count.

Some of the Italian towns are strongly corrobo-

rating Count CAVOUR's suggestions. We last week had Parma reminding the world of its existence, and showing us how Austria treats the independent Italian states. This week we have the students of Padua made acquainted with the rigours of Austrian Government, as a consequence of disturbance in the city.

The British Empire continues undisturbed. Sir CHARLES HOTHAM, indeed, has died at Melbourne from a summer malady, aggravated by the irritation of a Ministerial crisis, of which he saw no end. The colonists of Victoria are struggling with the most incompatible circumstances—great wealth, scanty capital, old official traditions, greenness in the rising men, republican notions, and an Imperial Government. Who can make a Cabinet out of elements thus produced? The quarter-deck Governor, who thought to coax and bully everybody into obedience, found himself in a course as hopeless of any end as if he had been on board the Flying Dutchman. He was conscientious enough to wish to do his duty, and died from irritation at the impossibility. It is said that he left, by way of legacy, a kind of warning, that naval officers had better not go on board Colonial Governments. The whole result of his administration has been immensely to increase that republican feeling which has made the Australians talk about "the Banner of the Five Stars."

In India, the process of annexation goes on smoothly, and reform appears falling into a kind of routine; but there is the less apprehension that it will suffer, because, the experienced and energetic DALHOUSIE is replaced by our late Postmaster-General.

At home we are getting on magnificently. Mr. KEOGH has been appointed to a vacant seat on the Irish judicial bench; Sir HARRY JONES is made head master at Sandhurst! Our Premier has booked for himself a place as the "CHATHAM of Peace," and not without reason; for he is the ablest man in the Government, and he has shown that he can turn his hand to a new business, even while enriched with an experience of so many years, and so many positions.

The revenue tables are full of sunshine—a grand increase of nearly a million and a half on the quarter, and of four millions and a half upon the half year. The Board of Trade returns also show a decided increase, even over the first two months of 1854; the result of that flourishing trade which Mr. Edward Baxter moralised in proposing in a dinner in Dundee, the toast of the American President and people. Our prosperity depends upon our power of checking the enemies of law, liberty, and commerce, and in preserving unbroken peace with our neutral friends; and luckily we have too many practical politicians like Mr. BAXTER to permit any serious breach of that sound rule.

And the House of Commons too—it is grinding away at bills for this happy country, that cannot live without a surfeit of laws! We have already so many that we cannot know them, remember them, or understand their drift. Even the lawyers themselves do not know the body of the law. The Judges improvise it on the bench, from the impossibility of knowing what Parliament has done or intended. We have then this week a resolution in the House of Commons to go on with Mr. WILSON PATTER'S Bill to amend the last Factory Acts Amendment Act, by promoting running gear to be the subject of arbitration in regard to fencing off, as well as standing machinery. We have the announcement of a new measure to modify the County Courts, where Mr. ROEBUCK has discovered that the Judges at present depend upon the Home Office for augmentations of their salary,—

counter to all constitutional principle. We have Mr. HEADLAM labouring to push forward his Medical Reform Bill, with the assistance of medical coadjutors or their advocates in the House of Commons, who support him with suggestions for annihilating his bill with amendments. It has more amendments than clauses, and the proposal amounts to "be it enacted"—the exact reverse of what he started with! We have an inquiry into our penal servitude with a view to some reform not yet foreseen. And we have a brand new measure for totally changing the corporation of the City of London.

This is a clean sweep—Lord Mayor's show and all. We are to have the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, the Recorder, and most of the chief officers, with their ancient titles; but the Aldermen will be virtually merged in the Common Council, except as to their duration of office, which will be six years,—and the exercise of the magistracy in certain official civil cases. The police jurisdiction of the magistrates, the Lord Mayor's courts, the conservancy of the Thames, the coal duties, the street duties, the liveried companies, the Lord Mayor's show,—all belong to the past. If the bill be enacted this session, we can scarcely expect the ghost of the pageant to pass down Cheapside or up the River.

**SINGULAR DEATH OF A LAMPLIGHTER.**—An inquest has been held, touching the death of Robert Griffin, a lamplighter, lately in the employ of the London Gas Company. He was cleaning the lamps in Great James-street, Theobald's-road. The "pitcher," or iron support, projecting from the lamp-posts, gave way, and the man fell with his ladder, sustaining such severe injuries that he died. Some of the witnesses said that the "pitchers" are frequently injured by boys hanging to them after climbing up the lamp-posts. The jury recommended the subject of giving increased strength to the "pitchers" to the consideration of the Metropolitan Board of Works.

**MASTERS AND OPERATIVES.**—Mr. Mackinnon's committee for inquiry into the best means for adjusting disputes between employers and their workpeople, met on Thursday, when evidence was given with respect to the working of the systems already existing in France for securing the interests, and removing the misunderstandings, of both parties.

**A COMMEMORATIVE CHURCH AT CONSTANTINOPLE.**—A large and influential committee, composed partly of naval and military officers, partly of clergymen and civilians, has been formed with the view of raising funds for the erection of a church in Constantinople, as the most appropriate monument to the memory of those who fell in the late war, and of gratitude to God for the restoration of peace. A public meeting will shortly be held for the promotion of this object, under the presidency of the Duke of Cambridge. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel has already received upwards of £1,000 in aid of this object.

**THE INCOME TAX.**—A meeting, with the view of pressing upon the Government the abolition of the income-tax, or its readjustment in accordance with the principles of equity, was held early in the week at Birmingham. The mayor presided, and the speakers included Mr. Price, M.P., Mr. Attwood, Mr. Partridge, Mr. S. Bowley, Mr. T. M. Sturge, &c. A petition to the House of Commons, and a memorial to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, were decided on.

**THE CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION COMMITTEE** met again on Tuesday, the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the chair, when Dr. Farr was examined. The tenor of his evidence was to the effect that it would be injudicious to abolish the fund.

**THE CASE OF MR. DYCE SOMBRE.**—An appeal has been brought in the Judicial Committee of Privy Council against the decision of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, which ruled that the last will of the late Mr. Dyce Sombre was invalid, owing to the insanity of the testator. The fresh proceedings have not yet been brought to a close.

**EMBEZZLEMENT.**—George Frederick Lillierap, formerly a grocer in Bishopsgate-street-without, is now under remand at the Mansion-house, charged with removing, concealing, and embezzling, part of his stock and effects after he had been adjudged a bankrupt in the month of April last, with intent to defraud his creditors.

**"SHRIMP SAUCER TO A LOBSTER."**—Some boys, of ages varying from twelve to sixteen, have been fined for pelting stones at the soldiers drawn up in the park on Sunday for the purpose of firing the guns. It was expected that the guns would be fired at one o'clock in the day; but the order was countermanded, and the disappointed youngsters vented themselves in a stony shower.

## THE PEACE.

PEACE has been made. After a month of anxious deliberation, last Sunday saw the conclusion of those labours which had for their object the reconciliation of belligerents, and the readjustment of international "guarantees." At half-past one o'clock on Sunday, the 30th of March, the Parisian Prefect of Police placarded the subjoined announcement:—

"Congress of Paris, March 30.

"Peace was signed to-day, at one o'clock, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"The Plenipotentiaries of France, of Austria, of Great Britain, of Prussia, of Russia, of Sardinia, and of Turkey, affixed their signatures to the treaty which puts an end to the present war, and which, in settling the Eastern question, places the peace of Europe upon a firm and durable basis.

"PIETRI, Prefect of Police."

The news was first made generally known in London by the firing, at ten o'clock at night, of a royal salute by the Horse Guards and the Tower guns. Crowds of persons were of course soon attracted to those spots. Every avenue to the esplanade behind the Horse Guards and the Mall was thronged by an eager concourse; but it was only those who at that hour approached by the Duke of York's column that were able to obtain admission. Others who were excluded lingered about in great numbers in front of the Horse Guards, along Whitehall, at Charing-cross, and in Pall-mall, till after eleven o'clock. The bells of St. Martin's Church, St. Bride's, and several of the city churches, also rang a series of peals, in celebration of the occasion, at intervals until midnight.

Peace was proclaimed in London on Monday, a few minutes before ten o'clock, by the Lord Mayor, attended by Sheriffs Rose and Kennedy, the Sword-bearer, Mace-bearer, and City Marshal. These functionaries proceeded to the stone balcony in front of the Mansion-house, where a raised dais had been erected, covered with crimson cloth, whence his Lordship read a communication from Sir George Grey, announcing the fact that the treaty had been signed. A large number of persons had assembled, who cheered, and waved their hats. At twelve o'clock, the same dispatch was read by the Lord Mayor in front of the Royal Exchange. The roofs and windows of the houses were crowded, and standards were hung from all available points. The news was also announced at Guildhall. The guns at the Tower then fired.

The announcement of peace caused a rise of three-eighths per cent. in the English funds on Monday morning, and the market, at the conclusion of the day, showed a further tendency to improvement. The Bank of France has reduced its rate of discount from six per cent., at which it has stood since the 18th of last October, to five per cent. The augmented rate of income tax granted by the English Parliament last year will continue until the 6th of April which shall first happen after the expiration of one year from the ratification of the Treaty of Peace. The ratification will probably take place about the end of the present month, so that the augmentation will not cease until April 6th, 1858.

Immediately after the signing of the Treaty of Peace at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Plenipotentiaries proceeded to the Palace of the Tuileries, to communicate the fact to the Emperor in person. His Majesty received them in the Salon des Ambassadeurs, attended by the officers of his household.

"When the news was announced," writes the *Times* correspondent, "the Emperor is said to have expressed his thanks to the Plenipotentiaries for having come in person to him with such agreeable tidings. He observed that the result of their labours during the Conference was the complete realisation of the speech delivered by Lord Clarendon in the House of Lords; and that the peace which the Allies were determined on concluding was one which carried with it no humiliation to Russia, and which did not compromise the dignity or independence of any one; it was, in fact, such as a great nation might propose or accept without degradation, and it therefore had all the elements of solidity and durability; and he added, that so favourable a result was, in a great measure, owing to the conciliatory spirit and moderation which marked the policy of England and which was particularly felt in the course of the present Conference."

Some particulars with respect to the mode of signing, given by a French paper, are not without interest:—

"Seven copies were made on parchment, after the



text of these had been carefully compared, the Plenipotentiaries proceeded to affix their signatures to the end of the treaty. Count Walewski, as President of the Congress, signed first, and the other Plenipotentiaries in the alphabetical order of their respective countries. Although the mere act of affixing their signatures occupied the Plenipotentiaries but a very brief portion of time, the whole of the formality of signing lasted nearly two hours, as the Plenipotentiaries, in addition to their signatures at the bottom of each protocol, had to affix their initials to the different paragraphs, the whole number of such minor signatures being, it is said, thirty-eight. The Plenipotentiaries of each contracting Power signed first the copy reserved for their Government, and then the other Plenipotentiaries signed in alphabetical order. In this manner, each contracting Power figuring at the head of the signatures of the copy which it is to ratify, all difficulties as to etiquette or precedence were set aside. To each signature was immediately attached the private seal of each Plenipotentiary."

Some particulars of the final act of the Plenipotentiaries are given by the *Times* Paris correspondent:—

"A council of ministers was held at the Tuileries at half-past eleven o'clock on Sunday, and remained sitting till a quarter-past twelve. The Emperor presided, and gave his last instructions, and Count Walewski returned to his official residence to receive the Plenipotentiaries. They appeared in full uniform, and wore all their orders and decorations. They assembled in the *Salle des Conférences* before half-past twelve, and, after the treaty was read over, proceeded to sign it in the same alphabetical order in which they have been wont to take their places during the conferences. Crowds of people had been out from an early hour, as it was known that something important was to occur, and numerous groups of spectators gathered on the quays opposite and close to the Foreign-office to see the Plenipotentiaries pass. These were received, both on going and returning, with marks of great respect from the people. The moment the signatures were completed, the expected signal was given, and the cannon from the esplanade of the Invalides proclaimed the news before the Plenipotentiaries had quitted the hall.

"The so-much discussed treaty of peace, then, is signed at last, and signed on the anniversary of a great event. On the same day forty-two years ago, was fought the battle of Paris, the last act of the great drama of which Europe was the theatre; and on the following day the Russians entered the capital, and dictated terms of peace where now their Ambassadors have come to ask for it. The next day, which many still remember as cold, sombre, and cheerless, the allies entered Paris. That France is now able, in concert with her Allies, to dictate peace to Russia may be considered as full satisfaction for the past; and I am not quite sure that it was without design that the 30th of March was selected for the occasion.

"Orders have been sent to the transport squadron at Toulon to be ready to proceed to the Black Sea to bring home the troops.

"I alluded some time since to an idea long familiar to the Emperor, of a Congress in Paris on the general state of Europe, with a view to certain modifications. The real object, perhaps, is to efface in some measure the Congress of Vienna. I believe it has been communicated to the English Government, but has been coldly received. The Emperor's tenacity in such matters is well known, and, though the plan may be postponed, I doubt whether it is entirely abandoned."

By the same authority we are told that Count Cavour, backed by England and France, and even by Russia, has obtained (at least such is the current story) the concession that Sardinian vessels, on entering or quitting the Danube, shall suffer no impediment. This demand was resisted by Count Buol; but he was obliged to accede. The Sardinian Plenipotentiary also, it is stated, drew attention to the state of Italy, and insisted on the danger of leaving so important a question open. He complained more especially of the occupation of part of Italy by foreign troops, stationed there for the purpose of repressing reforms. Count Buol disputed the propriety of introducing such a subject before a Congress intended for the discussion, not of the Italian, but of the Eastern question. He also denied the right of Count Cavour to speak in the name of Italy, since he was only the representative of Sardinia; and to Count Cavour's argument that he had as much right to speak in the name of Italy as Count Buol had to answer for the whole of Germany, the latter replied that the instances were not parallel, since there is a confederation among the German states, of which Austria is the principal, while such does not exist in Italy. The Sardinian Minister remarked that the observations which, he contended, he had a right to make, were nothing more than the development of a memorandum which had been drawn up by

the Sardinian Government, at the request of the Emperor Napoleon, and presented to his Majesty. He made some further remarks in the same sense, and again entreated the Congress to take the question into consideration, as, if they did not, he feared that, before two years have passed away, the Italian question would force itself on the attention of Europe.

These particulars cannot, of course, be absolutely depended on, and it is doubtful whether, even if the conversation took place, it will be recorded in the minutes of the sittings. It is thought that the rather warm discussion which ensued on the introduction of the Prussian Plenipotentiaries will be omitted.

We read in the *Moniteur*:—

"The Emperor has just decided that the soldiers of the class of 1848 who have hitherto been kept in service, in virtue of the Army Recruiting Bill of the 21st of March, 1832, shall be sent back to their homes. The Minister of War has given orders for this liberation to be immediately carried out."

#### THE WIND-UP OF THE WAR.

**TERRIBLE FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE NEAR SEBASTOPOL.**—William Russell has again resumed his post in the Crimea; and one of the first things he has had to chronicle has been a dreadful catastrophe on the slope above Kadikoi. Some huts there are occupied by men of the Commissariat Works Corps. On the night of the 17th of March, an alarm of fire was given, and assistance hurried to the spot. "Several huts," writes Mr. Russell, "were in flames, and, notwithstanding the utmost exertions of English and Sardinian troops, they were entirely consumed. Sixteen bodies were taken from among the ashes, and lay side by side in horrible array during the whole of the following afternoon. Recognition was out of the question. Had one of the corpses been met lying by the roadside, it would probably have been passed unheeded as a charred log. Most effectually, indeed, had the fire done its terrible work. The massive frames of these strong men were shrunk and shrivelled into mere cinders. None exceeded two feet in length; the limbs had disappeared, or, at most, in some cases, did stumps, mere vestiges of legs and arms, remain. The entrails, hearts, and lungs were, in some of the bodies, exposed; but they were burnt as black as coals. Only here and there a red tinge appeared. On the left of the ghastly line, a few fragments of burnt bones were heaped together (they might have been contained in a handkerchief), and at first it was supposed that these were the remnants of a seventeenth body; but it is now believed that they were merely detached bones and morsels of limbs belonging to the sixteen sufferers. Of course "Accidental death" was the verdict of the inquest held. Fourteen of the victims belonged to the Commissariat Works Corps; it has not been ascertained positively who the other two were, but it is said that they were men of the Army Works Corps, who had been passing the evening with their friends. It is not easy to ascertain with anything like certainty the origin of the misfortune. The first report concerning it was that the men were intoxicated (it was St. Patrick's night, and there was not a little drinking going on), and that the smoke had suffocated without awakening them. Contradictory accounts have since been spread, and probably the exact truth will never be known; but men who were in the huts, and escaped, declare that their unfortunate comrades were certainly not under the influence of liquor."

SIR GEORGE MACLEAN has left the Crimea for England, owing to ill health.

IN HONOUR OF THE IMPERIAL PRINCE, the French, English, and Sardinian armies, and the fleets, fired salutes of 101 guns each on the morning of the 23rd ult. "During the day," says Marshal Pelissier, "the Commanders-in-Chief of the English and Sardinian armies came officially to offer me their congratulations. There have been illuminations in the camps; and the Russians illuminated their line at Inkermann."

THE ARMISTICE.—The officers of the two armies, who were present at the interview for signing the armistice, brought wine, and drank to the reconciliation, in the midst of loud cheers, the signal for which was given by a Russian officer, who drank to the health of the Zouave who had wounded him.

THE ENGLISH MEDAL TO THE FRENCH SOLDIERS.—Marshal Pelissier has issued the subjoined address to his army:—"Soldiers,—A medal has been instituted by the Queen of England in commemoration of the war in the Crimea. That august ally of our Emperor has awarded this to you as a proof of the value she places upon the many hardships and dangers you have shared in common with her own soldiers. You are about to receive this noble distinction—a mark on your breasts of the glorious and fraternal achievements of twenty fights and an ever-memorable siege. Return to your homes. This medal will be a record, in the most secluded parishes, of the alliance of two great nations."

MISS NIGHTINGALE.—The wife of a private soldier,

belonging to the 89th Regiment, staying with her children at South Shields, not having heard from her husband for many months, and hearing of Miss Nightingale, was induced to write to that excellent lady, begging of her to communicate, if possible, some information of her husband. She received a reply, commencing "Dear Mrs. Lawrence," and communicating, in terms of great sympathy and kindness, the fact of the poor man's death, as far back as February 20th, 1855, about the time when the mortality at Scutari reached its height. On that day, eighty men were buried. Some directions to the widow for obtaining her pension are annexed.

THE HEALTH OF THE FRENCH ARMY is rapidly improving. Several well-ventilated huts are being erected on elevated spots.

#### IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, March 31st.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS resumed its sittings, after the Easter recess, on Monday. The HOUSE OF LORDS did not meet. The *Daily News* records that "considerable excitement prevailed, and an unwonted gathering of members was presented shortly after the commencement of the sitting, some Ministerial statement respecting the just-concluded treaty of peace being anxiously anticipated. After the usual transaction of private business, and the presentation of some petitions, the first order of the day, for going into Committee of Supply, was put from the chair, and agreed to without a word of comment or explanation, to the evident disappointment of the crowded house. Lord Palmerston, who had previously been absent, entered shortly after the Speaker had left the chair, and his entrance caused some slight commotion."

##### COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

A discussion arose on the Civil Service Estimates. The first vote submitted was £195,141 for the royal palaces and public buildings. To this, Mr. W. WILLIAMS objected, on the ground of the large increase in the amount as compared with former years—an increase which was denied by Sir BENJAMIN HALL. In the discussion on that part of the vote which had reference to the repair of Glasgow Cathedral, Mr. GLADSTONE complained of the charge for admission levied at that cathedral, as well as at others. He thought such charges should be abolished. After some further discussion, the vote was agreed to, with a reduction of £550. The second vote, which was for £7,868, for works, gas, lighting, and warming the south front of Buckingham Palace, was agreed to without discussion.

Some resistance, on the ground of extravagance, was offered by Sir HENRY WILLOUGHBY and others to the third vote, £91,684, for royal parks, pleasure grounds, &c. Mr. BOWEN moved that the sum do not exceed £69,544; but, on a division, this was negatived by 119 to 35. Some other attempts at reduction were also successfully resisted; and the vote was finally adopted, with a reduction of £2,570, for making a road from Holyrood to Duddingstone, which was postponed.—On the vote for £52,540 for works at the new Houses of Parliament, some particulars were elicited with respect to the further expenses of that building. Sir BENJAMIN HALL said that his predecessor, the late Sir William Molesworth, made a report to the House on January 9, 1855, in which it was stated that the sum required to complete the building from that date would be £280,272. He (Sir Benjamin Hall) had every reason to believe that that sum would be sufficient; but he afterwards added that it would only suffice for the works in actual progress. At the beginning of the session, Mr. Spooner had asked him if he (Sir Benjamin) had given any sanction to the further plans of Sir Charles Barry. His reply to that question was, that he had not, and that he should not until the works which had been commenced were completed. The new plans were of a very elaborate character, and it would cost £500,000 or £800,000 to carry them into effect. (*Cheer.*)—Mr. WILSON gave some details of the terms which have been offered to Sir Charles Barry. When the estimates for the new Houses were first taken they were for about £700,000, and Lord Bessborough, then the First Commissioner of Works, settled that the architect should receive £25,000. It soon became apparent, however, that the buildings would cost nearer three times the original estimate, and Sir Charles Barry had gone on from time to time receiving payments on account. The sum Lord Bessborough proposed to allow the architect was about three per cent.; and the Treasury, therefore, proposed to allow Sir Charles Barry three per cent. upon the whole cost of the building, whatever that might be. Sir Charles, however, had resisted that proposal, and he continued to resist it to this day. Then a question had arisen with regard to payment for measurement. That was not a very satisfactory mode of payment; but the Treasury had eventually proposed to allow Sir Charles one per cent. upon the whole cost of those portions of the work which were capable of measurement. The sums which had been advanced to Sir Charles Barry to

Christmas, 1852, amounted to £44,000; and there remained due to him the one per cent. upon a million and a half for measurement, which would make a total sum allowed him for commission of £59,000. There had been a great deal of negotiation; but the Government, thinking that their offer was a very fair and liberal one, had determined that no more money should be paid to Sir Charles Barry on account until he accepted the arrangement proposed. He had not yet done so, and whether or not he would, he (Mr. Wilson) was, of course, unable to say.—Mr. DRUMMOND denounced this arrangement as a fraud and an attempt to cheat Sir Charles Barry; but Mr. WILLIAMS thought the offer very liberal.—Mr. MALINS thought Sir Charles harshly used.—Some adverse criticisms on the frescoes were offered by Mr. BOWYER; after which the vote was agreed to.—Several other votes were then adopted with but little or no discussion.

On a vote of £30,361 for salaries and contingent expenses in the department of the commissioners for auditing public accounts, Mr. BOWYER called attention to the Government neglect in managing the business of the Audit Office, where the public accounts are presented in a certain form, which has to be altered in accordance with the views of the Exchequer.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that the subject had already received his attention, and he had framed the outline of a measure for consolidating the acts relating to the audit of the public accounts. He hoped to lay before the House the details of the measure at an early opportunity.—Considerable discussion then arose with reference to the transference of thirty-six clerks from the Audit Office to the War Department. It appeared that, henceforth, the War Office will audit its own accounts—a system to which Mr. WILLIAMS strongly objected. He also complained that the salaries of the Commissioners of Audit, amounting to £6,300 a year, were not brought before the House, but were charged upon the Consolidated Fund.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, while admitting that departments ought not to audit their own accounts, explained that the accounts audited by the War Office are accounts, for the most part, of expenditure incurred on foreign stations and in colonies remote from the department, so that there is no connexion between the disbursements and the auditors. The salaries of the Commissioners of Audit were charged on the Consolidated Fund, in accordance with the long established principle that the Audit Board should be placed on the same footing as the judges.—Lord PALMERSTON made similar statements with regard to the War Office auditing its own accounts, and contended that those accounts could not be properly audited by persons ignorant of the regulations.—Mr. HENLEY asked how these accounts had been hitherto audited if it was impossible that they could be audited by the Audit Office?—Lord PALMERSTON said, his meaning was that the great bulk of expenditure being regimental expenditure, it could only be audited by the War Department, as it always had been audited from the earliest time by persons acting under the Secretary-at-War.—Mr. WILSON, who said he would endeavour to explain the matter as far as he understood it, stated that, finally, the accounts would be audited by the Audit Board; but Mr. HENLEY was still dissatisfied, and suggested the postponement of the vote—a suggestion which the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER resisted, though admitting that he was not sufficiently acquainted with the details of military expenditure to be able fully to explain the matter.—Mr. DISRAELI urged the postponement of the vote, which was ultimately acceded to by the Government.

With reference to the vote of £32,000 for secret service, Mr. WILLIAMS congratulated the House upon the fact that, not only had there been no increase of this last vote in consequence of the war, but that there was actually a considerable reduction in its amount.

On the vote of £458,275 for printing and stationery for the Houses of Parliament and the public departments, Mr. WALPOLE called attention to the very large amount of the vote, caused by printing unnecessary details in the appendices of Parliamentary returns and reports of committees, &c.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER was glad that his right hon. friend had called attention to the large amount of this vote, which equalled the entire income of a small German principality. There was, he thought, great reason why an attempt should be made to reduce it within moderate limits.—Mr. DISRAELI differed from Mr. Walpole, and conceived that the matter contained in the appendices is often extremely valuable, and that the summary of the chief results contained in the reports themselves is not sufficient.—Mr. WALPOLE said that all he desired to say was that some person should be made responsible for the mass of matter which was constantly printed, and which was as constantly unread. (A laugh.) If any hon. member wished to have an illustration of his meaning, he could give one. It was stated by Mr. McCulloch that, in the appendix to the second volume of the Wine Duties report, there were tables occupying 234 pages, describing the vintages of wine in different docks; and

Mr. McCulloch observed, "There is not, I believe, a sane person in the empire who ever read a line of it, or ever will." (Laughter.) No less than 1,750 copies of this report were, however printed and circulated at the public expense.—Mr. DISRAELI reminded Mr. Walpole that the chairman of the printing committee has practically the power of preventing an appendix of unreasonable bulk from being printed.—The vote was afterwards agreed to, as well as several others.—The CHAIRMAN then reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

#### THE TREATY OF PEACE.

During the discussion of the Civil Service Estimates, Colonel FRENCH complained that no communication had been made to the House relative to the Treaty of Peace, and expressed his opinion that that omission was without precedent, and very disrespectful to the House.

Lord PALMERSTON said: "I was in the House three minutes after the half hour, which is usually the time when notices of motion are given and questions put. There were notices of motion previous to going into Committee of Supply, and there were also notices of questions; and I was as much surprised as other members could be that the House was in committee at so unusually early an hour. If I had come down three minutes sooner, I should have made a statement which I am quite prepared to make now, though a very short one, and which conveys no information to members beyond that which they already possess. (A laugh.) If it is a satisfaction, however, to my hon. friend to be informed officially of that which he already knows individually, I shall feel great pleasure in enlightening his mind. (A laugh.) The House is perfectly well aware that yesterday, about two o'clock, the Treaty of Peace was signed at Paris. (Hear, hear.) The House will have seen by the announcement in the Gazette that it was determined by the Congress that the particular conditions of the treaty should not be made public until the ratifications had been exchanged; and that, indeed, is the usual course, for the very obvious reason that deference is due to the contracting powers. At the same time, without going into any details of a question the main circumstances of which are already known to all the world, because they have been published in every country in Europe, I may say that my conviction is that the Treaty of Peace will be deemed satisfactory by this country and by Europe. (Hear, hear.) It will be found that the objects for which the war was undertaken have been fully accomplished. It will be found that by the stipulations of that Treaty the independence and the integrity of the Turkish Empire will be secured as far as human arrangements can effect such a purpose. It will be found that the Treaty is honourable to all the contracting parties; and I trust that, while on the one hand it has put an end to a war which every friend to humanity must naturally wish to see concluded, on the other hand it will lay the foundations of a peace which I trust, as far as regards the dangers from which the war arose, will be lasting and enduring. During the negotiations which have led to peace, I am happy to say that the same cordiality which prevailed among the Allies in carrying on the war has also mainly contributed to peace, and we shall leave off at the termination of this war in even stricter and more close and more extended alliance than existed during the continuance of the war, and that the future permanence, not only of the good understanding, but of the intimate connexion between the great European powers has been cemented and strengthened by the communications which have been made during these negotiations. I have nothing more to say than this—that it must be gratifying to the country to know that nothing could exceed the ability with which the English negotiators have performed their arduous and difficult task during those negotiations. Lord Clarendon and Lord Cowley have not only maintained the honour and the interests of the country which they represented, but they have, by their conciliatory conduct, secured the respect, esteem, and goodwill of those with whom they had to communicate. (Hear, hear.) The ratifications are to be exchanged as soon as they can be received from Constantinople and St. Petersburg. The limitation of time has been four weeks, but I should hope that at least within three weeks those ratifications may be exchanged at Paris." (Hear, hear.)

#### MALT DUTY.

In an earlier part of the evening, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER stated, in answer to Mr. SPOONER, that, under the present act, the war duties on malt would determine on the 5th of July next after the exchange of the ratifications for a definitive treaty of peace. It had been customary to allow a drawback for the stock on hand at the time the duty ceased, and from this practice there would be no deviation when the war duties expired.

#### VACCINATION BILL.

Mr. COWPER moved the second reading of this bill, which has for its object the extension of the system of vaccination by a qualified compulsion.—Dr.

MICHELL, amidst much laughter, said he had come to the conclusion that vaccination is not worth one farthing, and that, had it not been introduced, small-pox would be scarcely heard of at the present day. In fact, it had encouraged small-pox by making people more reckless. The bill was an arrant job, for the benefit of the Board of Health.—Mr. BARROW and Mr. MIALI objected to the compulsory powers of the bill; but it was read a second time.

The routine business having been gone through, the House adjourned at twenty minutes to two o'clock.

Tuesday, April 1st.

The HOUSE OF LORDS reassembled, for the first time after the recess, on Tuesday, when the Earl of MALMESBURY, having expressed his surprise that no communication was made to the House with respect to the conclusion of peace, asked the Marquis of Lansdowne when the Earl of Clarendon would return to London. Till his return it would be inconvenient to bring on the motion relative to the fall of Kars.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said, with regard to the conclusion of peace, he could only state that with which the House was fully acquainted from the public prints; but he was ready to give any explanation that might be desired. He could not fix the day of the Earl of Clarendon's return.—The orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned.

#### A PARLIAMENTARY CONVERT TO ROMAN CATHOLICISM.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. HUTCHINS, who since his election has embraced the Roman Catholic faith, attended at the table, and took the oaths prescribed by the act for Roman Catholic members. The hon. gentleman was introduced by Lord E. Howard and Mr. Monsell.

#### THE CASE OF COLONEL HARNES.

Captain VERNON asked if it were true that Colonel Harnes, Deputy Inspector-General of Fortifications, had been removed from that military office, in consequence of a departmental misunderstanding with the chief of the civil staff of the ordnance?—Mr. MONSELL said: "I regret to state that the line Colonel Harnes thought proper to adopt with reference to myself is the discharge of his civil duties as Deputy Inspector-General of Fortifications has induced my noble friend, Lord Panmure, to consider that it was not for the interest of the public service that Colonel Harnes should continue to hold that office. It is nevertheless only just to Colonel Harnes that I should add, that both Lord Panmure and myself entertain the highest opinion of his ability as a military engineer, and my noble friend has, in consequence, recommended to the Commander-in-Chief to appoint him to one of the most important offices in the service, viz., the command of the Royal Engineers at Malta."

#### PUBLIC EXECUTIONS.

Lord H. LENNOX inquired of Sir George Grey, whether his attention had been directed to the circumstances alleged to have occurred at the execution of William Bousfield, on Monday last; and, if so, whether he would undertake to institute an immediate inquiry into the case?—Sir GEORGE GREY said he had seen with great regret, in the morning papers that day, the statement referred to, and, immediately on reading it, had directed a communication to be made to the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, calling upon them to make a report of the whole circumstances of the case. He had not received that report; and, indeed, he could hardly have done so, as there had not been time enough to prepare it.—Mr. BIGGS inquired whether there was any intention on the part of the Government to substitute private executions within the walls of the prison for the present mode of executing criminals in public?—Sir GEORGE GREY replied that Government had no such intention.

#### THE DEFECTIVE MORTARS.

Mr. MONSELL, in answer to Mr. MALINS, mentioned that the letter of explanation sent by Messrs. Grissel relative to the defective mortars supplied to the Government had been referred to a competent officer to report.

#### COUNTY COURT JUDGES.

Mr. ROEBUCK moved a resolution that an address be presented to her Majesty praying her to give directions to the Lords of the Treasury that hereafter the salaries paid to the County Court Judges should be equal in amount, permanent, and not less than £1,500 per annum. This proposal he justified on the grounds that the greater part of the civil judicature of the country now rests on the hands of the County Court Judges; that they have, under the existing system, to bow down to the Treasury benches to get an increase on the £1,200 a-year they commonly enjoy; and that that increase is only granted in accordance with Parliamentary influence, or high connexions. Judges, he thought, should not merely be above suspicion, but should be exempt from the anxieties of life.—Lord STANLEY seconded the motion.

Sir GEORGE GREY said he had long entertained the opinion that the payments of the Judges should be uniform, but Parliament had imposed on the Treasury the delicate task of deciding upon the Judges who should have the maximum of £1,500. A bill had been introduced into the House of Lords, which, if it



reached the Commons, would open the whole question; and he (Sir George Grey) hoped the House would suspend its decision till that measure came to be considered. He, therefore, moved the previous question.—Mr. MORRIS having made a few remarks in explanation of a case adverted to by Mr. Roebuck, Mr. WILSON replied to the charges brought against him by the mover of the resolution, who said that the claims of his brother-in-law had been passed over more than once by Mr. Wilson, from political or other unworthy considerations. To this, Mr. Wilson replied that the principle fixed upon for advancing salaries, on the occasions referred to, was the amount of work which devolved upon the respective Judges. In the selections made, there could be no favouritism, inasmuch as the names of the persons were not appended to their representations; and, with the exception of one name—that of a gentleman whose claims were paramount—he (Mr. Wilson) knew nothing of who the respective claimants were. The whole matter was arranged through the instrumentality of numbers.—Sir JOHN PAKINGTON appealed to Mr. Roebuck to withdraw his motion.—Sir GEORGE PEACHELL and Mr. MALINS defended the motion.—Mr. GLADSTONE said it appeared to him that it might be a great question whether, on a reconstruction of the duties of the office of the County Court Judge, with the addition of other functions, there ought not to be an alteration of their salaries; but, with the knowledge that fit men could be found to occupy that office, and who sought to occupy it, at even £1,200 a year, it was a question which, in his opinion, ought to be kept open for discussion.—Mr. DISRAELI thought that in the state of our finances it would not be wise for the House to pledge itself as to the amount of salary to be paid to any public servants.—Mr. ROEBUCK then withdrew his motion.

#### REMOVAL OF IRISH AND SCOTCH PAUPERS.

Mr. BOUVIERIE moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law respecting the removal of Irish and Scotch paupers. Under the present system, these paupers (when they have not resided in England five years) can be taken in a ship to certain ports—eight in Ireland, and nine in Scotland—and can then be put on shore and left to shift for themselves, though they may be far away from their own parishes. This was a great hardship. In England, when a person applied for relief, and it was found that he was removable, notice was given to the parish to which he belonged, accompanied by a statement of the grounds of removal. Twenty-one days must then elapse before the pauper could be sent to the place where he had a settlement. In the meantime, that parish might require the depositions upon which the magistrates had granted the order of removal; and, if they saw fit, they might appeal to the quarter sessions of the district in which the removing parish was situated. That was the plan he proposed to adopt with regard to Scotch and Irish poor. A notice of thirty days must be given, and the parish on which it was served might have an appeal. He also proposed, that when a pauper was removed he should be taken to the workhouse of the union to which he belonged, instead of being tumbled out upon the quay of the nearest port, to shift for himself. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. W. WILLIAMS feared it would be perfectly impossible, owing to the difficulty of getting information from Irish paupers, to carry out the proposed arrangements.—Mr. V. SCULLY observed, that the procedure under the English law of settlement was inapplicable to Ireland, where there was no such thing as a law of settlement.—Sir W. JOLLIFFE recommended that the bill should be referred to a Select Committee.—Some further criticism having been offered by Mr. FLOYER, Mr. BAINES, Mr. KNIGHT, and Mr. DE VERE, leave was given to bring in the bill.

#### REFORM OF THE CORPORATION OF LONDON.

Sir GEORGE GREY moved for leave to introduce a bill for the better regulation of the City of London. He trusted that the corporation would give the Government credit for approaching this important question in no spirit of disrespect or unfriendliness towards that great and ancient body, which was entitled to every consideration, both on the ground of its antiquity and on that of the many services it has rendered at various periods to the cause of civil and religious liberty. The object of the measure was not to diminish the dignity of the corporation, but rather to strengthen its influence by remedying its defects, and by bringing it more into harmony with the requirements of the age. The bill was mainly grounded on the report of the commissioners appointed in 1853—a report which, it was but right to say, was greatly facilitated by the willingness to give information on the part of gentlemen connected with the corporation. The corporation will continue to consist of Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council. The number of wards will be reduced from 26 to 16; each ward to return an Alderman and five Common Councilmen, making 96, instead of 282 as at present. The Aldermen, instead of being elected for life, will be elected for six years, one-half to retire every three years. The Common Councilmen will

be elected annually, as at present; and the qualification will be the possession of real or personal estate worth £1,000, or a rating to the amount of £30. The choice of Lord Mayor will no longer be confined to the present limits, but every person eligible to be elected a Common Councilman shall be eligible to be elected Lord Mayor. The exclusive privileges enjoyed by members of the corporation, as regards the carrying on of trade, are to be abolished, as well as the dues and street tolls now imposed, and the privileges of the Watermen's Company. With regard to the coal duties, arrangements will be made for allowing them to expire after the mortgages upon them are paid off. The City police will not be disturbed, but the City will become part of the metropolis as regards police magistracy, thus restricting the Aldermen to their civil duties.

Sir JAMES DUKE assured Sir George Grey that the corporation would consider the bill fairly, but he hoped ample time would be given before the second reading.—Mr. WILLIAMS highly approved of the measure.—Sir GEORGE GREY intimated that he proposed to take the second reading on the 21st of the month.—Leave was then given; and the bill was read a first time.

#### FIRE INSURANCES.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (with a view to bringing in a bill) moved a resolution for including under the stamp duty payable to Government on fire insurance offices all the "agencies" of foreign offices established in this country.—After a slight discussion, this was agreed to.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER also obtained leave to bring in a bill to continue for a limited period, certain compositions payable to bankers who have ceased to issue banknotes.

The report of the COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY was brought up and agreed to.

THE COURTS OF COMMON LAW (IRELAND) BILL passed through committee.

Wednesday, April 2nd.

#### MEDICAL PROFESSION BILL.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on the order for going into committee on this bill, Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR appealed to Mr. Headlam to postpone the committee, out of consideration for the vast number of amendments—amounting to nearly one hundred, and some of them touching the principle of the measure—which had been proposed at a late period.—Mr. BARROW concurred in this suggestion.—Mr. HEADLAM declined to accede to the proposal. Delay would be inconvenient, and would not be likely to harmonise the different opinions with respect to the constitution of the Medical Council, the majority of the numbers of which, the Government amendment proposed should be nominated by the Crown; and that was the chief amendment.—Considerable discussion followed, which was interrupted by an amendment moved by Mr. WALPOLE, in favour of postponement for a week. This was carried by 116 to 81.—Mr. HEADLAM complained that the Government had thrown him over by proposing their amendment at a late hour; and he left the bill in their hands.—Sir GEORGE GREY refused to take charge of it, or to introduce another; and Mr. WALPOLE recommended Mr. Headlam to refer his bill to a Select Committee.

#### FACTORIES' BILL.

Colonel WILSON PATTEN moved the second reading of this bill, the object of which was to place the gearing and shafting of mill-machinery on the same footing as the machinery itself. It is now compulsory on the manufacturer to fence the shafting, whether or not it is in a position likely to seize the workmen's clothes and endanger their lives. This subjects the master to great hardship and to vexatious proceedings at the hands of the factory inspectors; and he is often mulcted in large amounts. Still, the present measure would not abate any of the necessary safeguards for the workman.—Mr. COBBETT moved to defer the second reading for six months, arguing that the measure was one which it would be impolitic in the House to pass, inasmuch as it would endanger the lives and limbs of people employed in factories, by diminishing the securities provided by the existing law for the guarding and fencing of machinery.—Lord JOHN MANNERS cordially seconded this amendment.—Mr. MILNER GIBSON supported the measure, which, he thought, would place the operatives in a better position. Judges, as well as inspectors, differed in their construction of the present law; but this bill provided that the law should be carried out by the impartial decision of arbitrators.—Sir GEORGE GREY said there was no doubt that the present law was uncertain; but, on the other hand, the proposed measure would deprive the operatives of their rightful protection. If Colonel Patten would consent to such modifications of the bill, which he (Sir George) undertook to arrange with him, as would place all the mill-gearing now subject to dispute under the 43rd section of the act 7th and 8th of Victoria, he should feel it his duty not to object to the second reading of the bill.

Lord STANLEY, on the part of Colonel Patten and on his own behalf, consented to adopt the modifications proposed by Sir George Grey. He replied to objections offered to the bill.—Mr. HARDY complained that Sir George Grey's propositions would leave the ques-

tion exactly where it was before.—Mr. MUNTZ thought the wisest plan would be to let the present law rest, but to make an exception with respect to horizontal drums and shafts.—Mr. CHEETHAM and Mr. BROTHERTON having spoken in support of the bill, Colonel DUNNE moved that the debate be adjourned.—Upon a division, this motion was negatived by a large majority; but, as it then wanted only a few minutes to six o'clock, the debate, according to a rule of the House, stood adjourned.

Thursday, April 3rd.

#### TORTURE IN INDIA.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, the Earl of ALBEMARLE moved an address to the Crown for the production of certain documents relative to the collection of taxes in the district of Chingleput, in the presidency of Madras, which proved that torture had been inflicted on several natives, by order of Mr. C. J. Shubrick, the magistrate and collector of the district. Lord Albemarle stated that this torture (which had been inflicted as late as last July), arose chiefly out of the collection of the moturpha, or tax on implements used in all trades and professions—a tax which he denounced as absurd and iniquitous.—The Duke of ARGYLL, on the part of the Government, consented to the production of the papers, and expressed the wish of Ministers that the moturpha should be abolished.—The motion was then agreed to, and the House adjourned.

#### THE BLOCKADE.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. THOMAS MITCHELL asked whether—"British property, to the amount of more than one million sterling, being now locked up in Russia—it is the intention of the Government to continue the blockade of the Russian coast pending the ratification of peace; and whether, if the blockade is to cease at once, an arrangement has been made to enable British vessels to enter Russian ports for commercial purposes without risk of seizure?"—Lord PALMERSTON stated that, the armistice having been extended to the sea as well as to the land, the blockade of the Russian ports was at an end. The second part of the question depended on other considerations, as to which he could not at present make any statement.

#### THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE SYSTEM.

Mr. FRANCIS SCOTT moved for "A select committee to consider how far and in what direction recent legislation, and the substitution of other punishment for transportation, has influenced the existing amount of crime." Crime was increasing to an alarming extent, and that circumstance was good evidence that the present system of punishments was not effective for its object. The Home Secretary had given notice of an amendment limiting the inquiry to the operation of the Act 16 and 17 of Victoria; but he (Mr. Scott) could not consent to such a limitation. The ticket-of-leave system had failed, and the statements to the contrary must have been founded on imperfect information. According to the latest returns, 144 of the population of England are confined in prison as convicts, or as persons charged with crime; and, judging from the precedent of the last peace, it might be expected that, on the conclusion of the Russian war, a large increase in the criminal population will be derived from disbanded soldiers.—Mr. LLOYD DAVIES seconded the motion.

Sir GEORGE GREY then moved his amendment that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the operation of the Act 16 and 17 Victoria, c. 99, entitled "An Act to substitute in certain cases other punishment in lieu of transportation." He wished to define and limit the inquiry, so that the committee might devote itself to some particular object; but he was ready to insert words which should secure the power of the committee to inquire into all subjects having reference to secondary punishments. Mr. Scott's statements with respect to the increase of crime were exaggerated; and, as regards the police surveillance, the officers had been directed not to prevent convicts obtaining situations. The latter were only watched when they associated with bad characters.—Sir JOHN PAKINGTON thought it would be injudicious to abandon the system of tickets-of-leave; and he therefore recommended Mr. Scott to be content with the amendment proposed by the Government.—Mr. LABOUCHERE said that all able-bodied convicts now sentenced to transportation are despatched to Western Australia—the only colony where they can be sent, and where they are useful.—Mr. ADDERLEY reminded the House that a considerable part of the act—namely, that which authorises the Government to grant licenses to persons transported—has not yet come into operation. He did not believe that Western Australia could take more than nine hundred convicts in a year. Complaints had been made that, notwithstanding our penal legislation, the criminal returns show no decrease of crime. He thought that no penal legislation could have that effect. They must rather look to education, preventive measures, improved police regulations, and reformatory institutions, for producing so desirable a result. (*Hear, hear.*) A marked improvement had followed on the adoption of the late Sir Robert Peel's improvement of our criminal code; and the efforts which had since been made for the improvement of prison disci-

pline had had a good effect. The broad principle of punishment itself needed inquiry, to ascertain whether they were not depending too much upon reformatory processes. On those questions he relied very little on the opinions of lawyers, for the professors of any art generally take the most limited views of that art. It would be most injudicious to return to the old system of transportation to the colonies, with its attendant horrors; but it might be worthy of consideration whether they could not introduce into this country what in Prussia is called "internal transportation," and which consists in removing criminals from one part of the country to another, and employing them in hard labour. The system of banishment had been recommended by some—of allowing the criminals to go where they liked; and, if proper security could be taken against their return, perhaps that system would be the least objectionable of any. He would suggest an addition to the amendment, consisting of the following words:—"And how far its provisions relating to the discharge of prisoners may be susceptible of improvement."

Mr. BAINES thought that the effect of these words would be to limit, instead of to extend, the inquiry. —Mr. NEWDEGATE advocated a renewal of transportation; and Mr. FITZGERALD was favourable to a modified form. —Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE thought a serious question for the committee would be found in determining how the prisoners are to be treated on their discharge. —Mr. SCOTT then withdrew his motion, and the amendment of Sir GEORGE GREY was adopted as a substantive resolution.

#### SPECIAL AND SIMPLE CONTRACT DEBTS.

Mr. MALINS obtained leave to bring in a bill to abolish all distinctions between specialty and simple contract debts. As the law stands, creditors by specialty (bearing a seal) are paid from real estate before creditors by simple contract can participate, so that, where the assets are insufficient, the specialty creditors come in and sweep everything away. His object was to remove that anomaly and injustice.

#### TRUST PROPERTY, &c.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to the criminal appropriation of trust property held by persons as trustees or bailees. The special object was to put fraudulent trustees on the same footing as bankers are placed, in reference to securities placed under their charge.

Sir JOHN SHELLEY obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law with respect to the election of directors of joint-stock banks in England.

Mr. BOUVIERIE obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Poor Law, as regards the appointment of auditors, &c.

THE BANKERS' DRAFTS BILL was read a second time.

THE FACTORIES BILL was read a second time; amendments to be introduced in committee.

#### PUBLIC MEETING.

##### EARL GRANVILLE ON EDUCATION.

THE conversion of the old diocesan school at Bristol into a Trade school, and its opening on Friday week, was the occasion of a visit from Earl Granville, President of the Council of Education. In these tradeschools, there is added to the routine of education a course of instruction in the principles of science with special reference to trade and manufactures. After partaking of refreshments, and inspecting the building, the Lord President, the Mayor, and the other noblemen and gentlemen, adjourned to the hall of the Society of Merchant Venturers, where a public meeting was held, over which Earl Granville presided, in the absence of the Lord Bishop of the diocese through ill health. A report was then read, various resolutions were carried, and, in answer to a vote of thanks, the chairman addressed the meeting.

Having alluded to the rise of trade schools in Germany, where instruction in practical matters has lately been regarded as of greater importance than classical attainments, Lord Granville remarked that a knowledge of living languages and contemporary facts is much needed among Englishmen, though he did not think that knowledge should induce us entirely to abandon classical attainments, the effect of which is to humanize and elevate the mind. He then glanced at the superior state of education in foreign countries to that which prevails in England. "A recent review in the *Times* stated that, 'as every Bavarian is able to read, the greatest prison punishment that can be inflicted is to take away books from the prisoners.' Now, it was melancholy to reflect what was the proportion of prisoners in our gaols upon whom such a punishment could possibly have the slightest effect. It was a singular fact that in England and Wales only 69 per cent. of the men who were married signed their names to the marriage certificates, and that there were only 56 per cent. of the women who were able to do the same. The city of Bristol was divided between Somersetshire and Gloucestershire, and he observed that in the Gloucestershire part of the city the percentage of education was above the average, because it was to be

found in the ten foremost counties in that respect in England and Wales. On the other hand, the Somersetshire portion of the city was not in the ten worst counties, nor in the ten best, but it was below the average of the whole counties of England and Wales. He found that the average of the men able to read and write in that part of the city was 66 and a fraction per cent., while of the women it was as high as 61." Referring to the means for advancing education, he observed:—"Sir Arthur Elton," who had spoken at the meeting, "had referred to the Government being able to give a stimulus to education by disposing of public offices to educated men. The Privy Council had tried a small experiment in that way, and it had answered exceedingly well. In the same way there were few great employers of labour who could not even with advantage to themselves, find the means of giving a stimulus of this sort. The directors of the railway by which he came to Bristol had a regulation not to take into their employment any person who could not read and write, and did not know something of arithmetic. (*Hear, hear.*) He believed that this regulation entitled the directors of that line to be considered as greater educators than even the excellent schools which they had established. (*Applause.*) He was sure that the trade schools might act most usefully as a stimulus in this respect, always provided that they strictly adhered to the rule, without which their own efficiency would be destroyed, that they should require a strict examination as to whether the candidate who presented himself was really worthy to receive the necessary elementary instruction. It was certainly a most marvellous thing that the people of this country, while running the race of competition with other nations, should refuse to themselves such an element of success in commercial progress as that of education. What would be said of a strong man who, having to engage with a powerful adversary, should bind up one arm?" (*Applause.*) By a better system of education, Lord Granville observed, we should create a superior race of artisans, who would derive gratification from their employments, instead of that deadly weariness which had been illustrated by Sir Arthur Elton in the case of a man who put an end to his existence in consequence of not being able to go on working in a mere routine manner. After paying a high compliment to the Rev. Canon Moseley for his great efforts in the cause of education, Lord Granville referred to the chief features of the school which they had then met to inaugurate. "He rejoiced to find that the boys were there instructed in the ordinary branches of a sound English education. He hoped that in this school special care would be taken to teach the English language—a subject which was too much neglected in every school of every class in this country. He believed there was no advantage which could be given to a man greater than to learn to speak and write his own language grammatically. It might be trivial to mention the circumstances, but he knew a lady who was proposed to and married by a very able man, not so much because he had fallen in love with her personal charms as because he was so delighted with the letters which she wrote to a third person." (*Laughter and applause.*)

With some further observations on the advantages of education, the Chairman concluded, and the proceedings were brought to a close.

#### IS MR. JOHN SADLEIR DEAD OR ALIVE?

THIS startling question is mooted by a Dublin newspaper, the *Nation*, the writer of an article in which declares his deliberate conviction that there exist reasons of a solid, reliable character for believing that Mr. John Sadleir has not committed suicide, but has simply been playing the trick, well known both in history and romance, of a pretended death and a supposititious corpse. The following are the grounds on which the writer bases his scepticism as to John Sadleir's suicide:—

1. It appears from the letters of the alleged deceased that he had contemplated suicide for a week before the act; yet on Saturday night he was endeavouring to obtain money.—2. From the time the poison must have been taken to the time the body was discovered, there was not time, considering the circumstances of the death, for the corpse to get quite cold and stiff, as it was found.—3. The identification of the body was extremely doubtful, being, says the Dublin writer, based only on the representations of Sadleir's servant, Elwyn, who has known his master "but eighteen months." The deceased's relatives, though in town, did not view the body. "It may, in addition, be not undeserving of remark, that the reports in the public press speak of a change in the features of the deceased, and of his looking older than he really was."—4. "In the work of Dr. Taylor, the toxicologist, which Sadleir, it is stated, had been perusing on the day of his death, is a discussion of the question as to whether dark hair can be artificially changed to light, and his account of sundry washes of recent invention which effectually produce the result." Elwyn, in giving evidence at the inquest, said that on the memorable Saturday

his master told him to prepare two bottles, and that he thought the poison which had been sent for was some ingredient for a hairwash. [The writer then very confidently draws his deduction that here was a man, who, as alleged, was on the point of committing suicide, busying himself in making a hairwash! We (*Leader*) must say the deduction is quite unwarranted by the premises. Elwyn did not say that his master was making a hairwash, but merely that he *thought* he was about to do so—that opinion being based on a misinterpretation of the contents of the bottle which had been filled at the chemist's.]—5. The place where the body was found was suspicious. "Why should Sadleir, intending to make away with himself by poison instantaneous in its effects, trudge out to Hampstead-heath, in the middle of the night, for the purpose, first putting into his pocket a piece of paper to tell his name?"

The article concludes with a remark upon the ease with which a body could be procured among the two and a half millions of the population of London. We must add, however, that a letter to the *Times* completely demolishes this most ingenious and most Irish figment.

#### THE REVENUE.

THE official statement for the quarter that terminated on Monday exhibits a gratifying condition of the national resources. The result is an increase, as compared with the corresponding quarter of last year, to the extent of £1,477,645, the items of which are as follow:—

INCREASE.	
Customs .....	£497,358
Excise .....	37,082
Taxes .....	7,708
Property Tax .....	937,946
Crown Lands .....	1,000
Miscellaneous .....	55,141
	£1,535,935
DECREASE.	
Stamps .....	£55,766
Post office .....	2,524
	58,290

Net increase .....

The net increase on the year, ending on the 31st March, 1856, amounts to £4,497,671.

#### STATE OF TRADE.

STATE OF MANUFACTURES.—The accounts of the manufacturing trade of the country during the week ending last Saturday are satisfactory from all quarters, although a partial interruption has been occasioned by the Easter holidays, and the coldness of the weather has continued to exercise an influence. At Manchester, the market has been steady, and the principal houses are fairly supplied with orders. At Birmingham, the preliminary resolution of the iron-masters not to make any reduction of prices for the coming quarter has given stability to the trade, and it is also stated that the recent advices from America are less discouraging. In the potteries, the agitation, commenced for free trade with France, has been encouraged in a manner which gives hopes of its extension. The Nottingham accounts describe a partial diminution of activity. In the woollen districts there has been continued steadiness, and in the Irish linen markets the transactions have been numerous, with a good proportion of foreign orders.—*Times.*

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS for the month ending the 29th of February were issued on Tuesday, and furnish proof of extraordinary activity in all departments of trade consequent upon the approach of peace. In the declared value of our exportations, there is the extraordinary increase of £2,693,331, the total for the corresponding month of last year having been one of the most unfavourable during the war. This increase is spread without exception through every branch of industry, but metals and the yarns of cotton, linen, and wool, have experienced the most conspicuous improvement, in consequence of the demand occasioned by the growth of confidence among continental manufacturers. The revival in the Australian trade seems to be indicated by an augmentation in the shipments of haberdashery, hardware, and leather. With regard to imported commodities, there is no material alteration on the average, the consumption of some articles presenting a considerable increase, while in others there has been as large a decrease. Wheat, flour, and rice, have arrived in augmented quantities. Coffee, wine, and tobacco, figure for an increase. Of tea, the consumption shows a diminution, although the importations have been extremely heavy. Sugar, spirits, fruits, and spices, are likewise on the unfavourable side.—*Idem.*

#### IRELAND.

FEARFUL ACCIDENT AT DUBLIN.—A "wake" was being held on the body of a child, in a miserable alley in Dublin, called Penrose's-lane, when the floor (which was near the top of the house) fell through



carrying with it the whole of the company, who had gathered there to the number of forty or fifty. It was a considerable time before the police could extricate the sufferers from the ruins; and it was then found that nineteen were killed, and that a similar number had been more or less dangerously injured.

**THE TIPPERARY BANK.**—Some proceedings, in connection with this bank, took place on Tuesday, in the Master's office. Messrs. Morrogh and Kennedy disclaimed, on oath, all knowledge of the report issued by the Tipperary Bank in February last. In the course of the proceedings, it appeared that some twenty conveyances of property in Ireland were executed by the late John Sadleir to the London and County Bank last August, and it was elicited that previous to that date an agreement had been entered into by John Sadleir to transfer those estates to the Tipperary Bank as security for the large advance made to him. Mr. J. B. Kennedy, in the course of his examination by Mr. Lawless, said he had in his possession securities and other property of the Tipperary Bank, of which he would furnish a list on the following day, and lodge them in court. He believed that three purchases of property were made by Mr. Sadleir in the Encumbered Estates Court. Being questioned as to securities not in his possession, Mr. Kennedy mentioned a mortgage, he believed of the Glengall estate, for £12,000., which was the money of the bank. It was made, about April, 1847, to Mr. Anthony Norris of London, as trustee for the bank. He could give a list of the properties purchased by the late Mr. Sadleir in the Encumbered Estates Court. Mr. Sadleir sold the greater portion of them, and he also assigned a portion to the London and County Bank. Mr. Sadleir made or agreed to make an assignment of those properties in favour of the Tipperary Bank in March, 1855. Mr. Keating came over to Ireland with a letter from Mr. Sadleir, which witness saw. He knew that a great deal of the purchase-money of several of those estates came from the Tipperary Bank; but whether they were purchased in trust for the bank or for Mr. Sadleir himself, he was not able to say. He added that, to his knowledge, the purchases were not made with a view to giving security to the Tipperary Bank, and that he felt pretty sure that the deeds of conveyance from the Encumbered Estates Court were not deposited with any person on behalf of the Tipperary Bank by way of security.

#### AMERICA.

**GENERAL WALKER**, of Nicaragua, has decreed the abolition of the privileges of the Nicaragua Transit Company, and seized some of their steamers on the river and lake. "It appears," says the *Times*, "that a change has lately taken place in the management of the company, which has led to dissension, and that Walker has taken the side of the dismissed officials. His chief pleas are, that the company have failed to pay a certain annual per-centage due to the State; that they have neglected to carry out the works originally contemplated; and that they have recently entered into a combination with the proprietors of the rival route *via* Panama, to damage, for speculative purposes, the Nicaragua traffic. The company not only meet these charges with a denial, but assert that there is actually a balance due to them from Nicaragua for the conveyance of 'emigrants' thither from New York and California—these emigrants, it is to be assumed, being the band which Walker originally gathered round him. The effect on Nicaragua stock has been such as to absorb the entire attention of the New York speculators. A few days previously to the news, the price was about 23, whence there was an immediate drop to 12, at which large amounts were offered. From this, the only reaction had been to 13 or 14, and, as the depreciation thus sustained was equal on the whole amount of stock to something between a quarter and half a million sterling, the holders were clamorous for Government aid to sustain their rights. Urgent representations were accordingly being made at Washington for this purpose, the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty of 1850, between the United States and Great Britain, containing, among its principal clauses, an engagement to maintain the neutrality of the route and to protect the company in the proper prosecution of their enterprise. Great Britain, indeed, is as much bound to interfere as the Government of the United States; and a leading New York paper expresses a hope that one result of the existing state of circumstances may be to induce a resumption of that mutual co-operation between the two countries, in the welfare of Nicaragua, which, but for the course adopted by those who were originally appealed to on this side, might probably never have been interrupted."

Mr. Clayton has made a speech in the Senate on the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty. He repudiated, as utterly unworthy of regard, the interpretation sought to be put upon it by the English Government; approved the conduct of the Administration relative to the difficulties with England; highly eulogized the state papers of Messrs. Marcy and Buchanan; complimented the Administration for its energy in putting down Fillibustering schemes; and denounced

under orders of the United States' district attorney, charged with being fitted out as a slaver. A des General Walker as a ruffian, buccanier, and pirate. A Baltimore schooner has been seized at New York, tructive fire has occurred at Boston, and destroyed 56,000 dollars' worth of property. A fearful accident has occurred on the Delaware River. One of the Camden and Philadelphia ferryboats took fire when in the middle of the stream. The flames spread with great rapidity. The boat became unmanageable. The passengers, about one hundred in number, panic-stricken, leapt into the water, to escape a terrible death by burning. Many of them were picked up, but some thirty were drowned. The sacrifice of life is attributable to the ferryboat being destitute of small boats and life-preservers.

The Panama papers state that Honduras was marching a force of 5,000 men against Walker. Trade at San Juan was very dull. The French frigate L'Ambuscade had reached Punta Arenas with strict orders to put down any Fillibustering expedition she might fall in with on the high seas.

The usual state of anarchy continues in Mexico and Central America. Puebla is besieged, and Comonfort is in arms. The officers who led the revolt at the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa have been sentenced to be shot. The departure of Nicaragua Fillibusters at New Orleans has been openly proclaimed in the papers. Under date of the 10th ult., it is stated that the British ship of war Powerful had arrived on the 1st with orders to unite there all the English and French forces stationed in the Mexican Gulf, and to start immediately for Nicaragua.

#### THE ORIENT.

##### INDIA.

FURTHER particulars with respect to the annexation of Oude have reached England by the last mail. On the 4th of February, General Outram submitted the draught of a treaty to the King. He refused to sign, but offered to surrender his Minister, or to make any other concession. General Outram gave him three days to consider his resolution, and, in the meanwhile halted the troops outside Lucknow. At the end of that period, as the King still refused to sign, the proclamation was issued; all military stores were seized; and a strong British force was encamped round Lucknow. It is said that the King at first threatened to go to England in person, to plead his cause before Parliament; but he now determines to send a deputy. The country has been divided into four districts—Khyrabad, Lucknow, Gonda Bareytch, and Fyzabad—each presided over by a commissioner, with three deputies. The military appointments are all filled up.

The alteration in the tenure of land in Madras—which, under the present Ryotwaree system, bears with great hardship on the occupier, who has to pay the more rent the more he improves his land—is exciting considerable interest. The propositions of the President, Lord Harris, would enable the ryot to have the benefit of his own improvements, and would reduce the tax on land; but the change would involve the loss of nearly one-third of the land revenues of Madras.

The Santal rebellion seems to be over. The Nizam's country is distracted by a most anarchical state of things, gang robberies and murders being very frequent. A desperate conflict has taken place between some Arab horsemen and a party of Rohillas, in which the latter were defeated. Intelligence from Cabul speaks of the proceedings of Dost Mahomed with reference to Candahar. Having entered that city, he soon made himself virtually master of the place, and Mahomed Sadeek fled precipitately to Persia.

Addresses to Lord Dalhousie, expressive of regret at his departure and of admiration of his Government, have been agreed to in various parts of British India.

##### CHINA.

Mr. Chisholm Anstey has arrived at Hong-Kong, and been sworn in as the Queen's Attorney-General in that colony. The cause of the rebels appears to be declining. The question of a change in the currency, which is at present in a very unsettled state, is being agitated at Hong Kong.

#### CONTINENTAL NOTES.

##### FRANCE.

*The French Emperor and the Insurgents of June, 1848.*

AMONG the recent *projets de loi* presented to the Legislative Corps of France, we note one for indemnifying certain victims of the events of June, 1848. Who can these victims, these posthumous victims be? Immediately after the suppression of that disastrous insurrection the National Assembly, at the instance of the government of General Cavaignac, granted the usual indemnities to persons whose property had suffered damage, and rewarded the combatants, who had distinguished themselves on the side of order. Who then, we ask, can be these tardy bene-

ficiaries of Imperial munificence? Those of our readers who may have happened to be in Paris in June, 1848, will have no difficulty in answering the question. They will remember how, at that moment, Paris was rife with symptoms of a Bonapartist conspiracy. These "victims," then, are not the men who fought for order and the laws, but insurgents. Bonapartist insurgents, who fought behind the barricades by the side of those republicans who, in June, 1848, destroyed the Republic. Verily, they have their reward. The misguided Republicans demanded "bread or lead," and got the latter. These Bonapartists demanded Louis Napoleon and now, eight years after, the "preserver of right and order in Europe," indemnifies the men who held all France in terror and consternation, and deluged the capital with civic bloodshed. Perhaps the French Emperor has never done anything more logical since his accession to power. It may seem strange that the Saviour of Order should reward insurgents; but may not the hero of the 2nd of December feel a natural sympathy, for conspirators and insurgents?

A grand review of all the corps stationed in the first military division of Paris took place on Tuesday in the Champ de Mars. The Emperor was accompanied by the Plenipotentiaries.

By Imperial decrees, Count Walewski has been raised to the rank of Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, "in consequence of the eminent services which he has rendered as Minister of Foreign Affairs," and Baron de Bourqueney to the dignity of Senator, for his services during the late diplomatic negotiations.

The number of *Punch* for last Saturday has been seized and suppressed in Paris on account of the large caricature, which represents Liberty advancing towards the cradle of the Imperial infant, and saying to the Emperor, who sits by the side, "Please, may I be godmother?"—a question to which the Emperor replies by a most dubious and startled expression.

A day or two since, (says the *Daily News* Paris Correspondent), a hackney carriage, containing three gentlemen and a lady, drove up to the door of a house in the Rue du Bac. A moment after they had alighted, a commissary of police, accompanied by several sergens-de-ville, inquired of the coachman where he had taken up his company. His answer was such as to lead to further inquiries of the concierge of the house. He unconsciously gave information which convinced the police that they had found out a clandestine political meeting. They followed the newly-arrived visitors upstairs, broke up the meeting, which was rather numerous, and arrested several individuals. I have not heard the character of the assemblage—whether Legitimist, Orleanist, Republican, or Socialist.

Dr. Veron has ceased, "for private reasons," to have any connexion with the *Indépendance Belge*.

Count Walewski, on Monday, entertained the Plenipotentiaries and other distinguished persons at a banquet at the Foreign Office. The speech of the Count after dinner was very brief; and some surprise has been felt that neither Lord Clarendon nor Count Orloff responded to it. A certain degree of embarrassment followed the host's remarks. It was then proposed that Monsignor Sacconi, the Papal Nuncio, should offer a few observations. But the envoy is a bad orator; and he declined. The principal parties being thus silent, the rest were of course obliged to hold their tongues.

##### AUSTRIA.

With regard to the approaching synod, we learn from the *Wiener Zeitung* that "there are various matters on which the Bishops will be required to give information and explanation to the Imperial Government, and that it has been arranged between the Papal Chair and his Majesty that, whenever such is the case, their Eminences the Cardinals of Prague, Gran, and Vienna shall preside over the Episcopal assembly."

##### RUSSIA.

Hospital typhus continues its ravages at Odessa, and many soldiers and physicians are carried off by it. The mortality is still greater at Nicolaieff.

##### PRUSSIA.

An application to the Herrenhaus for permission to the military authorities to enter upon the trial of two of its members—Herr von Rochow and Herr von der Marwitz, for their participation in the Hinckeldey duel—has been granted. Hinckeldey's second, Herr von Munchausen, has been suspended from his functions in the Ministry of the Interior.

M. Molinari, a Liberal deputy, has declared in the Second Chamber, that he shall not make any motion on the object of the domiciliary visit of which he has been the object, in order that the judicial investigation which has commenced may prove whether there has or has not been sufficient cause to justify the measures adopted by the police. The affair rose from the unsuccessful endeavour of the police to ascertain who circulated the anonymous paper containing Seiffert's defence as regards his complicity in the Potsdam theft of papers, together with the insinuations appended to it, which were directed against Baron von Manteuffel. Suspicion fell on Herr Mo-

linari, and his house was searched; but nothing of a criminatory character was found.

The theft of the official papers still engrosses public attention in Prussia. The *Kreuz Zeitung* assures its readers that "the Minister President, Baron Manteuffel, in no way caused, or promoted, or knew of, the theft." The public prosecutor has already commenced proceedings against Herr Seiffart for slander, in stating that Baron Manteuffel was privy to the theft, and that he had the man Techen in his pay. "The storm of indignation that has risen up against Seiffart," says the *Times* correspondent, "has also induced his constituents to call upon him to resign his seat in the House of Deputies."

## ITALY.

The *Genoa Gazette* quotes a letter from Sarzana stating that on the night of the 17th ult. two men, who had disguised themselves with masks, assaulted a broker of Carrara, and stoned him to death. It is believed that they mistook him for a notorious informer. Another person of the same place on the following day narrowly escaped falling into the hands of a similar set, but got off after receiving a severe stab in his neck.

## SPAIN.

In the sitting of the Cortes on Saturday, March 29, the bill on the receipts of the state, presented by the Finance Minister, was taken into consideration by a majority of 184 against 27. Thus the difficult question which threatened to produce a collision between the government and the Cortes is happily solved.

## OUR CIVILISATION.

## TORTURED TO DEATH: OUR PENAL "CIVILISATION."

ONE of the most horrible sights ever witnessed in the streets of London, took place on Monday morning, under the sanction of the law, and with all the formalities, municipal and religious, of a so-called moral lesson. On that day, Bousfield, the murderer of his wife and family, was executed outside Newgate, under circumstances of the most fearful description, as will be seen in the subjoined account.

During the whole of his imprisonment, Bousfield has exhibited great sullenness. Mr. Davis, the Ordinary of the gaol, frequently endeavoured to make him explain the reason for the commission of his crime; but, though he often commenced a relation of the facts, he always broke off, sometimes observing, "Pray don't talk about it; it is a horrid dream." However, from a letter which he wrote to the father of his wife, it appears that jealousy was the cause. For some time, Bousfield clung to the hope that his life would be spared, and, to facilitate this result, he simulated madness; but so clumsily, that he was at once detected, and warned not to continue such conduct. He then desisted. On Saturday, he made a desperate attempt at self-destruction. He was visited in the course of the afternoon by two of his sisters. After they had left, he suddenly rushed to the grate, and threw himself on the fire, with his head over the top bar. The officer who was with him at the time dragged him off; but his clothes, and a good deal of hair which he wore under his chin, were in flames, and he was severely burnt about the throat, though the fire was soon put out. He then refused to take any sustenance, and, from that time to his death, only swallowed a little milk and wine, which was forcibly administered. The Rev. Mr. Davis, to the last, did his utmost to bring the wretched criminal to a sense of his condition; but he remained sullen and unrepentant, and even on Monday morning gave no heed to the religious exhortations which were addressed to him. The sheriffs arrived at six o'clock, at which time the condition of the criminal was terrible. His head, which was hideously swollen and livid from the effects of the burns, was buried in his breast; he was apparently exhausted and helpless, supported by two assistants, while a third constantly wiped from his mouth a frothy fluid; and it was even found necessary to direct the surgeon to ascertain if he was still alive. On Calcraft binding him, he vomited for a considerable time. The concluding scene may be given in the words of the daily papers:—

"Eight o'clock having arrived, the prisoner was raised by four men, and in that manner conveyed to the scaffold. As he appeared totally unable to stand, it was considered the best course to place him in a chair under the beam; and he was sustained in that position by one of the assistants while Calcraft fixed the rope in its proper position. The Rev. Mr. Davis accompanied the wretched man, but it appeared useless to perform the usual offices of religion. When the signal was given, the chair on which the criminal was still seated, of course gave way with the drop, and consequently the fall was not nearly so great as it is under ordinary circumstances. The sound of the falling drop had scarcely passed away, when there was a shriek from the crowd of 'He is up again!' and, to the horror of every one, it was found that the prisoner, by a powerful muscular effort, had drawn himself up completely to the level of the drop, that

both his feet were resting upon the edge of it, and that he was vainly endeavouring to raise his pinioned hands to the rope. One of the officers immediately rushed upon the scaffold, and pushed the wretched man's feet from their hold; but in an instant, by a violent effort, he threw himself to the other side, and again succeeded in getting both his feet on the edge of the drop. Calcraft, who had left the scaffold, imagining that all was over, was called back; he seized the criminal, but it was with considerable difficulty that he forced him from the scaffold. The short relief which the wretched man had obtained from the pressure of the rope by these desperate efforts, had probably enabled him to respire, and, to the astonishment and horror of all the spectators, he succeeded a third time in placing his feet upon the platform, and again his hands vainly attempted to reach the cord. Calcraft and two or three other men then again forced his feet from their hold, and his legs were dragged down until the final struggle was over.

It was observed that Calcraft was more than usually nervous (though he generally exhibits trepidation); and this is accounted for by the fact of his having received an anonymous letter, stating that some of "the Kent-street roughs" were determined on shooting him, and advising him to get a Horse-guardsman's helmet; but he was received with nothing more than the yells of the mob. An extra body of police was present. The facts, as will be seen by our Parliamentary columns, were brought before the notice of Government on Tuesday, and, on the same day, Sheriffs Kennedy and Rose narrated the circumstances to the Court of Alderman; after which, a motion directing the gaol committee to inquire into the affair, and to report upon it, was unanimously carried.

## A LOVING PAIR.

A BREACH of promise of marriage case, tried at the Oxford Assizes on Thursday, exhibits a most extraordinary history of depravity. Mr. Vivian Arthur Webber, a young man of six-and-twenty, was an officer in the army. In the month of November last, he became acquainted with a Miss Prichard, the daughter of an upholsterer at Swansea; and to this girl, who was only seventeen years of age, Mr. Webber wrote endearing letters, swearing that, "as God is in heaven," she should be his wife "before three weeks were over her little head." Under this promise, he induced her to come up to London, and to live with him in furnished lodgings, which he took for her. It is needless to add that she fell; but the promise of marriage was not redeemed. The seducer drank to excess, sometimes calling for sherry as early as seven in the morning, and was soon prostrated by *delirium tremens*. The girl also, it would seem, partook largely of wine and spirits. One day, Mrs. Steer, the landlady, was called up into the bedroom, and found Mr. Webber in bed, and Miss Prichard seated in a chair. The latter said Mr. Webber was unkind to her; and Mr. Webber exclaimed, "Put her out, Mrs. Steer." The landlady asked who he meant. "That thing in the chair," replied Mr. Webber. Mrs. Steer said that she would not put "the poor thing" out, but that she would have Mr. Webber put out by force if he did not go. On another occasion, she saw Mr. Webber give the girl some "slaps," and once he injured her in the breast (though it was not quite clear whether this was not accidental) by the latch of the door. The pair had originally passed for man and wife; but Mrs. Steers soon found out the fact. She also, one day, found Maria Prichard in bed with her (Mrs. Steer's) husband. The husband had since fled; and Mrs. Steer, at the trial, said that, if she could come at him, and at Maria Prichard, she would murder them. (In giving her evidence, she frequently burst into tears.) Finally, the girl was taken away from the lodgings by a man who seems to have been a prize-fighter.

Mr. Webber, in his defence, pleaded that the girl had had improper intercourse with other men. After the evidence, a consultation took place. This at last ended in an arrangement, which was said to be an agreement to pay £50 to the plaintiff; all future proceedings to be barred.

WOMAN-BEATING.—This offence has declined lately, but an aggravated case came before the Lord Mayor on Monday. Mary Ann Brooks is a woman cohabiting with a man bearing the inappropriate name of Felix. This person came home on Saturday night, intoxicated, and, finding his supper not ready, knocked the woman down, and kicked and struck her with such violence that the blood poured from her mouth, and she was nearly insensible. She was at that time an out-patient of the London Hospital, on account of her ribs having been fractured by previous violence from her partner. He was committed for trial by the Lord Mayor.

A FAMILY OF THIEVES.—Mr. Thomas, mercer, of Brierly Hill, near Dudley, recently took, as assistant, a young man named Haigh, who applied in answer to an advertisement. For some time he went on very well, but suspicious circumstances then occurred, and he was dismissed. Inquiries were instituted by the

police, and it was discovered that the whole family lived by a system of thieving. The sons have been brought up as shopmen, and possess amazing tact and address. Their only remaining means were those of forging references to character for one another. Their names are Charles, Joseph, Henry, and Albert. Charles has suffered one month's imprisonment at Stafford for presenting a forged reference at Newcastle, and Joseph has been in Wakefield gaol three months for a like offence. Two years ago, they were advertised in the Lancashire papers as dangerous characters. Charles had but left Stafford gaol a few weeks before his engagement with Mr. Thomas. It was found that numbers of parcels had been sent from the Brierly station, addressed to "Mr. Allen, Wigan station; to be left till called for." Upon this discovery Mr. Richards, a police officer, accompanied by Mr. Thomas, set off for Wigan, and at the station there found a carpet bag, which Mr. Thomas identified as his. At the suggestion of Mr. Richards, a porter was sent to the Anderton Arms with the bag, and a search-warrant having been procured, measures were taken for action. Two policemen were placed in a house opposite the Anderton Arms. The porter asked if Mr. Allen lived about there, and Joseph replied, "I am he." He then signed the book as "George Allen," and paid 10d. carriage. On the porter leaving, the police entered the house. The mother immediately threw several pledge tickets into the fire for goods to the value of £200. They were both apprehended, and a large quantity of goods were found concealed in different parts of the house. They were next day taken to Manchester, where the father and two other sons were residing. One of them, Henry, was apprehended; but Albert, on hearing of the affair, had gone to Ashton-under-Lyne by rail, to give instructions to a Miss Andrews, a dressmaker, to conceal the goods which had been sold to her by the family; and he subsequently fled. The mother and three sons have been committed for trial.

SUSPECTED MURDER AND SUICIDE.—A shocking affair has just occurred at a place called Winsham, near Chard, in Somersetshire. A man of fifty years of age, named Edward Showers, had become much depressed in spirits on account of selling some timber for less than he afterwards found out he could have received for it. One morning last week, his son, aged sixteen, got up to go to his work, and a few hours after he had left, some neighbours found the wife of Showers lying nearly dead in the house, with her skull frightfully beaten in. A piece of iron, with blood upon it, was found near the poor woman. On searching for the husband, he was found dead in a well near the house.

ELABORATE DETECTION OF THEFT.—Great difficulty is experienced in prosecuting the committers of theft upon railways, owing to the number of persons through whose hands the stolen property may have passed, but who are necessary as witnesses. In a recent instance, the obstacles have been overcome, by means of unusual tact and energy. A porter on the Midland Railway at Gloucester was suspected last February of having stolen a very handsome sugar-basin, the property of a lady, who sent it by the train to Worcester as far back as June, 1854. Investigations were set on foot by Mr. Farmer, the superintendent of the detective police employed by the Midland line; and 1,900 miles were travelled by him in prosecution of the inquiry, the affair being rendered still more difficult by the time which had elapsed since the robbery, and by the consequent necessity for searching out persons who had left their situations. Mr. Farmer, however, succeeded in collecting all the facts and all the witnesses. The trial of Godwin took place at the Gloucester sessions on Friday week, when twenty-three witnesses from various parts of the country, including persons from Edinburgh, London, Newcastle, Bath, Cheltenham, Worcester, Stoke-upon-Trent, &c., were produced in court; and, after an inquiry which lasted for several hours, the prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.

JUSTICE BEFORE MERCY.—John M'Bride and Thomas Garrett, ticket-of-leave men, and Robert Roberts, were indicted at the Liverpool Assizes for a burglary. The police, seeing them loitering about Warwick-street Liverpool, during the night, hid themselves behind some timber, and watched their movements, as they were known to be bad characters. Shortly afterwards, a cry was raised of "police;" and the constables ascertained that an entry had been effected into a house by means of lifting the collar-plate. The burglars, however, found a powerful resistance from the lodgers in the house, and Roberts was captured, the others escaping for a short time. The jury found them all guilty, but was about to recommend them to mercy, when Mr. Baron Martin interposed, saying the jury had better hear him before they said anything more. Then, addressing the prisoners, he announced that M'Bride had been previously convicted for various offences no less than seventeen times, Garrett eleven times, and Roberts once. His Lordship, having distinguished the case of the latter from those of the former, sentenced M'Bride and Garrett to ten years and Roberts to four



years' penal servitude. The look of astonishment upon the countenances of the jurymen, whose benevolent intentions had been thus properly frustrated, caused some little merriment throughout the court.

**THE HAMBURG CASE.**—A communication from the police of Hamburg was read by the Lord Mayor on Monday, the object of which was to deny the charge which has been brought against them of placing obstacles in the way of the English officer who lately went to Hamburg to bring back Susannah Evans, the English girl who was lately decoyed away from London. They assert that they offered every facility, and that the English officer warmly expressed his acknowledgments. It has been said that the woman who took away the girl was a Jewess.

**HIGHWAY ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE.**—An attack was made on Saturday night, between nine and ten o'clock, in Ratcliffe-highway, on a man named Peter Fitz. He was stopped by three men, one of whom struck him in the abdomen, while another grasped him round the waist, and a third snatched a watch out of his waistcoat pocket. They then ran away; but one of the three, finding himself closely pressed in pursuit, threw the watch over a fence into a yard, where it was afterwards recovered. The man was then secured, and at the Thames police office he was shown to be an old offender. He was committed for trial.

**ASSIZE CASES.**—James Howell, a costermonger, has been tried at Taunton for the murder of his wife on the 20th of January at Bath. The facts will be found reported at full in the *Leader* of January 26th. The man, being jealous of his wife, appears to have kicked her in the abdomen, when she was far advanced in pregnancy, and to have killed both her and her child. There was no evidence to show that the act was long premeditated, or that any deadly instrument was made use of. Mr. Justice Crowder, directed a verdict of Manslaughter, of which Howell was found Guilty. He was sentenced to six years' penal servitude.—John Moah has been sentenced at Chester to be transported for fourteen years for embezzling £560, belonging to the Queen.—Two postmen at the Bristol office have been found Guilty at the Gloucester Assizes of stealing letters containing money. They were sentenced to four years' penal servitude.—James Carr and Philip Wall have been found Guilty at Liverpool of murdering James House in the streets at night, by strangling him when in a state of intoxication. The evidence was merely circumstantial; but it would seem that the prisoners behaved with great recklessness after its committal, walking about in some of the dead man's clothes, and openly pledging part of his property at a pawnbrokers'. They were sentenced to death.—John Ferguson has been found Guilty of the manslaughter of Sarah Drummond, a woman with whom he cohabited, while the latter was intoxicated, and he was sober. Seeing his mother in court, he burst into tears; but, after the judge had sentenced him to transportation, he said, addressing the jury, "Thank you, gentlemen."

**INCENDIARISM EXTRAORDINARY.**—A young woman, named Sarah Hunniball, was lately an inmate of the infirmary of the Yarmouth Gaol; and on the 19th ult. she was heard, about eleven o'clock at night, to ring her bell violently. On some persons running to the spot, they found the woman standing in her night clothes and a blanket near the door, gasping for breath, and the room was full of smoke. The fire was soon extinguished, and on the following morning Hunniball confessed to the chaplain that, after she had got into bed, on the night in question, she lay awake, thinking how she might destroy herself, till she recollected she had got a lucifer match, after which she got up, and, lighting the match, set fire to the bedclothes, and then got into bed; but when she felt the flames she did not like the pain, and got up and gave the alarm by ringing the bell. She was tried at the Norwich Assizes, and, being found Guilty, sentence of death was recorded.

**ROBBERY BY A GOVERNMENT CLERK.**—Portsmouth has been the locality of a very ingeniously planned and boldly executed robbery of Government cash. George Joseph Nathaniel Charlier is a young man about five-and-twenty, who has been a clerk for nine years in the gun-wharf, or war department. He was considered a confidential clerk, and cheques for defraying the salaries were made payable to him. On Friday week, he was sent, together with a messenger named Sheppard, to the branch Bank of England, to get cashed a cheque for £1,130. When opposite the bank, Charlier told Sheppard to go to a certain office, and direct the people to send in their quarterly account. The messenger asked if he should rejoin Charlier at the bank; to which the clerk answered "No; go round by the walls, and meet me: if I'm there first, I'll wait for you, and if you are there first, you can wait for me." Sheppard went on his errand, and Charlier, entering the bank, obtained the money for his cheque, partly in cash, and partly in notes (the numbers of which were known and stopped), and then made off. Some time previously, he had been to a hairdresser's, and asked for something that would effectually disguise him. He frequently

recurred to this, and finally took away a false pair of whiskers and moustache, of dark hair. It would appear, however, that he did not use this disguise, for on Sunday he was apprehended in London dressed as a widow. He was in company with a woman with whom he had formed a connexion, though he was a married man, with two children, and respectably related. His salary was £190 a-year, and a house rent free. The greater part of the money was found on him, and was recovered. He has been examined before the Portsmouth Mayor, and committed for trial; but his female companion has been discharged, as it seems probable that she knew nothing of the robbery until the arrest of the culprit.

**MR. BARON BRAMWELL ON THE VIRTUE OF TARRING AND FEATHERING.**—Mary Ann Rosser, a respectably dressed, rather elderly woman, was indicted at the Gloucester Assizes on a charge of bigamy. She was married twenty-four years ago to her first husband, by whom she had eight children. Nevertheless, he deserted her, leaving his house in company with the servant girl, with whom it was stated he was now living at Sydenham. He had suffered three months' imprisonment for his desertion of his wife; and, as soon as he heard of her second marriage, he wrote a letter to the prisoner, in which he claimed "his goods," adding, that she was "now in his power." She was found Guilty, but with a recommendation to mercy, on the ground of her husband's treatment of her. Mr. Baron Bramwell, in passing sentence, said, this was a most disgraceful case—not on the part of the prisoner so much as on the part of the husband. His Lordship wished there was some law that would reach him, and, if he could be tarred and feathered, and paraded through Ledbury (where the wife resided), or if his future life could be made in any way uncomfortable to him, it would serve him right. He had put the law in motion, but he would have to pay for it, as the costs of the prosecution would not be allowed. The wife, however, had broken the law, and must have some punishment. His Lordship then sentenced her to four days' imprisonment. As the sentence dated from the first day of the Assizes, the effect was that the prisoner was at once discharged. She left the court with her second husband, who had been in court during the trial.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

**THE FLEET AT SPITHEAD** was augmented on Monday and Tuesday by the arrival of five sail of the line, a corvette, a frigate, and sundry small craft from Kingston, Queenstown, Plymouth, Liverpool and elsewhere. Some rehearsing for the grand naval review by the Queen, which is fixed for the 16th, then took place.

**LOSS OF THE CLIPPER SHIP SCHOMBURG.**—This vessel has been lost near Cape Otway, while on her voyage from Liverpool to Melbourne. It appears that she went ashore; but the crew were saved, and so was a large amount of merchandise.

**SHIPWRECK.**—The merchant sailing vessel *Reformar* (crew, nine men), laden with wheat, from Alexandria to Cork, put into the Cleggan Harbour, near Clifden, a few days since, under very painful circumstances. For nine days prior to reaching Cleggan, the supply of fresh water was completely exhausted, and so trying was its want that three of the men bled themselves to satisfy their excruciating thirst, while none of the crew had strength sufficient to give the least assistance to the pilot (who joined off Boffin Island) in casting the anchor, when they reached Cleggan Harbour. The supply of water being replenished, and the crew renovated, the ship put to sea for her destination, at two P.M.; but the same evening she struck on a sunken rock off Shark's Island, where she has become a wreck. The captain's brother and two of the crew were lost.—*Galway Vindicator*.

**DESTRUCTION OF A SHIP BY FIRE.**—The *Nonpareil*, of Dartmouth, Captain Scirell, has been destroyed by fire on her voyage from London to Balaklava, about ninety miles from Cape Matapan. The crew were rescued by another ship.

**THE CRIMEAN BOARD OF INQUIRY** met in the hall of the Chelsea Hospital for the first time on Thursday, at half-past eleven o'clock, when nothing more than a few preliminary formalities was adjusted. The military commissioners, who were in full uniform, wearing the insignia of the various orders of which they are members, were General Sir Alexander Woodford, G.C.B. and G.C.M.G., General Earl Beauchamp, General Sir George Berkeley, K.C.B., Lieutenant-General Sir John Bell, K.C.B., Lieutenant-General Sir W. Rowan, C.B., Major-General Peel, M.P., and Major-General Knollys. The substitution of Sir Alexander Woodford for Lord Seaton, and of Sir George Berkeley for Sir Thomas McMahon, arose from the indisposition of the absent officers. Mr. C. P. Villiers, M.P., attended as Judge Advocate-General, and Colonel Douglas represented the Adjutant-General's Department; Lieutenant-Colonel Bagot officiated as Secretary to the Board. A letter from Lord Palmerston was read, conveying the Queen's commands that the Board should submit to her Majesty what, in their judgment, may be best to be done with re-

ference to the matters referred to them. The names of the officers whose conduct is to be inquired into were mentioned in a letter from General Yorke as being Major-General the Earl of Lucan, K.C.B., Major-General the Earl of Cardigan, K.C.B., Major-General Sir Richard Airey, K.C.B., Quartermaster-General; Colonel the Hon. Alexander Gordon, C.B. (Grenadier Guards), Deputy Quartermaster-General. The proceedings were adjourned until Monday. The case of Lord Lucan will be taken first; and that of Lord Cardigan will next follow.

**THE ANGLO-GERMAN LEGION.**—It is understood that the British German Legion, which has been raised by Baron Stutterheim to meet the exigencies of the war, will be sent, now that peace has been concluded, to the Cape of Good Hope. At the Cape, they will garrison the colony, and officers and men will receive grants of land for their military services. Colonel Worldridge's brigade will return from Scutari, and form part of the force at Aldershot Camp, before embarkation for the Cape. The strength of the force will muster, by the 10th of April, with all the recruits, about 9,000 men.

#### OBITUARY.

**SIR CHARLES HOTHAM.**—Accounts have been received of the death of Sir Charles Hotham, Governor of Victoria. He had been suffering from choleraic diarrhoea, but was recovering, when the vexation experienced in his vain endeavours to form a Ministry, brought on a state of nervous irritability which soon affected the brain, and ultimately he was seized with epileptic fits (to which he had never before been subject), and became comatose. In this condition he remained till his death. He was born in 1806, and had served with distinction in the navy, particularly in the Parana, against Rosas, in 1845-6. In virtue of the commission issued in his favour, he will be succeeded by the senior military officer, Major-General Edward Macarthur, who belongs to a family long and intimately connected with New South Wales.

**MR. JUSTICE TORRENS.**—The Hon. Robert Torrens, one of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas in Dublin, died on Saturday last at Loughborough, after a few hours' illness. He was appointed as far back as 1823, and had been called to the bar in 1798. He was one of the Judges recently alluded to by Sir John Shelley, in his observations a few weeks ago in the House of Commons, on the great age of the Irish judges; and only a very few days ago, in reply to an address of confidence and respect from the grand juries of the Northern Circuit, he said he would not resign as long as he felt his powers unimpaired.

**THE RIGHT HON. HENRY WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN** died on the 28th ult., at Llanvolda, Salop, in his seventy-third year.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**HEALTH OF LONDON.**—The total number of deaths registered in the week that ended on Saturday, was 1,396. In the corresponding weeks of the ten years 1846-55, the average number was 1,285, which, if raised in proportion to increase of population, becomes 1,413. There is a difference of only 17 between the corrected average and the number actually registered in the week. The increase in the deaths registered in the last week of March over those in the beginning of the month, when the number in a week was about 1,100, is not caused by an increased rate of mortality, but arises from more than a due proportion of coroners' cases being entered in the register books at the end of the quarter. In the present table, 5 deaths are referred to intemperance, 8 to poison, 27 to burns and scalds, 6 to hanging, 10 to suffocation, 26 to drowning, 35 to fractures, 7 to wounds and other injury, and 40 are placed to *sudden deaths*. The deaths classed under these heads constitute a great majority of the cases on which inquests are held. Of 228 deaths produced by the zymotic or epidemic class of diseases, 65 were caused by typhus and common fever, which cases occurred chiefly in the eastern and southern divisions; 51 by hooping-cough, 28 by scarlatina, 23 by measles, 13 by small-pox, and only 4 by diarrhoea. Phthisis was fatal in 141 cases, of which 29 occurred to persons under 20 years of age, 61 between 20 and 40 years, 41 between 40 and 60, and 10 to persons who had passed that period of life. Bronchitis carried off 127 persons, nearly half of whom were men and women more than 60 years old. Twelve women died after childbirth. Five persons died from intemperance, without including in the number those who may have received fatal injury in a state of intoxication. A smoker died from mixing stramonium with his tobacco. There were also 5 deaths from *delirium tremens*. A boy of 9 years, died in Salter's-alley, St. George-in-the-East, from *cretinism*. Three persons died on the 18th, 23rd, and 28th March respectively, from want.—Last week, the births of 994 boys and 983 girls, in all 1,977 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846-55, the average number was 1,644.—*From the Registrar-General's Weekly Return.*

**SANITARY CONDITION OF THE CITY.**—Dr. Letheby, the medical officer of health of the City of London, says in his quarterly report, recently delivered to the Court of Sewers:—"The health of the citizens is remarkably good. The total number of deaths during the quarter is 737. Of these, 245 occurred among infants under five years of age and 105 had passed the allotted time of threescore years and ten. The following are the most important causes of death:—Consumption and mesenteric disease, 87; hydrocephalus and convulsions of infancy, 58; measles and hooping-cough, 48; typhus fever, 44; scarlet fever, 24; and small-pox, 10. According to the Registrar-General's return for the ten years, 1843 to 1852, it appears that the average mortality of all the towns in England during the months of January, February, and March, is 69 per 10,000 of the inhabitants, and that the mortality in the country districts during the same period is 56 per 10,000. Now, the mortality of the citizens of London during the quarter has been only 56·7 per 10,000; so that the health of the city of London during the quarter has not only been 14 per cent. better than that of the town districts of England, but it has actually approached within a fraction the health of all rural districts." Dr. Letheby comments on the impropriety of conveying fever patients to the hospitals in public cabs, and advises the use of an ambulance car.

**THE CASE OF THE REV. J. C. WARD.**—This gentleman, who is charged with being a lunatic, and with threatening the lives of the Queen, Lord Palmerston, Sir George Grey, and others, appeared again on Tuesday at Bow-street, in discharge of his parole. Great delay was caused by the absence of Mr. Greenwood, the solicitor to the Treasury, who was to conduct the prosecution. On his arrival, he and Mr. Ward retired to a private room, and remained in consultation about half an hour. When they returned, Mr. Greenwood requested an adjournment for a fortnight, that he might collect further evidence. Mr. Ward strongly objected, and said he had frequently called on Lord Palmerston on matters of business. He then asked for the warrant and information. Mr. Henry (the magistrate): "With what object? You are not prejudiced by the postponement of the case. You have been, and still are to be, free." Mr. Ward: "I am not free, and that is one of my points. Let the warrant be produced." The information and warrant were read and proved. They charged the "Rev. J. C. Ward" with wandering abroad, being in a state of lunacy. Mr. Ward suggested that the insertion of the initials "J. C." rendered the warrant ineffective—legally null and void. Mr. Henry said that was immaterial. In a warrant of that nature, it was not even necessary to give any name at all. A description of the person would be sufficient. Mr. Ward begged his worship's pardon. The case of "Reynolds v. Henkin," 4th Barnwell and Alderson, was a case in point, showing, as it did, that a man could not be arrested upon his initials. Mr. Henry: "That was not a warrant under the Lunacy Act. Besides, you have refused to give your name. Do you still decline to do so?" Mr. Ward: "I do not decline." Mr. Henry: "Then, what is your name?" Mr. Ward: "That's another affair." Mr. Henry: "No. You were not known at your lodgings. Your landlady described you as 'the unknown gentleman,' and you still decline to state your name." Mr. Ward: "I do not decline to state my name." Mr. Henry: "Then what is it?" Mr. Ward: "That's another question. (A laugh.) I must take the liberty to ask you your motive in asking for my name? Is it to amend the warrant?" Mr. Henry: "The warrant shall not be altered. It is not necessary to alter it." Mr. Ward then went on until nearly five o'clock, addressing the bench in a very incoherent style, cross-examining Mr. Yardley (who acted on the part of the police), and regretting that he had not "the graphic power of a Dickens or a Shakespeare" to describe the outrage that had been committed on him in "dragging him through the streets." Mr. Henry reminded him that he had not been dragged through the streets; to which he answered that he was aware of that. He suggested that there should be a commission *de lunatico inquirendo* against Mr. Yardley for the extraordinary delusions under which he seemed to be labouring; and on hearing that the case was adjourned for another week, he declared emphatically that he would not attend. Mr. Henry said that, in that case, he would be liable to apprehension.

**MEDICAL LEGISLATION.**—Four deputations of medical men, accompanied by several members of Parliament, waited on Tuesday, on Sir George Grey, Mr. Cowper, M.P., President of the Board of Health, and Mr. Massey, M.P., Under Secretary of State, to urge several objections to Mr. Hendlam's bill for the regulation of the medical profession. Sir George Grey thanked the several deputations for the expression of their opinions, put a few questions on points left in doubt by them, but did not state the course he intended to pursue.

**THE SOUTHAMPTON POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**—A large meeting of the members of this institute took place on Monday evening, when Mr. J. R. Stebbing, the President and Chairman, Dr. Booth, the Hon. and

Rev. S. G. Osborne, Sir Alexander Cockburn, and the Hon. Judge Norton, addressed the assembly on the advantages of such educational establishments.

**DEATH FROM POISON.**—James Poyner, a working shoemaker of Davies-street, Berkeley-square, has met his death under very singular circumstances. He owed a large sum of money to a fellow member of a mutual benefit society. On Wednesday week, he made an appointment with his friend, to pay him a check for £150. Leaving the friend in the street, Poyner went into his bedroom, under pretext of making himself smart to go to the banker's. He then threw himself on the bed, exclaimed, "I'm a dead man—I have settled all my affairs," and expired. Prussic acid was found in the stomach, and it was ascertained that the cheque was a fiction, and that Poyner was very much distressed at not being able to pay his debts. An inquest has been held, at which the jury returned an open verdict.

**FIRE.**—A very serious fire broke out on Tuesday evening at a wholesale stationers in Fleet-street. The premises were totally destroyed, and several of the adjacent buildings were injured. The printing offices of Messrs. Vizetelly, Messrs. Levy and Co., and of the *Morning Herald*, were threatened, but escaped. The premises of Messrs. Marlborough, news-agents and publishers, Ave-Maria-lane, were partially destroyed by fire on Wednesday evening. Serious conflagrations have also taken place in Clerkenwell and Westminster; and at Bristol a catastrophe of more than usual magnitude has occurred. The premises of some wholesale chemists, drysalters, and oil and colourmen, have been destroyed by fire. The gunpowder store blew up with a tremendous explosion, shattering the houses, and slightly injuring some of the bystanders. The flames then spread to the neighbouring edifices, two of which were utterly destroyed, while others were damaged.

**SERIOUS INDISPOSITION OF MR. WRIGHT, THE COMEDIAN.**—Mr. Wright was suddenly attacked with a very alarming illness on Monday evening, while dressing for his part. He was struck speechless, and it was found necessary to convey him with all speed to his home, and to close the theatre for the night. It was thought that he was suffering from determination of blood to the head.

**THE WINE DUTIES REDUCTIONS.**—A deputation, consisting of deputies from the Staffordshire potteries and other gentlemen, waited on Lord Palmerston on Thursday. Mr. Oliveira was spokesman, and urged the desirability of reducing the duties on wines. Lord Palmerston replied that the revenue would suffer from the proposed reduction; and, therefore, he could not accede to it.

## Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, April 5.

### LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

THEIR Lordships were occupied during the whole sitting in a discussion on Agricultural Statistics, which arose on the Committee on a bill entitled the Agricultural Statistics Bill. The subject was favourably received by the House, and the bill passed through the stage of committee.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### THE WAR OFFICE.

In answer to Mr. J. H. BAILLIE, Sir B. HALL said that he should shortly move for a Select Committee to consider a plan for getting all the public offices built in one grand square in the neighbourhood of Downing-street; the designs for which could be thrown open to the whole world. Therefore, it was not intended to build a new war-office in Pall-Mall.

##### NEW STATUTES OF OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

In answer to Sir J. PAKINGTON, Sir G. GREY, said that he had no threat of a memorial from Oxford to the University Commissioners on the subject of the state of the circumstances of members of the University, being considered in the elections to fellowships; but he had no doubt, if there was such a memorial, it would be referred to the Committee of the Privy Council appointed to inquire into the Statutes of the University.

##### THE HAMBURG ABDUCTION CASE.

Mr. HILDYARD brought forward the case of Susanah Evans, who was carried to Hamburg by a Belgian procuress for the purposes of prostitution; and asked if the attention of the Government had been directed to the fact of the systematic traffic of this kind. He stated that the State of Hamburg levied a tax of £7 10s. a-year on each legalised prostitute in the city.

Sir G. GREY said the attention of the Government had been directed to the case; a despatch had been received from Colonel Hodges, the British Consul on the subject, and an inquiry was being set on foot in order that measures might be taken to obstruct and check this nefarious traffic.

#### THE CENTRAL AMERICAN QUESTION.

Lord GODERICH inquired whether the despatches of Mr. Crampton and Mr. Marcy, which had appeared in the papers, and in which Mr. Crampton said that he had omitted to show Mr. Marcy Lord Clarendon's despatch, containing a statement that he had offered to Mr. Buchanan to submit the Central American question to arbitration, were authentic.

Mr. GLADSTONE strongly urged that the papers on this subject, which had been so long promised, should have been produced before this, unless the Government, as he hoped was the case, had not yet concluded the correspondence on the subject, and there was still a likelihood of an amicable settlement of the difference.

Lord PALMERSTON said Mr. Gladstone ought to know the difficulty of preparing such papers in addition to the ordinary labours of the Foreign-office, which had been very great of late; but the papers would be shortly laid on the table. The letters which had appeared in the papers were correct copies of the despatches in question; but Mr. Crampton's omission to communicate Lord Clarendon's despatch to Mr. Marcy was of no consequence, as the substance of it had already been sent to that gentleman on the regular evening through Mr. Buchanan.

#### SIR J. GRAHAM AND SIR C. NAPIER.

Sir J. GRAHAM made some explanations of an assertion he had made, and which had been reiterated by Sir G. Berkeley, with respect to the conduct of Sir C. Napier at Acre, in having disobeyed the order of Sir R. Stopford in not taking a position of danger, for which he was reprimanded by Sir R. Stopford.

Sir C. NAPIER vindicated himself with great energy from the attack made on him, stating at length his share in the affair before Acre, and protested against his being called on to defend himself against an accusation relating to events which occurred sixteen years ago, and where most of the witnesses of the occurrence were either dead or absent, but he produced a number of letters corroborating his version of the conduct of the battle on that occasion.

Sir G. BERKELEY supported Sir J. Graham's view of the matter, while Mr. MALINS and Mr. ROEBUCK defended Sir C. Napier. After some further discussion, the subject dropped, and the House went into Committee of Supply on the Civil Service Estimates, which occupied mainly the rest of the night's sitting.

#### RUSSIAN MANIFESTO ON THE PEACE.

An Imperial manifesto has been published at St. Petersburg, announcing that peace had been concluded. It adds that Russia did not provoke the war, of which the object has been attained by the guarantees given to the Christians of the East; that measures are taken to prevent any collisions hereafter between the navies of Russia and Turkey; and, finally that recourse will be had to a new arrangement of the line of frontier in Bessarabia.

#### FRANCE.

Monsignor Patrizzi will set out from Rome towards the end of May for Paris, in order to represent the Pope at the baptism of the Imperial Prince.

#### THE END OF THE WAR.

The *Pays*, alluding to the sitting of the Congress on Wednesday (in which, notwithstanding the announcement of their departure in several journals, Lord Clarendon and M. Manteuffel took part), says it has reason to think that none of the matters remaining to be discussed will give occasion to any new protocol or additional treaty.

The fleets and armies will shortly be on their homeward road. The English Government has transmitted orders by the telegraph to Commodore Watson to quit the Baltic and to return to England with his squadron. From Kertch, under date of the 17th ult., it is announced that the projected expedition against the Spit of Arabat is postponed till the issue of the negotiations shall be known.

The Bureaux of the Ministry of War, in Sardinia, are actively engaged in arranging the measures relative to the return of the army at present in the Crimea. Vessels are preparing to sail from Genoa for the purpose of bringing back the troops.

It is said that the Plenipotentiaries will not return to their respective Courts until after the exchange of the ratifications. They have been invited to "attend at" our grand naval review on the 16th inst. Her Majesty's yacht Osborne is to be placed at their disposal for the occasion. They will certainly have a good opportunity of witnessing how Great Britain comes out of a war.

**THE NEW JUDGESHIP IN IRELAND.**—Mr. Keogh, the Attorney-General for Ireland, will succeed the late Judge Torrens. Mr. Fitzgerald, the Solicitor-General for Ireland, becomes Attorney-General; and, in all probability, Mr. Christian, Q.C., will become Solicitor-General.

**DEATH OF COOMBS, THE EX-CHAMPION OF THE THAMES.**—Robert Coombs, for many years connected with the River Thames, and patronised by the various aquatic clubs, has expired at his residence, Putney, after a short illness.



## 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, APRIL 5, 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 WAR AND THE PEACE.

THE self-governing English nation has concluded a peace with Russia—on what terms the self-governing nation is not permitted to know. It is a curious illustration of the irregular process by which our liberties have been developed, that, while we establish all our Laws on a Parliamentary basis, our Treaties, secretly negotiated, and irrevocably sanctioned, are equivalent to decrees. We insist on the responsibility of the Executive, and we tolerate an absolute diplomacy. The Minister conniving at an unwise or dishonourable Convention, might, indeed, be punished by loss of power; but the Convention itself could not be modified or repudiated, but must stand as part of the public law of the world. This secret and positive method of regulating the relations of a free people with foreign Governments is in diametrical contrast to the practice of the United States, by which treaties are ratified by the Senate, in executive session, with closed doors. It may be a question, whether the American principle be preferable to the European; but there can be no doubt as to which is the self-governing system.

We must take the Treaty as it is given to us, and whether or not it be a satisfactory solution of the questions that caused the war, we shall certainly not regret that peace is given to Europe. A conflict, conducted on such a basis, under such auspices, could be of no permanent or general advantage to mankind. Instead of promoting civilisation, it was demoralising the habits and opinions even of Englishmen; it was quenching those liberal sympathies which form the support and promise of nations on the Continent, aspiring to be equally free. It has come to a legitimate end; its local objects are fulfilled; it has wearied Russia, satisfied France, terrified the German powers, taught England her weakness and her strength, and it is checked in time to spare the world a desperate, aimless struggle between military monarchies, in which one chance might have glimmered for a free Europe against a hundred chances in favour of the absolutism of standing armies. On the one side would have been the vast, loose, heterogeneous mass of nations, some revolutionary, others conservative, without concert or unity, liable to the rigours of martial law; on the other side, the armed and organised despotisms, though divided, would have recognised a common necessity, and would, in all human probability, have reduced the Continent to the level of 1815. Can we regret that the one vague chance that liberalism might have seen

in such a war has been sacrificed to avert a struggle which would have given the leading military Powers the right to intervene, occupy, and dominate in every territory of Europe? It cannot be said that, at this point, the constitutional liberties of England are exhibited in disgraceful contrast with the absolute unity of France. Much as the privileged governing class has done to injure the British *prestige*, by misconducting the operations, by lowering the tone of our diplomacy, by subordinating our policy to that of the French Emperor, England, at the conclusion of peace, stands amply armed, opulent, and formidable. After two years of warfare, we are prepared; after two years of warfare, the French Government finds its capacities exhausted. France and Russia determine, therefore, to cease a conflict which neither could conveniently prolong, and submitting to the will of its ally, the British Government accepts the peace, though peace arrests the march of the national power. Had the war continued, our sufferings, our failures, our disgraces, seemed past. We had been exposed, we had stripped our administrative system; we had laid bare its whole anatomy, and confessed to Europe how much, and at what a cost, we could blunder; but a change had taken place. Surprising forces were ready for the third campaign. Our troops in the Crimea had wintered in comfort and safety. Our Baltic fleet was equipped for real warfare, with an effective complement of gunboats. There had been no correspondents, no public scrutiny, to tell all another army that fought by the side of our own had endured; but it will one day be known that all is not perfect in the organisation of absolute power; it is already known indeed, that French soldiers, "children of the Emperor," may starve and tremble with hunger, cold, and fatigue, and that every month of prolonged war must have added to their destitution. This is the unhappy truth. We write it with no desire to taunt the French Emperor with the sufferings of his army; but we, in England, who have so unshrinkingly exhibited our official frailty, must not be told that a single will, a pervading master mind, imperial unity of conception, imperial celerity of action, result in invariable success; while constitutional government cannot bear the trials of war. Great Britain expended in support of the Russian struggle as much money as France, though she furnished fewer soldiers. When the war broke out she had not more than a hundred and fifty thousand men in the regular army, and of these twenty-five thousand were in India, eight thousand in Canada, four or five thousand in the Cape; others were in Gibraltar, Malta, Australia, Jamaica, others in the Mauritius, Ceylon, Singapore, Hong Kong, St. Helena, and the Ionian group. Thus nearly a hundred thousand British troops, in February, 1854, were sprinkled over all parts of the globe, there being in England only the five or six thousand incomparable guards, and the detachments in dépôt, yet England sent successively more than a hundred thousand soldiers to the Crimea, fifty thousand of whom remain, while fifty thousand have been killed or invalided. Her fleet, though it was not pitted effectively against the enemy's fortifications, no sooner appeared in the Black Sea than a hundred and twenty-seven Russian ships of war took refuge in the harbour of Sebastopol, whence they never once dared to emerge, while the Baltic navy was, in the same manner, protected within rocks and gigantic walls. French writers, candid and liberal, have expressed their "jealous wonder" at the celerity with which huge vessels half finished when the declaration of war was made were completed and prepared for sea;

four hundred ships of war, propelled by steam, constituted the naval force disposable for the anticipated campaign, exclusive of at least a hundred vessels, similarly armed and equipped, cruising in various distant waters, and of two hundred large transport steamers taken up from private companies. To man this vast navy sixty-six thousand sailors and marines were required. For 1856-57, the army, instead of the original 150,000, is estimated at 275,000 troops of the guard and the line, 127,000 militia, 14,500 foreign legionaries, forming a total of 416,500 men, which, including the Turkish contingent, could have supplied two distinct armies of a hundred thousand men each, to operate on different fields against Russia. We have no reason to be ashamed of our constitutional system. We have not been forced by exhaustion to sign the Peace of Paris, however unsatisfactory that peace may be.

Austria has reason to be satisfied with the result of her diplomatic intervention. She has secured her interests on the Danube and in the Black Sea, has escaped the dangers of a war, and is enabled to reduce her armies. On the same grounds, Prussia and confederated Germany gain by the general pacification. Sweden and Sardinia are thrown upon the good faith of the Western Powers, since they have both provoked the Russian and German Governments. The Ottoman Porte was scarcely any longer an active participator in the war, in a third campaign it must have been trampled down by the belligerent powers; bankrupt, and helpless, its defensive resources were exhausted; it gains from Peace only the leisure of decay, while the Christian population, whether or not the reforms are loyally developed, must gradually take possession of the Government, as they have long taken possession of the trade and industry of the empire.

As to Russia, the necessity of dissolving the active alliance of France and England—a policy illustrated by her treatment of French and English prisoners combined with the loss of three hundred thousand men, a thousand guns, a fleet, the entire maritime commerce of her southern territories, and her carrying trade everywhere, of Sebastopol, Anapa, Kertch, Kinburn, the Circassian forts, Bomarsund, and the arsenals of Sweaborg, compelled her to accept the Austrian plan of pacification. Her entire revenues do not amount to a fifth of the united revenues of France and England. Her last loan, insignificant as it was in amount, was a failure; she found it impossible to secure one active ally. Her only success in Asia would have entailed enormous exertion during the ensuing summer. She had but one alternative, which was between peace and ruin. But it was never the policy of the Allies to attempt the ruin of the Russian Empire—a bugbear to the European nations, but not to the governments. Recovering from the effects of this prodigal conflict, prohibited from attacks on the territorial possessions of the Turkish empire, Russia may enlarge her commerce, improve her industry, increase her diplomatic influence, establish a political connection with the French empire. She has lost by the war; but the war has ceased in time to prevent her loss being irreparable.

Not being in possession of the Treaty it would be useless to discuss the details of the actual peace. But of this we may be certain, it is a check on Russian aggression; it guarantees the territorial independence of Turkey; but it leaves Civilisation and Liberty, the objects of popular enthusiasm and official bluster, to languish as they languished before, or to rise by a process which will never be countenanced by a German Monarchy, by British Aristocracy or French Imperialism.

## AN ITALIAN WARNING.

THE premonitory symptoms have appeared of a new intervention in Italy. The state of affairs at Naples, it is semi-officially announced, engages the serious attention of the French and British Governments. The representations of Great Britain have been met contumaciously, which "justifies" further and more forcible measures. France, too, reminds his Neapolitan Majesty that he has not made reparation for an outrage committed on some French subjects in Sicily. Here is what the Americans call a platform, a ground of action.

But of what action? It is safe to interfere in the domestic government of the King of NAPLES, but can Great Britain, without hypocrisy, assume the privilege of coercing this third-rate despot, who treats the malcontents of his kingdom exactly as malcontents are treated in the Austrian prisons and in Cayenne? There may be reasons of policy why "something should be done" with Naples; but we do hope there will be no sentiment, no philanthropy in the transaction. To goad and threaten a minor despot who is no worse than the great despots he emulates, is to display that sort of courage which always keeps out of danger. Naples is not worse governed than Milan, Parma, or Rome. Its political prisoners are not more cruelly treated than the exiles at Cayenne. Its bastinado is not a more brutal instrument than the thong of the Austrian lictors in Lombardy.

We by no means apologise for the tyranny of Naples. It is a curse; the Neapolitan people cannot expel their King, destroy their throne, and adopt a constitution, a day too soon. But it is, in the first place, pitiful to affect horror of a weak despotism, and to connive at despotism on a gigantic scale. Moreover, foreign intervention never has, and never can, succeed to any good purpose in Italy. What French intervention means the Italians well know. It means depriving them of the right to settle their own affairs, imposing hateful governments on them by force, perhaps substituting, in Naples, a BONAPARTE for a BOURBON. It is an undisguised encroachment on the little independence that remains to Italy. English intervention, more generous in its motives, is, in its effects, even more mischievous. It signifies an insincere meddling between the Italian people and their various governments. Three times the British Government has "interested itself" in Italian politics,—in 1815, in 1821, and in 1848, and on each occasion has excited delusive hopes, stimulated premature attempts, and produced disappointment, calamity, and failure. It seems jealous of an Italian policy adopted by an other Government, and interferes without any policy of its own, merely to occupy a part of the ground. It has no objects in Italy; its sympathy with Italian liberalism is capricious, timid, and only half-sincere. In an English sense it is frivolity, but, in an Italian sense, it has been a disastrous blight, bitterly remembered from end to end of the peninsula.

Intervention in Naples can have but one of two objects—to coerce the KING into a change of policy, or to supersede him, and place another ruler on the throne. Now among the successes of diplomacy, we certainly cannot reckon attempts at the reformation of bad governors. The political system of Naples belongs to its BOURBON dynasty, and cannot be separated from that dynasty, because it is the means by which the dynasty remains in power, in spite of a liberal and awakened public opinion. If the softening of King FERDINAND'S régime be impossible, and if it be determined to support an insurrection, what follows? Will the Neapolitans choose the chosen of Great Britain and France? or, if they do not choose

him, will he be forced upon them? or will they rid Naples of its tyrant, and leave it free? Ask an Italian!

Nowhere is insincere, irresolute intervention more mischievous than in Italy. That country has been duped and injured by its friends more frequently than any state in Europe. It will be useful, in illustration, to trace the political action of England in Italy during the last revolutionary crisis. Austria was her enemy, England was her friend, and the Italian learned to say, with the prisoner in the Piombi of Venice—

"God save me from the men I trust:  
From those I trust not I preserve myself."

There is little doubt that the Emperor NAPOLEON will attempt to convert the Conferences of Paris into a Congress, for the revision of the settlement of 1815. With reference to Italy, there is one policy—and only one—that could give harmony to that oppressed and divided country. To withdraw the French and Austrian armies, and to leave the Italians free to settle their own political affairs, would be to give them a chance of national regeneration. But to appropriate and distribute the peninsula, to intersect it with new frontiers, to bring new families within its dynastic circle, to do anything but release it from foreign control, would be to exasperate its disease, and to make Frenchmen hated and Englishmen suspected by the people even more than they are suspected and hated already.

## COUNT MONTALEMBERT ON ENGLISH POLITICS.\*

M. DE MONTALEMBERT'S essay on the Political Future of England has recently engaged the attention of English critics and readers. An opportunity is given us, therefore, of recurring to this remarkable volume, which has elicited a significant discussion among our public writers. It contains fallacies which accurate critics could not fail to discover, but it contains also suggestions of truth which have put our journalists on the defence. Intimately as M. DE MONTALEMBERT is acquainted with the history and institutions of England, with our manners, principles, and forms of official procedure, he fails, as foreigners generally fail, when he would prove an analogy or construct a parallel. He cannot divest himself, when dealing with political or social topics, of that *doctrinaire* pedantry which refers men and events to a single type, and ignores the essential differences of time, of accessory circumstances, of personal character, of objects, means, and motives. Because CROMWELL became absolute in the government of England, he is confounded with NAPOLEON and CÆSAR. Because CHARLES DICKENS dissects the poor and criminal classes of society, and sheds the light and sympathy of genius on their desolation, he is compared with EUGENE SUE. Because CARLYLE exonerates CROMWELL from the charges elaborately presented against him by the libellers of the Restoration, and by the ignorance of a long posterity of compilers, CARLYLE is described as wooing a military usurper. Every philosophical mind has a contempt of ineffective government, of weakness in the position of power, of a ruler without purpose, decision, or vigour; but only the most degraded class of political fanatics in England believe in the virtues of despotism. M. DE MONTALEMBERT perceives an aspect—a literal fact, and falsifies it by a false explanation. CROMWELL was a dictator, who governed by an army, but he refused a crown—struggled to resign his supremacy—displayed none of that

vulgar lust of power which is the inspiration of a military usurper.

M. DE MONTALEMBERT touches a truth more nearly when he says that English journalists, professing liberalism, have, in flattery of the French alliance, adored the Apparition that reigns in France. The *Athenæum*, in an elaborate criticism on his essay, takes up the charge, and denies it, not for itself, because it has not been accused or suspected, but on behalf of the general press—the *Examiner* and *Daily News* especially. The services rendered to the cause of political justice by the *Examiner* will never be forgotten; but neither can we forget that it has distinctly pointed out the empire of the *coup-d'état* as "a new sort of despotism,"—just, beneficent, and wise. Liberal as the *Daily News* has been, it has been seduced by the alliance into a gratuitous complicity with the conspirators of December, 1851, and even written the apology of ST. ARNAUD. "No writer," says our contemporary, "applauds NAPOLEON THE THIRD for the treachery and violence used in his advent to the throne." We wish, for the sake of English honour, that we could concur. But the treachery and the violence, if not applauded, have been justified again and again on the fallacious plea, that only violence and perjury could save France from political ruin. Some constant journals there have been—our contemporary is among them—that have never condescended to publish the eulogy of usurpation; but we have seen more degradation—more immorality—more cowardice exhibited by a section of the English press within the last two years than would have seemed possible amid the protests of December, 1851. M. DE MONTALEMBERT must feel the retort, that the man he stigmatises as an "adventurer" he owns as a master, and if he—a Frenchman—owns him as a ruler, may not England own him as an ally? It was our inevitable policy to cultivate formal and friendly relations with the actual EMPEROR of the FRENCH. The meanness we complain of consisted in the adulation, insulting to France, debasing to England, that was offered at the foot of his throne. To say that the past is the past, and that the *coup-d'état* is a bygone, is a casuistical deception. The *coup-d'état* is not a bygone—it reigns—its victims are in Cayenne; it suppresses the public intelligence of France; it is a present crime; it is the infliction on the French people of a system that robs them of the fruits of sixty years of sacrifice and suffering. To plead that the act of December is a bygone is to plead repentance without restitution—to say that the criminal is sorry for his fraud, and intends to live quietly on the proceeds.

M. DE MONTALEMBERT is ashamed of the Empire, that deprives France of her liberty and her dignity. He is an accomplished, eloquent man, who regards "politics" as an agreeable profession. A Tribune to speak from—a Senate to listen and applaud,—a Press, well guided by the censor, to afford publicity,—a Court, in which a "Statesman" is more than a puppet. These are, to men of M. DE MONTALEMBERT'S order, among the necessities of existence. But would he see freedom grow with a nation's growth, become incorporated with its existence, belong to every citizen as a right, dissipate false and artificial distinctions, make armies and police its auxiliaries of self-defence, render Usurpation impossible? If he would now, he did not, when his exertions, united with those of the other politicians who repine over the humiliation of France, might have closed the path to a *coup-d'état*. By faction and egotism the liberties and laws of France were abandoned to the violence of an immoral schemer. Our public writers may have paid their homage to Usurpation without design.

\* *The Political Future of England.* By Count Montalembert. London: Murray.



ing to consecrate its principle. But they have praised it, flattered it, and, in effect, justified it. Our consolation is, that they recognised the criminality of the *coup-d'état* when it took place, and deplored the disaster of France. The exigency that changed their tone having passed away, Lord JOHN RUSSELL may once more speak, at a Mansion-house dinner, of laws and constitutions without being considered indecorous and indiscreet.

## WALKER.

GENERAL WALKER'S confiscation of the Charter of the Accessory Transit Company is a fact which has political bearings, but it is also an amazing example of the *coup d'état* in Joint-Stock operations. We know nothing to equal it, not even the proceedings in the Eastern Counties Railway Company, or the illustrious Diddlesex Insurance Company. Never was there more magnificent scheme than that which the Transit Company put before the world. The Transit was a graft upon the Canal Company—the Canal being the grander project, and, of course, the more distinguished—prospectively. The proprietors of the Canal did not purchase anything so humble as common “shares”—they purchased 192 “grand shares,” or “rights.” To each “grand” share of the Canal was annexed 200 accessory Transit shares. The Company went into business; the “rights” were first sold at 800 dollars a-piece, the shares for 20 dollars a-piece; but Mr. VANDERBILT, the great ship owner, was understood to be the father or the father-in-law of the scheme; the Commissioners were supposed to have secured certain guarantees under the CLAYTON-BULWER treaty; the local Government of Central America granted protection and charter upon stipulation of a Royalty payable to them; the scheme looked promising, the prices rose to 50 dollars for the shares, and 5,000 dollars a-piece for the rights—a grand total, at these values, of 2,880,000 dollars.

The Transit Company had considerable success. They had to muster some cash for the purchase of mules, the hire of servants, &c., on the land route; they bought up ships, which conveyed goods or persons to and from the ports of landing; their profits were really considerable; and, upon the whole, they were decidedly successful. But all this was done with one remarkable circumstance, which says much for the ability of the managers—it was done *without capital*. The so-called “stock” of the Company represented nothing. The ships they purchased were purchased with their earnings, or with another very precarious mode of payment. Mr. JOSEPH WHITE, the great manager of the concern, offered to buy up VANDERBILT'S boats, and to pay for them in 4,000,000 of stock, at “70 per cent. discount,” with 150,000 dollars in “short bonds.”

It is impossible to trace all the ins and outs of the intrigues that have happened within the Company, or about it amongst other persons. About a year ago, Mr. VANDERBILT, or his representative, appeared to have repented of their bargain. They proceeded against the Company in the Supreme Court of the United States, and obtained an injunction, which was expected to “burst up” the project; but it had a more stubborn life in it, and other occurrences were presenting a new field for the WHITE party.

WALKER was mustering his army, and was about to take up his position in Nicaragua; and he has arrived in time to be ready for the grand theatrical tableau. There was a rival project for a route by Panama, with a Company. The VANDERBILT interest in the Transit Company had conceived a new and poetic idea of effecting their purpose by a vast dodge

in the Joint-Stock market. They went to the Stock Exchange as “Bears,” that is, for the purpose of bringing down the price of the Transit Stock. It was a fancy stock, and easily moved. Started at 20, it had been down to 13, and up to 50, and might stand at any figure. What was the object of this manœuvre? It was to enable the Panama Company to buy up the shares of the Transit, to re-consolidate the two rival speculations into the Panama speculation, and so to extinguish the Transit, or afterwards to renew it under circumstances favourable to the VANDERBILT interest, with new charters and new guarantees. The shareholders thus saw their property sliding from under them by manœuvres of their own colleagues, possessing great influence in the United States.

Now comes the greatest *coup d'état*. WHITE had been diddled by the VANDERBILT interest, but there was a *deus ex machina* to diddle VANDERBILT. The managers of the Company had not really consolidated their capital; they had not paid a stipulated Royalty of 10,000 dollars to the State of Nicaragua; they had not paid the transit toll of 10,000 a year; they had, in fact, forfeited their charter. This weak part in the technical tenure of the organised company was pointed out to WALKER by the shareholders, who were conservative in the exercise of a subversive democracy. WALKER owed no great allegiance to the Government of the United States, which has stopped his recruitment in the Mississippi, and disclaimed him in Europe, and has not assisted him even covertly. He felt for the shareholders, and obliged them to confiscate their charter. It was a great act of sovereignty in the *de facto* possessor of Nicaragua; it was a great act of conservancy in the democratic shareholders, who have thus superseded their own Government by importing into their quarrel the *de facto* Government of Nicaragua. WALKER, it is understood, will renew the charter to those who have been *bonâ fide* working out the Transit Company; and the *bonâ fide* workers are usually a separate body from the dealers in shares. What would not the BRUCE party in the Eastern Counties' Railway give if a WALKER were in power at Westminster, and could confiscate the charter and statutes of their Company, renewing it to BRUCE, LOVE, and the working shareholders? This is exactly the position of the scheme. The Yankee CROMWELL of Central America has confiscated the Eastern Counties' charter and statutes, in order to renew them all in favour of BRUCE and Co. The Company has high patronage in Nicaragua; its conflicts have attained the ranks of the *haute politique*; it has gained a point at which stock-jobbing rises to statesmanship.

## TORTURE IN INDIA.

Now that the kingdom of Oude is formally annexed to the British dominions, and admitted to all the advantages enjoyed under the British rule, it is not unseasonable to inquire into the nature of some of these peculiar blessings. Among the most striking, it appears that the British subject is liable to torture. Some European magistrates, indeed, affect to consider this as an exaggerated expression, because there is no instance on record of the employment of the rack. One gentleman records his opinion that it is a “time-honoured institution;” another, that although “force” may be exhibited, “it seldom amounts to torture, not being of sufficient severity to cause death, or any bodily harm.” A third has no hesitation in saying that “instruments of torture” are not used by the revenue officers, and adds, “the stooping posture enforced by the leg and neck being held in proximity no

doubt must be highly inconvenient, and to a plethoric Englishman might almost amount to torture, but to the supple cold-blooded native of this part of the world, I should hesitate in describing the enforced attitude as one of torture.” A fourth likewise “demurs” to call such punishment “torture;” it is simply a coercive measure practised towards defaulters of the revenue. The “coercion” in question is after this fashion. The delinquent is kept for hours under a burning sun in a stooping attitude, standing on one leg, the other being suspended by a string attached to the great toe, and fastened round his neck. “To increase the discomfort of this enforced stooping posture,” a stone weighing from 12 to 14 lbs. is placed upon his shoulders. The defalcation that calls forth this punishment seldom exceeds a few shillings—more frequently a claim is trumped up to extort a bribe.

When this statement was first made in the House of Commons, the partisans of the East India House indignantly denied the fact, and declared that no such horrors were ever perpetrated beneath the British sway. Nevertheless, a Commission was appointed to make local investigations throughout the Presidency of Madras, where the application of torture, it was alleged, was more frequent than in other parts of India. Three gentlemen of character and experience having been nominated for this purpose, a period of three months was allowed for the presentation of complaints. Before that period had expired 519 complainants stated their grievances in person to the Commissioners, some of them having travelled on foot for that purpose upwards of 300 miles. And there is one case mentioned of a man having returned home, a distance of 250 miles, for an important paper he had omitted to bring with him. This the Commissioners call “a curious proof of pertinacity.” In addition to these oral complaints, no fewer than 1,440 were forwarded in writing, and many more would have been sent had the natives felt certain of redress, or been able to leave their daily vocations.

It soon became apparent that “coercion” was used to a frightful extent. A Missionary deposed that he had seen in the hands of the headman of a village a scourge composed of four or five thongs of leather, a yard or more in length, which was used to compel the labourers to pay their taxes. Another reverend gentleman had lived in the immediate neighbourhood of a police station, and daily witnessed cases of ill-treatment. He also knew that, to extort confessions from women, red pepper was sometimes applied in a most painful and disgusting manner. A merchant had seen at least a dozen defaulters ranged in a row in the court-yard of a police station, under a meridian sun in the hottest period of the year, each of them having a heavy stone placed on the head, or on the back between the shoulders, their bodies being bent nearly double, and themselves standing on one leg. An officer in command of a detached corps heard, night after night, a great uproar and the sound of blows in the direction of the police station, and at last took the trouble to see what was the matter. There he found the superintendent of police sitting in his verandah, surrounded by his subordinate officers, and summarily administering flagellation to such as were unwilling to part with their money. Occasionally a thumbscrew was used with equal effect. “The nocturnal flogging went on for many weeks.”

A Government tenant, who paid annually £24 for his land, having fallen into arrears to the amount of thirty shillings, the tax collectors insisted on his paying up in full or presenting them with a bribe. As the crops had partially failed, he refused to comply,

whereupon they placed him in the sun, bent down his head, pinched his thighs with a split cane, and flogged him with a whip until he consented to sell his ploughing bullocks and pay what was demanded.

A cultivator paying Government £6 a-year was called upon by the headman of his village for a present of twenty shillings. Having duly paid his rent, and the season being unfavourable, he declined to do so, and was immediately seized by the petty tyrant's followers, lifted off the ground by the ears, flogged with leathern thongs, and kept for two days in close confinement. On complaining afterwards to the superintendent of police he was "thrust away."

Sometimes the cattle are shut up without food or water until their owner, in pity for their distress, pays what is due. At other times the owner himself is regularly blockaded in his own house and all supplies cut off, until hunger and thirst reduce him to capitulate. There are also tortures of a more refined description. The most common is the "kittee." This "kittee," we are told, "is a very simple machine, consisting merely of two sticks tied together at one end, between which the fingers are placed as in a lemon squeezer." When the "kittee" is not forthcoming, a convenient substitute is found by compelling the victim to interlace his fingers, the ends being squeezed by the hand of a police officer, who occasionally introduces a little sand to obtain a firmer grasp. These tax-gatherers are wonderfully fertile in imagination. They have yet other means in store for extorting from the "money-loving Hindoo" the few pence he still possesses after paying his land-tax. The close-handed ungenerous man will find himself laid on his back, with a heavy stone upon the pit of his stomach, a stout cane placed across that, and on either end of the cane a policeman seated. To avoid suffocation, he reluctantly engages to sacrifice his little all. Sometimes chilly powder is blown into his eyes; or, yet more horrible, is introduced through a straw into the penis or anus. These are the more usual modes of proceeding with those who cannot, or will not, gratify the cupidity of the tax-gatherers. And yet no WAT TYLER has arisen to make the tyrants tremble for themselves.

If it be asked why the sufferers do not complain to the police, the answer is obvious. The same officer discharges the duplex functions of revenue and police, so that there is really no appeal. And were it otherwise, the police is so wretchedly corrupt that any complaint would produce only an additional grievance. The police themselves are addicted to the use of torture to a still greater extent in judicial than in fiscal cases. Equally vain would it be to apply for redress to the European collector, though a member of the highly-favoured Civil Service, and peculiarly approved by the magnates of Leadenhall-street. Sometimes, indeed, an enterprising individual does venture to address his serene highness, but is invariably referred to the very superintendent of police against whom he is appealing. Or perhaps he petitions the sub-collector, who tells him that his remedy is by an action in a court for damages; and sends him on to the principal collector. This gentleman tears his petition in pieces, and promises that the sub-collector shall inquire into his case; after which nothing more is ever thought of it. The European magistrates, in point of fact, are numerically insufficient for the duties assigned to them. For a territory comprising 13,000 square miles, with a population of a million and a half, there may be no more than four revenue officers; for the 720,000 inhabitants of Madras, there is but one. It is therefore physically impossible that proper attention can be paid to the welfare of the people, from

whom, besides, the European grandee usually holds himself magnificently aloof.

In districts where the assessment is low, the application of torture is seldom or never known. The cultivators are there able to pay their rents without ruin to themselves, and the work of the Government officials is light and pleasant to both parties. Unfortunately, this is the rare exception, but the fact shows, that by the exercise of a just liberality this abomination might be almost entirely removed from out the land. The police and revenue functions should likewise be made perfectly distinct, that the sufferer from extortion might at least have some chance of redress. There is no doubt some difficulty to be apprehended for yet a brief space, until the natives become assured that the European magistrates are in earnest as to their professed intention of putting an end to the use of torture. It is utterly absurd to suppose that the Government was previously ignorant of its existence. Members of the Civil Service, military men, clergymen, and merchants, all agree in confessing their knowledge of the evil—and a guilty knowledge it must have been on the part of those who could have redressed the wrongs of their fellow-subjects. Some honourable exceptions undoubtedly prevailed. So far back as 1840, Mr. M. LEWIN distinctly advised the authorities that torture was used in his district, but those great men hugged themselves in the belief that their dominion was for ever, and that no prying eye would ever pierce the veil that enshrouded their selfishness.

#### BOUSFIELD ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

WE have had many treatises on the expediency and moral effect of capital punishment. EDWARD GIBBON WAKEFIELD wrote an admirable paper, "Killing no Murder, or the Terror-stricken Town," describing the shock produced at Dunkirk by the hanging of a felon. Dunkirk was not accustomed to Old Bailey entertainments. Writers of many countries have been engaged in presenting all the arguments that experience could collect and reason could develop. Prejudice, however, will not yield to argument. The mass of minds are so constituted, that a purely logical proposition is not received, or is even disliked. The material selfishness which is inculcated by economical writers, and exemplified by our upper class in trade and statesmanship, and the general contempt for generous or chivalrous feeling, aided by the ignorance prevalent among "the masses," has begotten a temper amongst the disreputable classes which has exhibited itself in extensive and obstinate wife-beating. The reputable class, who are responsible for the government of the country, are annoyed. They pass Mr. FITZROY's bill for the better restraining of malignant husbands; the malignant husbands persevere, as if in defiance of Mr. FITZROY; and BOUSFIELD caps the defiance by murdering his wife and children. There is a reaction against humanitarian mildness of punishment—the crusade against the wife-beater is largely recruited. Baffled legislation, and many perplexed feelings, provoke an instinct of revenge against the man that causes so much trouble to the reputable class; there is nothing like hanging, so BOUSFIELD is hanged. The opponents of capital punishment see all their fine arguments broken to pieces in the conflict between the brutal wife-beaters, with BOUSFIELD for their captain, and the bigoted felon-beaters who hurry BOUSFIELD to the gallows. Humanity and reason are trampled under foot; but if the opponents of hanging had desired to turn the position of the enemy—to take a stronger position for themselves, they could not have done better than BOUSFIELD has done for them. It would be a

great invention to issue an advertisement for a great essay on capital punishment dramatised, setting forth all its brutality in the most revolting force. The public, of course, would never have tolerated such exhibition at the theatres, which are to amuse, not to teach—to tickle, not startle. The drama must be real, and it is hardly possible to conceive the prize himself as the chief actor in a real drama, embodying a grand essay on capital punishment—its brutality, inexpediency, and absurdity. BOUSFIELD has volunteered for the part, and has contributed the drama to boot.

The man had murdered his wife and children, and is hanged to satisfy justice, and to give an example to the multitude. It turns out, however, from the story, that he must have been a strong man. His occupation about a theatre suggested the instructive desire to make a show at the last, put startling situations into his head, and made him, against the inevitable horror that he was approaching, set off some new horrors as a diversion. When the religious officer of the prison approached to give him religious consolation he declined to listen. "It is all," he said, "a bad dream." We are generally told that brutes of this kind undergo a grand change at the last; and with a curious reasoning it is inferred, that because men become religious at the thought of the scaffold, the scaffold will have a moral effect upon the hardened multitude without. BOUSFIELD showed us how little this class of men reason at all, how much settled passion and brutalised temper constitute the abiding impulse. You must get such a man to prison before he can present to himself, as a reality, the doom which he provokes. Even then it comes dimly upon him. BOUSFIELD did not reflect—he sulked; as the shadow of death came near he grew maddened, but not penitent; and evidently felt a desire to retort upon those, who inflicted horror upon him horrors that were worse, more shocking, more unbearable—and he succeeded. These reflections perhaps explain the story of the sequel. On the Saturday night he was in his cell, with a good fire. His sisters had taken leave of him, the officers of the gaol were his companions. If he had been a lettered man he might know that the suicide does not require any instrument, that he is not dependant upon the dagger, the rope, poison, a woman's long hair, or live coals; but that he can extinguish the vital spark, as men have done upon the rack, by the simple suspension of breath. BOUSFIELD knew nothing of that. Perhaps he had some dim picture, conjured up by superstition, as to his future doom. Whatever his immediate motive, he suddenly rushed to the fire, and threw himself upon it, into the burning coals; but he was rescued from death in that immediate form by violence. He constituted a ghastly spectacle, and the surgeon was employed in the absurd duty of patching up and alleviating pain in the very man that was to be tortured and destroyed on the Monday. He refused food, but was forcibly kept alive by milk, like a perverse baby. He was carried to the scaffold, apparently in a state of real prostration, which was accounted for by immediate and obvious causes. He was placed under the noose, sitting in a high office chair—was hanged sitting. Hanging, he exhibited a ghastly vigor of posture-making: with his arms pinioned, his only support the noose, he curled up and placed his feet upon the edge of the scaffolding. Pushed off by the turnkeys of the gaol, swinging round as he dangled from the tree, he again raised himself up, and obtained a footing. He did so a third time; and life only yielded, after a long struggle, with several men pulling at the wretch's feet. The drama was closed on the tune of the church bells



chiming the announcement of peace. Can capital punishment survive the ghastly publication of this dramatised prize essay?

#### DEPENDENCE OF JUDGES ON THE EXECUTIVE.

MR. ROEBUCK did a public service, though he did not accomplish it in the best manner, when he pointed out a dangerous encroachment that the Executive is making upon the principles of the English constitution. The words sound very like the hackneyed watchwords of Conservatism, but they are literally true, and they concern the interests of the people of this country—especially of those who are not comprised in the influential classes. The Executive has accepted, we will not say sought, a power of determining the salaries of Judges, of holding the purse strings of the judicial mind. It is a disgrace to the House of Commons that any bill, giving such a power to the Executive, should have passed into law,—that it should at this day have been within the duties of the Secretary of the Treasury to give or to withhold money for Judges. Yet it is so in the case of County Court Judges. The Executive is empowered to give them salaries of £1,200 or £1,500; that is to say, the Executive holds in its hand £300 a-year to bestow to the Judge whom it may like. Attention has been called to the matter by Mr. ROEBUCK before Tuesday night, and Ministers see fit to give up this most unseemly and un-English privilege.

Mr. THOS. JAMES ARNOLD, one of the Metropolitan Magistrates, points out another privilege which ought to be surrendered by the Executive.\* The Home Office holds in its hands the appointment and removal of the Police Magistrates, as they are called, but the so-called Police Magistrate is a Judge in the true sense of the word. The greater number of cases tried at the Criminal Courts are first tried at the Police Court, and thus, upon the District Judges are thrown the responsibility of selecting the cases for trial, sending only those which lead to the probability of a conviction.

"We have," says Mr. Arnold, "an extensive penal jurisdiction, quite independent of such charges, with a power of imposing fines from a few shillings up to hundreds of pounds; and in many cases, of inflicting lengthened imprisonment without fine. We may find it our duty to keep an accused person week after week in confinement before we can decide whether or not the evidence will justify us in sending him for trial. We have also a large and constantly increasing summary jurisdiction in criminal matters, wherein a single Magistrate combines the functions of both Jury and Judge. We have also an extensive jurisdiction in civil matters, in some instances arising from Local Acts and exclusive in its nature, in others concurrent with that of the County Courts, but which we are still constantly pressed to exercise, especially by the poorer classes, by reason of the heavy fees exacted in those courts," &c.

Originally the Magistrates of the Police Court were paid by fees, and they acquired the sarcastic name of "trading justices." In 1792 the "trading justices" were multiplied from one to seven, Bow-street being the oldest of our Police Courts; but they were still paid by fees, and no professional qualification was necessary. It was in 1839 that the present system began. The duties of managing the Police were transferred to two new Magistrates, called the Commissioners of Police, and the position of the so-called Police Magistrate was materially altered. Property qualification was discontinued; the qualification became seven years' practice at the bar; the connection with the Executive was abolished, the powers of the Magistrates were enlarged, and subsequent statutes have, from time to time, referred to them important jurisdictions. They have now

become Judges, and they ought to be called District Judges in the first instance. But the Judges ought not to be removed, as these Magistrates are, at the pleasure of an Executive department; and, in calling attention to the totally improper tenure which is given to the Police Magistracy, Mr. ARNOLD has done a public duty as an Englishman. It is of no use to say that, at the present day, the Home Office is not likely to exercise a tyrannical or corrupt authority. Who can say? It is not a century since letters were opened by official spies at the Post-office. It may not be a century before we have some reconciled ally of Russia or Austria in the Home Office, seeking to extend amongst us at home, those principles of governing with which many of our magnates in both Houses of Parliament still sympathise "under the rose." Mr. ARNOLD puts cases:—

"Let me suppose that a person shall be summoned before a Magistrate for some particular offence; that the Magistrate, upon the evidence laid before him, shall be clearly of opinion that the offence has been committed, and shall impose a fine upon the person charged; that after the fine has been paid, the defendant shall so represent his case to the Secretary of State that the latter shall think the Magistrate had taken an erroneous view of the law, and direct him to repay the fine. Such an order would, I conceive, be very irregular and unconstitutional, and might perhaps be disregarded; but it would place the Magistrate in a very unpleasant situation.

"Again, let me point out that under the Act recently passed for the suppression of the Smoke Nuisance in the Metropolis, it is required that all proceedings before the Magistrate should be initiated by the authority of one of the Secretaries of State, who is practically the Home Secretary. Every case is, of course, first investigated by him, or in his office, before any proceedings are instituted, so that he becomes actually the prosecutor. Here, then, we have an instance of a Magistrate, who has to adjudicate upon the merits of a case, holding his office at the will and pleasure of the prosecutor:—a state of things which, by way of parenthesis, I may say is, I believe, quite unparalleled in the whole range of our judicial institutions."

These cases might be easily multiplied, and they rest upon the fact that, in two instances, the Home Secretary has exercised his power of removing the Magistrates. When called to account by Lord CAMPBELL, Lord PANMURE said that "no Secretary of State would venture to exercise such a power in the face of Parliament and the public for any motives of personal or party consideration." Yes, he would, if he conscientiously thought that he ought to exercise the power of the Crown and Government, in a "paternal" fashion. We ought as little to tolerate the existence of this principle amongst our District Judges of town as we ought amongst our county Judges. It is the more important, since, by the substitution of Stipendiary Magistrates for the Aldermen in the City of London, Sir GEORGE GREY proposes to extend the ground over which the law will be administered by District Judges, holding their posts at the pleasure of the Home Office.

#### THE RIGHT OF ELECTION IN FRANCE.

THE Imperial Court of Cassation has decided that no electoral bulletins can be legally issued without the authority of the Prefect. In other words, that the names of the Government candidates only can be presented to the choice of the electors. "This decision," the *Assemblée Nationale* has said with perfect justice, "will mark an epoch in the judicial annals of France." "Nevertheless," continues the *Assemblée Nationale*, "the decision throws a strong light upon our political situation, and in this sense we record it without regret." For these few words of reserved and cautious comment upon the recent decision of the Court of Cassation, the *Assemblée Nationale* has received a second official "warning." A second warning exposes a journal to the risk of instant and unconditional suppression. In the face of this warning, it becomes, as we think, the duty of an independent English journal to invite attention to a case so

peculiarly illustrative of the present régime in France. The existing French Empire professes to exist "by the Grace of God and by the national will." It is not our business to account for the former of these assumptions, but the latter demands explanation. The national will is supposed to be represented by the eight million votes that ratified the proclamation of the Empire. If we could imagine eight millions of the intelligent adult population of France stirred by a common impulse, and in the fulness of their independence as citizens of a free state, on a given day affirming their acceptance of a form of Government, proposed to them by a saviour of his country; assuredly no government has ever ruled by a securer title, or reposed on a broader or more durable foundation. Such a government might well defy the puny shafts of discarded statesmen and the impotent malice of baffled factions. Upon such a Government an atmosphere of liberty would confer new strength continually. Now such a Government the present French Empire assumes to be,—such its satellites and sycophants at home and abroad describe it to be. And yet it is notorious that its system of Government even after four years, continues one of stern and dull compression, a Government of police spies, of prisons, of proscriptions, of silence, of darkness. How can we explain this anomaly? Surely, if that Government be one of universal national acceptance, repression is not merely an injustice, it is an absurdity. Perhaps the Court of Cassation under the presidency of the Senator TROPLONG has furnished us with an *à fortiori* which will go far to solve the enigma.

If, after four years' secure and absolute possession of the Government, at a time of profound quiet, it is decided that none but the nominees of the Government may present their names to the electors, under what conditions of free choice, we may ask, were the eight million votes recorded just after the *coup-d'état*, when all France was in a state of siege?

UNJUST DISMISSAL OF A ROPE-MAKER FROM DEVONPORT DOCKYARD.—A short time ago, Richard Beal, a ropemaker in the dockyard at Devonport, was discharged for a very trivial and unintentional offence. One night, his wife being very ill, Beal remained with her until late the following morning, when he was obliged to leave home without his breakfast, and proceeded to his business at the dockyard with much haste. He also had to assist in rowing a boat towards the yard, upwards of two miles. In consequence of so unusual a course he was seized, after beginning his work, with a feeling of faintness, followed by an attack of diarrhoea. He therefore asked one of the twine-spinners to send a boy for a small quantity of rum (equal to about a wine-glass full), but he was not aware that such a proceeding was against the rules. The woman went to the foreman, to ask permission; but, not finding him, she herself directed the boy to procure it. The boy, mistaking the message, brought half-a-pint. This circumstance being afterwards reported to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, Beal, to his great surprise, was abruptly dismissed from the service. However, he drew up and presented a petition to Sir James Plumridge, the Admiral Superintendent, in which, besides the foregoing facts, he states that he had been a ropemaker in Devonport Dockyard nearly twenty years, during which his character had been unexceptionable; that he had been frequently recommended by his officers for promotion; and that he had a sick wife and several children to support. His harsh sentence has therefore been revoked, and he is now reinstated in Devonport Dockyard in his former capacity.

ST. ALBAN'S ABBEY.—A meeting was held at the Town-hall, St. Alban's, on Wednesday, to consider the propriety of restoring the grand old abbey church. The Earl of Verulam was in the chair, and the speakers included the Rev. Dr. Nicholson, the Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., Archdeacon Grant, Mr. C. W. Fuller, Lord Robert Cecil, Dr. Robinson, and others. Resolutions were carried, not merely for the restoration of the abbey, but for the creation of a new bishopric for Hertfordshire, with St. Alban's as its centre, the present diocese being, in the opinion of the meeting, too large, while the bishop's palace is situated some fifty miles from St. Alban's, and the cathedral is in a remote part of Kent. Nearly £4,300 were subscribed in the room towards the desired objects.

LAMBETH PARISH AND THE METROPOLITAN LOCAL MANAGEMENT ACT.—A numerous meeting of the rate-payers of Lambeth was held at the vestry-hall on Wednesday evening, Mr. Churchwarden Stratton in the chair, to express an opinion upon the bill brought in by the Attorney-General to explain certain clauses of the Metropolitan Local Management Act. Resolutions condemnatory of the measure were carried, and a petition to Parliament was resolved on.

\* A letter to the Right Hon. Lord Panmure, &c. &c., relating to the tenure of office by the Magistrates of the Metropolitan Police Courts. By Thos. James Arnold, Esq., one of the Magistrates. London: James Ridgway, Piccadilly, 1856.

## 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*.

THE Laws concerning women, like all other laws, were made by men, and it is not surprising that the men should have made them with special reference to themselves. Justice to themselves, as a first principle, has been their object; justice to women coming only second. This is so obvious that it has rarely been denied. It is denied, however, and plausibly, by a very able and temperate writer in *Blackwood* this month, who says:—

We have small faith, for our own part, in what is called class legislation, and smallest faith of all in that species of class legislation which could make the man an intentional and voluntary oppressor of the woman. This idea, that the two portions of humankind are natural antagonists to each other, is, to our thinking, at the very outset, a monstrous and unnatural idea. The very man who made the laws which send "women sobbing out of sight," had not only a wife, whom we may charitably suppose he was glad of a legal argument for tyrannising over, but doubtless such things as sisters and daughters, whom he could have no desire to subject to the tyranny of other men. There is no man in existence so utterly separated from one-half of his fellow-creatures as to be able to legislate against them in the interests of his own sex. No official character whatever can make so absurd and artificial a distinction. Let us vindicate, in the first instance, the law and the law-maker. It is possible that the poor may legislate against the rich, or the rich against the poor, but to make such an antagonism between men and women is against all reason and all nature.

The point is certainly well put; but considering that the writer has little faith in the palpable fact of the rich making laws in favour of themselves against the poor, our readers will not, perhaps, have much confidence in his argument. He appears to us to confound two very different things, namely, a predominance of the tendency to do justice to themselves, on the part of lawmakers, with a conscious and deliberate perpetration of injustice to others. The Irishman's reciprocity, which was "all on one side," is a reciprocity very discernible in law-making. We need not suppose the injustice to be deliberate. We have only to consider the natural tendency of egoism actuating all human beings, and we shall then explain the discrepancies of justice.

This writer is more cogent when he comes to details. He sees clearly and states forcibly the difficulties of the case:—

The justice which means an equal division of rights has no place between those two persons whom natural policy as well as Divine institution teach us to consider as one. It seems a harsh saying, but it is a true one—Justice cannot be done between them; their rights are not to be divided; they are beyond the reach of all ordinary principles of equity. In the event of a disjunction between the father and the mother, the wife and the husband, you must choose which of them you shall be just to; for it is impossible to do justice to both.

For it is not the question of the wife's earnings or the wife's property which lies nearest the heart of this controversy: there are the children—living witnesses of the undividedness of the parents. You give their custody to the husband. It is a grievous and sore injustice to the mother who bore them. But let us alter the case. Let the wife have the little ones, and how does the question stand? The ground is changed, but the principle is the same. Still injustice, hard, unnatural, and pitiless; still wrong, grievous and inexcusable. The native right of father and of mother is as equal as it is inseparable, and we see no mode of deciding between them, save that expedient of King Solomon's, which it would be hard to put in practice. The law is unjust in this particular. What else can the law be? True, it might choose the wife, the weaker of the two, as the object of its favour, but that would not be less unjust; and while we are totally at a loss to comprehend how a husband could separate his children from their mother, it is quite as difficult, by all the principles of natural justice, to understand how these same children could be taken from their father by means of the wife. Where is the justice?—which is the arrangement of equity? If we admit the principle of selecting one of the parties for special consideration, there is no more to be said upon the subject, for the husband's rights are quite as valid as those of the wife; but abstract justice in this matter, which is the most important of all, is a clear impossibility.

The law can secure to the separated woman an unquestionable right to her own earnings; but the law cannot secure to her her children. Nature has not made her their sole possessor. God has not given to the mother a special and peculiar claim. It is hard, but it is true. The law might confer upon her the right to bereave her husband of this dearest possession, as it now gives him the right to bereave her; but the law can only, by so doing, favour one unfair claim to the disadvantage of another; for in this matter right and justice are impossible.

But every one has felt this grand difficulty of the children, a difficulty which no legislation can remove. There are, however, numerous cases where it does not intervene. If no affection, if no interest, if none of the old links of habit are strong enough to make a continuance of the marriage endurable, Legislation ought to permit its being discontinued without the frightful injustice which at present falls on the woman. We are by no means disposed to join in the cry against the "tyranny" of men, in this matter. We believe the injustice of the laws and the reluctance of men to alter them, arise, mainly, from the profound ignorance of women which is unhappily prevalent among men, and which is betrayed whenever they open their lips on the subject. And this ignorance is the more obstructive because it is traditional, consequently gains no enlightenment from experience. Men, who have lived long and seen much of women, talk, for the most part, like schoolboys, and what they talk they think.

Nor is what is written about women much wiser, although diametrically opposite in tone. A delightful article in *Fraser*, on the "Treatment of Love in Novels," suggests this reflection. Every one knows the impossible nonsense which passes for the language of love, and for accurate representation of female character in Novels, with rare exceptions: how highflown, unreal, unbelieved in is the sentiment they express, how utterly factitious the nature

of the woman represented. Of course, men write in less highflown strain when they write elsewhere than in the three-volume pages; but, for the most part, the fiction is still kept up, they shirk the reality, and put forward an "ideal" (and such an ideal!). Now we know few things more piquant than the contrast between the private talk of these novelists and their "official opinion;" the one is as false as the other, but the one is, at any rate, believed in.

We must not however, be seduced into an essay, especially as this very agreeable paper in *Fraser*, to which we allude, does not touch on the subject at all, but merely sketches the general style of treatment Love receives in the novels of CHARLOTTE SMITH, ANN OF SWANSEA, REGINA ROCHE, FIELDING, the Minerva Press, and the novels of our own day. It, happily, indicates the "conventional" nature of the expression. Man, indeed, is a rigid conventionalist in hats, shirt-collars, beard, and morals. He hates non-conformity. The despotism of what is 'established' vexes all independent minds by the absurdity with which it insists on conformity. As an agreeable writer in *Tait* says this month in his "Tangled Talk," the world ever exclaims:—

"Do what you please, only call it by the same name that we do—then, we will let you alone, but not till then." The world will pardon a thousand irregularities, even gross vices, much sooner than it will forgive a life the key note of which is pitched a little too high for its own tastes. Live as grovelling a life as you please, and stick to *les bienséances*, and you will pass muster. Live the life of an angel with the least bit of a protesting air, or anything that can be construed into it, and the very first deflection from the beaten track, though it should be made in the fear of highest heaven and with bleeding feet, will be treated worse than a vice.

The most correct and thoughtful liver I ever knew told me that ever since he could remember, he had had his inferiors in character, and occasionally his inferiors in capacity, preaching virtue to him. I believe the case is common.

The same writer says:—

A book might be written upon the curiosities of criticism. In a review of Mr. Longfellow's "Hiawatha," in a serial of character and long-standing, it is made a fatal objection against the poem that the Supreme is represented as smoking a pipe! In a recent number of the "Leisure Hour," Juliet's suggestion about cutting up Romeo into little stars ("Romeo and Juliet," act iii. scene 2), which is referred to by Emerson, is quoted as one of that great American's unintelligible vagaries! In another magazine, Gerald Massey was charged the other day with stealing from E. B. Browning the words, "The Lord had need of her." (See *Luke*, xix. 34.) In the same article, the obvious expression—"Strength and Beauty hand-in-hand," must needs be traced to Shelley, as if it could not be found in a thousand other places, and as if it were not a perfectly natural phrase which anybody is at liberty to use.

Even more amusing than such specimens of ignorance are the abundant specimens of lofty assumption which many periodical critics display. At the very moment they are betraying to every knowing reader the extremely imperfect knowledge they have of the subject, their language is that of men who have nothing to learn. Here is a sample, from the *New Quarterly Review*, taken from a notice of a chapter on German Literature in *Alison's History of Europe*:—

Goëthe of course occupies a prominent place on the list. This is not the place to enter on a disquisition of Goëthe's merits as an author. No one who has not read his works could benefit by the few remarks that our space allows us to make, and they would be needless to others. We agree with the opinion given of the character of his writings, which in spite of his great powers, afford unequivocal proofs that he was both selfish and sensual.

Pray observe the high hand with which the writer carries his ignorance, the compassionate allusion to those who have not read GOETHE'S works, coming from one who cannot even spell GOETHE'S name, and who does not know that the two dots he has placed over the *e* make that *e* a superfluity. GÖTTE, is the same as GOETHE; but Goëthe is a word to which the German language cannot accommodate itself. After betraying himself thus, the unconscious writer, with the same unhesitating confidence, pronounces GOETHE to have been "both selfish and sensual." *Qui trompe-t-on ici?*

## HOURS WITH THE MYSTICS.

*Hours with the Mystics. A Contribution to the History of Religious Opinion.* By Robert Alfred Vaughan, B.A. 2 volumes. J. W. Parker and Son.

RARELY is deep and extensive erudition clothed in elegant literature. Your learned writers are apt to be writers whom it is laborious to read. But the two qualities of learning and style are united in these volumes. Mr. Vaughan has obviously great sympathy with Mysticism, or he would not have "lived laborious days" studying and reproducing the opinions of the Mystics; but the obscurity, the caprice, the odd jostling of arguments with fancies, the tangential mode of reasoning, and the fervour of enthusiasm, which characterise mystical writings, are not even traceable in these volumes. The style is singularly lucid, and quite remarkable for the novelty and variety of its illustrations, drawn from books and from nature.

Why did he write about the Mystics, unless impelled thereto by some secret affinity? The affinity we suspect to have been moral rather than intellectual. He does not share the mystical errors; he does not even accept the mystical method. The whole intellectual process seems to him a mistaken and inarticulate effort; but the thought which it tried to articulate, the impulse which made men Mystics, that indeed seems to him of vital importance:—

In the religious history of almost every age and country, we meet with a certain class of minds, impatient of mere ceremonial forms and technical distinctions, who have pleaded the cause of the heart against proscription, and yielded themselves to the most vehement impulses of the soul, in its longing to escape from the sign to the thing signified—from the human to the divine. The story of such an ambition, with its disasters and its glories, will not be deemed, by any thoughtful mind, less worthy of record than the career of a conqueror. Through



all the changes of doctrine and the long conflict of creeds, it is interesting to trace the unconscious unity of mystical temperaments in every communion. It can scarcely be without some profit that we essay to gather together and arrange this company of ardent natures; to account for their harmony and their differences, to ascertain the extent of their influence for good and evil, to point out their errors, and to estimate even dreams impossible to cold or meaner spirits.

These Mystics have been men of like passions and in like perplexities with many of ourselves. Within them and without them were temptations, mysterious aspirations like our own. A change of names, or an interval of time, does not free us from liability to mistakes in their direction, or to worse, it may be, in a direction opposite. To distinguish between the genuine and the spurious in their opinion or their life, is to erect a guide-post on the very road we have ourselves to tread. It is no idle or pedantic curiosity which would try these spirits by their fruits, and see what mischief and what blessing grew out of their misconceptions and their truth. We learn a lesson for ourselves, as we mark how some of these Mystics found God within them after vainly seeking Him without—hearkened happily to that witness for Him which speaks in our conscience, affections, and desires; and, recognising love by love, finally rejoiced in a faith which was rather the life of their heart than the conclusion of their logic. We learn a lesson for ourselves, as we see one class among them forsaking common duties for the feverish exaltation of a romantic saintship, and another persisting in their conceited rejection of the light without, till they have turned into darkness their light within.

In the course of his volumes he treats of early Oriental Mysticism, the Neoplatonic Mystics, Mysticism in the Greek and Latin Churches, German Mysticism in the fourteenth century, Persian Mysticism in the Middle Ages, Theosophy at the Reformation, the Spanish Mystics, Quietism, Mysticism in England, and Swedenborg. Now, unless an author adopted the facile method of secondhand compilation, it is obvious, from a mere glance at these topics, that his erudition must be at once special and extensive. And this erudition Mr. Vaughan seems to possess. We say seems, because, as we have no direct knowledge of the subject, we cannot pretend to decide on the quality of his, except in as far as long practice has enabled us to form a tolerably certain guess when a writer speaks from first or second hand; and according to internal evidence we should pronounce the varied erudition of the notes to these volumes to be genuine. He has, moreover, adopted the modest, and as we think judicious, plan of not thrusting these notes under the eye of readers who would feel no interest in them: the text may be read off without a single interruption. An appendix to each volume contains the mass of notes and *pièces justificatives* which the curious reader only will consult.

The book is in conversations—which we think a mistaken method of giving a popular form to the materials—and instead of elaborate essays on each topic, or an historic narrative setting forth the lives and doctrines of the Mystics, there are elaborate conversations about each topic, with historical information casually thrown in, or in some cases taking the form of a “paper” read aloud by one of the company. It is our conviction that a graver form would have made the book more popular. Mr. Vaughan need not have feared lest he should have become dull by becoming orderly and circumstantial. His conversations have the defect of being fragmentary, and unsatisfactory in exciting a curiosity about the Mystics, rather than in making us feel we know as much about them as we desire. It is true as he says:—

Mysticism has no genealogy. It is no tradition conveyed across frontiers or down the course of generations as a ready-made commodity. It is a state of thinking and feeling, to which minds of a certain temperament are liable at any time or place, in occident and orient, whether Romanist or Protestant, Jew, Turk, or Infidel. It is more or less determined by the positive religion with which it is connected. But though conditioned by circumstance or education, its appearance is ever the spontaneous product of a certain crisis in individual or social history.

And a developmental view of his subject was not possible; yet he has himself given specimens of what we mean—the account of Madame Guyon for example—when we say that he might have told us as much about each Mystic as we care to know.

His final verdict on Mysticism is expressed in this passage:—

Observe how this mysticism pretends to raise man above self into the universal, and issues in giving us only what is personal. It presents us, after all, only with the creations of the fancy, the phenomena of the sensibility peculiar to the individual,—that finite, personal idiosyncrasy which is so despised. Its philosophy of the universe subsides into a morbid psychology.

Having made our readers acquainted with Mr. Vaughan's method, materials, and point of view, we have now only to indicate, as well as an example or two will do so, the style in which his book is written. Take for instance his rapid narrative of the

#### BLACK DEATH AND THE FLAGELLANTS.

In the year 1348 that terrible contagion, known as the Black Death, which journeyed from the East to devastate the whole of Europe, appeared at Strasburg. Everywhere famine, floods, the inversion of the seasons, strange appearances in the sky, had been its precursors. In the Mediterranean Sea, as afterwards in the Baltic, ships were desolated drifting masterless, filled only by plague-stricken corpses. Every man dreaded, not merely the touch and the breath of his neighbour, but his very eye, so subtle and so swift seemed the infection. In many parts of France it was computed that only two out of every twenty inhabitants were left alive. In Strasburg sixteen thousand perished; in Avignon sixty thousand. In Paris, at one time, four or five hundred were dying in a day. In that city, in the midst of a demoralisation and a selfish horror like that Thucydides has painted, the Sisters of Mercy was seen tending the sufferers who crowded the Hôtel Dieu; and as death thinned their martyr-ranks, numbers more were ready to fill the same office of perilous compassion. Pausanias says that in Athens alone out of all Greece there was raised an altar to mercy. But it was an altar almost without a ministry. Heathendom, at its best, might glory in the shrine; Christianity, at its worst, could furnish the priesthood.

In Strasburg Tauler laboured fearlessly, with Thomas and Ludolph, among the panic-stricken people—doubly cursed by the Interdict and by the plague. Great fires of vine-wood, wormwood, and laurel were kept burning in the squares and market places to purify the air, lighting up the carved work of the deserted town-hall, and flickering against the overhanging gables of the narrow crooked streets and the empty tradesmen's stalls. The village was ravaged as fatally as the town. The herds grew wild in the fields of the dead peasants, or died strangely them-

selves—victims, apparently, to the universal blight of life. The charlatans of the day drove for awhile a golden traffic with quintessences and distillations, filthy and fantastic medicines, fumigation of shirts and kerchiefs, charms and invocations, only at last to perish in their turn. Even the monks had lost their love for gold, since every gift was deadly. In vain did trembling men carry their hoards to the monastery or the church. Every gate was barred, and the wealthy might be seen tossing their bags of bezants over the convent walls. In the outskirts of towns and cities, huge pits were opened, whose mouths were daily filled with hideous heaps of dead. The Pope found it necessary to consecrate the river Rhone, and hundreds of corpses were cast out at Avignon, from the quays and pleasant gardens by the water-side, to be swept by the rapid stream under the silent bridges, past the forgotten ships and forsaken fields and mourning towns, livid and wasting, out into the sea.

In a frenzy of terror and revenge the people fell upon the miserable Jews. They were accused of poisoning the wells, and every heart was steeled against them. Fear seemed to render all classes more ferocious, and the man who might sicken and die to-morrow found a wretched compensation in inflicting death to-day on the imagined authors of his danger. Toledo was supposed to be the centre of an atrocious scheme by which the Jews were to depopulate Christendom. At Chillon several Jews, some after torture and some in terror of it, confessed that they had received poison for that purpose. It was a black and red powder, made partly from a basilisk, and sent in the mummy of an egg. The deposition of the Jews arrested at Neustadt was sent by the castellan of Chillon to Strasburg. Bishops, nobles, and chief citizens held a diet at Binnefeld in Alsace, to concert measures of persecution. The deputies of Strasburg, to their honour be it spoken, declared that nothing had been proved against the Jews. Their bishop was the most pitiless advocate of massacre. The result was a league of priests, lords, and people, to slay or banish every Jew. In some places the senators and burgomasters were disposed to mercy or to justice. The Pope and the Emperor raised their voices, alike in vain, in behalf of the victims. Some Christians, who had sought from pity or from avarice to save them, perished in the same flames. The noble of whom they bought protection was stigmatised as a Jew-master, execrated by the populace, at the mercy of his enemies. No power could stem the torrent. The people had tasted blood; the priest had no mercy for the murderers of the Lord; the baron had debts easily discharged by the death of his creditor. At Strasburg, a monster scaffold was erected in the Jewish burial ground, and two thousand were burnt alive. At Basle all the Jews were burnt together in a wooden edifice erected for the purpose. At Spire they set their quarter in flames, and perished by their own hands. A guard kept out the populace while men commissioned by the senate hunted for treasure among the smoking ruins. The corrupting bodies of those slain in the streets were put up in empty wine casks, and trundled into the Rhine. When the rage for slaughter had subsided, hands, red with Hebrew blood, were piously employed in building belfries and repairing churches with Jewish tombstones and the materials of Jewish houses.

The gloomy spirit of the time found fit expression in the fanaticism of the Flagellants. Similar troops of devotees had in the preceding century carried throughout Italy the mania of the scourge; but never before had the frenzy of penance been so violent or so contagious. It was in the summer of 1349 that they appeared in Strasburg. All the bells rang out as two hundred of them, following two and two many costly banners and tapers, entered the city, singing strange hymns. The citizens vied with each other in opening to them their doors and seating them at their tables. More than a thousand joined their ranks. Whoever entered their number was bound to continue among them thirty-four days, must have fourpence of his own for each day, might enter no house unasked, might speak with no woman. The lash of the master awaited every infraction of their rule. The movement partook of the popular, anti-hierarchical spirit of the day. The priest or friar could hold no rank, as such, among the Flagellants. The mastership was inaccessible to him, and he was precluded from the secret council. The scourging took place twice a day. Every morning and evening they repaired in procession to the place of flagellation outside the city. There they stripped themselves, retaining only a pair of linen drawers. They lay down in a large circle, indicating by their posture the particular sin of which each penitent was principally guilty. The perjured lay on his side, and held up three fingers; the adulterer on his face. The master then passed round, applying his lash to each in succession, chanting the rhyme—

Stand up in virtue of holy pain,  
And guard the well from guilt again.

One after the other, they rose and followed him, singing and scourging themselves with whips in which were great knots and nails. The ceremony closed with the reading of a letter, said to have been brought by an angel from heaven, enjoining their practice, after which they returned home in order as they came. The people crowded from far and near to witness the piteous expiation, and to watch with prayers and tears the flowing blood which was to mingle with that of Christ. The pretended letter was revered as another gospel, and the Flagellant was already believed before the priest. The clergy grew anxious as they saw the enthusiasm spreading on every side. But the unnatural furor could not last; its own extravagance prepared its downfall. An attempt made by some Flagellants in Strasburg to bring a dead child to life was fatal to their credit. The Emperor, the Pope, and the prelates took measures against them simultaneously, in Germany, in France, in Sicily, and in the East. The pilgrimage of the scourge was to have lasted four-and-thirty years. Six months sufficed to disgust men with the folly, to see their angelic letter laughed to scorn, their processions denounced, their order scattered.

The extract is long, but we could not bring ourselves to abridge it. Of his illustrations take this:—

#### A FIRM YET PLIANT CHARACTER.

Men of his species resemble fountains, whose water-columns a sudden gust of wind may drive aslant, or scatter in spray across the lawn, but—the violence once past—they play upward as truly and as strong as ever.

Again:—

#### THE STRUGGLE OF DEFUNCT SYSTEMS.

ATHERTON. The struggles of heathendom to escape its doom only the more display its weakness and the justice of the sentence.

GOWEN. Like the man in the *Gesta Romanorum*, who came to the gate where every humpbacked, one-eyed, scold-headed passenger had to pay a penny for each infirmity: they were going only to demand toll for his hunch, but he resisted, and in the struggle was discovered to be amenable for every deformity and disease upon the table. So, no doubt, it must always be with systems, states, men, and dogs, that won't know when they have had their day. The scuffle makes sad work with the patched clothes, false teeth, wig, and cosmetics.

## THE POLITICAL LIFE OF SIR ROBERT PEELE.

*The Political Life of Sir Robert Peel, Bart. An Analytical Biography.* By Thomas Doubleday, author of *The Financial History of England*. 2 vols. Smith, Elder, and Co.

LET all readers, before they take in hand the personal memoirs of Sir Robert Peel, announced by Mr. Murray, peruse the preparatory volumes of Mr. Doubleday. In these, the statesman's character and public acts are seriously analysed, in the spirit neither of a detractor nor of a panegyrist. Mr. Doubleday does not exaggerate his own impartiality when he avows that he is beyond the reach of political passion. His work is a grave, critical review, not free from theoretical bias, or from dogmatism, but altogether without harshness, violence, or illiberality. Its principal fault results from the mental habits of the writer, who has so far identified himself with questions of political economy, currency, and finance, that his special subjects perpetually crop out, obscuring others of proportionate interest. There is no doubt that Sir Robert Peel's name is associated with great economical discussions; but it was associated also with others, to some of which Mr. Doubleday does not attribute their legitimate importance. Entering largely into the history of Catholic Emancipation, his narrative of the Reform Movement, like all other narratives that we have seen, is colourless and meagre. Even the Corn Law agitation suggests only a sketch and a summary, though, inasmuch as it concerned the political life of Sir Robert Peel, it is probably developed with all necessary amplitude and minuteness. We would by no means undervalue Mr. Doubleday's work because it is not a history of the half century represented by Sir Robert Peel's career. The exigences of his plan, —and his plan depended on his limits—forced him to introduce only in a passing way the names of other statesmen who also rose at the same period and acted in the same scene. His portraiture is strictly of Sir Robert Peel, not of the group of statesmen among whom Peel held a foremost place, though, as they all operated more or less on the political events of the epoch, their characters and opinions are touched from time to time, and in some instances, with extraordinary sharpness and decision. But Mr. Doubleday never writes for effect. His style is invariably cold, lucid, logical, as the style of a political biographer should be. The book, therefore, may be recommended as an admirable study for our younger race of politicians.

Sir Robert Peel is often quoted by foreigners as an example of the democratic tendencies of the English nation. They see this son of a cotton-spinner sent for from Florence to be made Prime Minister of England, and the moral deduced is, that any man possessed of distinguished abilities may rise from whatever station to political rank and power. But the Peels were a fortunate family, and, without disparaging the talents of the man who made the Duke of Wellington his official subordinate, it is necessary to take into the account the prodigious facilities of his position. His father had been made a baronet by Pitt, had been among the first to take advantage of the invention of machinery for cotton-manufactures, had acquired enormous influence in his country, sat in Parliament, and when his son, after an Eton and Oxford training, was twenty-one years of age, sent him into the House of Commons unpledged, uncompromised, to finish his education. There he took his place, heir to a baronetage and nearly a million of money, listening to orations on economy by Horner, Huskisson, and Brougham, with Perceval as Premier, the Tories in the ascendant, Canning labouring with ambition, Sheridan still flickering on the opposition benches, Tierney voluble and audacious, Romilly who never debated, but advised, and Burdett concentrating in himself the opinions of Horne Tooke and William Cobbett. The elder Peel being a Tory, the younger Peel, of course, was a Tory also, with the gloss of Oxford in addition. His father, who understood better how to develop the faculties of children in cotton-mills, than to guide a young man to political distinction, made some injudicious displays of confidence in the talents of his son, and the talents of his son were naturally suspected. At the same time a showy young lord, intitled Palmerston, entered the House, with friendly prophecies of fame about him, and Mr. Peel began his career, doubted, but not unnoticed.

Observe the rapidity of his successes; how he found a position made for him by his father. He entered Parliament in 1809; in the session of 1810 he was marked as a rising new member on the ministerial side, by having to second the address to the Throne. Fortunately, the mover not only spoke badly, but broke down, so that the seconder's elegant fluency secured the cheers of the House. He was not so happy when he next, of his own impulse, ventured into a political discussion. He undertook to defend the Walcheren expedition. But, in 1811, Mr. Perceval gave him the post of Under-secretary for the Colonies, which, at that time, could be filled by any man of sound practical sense, for Great Britain was the only colonial power; her dependencies were contented, peaceable, and had been safe from the visitations of the great European war ever since Nelson had swept the last French fleet off the seas at Trafalgar. One cause of the particular influence of the Peel family was this:—that they represented the manufacturing interest which never till then had competed with that of the land. Mr. Perceval, anxious to conciliate this new political power, availed himself of every opportunity to attach the elder Peel to his party, by promoting the younger. But his career drew to a close: Bellingham's pistol-shot in the lobby of the House of Commons struck down the minister and dissolved the ministry. The new administration under Lord Liverpool did not forget the young debater, as conspicuous for his serious judgment as for family influence. He was appointed, in his twenty-fourth year, Chief Secretary for Ireland, then distracted by the collision of the Catholic national interest with the petty Protestant ascendancy. The Irish punsters, of course, did not omit to call him Orange Peel, and he was certainly as stubborn and bigotted as Lord Liverpool could desire. O'Connell was in the arena, with ruthless, almost brutal oratory, and Peel retorted in that style of ponderous ridicule with which he afterwards tried to confound the irrefutable Cobbett.

Mr. Doubleday analyses minutely the circumstances which led to the imposition of the Corn Law of 1855, confesses that Mr. Peel's Irish policy was a mere doctoring of symptoms, and illustrates forcibly the ignorance of the leading statesmen who sought to eclipse the public discontent by misrepresentation. One measure proposed by the elder Peel, supported by the younger, and assented to by Horner and the other economists, was the limitation of the hours of labour for factory children. Mr. Doubleday cordially approves the principle, adding details in proof of the tyranny exercised by the

manufacturers over apprentices and parish children. Sometimes these wretched slaves of the loom were sent two or three hundred miles from their place of birth, and separated for life from their parents. With a bankrupt's effects a "gang" of them was frequently put up for sale. In one instance, a Lancashire manufacturer agreed with a London parish to take one idiot with every twenty sound children. In another, a master, to punish the contumacy of a girl employed in his works stifled her in a heated oven. Certainly, here were grounds for parliamentary interference; but Sir Robert Peel's views have never been, to this hour, practically and systematically developed. His son's advancement, however, continued without interruption. In 1818, he took advantage of the Eldon and Liverpool influence, to be returned as member for Oxford, after which, with equivocal gratitude, he deserted the administration.

The administration tottered, not because he had left it, for he left it because it tottered, and Mr. Peel, now "the Right Honourable," was saluted by the independent members, and elected Chairman of the Second Bullion Committee, of which Mr. Ricardo was the master-spirit. At this point his financial policy assumed a distinct character, and here Mr. Doubleday diverges, not forgetting in his peroration to protest against the Cash-payments Act, attributable, he says, not to the late Sir Robert Peel, but to Mr. David Ricardo. Peel, now thirty-one years of age, was no longer the supplement of his father, who opposed him on the gold debate. The resolutions and the act were carried: but whether salutary or pernicious, they could have no immediate effect on a country suffering in its industry, in its trade, in its harvests; and the Manchester massacre came as a commentary on the fallacies of legislation. Peel was the political volunteer who addressed to the House of Commons the apology of this illegal and ferocious act. He was never moved by liberal sympathies; he was cold, always thought himself cautious, invariably adopted the winning cause. In the quarrel between George the Fourth and Queen Caroline he took no part, thereby offending both sides. He resisted the Catholic relief Bill until concession became a political necessity, and then took the lead of the party he had been opposing. When Canning, after a life of feverish political cupidity, became Premier, and induced the Duke of Clarence to become his Lord High Admiral, as Lord Eldon induced the Duke of York to become his spokesman in the Peers. Hansard says:—

"The House was crowded to excess; and such of the members as could not find accommodation below, resorted to the galleries. To these were added several peers and reverend prelates, whose curiosity had induced them to be present at this opening act of the new administration. The Bishops of Bath and Wells and of Lichfield and Coventry sat in the right hand gallery, and near them the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl Fitzwilliam, and Lord Seaford, whilst in the opposite gallery were observed the Marquisses Aylesbury and Sligo, the Earls Cowper, Hardwicke, Darnley, Caernarvon and Roden, and Lords Bexley, Farnham, and Ravensworth. About five o'clock Mr. Canning entered, and took the seat which he usually occupied. Immediately behind him sat Sir Francis Burdett and Mr. Tierney. Mr. Brougham walked up the ministerial side, and took his seat on the third of that side. Near him sat Mr. Calcraft, Sir John Newport, and Lord Stanley and Robers Wilson, and Mr. Spring Rice. Mr. Hobhouse retained his seat on the second opposition bench, and Mr. Hume remained firm in that he has generally occupied. Mr. Peel and Mr. Goulbourn took up their stations on the second row of seats between the treasury bench and the bar."

It was the object of Sir Francis Burdett and the Whigs to break up the Tory phalanx, of Peel to damage Canning and get his place, of Canning to compel the support of the Tories, by taking up violently all the principles of the Tory programme.

As there have been one or two questions asked me, I trust the House will extend its indulgence to me whilst I briefly answer them. I am asked what I mean to do on the subject of Parliamentary Reform? Why, I say to oppose it to the end of my life in this House, under whatever shape it may appear. (Cheers.) I am asked what I intend to do as to the Test Act? I say to oppose it. (Cheers.)

Mr. Doubleday says that Mr. Canning's whole character partook of the selfish and the superficial. He does not say the same of Sir Robert Peel, because Peel, though he never became the champion of a half-deserted cause, always gave way to an irresistible public opinion on public grounds, without reckoning the supporters he should lose, or the strength he should give his adversaries. It was not his practice to revile the advocates of Emancipation or Reform as Jacobites or Jacobins, as "a Papistical crew," or as "a revolutionary gang." These terms were left to peers and sons of peers. It was only when he had to deal with an Irishman or Cobbett that he became furious, insolent, and unmannerly. As his experience increased, he learned to modify his method of advocacy and of opposition, conscious, perhaps, that he might have to change sides, and expose himself to those charges of inconsistency which he once levelled so bitterly at Wellesley Pole. At one time, alarmed by a proposal to admit the Jews to Parliament, he afterwards taunted the bigots who "would visit the sins of the fathers on the children." The question of Reform once settled, he refused to disturb it. Emancipation once granted, he never listened to any reactionary schemes. From first to last he was a watchful, rather than a reflective statesman; it was at no time his fortune to make the dispositions of a political battle. He often led the victory; but he never bore the heat and burden of the conflict.

This analytical biography is a work of great merit, conscientiously prepared, plain, clear, and practically interesting. It is not Mr. Doubleday's most original production; but it is the one that exhibits, most prominently, his peculiar talents, which are those of a thoughtful, reasoning, dispassionate narrator, qualified by large investigations to deal with the variations of a statesman's policy.

## A POLITICAL STUDENT.

*The European Revolutions of 1848.* By E. S. Cayley. 2 Vols. Smith and Elder.

MR. CAYLEY'S volumes consist of a loose compilation from a few historical fragments, pamphlets, and periodicals. He has so little confidence in his authorities that he never cites them. Therefore, for purposes of reference, the book is worthless. As a summary it is confused, disjointed, so seldom accurate, and so invariably partial, that it must be taken only as a theme by a raw student, who is at once ignorant of historical method and destitute of historical faculty. A general review of the events of 1848 might, in many



senses, or in one sense out of many, be a very useful and meritorious work. It would be useful if it brought together the documentary records of the European revolution, or if, systematically referring to those *pièces justificatives*, it presented, in clear generalisation, the series of incidents from the first signs of trouble to the French *Coup d'Etat* of 1851. Or if the writer, without authenticating his narrative, had rhetorically and brilliantly told the moving story, or judiciously analysed the interests and passions, the accidents and conspiracies that operated in the insurrectionary year, his work might have received the attention of serious readers. But Mr. Cayley, quoting no authorities, exhibiting no capacity of criticism, unable to frame a regular plan, habituated to vulgar frivolities of language, imagines that a lengthy, sodden statement, unsupported by the slightest show of respectable testimonies, abounding in the grossest errors, and in the garbage of facetious levity, will be adopted as a manual of the history of 1848. Being, from its monotony, scarcely readable—from its incompleteness, scarcely intelligible—from its exaggeration, utterly unreliable—this credulous recapitulation should have been left in the writer's desk. He says it was not originally intended for publication. Having been inspired by the uproar of 1848 with political curiosity, Mr. Cayley determined to learn a little politics, and, having earned a little, thought himself qualified, inevitably, to teach. He had "collected most of the historical works bearing on the subject, as well as all the printed political articles and pamphlets that could be procured, both foreign and English." The "most" and the "all," here indicated, were, we suspect, a few haphazard selections. Otherwise, Mr. Cayley would not have shrunk from quoting "all" or any of their titles and authors. Moreover, he "gathered such oral information as was available to him," which, being interpreted, means gossip believed at random. However, it is of no consequence where Mr. Cayley found his materials, as he has not told us what they were. We can only judge of the manner in which he has used them, premising that, to all appearance, they were inadequate, since Mr. Cayley has been forced to throw in a mass of ponderous irrelevancy on the English Currency Laws, and the Bank Charter Act, and on "The English Revolution (that was to be)."

The chapters, for the most part, contain, besides irregular sections of the narrative, separate essays on the political elements. Mr. Cayley, venturing into historical literature, has been delighted by the crisp conciseness of certain axioms and epigrams which he imitates with a strong confidence in the general effect. Starting with the French Revolution of 1848, which he carefully misunderstands, he attributes its success, partly to the laxity of morals in the capital, partly to the number of convicts at large in the capital. An amusing imbecility is displayed in his illustration of this theory of the connexion between immorality and revolution. He refers to Lamartine's account of Emma Hamilton, considering it a proof of national depravity that M. Lamartine did not treat that unhappy woman with less sympathy than she has received from numerous English writers. This reminds me of the godly captain who said the French were beaten at Waterloo because they played with immorally-painted cards, and charged in columns. However, Mr. Cayley goes on to say that the chiefs of the secret societies embezzled most of the funds collected for political purposes, which is a scandalous and puerile assertion, since Mr. Cayley has no authority for the statement, or for the notion he writes against some of the most respectable men in France. Nor does he know what were the numbers, or the principles of the associations he alludes to. In describing the three days of February he asserts that the majority of the National Guard supported the king, that the populace began by murdering the troops, that helpless persons were assassinated, and that the Palais Royal and the Tuileries were sacked for the sake of booty. All this is notoriously and gratuitously false. What follows concerning the provisional Government is a wordy imitation of Burke's eloquent rhapsody on the Revolution. Thence to the election of the President, Mr. Cayley's narrative is a tame and commonplace recapitulation of events too well-known to be successfully misrepresented. It is a proof of his perfect incapacity to deal with historical subjects that he describes Louis Napoleon as representing, in France, "the principle of legitimacy," the "hereditary principle," which "appears so strongly implanted in man's nature, that it cannot have been put there but for good purpose." Declining a philosophical discussion with such a writer, we must remind him that there is a dynasty called the Bourbon, and that he ought, when he began his political studies, to have read back a little in the history of France.

Mr. Cayley, who talks of principles implanted in man's nature for good purposes, quotes the oaths and the speeches of Louis Napoleon, on being elected President:—

Citizen Representatives—It is impossible that I can keep silence after the calumnies of which I have been the object. I must express frankly, and at the earliest moment of my taking my seat amongst you, the real sentiments which animate, and which have ever animated me. After thirty-three years of proscription and exile, I am at last entitled to resume my rights as a citizen. The Republic has bestowed on me happiness; to the Republic I tender my oath of gratitude, my oath of devotion; and my generous countrymen who have returned me to this place, may be assured that I will endeavour to justify their choice by exerting myself with you to maintain tranquillity, the first necessity of the country, and the development of democratic institutions, which the people have the right to demand. For a long time I have been unable to consecrate to France anything but the meditations of exile and captivity. At last the career which you pursue is open to me. Receive me, then, my dear colleagues, into your ranks, with the same sense of affectionate confidence which I bring there. My conduct—always inspired by duty, always animated by respect for the law—my conduct will prove the falsehood of those who have attempted to blacken me for the purpose of still keeping me proscribed, and will demonstrate that no one is more firmly resolved than myself to establish and defend the Republic.

The oath was identical. After the *Coup d'Etat*—read Mr. Cayley's burlesque casuistry:—

He had sworn to maintain the democratic republic, and to fulfil the duties imposed on him by the constitution: any attempt to prorogue the assembly was visited with the pains of high treason. But what did the oath really mean? What is a "democratic republic?" What a republic is, we all know: it is another word for a state. All states are republics, properly so called. Some states are kingdoms, more are empires—some are neither one nor the other, and for the lack of any

other term, they have been called, indifferently, republics or states. The word "democratic," as a qualification of republic, signifies that the people are to be governed as they like, and not as any body else likes. Now, the meaning of the oath to remain faithful to the democratic republic, if it meant anything at all, was to remain faithful to the state in which the people had their own way. To suppose that the President meant to swear, or the assembly to impose, fidelity to the state in which the rabble was uppermost, is sheer nonsense.

The worst of this defence of perjury is that it is not ingenious. But it would be a waste of criticism to follow him closely through this verbose and uninteresting compilation. He talks of the people being "chopped down" at Milan; attributes the great troubles of the continent to incidents which were only the *occasions*, not the *causes* of the Revolution; speaks of his Holiness "being in a violent pucker;" of the Roman populace as "the greatest scoundrels on earth;" and satirises certain theories in this fashion:—

It is curious to find, after a severe conflict, that one's opponent and one's self have been all the while agreed on the *thing*, but have only differed in the mode of expressing it. The ingenious gentleman who called out his friend, and shot him for declaring that he could not have seen *anchovies* growing in a garden, and in walking home afterwards, mentioned to his second—"And sure, wasn't it *capers* I meant all the while?" is only an illustration of a too ordinary folly.

Only in a book by such a dunce as Mr. Cayley would it be possible to find, among political illustrations, the following:—

It was reported that one orator was heard to expound as follows:—

*Dirty Boy* (in worsted epaulets), No queen!—*Mob*, Hurrah!

*Dirty Boy*, No parliament!—*Mob*, Hurrah!

*Dirty Boy*, No caunstitooshun!—*Mob*, Hurrah!

*Dirty Boy*, No bloody nuffink!—*Mob*, Hurrah!

*Dirty Boy*, To the pallis!—*Mob*, Hurrah!

This refers to England. After discussing on rabbles and scoundrels in every part of Germany, he says "all the rogues and vagabonds of Germany" lived in Frankfort, justifies the execution of Messenhauser and Blum, and, with reference to the Baden insurrection, observes:—

The main results of these events were disordered finances, for the republican leaders had appropriated the public money without scruple.

This is another specimen of his impudent and ignorant manner. Who told him that the money was appropriated without scruple? Who appropriated it? For what was it appropriated? He mentions the execution of eighty victims with as much levity as he notices the upsetting of a cab in the streets of an Italian city. Affecting, in the treatment of Austrian politics, a magnanimous impartiality, he brings his reasonings on the injustice of the imperial government to this result; that Austria by her infatuation, and Hungary by her folly, necessitated and justified the intervention of Russia. German liberalism he dismisses by saying that colonies are not governed by iambs, and that the German student considers that "Greek has no affinity to grocery," or "philosophy to farming." Mr. Cayley has a right to be smart, if he can, but these clever little apothegms do not show that he is acquainted with the state of German opinion or with the deep causes of the half-completed Revolution. We have seldom met with so much impertinence in combination with so much vulgarity. Mr. Cayley hungers

after eloquence, and is domoastic; he hungers after wit, and is low, spiritless, and feeble.

If we add that he maintains the hereditary principle to be represented by Napoleon the Third, as strictly as by Victoria the First, denies that the *Coup d'Etat* was consummated by a massacre, affirms that the President of the Republic did not break his oath, it will be obvious how far this rabid compilation may be trusted.

We make our objections on critical grounds merely. If a writer pretends to give us an historical book, we insist on historical evidence, care, caution, and decency. We want authorities, references, and justifications. We will not receive, as compensations, the fritterings of ribaldry, ignorance, and rancour. Had a sensible man undertaken Mr. Cayley's task, and written as unambiguously as he *against* the principles of the revolution of 1848, and in behalf of the Imperial *Coup d'Etat* in France, his historical argument might have been well worth perusal, and not easy to refute. But, judging this narrative from the author's point of view, it is not even a creditable failure. Mr. Cayley, in utter contempt of his reader's judgment, flings before him a compilation without one quality of style to make it readable, or one historical authentication in proof of its candour or accuracy.

#### CHURCH HISTORY OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

*Kirchengeschichte der neuesten Zeit, von 1814 bis auf die Gegenwart.* (History of the Church from 1814 to the Present Time.) By Dr. Gieseler. Edited by Dr. Redepenning. London: Williams and Norgate.

THE history of the Church, as of every other department of human affairs, is the history of revolutionary movements and of reactions: the tide of opinion and sentiment is never really stationary, though to the unobservant eye it seems to sleep lazily at ebb, and to sustain for a long while the force with which it rushes against the barriers at high water. The reaction towards positive religion and pietism, which followed the revolutionary movement of the eighteenth century, did not begin in 1814, but it reached that point at which its onward movement became palpable. The War of Liberation in Germany had exalted the religious and imaginative tendencies of the nation; enthusiasm was the order of the day: the "Kaltcs Verstand"—the cold understanding was shuddered at as an evil principle, and through the haze of fervid emotion, *Gott, König, and Vaterland* were blended together, and shone as a Trinity in Unity. This religious and political reaction was strengthened by its alliance with the Romantic movement in literature and art which began with the nineteenth century. The main feature of this movement was the exaltation of the Mediæval above the Classic, of art animated by Christian spiritualism above the art animated by Greek humanism. And as mediæval art was developed in the closest union with Catholicism the Romantic school naturally had little sympathy with the Reformation, which had gone on the principle, so highly lauded by Andrew Fairservice, of "combing off" from the churches the productions of mediæval art, as unhealthy adjuncts to religious worship. Hence, some of the chief Romanticists, notably Frederic Stolberg and Frederic Schlegel, became converts to Rome, and of course these large fish were not

netted without an accompanying haul of small fry. Here we see the religious reaction exhibiting itself in its more imaginative and poetic phase. Its intellectual or ratiocinative phase was seen in the increased fervour and more thorough investigation thrown into the controversy between Rationalism and Supernaturalism in the Protestant Churches, and in the various theories by which it was attempted to place Christianity on a philosophical basis, at the head of which, and in an opposition to each other, stand the systems of Schleiermacher and the Hegelians. To these elements of interest have been added the fermentations within the Catholic Church, dating from the affair of the "Holy Coat"—the struggle between Prussia and Rome on the question of mixed marriages, and the attempt at a Union of the Lutheran and Reformed Churches.

France comes next to Germany in the interest of its Church History during the last half century; but here the drama turns not on the collision between Protestant interpretations or between Catholicism and Protestantism, but on the contest between Catholicism and Infidelity, and on the question of the external constitution of the Church. In the first act of the drama, we see Jesuit missionaries planting huge crosses, decked with lilies and little hearts, or frightening untheological laymen on their deathbeds by questions about Jansenius, Quesnel, and the Bull *Unigenitus*, while Liberalism in the background vents its scorn in a loud "aside." Here are the elements of the main plot; the secondary plot is the struggle between Ultramontanism and Gallicanism, and we are still far from the catastrophe.

The religious struggles of Germany and France are typical of those which have been going forward with greater or less vigour in every other country of Western Europe. Everywhere there is the same conflict between Reason and Faith; everywhere the question is—shall the Church govern itself, or shall it be governed by the State? And it is a splendid task to tell the history of this conflict as it has exhibited itself during the last fifty years.

Something towards this task has been done by Dr. Gieseler in the volume before us; but it is probable that he would have achieved much more if his labours had not been cut short by death. As it is, he has given us no more than a text-book of Church History since 1814; admirable for the ability with which he has digested facts, and the impartiality with which he has presented them, but affording scarcely more than an outline, and in most cases not extending beyond 1848. The volume has been formed from the materials left by him, to which he would, perhaps, have made large additions before publishing them himself. However, most persons who care about Church History, and all who make it a study, will find Dr. Gieseler's volume an acceptable source of information and a valuable book of reference. The section on English affairs is very meagre; but the sketch of religious history in the Papal States, in France, in Catholic Switzerland, and in Germany, is especially well done, and will make an excellent starting-point for further study of the subject.

The battle between Rationalism and Supernaturalism in Germany is chiefly confined to the clerical and professorial class, and their polemics have little interest even for the educated portion of the people. But, about fifteen years ago, there commenced a movement amongst the Protestants (corresponding to that of the German Catholics under Ronge and Czerski) which has given the controversy a more popular aspect. This is the association of the *Lichtfreunde*, or Friends of Light, springing from various centres—Magdeburg, Breslau, and Königsberg, and brought together by the common desire to free Christianity from the fetters of ecclesiastical confessions and dogmas, that its essential principles may have free development in accordance with the wants of the present age. The movement was proximately caused by the indications of an increased tendency in the government, on the accession of the present King of Prussia, to favour the more rigid adherence to dogmatic formulæ; but Uhlich, the leader of the party in Magdeburg, seems, like Wesley, to have had in the first instance no desire that his associates should separate from the National Church, but that they should remain in it, in order gradually to effect a reform in spirit and doctrine. The Government, however, frowned on the *Lichtfreunde*, and the result has been the formation of numerous free churches, in which the bond of faith seems to be of the most elastic kind, being woven apparently out of a mixture of Rationalism and of that Pantheistic interpretation of Christianity which has been promulgated by the younger Hegelians. The following fundamental principles adopted by the Free Church of Nordhausen may be taken as an example:—I. "God is the Father of all, the living God, the eternal Spirit, the sole Lord of the world: His rule is eternally Truth and Love." II. "Jesus is the Christ, the Saviour of Man: his message of reconciliation is Truth and Love." III. "The Spirit is holy in his nature, he fills the Universe, and brings us forth from God at our birth, makes us live through God in our life, and return to God at our death: The blessing wherewith he blesses us is Truth and Love."

It was to be expected that the ideas and movements of the *Lichtfreunde* would be saluted by loud denunciations from the orthodox party in the Church. The rigid Lutherans have become more intense and intolerant in their assertion of doctrines since the Government has made the attempt to amalgamate them with the Reformed Church; and orthodox theologians in Germany differ from the same class in England rather in their greater theological culture than in the greater amiability of their spirit. Hence, it is not surprising that before the *Lichtfreunde* had separated from the national church, they were declared to have forsaken the true Light of the World, and to be no longer brethren in Christ, and that the *Evangelische Kirchenzeitung*, the organ of Hengstenberg and his party, proclaimed them to be much farther removed from the foundations of true Christianity than the Pope and the Jesuits.

Such denunciations had their usual effect in heightening the centrifugal force in the dissidents, and the protest of the *Lichtfreunde*, like other protests, has ended in carrying the Protestants far beyond the limits they at first contemplated.

#### THE ART-JOURNAL.

The Art-Journal. April.

Virtue and Co.

We notice this number of the *Art-Journal* for the sake of reminding our readers that the Series containing *The Vernon Gallery* is now completed. It forms a set of six large and brilliant volumes, each a portfolio, elaborately and variously filled, with an illustrative text.

## Portfolia.

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

### BERANGER'S LAST VERSES.

WE have received, from a private and authentic source, a copy of the following stanzas, attributed to BERANGER. Some time since, we mentioned the arrest of a certain number of students, who raised the cry of "Vive Liberté!" as a salutation to BERANGER, at the tomb of the Republican sculptor, DAVID D'ANGERS. It is known that the events of December, 1851, and the creation of the second Empire, profoundly affected the veteran Poet who had sung the glories of the first, and who lives to bitterly regret the halo of enthusiasm his immortal odes have shed around the memory of the founder of Imperial despotism in France:—

#### MON MEA CULPA AUX ETUDIANTS.

Pauvres enfants! quoi! vous croyez encore  
Qu'on peut crier: "Vive la Liberté!"  
Et sous les plis du drapeau tricolore  
Fêter celui qui l'a ressuscité!  
Mes méchants vers dont vous gardez mémoire,  
Oubliez les, je viens les renier,  
Si j'y croyais, je maudirais ma gloire:  
Ah! pardonnez au pauvre chansonnier.  
Parquels côtés, ce temps qu'on fait revivre,  
Ressemble-t-il aux jours rêvés par moi?  
Moi, qui jamais n'ai cessé de poursuivre  
Laquais, flatteurs, empereur, Pape, et Roi!  
Si j'eus des chants pour un grand Capitaine,  
C'est qu'il était sans sceptre et prisonnier,  
Brumaire était puni par Sainte Héleine.  
Ah! pardonnez au pauvre chansonnier.  
Pour moi Nisard sera-t-il l'éloquence,  
Et Leverrier un second Arago?  
Suis-je l'ami de la nuit, du silence,  
Et Belmontet me tient-il lieu d'Hugo?  
Enfin, mon Dieu, si clement, si bonhomme,  
Est-il le Dieu du sbire et du geôlier?  
Est-il celui que l'on protège à Rome!  
Ah! pardonnez au pauvre chansonnier.  
Oui! j'ai chanté l'épopée héroïque,  
Des habits bleus par la victoire usés,  
C'étaient les fils de notre République,  
Battant vingt ans les Rois coalisés;  
Mais le Soldat, bien brossé, qui nous guette,  
Qui nous tuerait pour passer officier;  
Est-il le mien, trinquant à la guingette?  
Ah! pardonnez au pauvre chansonnier.  
A la Pologne, à la noble Italie,  
La France doit une dette de sang;  
Le Canon gronde! en avant! mais folie!  
Si près de nous le terrain est glissant.  
Allons porter plus loin l'indépendance,  
Au Turc, dût il se faire un peu prier,  
Peuples, voilà votre Sainte Alliance,  
Ah! pardonnez au pauvre chansonnier.

## The Arts.

### PORTRAITS OF THE QUEEN, PRINCE ALBERT, AND THE PRINCESS ROYAL.

THESE are favourable specimens of WINTERHALTER'S manner, and the lithographs give a very good idea of his style. There are few of our modern artists who are so well able to approach the reality of life, and yet to give elevation of character. It is for these reasons that portraits in general fall so far short of the original. We see the countenance and form in one single aspect; we are permitted, as it were, to converse for an instant. Now, there is nobody of fair information, intellect, and feeling, whose aspect does not change a score times within five minutes; some new element of the character coming out at each change.

How much must that be the case with a woman who possesses such worldly power, so much cultivation, and such manifest feeling as QUEEN VICTORIA! How can one glimpse in the glass give us an idea of PRINCE ALBERT? It is the business of the portrait-painter, as distinct from that of the photographer, not to produce a *fac-simile* for the one instant, but to collect the essence of the character, and to impress it upon material lineaments. It is here that our English artists usually fail; here that the real draughtsman of character excels. In this portrait of QUEEN VICTORIA, the artist has been able to mark the progress of time in the Lady's face, without impairing the intelligence or the grace.

The portrait of PRINCE ALBERT is only less happy. We see the manner of the PRINCE; can almost fancy that the figure moves in bowing, as his ROYAL HIGHNESS does with a diffusive benevolence to those who may happen to be around. But we see little of the philosopher, which the PRINCE really is. It is, however, a very agreeable and graceful portrait.

The sketch of the PRINCESS ROYAL is especially interesting just at this time. Everybody wants to know what sort of looking lady is the bride elect; and here she is. The face is bright with feeling and intelligence. One recognises both parents, but particularly the Coburg element in the form and countenance. Both remind us very strongly of the King of the Belgians, when he was Prince Leopold.

The portraits have been engraved on stone by Mr. R. J. LANE, and are published by Mr. MITCHELL, Bond-street.



**ADULTERATION OF FOOD, &c.**—The committee of inquiry into this subject met again on Wednesday, when Mr. Wakley (the Middlesex coroner, and proprietor of the *Lancet*), Mr. Jacob Bell (chemist, and late member for St. Alban's), and Dr. Carpenter (examiner of physiology at the University of London), gave evidence. Mr. Wakley said he believed that legislation on the subject was absolutely necessary, or the investigations which had been prosecuted, and the publicity given to the various tricks of the trade, would only have the effect of increasing the evil by showing dishonest persons how to deceive. This was proved by the fact that adulterations had increased after the publication of Mr. Ackerman's work, entitled "Death in the Pot." He (Mr. Wakley) proposed, as the only remedy, a system of giving the widest publicity to the names of dishonest dealers. He thought he could put down adulteration in London and the suburbs for £10,000. Three or four examiners and six purchasers would be quite sufficient. —Mr. Jacob Bell agreed for the most part with what had been said with respect to drugs, but thought there had been a little exaggeration. Matters were better than they had been; but the evil would never be entirely suppressed while ignorant and unqualified persons are permitted to set up as chemists. —Dr. Carpenter had no doubt of the existence of a large amount of most injurious adulteration; but, with regard to the examinations made by Dr. Hassall, he thought it was impossible, from the number of his analyses, that they could all have been made with sufficient accuracy. The number published in a week would have occupied more than half-a-dozen gentlemen.

**TESTIMONIAL TO MR. SCHALLEHN.**—A testimonial of plate, subscribed by Sir Joseph Paxton and the season-ticket holders of the Crystal Palace, has been given to Mr. Henry Schallehn, in acknowledgement of his original formation and management of the Crystal Palace Band.

#### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

##### BIRTHS.

**CHASSEAUD.**—On the 25th ult., at Turin, Piedmont, the wife of G. W. Chasseaud, Chief Paymaster, British-Italian Legion: a girl.

**HOLMES.**—On the 29th ult., at the house of her mother, St. Leonard's-place, York, the wife of Robert Charles Holmes, Esq., Captain 10th Royal Hussars: a son.

**MUNSTER.**—On the 29th ult., at 35, Rutland-gate, the Countess of Munster: a son and heir.

**RICE.**—On the 28th ult., at No. 11, Eaton-place South, the Hon. Mrs. Charles Spring Rice: a son.

##### MARRIAGES.

**HARRIS—WEBB.**—On the 27th of November last, at the Cathedral, Melbourne, Australia, John Henry Harris, Esq., of Ballarat, solicitor, youngest son of John Webber Harris, Esq., of Clapham-common, Surrey, to Penelope, youngest daughter of Captain J. R. Webb, of the Royal Navy.

**MONSON—MONCKTON.**—On the 25th ult., at Harworth, the parish church of Serby, the seat of Viscount Galway, the Rev. Thomas John Monson, vicar of Kirby Fleetam, son of the late Hon. and Rev. Thomas Monson, to the Hon. Caroline Isabella Monckton, youngest daughter of the late Viscount Galway and the Dowager Viscountess Galway.

**ROWE—STORY.**—On Thursday, the 3rd inst., at St. Mary's, Bryanston-square, Sir William Carpenter Rowe, Chief Justice of Ceylon, to Frances Elizabeth, youngest daughter of James Hamilton Story, Esq., of Bryanston-square, and Lockington, county of Cavan.

##### DEATHS.

**CAMPBELL.**—On the 3rd of November, 1855, at Swan River, Western Australia, accidentally drowned, William Hinton Campbell, eldest son of Major Campbell, of Queen's-gardens, Hyde-park.

**GEORGE.**—At the Star and Garter, at Putney, after an illness of five days, of apoplexy, Sir Rupert Dennis George, Bt., C.B., born 9th of October, 1796, late Secretary of the Colony of Nova Scotia.

**HARVEY.**—On the 30th ult., in her 72nd year, the Lady Honora Elizabeth Hester Harvey, eldest daughter of the late Earl of Cavan.

**PEMBROKE.**—On the 27th ult., at No. 1, Grafton-street, Catherine, Countess of Pembroke, in her 73rd year.

**WYNN.**—On the 28th ult., at Llanvorda, in the county of Salop, the Right Hon. Sir Henry Watkin Williams Wynn, K.C.B., G.C.H., formerly Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Copenhagen, aged 73.

#### FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, April 1.

**BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.**—JACOB ORDOYNO, Swan-place, Old Kent-road, hoop bender.

**BANKRUPTS.**—THOMAS and CORNELIUS GEORGE STOCKER, Sloane-street, drapers—BERNHARD NIKEL, Gould-square and elsewhere, importer of Dutch clocks—JAMES THOMAS WOOLSTON, Notting-hill, plumber—SAMUEL JAMES GIFFIN, Diddington-place, Caledonian-road, draper—THOMAS EDWARD IRONS, Reading, timber dealer—JOHN BAILEY, Jun., Middleton, Northamptonshire, coal merchant—JOHN GALTON, Proctor, Wimborne Minster, innkeeper—JAMES and JOSEPH GIFFIN, Church-street, Hackney, and Diddington-place, Caledonian-road, saddlers—CHARLES POPE, Stoney Cross, Hants, licensed victualler—WILLIAM CLEW, Wednesbury, baker—RICHARD FOX, Moreton-in-the-Marsh, Gloucestershire, ironmonger—STEPHEN MOORE, Liverpool, ship broker—ALICE ROBINSON, Clifton, Lancashire, licensed victualler—JOHN THOMPSON, Bishopwearmouth, joiner.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—J. McDONALD, Glasgow, draper—W. HAIG, Blatford, baker—G. SUTHERLAND Tharso, cattle dealer.

Friday, April 4.

**BANKRUPTS.**—JOHN EDWARDS, High-street, Southampton, watchmaker—ALFRED LANGFORD, Lewes, Sussex, brewer—WILLIAM CATHORNE, Bishop Wearmouth, grocer—

GEORGE AUGUSTUS VOIGHT, Cheltenham, dealer in pianofortes—MALLARD INGRAM, ironmonger, Rugeley—JOSEPH SEVILLE, Salford, cotton cloth manufacturer—WILLIAM CRUSE, Glastonbury, auctioneer—CHARLES GAIGER, Hyde-street, Winchester, draper—THOMAS KINNAIRD, Liverpool-road, Islington—JOSEPH SPOONER TAYLOR and JOSEPH MARSDEN, Derby, ironfounders—WILLIAM WALTON, Richmond, grocer—DAVID ARTLETT, Chelsea, baker—JOHN GRIFFITH, Goulstone, Knighton, Radnor, druggist—BENJAMIN GEO. HOLTON, Coventry, licensed victualler.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.**—F. KIRMAN and Company, Glasgow, indiarubber warehousemen.

## Commercial Affairs.

### MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

London, Friday Evening, April 4, 1856.

THE signing the Peace declaration had been so fully anticipated, that the English Funds have improved but slightly. In the Foreign Stocks there has been considerable business done, particularly in Turkish Six and a Half and Four and a Half, Spanish Deferred, Passive, and Certificates—Mexican—all at advanced prices. Heavy Shares have taken a considerable rise, and if we have an easier money market there is room for a 10½ rise before the autumn in good lines. French Railways keep up the enormous rates paid for continuation in Paris, asserted to be 20 to 25 per cent., showing the account to be purely speculative, frightens our bulls, and keeps them from increasing the operations. Belgian lines command attention. Luxembourg, Sambre and Meuse, Antwerp and Rotterdam, Dutch Rhenish, West Flanders, Belgian Eastern Junction, &c., have been extensively dealt in. Yesterday and the day before there was a retrograde action, from the speculators realising their profits, and perhaps with the intention of being prepared for the April Consols account, which is close at hand. The contango is heavy, ½ per cent. The Bank has taken off none of its restrictions, and, unless we have an immense increase of bullion, it will be hard to get consols much higher than the present price, 93. This is presuming we shall want a new ten million loan before midsummer.

Consols at four o'clock were 93½; Turkish Six and a Half, 102½; New ditto, 101½, 2½.

Aberdeen, 27½, 8; Bristol and Exeter, 90, 92; Caledonian, 61½, 4; Chester and Holyhead, 16, 17; East Anglian, 18, 19; Eastern Counties, 10½, 2; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 61, 3; Great Northern, 94, 5; Ditto, A stock, 79, 81; Ditto B stock, 123, 125; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 105, 7; Great Western, 64½, 51; Lancaster and Carlisle, 70, 5; Ditto, Thirds, 6, 7; Ditto, new Thirds, 6, 7; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 87½, 84; London and Blackwall, 73½, 72; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 102, 104; London and North Western, 101½, 102½; Ditto South Ditto, 95, 6; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 28½, 9½; Metropolitan, 4, ½ dis.; Midland, 74½, 5; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 44, 6; Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, 13, 15; North British, 34, 5; North Eastern (Berwick), 78½, 91; Ditto Extension, 54½, 54; Ditto, Great North Eastern purchase, 31, 3; Ditto, Leeds, 15½, 16½; Ditto, York, 56½, 7½; North Staffordshire, 64, 52 dis.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, —; Scottish Central, 103, 5; Scottish Midland, 73, 5; South Devon, 13, 14; South Eastern (Dover), 72½, 3; South Wales, 19, 71; Vale of Neath, 20, 21; West Cornwall, 64, 7½; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8½, 9; Eastern of France, Paris and Strasbourg, 39½, 40½; East Indian, 22½, 3; Ditto Extension, 22½, 2; Grand Trunk of Canada, 8, 7½ dis.; Great Central of France, 5½, 6½ pm.; Great Indian Peninsula, 24½, 4; Luxembourg, 64½, 7½; Great Western of Canada, 25, 2½; Namur and Liege, 7½, 8; Northern of France, 40, 4; Paris and Lyons, 50½, 14; Paris and Orleans, 51, 3; Sambre and Meuse, 14½, 15; Western and N.W. of France, —; Agua Fria, —; Brazil Imperial, 2, 2½; Cocas, 24, 3; St. John del Rey, 24, 6; Cobre Copper, 66, 69; Colonial Gold, —; Great Polgooth, 14½, 2; Great Wheat Vor, 1, 0½; Linars, 7½, 8; Lusitanian, 4, 1 pm.; Nouveau Monde, 1, 4; Pontgibaud, 10, 12; Port Philip, 4, 4; Santiago de Cuba, 3½, 2; South Australian, 4, 4; United Mexican, 3½, 4½; Waller, 4, 4.

### CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, April 4, 1856.

The arrivals of wheat and barley since Monday have been trifling and of oats moderate. The little English wheat on sale is purchased readily, and there is a fair consumptive demand for foreign at former rates. There are very few cargoes now on the coast. Barley is in request but prices are unaltered. Oats meet a dull sale, and have declined in value. It seems, from the report of the inspector of corn returns, that the deliveries of wheat from the 1st October to the 31st March last, are this year in excess of the former by 100,000 quarters, and of barley by upwards of 200,000. In other grain there is no material difference.

### BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.
Bank Stock	.....	.....	.....	218	.....	219
3 per Cent. Reduced	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 per Cent. Con. An.	92½	93	93	93½	93½	93½
Consols for Account	92½	93	93½	93½	93½	93½
New 3 per Cent. An.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New 2½ per Cent. ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1850	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
India Stock	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ditto, under £1000	.....	11 dis.	.....	5 dis.	5 dis.	.....
Ex Bills, £1000	1 pm.	1 dis.	2 dis.	2 dis.	par.	2 dis.
Ditto, £500	3 pm.	5 dis.	par.	.....	par.	.....
Ditto, Small	5 pm.	5 dis.	2 dis.	5 pm.	2 dis.	par.

### FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds	94½	Portuguese 4 per Cents.	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents	60	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents	.....
Chilian 6 per Cents	.....	Russian 4½ per Cents	105
Chilian 3 per Cents	.....	Spanish	40
Dutch 2½ per Cents	.....	Spanish Committee Cert.	.....
Dutch 4 per Cent. Cert.	94	of Coup. not fun.	54
Ecuador Bonds	.....	Turkish 6 per Cents	.....
Mexican Account	22½	Turkish New, 4 ditto	.....
Peruvian 4½ per Cents	.....	Venezuela, 1½ per Cents	.....
Portuguese 4 per Cents	.....		

**ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, LYCEUM THEATRE.**—Mr. Gye begs most respectfully to announce that he will, during the present season, give the Opera at the Lyceum Theatre.

The subscription will be for forty nights, commencing on Tuesday, April 15. Full particulars will be duly announced.

**ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.**—Lessee and Manager, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN.

On Monday and during the week will be performed the new Comedy of STILL WATERS RUN DEEP, as performed before the Queen at Windsor Castle. Characters by Messrs. A. Wigan, G. Vining, Emery, Miss Maskell, and Mr. A. Wigan. To conclude with the new and doubly-moral, though excessively old, Melo-dramatic Fairy Extravaganza entitled THE DISCREET PRINCESS; or, The Three Glass Distaffs, in which Messrs. Emery and F. Robson, Miss Marston, Miss Ternan, Miss Julia St. George, Miss Stephens, and Miss Maskell will appear.

**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. Sexton, 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.

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