

By Alfred Edmund Galloway, Esq. & Co.

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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Review of the Week.

ITALY continues to be the object upon which all eyes are turned. The Western Powers are doing something which is likely enough to bring on a crisis. What the intention of those Powers may please to be nobody knows, but there are signs which imply a larger purpose than is popularly ascribed to the statesmen engaged, and it is quite certain that events are becoming too strong for the most adroit statesman entirely to control them. In the first place, the King of NAPLES has that power which resists every kind of coercion, which defies the most gigantic strength to bend it: he has the power which resides in imbecility. The most hopeless of all tasks is to convince a fool, and the King of NAPLES is unconvinced. HUBNER has tried to make him moderate his assertion of absolutist royal rights; but Naples cannot understand how Austria can preach a compromise of privilege! He stands out, therefore;—that is the first point. The Western Powers declare that they are sending their ships to preside over what may happen in the Bay of Naples—four line-of-battle ships and a proportionate number of frigates, &c.—that is the second accessory to the approaching drama. Count WALEWSKI is understood to have interposed every practicable delay in the consummation of the Imperial purpose at Paris; but the French fleet has been, or is about to be, or is supposed to be about to be, launched at Naples. Many circumstances conspire to show that the Emperor NAPOLEON intends to take an active part in Italy—or does not intend. Two propositions have been ventured by ingenious persons, which prove how far he has piqued the faculty of guessing: one is, that the POPE, incapable of holding his own at Rome, should retire to Avignon; the other, that the King of NAPLES should abdicate, to be succeeded by his eldest son, the Duke of CALABRIA, who would accede to the throne with the constitution of 1848. But are not the Bourbons totally destroyed? Is there any of the family, even the best branch, the Philippist branch, that has not upon him the signs of extinction? Is not the whole family superannuated—fit only to disappear from conspicuous places, and about to disappear from the face of the earth? Fourth fact,—Austria and all her protégés are increasing their display of insolence and their defences. Austria is strengthening her works at

Bergamo; Tuscany has been imprisoning soldiers of the Anglo-Italian Legion who returned home: while from Tuscany, and every part of the Italian peninsula, come subscriptions for the cannon, for the 10,000 rifles, addresses, and the most obvious signs of an impatience for action. The earthquakes of Vesuvius will be felt to the foot of the Alps.

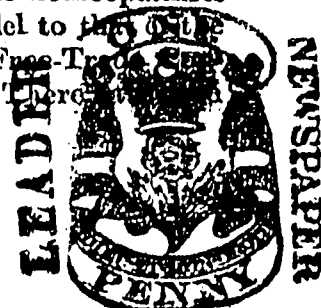
Before these great facts the squabbles of other Governments sink into insignificance. Why is it that Russia still keeps up her attempts to wriggle out of the Treaty of Paris? The only difficulty that we foresee with regard to Russia is the probability that she may lend a politic aid to Piedmont against Austria; and if so, it will be difficult to strike Russia while she is actually serving the purposes of freedom—if, indeed, it is possible that she can serve those purposes.

Even Spain becomes unimportant, although the principles there in conflict are at the very foundation of the happiness of nations. The Court has just shown the cloven foot. It has compelled the Government of O'DONNELL to suspend the sale of Ecclesiastical property—that sale which was gradually, very gradually, relieving Spain from mortmain, and familiarizing the Spanish mind to a very mild though practical species of Protestantism. While the Court of Piedmont has saved Catholicism in Northern Italy at least by reconciling it to progress and freedom, the Court of Spain is preventing that rescue by reviving with a reactionary constitution the heaviest incumbrance of the Roman Church. The Minister of Finance, CANTERO, whose scheme of revenue was spoiled by the bigotry of the Court, has retired. By degrees the Court will drive from it all practical political managers, and is expected to recall that man who handles his sword as the only political instrument.

The civil contest in Kansas continues, but time has not yet been given for the effect of a more moderate course to be felt in tempering the conflict. A third Governor has been appointed by President PIERCE, a man, like his predecessors, selected from the North, but reputed to be more energetic than they were. Should he succeed in preventing the attempt to check the extension of slavery by a mere process of riot, he will do something to place the movement for relieving America from the curse of slavery in the path of hopeful progress. "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." The Missouri compromise necessarily failed, because it was an attempt "to keep things fixed." The rioting must as necessarily fail, because it calls out resistance on the part of the South; when already the strongest doubt as to the possibility or the policy of maintaining slavery was creeping into the very heart of every slave state. If peace should be restored, if the whole subject were brought back into Congress, where alone it can be settled, we should probably see the better feelings of the South evoked to aid the more generous and popular feeling against slavery in the North; and the Republic would unite to free itself from the curse which is now dividing it. In the meanwhile, there are men and journals in this country that are doing the best they can to exasperate the Americans into civil war under pretext of agitating for slavery abolition, and they are doing the best they can to procure the election of a distinguished projector of joint-stock speculations, Mariposa mines, and so forth, professedly to render the Republic more respectable! Luckily the Republic will pursue its own course, uninfluenced by these beatings of the wind.

The Belgium Customs Reform Association is carrying on a war with the Protectionist interests of the neutral kingdom, and particularly with the ironmasters of Belgium. There are other difficulties which stand in the way of its progress. Although the Government is high disposed to encourage free trade, it derives part of its revenue from several heavy fiscal imposts, while the municipalities depend in some degree upon tolls, partly intended originally for purposes of protection. Nevertheless, the association is composed of men who have furnished very powerful aid to the Government in a course of gradually lightening the fiscal burdens of the kingdom. Thus the imposts on cereals have been entirely abolished. Belgium, established by international treaties, neutral, serving as a house of call for other countries, has very naturally offered itself as the continental centre for the discussion of laws which might be carried out in all the civilized countries of Europe, and indeed of the world. Thus it has been the scene for debates on public law, on reformatory improvement, on sanitary improvement, and now of free trade, to say nothing of the homeopaths who are holding a congress parallel to the allopathist free traders. The Free-Trade Congress has been a decided success.



representatives from most parts of Europe—from Sweden, Russia, Holland, Germany, even from Vienna, from Piedmont, Tuscany, Switzerland, France, Spain, and England. There have been some very interesting debates, in which the several speakers have endeavoured to state or to discover the actual and the relative progress made by the several countries in the reform of their tariffs. A certain favour appears to be shown by the several Governments, who have in some cases assisted, and in others sanctioned, the going of the delegates to Brussels. Reform, therefore, pursues its passive course, notwithstanding the intrigues of courts and the coming commotions of the Continent.

As to free trade, it is almost a past subject with this country, save only in one respect. To convince our farmers is no longer a duty before us; they have taken that matter into their own hands, and are convincing themselves. A letter appeared in the *Times* yesterday from a Welsh farmer, Mr. CARNE, giving a most interesting and minute account of the manner in which he has been applying the reaping-machine, what his difficulties were, and how he surmounted them. But when Welsh farmers have grappled with machinery, and their working men have laboriously and sincerely assisted them, we see that the very lever of free trade has been grasped in the agricultural hand. To say nothing of the proposal thrown out by Sir JOHN MAXWELL at the Carlisle dinner, that he would purchase all the refuse of Carlisle as soon as that town shall have procured the means of deodorizing and conveying it. Now there is some hope that Carlisle may hit upon the means of fulfilling these conditions, for Carlisle already stands distinguished as the cleanest town in the kingdom.

But England has to obtain the other half of the benefits of free trade. We get all that we can by adopting it ourselves, and we can double our own blessings, and those of other countries, by inducing others to adopt it. Hence the great benefit of the Brussels gathering.

An exceedingly interesting discussion took place at the Oldham Lyceum, led off by Lord STANLEY, on the general merits of education, with Sir JAMES KAY SHUTTLEWORTH, and Mr. W. J. FOX, as the advocates of the official, and the Manchester plan of education, the one giving a clipped form of religious instruction, and the other leaving religious instruction to the Church, and proposing secular education independently of creed. It is quite evident that if an exclusive suffrage did not keep out classes more intelligent than some that hold the franchise, the House of Commons would transfer its vote from J. K. SHUTTLEWORTH to W. J. FOX.

Two familiar names have been removed from the list of our military men—HARDINGE has gone, and COLIN HALKETT; both good officers, both conscientious servants. HARDINGE was a gentleman, and by the help of the qualities implied in that single word, in Parliament, in the field, in battle, or in office, with comparatively mediocre talents, he won an excellent repute.

The tribe of English gentlemen is not multiplying 'in proportion to the population;' on the contrary, it is rather declining than otherwise. There is a sort of conversion of the good old stock into a very low form of Three per Cents.; for English gentlemen are becoming lost in the crowd of jobbers in the market. Mr. HUMPHREY BROWN sends to the papers an explanation of the manner in which his name figures among the directors and debtors of the Royal British Bank, and the explanation, indeed, has some force. His liability originated with the transfer of a liability to him from another man who had already borrowed money from the bank. Nevertheless, the fact stands that Mr. HUMPHREY BROWN, a Member of Parliament, and, we believe, a gentleman in every sense of the word, somehow or other finds himself amongst those who unite the offices of director and debtor to the same bank. Mr. JOHN MACGREGOR, the founder, figures for 7000%. Mr. JOHN GWYNNE, a director, for about the same sum; one of the auditors is amongst the numbers of the debtors; and Mr. CAMERON, the quondam manager, is on the wrong side of the books for 30,000%. In some cases securities have been lodged with the bank, which were already mortgaged to their full value.

Upon the heels of this disclosure follows another: there has been an 'irregularity' in registering the shares of the Crystal Palace Company, and the irregularity is rather too big for the

epithet given to it. About 3700 original and preference shares have been thrown upon the market since the commencement of last year; of these, more than 2000 have actually been registered in the books of the company. They seem to have been issued by one of the clerks, whose salary has been stated at 150% or 300% a year; and the motive to the fraud is discovered in his outrageously expensive habits. This is the old story of JOHN SABLEIR, J. W. COLE, and DAVIDSON and GORDON; and the type of the class we remember to have seen some years ago in *George Barnwell*. The remarkable fact, however, is that these gentlemen have positively obtained a footing in establishments having large properties at stake, and they have to a certain extent modified the manners and customs of London City. Who knows where these adulterations terminate?

THE BIRMINGHAM HOAX.

SOME further particulars of the swindle recently committed at Birmingham in connexion with the visitors from Oude, and of which a brief account was given in this paper on Saturday week, have been published in the *Birmingham Journal*, where all the letters of Wyndham, the swindler, are given in full. This man continually addressed Captain Brandon, one of the agents of the Oudean Queen and Princes, informing him of the reception which was to be given to the strangers in Birmingham, if they would "deign to come;" reporting the progress he had made in obtaining the sanction of the Mayor, the Superintendent of Police, Lord Ward, and various distinguished persons; referring to his "intimate friend, the King of the Sandwich Islands," to whom he had been of great service when that monarch had been ill-used by France; making obscure allusion to a regal chair which had been ordered by "his present Majesty of Oude;" telling the captain of the various arrangements for the reception he had made; and stating that he would gladly "run up to town" on receipt of a telegraphic message to that effect from Captain Brandon. To all these letters no answer was returned. On September 5th (the first letter was written on the 29th of August), Wyndham writes to Captain Brandon, hinting that he sees many ways of improving his (the captain's) fortune, and adding, after an allusion to a Dr. Neumann, who had reminded him of "some discrepancy" in his statement about Lord Ward:—"All that I tell you is truth. I am here upon another subject certainly, but I do ask you, as a man and a gentleman, not to suffer me to look like a fool; for, *entre nous*, it has already cost me 15% in wine and dinners, and I should not like to appear as a nonentity after all."

On the same day, Captain Brandon wrote to the swindler thanking him for the offer of his services, should the Queen of Oude travel so far as Birmingham. Then follows another letter from Wyndham, who writes upon the assumption that the ex-queen is really about to visit the town, and who asks to be favoured with "her Majesty's monogram or crest as early as possible," as he wishes "to get a medal struck to commemorate the visit." But his race was nearly at an end. "That dread want," says the *Birmingham Journal*, "which has proved fatal to so many—the want of money—finished the career of Mr. Wyndham. From the introductions he had so adroitly obtained, he might have had orders readily executed for inconceivable amounts, if he could only have played out the game a little longer. But the inexorable Mr. Harrison (the keeper of the hotel where the swindler was staying), and his demand for the 15% for dinners and wines, of which Mr. Wyndham spoke so feelingly in a former letter, together with the limited supply of linen—two shirts and a 'dickey'—which was scarcely worthy of a royal representative, and which became painfully apparent,—these things interposed and ruthlessly toppled over the whole ingeniously constructed attempt at imposition. Mr. Harrison demanded the amount of his bill, and a Mr. Collis was applied to for the loan of 5% which Wyndham obtained, and for which he gave his I O U. That 5% was his ruin. Suspicion flashed across the mind of Mr. Collis, and inquiry through his London establishment confirmed it. On the evening of Tuesday, the 9th inst., three days after the last letter was written, Mr. Collis, who had invited Mr. Wyndham to dinner, discovered while out that the whole affair was a swindle. He got hold of a policeman and rushed to his house; but Mr. Wyndham, probably suspecting something, had gone off. They pursued him to the Clarendon, but the demands of Mr. Harrison had been of such a pressing nature that he had left there too, and disappeared."

After this, Wyndham absolutely had the audacity to write to Captain Brandon, to "put him on his guard against a Mr. Collis!" In his last letter to the Captain, dated September 14, Wyndham complains that "the *Times* has utterly crushed him in 'mind, body, and estate,'" and that the *Times* article is "frightfully malignant," and "contains no less than nineteen falsehoods." He concludes:—"Pray let me hear from you without delay. Suspense is torture.—P.S. A letter will find me at 3, Monument-yard, City; but I give you this address *en confidence*."

Wyndham, it seems, is known in London as a swindler, and he appears now to be thoroughly unmasked.

THE WORKING CLASSES OF ENGLAND AND ITALY.

The following is the address of the Italian Committee in England:—

FRIENDS.—The above letter has been forwarded to us, and though the Society of the Friends of Italy no longer exists as a body, never had Italy more individual friends among Englishmen than at this moment. We therefore have responded to the appeal of the Sardinian working men by forming a committee, whose first work is to circulate the above letter among you as widely as possible, and to submit to your judgment—to your sense of right and justice—a brief statement of the condition of Italy at this moment.

The population of Italy amounts to 23,957,100 souls. Of this number 4,730,500—the subjects of the King of Sardinia—are free men, governed by a free constitution, enjoying free institutions and a free press. A standing army, whose soldiers and officers have proved their worth side by side with our own in the Crimea, a thriving commerce, railways and docks, public colleges and schools, are the outward signs of liberty that distinguish the Sardinian States from the rest of the peninsula. If you move among the people, you find them happy and energetic, striving after moral and material progress. They know that their king keeps his word, and they try to win from him such promises as shall tend to the welfare of the masses. Victor Emmanuel, and his 4,730,500 subjects, have proved to the world beyond a doubt that the Italians can govern, and be governed by, themselves.

The remaining 19,226,600 inhabitants of Italy have been for the last forty years, and are at this moment, subject to the dominion of a many-headed monster, whose head-in-chief may be called the Emperor of Austria. True, this individual has only usurped 8259 square miles of Italian soil, whereas King Bomba possesses 31,460; the Pope, 13,000; the Grand Duke of Tuscany, 6324; and the other little rulers of Parma, Modena, &c., 3597: but so terrible, or so useful, has his Imperial Majesty of Austria rendered himself to all these princes, that they rule but at his bidding, and model their governments after his Imperial taste. The policy observed by all these rulers in obedience to their chief, during the last forty years, has been to reduce all their subjects to the lowest degree of moral and physical slavery, by depriving them of means of intercourse by railroads, or of the interchange of thought through the medium of the press, by closing all schools and colleges where a liberal education might be obtained—"We don't want knowledge," said the Emperor Francis I.; "it is quite enough if my subjects can read and write"—and by employing a wholesale system of spies and police, whereby any person suspected of liberal views may be detected and punished. But the Italians have never submitted tamely to this hateful yoke. Every year has given fresh proof that their aversion is on the increase. Yearly revolts, and the three principal Revolutions of 1821, 1832, and 1848, have sent thousands to the scaffold. The Austrian, Papal, and Neapolitan dungeons swarm at this moment with prisoners, whose only offence is that they have tried to set their country free; and a larger proportion of Italians wander in England and America, poor, famished, homeless, exiled, for that country's sake. Do you think all these examples serve to strike terror into the remaining population, that they resign themselves to the tyrant whom as yet no one has succeeded in overthrowing? No; that nineteen millions of Italians, if they are one in suffering and in slavery, are also one in the desire to be a nation—the intention to rid themselves of their tyrants.

It is to assist them to do this that, among other efforts made, a National Subscription has been opened at Genoa for the purchase of weapons for those provinces which shall first rise to drive out the Austrians from Italy. The members of the committee chosen to receive these subscriptions are, Colonel Giacomo Medici, Antonio Mosto, merchant; Agostino Gnecco, gentleman; Antonio Casareto, working man. Among the 3264 names inscribed on the list up to the 12th inst., appear those of Giuseppe Mazzini and Giuseppe Garibaldi, proving that in this effort at least the people and their leaders are unanimous.

We know that by some of you this appeal will be responded to at once—others may say, But why, if the people are unanimous in their resolve, do they want help from us? Let them go to Italians—to their own fellow-sufferers. The Italians who are both rich and liberal have been shot or imprisoned, or exiled long ago; and, moreover, do you know that in any part of Italy, except Sardinia, to know that any person living in the same town with you holds liberal views, and not to denounce him to the police, is considered a crime of high treason, punishable by imprisonment for fourteen years—perhaps for life. Read Felice Orsini's account of the "Austrian Dungeons in Italy" (price One Shilling). Read Mr. Gladstone's Letters on the "State Prosecutions of the Neapolitan Government" (published by Murray at Sixpence). Read the Tracts and Records published by the Society of the Friends of Italy (to be had of Holyoke and Co., 147, Fleet-street),* and judge for yourselves whether it is possible that these people can dis-

* Read Garibaldi's letter concerning the murder of Ciceruacchio and his young children.

cuss among themselves the best methods of attaining their freedom. They desire it—are willing to risk their lives in it. Their leaders are waiting to lead them on; only the material is wanting, and the consciousness that the hearts of the free and brave of other nations are bidding them God speed.

Many specious arguments will be used to deter you from giving your money, or your sympathy, or from using your own personal judgment, in this great Italian question. Some time back the cry was that the Italians were well contented with the paternal government of Austria, but the atrocities of the government have become so glaring, and the Italians have gone in such numbers to the scaffold to prove their abhorrence of it, that the enemies to liberty have been compelled to drop that cry and take up others equally false and absurd.

You will hear that in the intervention of France and England lies the only chance for the Italians—that Louis Napoleon is meditating some grand scheme to get the Austrians out of Italy. But for trusting to foreign intervention and foreign aid, the Austrians, who by the people were driven to the very borders of Italy in 1848, would never have returned. But for foreign intervention, the Roman Republic would be existing at this time, and the Pope, but for the French bayonets, which prop him on his throne, would not now be sanctioning and abetting the massacres and cruelties that are daily taking place in his dominions.

But admitting that foreign intervention is meditated, the Italians want an Italy for themselves, and would as soon have the Austrian Emperor as Louis Napoleon. No one can imagine that he will undertake to free Italy for Italy's sake, or for any other motive than for his own personal aims. But the man of the 'Second of December' is too well known to the people of all countries for that argument to have much weight with them.

A far more plausible doctrine is preached by many who wish Italy well, but who have not studied the facts of the case. These say "Piedmont is the only saviour of Italy." If by that they mean that if the Italians rose against their tyrants, and were to ask the aid of the Piedmontese army and the Piedmontese people, it would be given heartily and immediately, we believe they are right; but if they mean that the Italians who are the sufferers are to sit still, and the King of Piedmont will come with his army and drive out the Austrians, the assertion is an absurdity, contrary to all logic, common sense—disproved by historical facts. It is as if, when the working classes have decided to strive for higher wages and shorter hours, an individual should rise and say, "Wait, suffer, hope! There is a manufacturer in Manchester who gives his men fair wages, and who does not oblige them to work quarters. Be patient, and in the course of time he and his four hundred workmen will induce all the masters of England to do as he does." You would reply: "No, we suffer; we want higher wages and shorter hours. We must win them for ourselves; then, if this master will use his influence with the rest, well and good—if his workmen will co-operate with us it will be very noble and disinterested of them; but we cannot expect them, even if they were able, to come and lift our burdens off our backs, while we simply lie down and groan under them." So with the Italians—they must give the initiative. The movement must come from within. Material aid is all that can be of service from without. Many of the most suffering, most sanguine, did hope, perhaps, that the past war would give Piedmont a right to fight for Italy as she had fought for the Turks—take for granted that she desired it herself—that Cavour's memorial was a means of feeling how far she might venture openly against Austria. By this time it must be evident to all who desire to find out the truth, that England and France would not permit Piedmont to put herself in the foreground. She may prove an ally, but she cannot, ought not to be, the initiator of the People's War.

One other argument—the cruellest and saddest of all that will be used to deter you—we must treat, and then we have done. You will be told that the people are not unanimous—that they do not wish to rise—and they will point to you the attempts that have been made and failed, to prove to you that by giving money for this purpose you are just sending a few more victims to the scaffold—that you are increasing the watchfulness and the cruelty of the Austrians, and hindering instead of helping the National Cause.

When you hear that twenty, thirty, eighty men have risen up suddenly against their tyrants, have been overpowered by numbers, massacred or imprisoned, what does that prove? That that movement has been incited by popular leaders—organized and approved of by them. No. It means that those men, goaded beyond human endurance—those men who feel their lives a burden and a shame, who, determined to live as free men or to die in the attempt to gain their liberty—have, in spite of the entreaties of their leaders, in spite of hopes held out for the future, grown sick of hope deferred, have struck one desperate reckless blow, careless of the consequences to themselves, trusting to attain something for their country and the cause, if only by leaving another martyr's name to be recorded and avenged. This is the meaning of the past attempts that are wept over by the great Italian patriots—that are censured and sneered at by those individuals and parties who, hostile or indifferent to the idea of a free Italy, seek for pretexts to prove that the

Italians are not unanimous in their desire or efforts to obtain it.

If the requisite funds had been forthcoming, thousands of men would have risen in the place of units, and might not have been overcome by their enemies.

It is to prevent these outbreaks, to restrain these suffering, misguided hearts, that the free Sardinians are striving to prove to them that help is at hand—that if they will bear on yet a little they will give them the means of making their next blow efficacious. And we second heartily their appeal to you to help with your pence, and with the influence of your British names, this national effort of the Italians to win an Italy for themselves.

Two copies of the letter from the working men of Genoa, with their original signatures and their separate trades, have been forwarded to England. One lies for inspection with Mr. Watts, 147, Fleet-street, and the other with Joseph Barlow, bookseller, of 28, Grainger-street, and 1, Nelson-street, Newcastle, to which places subscriptions can be forwarded. Send single subscriptions with single names; or, if you prefer it, let each factory or workshop choose one man to represent the workmen. Post-office orders are preferable to stamps.

The Committee will publish weekly lists of the sums received, and they will hold these sums in trust, to be applied within the limits which the law compels in the cause of the suffering and enslaved people of Italy.

JAMES STANSFIELD, Swan Brewery, Walham-green.

RICHARD MOORE, 25, Hart-street, Bloomsbury.

JOSEPH COWER, Jun., Blaydon Burn, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

JOHN BENNETT, Cheapside.

W. C. BENNETT, Greenwich.

GEORGE DAWSON, M.A., Birmingham.

W. H. ASHURST, 6, Old Jewry.

Hon. Secretary, JAMES STANSFIELD, Office, 22, Sloane-street, Knightsbridge, London.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.

A MEETING of the shareholders of the Royal British Bank took place last Saturday at the London Tavern, when the directors submitted a statement of the affairs of the bankrupt establishment. Mr. Edward Esdaile, Chairman of the Board of Directors, presided.

Mr. Coleman, the accountant, after some prefatory remarks, proceeded to state that he estimated the total liabilities of the bank at 539,131*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*, and the gross assets at 299,937*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*; but, allowing for certain contingencies which could not be overlooked, the net assets he estimated at 288,644*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* These assets included the Welsh Iron Works, upon which the company had expended 106,453*l.*, and it was the opinion of an eminent miner that they would now sell at a minimum price of 40,000*l.*, but his own belief was that, if they were worked (and they are now ready for working), they would yield a profit of 16,000*l.* a year.—In answer to Mr. Marsh (one of the shareholders, who subjected the Chairman to a most rigorous examination), Mr. Esdaile stated that the accumulation of deficiencies originated in a credit account of 3000*l.* and a discount account of 6000*l.*, on the part of a firm bearing the names of Dummer and Scales, afterwards Dummer and Swift, made at the beginning of 1850. The speaker added that these advances were recommended by one of the highest firms in the City of London. At this, there were loud cries of "Name, name!" but the Chairman refused to comply with the demand. From the other official statements it appeared that the account of Mr. Humphrey Brown, the member for Tewkesbury, and until recently a director of the bank, exhibits a debt of 70,908*l.*; that Mr. John MacGregor, the member for Glasgow, and the founder of the concern, is indebted to the amount of 7362*l.*; that Mr. Cameron, the late manager, has obtained 33,000*l.*, against which there are no securities except such as are now found to have been previously charged and encumbered, and the utmost worth of which is estimated at 3000*l.*; that Mr. Mullins, the late solicitor, took 7000*l.*; and that one of the auditors owes 2000*l.* It was also stated that Mr. John Gwynne, who was formerly a director, retired in 1851, leaving a debt of 13,640*l.*; and that a loss of 13,486*l.* was sustained by Mr. Oliver, of Liverpool. The total loss from persons directly connected with the administration of the bank appears to have been 121,000*l.* There was no loss on the South Sea House, nor were any of the existing directors indebted to the bank.

In the midst of a running fire of questions, the Chairman stated that, by reason of certain irregularities on the part of the persons with whom the credit and discount accounts had been opened, the bank called for collateral securities. These were given, "and," said Mr. Esdaile, "our advances on those collateral securities were within what we supposed to be the banking margin." Here he was interrupted by Mr. Marsh, who said, "You dealt with those securities as valuable, whether they were so or not?" To this the Chairman replied:—"Clearly. Of course this has turned out to have been an error; but when the liabilities of these parties to the bank reached a larger sum, say 19,000*l.* or 20,000*l.*, what was to be done?" Further on, a singular dialogue ensued between Mr. Marsh and the Chairman. The latter, alluding to the speculations in the Welsh iron works, observed:—"Gentlemen, it is very easy to take

a retrospective view of the matter, and say that it was imprudent for us to take that step; but (to Mr. Marsh) if you, sir, had been on the board at that time—" Mr. Marsh: "You must bear with us a little, sir, for we are sufferers." ("Hear, hear!" and cheers.) The Chairman: "I know you are, sir. You are quite right. I have been told—perhaps it is a physical defect of mine—that I have too much the appearance of inward suffering—of pain of mind." Mr. Marsh: "I did not accuse you of that." (Laughter.) The Chairman: "I do not say you did, but I have heard it said. However, I would ask, would it not be absurd for me, under those grave circumstances, to put on anything but a grave aspect?" A Mr. Frederick Clarke at one time took the iron works on his own hands, but, not having sufficient capital to conduct them, he threw them back on the hands of the bank, which again made itself liable, though the works were then involved to the extent of 70,000*l.* or 80,000*l.* This was as far back as 1853. "Gentlemen," added the Chairman, after he had made these statements, "it might be said we ought then to have closed; but we could not—we dared not." "No," interrupted Mr. Marsh, "not so long as there was a hope of bringing fresh shareholders in." Mr. Esdaile endeavoured to meet this by saying that it was their duty to persuade capitalists to come forward and take the works, in order to recompense the shareholders for their advances, or to establish a public company to work the property. A short time ago, he said, there was a prospect of their starting such a company under the Limited Liability Act. With respect to Mr. Humphrey Brown's debt, Mr. Esdaile assured the shareholders that, until he became the Chairman of the bank, he did not know that Mr. Brown was indebted in a single farthing. "And you a director all the time?" exclaimed Mr. Marsh. "Yes," replied Mr. Esdaile, amidst much hissing.

Mr. Marsh then complained with great warmth that he was induced, by false representations of the flourishing state of the bank, to take some shares last year. He continued:—"The investment made by me in the bank was a part of the small patrimony which my children had a right to, and, seeing that the act of the directors may send us to beggary, my brother shareholders will pardon me if I may appear a little importunate. I now wish to ask the Chairman whether he does not think this bank was insolvent when those new shares were issued?" The Chairman: "The bank was not insolvent so long as those securities were taken as worth the money they represented." Mr. Marsh: "But those securities were not worth their money." The Chairman: "In our estimation they were." Mr. Marsh: "But, unfortunately for us, the fact is they were not."

Another proprietor said that a further call had been made, and asked whether the directors believed that the shareholders would again venture to trust them (the directors) with their affairs. "Well," replied the Chairman, "I am afraid, if you put that question to the meeting, the decision will be in the negative."

After some more cross-questioning, Mr. Stapleton, deputy-governor, said that, on being elected last February, he determined to drive Mr. Brown and Mr. Cameron out of their positions, on account of their debts to the bank. "I did it," he continued. "I was the youngest director on the board. I was not brought up to business, and I was anxious to leave the concern. I saw the danger of going on, and also of leaving. I had promised secrecy, and if I had left I could not, as a man of honour, have stated to my friends any facts connected with the condition of the bank. I acted, therefore, as a man of honour, and placed myself in a position in which heavy losses were incurred, and probably ultimate ruin to myself. When Mr. Cameron was on the point of leaving us, we found that he had obtained a large sum of money from the bank, and that he was not in a position to give us sufficient security. We pressed him, we even threatened him with criminal proceedings, and, in order to save himself, he used every exertion to get any kind of security. It so happened that his own son-in-law, who is a member of the board, had a large number of shares, and Mr. Cameron induced him to lend him those shares, which he transferred to the board as a portion of the securities for the advances. What would you have said if we had allowed him to go away with those shares?"

Dr. Goddard, a shareholder, then moved the following resolution, amidst loud cheers:—"That the past and present directors of this bank (excepting always the three gentlemen who became directors on the 1st August last), by their systematic misapplication of the funds of the institution entrusted to their keeping, and by their uniform and culpable misrepresentation and concealment of the actual condition of the bank in their half-yearly balance-sheet, and statements made to the shareholders, as also the discreditable proceeding of issuing new shares long after the bank had become hopelessly insolvent, thus bringing dishonour and ruin upon many innocent persons, which would have been entirely averted by better management or an earlier winding up, have shown themselves utterly unfit for the post they occupied, and unworthy of the confidence of this or any other proprietary." Dr. Goddard declared this resolution unanimously carried, though only a few hands were held up in favour of it. The Chairman, who, till that time, appears to have been very cool, now lost his temper, and angrily exclaimed—"I deny that the resolution was carried. Five-sixths, at least, of the meeting

refused to back the lie, and to say that we are dishonest men. You know it is a lie to say that we are all dishonest men." ("Oh, oh!" "Hear, hear!" cheers, and confusion.) Dr. Goddard: "I know to the contrary, and to my cost." The Chairman: "As I believe this room is full of honest men, I am convinced they would not believe or back a lie. Truth is truth, and your resolution declares a lie. We are not dishonest men." (Cries of "You are," "No, you are not," and great confusion.)

Mr. Owen, formerly a director, said he left the board in consequence of the way the money had been misapplied, and that it was at one time discovered that Mr. Cameron had a book with a private key, which book was never seen by any one but himself. This fact was not known till Mr. Cameron was taken so dangerously ill that it was thought he would die very shortly. "It would have been well for us if he had died," exclaimed one of the shareholders. Another shareholder, in a state of great excitement, shouted, "You are all little better than a set of thieves." Mr. Owen said he had not before stated what he knew because he was afraid of injuring the bank. Loud cries having been raised for Alderman Kennedy, whose name had been mentioned by Mr. Owen, the Alderman came forward, and said that two years ago he had told the proprietors they wanted more capital; he had the greatest confidence in the bank at the time, but had been deceived, and was not only a great sufferer himself, but he had the misfortune of having caused a number of his friends to be losers. He did entreat them at least to let him have the same sympathy as others, for he could assure them that he had been in no way the cause of the misfortune.—General Aitchison, who had previously maintained that the only course by which the shareholders could have justice done them was by going to the Court of Chancery in accordance with the Winding-up Act, moved as follows, after an ineffectual attempt on the part of Dr. Goddard to repeat his former resolution:—"That it appears to this meeting, and we hereby declare, that the losses of the Royal British Bank have exhausted all the surplus, or reserved fund, and one-fourth part of the paid-up capital of the said bank." Mr. Stapleton seconded the resolution, and the Chairman declared that it was carried. Great uproar ensued, several persons denying that the motion was affirmed; but the Chairman's decision was not rescinded, and the meeting broke up without any more tangible results.

THE INTERNATIONAL FREE-TRADE CONGRESS.

The Congress assembled in the Gothic-hall of the Hôtel de Ville, Brussels, at one o'clock on Monday, and was occupied in listening to the statements of the delegates from different countries for upwards of three hours. The hall contained at the time of meeting between three and four hundred deputed and adherent members connected with trade and commerce in various parts of the world. Among the gentlemen present at the commencement of the proceedings were:—M. Figalora, Barcelona; M. Hertz, Hamburg; M. Clink Sterk, Holland; M. Mathysens, Antwerp; M. Cherbulier, Zurich; M. Masson, Vervain; Mr. Charles Holland, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, Liverpool; Mr. Francis Boulton, Liverpool Financial Reform Association; Mr. Wickham, M.P., delegate of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Oliveira, M.P.; Mr. E. Chadwick; Mr. W. Ewart, M.P.; Mr. Winkworth; M. Suringar, the founder of the Dutch Mettray; Mr. C. Allhusen, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, Newcastle; MM. Guillaumin and Garnier, Society of Economists, Paris; Mr. S. Plim-soll, Yorkshire Coal Owners; Mr. Swan, Chamber of Commerce, Leeds; Mr. Burn, Manchester; Mr. Henry Bohn, London; Mr. F. O. Ward; Mr. Niell, Consul for Montevideo.

Mr. Corr Vandermaeren, President of the Belgian Free Trade Association, opened the proceedings by glancing at the previous Congress of a similar character held in 1847, and at the various reforms in the way of the removal or reduction of Customs' imposts since that year in the several countries of Europe. He then resigned his place to M. C. de Brouckere, who had been elected President of the Congress, having filled the same post in 1847. The two points to be kept specially in view by the speakers were stated thus:—"1. What are the obstacles, artificial or natural, which impede the extension of commercial relations with the country which you represent? 2. What are the practical means proposed or that may be proposed in each country to remove or lessen the obstacles which thus impede its commercial relations with foreign nations?"

The President then called upon delegated members of the Congress, according to a prearranged order, to address the assembly. Each speaker, in succession, mounted a kind of tribune, and gave expression, in French, to the opinions of the body by whom he was deputed. Most of them read from manuscript notes, which they subsequently handed in to the secretary, the time allotted by the rules to each—a quarter of an hour—being in some cases unexhausted, and in others considerably exceeded.

The first speaker was M. Clink Sterk, Holland, who explained that when the Netherlands and Belgium formed one kingdom, the protective system predominated. The northern provinces suffered severely from that system, which caused the rapid decline, and in some in-

stances even the total extinction, of many branches of commerce. A separation having been effected between the two countries, more enlightened views began to prevail in Holland, which was urged on in the path of amelioration by the example of England, and now barreled herrings are the only articles prohibited by the tariff. (A laugh.)—M. Mathysens, of Antwerp, thought too glowing a picture had been given by the preceding speaker of the liberality of the Dutch Government.—M. Reepmaetker agreed with M. Sterk, allowing for a few limitations.

Mr. Winkworth, delegate from the Society of Arts, London, briefly described the objects of the body with which he was connected, claiming for it the credit of originating the happy conception of a universal exhibition of the industry of all nations. He referred more especially to the obstacles placed in the way of the silk trade of England (on which he had drawn up a Government report in 1855) by restrictive duties; and then, passing to the general subject of Free Trade, he quoted statistics to show that the prosperity of the English people had largely increased since the repeal of the corn-laws.—M. Hertz, of Hamburg, gave a similar picture of the state of commerce in his city, resulting from the relaxation of fiscal restrictions.

M. Cherbulier, Professor of Political Economy of the Polytechnic Institute, Zurich, and delegate from his Government, next described, at a length which called forth a remonstrance from the President, the present commercial situation of Switzerland. Up to the year 1848, Switzerland had no fiscal system whatever; but, means being required to keep up the public roads and carry out other public works, the Government in that year was obliged to introduce a Customs' tariff adapted to the peculiar circumstances and geographical position of the country. The duties were very light, but every step the Government took in commercial legislation would be in the direction of Free Trade.

M. Figalora (Spain) stated that up to 1834 the old system of inter-provincial barriers prevailed in his country, and duties were levied on commodities conveyed from one province to another the same as if they had been imported from a foreign country. The Customs' revenues had more than doubled since the revision of the tariff in 1849, while the internal trade of the country had equally benefited.

M. Agie, of Antwerp, having stated the views of the Chamber of Commerce of that city in favour of Free Trade, the Conference adjourned to the following day.

On Tuesday, the speakers were Signor Scialoja, delegate from Sardinia, Count Arrivabene (Tuscany), MM. Garnier and Wolowski (Paris), M. Molinari (Brussels), Dr. Bammers (Berlin), M. Pascal Duprat (Paris), M. Vanderbruck (Central Agricultural Society of Belgium), M. Mullerdorff (Chamber of Commerce, Viviers), Mr. Oliveira, M.P. (who spoke in favour of reducing the wine duties), and Mr. Bohn, the London publisher, who expounded his views on the subject of an international book-post, based on principles analogous to the system recently introduced into England. All the speakers from continental towns and countries gave hopeful accounts of the spread of free-trade doctrines in their respective localities.—The Congress shortly afterwards adjourned for the day.

On the reassembling of the Congress on Wednesday, M. David, of Denmark, gave up his right to speak, and M. Wattel, of the Chamber of Commerce of Antwerp, made some observations with a view to showing that the tendencies of the Chamber he represented were not protectionist, as two previous speakers had asserted, and that the people of Antwerp inclined to free trade. M. Ackersdeyk, from Holland, followed, but his remarks were not audible. A Swiss gentleman, representing the National Institution of Geneva, then made some very energetic remarks, with a degree of vehemence which provoked some mirth. In the course of these observations, he wandered into the question of the oppressed nationalities, but was called to order by the President. After Señor Matias Gomez Villaboa, who appeared for a Spanish Agricultural Society, had read from a paper which, as far as could be distinguished, appeared to be opposed to free trade,

M. Molinari occupied the tribune. He had to report on the proposition of M. Corr Vandermaeren, for the establishment of an International Customs Reform Association. This proposition had been adopted unanimously, and it had been arranged that the central committee should be composed of men of all nations. The central office would be in Brussels.

The second proposition had reference to the establishment of tribunals of commerce, uniformity of weights and measures, and money, as well as letters of credit and postage. After some discussion, the resolution was referred to the new International Free Trade League which has just been founded.

The next proposition, submitted to and carried by the Congress unanimously, was from the authorities of Antwerp, and was to the effect that what remained of the colonial system should be abolished.

The third proposition was to the effect that "the Congress desired that all duties on rivers running from one country into another, and straits separating them, should be abolished." Carried with one dissentient voice.

The fourth proposition, suggested by M. Couvreur, was to the effect that the passport system should be

modified, and the compulsory *visas* for various nations be abolished. This proposition was carried unanimously.

The fifth proposition ran thus:—"That declarations on the importation and exportation of merchandize should be simplified and made uniform for all nations." Carried unanimously.

M. Tillière brought up the report of the section on the teaching of political economy. The section appealed to the delegates to pledge themselves to use their influence to get the elements of political economy introduced as part of popular education in their respective countries, and to recommend the preparation of teachers for this purpose. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Ewart, M.P., then moved an address of congratulation to the King on the twenty-sixth anniversary of the national independence. This was agreed to without a dissentient.

It was then arranged that a fourth and final sitting of the Congress should be held on Thursday.

A letter has been received from Mr. Cobden, which, although it was not read to the meeting, is to be published with the other documents submitted to the Congress. After expressing his deep regret at being unable to attend, Mr. Cobden quotes some statistics to show the yearly increase in the value of our exports since the year 1846, when Sir Robert Peel "dethroned the ancient Protectionist superstition." He proceeds:—"You will find that the table exhibits a steady yearly progress, interrupted only by the revolutions of 1848 and the war of 1854-1855. But observe the upward rebound of the present year of peace, in the first seven months of which our exports have reached 64,000,000Z. sterling, being at the rate of 110,000,000Z. for the whole year, or nearly double the amount of 1846. No other instance of so large and rapid an increase of foreign trade can be cited in the annals of the world. I anticipate that this year our exports will exceed those of France, Austria, Russia, and Spain together,—the four largest states of Europe, containing an aggregate of four times our population; and that they will amount to double those of the United States, whose distinctive party banners seem to bear every conceivable device, excepting that of commercial freedom." Mr. Cobden then digresses into some observations on the late war, remarking:—"Let me stipulate beforehand that Free Trade be not held responsible for the misuse of the wealth which it confers upon a nation. To confess the truth, we have not made the best possible use of our prosperity. We have spent nearly 100,000,000Z. in adding one more to the list of Sydney Smith's 'foolish, just, and necessary wars;' and I am afraid we are now wasting more in warlike preparation than ever we did at any former period of peace; nor can it be denied that never in my experience were we as a nation giving so little attention to domestic reforms as at present. It need not surprise us, then, if the improvement of the population has not kept pace with the increase of our material wealth. But this only tends to prove that the moral fruits of our principles cannot be gathered by one nation alone. It is only when free trade shall have become the international code of the civilized world that its highest blessings will be realized in the purer spirit of forbearance and justice which will characterize the intercourse of nations." With respect to the prospects of free trade on the continent, Mr. Cobden writes:—"I confess that my chief hope rests on the poverty of the continental Governments. The continual augmentation of their military establishments will compel them to enter upon a reform of their tariffs as the only mode of enabling their peoples to support the constant increase of expenditure. There is scarcely a country in Europe whose revenues might not be largely augmented by abolishing its prohibitive, and modifying its protective, Customs' duties. In this way, a Peel or a Huskisson could in France, Russia, or Spain increase the annual revenue several millions sterling, and give an indefinite expansion to the industry and wealth of the people."

An international congress of homoeopathic doctors commenced sitting at Brussels on Tuesday, and will sit till this day (Saturday), in the hall of the Philharmonic Society, Rue de l'Évêque. It is understood that the widow of Hahnemann, the founder of the homoeopathic system, applied to be allowed to take part in the conference, but was refused on the ground that she had no professional diploma. This exclusion has provoked a rather animated discussion.

STATE OF TRADE.

THE advices from the provincial towns for the week ending last Saturday contain nothing of importance, and merely confirm the general steadiness of trade. At Manchester, the extent of business is moderate, but prices are well supported. Two small failures have occurred, Messrs. W. H. Gray and Co., for 15,000Z., and Mr. Alderman Shawcross, for 25,000Z. In the latter case, a composition is contemplated of 12s. 6d. in the pound by instalments extending over two years. At Birmingham, the iron trade remains without variation. The invention of Mr. Bessemer continues to be an absorbing topic, but its probable value is strongly contested. The liabilities of Mr. G. P. Simcox, of Kidderminster, are stated not to exceed 21,000Z., and 15s. in the pound is offered in instalments. From Nottingham, the accounts continue extremely favourable. In the woollen districts, the transactions are satisfactory, and the Irish cloth market continues firm.—Times.

In the general business of the port of London during the same week, there has been considerable activity. The total number of ships reported inward was 267, being 103 over the previous week. Among these were 29 laden with corn and flour, 25 with sugar, four with tea, and 12 with fruit. The total number of vessels cleared outward was 128, showing a decrease of 23; the number in ballast being 13. The number of vessels on the berth loading for the Australian colonies is 77, being one less than at the last account. Of those now loading, twelve are for Adelaide, two for Auckland, one for Canterbury, six for Geelong, five for Hobart-town, four for Launceston, three for Melbourne, two for Moreton Bay, six for New Zealand, fifteen for Port Philip, one for Portland Bay, one for Port Fairy, fifteen for Sydney, two for Swan River, one for Wellington, and one for Warnambool.—*Idem*.

Great indignation is expressed at the expedient, lately practised by the Government of Buenos Ayres, of making an offer to compromise its foreign debt, and subsequently taking advantage of the fact that the bondholders had suggested some modifications, which the Finance Minister was well aware would be required, as a pretext for summarily cancelling the negotiation.

The London and Paris Bank has been dissolved. A meeting of the shareholders, convened by the directors, was held on Friday week, when it was stated that, owing to the altered state of public opinion with respect to joint-stock banks, in consequence of recent events, and to the disinclination of a considerable number of the shareholders to pay up their calls, it was thought advisable to wind up the affair. A resolution to this effect was agreed to. The directors propose, as a first instalment, to make a return of capital as follows:—On each share of 10*l*. paid up, 7*l*.; on ditto 30*l*. paid up, 27*l*.; on ditto 50*l*. paid up, 47*l*. They will then, after defraying expenses, declare a final dividend, payable after the second meeting required by the charter for the dissolution of the company.—The bank was started last November, with a view to establishing branches in several of the Continental cities.

Mr. W. O. Young, ship and insurance broker, was on Tuesday awarded an immediate certificate of the first class by the Commissioner of Bankruptcy.

AMERICA.

THE civil war in Kansas has reached an alarming development. The Free-soilers have been encountered at two or three points by their opponents, who have in every case defeated them. At Ossawatimie, on the 30th ult., the anti-slavery men were routed after an hour's hard fighting, and twenty of their number were killed or wounded. On the 2nd of the present month, Leavenworth was attacked by the pro-slavery party, who drove out all the Free-soilers at the point of the bayonet, and destroyed or confiscated their property; and parties of Missourians (advocates of slavery) took possession of the Iowa road, thus cutting off the retreat of their enemies. Colonel Geary, the newly-appointed Governor of Kansas, is on his way to the seat of the disturbances, and has already taken steps for putting down, by aid of the militia, the civil war which threatens the whole state. A request has been made to the Governors of Kentucky and Illinois for military assistance. Instructions to the military authorities have been issued by Mr. Marcy, and by Mr. Davis, the War Secretary, authorizing their interference in suppressing the belligerents.

The Presidential election in Maine on the 8th of September resulted in the triumph of the Republicans (anti-slavery men) by a large majority. The returns were not all in when the accounts left, but it was supposed that the majority would reach 10,000 or 15,000. The friends of Colonel Fremont are greatly elated by their success.

The Federal Government has decided upon exercising its authority in suppressing the San Francisco Vigilance Committee. The instructions have not yet been made public.—From Greytown there is news of the arrival at that port from New Orleans, and of the immediate departure for Granada, of a party of seventeen persons, consisting of a certain Mancosos, Walker's chief recruiting agent in the United States, fifteen Filibusters, enlisted for the service of the adventurer, and M. Pierre Soule.

Mr. O. Smith, of New York, has been appointed Minister from Walker's Government to the United States. The Government at Washington is determined not to recognize him. He is proposing a loan in New York of 2,000,000 dollars, secured by a mortgage of the public lands of Nicaragua to trustees. Costa Rica is arming against Walker. President Mora has issued an address to the citizens of the Central American Republics, urging them to forget past differences, and unite against Walker.

The reports of the condition of the public health at New York represent an encouraging state of things. At the various points where the yellow fever prevails, the disease continues to decline.—The sitting out of slavers at New York still continues, notwithstanding all the efforts made by the Government officers to prevent it. Great difficulty is experienced in getting satisfactory legal evidence.

There is talk of a partial failure of the Indian corn crop in the West.

A copy of a communication from Don Leon Alvarado to the Governor of the Republic of Honduras, advising him of the conclusion of the negotiations with England, and specifying the terms of the treaty, has been published. The letter is dated "Legation of Honduras, London, Sept. 15, 1856, thirty-fifth anniversary of the Independence," and intimates that the negotiations with England are concluded. Although claiming the Bay Islands, Honduras was willing to leave them free to the enterprise of the world, on condition that her sovereignty were recognized and the Mosquito territory were returned to her. The United States have also accepted these conditions.

Mount Vernon Hotel, at Cape May, Cape Island, was destroyed by fire on the night of September 5, and Mr. Philip Cain, the lessee, with his son and two daughters, and the housekeeper, Mrs. Albertson, lost their lives. This immense hotel was built by a company of gentlemen, at a cost of 125,000 dollars, upon which there is no insurance. The edifice, which was entirely of wood, was first occupied in 1853.

IRELAND.

JOHN SADLEIR AND THE LATE EARL OF SHREWSBURY.—The *Tablet* relates an anecdote of John Sadleir, highly illustrative of the crafty character of the man, and showing the skill with which he contrived to inveigle himself into the friendship and confidence of people of all ranks. Amongst the effects of the late Earl of Shrewsbury, a will has recently been discovered, by the executors of that nobleman, in favour of John Sadleir, to whom the Earl bequeathed, absolutely and unconditionally, his entire estates. This will was made previously to another in favour of the infant son of the late Duke of Norfolk, but it was not on account of what transpired after the suicide of Sadleir that the latter will was made. A high ecclesiastic had advised the Earl to place his affairs in the hands of Catholics well known for their honour and probity, by whom it is supposed that the executors of the existing will were recommended to his lordship. However, he never informed them of the previous disposition he had made of his property, and rejected their advice on many points. In bequeathing his estates to Sadleir, the Earl intended that he should apply them to charitable and ecclesiastical purposes, and the only mode of accounting for his choice of the person to whom he left his property, is that his solicitor was the same as John Sadleir's. It is more than probable that this gentleman knew nothing whatever either of the frauds which Sadleir had committed, nor of the speculations in which he was engaged. "And it is probable," says the *Tablet*, "that so astute a man as Sadleir would, so far as possible, keep from the knowledge of his Catholic solicitor everything which would tend to lower his opinion of him, and seek other and less scrupulous advisers to carry out the details of his frauds and speculations."—This story has been contradicted on authority by the *Times*, which says:—"We are assured that the will in question was a temporary will executed on the Earl's coming of age; it is true that Mr. Sadleir's name was inserted in it, but it was as one of four trustees, selected by the Earl himself, including persons of rank, Mr. Sadleir being at that time one of the Lords of the Treasury. The supposed finding of this document within a few days, and the alleged ignorance on the part of the executors of the tenor of it, are wholly incorrect."

THE EARL OF CARLISLE.—The Lord-Lieutenant is to leave Ireland about the middle of the ensuing month for England, where his Excellency will remain for some weeks. Mr. Horsman, the Chief Secretary, is to arrive in Dublin before Lord Carlisle takes his departure.

THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY entertained two hundred and fifty-five of the tenantry of her Antrim estates at dinner, in the market-house of Carnlough, on Thursday week. Her ladyship's son, Lord Adolphus Vane Tempest, occupied the chair, and, among those present, were the Protestant, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic clergymen, and several of the local gentry. After dinner, her ladyship addressed the meeting.

RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE.—An assault has been committed in the island of Boffin, off the coast of Mayo, on some clergymen and their wives, and on the agents of a missionary society, who had visited the island. After having been on the island for some hours, they were about leaving, when a mob of the peasantry assembled, and commenced hooting and pelting them with stones, so that they had some difficulty in getting on board their boat. The boatmen, who were Roman Catholics, known to the islanders, interfered to protect the visitors, and, with the exception of some bruises from stones, the party escaped unhurt.

EXECUTION.—Charles M'Cready, the soldier of the 68th Light Infantry, who was convicted at the last assizes of the murder of Sergeant Guinny, of the same regiment, was executed on Monday.

THREATENING LETTER.—A threatening letter has been received by Mr. Abraham Coates, agent to the Right Hon. the Earl of Stradbroke over the Ballymacarby estate, stating, among other things, that the writer would have "the pleasure of meeting him (Mr. Coates) before long with powder and ball." No trace has been discovered of the perpetrators of the outrage.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

M. JEROME BONAPARTE, of America, is about to leave France for the United States.

The *Moniteur* publishes the returns of the principal articles of merchandize imported into France during the eight months of 1856 ending on the 1st instant, together with the Customs' duties levied thereon, which amounted to 114,592,525*fr*. Compared with the receipts during the corresponding period of 1855, there is a diminution in 1856 of 24,671,685*fr*. The salt-tax produced, during the eight months of 1856, 20,661,335*fr*.

The *Moniteur de la Flotte*, in an article in which the celebration of the Fête Napoléon at the Piræus was mentioned, commented in rather strong terms on the absence of the Greek Ministers from the celebration of the *Te Deum*. M. Roque, the Greek Chargé d'Affaires at Paris, has written a letter to the journals, stating that the reason of that absence was simply because the Ministers had not been invited to be present, but that they had, in the usual manner, called on the French Minister to offer their congratulations.

It now turns out that the persons arrested last week in Paris on account of a political plot in which they were concerned numbered forty-nine instead of thirty, as originally stated.

Establishments are, it is said, in process of formation at the French settlement of New Caledonia for the reception of political and other prisoners.

The Emperor and Empress went last Saturday to St. Jean de Luz. In spite of the bad weather, they visited the embankment made at that interesting little town, a part of which, unfortunately, has already been carried away by the sea. The Emperor gave 1000*fr*. to the Mayor for purposes of charity, 1000*fr*. to the Commissary of the Marine for the widows of sailors, and 5000*fr*. to the curate for the repair of his church.—*Moniteur*.

Prince Napoleon left Christiania during the night of the 5th of September, after having received from the hands of the Viceroy the insignia of the Norwegian Order of St. Olaf. He has also been received by the King of Sweden.

The *Constitutionnel* has been reading a lecture to certain of the English papers which, it alleges, have been employing an offensive tone towards the French Government, and thus endangering the performance of the alliance. The *Siècle* denies the truth of the accusation, and concludes by remarking:—"We are glad to see the *Constitutionnel* paying a signal homage to the power of the press."

The Princess de Chambord is said to be *enceinte*.

Great complaints are being made of the dearness of all necessities of life in Paris at the present time. House-rent is more especially alluded to as being excessively high. This having been attributed to recent demolitions, with which it has been said constructions have not kept pace, the *Moniteur* publishes a statement, according to which the houses pulled down from 1852 to 1856 inclusively are 1565, while those built or enlarged have been 6552. The number of demolitions, it is said, is annually on the decrease, but that of the constructions yearly increases, and amounts, in 1856 alone, to 2000 houses. The *Moniteur* contends that the augmentation of rent is merely temporary.

The Emperor and Empress have attended another bull-fight at Bayonne.

Despatches from the Governor-General of Algeria, having reference to the recent operations against the Kabyles, are published in the official journal. Marshal Randon conceives that the struggle in the country of the Guechtoulas is near its termination.

The Bishop of Arras, whose "confidential circular to his clergy," condemning the mixed schools of Calais and other towns, has lately excited much discussion, now publishes a "pastoral" in which he explains his former act and establishes a distinction between a passive and an active consent given to heresy.

The Emperor has expressed a wish, through Field-Marshal Serrano, Spanish ambassador, that the French republican refugees who were expelled from Sebastian previous to the Imperial visit to that place should be permitted to return. The Spanish ambassador has communicated this to his Government, and the refugees in question will return to Sebastian in a few days.

PRUSSIA.

After describing the pleasure trips of the King of Prussia during the last few weeks, the *Times* Berlin correspondent proceeds:—"The only thing of general interest connected with these autumn manœuvres in East Prussia was the use there, for the first time in Prussia, of the locomotive electric telegraph, which was invented and first used in Austria at the Olmütz manœuvres in 1853, at which the late Emperor Nicholas was present. It consists of a close omnibus-looking vehicle, drawn by horses, and containing an electric battery, together with a supply of metal wire, protected by gutta serena, which runs off from a reel as the vehicle advances from the spot where the wire was originally made fast. This spot is the head-quarters of the commander-in-chief of the manœuvre, or of a hypothetical battle. The point to which the vehicle advances, 'as the crow flies,' is the advanced post of a general of division, or the extreme point of an outlying wing; and in its passage from one

spot to the other pointed staves of some eight or ten feet in length, and provided at one end with the proper insulating bed for the wire, are let down at intervals from the vehicle. A sufficient supply of manual labour being at hand to drive into the ground these staves or poles on which the wire is supported, the electric communication may be said to be established as rapidly as the vehicle with its *matériel* can be conveyed from one part of the field of operations to the other, and certainly within a very few minutes of its arrival messages can be transmitted. It has also been used without supporting the wire on poles, by simply running the wire out and letting it lie on the ground, but I am not aware what the comparative results of the two methods have been."

The King of the Belgians is said to be expected at Berlin on a visit to the Court about the end of October. Baron Humboldt attained his eighty-seventh birthday on Sunday week, which he passed in strict retirement. His health is still remarkably vigorous for his age.

The nuptials of the Princess Louisa of Prussia with the Grand Duke of Baden were solemnized on Saturday evening in the Royal Schloss with all the prescriptive solemnities.—It has been remarked, "The poetry of earth is never dead." It might with equal truth be averred, "The foolery of courts will never die." The *Times* Berlin correspondent, in giving an account of the court ceremonies, records this astounding antic:—"The newly married couple took their places with the King and Queen on the dais under the throne canopy, and the Princesses ranged themselves on the right hand of the throne, and the Princes on the left, according to their rank. At a signal from the King, the Lord High Marshal approaches the young couple and requests them to open the dance, which they do by walking a Polonaise, preceded by the twelve Ministers of State, each holding a taper of white wax in his hand. After performing one tour of the saloon, which is of very considerable extent, the procession stops before the dais, and the newly married Princess invites the King to dance, with which he complies, and accomplishes a turn with considerable grace and gallantry, being all the time preceded as before, by the Ministers of State with their wax tapers. Thus did these unfortunate Ministers perform the round of the White Saloon full seventeen times, carrying their white tapers—an exertion about equal to a good morning's shooting, only not so wholesome. Two of the Ministers on this occasion excused themselves on the score of ill health, and their places were filled up by the two eldest Privy Councillors." Oh, flesh, flesh! how art thou flunkified! The feat thus described is followed by the scrambling for the bride's garter—but start not, oh 'proper' English reader! The garter is no garter, but a very inoffensive piece of blue ribbon, "fringed with silver lace, and having the initials and coronet of the bride embroidered in silver, and prepared in advance, and carried by the Lady-in-Waiting in her pocket, together with a pair of scissors. At the critical moment, she draws this ribbon from her pocket, holds it for an instant or two against the bride's robe to identify it with her, and then cuts it off in lengths, which are scrambled for." The correspondent adds:—"The origin of this torch dance, which appears so grotesque and barbarous, is certainly pre-Christian. It is believed to be a tradition of the dances performed by the Greeks in honour of Hymen, whose emblem was a torch: from Greece the practice was transplanted to Rome with the Greek mythology, and thence carried by Constantine the Great to Byzantium." But the grave Ministers of State walking about candle in hand, surpasses Gray's picture of Sir Christopher Hatton:—

"Full oft within the spacious walls,

When he had fifty winters o'er him,

My grave Lord Keeper led the brawls:—

The seal and maces danced before him."

In connexion with the Neufchâtel affair, M. Mantouffier has addressed a circular to the representatives of Prussia at the courts of France, England, Austria, and Russia, invoking the protocol of London, dated May 24, 1852, and following also the principle laid down at the Paris Congress, in its sitting of April 14, 1856, namely, "that States between which any serious difference shall arise shall, instead of appealing to arms, have recourse, as far as circumstances will admit, to the good offices of the other Powers."

Prussia has just sent a note to Denmark, in which she declares herself in principle favourable to the redemption of the Sound Dues, and proposes opening negotiations between all the Governments interested in the question, in order to fix the amount of indemnity. A special conference will be held at Copenhagen for this purpose in November.

RUSSIA.

The Russian Government has just decided that the populations of the vast territory which it possesses beyond the Lake of Baikal, in Northern Asia, shall receive an organization similar to that of certain populations of the Black Sea and the Don, and shall be called "Cossacks of the Baikal;" also that they shall form a special army, consisting however only of cavalry, commanded by a *hetman*. The Government has likewise decided that the Governor-General of Eastern Siberia shall have under his command the maritime department which has just been established at Irkutsk, and which comprises the administration of the fleets and naval stations of the Pacific.

The Empress Dowager and the Grand Duke Constantine are about to proceed to Italy.

GERMANY.

The police of the town of Breslau, in Silesia, have been instructed to see to the tuning of the hand-organs which are allowed to be played in the streets, and to take care that they do not offend musical ears by unpleasing discords, to prevent which they are subjected now to a monthly inspection and trial by the authorized officers of the municipality.

Friday week being the anniversary of the battle of the barricades of 1848, some democratic demonstrations were made at Francfort, and a young man was arrested whilst holding in his hands a red flag, and delivering a speech to the public assembled at the cemetery to place fresh flowers and wreaths on the graves of those of the working class who fell on the barricades.

DENMARK.

Recent advices from Copenhagen speak of the deliberations of the Sound Dues Conferences as proceeding very satisfactorily, so that a result may be expected about the middle of October.

Extensive peculations and embezzlements in the contracts for clothing and provisioning the army have just been detected in Denmark. Above sixty persons are supposed to be implicated in them, including many apparently respectable manufacturers and tradesmen, with several Government officials who held a high rank in the civil or the military service. These frauds appear to have been carried on systematically for ten years past, and it is asserted that not less than two millions and a half of francs will cover the amount which the Government has lost by them. Contracts for meat are known to have been made, by a dishonest collusion, at double the market price.

ITALY.

On the resumption of the political trials at Naples, another damning fact against the King and his Ministers came out. One of the witnesses—Captain Acuti, the commander of the Bagni of Procida, in 1855—testified to the tranquil and orderly conduct of Mauro (one of the accused) and of his companions. Mauro, it seems, was confined alone in consequence of his *irreligiosita*. On several occasions, the prisoners were found without their irons; on which, Acuti suggested that they should be flogged (though this was in direct violation of the law), and the King, acceding to the proposal, ordered fifty lashes to be given in each case. Fifty-six persons were thus savagely and illegally punished. On the day after this statement was made, the Procurator-Generale asserted that Captain Acuti had told positive falsehoods, contended that forty stripes might legally be given, and averred that the increase had been ordered, not by the King, but by his Ministers. Acuti will be again examined. The question is exciting intense interest.

The defenders of Venice and Rome residing there have subscribed a sum sufficient to purchase one of the hundred guns for Alessandria, on which these words are to be inscribed:—"Offered to Piedmont by the Defenders of Venice and Rome."

Numerous arrests have lately been made at Lecce. At Trani, in the district of Barletta, some of the most respectable inhabitants of the town have been thrown into prison under the most futile pretexts. Among them are several lawyers, one of whom, Teodorico Soria, is brother-in-law to M. Joseph Pisanelli, former member of the Parliament of 1848, and at present a refugee in Piedmont.

By an express order of the police, the Sicilians desirous to proceed to Naples, must hereafter be provided with a special authorization to that effect from the Government. This injunction applies also to those already furnished with passports for the interior or for foreign countries.

We learn from Bologna that the provinces of Romagna and Umbria have been lately visited by Mazzinian agents, who gave out that they were sent by the Sardinian Government to revolutionize the country. They stated that Piedmont would shortly raise the standard of Italian independence, and that her Parliament would proclaim itself the National Italian Parliament. These Mazzinian manoeuvres were known to the Austrian authorities, but, as they were directed in reality against Piedmont, they were supposed to be encouraged under-handedly by those authorities.

In connexion with the arrest in Tuscany of some collegians from Genoa, mentioned by us last week, the Sardinian Government has addressed to its minister in Tuscany a note signed by Count Cavour, which commences thus:—"Although the Tuscan Government has for some time past accustomed his Majesty's Government to that display of scant courtesy, not to use stronger language, which they exhibit towards those Piedmontese subjects who visit the Grand Duchy, nevertheless, I admit that I heard with surprise from your confidential despatches of the date of the 2nd instant, the abrupt expulsion," &c. He proceeds, further on:—"The President of the Grand Ducal Government is not satisfied with the voluntary subscription which is actually going on in the Sardinian States for the purpose of making the present to his Majesty's Government of one hundred cannons intended for the fortifications of Alessandria. We regret that a demonstration, whose object is to testify and to increase

the confidence that the Piedmontese people put in their King and in their Government, should not meet with the sympathy of him who holds the first place in the council of a friendly state. We regret that the spontaneous and universal co-operation of the whole people to secure one of the bulwarks of the independence of Piedmont—and we may say also of Italy—should provoke remarks which are not friendly from an Italian Government. But not on that account can we grant to the Tuscan, any more than to other Governments, the right of demanding explanations relative to an act which does not concern it, and which injures no one, least of all Tuscany, who has nothing to do with the frontiers, for the defence of which the fortifications of Alessandria are destined. As for the subscription of the 10,000 muskets, you have already made the opportune remark to the President of the Government of the Grand Duke, that his Majesty's Government has stopped that subscription, and that legal proceedings have been set on foot to act against the promoters of it."

A piece of spiteful revenge has been committed on some of the men of the Anglo-Italian Legion by the despotic powers of Northern Italy. "Twenty-seven privates and four non-commissioned officers, recently discharged at Malta," says the *Globe*, "were forthwith, on their arrival in the Austrian states, Tuscany, and Parma, incarcerated *sans cérémonie* in the prisons of the two latter states: the Lombards, thirteen in number, were forwarded, on their arrival on the frontiers, under military escort to Mantua, to be tried by court-martial for accepting service in a foreign state without the permission of the ruling power. The English ministers at these courts have protested against the course pursued with regard to the treatment the men have received, and have demanded their release."

The inhabitants of Carrara (Modena) have sent 535*l.* as their subscription for the hundred guns of Alessandria. The letter which accompanies this sum offers likewise the voluntary enrolment of a number of artillerymen sufficient to serve at least one gun.

SPAIN.

A Ministerial crisis has taken place, owing to considerable dissensions in the Cabinet with respect to the law for the secularization of ecclesiastical property. On the 9th instant, a decree was submitted to the consideration of the Cabinet by the Minister of Finance, Senor Cantero, to authorize the treasury to make advances for the repair of churches and religious edifices to the amount of seven and a half millions of francs, which were to be reimbursed to the treasury by the sale of the estates in mortmain, under the existing law for the secularization of that kind of property. Rios Rosas was not present on this occasion, but at a subsequent sitting he opposed the decree, and censured his colleagues for the course they had taken. Senor Cantero, however, said that, if the plan were not adopted, he should resign. He was supported by O'Donnell and Bayarri, while several of the others sided with Rios Rosas. O'Donnell went so far as to say that he, too, would resign if the Queen did not concede the point. Her Majesty is said to have been much affected at this, and to have remarked that she would not have Spain "made the laughing-stock of all Europe," which would be the case if they were to separate because of a difference of opinion about "a question of less than secondary interest." She refused, however, to give way, and the O'Donnell Cabinet has accordingly sustained a rupture. The Queen refused to accept the resignation of the Premier; but Cantero has retired, and Senor Salaverria, Director-General of Finance, has been appointed to the office of Minister of Finance.

Marshal Narvaez has received permission to return to Spain, and is expected shortly at Madrid.

The Bishop of Barcelona, who was banished to Carthage, has been authorized to return to his diocese. General Zabala, ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs has returned to Madrid.

The Government has ordered the Captains-General throughout the kingdom to suspend prosecutions directed against persons or members of popular corporations implicated in the late events.

A severe engagement took place on the 9th instant between the garrison of Melilla and the Moors of the environs, in which the latter suffered a serious loss. The Spanish troops had nineteen killed and seventy wounded.

A melancholy accident has just occurred on the Aranjuez Railway, by which five persons have lost their lives.

With respect to the great question of the moment, we read in the *Hoja Autographa*, a Ministerial publication:—"We should not be surprised if the sale of ecclesiastical property were suspended. The suspension, however, would not be an indefinite adjournment of the sales, but only a temporary interruption, to afford time to the Government to come to an understanding with the Holy See on the subject. The sale of the national and communal property would continue."

An insurrectionary band has made its appearance in the mountains of Toledo, and is being hotly pursued.

PORTUGAL.

The cholera is raging fiercely at St. Vincent. The medical men have fallen victims, and the inhabitants are left without assistance. The dead bodies remain unburied in the streets.

TURKEY.

Four battalions of the Guard have left Constantinople for the purpose of taking part in the expedition against Montenegro.

The Naib, Chief of the Circassians, dismissed by Sefer Pacha, has arrived at Constantinople. Sefer Pacha, who is at the head of 30,000 men, has addressed a proclamation to the Circassians, inviting them to wage an energetic war against the Russians.

A serious conflict took place on the 8th instant at Trebizonde. Some Turkish boatmen tore down the flag of a Russian merchant vessel, and threw the sailors into the sea. The Russian consul has demanded the dismissal of the commander of the town, an indemnity, and the punishment of the boatmen with the bastinado. The Divan is inquiring into the matter.

A portion of the Imperial Ottoman Guard is embodied for Herzegovine; the Porte declaring that it will cause its rights in Montenegro, which is an integral part of the empire, to be respected. It is stated that the Western Powers will interpose as mediators.

The squadron under Admiral Lord Lyons, according to the French papers, has received telegraphic orders from London to remain, in consequence of the difficulties raised by Russia respecting the cession of Bolgrad and her claim to the Isle of Serpents. It is added, that the French Government, which has hitherto taken no part in the recent naval demonstration in the Black Sea, is sending ships. For the same reason, the Austrians will remain in the Principalities.

An abstract of a note, addressed by the Turkish Government to the Cabinets of the Powers which signed the Treaty of Paris, and dated about the end of July, has been published. It has reference to the question of the union of the Danubian Principalities, which the Porte strongly opposes, the document asserting that the Sultan, while wishing to guarantee "an independent and national internal administration," cannot consent that the form of the government should be "opposed to the constitution of the empire." The Ottoman Government doubts what is asserted by the partisans of the union, viz., that a state would thus be created strong enough to serve as a barrier for the empire, the population being too small to furnish a large army. It is also questioned whether the proposed measure would be for the benefit of the people themselves, as the weaker Principality would of course be absorbed into the stronger, and would lose the advantages it has hitherto possessed. "When the treaty decided to consult the wishes of the two provinces on the reforms to be introduced in the Principalities, the Turkish Government always understood that nothing more was meant than a revision of their organic laws, so as to make their Government strong and their administration just. To consult the wishes of the two provinces on their form of government, consequently on their relations with the empire, the vassals of which they would be, the Turkish Government thinks establishing a precedent which would scarcely be in harmony with the conservative ideas of the great Powers of Europe. The Porte regrets that there should be any difference of opinion between it and some of its allies; but, wishing to give them a proof of its regard for them, it does not wish to give a public refusal on this question in the firman for the convocation of the Divan *ad hoc* which is preparing, and hopes that they, justly appreciating this proof of confidence, will co-operate to obtain a result in conformity with the views, nay, the rights of the Porte. In conclusion, the Turkish Government insists that the question, which touches so closely the rights and interests of the Sultan, should not be submitted to the public discussions of assemblies which are not accustomed to great political debates, but to the serious examination of the Powers, and that the question should be decided before it comes within the range of the passions of populations which are already excited, and which, by their incomplete social education, might prefer utopias to truth and realities."

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

Great opposition having been made by the Austrian Government to the concession granted to Captain Magnan by Prince Ghika, before his removal from power, for a line of French steamers to run on the Pruth and the Sereth, the Porte has since cancelled the permission given. M. Thouvenel, the French ambassador at Constantinople, has protested against this, and has intimated that he must still consider the contract as legitimate, "since it not only emanated from the will of Prince Ghika, but has been ratified by a council of ministers." He continues:—"I may add that, in presence of the clear and positive text of Article 23 of the Treaty of Paris, the Porte itself resigns the right of annulling by a firman or by an order of any kind an internal administrative measure adopted at Bucharest or at Jassy."

The Pacha commanding on the Danube has received orders to occupy with troops the seven or eight points at which the river is practicable, and to fortify the *têtes de pont* on both sides. The recent movement of Ottoman troops from Widdin to Kalafat, on the left bank of the Danube, was effected in pursuance of this order. The resolution of the Porte is said to have the full approval of the Austrian Government.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

FORGERY ON THE CRYSTAL PALACE COMPANY.

A FORGERY on the Crystal Palace Company to the extent of a little less than 5000*l.* has been committed by a clerk in the transfer office, named William James Robson. Towards the close of last week, it was observed by the accountant of the company, who had lately returned to the duties of his office after illness, that the numbers on certain dividend certificates and those of the shares standing in the names of the owners did not tally. He sent to Mr. Robson, through whose department these shares would pass, and drew his attention to the fact, inquiring how it could happen. Robson replied that there had been two transfers of the shares, some of them not having been applied for; that they had lain in the office for a year and a half, and that he did not think it necessary to enter the first name. The accountant observed that there must be a certificate of transfer somewhere. "Oh yes," replied Robson, with great confidence, "I have got them all locked up at my house." The accountant reminded him that these certificates should be in the office, and said he would have a horse put to at once, and drive over with Mr. Robson to his house at Kilburn, for the purpose of fetching them. This was agreed to, and they immediately started for Kilburn. On their arrival, Robson showed the accountant, with whom he was on terms of acquaintance, into the parlour, and ordered luncheon, as they should stop some time. He then left the room for an instant, and returned. This going out and re-entering occurred several times without occasioning any doubt on the part of the accountant, until a longer absence than before led to suspicion. On inquiry, it was found that Robson had flown, and speedily a man arrived with a note from him, stating that he had sent a man and an account back to the Crystal Palace, as he himself was compelled by urgent business to go to town that night. An immediate investigation of the accounts and shares took place, and the board, at their meeting last Saturday, declared the ascertained loss to be somewhat under 5000*l.*

A reward of 250*l.* is offered for the apprehension of Robson, who is described as of gentlemanly appearance, and as being thirty years of age. We understand that he lived in superb style at the Priory, Kilburn, though his salary at the Crystal Palace was only 200*l.* a year; that he kept several carriages and horses; and that he represented himself to his friends as a gentleman of independent property. He is a person of good education, and possesses some literary faculty, having lately published a blank verse play called *Bianca*, which contains unquestionable evidence of poetical powers. He is also author of *Love and Loyalty*, which was played at the Marylebone Theatre about two years ago, and of some other plays.

EMBEZZLEMENT.—William Farr, a young man of respectable exterior, pleaded Guilty at Worship-street to a charge of having committed numerous acts of embezzlement, and of stealing the sum of 10*l.* 5*s.* from his employers, Messrs. Cater and Co., silkmercers, Finsbury Pavement, a deficiency which he made up for by a forged cheque. He was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

LEGAL SHARKS.—A species of cruel rascality now commonly practised in the law courts has lately come before the notice of the Recorder at the Central Criminal Court, and is thus described in a letter to the *Times*, by Mr. Under-Sheriff Rose, who relates a particular instance which occurred last week:—"A youth was charged with a petty fraud at the Guildhall police-office. A female relative, the prisoner's aunt, attended to aid him in his distress; her famine-struck face and cold cotton gown proclaimed her calling—a poor needle-woman. She was immediately pounced upon by one of the legal agents who, to the disgrace of the authorities, are permitted to infest these courts, and told that 1*l.* would be required. She returned to her home, begged, borrowed, and pawned, at length obtained the sovereign, and handed it over for the defence of her nephew. The 'value received' in the shape of legal advocacy may be imagined—the prisoner was committed for trial. Having discovered her home, she was followed there, and 1*l.* 1*s.* more was wrung from her affection and misery. The sessions at the Central Criminal Court approaching, another visit extorted a further sum of 1*l.* 2*s.* The trial came on; no attorney, no counsel appeared for him; the unfortunate lad knew not that his aunt had stripped her home to provide for his defence. On the Monday he was convicted and sentenced, and on the Wednesday Mr. Horry's clerk informed the poor woman that he had never seen any brief in the case. When these facts were communicated to the Recorder (a judge whose keen sense of honour, dignity of presence, kindness of heart, and conscientious administration of justice, and of mercy too, have never been excelled—rarely equalled), he directed Mr. Davies and Mr. Horry to attend before him. I had the greatest difficulty in getting the attorney to enter an appearance in court. Mr. Horry stayed outside the door listening, and only appeared when I stated to the judge that he was there, out of sight, but within hearing. Your re-

porter has truly recorded what was said, but it was probably not within his province to narrate the strongly-expressed disgust of a crowded court at the refusal of Mr. Davies and Mr. Horry to respond to the earnestly-expressed opinion of the Recorder that they should return to the poor woman the money for which they had rendered no services. At length they promised to return 2*l.* the next day, but the poor creature lost another day's work attending to receive the money, for none was returned." The writer then gives some general details with respect to the defence of the poor:—"The material to work upon is amply provided by the affections, the ignorance, the hopes, and the misery of the friends and relations of prisoners who attend at every session. Month after month, hundreds of prisoners are tried, causing thousands of hearts to be wrung with indescribable agony; and, whatever selfish depravity may appear in the dock, our common nature brings to aid them hearts full of sensibility. Sacrifices almost incredible are constantly made by the mothers, wives, sisters, and friends of prisoners, but more particularly women; men cannot go through these scenes. Often I hear the mother, with glazed eye, saying, 'Father's taken to his bed since this affair; it's unnerved him;' or, 'Father couldn't bear an interview.' And father sits in the lobby while mother goes into Newgate, her love neither 'chilled by selfishness nor daunted by danger, nor weakened by worthlessness, nor stifled by ingratitude.'"—Mr. Davies has since written to the *Times* to state that he has returned the sovereign he received, and so he believes has Mr. Horry.

CRUEL TREATMENT OF A GIRL.—The wife of a farmer at Tavistock, named Grills, has been charged at the Town Hall with ill-using a girl of fourteen, who had been taken from the union workhouse to serve in the house of Mrs. Grills. The poor girl, who was horribly emaciated, had been repeatedly beaten, cut, and burnt; and Mr. Grills, who seems to have been a humane man, was often obliged to interfere to protect the child and would even call in the neighbours to assist him. At length, he removed the girl, and Mrs. Grills was apprehended. She was committed for trial, and, on being removed, would probably have experienced some rough treatment from a large mob had she not been taken through a back door.—A similar case has been brought forward at the Doncaster Borough police-court, where James Wood, a tailor, was charged with ill-using his apprentice, a deaf-and-dumb boy. Being dissatisfied with some work he had performed, Wood plunged a clasp-knife into the boy's leg just below the knee, causing a deep wound. A few days afterwards, the lad was violently struck on the left temple, the blood flowing copiously; and similar treatment was of frequent occurrence. The boy, also, was half starved, and was driven to robbing an orchard to get something to eat. The bench compromised the matter, proposing that half the premium (7*l.* 10*s.*) should be refunded, all the costs paid, and the indentures cancelled; committal for trial being the alternative. The terms were accepted.

BURGLARY IN YORKSHIRE.—A public-house, about midway between Sheffield and Barnsley, kept by a Miss Hobson, an old woman, was entered on Monday night by five men, three of whom carried lighted candles. The faces of two were blackened; those of the other three were smeared with red, and nets were thrown over their heads. Having thrown the bed clothes over the faces of Miss Hobson and of her niece, who slept with her, and having threatened them with sticks, they ransacked the place, and departed. One of them had previously struck both the women with his stick, on their attempting to uncover themselves; but the blows were not violent. They left behind them a bunch of skeleton keys and three formidable bludgeons.

A SEVERE SENTENCE.—Three-fourths of a field at Combmartin, Devonshire, were lately used by Mr. Robert Hole, a gentleman farmer of considerable property, for pasturing cattle. At the beginning of the present month, several of the animals belonging to other renters suddenly died, and exhibited symptoms of poisoning. One of the beasts so killed was a donkey; and a post mortem examination showed that it had been destroyed by corrosive sublimate. Suspicion fell on Mr. Hole, who had frequently been heard to warn several people to take their cattle away "while they were safe." He was accordingly arrested, tried at the Quarter Sessions, found Guilty, and sentenced to four years' penal servitude. His motive appears to have been a desire to get the whole of the field into his own possession.

ANOTHER HOAX.—The story which has been circulated about a Mr. John Fletcher of Wilmshaw having got up a hanging exhibition in imitation of the execution of Palmer, with some of the original and genuine "properties," has been indignantly denied by the person implicated.

A SHAKESPEAREAN ILLUSTRATION.—Shakespeare makes *Cordelia* in *King Lear* talk of

"Darnel, and all the idle weeds that grow
In our sustaining corn."

An example of the truthfulness of this allusion came before the Lambeth magistrate on Saturday. A burly gentleman, who turned out to be a Huntingdonshire farmer, fifty-seven years of age, and of the name of Darnell, was brought up on a charge of being drunk and disorderly. He has recently come into some large

property, by which he appears to have been made almost insane. He is in the habit of indulging to excess, and of taking disreputable women into his house, with whom, after drinking immoderately, he often quarrels. Sometimes he goes out into the street, and smashes all his windows without any motive; and he has contrived to run through 2000*l.* in two months. In answer to some observations of the magistrate, Mr. Darnell said he did not think that Peckham, where he resided while in town, was by any means respectable. On the contrary, it was the most blackguard place he ever was in, and he should get out of it without delay. The magistrate recommended that he should put something handsome in the poor-box; to which the idle weed that grows in the sustaining corn of Huntingdonshire replied, "Here is a crown—all the money I have about me," and left the court.—There is something typical, almost mystical, in this gentleman's name. Darnell is not only an "idle weed," but it is a weed which causes headaches and lethargies—from which, no doubt, the Huntingdonshire farmer has sometime suffered.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.—A man, named William Smith, was charged at the Worship-street police-office with an attempt upon the life of Mr. William Ward, a cabinet-maker, living in Great Chart-street, Hoxton. Mr. Ward encountered Smith on the previous day in a public-house, and the moment the latter saw him, he exclaimed, "You don't know me, do you?" Mr. Ward answered that he did not desire to know him, upon which Smith drew a pistol from his pocket, and presented it at the head of the other, saying that that would make him know. Mr. Ward seized hold of Smith's arm, and, having thus diverted the aim, hastily left the house, and took refuge at the dwelling of a friend who lived near. Smith followed Mr. Ward to the other house, outside the door of which he remained for some time; but, a policeman being sent for, he went away. Nothing more was seen of him until the afternoon of the same day, when Mr. Ward, having occasion to return to the public-house, again encountered Smith there, who immediately rushed at him, pistol in hand, and pulled the trigger close to his head. Fortunately, the powder did not ignite. The ruffian then struck Mr. Ward four heavy blows on the head with the butt end, causing blood to flow copiously. Some of the bystanders interfered, and having wrested the pistol from Smith's hand, gave him into custody. At the station-house, he declared that he intended to murder Mr. Ward, and added that "he would do for him yet," alleging, as his reason, that Mr. Ward had seduced his wife, with whom he had carried on a criminal conversation for the last two years, in consequence of which she had gone raving mad. Smith was remanded.

ATTEMPT TO EXTORT MONEY.—John Pringle, clerk to a solicitor at Glasgow, has been charged at the Mansion House with having, in a letter written to Mr. Benjamin Scott, secretary to the Bank of London, offered to suppress the publication of a pamphlet intended to do injury to the bank, on condition of being paid "a liberal sum of money." Pringle claimed to have projected a bank of the same name some time before the establishment of the concern in question, and asserted that the idea was stolen from him—assertations which were denied by Mr. Scott. When brought before the Lord Mayor, Pringle admitted that he had written the letter, but urged that he had only executed a commercial right, in endeavouring to get remunerated for the title of the bank. He was remanded, but admitted to bail. The accused was on Wednesday committed for trial, but liberated on bail, having previously read over a document, purporting to be his defence, in which he complained of having been very harshly used, and prevented communicating with his friends.

A SHAM AUCTION ROOM.—Beware of 88, Regent-street! In an action a few days ago in the Marylebone County Court, it appeared that some rooms in the house thus indicated are, or were, opened as sham auction-rooms, and several persons were engaged as 'touters.' A quantity of rubbish piled about gave a false appearance of business; and the bidders were of course cruelly victimized. The action was brought by one of the 'touters' against a Captain Hyne, to recover 12*l.*, a sum which Myers, the 'touter,' said the defendant had engaged to pay him for his services in bidding for him in the mock auction-room. Myers described himself as a commission broker, and said that he could obtain articles cheaper than the public in general, because brokers do not bid against one another. Of course, he added, the dealer suffers by this agreement in a genuine sale; "but that is his own look out." The goods purchased by Captain Hyne amounted to a little more than 677*l.* Several teapots and other articles charged for were not on the premises at the time, but were afterwards obtained from Birmingham.—Myers, the plaintiff, was nonsuited.

ROBBERY IN PLYMOUTH CITADEL.—Between noon and midnight on Saturday, the pay-office of the 66th Regiment was robbed of 90*l.* in Plymouth Branch Bank of England notes and 60*l.* in sovereigns. The small tin cash-box in which it was contained was found in the pan of a closet used by the officers' servants, the rivets which fastened the lock having been neatly punched in, and all the contents removed but a banker's cheque.

SWEET SEVENTEEN.—Further evidence was on Monday received at the Mansion House in the case of John

Pratt, a youth of seventeen, charged with stealing 98*l.* 10*s.* from the Chartered Bank of Australasia, where he was employed as a junior clerk. On the re-examination, the keeper of the house of ill-fame where the youth was arrested, and one of the girls in whose company he was found, were among the witnesses; and it appeared from cross-examination that both the man and the woman (though they denied it) were cognizant of the robbery. A 20*l.* note, part of the plunder, was taken by the man to the Bank of England and changed for gold. It had the man's name and address on it. The girl stated that the youth, Pratt, "used to drink lots of neat spirits out of a tumbler." She added:—"I had about 10*l.* of him in two days. He bought me two new dresses, a visite, a cloak, and a hat—one of those 'flop' ones." When Pratt found he could not escape from arrest, he burnt some of the notes, and said to the girl, "Don't frighten yourself, Harriet, dear; I'm all right now, if you will be true"—and she said she would be true. The youth was in the habit of taking Mr. and Mrs. Withers (the keepers of the house), together with the girls, out on parties of pleasure. The man Withers, in the course of his evidence, gave a singular definition of 'wilful lying.' He said that, on the Sunday morning when the arrest took place, he obtained brandy for the youth, under pretence of its being wanted for a person with cholera. "Then you did not mind telling a lie?" asked Mr. Lewis, counsel for the prosecution. "No," answered Withers, "but I never tell wilful lies." Alderman Carter asked what he called the story about the brandy but a wilful lie: to which he answered, "I knew I could not get the brandy unless I said it was for a case of cholera."—Pratt was committed for trial, but liberated on bail.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.—William Hawthorn, William Cook, and Charles Fowler, three boys, were indicted for feloniously setting fire to a waterproof clothing manufactory. They were seen to enter a shed attached to the factory, and Cook was heard to say, "What a lark it would be to set it on fire!" They then got some shavings and a match, and the shed was very soon in flames, the result being that nearly 150*l.* worth of property was destroyed. The jury found all three Guilty, with mischievous, not malicious, intent, and the prosecutor recommended them to mercy. They were sentenced to two months' hard labour.—Elizabeth Ann Howell was tried for the manslaughter of her infant by neglecting to provide it with proper nourishment. She was a married woman, separated from her husband, who allowed her 14*s.* a week; but it was alleged by the prosecution that she squandered the money in drunkenness. The parish authorities found the child dead in a wretched room, and the mother lying in a torpid state, with a bottle of poison beside her. The evidence adduced to prove the habitual drunkenness broke down, and it appeared that the accused did her best to suckle the child, but that the infant refused the breast. She was acquitted.—A well-dressed woman, named Clara Gowland Voustarke, was indicted for stealing a drinking glass from a public-house in Knightsbridge. She was in the habit of going to the house for gin-and-water, and one day she offered for sale in Chelsea some glasses belonging to the publican in question, and with his name cut into them. She was given into custody, and, on being charged with stealing the glasses, said the accusation was "quite amusing," since she had honestly bought them, and sold them again on account of being in distress. There was some doubt as to the theft having been committed, and the prisoner's counsel called several witnesses, who spoke to her previous good character, and her accomplishments as a teacher of music. She was acquitted, and her counsel undertook to return the glasses to the prosecutor.—John Manstru, a well-dressed young man, has been found guilty of embezzling various sums of money received by him on account of Edward Moore, a surgeon, and his employer. He was sentenced to six months' hard labour.—Sarah Prout, a well-dressed, middle-aged woman, surrendered to take her trial on an indictment in which she was charged with having stolen three pounds of composite candles from the shop of Henry Hassell. This case lasted a considerable time, and seemed to create a good deal of interest, the prisoner being a person of good education, respectably connected, and of somewhat easy circumstances, having until recently kept a lodging-house at Great Cornam-street, Russell-square. She had been ordering goods at the shop, and had endeavoured to secrete the candles, alleging, when found out, that she was going to order them to be sent to her house. Being found guilty, she was sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour. She asserted, however, that she had not had a fair trial: things had been omitted which ought to have been brought out, and things had been said which were not true; and how could any jury think she would bring down ruin and calamity upon herself for the sake of a paltry 1*s.* 10*d.* worth of candles?

NON-SMOKE-CONSUMERS.—Three firms belonging to the tanning and leather-dressing business in Bermondsey have been fined at the Southwark police-court, in the mitigated penalty of 5*l.* each, and costs, for having their furnaces so constructed as not to consume their smoke.

THE OLD STORY.—A man, named Thomas Cross, is in custody, and under remand at Southwark, on a charge

of stealing three sovereigns from Reuben Overy, a simple countryman. The story is as old as country gullibility and London knowingness. The much-believing Reuben had suffered himself to be drawn into a public-house, where Cross induced him to lend 3*l.* in order that he (Cross) might make a bet with a pretended countryman that he could open a certain lock. Of course he failed to do so, and the confederate snatched up the money and fled. Cross then pretended to look after him, but was given into custody. The man who acted the part of a countryman said, just before the betting, that he wished he had never come to London, as he had lost his watch. Reuben then said he too was a countryman, and should be careful of his money; but the very next moment, he fell into the snare.

THE NOTTING-HILL BURGLARS.—One of this gang, a man named James Barnes, has been examined at Hammersmith, on a charge of breaking into, and robbing, the house of Mr. G. H. Ullathorne, No. 2, Lansdowne-terrace, Notting-hill. In consequence of the numerous burglaries and robberies that have recently taken place at Notting-hill, and the alleged deficiency of the police to protect the property of the inhabitants, it has been suggested by a gentleman who has been a sufferer to appoint watchmen and provide each of them with one of Colt's revolving pistols, against the midnight attacks of the gangs which infest the locality. The entry in this case seems to have been effected with great skill, and to have been an elaborate piece of work. Barnes was remanded.—Another of the gang is also in custody.

A CRIMEAN GUARDSMAN CHARGED WITH THEFT.—Robert Sindall, a private in the Guards, with a Crimean medal, stands charged at Guildhall with stealing a 10*l.* note from the prosecutor, a young-looking gentleman named John Cooke, who had invited the soldier and some others into a public-house to have ale. The note had been tendered in payment at various houses, but always refused. Sindall then said he would get change, and the note was given to him, but he appropriated it, and said it was his own.

A DRUNKEN WIFE.—A charge of violent conduct was brought against a Mrs. Edmonds, at Worship-street, by her husband. The woman is described as well dressed and pretty, but as exhibiting signs of dissipation; and it appeared from the statements of the husband, a cabinet-maker at Hoxton, who evinced great distress, that she is in the constant habit of getting drunk, and outrageously assaulting him. She is a very good woman, he said, when she is sober, but she has been intoxicated nearly every day for the last four years, and this has made her ferocious. The husband was obliged to take her before the magistrate last Monday, when she agreed to separate and to accept a certain sum for maintenance; but she savagely assaulted him on getting home, and bit him in the back very severely. Edmonds stated to the magistrate, when the woman was brought before him again on Wednesday, that his business was ruined by her, and that he was so very fond of her that grief at her misconduct had broken up his constitution. Nevertheless, he did not wish to prosecute her; and the wife, having promised to keep away from her husband in future, was allowed to go.

ROBBERY.—Henry Stevens, clerk to Messrs. Rowling and Co., Friday-street, Norwich warehousemen, was charged at the Mansion House with having embezzled moneys to the amount of 50*l.*, the property of the firm. He was committed for trial.

DISEASED MEAT.—Mr. Reece Williams, of Mitcham-street, Lisson-grove, was charged at Marylebone with having in his custody the carcass of a cow and some pieces of meat in the course of preparation for sale, the same being unfit for the food of man. The meat had been condemned by Mr. Broughton, and ordered to be destroyed, after an examination which he had made of them upon a former occasion in the street in front of the magistrate's entrance to the court, but it was found necessary to prefer the charge again. A mitigated fine of forty shillings, together with costs, was imposed.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A CRANE at the railway foundry at Leeds, while lifting a heavy weight a few days ago, suddenly snapped. Four or five men were on the crane platform when the fracture took place: two were precipitated to the ground, and so severely injured that their lives are despaired of, and a third man, who was directing the operations, was struck by a bar of metal, and killed on the spot.

A man, named Thomas Walker, employed on the London and North Western Railway, tumbled off a ballast train, and fell under the wheels. Both legs were severely fractured; great loss of blood ensued, and the man died soon afterwards at the Huddersfield Infirmary.

Some children in the country have met with a very singular and shocking death. A little boy, not quite four years old, living at Huddersfield, strayed into a barley-field, and was literally lost among the high corn. He was found dead five days afterwards, only three yards from the hedge or fence of the field, and the father, who had been out looking for him, had passed close to the spot. Two similar instances have occurred in other localities; in one of which the child was found alive.

A woman in the Lancaster Lunatic Asylum, named

Martha Lanton, has been accidentally poisoned, in consequence of two table-spoonfuls of a preparation of opium having been administered to her in lieu of an aperient which had been prescribed for her. The woman had been in a bad state of health for the last two years, and on the day of her death it was judged necessary to give her a dose of what was called in the asylum the 'house medicine,' which was a mixture of senna and salts. This was accordingly administered to the invalid by the under matron; but Lanton had not long swallowed it when her face underwent a sudden change; her lips became livid in colour, and her eyes were fixed. The surgeon-superintendent was immediately called in, but, notwithstanding that every effort was made to recover her, she expired in the course of the day. The bottle from which the medicine was poured had been filled by the house-porter in the absence of the surgeon and his assistant, as it had often been before, and in the place where it was kept there was another jar which greatly resembled the proper one in size and general appearance. This contained opium, and had been used inadvertently by the porter, who never looked at the label to see whether he had taken the right vessel or not. It was afterwards discovered, however, that the label of the opium jar was so worn and stained that it was impossible to read it. An inquest was held on the following day, and a verdict of "Accidental Death" returned, with a recommendation from the coroner that there should be a more careful arrangement of the medicine bottles for the future.

Richard Scott, an ornamental painter, aged seventy-six, who for the last fifty years has been an inhabitant of Exeter-street, Strand, was run over on Sunday night by a cab close to the Lyceum Theatre. The driver went on, and the old man was picked up by a police-constable, who found him bleeding from a wound in the head, but thought he was drunk. He was taken to the Bow-street station, and afterwards removed, by medical advice, to King's College Hospital, but was not admitted. He was then carried back to the station, and placed in a cell. In the morning, he was found in a state which induced the police to send again for a medical man, and he was then admitted to the hospital, and put to bed, but he died on Tuesday afternoon.

An ironmonger of Bradford, Wilts, named Tanner, who possesses considerable mechanical genius, lately constructed a steam-engine by which to propel a small rowing-boat, and he used frequently to use this boat on parties of pleasure on the river Avon. One of these excursions took place last Saturday, when Mr. Tanner had with him his wife and his only daughter, about three years of age. Mrs. Tanner fell overboard, and her husband, in leaning over to rescue her, capsized the boat, and all three were drowned. Loud cries for help were heard by a shooting-party not far off; but they arrived too late to help. Mr. Tanner has left an infant behind him.

Lieutenant-General Eyre and staff, and a number of pleasure seekers in the Saguenay river, Canada, have had a narrow escape. The gun on the forward promenade-deck, which is used to give the passengers an idea of the echo, burst, and was blown to atoms. The majority of the passengers, including General Eyre, were on the deck at the time, and their escape is surprising.

BOOKSELLERS' ADULTERATIONS.

THE *Athenaeum* of last week contains the annexed letter and rejoinder:—

An eminent publisher, writing under the signature "A Lover of Consistency," sends us the following:—

"Sept. 7.

"In last week's *Leader* appeared an excellent article on 'Booksellers' Adulterations;' one of many examples given of a too frequent style of advertizing books in the present day was, that on the fly-leaf of other works, or in the advertisement of the book itself, one constantly sees 'These books are the happiest efforts of their authors.' It seems to me strange that, objecting to this style of puffing on the part of the proprietors of the articles to be sold, your contemporary should lend his assistance to spread it. On the outside sheet of the same day's issue there is an advertisement of three or four works by popular writers, underneath which is the following announcement:—'These books are decidedly the happiest efforts of their authors.' They may be, but surely some one else than their owners must tell us so before we can take it for granted. At any rate the *Leader*, while writing against a too common practice, should not destroy the effect of its own argument by aiding in its continuance."

Our Correspondent deals, we think, unfairly with our contemporary. From his own position in the trade he must be aware that the editorial and business departments of a journal are distinct,—that an editor reads the advertisements in his own paper at the same time with the general public. But even if he read the advertisements before they appear in print, it is far from obvious that he ought to refuse their insertion in his columns. The advertizing sheet is a kind of common ground on which publishers display their wares. An editor cannot undertake to examine the genuineness of each article advertized in his pages; nor can he profitably interfere with the business department, except when some violence is done to public morals. In his own department he may

preach as he pleases. There he is on his own tripod. If answered at all he must be answered on the literary ground; but if he were to say to advertizers, "No puffs without chapter and verse," the advertizer might append to his laudation of his wares the name of the *Manx Cat*; and how is the editor to know that the *Manx Cat* has not called the work in question "the greatest production of the human mind?"

Nothing need be added to the remarks of our contemporary. Every literary journal contains advertisements of "the greatest productions of the human mind." The *Nonconformist* has an article on the same subject, the writer of which entirely agrees with us in the opinions we have put forth; but we have no space to quote it.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE GENOA TRANSATLANTIC STEAM COMPANY. — A trial trip was made on Thursday week between Gravesend and the Nore, the ship being a handsome new screw steamer called the *Genova*, one of the ships composing the fleet of the Genoa Transatlantic Steam Company, recently established to form a regular line of communication between Genoa and South America on the one hand, and between Genoa and the United States on the other. The results were very satisfactory. She maintained a speed of twelve knots an hour, and was found free from the unpleasant vibration often felt in steamers propelled by a screw. She is 265 feet in length between perpendiculars, 38 feet broad, with a depth of hold of 28 feet, and draws, when loaded, 20 feet. Her tonnage is 1852 16-94ths builders' measurement. The engines, of which there are two, constructed by Messrs. Maudslay, Sons, and Field, are of 300 nominal horse-power, and operate on the principle of the direct horizontal action with two piston rods, the airpumps being worked on the opposite side of the crank shaft. In addition to the four boilers employed in generating steam for the propulsion of the vessel, she carries a vertical tubular boiler on deck for the purpose of working a steam winch on Taylor's patent and donkey pumps, as also for distilling salt water into fresh for the use of the ship, which it does to the extent of about 450 gallons a day. This winch is likewise employed in raising the anchor, warping, loading and unloading the cargo, and other purposes, dispensing with hand-labour. She is also fitted up with a telegraph and signal alarm, which can be worked from the bridge, and by which, in case of imminent danger, instructions can be immediately conveyed to the driver, and the engines reversed or accelerated as the emergency may require. She is provided, lastly, with Skelton's patent tiller, which, in the highest sea, can be worked by two men.

COLLISION OFF HOLYHEAD.—The ship *Imogene*, Captain William, bound for Pernambuco, with six passengers and a crew of eighteen, came in collision, last Saturday morning, with the screw steamer *Falcon*, Captain Hynes, from Cork, with one hundred and fifty passengers and a number of cattle on board, twenty miles off Holyhead. In about two hours, the ship went down, but all hands were saved. The steamer was struck in the starboard fore-rigging, and received considerable damage. She arrived in the Collingwood-dock at half-past four, p.m., with the crew and passengers on board.

RELIGION TRIUMPHING OVER SECT.—A troop of the Royal Artillery (says a local paper) lately passed through Carlou, and we have been informed that a number of those brave fellows, who have not long returned from the Crimea, proceeded as soon as they were freed from their duty, though saturated with wet and fatigue after a long march, to the Mercy Convent, to return thanks to the nuns who had been in the Crimea, for their kind attention to the sick and wounded. What adds more weight to this touching scene of gratitude is, that of the whole party only one was a Roman Catholic.

FIRE IN PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR.—Some alarm was caused in Portsmouth harbour early last Saturday morning by the ringing of the fire-bell and the report that her Majesty's steam corvette *Highflyer* was on fire below. The report turned out true, but no serious damage was done. It appears that one end of the after sleeper of the port boiler caught fire and was charred through. This is supposed to have been caused by the ashes not being sufficiently extinguished when the fires were drawn after the use of the boilers to work the engines in moving from the dockyard to buoy-moorings. The fire was speedily discovered by the sentinel on board, and was put out by the ship's company.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR HENRY SOMERSET, K.C.B., will succeed to the colonelcy of the 25th Regiment, vacant by the recent death of General Sir H. F. Campbell. Sir Henry served during the latter portion of the Peninsular war, and was at Vittoria, Orthez, and Toulouse; he was also at Waterloo, and during the various operations against the Kaffirs he has held important commands.

WRECK OF A FINNISH MERCHANTMAN.—A Finnish merchant-ship and her whole cargo has been wrecked off the north coast of Scotland, on her passage homewards from Liverpool. The captain and all the crew and passengers have perished, with the exception of two men. The vessel, which was a large brig, ran ashore early one morning, and struck upon a rock on the coast, near the village of Ham. The wind at the time was blowing a hurricane, and the sea was very rough in consequence.

Shortly after the ship had struck, she was drifted off again, and carried towards a deep pool opposite a place called Donald's Cave. Here she stuck fast. The masts went overboard very soon afterwards, and the vessel then began to sink by slow degrees. A great many people were speedily collected on the spot, but, being unable to obtain any serviceable boat, no assistance could be rendered to the crew for several hours, and the persons on shore were compelled to witness the spectacle of their fellow-creatures being one by one washed overboard by the waves, and submerged. After a time, the ship likewise sunk, and was completely buried under the waters. About three hours afterwards, a boat, manned by five fishermen, was brought from a village on the estate of Mr. Traill, M.P., and two of the crew were rescued. All the rest, six in number, were drowned. The two men who were saved were both foreigners (one appeared to be a Russian), and, as neither of them were able to speak a word of English, no one has yet been able to learn anything relating to the cause of the disaster. The body of the captain's wife was washed ashore on the evening of the day on which the wreck occurred, and was buried in the village churchyard. It is not expected that much of the ship's cargo will be saved.

OBITUARY.

LORD HARDINGE.—The late Commander-in-Chief of the English army died at his residence, South Park, near Tunbridge Wells, at about half-past eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning. Henry Hardinge was the son of a working clergyman in the North of England, and the exalted position to which he climbed cannot therefore be attributed, as too often is the case, to family influence or high birth. He entered the army as ensign in 1798. After the battle of Corunna, when the English troops were hurriedly getting aboard ship, Marshal Beresford observed that young Hardinge was more especially energetic and zealous in his efforts to facilitate operations. Beresford thenceforth kept his eye upon him, and, when the former was organizing the Portuguese forces to oppose Bonaparte, he gave him a brigade in the service before he was twenty-five, his foreign grade, after a time, being transferred to the English army. He served all through the Peninsular war, during which he was Deputy Quartermaster-General of the Portuguese army; was wounded at Vimiera; was at the passage of the Douro, the battle of Busaco, the celebrated lines of Torres Vedras, the final capture of Badajoz, and the fall of Ciudad Rodrigo. At the battle of Albuera, the success of the day was owing to a manoeuvre executed by Hardinge, partly on his own responsibility. He was severely wounded at Vittoria, and lost a hand under Blucher at Ligny. After the conclusion of the war, he was successively made Secretary at War, Secretary for Ireland, Master-General of the Ordnance, and, in the year 1844, Governor-General of India. On the outbreak of the Sikh insurrection, Lord Hardinge again appeared on the field of battle; and much credit is due to him, not only for the energy of his movements, but for the disinterestedness which induced him, notwithstanding his office, to place himself second in command under Gough. For this conduct he was raised to the peerage. In 1852, on the death of the Duke of Wellington, he was made Commander-in-Chief—a post which he resigned last July on account of the stroke which has now ended in his death.

ALDERMAN HUNTER.—This gentleman died on Monday night at his residence in Hyde Park-square. He had for many years represented Coleman-street Ward, and was much esteemed.

PROFESSOR WENCESLAUS BOJER.—The last overland mail from the Mauritius brings intelligence of the death of Professor Wenceslaus Bojer, a name well known for many years past to the botanists of Europe on account of the many and beautiful specimens which he was the first to introduce to their notice.

GENERAL SIR COLLIN HARKETT, G.C.B., Governor of Chelsea Hospital, expired on Wednesday morning, at the asylum over which he presided. Gout was the cause of his decease. He had served with great gallantry in the Peninsula, where he was severely wounded, and he was also at Waterloo. He was in the eighty-third year of his age.

MAJOR-GENERAL JAMES JONES, K.H., another old Peninsular officer, died on Monday, in the seventy-fifth year of his age.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—We hear very little news about the Court in its far Highland retirement. The Queen and her family seem to be living in their usual autumn style of quiet domesticity, taking picturesque drives during the day, and giving select dinner-parties in the evening. Prince Albert, of course, has been deer-stalking; but the details of his achievements have not been provided for the edification of a loyal and enlightened British public.

THE SEES OF LONDON AND DURHAM.—We believe we are correct in stating that a division of the See of London is contemplated, and that this was the reason why the vacant bishopric was not filled by translation. The See of Durham will also be ultimately divided, but at present it is thought more desirable to fill it by translation rather than by a new appointment. We may add that, except in the case of the archbishoprics, the prin-

ciple of 'translation' has been definitively abandoned.—*Times*.

THE NEW BISHOPS.—Dr. Tait will be entitled to a seat in the House of Lords, in virtue of the Bishopric of London, immediately after his consecration; the occupant of the metropolitan see not being subject to the rule which excludes the junior bishop for the time being. Dr. Langley, successor to the Bishopric of Ripon, will not be entitled to a seat as a spiritual peer until another vacancy occurs, otherwise than in the sees of Canterbury, York, London, Durham, and Winchester.

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.—St. Matthew's-day falling this year on a Sunday, the delivery of the orations by the senior scholars at Christ's Hospital, which takes place on that anniversary according to annual custom, was on this occasion deferred until Monday, when the Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs, several Aldermen, with many of the leading governors of the different Royal Hospitals, Dr. Jacob, the head master, and the several other masters, proceeded to Christ's Church, Newgate-street, where the ceremony took place.

CONVERSION IN HIGH LIFE.—The Duchess Dowager of Argyll has been converted to Popery.

REMAINS OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.—Captain Penny, who has arrived at Aberdeen with the Lady Franklin, says that during the time he was in Hogarth's Sound pursuing the winter whale fishery, he was told by some of the natives that they had been in company, during their excursions to the north, with a number of Esquimaux, who had seen a long way off, in a north-westerly direction from Hogarth's Sound, a circular white tent erected on the ice. They had taken from it at their first visit some bright metal; and on their second visit, some moons afterwards, they had seen two white men in the tent. It was reported among the natives that these and others had perished from hunger. So far as Captain Penny can judge, it is thought that this must refer to the same party from whom Dr. Rae had the silver spoons, &c., which identified the white men with Sir John Franklin and his party.

MR. BRIGHT has written to the *Banffshire Journal* to complain that on the road between Ballater and Tomintoul there are no less than four bridges broken down, and that they have been in this state ever since 1850. The Duke of Richmond, it appears, is responsible for the condition of the roads in that locality; and Mr. Bright very naturally calls upon him to do his duty. But he observes that "the Duke is so far omnipotent at Tomintoul that nobody is bold enough to say anything to him or his factor by way of complaint."

FIRES.—A tremendous conflagration broke out towards the latter end of last week at Howfield Farm, about two miles from Canterbury. A large amount of corn was destroyed, but the energetic measures of the firemen prevented the flames from spreading, as it was at one time feared they would. A melancholy case of sudden death arose out of this catastrophe. A labourer and his son went to assist: in the meanwhile, the wife of the older man became alarmed at the fierceness of the conflagration, fainted, and expired in about half an hour through sheer fright. When the two men returned, they found her dead.—Some large premises belonging to brush manufacturers and bristle merchants in Upper Thames-street, City, were burnt down on the night of Friday week. Several of the adjoining premises, including the well-known Old Shades Tavern, close to London Bridge, were greatly damaged, and the fire was not extinguished till a late hour.—A saw-mill in Wellington-street, Leeds, has been destroyed by fire, and property to the amount of 2000*l.* is sacrificed. The firm is uninsured.

INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS.—This institution met on Wednesday week at Glasgow, in the Architects' Exhibition Halls. The attendance was numerous, and included several persons of scientific reputation. The Chairman, in the course of his opening address, alluded to the increased powers of production, and the consequent greater cheapness effected by mechanism. He observed:—"In 1824, a gentleman with whom I am acquainted sold on one occasion 100,000 pieces of 74-reed printing cloth at 30*s.* 6*d.* per piece of 29 yards long; the same description of cloth he sold last week at 8*s.* 9*d.* One of the most striking instances I know of the vast superiority of machinery over simple instruments used by the hand is in the manufacture of lace, where one man with a machine does the work of 8000 lace-makers on the cushion. In spinning fine numbers of yarn, a workman on a self-acting mule will do the work of 8000 hand spinners with the distaff and spindle; and there are other striking facts of a similar kind mentioned in my report on the New York Industrial Exhibition. Comparatively few persons, perhaps, are aware of the increase of the production during our lifetime. Thirty years ago, the cost of labour for trueing a surface of cast-iron, by chipping and filing with the hand, was 12*s.* per square foot; the same work is now done by the planing machine at a cost of labour of less than 1*d.* per square foot; and this, as you know, is one of the most important operations in mechanics. It is, therefore, well adapted to illustrate what our progress has been. At the same time that this increased production is taking place, the fixed capital of the country is, as a necessary consequence, augmented; for, in the case I have mentioned, of chipping and filing by the hand, when the cost of labour was 12*s.* per foot, the capital required for tools for one workman was only a few

shillings; but now, the labour being lowered to 1*d.* per foot, a capital in planing machines for the workman is required which often amounts to 500*l.*, and in some cases more. This large outlay of capital, invested in machinery to increase production, makes it impossible to curtail the hours of working machinery as much as could be desired. In some cases, two sets of workpeople have been employed in relays, each working eight hours a-day; and this system, perhaps, may in time be extended, although it is attended with certain inconveniences. If, however, the relay system could be so improved and organized as to allow more time for the better education of young operatives, none would more cordially rejoice than myself." The speaker advocated the removal of the tax from carriages, as an increase in the use of vehicles would lead to a great saving of time, and a large number of artisans would find employment in making them. He also wished for the removal of the duty on timber.—Several papers having been read, the meeting adjourned.

THE WINE-PRODUCING LANDS IN SPAIN.—Dr. John Gorman is now travelling through Spain for the *Times*, in order to ascertain the state of the vines, and how far they have been affected by the disease. He gives a bad account of the state of the grapes in the neighbourhood of Jerez de la Fronteira, from which he writes on the 6th inst.

THE INJURED JOCKEYS.—The jockeys who met with the accident in the race for the Goodwood Stakes are now out of all danger.

A CITY NUISANCE.—Some five or six weeks ago, Superintendent Hodson, of the City police, complained to the municipal authorities that so dreadful an odour proceeded from a chimney at the City Gasworks, Whitefriars, that the health of the constables on duty was seriously affected, and he was obliged to change them to other beats to enable them to recover from the poisonous influence of the gas. On a particular evening, the smell was so powerful that it spread as far as the Old Bailey. The superintendent added that he understood the stench arose from an attempt to destroy by fire the refuse of the gasworks. The subject was referred to Dr. Letheby, who, as the result of his inquiries, states that the proprietors of the works have done all in their power to avoid bad smells, but that they have not succeeded. He recommends the removal of all such factories from the neighbourhood of London. After some discussion, it was unanimously agreed to refer the matter to the General Purposes Committee, with instructions to take a legal opinion as to the power of the court to deal with the works as a public and injurious nuisance.

THE AGAPEMONE.—A public meeting, numerously attended, has been held in the Assize-hall, Bridgewater, to hear an address from the Rev. D. W. Pennell in reference to the Princeites. The speaker severely condemned "Brother Prince's" principles. Though a married man, he had openly avowed adultery, and had quoted St. Paul as his authority. In four years no less than fourteen of the inmates of the Agapemone had effected their escape. The meeting unanimously passed a resolution condemnatory of the institution, and in favour of its being placed under the supervision of a properly constituted authority.

CICERUACCHIO.—The *Austrian Gazette* of Vienna has made the following discovery:—"Ciceruacchio is not dead; he is at Constantinople, and is in a very brilliant situation. Some of his countrymen and one of his domestics have brought this news to Toulon. During the war in the Crimea, he was engaged in the wine trade in Balaklava, and afterwards at Sebastopol, and he gained a great deal of money. His wife resides at Rome, and hopes soon to see him." It would be unwise, we fear, to place much dependence on this statement.

MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE is now travelling in Scotland.

MR. FROST AND HIS ANTECEDENTS.—A meeting was held at the Temperance Hall, Broadway, Westminster, on Tuesday night, for the purpose of enabling Mr. John Frost to rebut the charges under which he has lain for the last seventeen years. Mr. Nash took the chair, and, after a bitter attack on the London press for the part it had taken with respect to the late demonstration, gave place to Mr. Frost, who denounced the infamous treatment to which convicts are subjected in Van Diemen's Land. He said he had been charged with ingratitude; but he asked whether he had received anything from the Government which was likely to cherish grateful feelings in his heart. On the contrary, had he not been treated in a manner which fully justified the hostile feelings which he entertained towards the Government? He denied that, as asserted at the trial, he had had any intention of blowing up Newport Bridge: in fact, all the assertions upon which he was convicted were foul and flagitious falsehoods.—After some further remarks from Mr. Frost, the meeting gave him three cheers, and broke up.

THE ANNEXATION OF OUDE.—Mr. Lewin brought forward the question of the annexation of Oude at a quarterly general court of the East India House on Wednesday, when, in a long speech, he condemned that act as the spoliation of a Prince who had often shown himself very friendly to us. The motion was negatived.

M. SOYER EATING WITH HIS FINGERS.—The *Times* of Tuesday contains a letter from the chief of cooks, setting forth in elaborate style the main features of the Constantinopolitan table. He thinks some of the Turkish dishes

might be adopted in France and England; "not so their method of eating with their fingers, though, after several trials, I must admit it has some peculiar advantages; their sauces being of a thinnish nature, require to be absorbed with a piece of bread in order to partake of them, which could not be performed equally well by either knife or fork." What does the Reform Club think of M. Soyer eating with his fingers?

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS IN THE CITY.—Mr. Thomas Y. M'Christy, the barrister appointed to revise the lists of voters for the City of London, commenced on Monday his annual sittings at the Court of Common Pleas, Guildhall. Mr. Sidney Smith and Mr. Ledger appeared on behalf of the Liberals, while the Conservative interest was wholly unrepresented. The lists returned showed that 1871 names which were upon the last register have been omitted (219 liverymen and 1652 householders), while 1879 new names have been added (181 liverymen and 1698 householders). There are 576 objections, 111 being to the qualifications of liverymen and 465 to those of householders. The new claims are only 66 in number, 2 as liverymen and 64 as householders.

PERSIA.—The Persian Government has dismissed Colonel Alaterazzi for refusing to renounce the protection of England.

FALL OF A CHAPEL.—A new building in Bury New-road, Manchester, in the Gothic style of architecture, with a spire, erected as a chapel for the Independents, fell on Wednesday morning at five o'clock, owing to some defects of construction. Fortunately no one was near at the time, and, as it was isolated from the surrounding dwellings, no loss of life was consequent upon the disaster.

JARROW DOCKS ON THE TYNE.—Mr. T. E. Harrison, C.E., on Tuesday afternoon, laid the foundation stone of one of the principal entrances to the Jarrow Docks on the Tyne.

HERTS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The prizes annually awarded by this society were competed for on Wednesday, and the proceedings were wound up by the customary annual dinner at the Corn Exchange, Hitchin. Sir E. B. Lytton, M.P., presided, and among those present were Mr. Dallas, the American Minister (at present on a visit to the chairman), the Marquis of Salisbury, Sir W. Jolliffe, M.P., Mr. J. A. Smith, M.P., Mr. C. C. Hale (vice-chairman), &c. The chairman proposed the health of Mr. Dallas in terms of the warmest eulogium, and that gentleman made a suitable reply. In a subsequent speech, Sir Edward Lytton addressed himself to the consideration of agricultural matters, and denied that English farmers, as a body, are opposed to agricultural statistics.

THE BERKELEY TESTIMONIAL.—The presentation of the testimonial to the Hon. F. H. F. Berkeley, M.P. for Bristol, in recognition of his services in procuring the repeal of Mr. Wilson Patten's Sunday Beer Bill, took place on Wednesday afternoon in the debating hall of the Athenæum, Corn-street, Bristol. The testimonial consists of a silver salver weighing one hundred and two ounces, an oak casket enriched with gems, and a purse of sovereigns, amounting altogether in value to 1012*z.*

NARROW ESCAPE.—Mr. Alderman Richard Cardwell Gardener and a party of friends have been almost lost in attempting to cross the sands at Morecambe Bay. The tide was unusually high, and the horse, which was drawing a light vehicle, fell into a deep pit of water, and overturned the excursionists. The traces were ultimately cut, the horse drawn out, and the party waded the rest of their way through the surf, to their no small peril. But all got safely home.

A TORY JOKE.—The *Leamington Mercury* has the following:—"Sir,—Don't you think Mr. Wyndham, hoaxter of the Birmingham people, must be a contributor to the *Leader* newspaper? That he is a literary man, his letters prove; that he is a Radical, his conduct generally. And I cut the following suspicious extract from the *Leader* of July the 5th; it has reference to the King of Oude, then expected in England:—"A gentleman in our own office, however, appears to take the most practical view of the subject. He says, that if the King will hand him over his income, he will undertake, even at that limited amount, to show him all that is really worth seeing in London, including the Crystal Palace, Madame Tussaud's, Evans's, the Royal Exchange, and the Department of Practical Art, with the estate of Kensington Gore; and to obtain all that the King can obtain during his residence in England, including motions in the House of Commons, public dinners, and private parties. He makes a distinct tender of that contract; and if at the end of the term his Majesty should be dissatisfied, our subordinate will be willing to return the King the remains of his fortune—if any—with scrupulous exactitude, and will even pay the passage home for the King and all his baggage on terms similar to those authorized by her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners. We recommend the proposal to the King, confident that he will find it in the end by far the most economical." The offer was not accepted—the Queen came, instead of the King—and Mr. Wyndham tried another dodge. Yours, &c., A TORY."

UNITY GENERAL ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION.—The differences which have lately agitated this company are now nearly, if not entirely, at an end. Mr. Mechi having appealed to the shareholders to support him in the views he enunciated at a recent meeting, has received replies from nearly seven hundred and fifty

persons, representing upwards of one-half the subscribed capital. Thus armed, he appealed to the board in a spirit of conciliation, which was promptly responded to, and the majority of the directors, submitting to the decision of the proprietors, as expressed at the late meeting, and through Mr. Mechi, will, it is understood, retain their seats at the board, which, to some extent, will be modified, so as to secure the utmost amount of confidence from the proprietary, the assured, and the public. Mr. Baylis resumes his position as manager.

THE HEMEL HEMPSTEAD BANK.—Thursday was the day appointed in the Bankruptcy Court for a choice of assignees under the bankruptcy of William Smith, banker of Hemel Hempstead. There being no opposition to the proposed assignees, the parties named were at once selected, viz.:—Mr. S. Godwin, farmer of Hemel Hempstead, and Mr. C. W. Moore, gentleman, of Watford. In the course of the proceedings, proofs to the amount of nearly 20,000*l.* were admitted, a considerable portion on the notes of the bank. The allowance ordered by the Court for the bankrupt was 7*l.* 10*s.* per week.

A VICTIM TO QUACKERY.—The Lancaster county coroner concluded, on Monday, an inquest on the body of Hannah Newton, the wife of a shopkeeper residing at Barton-upon-Irwell, who, according to the evidence, had fallen a victim to the unskilful treatment of an unqualified medical practitioner, named Edmund Astle. The medical gentlemen said that the woman's death was the result of the unnecessary violence which had been used before they arrived, and which showed gross ignorance on the part of the person who had resorted to it. A verdict of manslaughter was returned.

SUICIDE.—A girl recently threw herself on the rails of the Glasgow and South Western Railway, betwixt Mauchline and Hurlford, and was instantly killed. The guard observed a woman walking along the up line of rails while the train was moving on the down one opposite. He was literally paralysed with horror when he saw her throw off her bonnet, draw her shawl round her head, rush forward, and prostrate her body with her head on the rails. She was only twenty years of age, and it is believed had been seduced.

CORPORATION REFORM.—The subject of the reform of the City of London was aired on Thursday at a Court of Common Council, where there was a motion of Mr. Besley's that the Court should proceed to discuss the Corporation Reform Bill of last session; but the Lord Mayor held that, as the bill had been withdrawn, the motion could not be entertained. A motion for referring to a committee the consideration of what steps can be taken in the way of improvement, was carried; and the Lord Mayor, the aldermen present, and a commoner from each ward were at once appointed to carry the object into effect.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, September 27.
NAPLES—THE ULTIMATUM.

The Post Ampt Gazette of Frankfort gives some details respecting the second note sent by the Western Powers to the King of Naples. In this note, France and England express their desire to come to an honourable understanding with the King of Naples. They admit that under the present circumstances the King cannot grant a general amnesty, and, therefore, only request the King to grant a pardon to those political prisoners who may apply for it, and make their submission in proper form. But this they particularly insist on, and therefore give their note the form of an ultimatum, which allows the King of Naples a fortnight's time to consider, after which the Western Powers will resort to the measures they think advisable.

"It is rumoured," says the *Débats*, "that Baron de Hubner is expected at Marseilles from Naples, on his way to Biarritz, to wait on the Emperor." This has reference to the Neapolitan question.

From Vienna it is reported that Prince Petrucci, the Neapolitan Envoy in Vienna, has tendered his resignation. It is not stated whether political or personal reasons have led to this step.

Sardinia, says the *Daily News*, will take part in the expedition to Naples, for the protection of Sardinian residents and their property.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE PARIS TREATY.

"A report has reached me," writes the *Times* Paris correspondent, this day, "that the United States have in contemplation to form an alliance with those European Powers, not parties to the treaty of Paris, who may be disposed to adopt the additional article respecting the immunity of merchant vessels and merchandize from capture even by men-of-war."

THE BARQUE CANTON.—The loss of this vessel is reported at Lloyd's. She was on her passage out from London to Quebec, and was leaky. The water poured in so fast that, on the morning of the 8th inst., the crew abandoned her in lat. 46.49 N., long. 37.23 W.

DEFALCATION.—Mr. James Worley, collector of property and income taxes, Dudley, has disappeared. His defalcations are said to amount to 2000*l.* For twenty years, he was a local preacher among the Wesleyans, and connected with the Dudley Masonic body.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We do not undertake to return rejected communications. No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. 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.

ERRATA.—In our Postscript last week, last line but one of the Neapolitan news, for "we have information," read "we have no information."—Fifth line of the paragraph on the Oldbury Colliery Explosion, for "contrary to orders against the Act of Parliament," read "contrary to orders, and against," &c.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 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 COMPLICATIONS OF ITALY.

THE best informed persons believe in the reality of the demonstration promised against the King of NAPLES. That is to say, an allied squadron will be assembled at a point commanding the Neapolitan and Sicilian coasts, and the French and British missions will withdraw. Officially, the explanation of this proceeding is, that the Western Powers cannot continue their friendly intercourse with the Government of King FERDINAND while that Government occupies a position of contumacy, and of impracticable infatuation. So far as to the suspending of diplomatic relations. Then, as to the naval movement. The missions having been withdrawn, French and British residents in the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies will be without protection, and the presence of a few ships of war will be essential to their security. For consequences that may follow, affecting the King's Government, France and England will not hold themselves responsible. Such is the plea, as declared in London. In Paris it contains a supplementary clause, disavowing all intention of promoting anarchical risings in Italy. We may well believe that to be the spirit of the Imperial policy, although it would be difficult to say what the French Emperor would *not* do to escape the result of a year's leisure given to France to meditate upon her own condition. At all events, the motives of the Western Powers are suspected by the Liberal party in every quarter of Europe. It is imputed to them that they mean, by an insincere demonstration, to menace at once the King and the Revolution, and it is anticipated that their first public declaration will be against the organizers of conspiracy. That is possible, and it will not signify much. What we are interested to know, is the view taken by the two Governments acting in concert, of the contingencies that are likely to arise. These contingencies are:—a revolt in Naples, of the people and some of the national military forces against the King, the lazzaroni, and the Swiss; a revolt in Sicily, followed by a declaration of independence; revolts in the semi-independent Duchies; a Lombard insurrection; and, in Piedmont, one of two results: a crusade undertaken by the Government—perhaps we might wait long for that—or, a bursting forth of the Italian spirit in Genoa, and a challenge to every true Italian from the throne of Turin to the cottage of Taranto, to take arms, and make war against the Stranger.

If the British Government be not prepared for contingencies of this extent, the promised act of coercion at Naples will be a practical

fallacy. Whatever the motive, the result can be nothing else than an internal disturbance of Southern Italy. Such a disturbance would not come under the operation of ordinary diplomatic influences. Diplomacy may regulate and limit a war; it has no control over a revolution. In a war, even the points of collision may be selected; the acting forces may be numbered, drilled, and moved along fixed lines; but once revive the national crusade in Italy, and it becomes a conflict which must either be left for the Italians to decide, according to their own strength and their own will, or produce a crisis in Europe, and engage every power in its settlement. In this case, we do not see how the question could be left altogether to the Italians. It is not an Italian interest alone that would be effected by the issue of such a war. A province of Italy forms a part of the Austrian Empire, and as long as Austria dominates over one section of the peninsula, France will aspire to domineer over another. What, however, is the probable policy of Austria?—of France? As far as preparations signify plans, it is the intention of the Austrian Government to maintain, at all hazards, by force of arms, the integrity of its Lombard and Venetian dominions. Of France, less can be said, with any certainty. The Emperor's ideas do not seem to be understood by the Emperor's Government, nor are they, to all appearance, very definite just now. It is certain that MAXIM was prohibited from proceeding with his subscription for the guns of Alessandria; it is certain, also, that the prohibition has been withdrawn. What, then, is the cordiality existing between Paris and Vienna? Between Paris and Turin? Between LOUIS NAPOLEON and MURAT? Something must be done with the King of NAPLES, in the event of a popular insurrection ending in his discomfiture. Perhaps he is only to be well shaken and let go; perhaps the Western Governments have undertaken to find him a successor. Possibly, also, their plans may undergo a change, and no French and British pennons, signals of liberty, will flash across the Golden Bay. But, supposing that the present design is to be carried out, that the King of Beggars and Bravos is unable to resist the circumstances of his new position, and that he is declared incorrigible by the two Governments and the nation, forming 'the third party' to the transaction, there may be a Congress to decide upon the appropriation of Naples, there may be a European war to protest against the authority of such a Congress, and there may be a general revolution in Italy to lay down the principle, that neither a Congress nor a European war shall determine her destinies, which it belongs to the Italian people to work out for itself.

The worst-informed people have been very loquacious on the subject of the great political conspiracy that is now forming from end to end of the peninsula. Something should be known of this movement, though, of course, something should be reserved. It is no betrayal to state, then, that while the active Liberal party, represented by MAZZINI and by GARIBALDI—those leaders acting together to a degree not commonly appreciated—are making extraordinary exertions to promote a national armament for the purpose of a war against the Stranger, and his petty lieutenants in regal and vice-regal palaces, their subscription is not directly hostile to Sardinia. We know that the subscription for the guns of Alessandria has not been discouraged by MAZZINI, except where it has been promoted in an exclusive and jealous spirit. The Liberals of Italy would be glad to count the King of SARDINIA among their allies: let him make good his

claim to be their leader, and they will elect him to that dignity. What they disbelieve is that any man, occupying an Italian throne, and forming a part of the European system of royalty, statesmanship, and diplomacy, can be the representative of national nineteenth-century principles. The unsuccessful revolts—misfortunes of Italy, attributed to MAZZINI as crimes—are the evidences of an impatience beyond his control. How is he, an exile, in obscurity, compelled to mask his proceedings, and to communicate with his friends, by processes which are mysterious to the police—how is he to curb the violent and untaught enthusiasm of Massa-Carrara? Or may not the tocsin be sounded, at any hour, at some distant point of the peninsula, without his sanction or knowledge? It is true that he possesses vast influence; but political leaders are seldom so powerful to restrain as to impel. When the event comes, when Piedmont and Austria are engaged, when the general body of the Italian nation make new sacrifices for their independence, it will be known to whom the imputations of selfishness and treachery should apply. The Italians have learned many lessons: they have learned to hate the French Government, and to distrust the English; to regard Austria as their mortal enemy, and to ask from Piedmont for proofs of real national devotion; but, on the part of their own leaders, of GARIBALDI and of MAZZINI, they have never witnessed any act of lukewarm patriotism, or of equivocal honour. If they cannot trust the statesmanship of these men, they can trust their virtues. Even by the test of statesmanship they stand well in comparison with the pretenders who have aspired to take from them their moral sovereignty over a great mass of the Italian nation. They have no Novara in their annals; they have Venice, Milan, Rome; when Italy was last subdued by the Stranger, it was by Austria overcoming Piedmont, and by France violating Rome.

We may well watch, with solicitude, the preparations for conflict along the Sardinian frontier. But of this we may be well assured:—that the organized forces of Piedmont are unequal to a contest with the organized forces of Austria; it is only by rousing the entire nation that Piedmont can make a stand worthy of the Italian cause. And it is only by proving herself free from the miserable lust of self-aggrandisement that she can ever hope to rouse the people. There is room in Italy for Piedmont; there is no room for the Stranger. Every true friend of that long-suffering country will, therefore, encourage her liberal leaders in organizing an army to fight her battle of independence, within and without the Piedmontese frontier. What is it to the Italians that Alessandria is well fortified, if they have no muskets for their share of the struggle? The struggle is coming, and England, not less than Italy, has positive duties to perform.

THE MERITS OF FREEDOM DISCOVERED.

BELGIUM is awakened to a sense of the grand truth that commerce can be most successfully prosecuted when it is conducted in a state of perfect freedom. The Belgian Customs Reform Association has been created solely to present this idea to the Belgian people, who are ready to receive it, and who reply through their provincial towns that the idea is excellent, and ought to be carried out. The Belgian Government patronizes the Association, and desires its success. Yet Belgium still labours under the remains of protective duties, local tolls, and fiscal obstructions of many kinds. So difficult is it to shake off the lumber of old notions and customs, even when an entire nation, its Government and people are fully

convinced of the expediency. Belgium invites people from all countries of Europe to assist in considering its new opinions, which it has partially carried out with considerable success, and the conclave is attended by notables from England, Switzerland, Piedmont, Tuscany, Holland, the Hanse Towns, France, Spain, Russia, and even Austria. All these countries are more or less moving in the same direction—some of them very much less—but gradually the public opinion of them all is converging upon the belief that commerce can be best cultivated when it is perfectly free.

The argument runs thus. If you attempt to pass a law rendering any existing arrangement permanent, you prevent improvement. If you forbid machinery to protect an existing handicraft, you debar the labourer himself from a participation in human progress, and from the chance of bettering his own condition. The power-loom weaver is better off than the hand-loom weaver. The sempstress can earn twice as much with the sewing-machine as with her unassisted hands, although the labour is less. If you attempt to protect the trade of a country, you restrain all classes for the benefit of one; and that one class becomes wedded to old arrangements that ought to be outgrown. It loses by the restraint put upon other classes, and its own gain is a fiction, for which the interest of the entire community is sacrificed. England has established that problem by the establishment of free trade in corn. Sir JAMES GRAHAM made a slip at the Carlisle dinner the other day when, as an agriculturist, he expressed a fear that Russia would adopt free trade, since she must then be so prosperous. Why not? If all the world were absolutely free, it would necessarily set itself to the largest amount of production. But the climates of the world are so varied, the genius of mankind is so altered by climate, that the products of the globe must vary as much as the aspect of the countries. If all races produced their maximum they would all be in the richest state, they would all have the greatest possible variety of commodities to exchange, and trade would necessarily be at its maximum—especially if the intercourse between all countries were absolutely free.

This idea is gradually establishing itself, and in most civilized communities absolute freedom is found to be the best for commerce. The natural capacities, desires, and tendencies of mankind suffice to secure us ample supplies, and so bring about the best order, if they are simply let alone.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM stated at the same Carlisle dinner, that agriculture can only flourish in a soil and atmosphere of perfect freedom. Long leases and agrarian stipulations embarrass the farmer; even social and political freedom are necessary to bring out all his energies.

A people becomes free in proportion as it is educated. Let the labourer know a little more, and he will not be 'put upon' by the farmer. The Irish people have received a great access of freedom and education for the generation now rising to maturity. That generation enjoys much better wages, and agriculture is much more productive. Ireland is richer, is tranquil.

The King of PIEDMONT lately endowed his whole kingdom with a share of freedom about equal to that which we enjoy in England. Piedmont becomes a contrast to the whole of Italy. Its people are contented, its towns are improving, while those of other States are declining. Its highways are safe, while Rome is torn by brigandage. Its King can scarcely show himself without a popular welcome, while King FERDINAND must be hedged in lest he be shot. Its revenue is rising with

every addition of freedom. Its Government is as prosperous as the whole community.

Thus we see that freedom permits a healthy and vigorous growth in the social and political soil, as well as on the ground of agriculture or trade. Yet so slow are we to extend our ideas, that not only Governments in despotic countries, but Governments in free countries, are afraid of freedom. The country which boasts of its freedom of trade still clings to protection in politics. We have a Parliament elected under a protective tariff for the franchise, and the consequence is an inferior Parliament and a discontented multitude of the disfranchised.

The same principle, indeed, holds good throughout all branches of polity; it holds good in moral legislation as well as in political or commercial. But this view of freedom is yet scarcely beginning to dawn upon the minds of those that boast themselves most free from antiquated fallacies. Our social laws, framed by honourable members under the wisdom of the dominant party and the HAYTER for the time being, are a mass of protection as complicated, of fallacies as absurd and as miserable in the result as any law for the protection of the corn trade. The principles which justified free trade as a theory, and by virtue of which it has fulfilled its promises in fact, apply exactly to the whole round of government—not excepting even religion. Let the reader think out the problem for himself.

THE CHURCH INSOLVENT.

WE have been too slow to notice a great explosion in the Church. The Establishment declares itself bankrupt; it cannot pay even the wages of its servants; its curates and its incumbents are in a position to enter a distringas upon its goods, only its goods have been made away with, and carried off into "lay impropriation." We are not exaggerating, we are not misrepresenting; we take the case upon the showing of the clergy themselves, their loud-spoken attorney the *Times*, and their prudent adviser the *Spectator*.

The scandal began early in the month, with a letter from "A Curate" alluding to a particular case—the case of "the Essex Curate." This gentleman had been compelled to resign his curacy under the joint effect of pecuniary difficulties, ill health, and a screwing agreement with his vicar. The vicar had stipulated that the curate should accept a less salary than the Act of Parliament accords. The curate held that he was to have a fixed stipend of 80*l.* a year, with Easter offerings: the Easter offerings never amounted to more than 5*l.*, the stipend not more than 60*l.* The curate resigned. On an appeal to the Bishop, the Prelate expressed himself helpless, but added: "I shall be glad of any pecuniary assistance he may receive;" and the readers of the *Times* "mercifully sent for the benefit of this poor curate 400*l.*" If we may take this case, then, the clergy of the Church are dependent, partly upon salary, partly upon the little gains which they can screw out of each other, and partly upon charity.

Here the *Times* bursts in with its indignation. In vindication of the poor curate it sets itself to paint a picture of 'educated misery':—

One correspondent lately instanced a list of thirty advertisements from clergymen in search of curates. Out of this number one only offered 100*l.* a year, one 90*l.*, one or two 80*l.*, and the rest rapidly fell from 70*l.* down to 26*l.*, with a small furnished house, the rector being non-resident. One incumbent offered 50*l.* a year, with the use of the rectory-house, the curate to buy the furniture at a valuation of 860*l.* Another offered 70*l.* in a parish of nearly 6000, where there was daily service. Some appealed to wealthy clergymen for gratuitous assistance. Seven offered 50*l.* a year, or the pay of a schoolmaster.

With this unhappy being, the curate, the incumbent was placed in fiendish contrast.

Every gentleman knows the position (said the *Times*) in which an incumbent stands, as a matter of course, to those whose services he has secured for 70*l.*, or 50*l.*, or 26*l.* a year. Of course there is another side to this question, as incumbents take care to inform us. Curates are represented as an inferior race of men, otherwise they would not still be curates. . . . They are drudges, it is said: there are plenty of them, as there is of drudges in every department, and it is needless to pay more than the market price for an article of trade with which the market is overstocked. . . . It is not easy for any one to maintain a high tone, a dignified manner, or the other components of greatness, on 80*l.* a year. . . . Poverty is very depressing.

When 'a poor creature,' as saucy young ladies and gentlemen call him, gets up in the reading-desk, drones out the prayers, and hammers through an old sermon, few know how often it may be said that he once had genius, sentiment, learning, and zeal, but that

Chill penury repressed his noble rage,
And froze the genial current of the soul.

This is stating 'the other side of the case' with a vengeance! but the incumbents would not submit to be crushed by the *Times*. Accordingly, they come out strongly, and unquestionably they have a case. The "Rector of West Cammell" declares that on account of the abatements in the income of an incumbent, when he was curate receiving the stipend, sometimes of 80*l.* a year and a house, 100*l.* or 140*l.*, he "could not afford to take one of five livings offered to him." Another sends the account of his living, which is nominally worth between 300*l.* and 400*l.* a year; but after his expenditure in rent, taxes, curacy, &c., he has about 140*l.* of apparent income; out of which he has to make his contributions towards charities: and in the year of his appointment, first fruits and such claims left him with little more than 50*l.* Rigid economists revive old stories of pluralities, of livings held 'in commendam,' while the incumbent exercises other duties, probably scholastic. Or they point out the fact that the clergy know the scale of income which they may expect; that they have their choice of a profession; that they are not bound to marry or have large families; and that therefore they must not charge the consequences of their own imprudence upon the slender incomes allotted to curates or incumbents. The arguments of these economists appear to be, that if the clergy of the Established Church are ill paid, they ought to choose another profession, and they ought to regulate their matrimony and their families according to their cloth. Here political economy preaches the same doctrine with the Roman Catholic Church, and would establish a celibate clergy. The other economists set off the great prizes of the Church against its deplorable blanks, and seem to think that it is good fun to gamble in the chances of Church preferment. In all these comments, in all these advocacies and complaints, we have not yet departed from the strict limits of the Established Church; we are but repeating the statements, arguments, and comments of churchmen.

But despondency can go yet further. Our weekly contemporary appeals to the statistics of Mr. HORACE MANN, and draws from them the most painful of all conclusions. The *Spectator* quotes from Mr. MANN's book the proportions of attendance at divine service on Sunday. Fifty-eight per cent. of the whole population of the manufacturing districts of Yorkshire and Lancashire could attend service: the number would be 937,000. The Church of England provides 238,000 sittings; the number of sittings provided by the Church and the sects together is 573,000. The number of attendants at church is 122,000; at all places of worship, 348,000. In the great manufacturing towns, therefore, the Church provides a quarter of the accommodation required by the population; the

Church and the sects together do not provide room for two-thirds; yet the actual attendance in the Establishment is about one-seventh, and in all places of worship together not much more than one-third! All people who are physically able to go to church could not find room, but the room provided is much in excess of those who are willing. The primary want, then, is a more efficient Ministry; but who in these days are to get a more efficient Ministry when the rate of pay is such that the incumbent and the curate quarrel, not over a surplus salary, but over a deficiency which each wants to thrust upon the other? The two societies—the Pastoral Aid and the Additional Curates Society—raise respectively 37,264*l.* and 17,323*l.* in the year—a mere drop in the ocean. The churches of the Establishment are empty for want of a clergy to draw an audience into that theatre; two great societies raise the paltry sum of 52,000*l.* for the purpose of recruiting the clergy—about 5*l.* a head on the total number of the clergy; and here we seem to have come to the end of the resources. The Church, indeed, once had tithes; but who can recover them from the lay impropiators? The only remedy which occurs to the most outspoken friend of the Church is alarming:—"If the Church of England is to stand, sooner or later we must come to a general voluntary contribution, for its partial support, and sooner is better than later; indeed, postponement may be irremediable." The great Establishment, then, has nothing left for it but to send round the plate!

What are its hopes of success when its best performers display their powers in empty churches, while a SPURGEON, the newest novelty of one of the most heterogeneous sects in the country, is obliged to remove from a private chapel to Exeter Hall, in order that he may thunder his exciting sermons into tens of thousands of ears. There is a zest in the prospect of being damned. SPURGEON tells his auditory that the indifference of the clergymen is misprision of damnation; that the neglectful incumbent is answerable for the perdition of all the souls in his church; and that at a future day, when he has passed from these petty squabbles with his curate, he may have his *parish* "come howling after him into hell." There is no lack of voluntary contributions towards this kind of preaching; they are collected for SPURGEON at the doors of Exeter Hall, in sums enough to supply a stimulus greater than alcohol for this vehement orator. But how can the incumbent or the curate, dragged down by a deficiency of 10*l.* in the annual pittance, rise to sublimities like these? It is an unequal competition. The confession that the Establishment has no resources but the plate, is a confession that the days of the Establishment are numbered—that is, as an Establishment.

The voluntary system could never succeed for the support of ministers whose ministrations have been arranged according to the ideas of JAMES THE FIRST's day. The very call for a revision of the Bible—a call supported by the whole force of better intelligence in these days—shows that while we must revere the spirit of the men who translated the Bible, we must inevitably revise their imperfect manner of doing their work. But if we must revise the verbal construction of that volume, does it not follow that we must revise the whole construction of the machinery for the exposition of the religion that the volume teaches? This is exactly what the country has been doing, by means of 'Dissent.' But when the multitude sets itself to administer any affairs of an elevated character, it inevitably falls into the error of

appointing officers who are fitter to be led than to lead. Still more when it sets itself in opposition to the *élite* of the country. An antagonistic democracy is as false in its exclusiveness as an antagonistic aristocracy; and the principle holds good in religion as much as it would in science, as much as it does in politics. The existence of an Establishment that cannot be supported voluntarily by the whole body of the people, prevents the existence of a real national Establishment representing the whole body of the people. 'The Established Church' blocks out a *National Church*. It is becoming pauper, because it draws its whole resources from the past, and lives upon tithes that have been impropriated; and its sole chance of saving itself is by converting itself into an administration for the religion of the entire country,—making itself what it has ceased to be, the Church of *England*.

THE HOPE OF THE WORKHOUSE.

DISCLOSURES that are made from time to time by the press justify the account of English workhouses written by Mrs. JAMESON.* As that lady, unlike a number of her countrymen, does not declaim against an evil without suggesting a remedy, her protest is entitled to some attention. Having provided for the poor, we are too little in the habit of inquiring *how* we have provided for them. A fortunate accident occasionally brings to light some bad aspects (perhaps, however, not the worst) of our poor-law system, and there is then an uproar; but the fitful charity dies away, and the paupers are left to their guardians. Against this class of gentlemen we have no wish to urge any general charge which we have not the means of substantiating. But it may be said, without injustice, that, upon the whole, they are the guardians of the tax-payers, not of the poor. Their duty, as interpreted by themselves, consists in seeing that the inmates of the workhouse are not too comfortable, and that no one is an inmate who can by any quibble be excluded.

We will not take the recent flogging cases as characteristic of our workhouse administration. They may be exceptional, though decidedly they were the scandal of the parish of Marylebone. At all events, it is not to be denied that some workhouses are better governed than others. There are the clean and the dirty, the systematic and the slovenly, the healthy and the pestiferous; the harshly and the kindly controlled. There are matrons of motherly virtue and matrons as odious as stupidity in a state of chronic intoxication can be. You may find the master to be of an amiable, conscientious character, or he may be a privileged ruffian, a small woman-flogger.

Mrs. JAMESON affirms that she has seen in workhouses things she could hardly speak of. But setting aside their worst aspects, her complaint is that the most vulgar of human beings are employed to manage the most ignorant, paupers to govern paupers, the aged and infirm to attend upon those more infirm and aged still. The charity of the law is worked by a hard and coarse machinery. The tax which supports it is "paid so reluctantly, with so little sympathy in its purpose, that the wretched paupers seem to be regarded as a sort of parish locusts, sent to devour the substance of the rate-payers, as the natural enemies of those who are taxed for their subsistence—almost as criminals." Mrs. JAMESON is not exaggerating. Let us ask any one familiar

* The Communion of Labour: a Second Lecture on the Social Employments of Women. By Mrs. Jameson. Longman and Co.

with vestry business, and with the relations usually subsisting between the pauper and the rate-payer—does not the latter avenge himself sufficiently for having to pay the rates, and is not the former well punished for receiving them? If there is to be a reform, we think the spirit of the parochial electors must come under its operation. Next to the rate-payers are the guardians, the police of poverty; and next to these, the masters and matrons—sometimes a retired constable and his wife, or the keeper of a beer-shop, or a promoted porter, excellent persons often, but not qualified for the moral government of a large number of men and women. Associated with them are schoolmasters and chaplains, in general totally inefficacious, says Mrs. JAMESON.

"In a great and well-ordered workhouse, under conscientious management," she inspected sixteen wards, each with from fifteen to twenty-five inmates—sick, aged, bedridden, idle, or helpless—and each superintended by a nurse and a 'helper,' nominally selected from the least immoral and drunken of the female paupers. The nurses were from sixty-five to eighty years of age, while their assistants were usually younger. In another workhouse ten bedridden old women were nursed by a feeble pauper of seventy, with an assistant nearly blind. In another, eight paralytic patients were nursed by a woman almost as decrepid, and a girl with one hand. In a third the nurse had a wooden leg. Sometimes, when a female pauper is particularly infirm, she is appointed as nurse, that she may be privileged to receive a little tea and beer. It may be imagined what sort of attention the miserable invalids receive. Now, as in 1854 there were more than fifty thousand inmates of the London workhouses (exclusive of Marylebone) under medical treatment, we conceive that they form a class sufficiently important to possess a claim on the public sympathy. We should be glad to learn how seventy paid, and five hundred unpaid pauper nurses, can perform for these poor creatures the commonest offices of humanity. Frequently the nurse is put to bed intoxicated, in the ward in which she is expected to exercise a salutary authority. In one workhouse the patients could get no help, whatever except by bribery; little pitances of tea and sugar left by friends were consumed, in this manner, by the nurse. "Those who would not pay this tax were neglected, and implored in vain to be turned in their beds." The matron is aware that these evils exist, but has no power to remedy them. We know what description of persons sink, from time to time, into this 'last home of the poor,' and we shall not be much perplexed to understand why a proud and angry nature chooses suicide, to escape the multiplied degradations of the pauper's ward. Why should oakum picking, for example, be continued as a workhouse employment? In prisons it is allotted as a form of punishment. In the workhouse it is allotted upon the plea that to establish other branches of industry would produce a competition injurious to the independent trades. We had thought that fallacy to be exploded. JOSEPH II. acted upon it in his regulations for the *Maison de Force* at Ghent. All work was discontinued that seemed to compete with the manufacturers. The result, as described in HERWORTH DIXON'S Biography of JOHN HOWARD, was to demoralize the inmates, and to protect the interests of no one.

We have said that Mrs. JAMESON has a distinct remedy to propose. It is to the effect that a superior class of women should be introduced into the workhouses as matrons, nurses, and assistants. Her evidence in favour of this scheme is abundant, and not

far from conclusive. We think she will win the faith of the reader who studies her proposal in connexion with her illustrations. Certain it is, that the evil which exists is serious and disgraceful. Certain it is, also, that the power of women has been exercised most beneficially in many capacities similar to that which she invites them to fill. The prison of Neudorf, containing two hundred inmates, some of them the worst convicts, transported in chains from Vienna, is governed by women, twelve in number, assisted by three chaplains, a surgeon, and a physician; these gentlemen, however, only paying a daily visit, not sleeping within the walls.

This is a matter which ought, at least, to be discussed. Probably, less notice is bestowed on the pauper population than on any other class. To the well-fed world they are very uninteresting persons—far less interesting than criminals. Let us thank Mrs. JAMESON, then, for her book, which is womanly and free from cant, and very energetic and impressive.

THE NEW COMMERCE OF LIVERPOOL.

THERE were great festivities last week at the second seaport of England. BAINES and Company had founded a new commerce—built the good ship *Oliver Lang*, and invited three hundred gentlemen to rejoice over the prospects of her first voyage, on board the *Great Tasmania*. The circumstance which gave character and importance to the proceedings was this:—Liverpool was about to trade directly, for the first time, with New Zealand, Sir ROBERT PEEL'S "Great Britain of the Southern Seas." Liverpool proposes to take wool, hides, copper ore, and other raw materials, from New Zealand, and to supply New Zealand with British manufactures. Also, to encourage emigration to those islands, so healthy, so rich, and yet, comparatively, so neglected. For a long time London has chiefly monopolized this branch of commerce, but her junior and rival, of "the Place of the Pool," has determined to start in competition, and with that object the Messrs. BAINES are building a New Zealand fleet. First in the line is the *Oliver Lang*, which has been compelled to leave a hundred and fifty tons of cargo, to follow in the *Indian Queen*. The experiment, therefore, which was a failure a year ago, now promises to be successful. The *Oliver Lang* floated into the river with eight hundred tons of cargo, and three hundred emigrants. This, says the *Northern Times*, is the largest number of passengers ever conveyed to that colony in a single ship.

In the midst of so much that is depressing in the condition of the Old World, it is a relief to turn, in the New World, even to half-inhabited islands, where some progress is made, and where some populations change from worse to better. Mr. SMITH, of Wellington, therefore, is a welcome herald. His health was proposed by Mr. T. M. MACKAY, the chairman, who displayed all the facility of a barrel organ in varying the notes of his oratory—now extolling the QUEEN, now denying the right of kings to govern wrong, now sprinkling with frothy praise the purple of the Empire, now lavishing his love on Piedmont, and then apologizing for Prince ALBERT. However, few men are responsible for the language uttered in connexion with formal toasts. They must utter words, and where sense is impossible, the alternative is obvious. Mr. MACKAY, relieved at length from the burden of incoherent platitudes, claimed the honours for "Mr. SMITH, of Wellington," seventeen years a New Zealand colonist. Mr. SMITH, in his reply, said what we wish to repeat.

When he first visited New Zealand it was a picturesque wilderness, inhabited by savages and escaped convicts. "Now, the place has arrived at so high a state of perfection, that it is really marvellous to look upon." Allowing for the purple light of the Hippocrene, that only blushes for itself and not for what it hears, the statement is accurate enough. SIR GEORGE GREY did not exaggerate when he said that in no part of the world are life and property more secure than in New Zealand. "It has been my happiness," Mr. SMITH continued, "when present as a grand juror in Wellington, to see the High Sheriff present the judge three times with a pair of white gloves." The natives have been advanced a considerable degree of civilization. They read and write, almost to a man,—as though JOHN PAKINGTON, JOHN RUSSELL, and W. J. FOX had carried their Bills at the Antipodes years ago. Many of them are large landed proprietors—proprietors of land which they have actually repurchased from those Europeans to whom, in the first instance, they had often sold it at farcical prices. They are also large proprietors of stock. Every word of the following is of historical interest:—

The finest breed of horses in the colony belongs to the natives; and I may mention an instance in which the successful owner—a Liverpool merchant, Mr. HICKSON, I mention his name, as he probably will be known to some of you here—of a very celebrated horse which, at the races, carried everything before him, was tendered by the natives, to my own knowledge, a bag of five hundred sovereigns, to improve their stock.

Surely, this is very important, and goes far to establish the superiority long claimed for the New Zealand nation.

New Zealand, according to this practical exponent of her position, is in want of labour, and in no want of gold. So great are the inducements to the settler, that even from the auriferous fields of Australia a large tide of emigration has set to the port of Wellington. In February and March last, not fewer than two thousand persons took their passages from Victoria for New Zealand. And why not? The climate is perfect, the harbours are fine, there are abundant mineral resources, the soil is excellent, the pastures are boundless; the natives have been conciliated, and no longer harass the cultivated borders. If labour could be obtained where employment is offered, no British possessions would have better prospects than those young colonies. Such is the path opened from Liverpool by the first voyage of the *Oliver Lang*. "I expect," said Mr. SMITH, in conclusion, with more than Grecian eloquence, "that, after a splendid voyage of six months, this noble vessel will be seen again gliding upon the Mersey, with four thousand bales of our New Zealand wool!"

Persons afraid to emigrate, afraid of the dull novelties of colonial life, may take down the evidence of Mr. G. TRAIN, 'an American-Australian,' whom we may credit, we fancy, with the authorship of two recent volumes. No place in the world satisfies Mr. TRAIN so well as Melbourne. He once started on a voyage of comparative observation, saw Java, Singapore, Calcutta, a thousand miles of the Indian coast, went back to Melbourne, and found there was no place like it. Then he 'got at' Aden, Alexandria, Cairo, Joppa, Jerusalem, and Jericho, but Melbourne was still uppermost in his fancy. Next, through Syria and Palestine, to Cyprus, Latakia, Beyrout, Acre, Tripoli, Marseilles, Constantinople, with the same result. Lastly, to Kamiesch and the Crimea, and through the Continent; but his Kebleh was still in Australia. So that colonial life is not altogether monotonous or uncouth.

KISSING HANDS.

THE Mayor of Southampton kissed (or was supposed to kiss) the hand of the Queen of Oude. There have been malicious hints that the feature thus saluted belonged to a Yahoo of Malabar, in the retinue of her throneless Majesty. The Mayor had not studied under M. D'ARPEMENTY, and was, consequently, unable to satisfy himself whether the hand contained the real cold blood of an Oriental queen, or was no more than the extremity of a slave. But others may profit by the new science, Chiromony, the successor of Chiromancy. To electors, civil service examiners, suitors of all kinds, masters in want of servants, parents doubtful as to the capacities of their sons, parties in the House of Commons suspicious of their leaders, this art is recommended. It is the flow of M. D'ARPEMENTY's soul, M. D'ARPEMENTY not hesitating to pass beyond the bounds of chiromantic divination practised by philosophers in all ages from PLATO to Mademoiselle LENORMAND. Fingers, indeed, are indices, in a new sense. Supple and elastic fingers, that bend easily backwards, are proofs of sagacity, of readiness, of an inquiring disposition, such as Excise officers should possess. Fingers ill-arranged and irregular, belong to hair-brained babblers, men without power or spirit, but capable of lampooning. Thick hands with fleshy fingers, indicate avarice; short and thick fingers, cruelty; nevertheless, beware of fingers long and delicate, for these belong to kidnappers, sharpers, and diplomatists! Notice, also, that men who keep their thumbs habitually hidden under their fingers, are of a sordid disposition.

M. D'ARPEMENTY has critics, but they are lenient. Chiromony, they admit, is a less ostentatious science than Physiognomy, or Phrenology; it would by no means have satisfied GALL or LAVATER. Yet the hand, as the instrument of our intelligence, is a very emphatic feature; the hand of a poet could not possibly resemble that of a metaphysician, or that of a dreamer the hand of an experimentalist. It depends upon the palm of your hand whether you love like DON JUAN, and eat like BRILLAT-SAVARIN, or whether you love like LOUIS XV., and eat like GARGANTUA. So, according to the *National*, your knuckles decide whether you will be a slave of fancy, of sentiment, of speculation; whether you will be a synthetical or an analytical man, a reasoner, or a writer of verse; at all events, if you have smooth knuckles, you will go to the hospital. As to the ends of the fingers, they may be spatular, square, or conical. NIMROD, CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS, and CASSANOVA had smooth fingers, with spatular ends; VAUCANSON's and JACQUARD's fingers, though spatular, were rough, as were those of VAUBAN, CARNOT, COHORN, and ARAGO; the capacities for all sciences, mechanics, statistics, dynamics, navigation, civil, military, and naval architecture and strategy are intimately dependent on the form of the hand. Nor are square-topped fingers to be disdained. They belong to the professors of moral, political, social, and philosophic science, and of didactic, analytical, and dramatic verse, grammar, language, logic, and geometry. To them are attributable all theories and ideas ranging beneath the zenith of poetry. ARISTOTLE's fingers were of this quality. Nations in which these fingers prevail are more polite, simple, and elegant than spatular-fingered peoples. Thus, suggests M. D'ARPEMENTY, the French have the square, the English the spatular form. Large hands love detail; lesser hands are synoptical; small hands synoptic.

But the pride of the hand is the thumb. In default of all other evidence, said NEWTON, my thumb convinces me of the existence of God.

Neither an animal nor a born idiot possesses a thumb; for that which seems a thumb in the monkey, is only a talon; children begin to use their thumbs and their intellects at the same time; the horrors of epilepsy begin with a contraction of the thumb. GALILEO, DESCARTES, NEWTON, LIEBNITZ, FOURIER, ST. SIMON, had large thumbs. The statue of VOLTAIRE shows that his thumbs were enormous. The people of Corsica and Brittany, fierce, resolute, powerful, are all VOLTAIRES in this respect; yet hands that are delicately developed and soft deserve the residuary respect of the reader's mind. If a large hand modelled the sculptures of MICHAEL ANGELO, hands soft and smooth modelled those of PRADIER and CANOVA. The Greeks, who had large hands, constructed only petty states, and erected mediocre monuments, while the Pyramids were built by the small-handed Egyptians.

At the next general election, since pledges are not to be given, and promises not to be trusted, let us follow M. D'ARPEMENTY's advice and cry "Show us your hands!" But we might simplify the test, and not insist upon the hands of the candidates being large or small, so that they be clean!

THE CHOLERA AT MADEIRA.

THE accounts we read of the plague at Athens, at Florence, and at London, seem to have been almost paralleled by the narratives recently published of the cholera at Madeira. From the middle of July to the end of August, a pestilence of a most appalling kind raged in that beautiful island which has rescued from death many who have sought its shores when far gone in consumption; thousands died with a suddenness that baffled all attempts at rescue; the medical men speedily fell beneath the poison which "hung in the sick air;" the island was left without succour and with a very insufficient supply of drugs; and a panic ensued, which induced all those to fly who had strength to move, or who were not induced to remain by feelings of humanity. In three weeks, there were 5000 cases and 1500 deaths in a population of 100,000, and 116 deaths in one day in Funchal alone, a town of 16,000, where the sum total is calculated to have been eight times as many as the deaths from cholera in London in 1849. Persons attacked generally dropped down and expired instantly. Business came to a complete stop; and the consequence is now being felt in an absolute want of provisions. A large amount of drugs has already been sent out from England; but, now that the disease is over, subscriptions for the purchase of food are more wanted. A list has therefore been opened by the Rev. Mr. D'Orsay, one of the chaplains at Funchal, from whom we derive the foregoing particulars, and who thus indicates another cause of distress:—

"The landed proprietors are almost entirely ruined by the failure of the vines since 1851; and the English merchants, formerly wealthy and always generous, are unable to do what they wish, from the cessation of the wine trade, caused by a popular error in England, that, because the crops have failed, the wine is not to be had."

Subscriptions will be received by Messrs. Prescott and Co.; Messrs. Ransom and Co.; and Charles Phelps, Esq., Montague-place, Russell-square.

Open Council.

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

WHERE IS AMPHION?

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—I am sorry to trouble you a second time on a personal matter. Some weeks ago, in reviewing my *Subalpine Kingdom*, the *Daily News* made a great point of a fact which it assumed to have discovered, namely, that for some sinister motive I had invented a place in Savoy, and called it Amphion. Perhaps it meant to infer that I knew nothing of the country.

However this may be, although I at once stated where information might be got, I find that a gentleman on his way out to Piedmont in connexion with that journal, has returned to the charge, taken evidence on the matter, and finds himself entitled to inform me that what I mean by Amphion is no other

than Evian. I beg his pardon. There is a difference in the result of our inquiries, which may arise from the circumstance that one of us is imperfectly acquainted with the language in which they must be made. Amphion is not Evian, any more than Savoy is Piedmont.

I translate from a guide-book, published in 1855, at Chambéry, by M. Gabriel Mortillet:—

"AMPHION (one hour and five minutes from Thenon). On leaving Thenon, the traveller proceeds towards the Dranse, crosses on a bridge of twenty arches. . . . He then arrives at Amphion, the cold ferruginous waters of which, after having enjoyed a great reputation towards the end of the last century, had fallen into complete neglect. They have now been revived in a brilliant manner. The source arises from the ground near the lake, under a shed. Near at hand is an elegant Casino, which attracts numerous visitors, and from the terrace of which an admirable view may be obtained of the Canton de Vaud and the lake, along the borders of which the traveller proceeds to

"EVIAN (distant forty-five minutes), &c."

It may be that the *Daily News* relies for information on old gentlemen who have not been lucid since the beginning of this century, when the waters of Amphion had indeed been forgotten. I try to learn from younger sources.

The animus of all this petty carping tending to diminish the authority of more important allegations is obvious enough. I have told the truth about Piedmont, without caring whether it would please this party at home, or that coterie in Turin; and I have told it in a language so measured, and with such careful criticism of facts, that, although most English reviewers have been ready to contradict me in general terms—because my statements do not agree with their unfounded prejudices—yet no one has ventured to point out any flaws, save one or two misprints, and this important geographical delinquency of the invention of Amphion!

I have just received a letter from Piedmont containing some words which I copy without hesitation, because they bestow the praise which I wrote to earn. After alluding to some statements which, "from his point of view," he would not have published, the writer continues:—"But after all, truth will always be a great and respectable thing. The English press, moreover, has hitherto treated us like children who are put to sleep by bonbons and caresses. You have treated us as men. I thank you."

I feel persuaded that I shall have done better service to the cause of liberty in Italy by laying bare the obstacles that have to be overcome, and by forestalling, as it were, the fatal surprise which always seizes the public in revolutionary times, when the personages it has been be-paraphrased into favouring suddenly disappear to make way for new, and therefore hateful, faces—it is doing better service, I say, to perform this preliminary work, than to go on constructing nauseous sentences of general encouragement, or to stain the English public with praises of the aristocratic inabilities or dishonesties who are now engaged in a foolish conspiracy to take advantage of the movement which has begun against their will, and which wants neither their praise nor their assistance.

The virtuous and intelligent Daniel Manin is endeavouring to act on public opinion in Italy from Paris. Why is he not in Turin? Because in Turin he would be called a *peissimo soggetto*, and would be hurled into a corner by men who pretend to a monopoly of Italian patriotism, because they have valuable estates and worthless titles.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
BAYLE ST. JOHN.

BOOKSELLERS' ADULTERATIONS.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—You state, in a paragraph headed "American Bookselling Adulteration," that "Dr. Spiers has written to the *Times*, complaining that in an American edition of his *General French and English Dictionary* the name of another gentleman is coupled with his own on the title-page."

This is certainly one of the grievances of which I complained. But the great grievance which roused my indignation and induced me to appeal to public opinion through the medium of your columns was, not that Mr. Appleton of New York had coupled another gentleman's name with mine on my book, which is tolerably unfair, but that he had put my name to a dictionary I have not written; so that, not content with adding another man's name to my book, forsooth, he must add my name to another man's book. This I consider to be an act of signal bad faith, a fraud on the reader, the author, and the public at large—a nefarious transaction unworthy of respectable publishers, and prejudicial to the whole republic of letters. It is, I trust, a novel grievance. Public animadversion on it would preclude the possibility of all emulation of the deed.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
A. SPIERS.

13, Gloucester-place.

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 French have at all times been masters of literary allusion; and in the present state of affairs, when a despotism, unparalleled in French history, gags the mouths of all who will not proclaim the opinions of the Government, allusion takes its small vengeance in feuilleton articles, and in notices of the Opera. Many an innocent sentence carries terrible reproaches in it, simply because the readers are alert, and detect an allusion where none was intended. It is difficult to believe that none was intended in SAINT-MARC GIRARDIN's article on ROUSSEAU, in the last *Revue des Deux Mondes*, and yet it will be difficult even for LOUIS NAPOLEON, little as he is accustomed to stop at enormities, to take public notice of the article. The bullet flies direct at his head, but he must not pretend that it can touch him. SAINT-MARC GIRARDIN refers to his articles on the *Contrat Social* published during 1848. He declares his object to have been to attack the theory of absolute power centred in the state, which forms the principle of ROUSSEAU's political scheme. This principle, which accommodates itself to every form of tyranny, whether that of a church, a palace, a forum, or a club, which is no less unsocial and immoral when the "sovereignty of the people" replaces, or is replaced, by the sovereignty of an autocrat. M. SAINT-MARC combated it *en pleine république*, as he now combats it *en plein despotisme*. "No!" he exclaims, "I have no fears of a republic, nor of any other form of government: that which I dread is the idea that here on earth an absolute power can exist against which the individual has no rights, no protection." In plainer language he dreads the theory which allows the Emperor to commit crimes without allowing the victim or the friends of the victim to make them public—which allows him to send his political enemies to Cayenne, suddenly, without trial, and will not allow the fact to be published in the papers—will not allow the friends to remonstrate openly against tyranny so iniquitous. "It matters but little what is the form of government," says M. SAINT-MARC, "but it matters much that in the presence of that government the individual has no rights which he can legitimately claim and enforce. It is then all over with liberty, not only political, but civil and religious liberty."

The article is worth reading for other things than its political allusions. "The Revolution of 1789," M. SAINT-MARC well says, "only abolished the barriers which separated one province from another, and the privileges which separated one class from another, to raise above all particular ideas of place, time, and race, the abstract idea of the State. Equality and centralization, in short,—equality, that sentiment peculiarly French, which compensates the vanity of each by the envy of all—and centralization, that other idea entirely French, which mistakes uniformity for order,—these two ideas have prevailed in virtue of the idea of the State, since in a well regulated State it is natural that all the citizens should be equal, and that all affairs should be conducted according to one rule."

Another article in the same *Revue*, by M. CHARLES DE RÉMUSAT, on Unitarianism in England, is also worth reading. It is an historical sketch of the rise and progress of the Unitarians in England, temperately written, without any polemics, and with evident sympathy for entire freedom of discussion. CRABBE and HOOD are criticized in another article. Indeed there is now rarely a number of the *Review* in which some article on English literature does not appear; and these articles are, for the most part, written by men who, in spite of their being Frenchmen, do actually know what they are writing of!

ARISTOTLE, it has been remarked, came after HOMER; criticism follows creation; theories succeed experience. For many years the restaurants in Paris have had the reputation of supplying the unsuspecting customer with horse-beef; and now M. ISIDORE ST. HILAIRE publishes a grave book, full of facts and physiology, to show that horseflesh is as good as most ox-flesh; and he demands that a market of horseflesh be regularly established for the public to eat with secure consciences this excellent beef so long disdained by prejudice. Seriously the book is very interesting, and its conclusions very important. It is entitled, *Lettres sur les Substances Alimentaires et particulièrement sur la Viande de Cheval*. To read it is to be convinced.

OUR INSANE FOREFATHERS.

The Treatment of the Insane without Mechanical Restraints. By John Conolly, M.D. Smith, Elder, and Co.

It is very useful from time to time to revive the drooping spirits of those whose faith in progress has received discouragement by meditation on the many obstacles accumulated on its path; and there is no more effectual method of reviving such faith than the actual comparison of our present condition in any one cardinal and capital point with that of our forefathers. Where eloquence is powerless, and argument of small weight, a plain statement of facts will carry conviction.

Such a statement we read in the work before us. Dr. Conolly's purpose is simply to enforce the necessity of treating insane people upon the principles practised at Hanwell, and most other asylums of the present day, and to guard against the revival under any form of the old system. To make clear his case he is obliged to examine what the old system was and what

were its effects. In doing this he has not only done good service to the insane, he has also furnished a most striking testimony to social progress:—

Up to the middle of the last century, and in many countries much later, harmless maniacs, or those supposed to be so, were allowed to wander over the country, beggars and vagabonds, affording sport and mockery. If they became troublesome, they were imprisoned in dungeons; whipped, as the phrase was, out of their madness—at all events subdued; and then secluded in darkness, in the heat of summer, and in the cold and dampness of winter, and forgotten; always half-famished, often starved to death. There was not a town or a village in all the fairest countries of Europe, nor in all this Christian land, in which such enormities were wholly unknown.

At length the condition of the mad obtained some attention; and then massive and gloomy mansions were prepared for them. These were but prisons of the worst description. Small openings in the walls, unglazed, or whether glazed or not, guarded with strong iron bars; narrow corridors, dark cells, desolate courts, where no tree, nor shrub, nor flower, nor blade of grass grew; solitariness, or companionship so indiscriminate as to be worse than solitude; terrible attendants, armed with whips, sometimes (in France) accompanied by savage dogs, and free to impose manacles, and chains, and stripes, at their own brutal will; uncleanness, semi-starvation, the garotte, and unpunished murders: these were the characteristics of such buildings throughout Europe. There were, I need scarcely add, no gardens for exercise and recreation, and health such as surround all our new asylums: no amusements, no cheerful occupations, no books to read, no newspapers or pictures, no evening entertainments, no excursions, no animating change or variety of any kind, no scientific medical treatment, no religious consolation. No chapel bell assembled the patients for prayer, or suspended the fierce and dreadful thoughts and curses of the dungeon; no friendly face did 'good like a medicine.' People looked with awe on the outside of such buildings, and, after sunset walked far round, to avoid hearing the cries and yells which made night hideous.

It would have been kinder and more consistent to have shot madmen as we shoot mad dogs. To have said, boldly, "These are dangerous creatures, and must be put out of the way" would, however, have shocked the moral sense; accordingly it was said, "These are dangerous creatures; they must be confined; and if they are not quiet in confinement they must be flogged and frightened into it." Flogging, frightening, seclusion, bad food, worse clothing, chains and manacles, were cures for insanity! Esquirol's publication of what he had seen produced a profound impression:—

Writing in 1818, he says, he found the insane naked, or covered with rags, and only protected by straw from the cold damp pavement on which they were lying. They were coarsely fed, without fresh air, without light, without water to allay their thirst, under the dominion of gaolers, and chained in caves to which wild beasts would not have been consigned. The general employment of chains was revolting; the patients had collars and belts of iron, and fetters on their hands and feet. Some were fastened to the wall by a chain a foot and a half long, and this method was extolled as being peculiarly calming. Chains were universally preferred to strait-waistcoats, because they were less expensive. There was no medical treatment directed to the cure of the mental malady; and the rude attendants employed seclusion and baths of surprise, and occasional floggings at will.

The insane were not much better treated in England. Even so late as in the year 1815, such abuses were general. There is clear proof of their continued existence in 1827; and it cannot be denied that not a few of them survived, in some public and private asylums, in 1850. The successive reports of the Commissioners in Lunacy abound in incontestable and curious evidence of this. In some provincial licensed houses the male and female patients were left at night in miserable outhouses, without attendants, and without available aid of any kind; without fire or any means of warmth, and without protection. There were no baths; and no medical treatment was resorted to. In some of the largest private asylums near London, the rooms are described as having been "crowded, wet, filthy, unventilated, and very offensive," and the dormitories were lighted and aired by apertures without glass. Feeble patients were left without drink, or any decent attendance; a few potatoes being given to them now and then, in a wooden bowl. In a house at Fonthill, in Wiltshire, out of fourteen male patients, only one was without fetters or handcuffs, and only three were out of their sleeping rooms.

The bad feeding, the dirt, and want of clothing were not necessary parts of the system, but they were offshoots from that primary principle of considering madness not as a disease which might be cured, and ought to be ameliorated, but as something which removed the patient from the pale of humanity, and which required to be treated with watchful rigor. A madman was dangerous, and facile logic leaped to the conclusion that he must be restrained by violence, because any other sort of restraint was chimerical. In schools and nurseries this principle of physical restraint still lingers. It is the weapon of impatient ignorance. To cane a naughty boy, or shut him in a dark room requires neither intelligence nor patience. If that does not make him good, something severer must be tried. If all severity fails, the boy is declared incorrigible! While such ideas rule in nurseries and schools, while such a system is thought desirable for our sons, what chance is there of madmen thrown among strangers, consigned to brutal keepers, being treated with consideration?

Now glance for a moment at the new method. See how the entire absence of violence and physical restraint effects the desired purpose:—

But I must be permitted to suppose a case admitted at Hanwell, a place which I know the best, and can speak of the most positively. The case may be that of a man who for a week or two has been violently maniacal; who, becoming first, perhaps, idle and intemperate, has terrified his family, broken the furniture of his house, or attacked his neighbours; or harangued the public and disturbed the streets, and resisted all control until overcame by the police. He comes to the asylum bound very tightly, sometimes hand and foot, or fastened in a strait-waistcoat. He is still violent, but exhausted: he is flushed, feverish, thirsty; in appearance haggard, and in manner fierce, or sullen. His voice is hoarse with shouting. He is unwashed, unshaved, and half starved. His clothes are torn and dirty. He has often many bruises or injuries, which he has incurred in his furious condition. His violence is still dreaded, and he exhibits capricious proofs of remaining strength; so that those who have brought him to the asylum are afraid to stay, and unfeignedly rejoice to get rid of him; wondering that any people should be found to take charge of him, and earnestly warning them to take care of themselves.

Or the case may be that of a female patient, equally violent, but whose frantic exertions proceed from a dread she entertains that some fearful punishment is impending over her; that she is to be cut to pieces, or to be burned alive; and this for crimes of which she believes herself to be accused. With these impressions, her thoughts are probably bent on suicide, as an expiation, or as a means of escape from suffering. Cases of infinite variety may be imagined; in all of which confusion, and bewilderment, and terror under all surrounding circumstances, for a time disturb the mind. In all these cases, the first difficulties appear so great, and the dangers so pressing,

that the idea of mere security naturally predominates in the bystanders; and this would seem to be most readily obtained by continuing the restraints, and superadding seclusion and darkness. These ready means were formerly wholly relied upon; and starvation, dirt, and severities of many kinds as naturally followed in their train. But it is a part of the non-restraint system to remember, whatever the state and circumstances of a newly admitted patient may be, that he comes to the asylum to be cured, or, if incurable, to be protected and taken care of, and kept out of mischief, and tranquillized; and that the strait-waistcoat effects none of these objects. Therefore, although the patients may arrive bound so securely as scarcely to be able to move, they are at once released from every ligature and bond and fetter that may have been imposed upon them. They appear generally to be themselves surprised at this proceeding; and for a time are tranquil, yet often distrustful, and uncertain in their movements. Now and then the tranquillizing effect of this unexpected liberty is permanent: more frequently it is but temporary. But every newly admitted patient is as soon as possible visited by the medical officers of the asylum. They assure the stranger, by a few kind words, that no ill-treatment is any longer to be feared. This assurance sometimes gains the confidence of the patient at once, and is ever afterward remembered: but in many cases the patient is too much confused to be able to comprehend it. Few or none, however, are quite insensible to the measures immediately adopted in conformity to it.

The wretched clothes are removed; the patient is taken gently to the bath-room, and has, probably for the first time, the comfort of a warm bath; which often occasions expressions of remarkable satisfaction. The refreshed patient is taken out of the bath, carefully dried, and has clean and comfortable clothing put on: he is then led to the day-room, and offered good and well prepared food. The very plates, and knife and fork, and all the simple furniture of the table, are cleaner by far than what he has lately been accustomed to, or perhaps such as in his miserable struggling life he never knew before. A patient seen after these preliminary parts of treatment is scarcely to be recognized as the same patient who was admitted only an hour before. The non-restraint treatment has commenced; and some of its effects already appear.

But the patient may be too much absorbed in delusions, or too much occupied by anger, or by fear alone, to derive immediate benefit even from these parts of a kind reception, or to admit of being consoled by the kindest words, or, for a time, carefully medically examined. This state will not last very long, if no severity and no neglect are permitted. Whilst it does last, the efforts of the officers are limited to such measures as ensure the safety of the patient and of those surrounding him, and which also contribute to the return of calmness. The patients, however, are often merely restless and fidgety; run about; or are inclined to acts of harmless mischief: and in such cases much interference merely irritates them. One of the things which attendants are slowest to learn is not to interfere unnecessarily. If every movement of the patient is checked, and every impulse thwarted, the patient, good-tempered before, becomes angry, and strikes the attendant: and such, where restraints are employed, is the frequent cause of the first imposition of a strait-waistcoat. I have known many patients brought to the asylum whose first days there were passed in violence which would have been protracted by their being fastened by leather and iron, and yet who could not be at large during those few days without dangers being incurred. Two very erroneous representations of our method of management in such cases have been repeated very often; and have neither yielded to the most positive contradiction, nor to what the visitors to asylums might have learnt from their own observation.

In spite of the "danger" of madness no one is stabbed, strangled, or otherwise injured by the insane at Hanwell, and other asylums where non-restraint is absolute; watchfulness on the part of attendants, accompanied by gentleness, are found better securities than chains and floggings.

We have but indicated in a general way the nature of Dr. Conolly's volume, which is full of interesting details, and which is meant as an emphatic protest against any attempt to revive under any form the old system of restraint. The principle is clear: If once you begin to use physical restraints you must go on adding and adding to them, as the violence of the patient you have irritated increases. On the contrary, if once you disavow all and every physical restraint, you are forced, by your own desire for safety, to be kind and watchful. Only on these terms can you succeed; they are more "troublesome" than restraint, but who will say they are not more efficacious?

ON THE VARIATION OF SPECIES.

On the Variation of Species with especial reference to Insecta; followed by an Inquiry into the Nature of Genera. By T. Vernon Wollaston, M.A., F.L.S.

Van Voorst.

It is popularly supposed that the Scholastic Philosophy has long vanished from Europe, and that, in scientific inquiries at least, we treat all metaphysical methods with contempt. That popular supposition is an error. Formally, Scholasticism may be dead, but practically it still exists, still flourishes amongst us. The Reformation destroyed the supremacy of the Papal Church in England; but very many of the papal principles subsist to this day; and in a similar manner modern philosophy has destroyed Scholasticism, but cherishes scholastic principles. It is not enough to have got rid of "Substantial Forms" while we retain the methods out of which they arose.

The reader has doubtless often assisted at the numerous debates raised on the questions of Species, Varieties, and Genera. Many discussions of great moment have turned upon the definition of a species. Here is one eminent school maintaining the "fixity of species," and here another maintaining the "mutability of species;" one brings forward proofs that the species have never altered during thousands and thousands of years; the other brings forward proofs that species are daily altering before our eyes. All this while the *thing* species has no existence. It cannot be fixed, it cannot vary, for it never was more than a figment of the human brain. Nature knows not species; only scholastic philosophy knows it; when men use the term with philosophic accuracy they use it as they use the term whiteness, or the term strength, or the term beauty—namely, as a particular *mark* whereby to denote certain qualities in the object, not as a particular object itself.

In Nature individuals exist, but no species. When these individuals closely resemble each other we class them as belonging to the same category, we say they are of the same *species*; when they differ on certain minute points we call them *varieties*; when they differ still more widely, we no longer consider them of the same species, but say they belong to the same *genus*; when the difference is still greater, we say they belong to the same *family*; when still greater to the same *order*; and finally to the same *class*.

All these terms are used to mark the differences existing between individuals. Remember that *all* individuals differ; no two leaves on the same twig are precisely alike; and all in some respects agree.

That zoologists and botanists should quarrel over the characters which rightly constitute a species or a genus is not surprising; man is a quarrelsome animal, and verbal disputes are always angry disputes. Inasmuch as the terms are arbitrary marks, and not *representative* signs, it is difficult to come to an agreement about them. If all men agree to make the spots on a butterfly's wing the characters which shall determine species; if in one case size be sufficient, in another, color; whatever is agreed on ought to be final, since the whole nomenclature is arbitrary. But when from such agreement arguments are deduced, as if this matter of naming carried with it more than a name, and in virtue thereof we are told to accept the dogma that species (meaning animals) have not changed since the creation of the world, then it is time to recal philosophers to the fact that they are dupes of phrases, and that they argue in the spirit of that very scholasticism they despise.

Mr. Vernon Wollaston, in the volume before us, has brought together with great care a mass of evidence on the variation of species in reference to climate, temperature, &c.: he has classified the organs and characters of variation, and has a few remarks on the generic theory. For its facts and arrangement the student will prize this volume. It is doubtful to us whether the theoretic portion will be equally admired. Mr. Vernon is a scholastic. He says:

Genera are *not* mere phantoms of the brain (as most naturalists will readily admit); but they are, likewise, by no means abrupt, or well-marked, on their outer limits (except, indeed, by accident,—of which hereafter), but merge into each other by gradations, more or less slow and perceptible.

If they are not phantoms, they are entities; they have been seen, dissected, preserved in museums, described in catalogues. Where? When? Again he says:

It will consequently be seen, from what has been said, that the terms "genus" and "species" not only differ very considerably in *importance*, but in *signification* also. Whilst the former is merely suggestive of a particular *position* which a creature occupies in a systematic scale (a position, however, which depends upon the various structural peculiarities which it possesses in *common with other beings*,—which thus more or less resemble it); the latter expresses the actual creature itself: so that while one applies to *several* animals (of distinct natures and origins, though bound together by a certain bond of imitation), the other belongs to a *single race alone*, which it therefore exclusively indicates. But if such be the case, it will perhaps be asked, —Why, then, insist upon a generic name at all, if the specific one be sufficient to denote all that is required, namely, the *animal itself*? To which, however, we may reply, that the binomial nomenclature is demanded for two elementary reasons,—first, because it is founded upon a natural truth, which (to say the least) it would be unwise to violate; and, secondly, because it is *convenient*, both for simplification and analysis. We should assuredly be surprised were a man to object to his surname, as unnecessary, because he has a christian (or specific) one which is the exponent of him alone. True it is that his family (or generic) title applies to the rest of his kin also, but, since there are other people (of other families) who may have the same *individual* appellation as himself, it is clearly desirable, even as a matter of expediency alone, that patronymic and christian name should be alike retained.

We are afraid to interpret this passage. Mr. Vernon probably means that the species "expresses the actual creature" no more than the name of the Smiths expresses the family (a large one) actually so named? But if so, why discuss variations of Smith? Smythe is no longer Smith; Schmidt is almost a new genus. By an explicit statement at the outset that all such terms as species, variety, genus, were simple marks of convenience designating the resemblances and differences which were noticeable among animals, Mr. Vernon would have saved himself the trouble of thinking and writing many passages in this volume, and saved his readers from some perplexity.

NAPOLEON IN RUSSIA.

Histoire du Consulat et de l'Empire. By Thiers.

D. Nutt.

SECOND NOTICE.

NARRATORS addicted to the marvellous, have fixed the passage of the Niemen as the date of an ominous storm that threw a cloud across the path of Napoleon. M. Thiers, analyzing the chronology of the expedition, finds no such portent heralding the disasters of the army, which was cheered for several days by the glow of the Lithuanian summer. The forests of Poland were brightening under the June sun. It was not until the close of the month that the remarkable change occurred which seemed to transport the invaders into a climate of rain and shadow. On the 28th, the sky was suddenly overcast; the entire country was swept by a fierce wind; the roads were broken up by torrents; the atmosphere became chilly and damp, and for three days the soldiers marched and bivouacked in the midst of swamps. They were attacked by sickness; thousands of their horses died; and, even at this early stage, vast trains of waggons were left in the rear of the army. To rifle these of their contents, as well as to pillage the châteaux of the Lithuanian nobility, not fewer than from twenty-five to thirty thousand men escaped the ranks, and spread themselves over the country. Nearly eight thousand horses and thirty thousand men were lost in four days. Napoleon, however, was not disquieted. He had calculated upon great obstacles, and had made great preparations. He had never hoped to subdue Russia without a prodigious sacrifice of human life and of treasures. What troubled him chiefly was the difficulty of keeping his vast forces together, the line of troops, artillery, and convoys extending across whole districts, and requiring periodical halts to preserve it unbroken. From time to time, some incident of victory satisfied him with the hard conditions of his enterprise, and when the sixty thousand soldiers of Bagration were repulsed by the twenty-eight thousand of Davoust, Bonaparte rose, in imagination, above all the perils of his undertaking, and dreamed of winning one battle after another, until the Russian Empire should sue for peace. The councils of the Russians were divided. Some were for meeting the invader directly in the field; others for luring him on by a false retreat; others for hovering like Tartars upon his line of march; and their dissensions continued until the Czar, finding himself a supernumerary in his own camp, conferred full power on De Tolly,

who resorted to a plan partly offensive, and partly defensive, to obstruct and destroy the enemy. His manœuvres, which cost the French the loss of many men, cost the Russian army more, so that when Napoleon pursued him from Witebok, the advantage lay, clearly, with the invader. But again had the weather undergone an almost magical change. The heat was intense; the roads were deep in Egyptian dust; and, as the French pressed on, it appeared as though Russia had been converted into an Eastern desert.

Hitherto, all Napoleon's schemes had failed. His hopes of fighting a decisive battle had been disappointed, and though he had beaten the Russians at several points, caused them a loss of at least fifteen thousand men, killed, wounded, and taken prisoners, and driven them into Lithuania and Courland, he was still as far as ever from the grand object of his expedition. He had now new combinations to invent. The armies of the Dnieper and the Dwina, in spite of his tactics, were united under De Tolly, and it appeared impossible to overwhelm that wary captain by one of those surprises with which Napoleon imagined he could put to confusion the best general and the best troops in Europe. Nevertheless, De Tolly only counted one hundred and forty thousand men under his immediate command; Napoleon counted a quarter of a million; and during fifteen days, meditating in a deserted palace, he plotted how to bring this mighty force to bear. When, however, he received his quarter of a million of soldiers, he could not but remember that at the Niemen his active army consisted of four hundred thousand. A hundred and sixty thousand remained between the Niemen and the Rhine; fifty or sixty thousand lay in the German and Polish hospitals; and it was even necessary to diminish his personal followers by sending sixty thousand, under Macdonald and Oudinot, to the Dwina, and twenty thousand to the Dnieper. No doubt, when he chose to lead his hundred and seventy thousand soldiers to St. Petersburg or Moscow, his flanks would be well protected; but it was astonishing, after the campaign had lasted only one month, to find the invading legions so signally reduced. Of the veterans that had marched six hundred leagues from Italy, and of those which had marched five hundred leagues from the Rhine, how many had disappeared!

M. Thiers's qualities as a military historian are displayed with particular brilliance in his account of the operations that ensued up to the date of Borodino. The complex movements of the several divisions are described in a narrative not less lucid than minute. The battle at Smolensk forms a terrible picture; it was, indeed, designed by Napoleon to appal his enemies. With this object, he threw his whole force at once upon the hostile lines; one of his batteries alone mounted sixty guns; and the Russians were attacked, simultaneously, by enormous masses at every point. The unhappy city was literally shattered by this infernal cannonade, and when it was abandoned, after a day of uninterrupted slaughter, its defenders and its assailants combined to complete the ruin. Fires broke out in every quarter; magazines exploded; and great pieces of ordnance burst amid the flames, "which resembled an eruption of Vesuvius in a summer night." The French batteries continued to play upon the houses, while the conflagration swept on, so that Smolensk might no longer be a habitable city. From six to seven thousand French, and from twelve to thirteen thousand Russians, were killed or wounded. This calculation, it is true, is contradicted by M. Boutourlin, but M. Thiers furnishes an amount of evidence sufficient to confute the perverse exaggeration of that dogmatic writer.

Even after such a day of carnage and such a night of destruction, the old Byzantine Basilica remained erect, sheltering a crowd of old men, women, and children, who clung to the altars. As they were led back to the few houses that had escaped demolition, a hideous spectacle met their eyes. The dead lay thick in the streets, fires still broke out of the ruins, and of the population all but the helpless had fled. "Not even the Jews, so numerous in Poland, so avariciously serviceable, so accustomed to greet us with their disgusting but useful hospitality,—not even the Jews were here, for we had passed the boundary of their settlements on the Polish borders." Napoleon rode through the city—"a calcined skeleton"—and prepared, without much decision, according to M. Thiers, for the next stage of the campaign. Next came the bloody day of Valoutina, only paralleled by Eylau, Ebersberg, or Essling, yet almost without object or result. At this point, Napoleon, when Gudin expired before his eyes, could not but reflect, suggests the latest historian of his misfortunes and of his glory, that in the course of the Russian expedition, to which he looked as the climax of his life, fortune had not granted him a single favour; his preparations had hitherto been fruitless, his genius unavailing. While he had fought the enemy with invincible success, his plans for defeating their combinations had been invincible failures. Bagration was still with De Tolly; De Tolly still held the road to Moscow. At Deweltowo, at Mohilew, at Ostrawo, at Polotsk, at Wikowo, at Krasnoë, at Smolensk, at Valoutina, he had driven the Russians off the field; with the exception of Volhynia, he had been proclaimed as a conqueror throughout the ancient kingdom of Poland. But there was wanting the *éclat* of a great battle, and a splendid success, and in search of this it was necessary to persevere in marching on, though marching was far more fatal to his troops than fighting. To the onward march, however, the army was by no means averse, for some propitious changes in their situation had exhilarated the soldiers. The weather had again become serene and warm; the route lay along a broad, smooth road, shaded at intervals by avenues of trees; a green plain spread in front; and while the generals, calculating the chances of the future, rode on in gloomy silence, "the men cried, 'To Moscow! to Moscow!'" and followed Napoleon, as in other days the Macedonian warriors followed Alexander to Babylon."

During the advance to Borodino a dramatic incident occurred, which M. Thiers describes upon the personal authority of M. Lelorgne d'Ideville himself. Some of the light cavalry having taken a Cossack prisoner, brought him to Napoleon, who ordered him to be mounted, and rode by his side with M. d'Ideville, his interpreter:—

The Cossack, ignorant of the company in which he was travelling—for the simplicity of Napoleon was little calculated to suggest to an Oriental imagination the presence of a monarch—conversed with the utmost familiarity on matters connected with the war. He repeated all that was said in the Russian army about the movements

of the several divisions; pretended that Platoff himself had quarrelled with De Tolly; extolled the services of the Cossacks, without whom, he declared, the Russians would have been already conquered, and assured his companions that, within a few days, there would be a great battle. If this battle, he said, were fought within three days, the French would win it; but, if it were postponed beyond that time, Heaven only knew what would happen. He added that, as far as he could learn, the French were commanded by a general named Bonaparte, who was in the habit of beating all his enemies, but that the Russians were about to receive immense reinforcements to keep him at bay, so that, in this instance, he would be less fortunate than usual. This conversation, which reflected in the most natural and original manner the current ideas of the Russian camp, was very interesting to the mighty interlocutor of the young Cossack. He smiled frequently, and willing to try the effect of his presence upon this son of the Don, desired M. d'Ideville to inform him that the Bonaparte he had heard of was the individual with whom he was riding. No sooner had the interpreter spoken than the Cossack, seized with a stupor of astonishment, ceased speaking, and rode on with his eyes fixed upon the great conqueror, whose name had reached him, with rumours of glory, in the distant steppes of the East. His loquacity gave way to a respectful and admiring silence, and soon afterwards Napoleon, rewarding him for his agreeable gossip, set him free like a bird in its native fields.

In no part of his narrative is M. Thiers more successful than in his account of the battle of Borodino, which Napoleon converted into a ruthless slaughter. Towards the close of the day he brought up four hundred pieces of artillery, and saying, "As they want more, let them have it," fired volley after volley upon the helpless masses of the enemy, sweeping them down by hundreds, "until evening darkened upon this atrocious scene, without a parallel in the annals of the human race." The conqueror retired to his tent, surrounded by flatteries; but the exulting enthusiasm of Austerlitz, of Jena, and of Friedland was altogether wanting. Ninety thousand men lay upon the field dead or wounded, with twenty thousand horses, and three or four hundred overturned gun-carriages added to the picture of havoc. The Russians themselves admitted a loss of sixty thousand; the French had thirty thousand put *hors de combat*, including forty-seven generals and thirty-seven colonels killed or maimed. A hundred thousand soldiers were left to complete the march upon Moscow. But when they deployed along the heights on their approach to the capital, all former sacrifices and miseries were forgotten; joy, pride, and illusion animated their hearts; they who had been with Napoleon at the Pyramids, on the Jordan, at Milan and Madrid, at Vienna and at Berlin, were thrilled with expectation at the first glimpse of the ancient city of Muscovy. There, too, they expected to enjoy repose and plenty, and thither Napoleon galloped early in the morning, amid tremendous acclamations. The gilded domes, the mass of Byzantine and Gothic decorations, enriching church and palace, the lakes glittering amid painted pavilions, formed a paradise to the imagination of the army. Their first impressions within the walls were not less flattering. They were dreaming of long days of luxury, when a vast cloud of smoke rose above the great bazaar, and a storm of fire burst amidst the magazines in the most opulent quarter of the city.

The disappointment and the desolation that followed, the errors of Napoleon, and the despair of the army, the gloomy retreat, sometimes lit by a sudden beam of victory, the horrible confusion of the march, and the dissipation of the conqueror's most splendid hopes, form the subject of a history composed by M. Thiers in a style of epic variety. We have but glanced at some of its episodes; the narrative itself is voluminous, clear, and rapid.

THE NEW TRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE.

Revised English Version of the Holy Scriptures. By the American Bible Union. The Book of Job. Trübner.

MANY English students first heard of this publication from that polite preacher and correspondent, Dr. Cumming. He spoke of it as a "trim, new-fangled version now issuing from the American press." "New-fangled" being the historical epithet applied by coach-proprietors to railways, and likely to be applied to all improvements as long as interested or stupid persons form part of the population, has ceased to be a term of reproach. The American version, then, is new-fangled; but it has a history which perhaps Dr. Cumming has not studied, and which will, at least, convince all but the irrational and the impertinent that it deserves to be treated with something different from the uncritical slippancy of the fashionable pulpit. The American Bible Union was founded by men equally respected in the Old and New Worlds—Cone, Maclay, Armitage—who, perceiving the multiplicity of interpretations and glosses, determined to procure a new and scholarly translation of the Old and New Testaments. There was no sectarian or exclusive plan. The translators they engaged, in the first instance, were gentlemen in ecclesiastical connexion with eight denominations,—the Church of England, the Old School Presbyterians, the Disciples, or Reformers, the Associate Reformed Presbyterians, the Seventh-Day Baptists, the American Protestant Episcopalians, the Baptists, and the German Reformed Church. Written engagements were entered into with more than twenty scholars of repute, many of whom, in compliance with the stipulations of the contract, employed approved assistants, so that the working body was composed of between thirty and forty persons. Seven of the revisors, including two ministers of the Church of England, reside in this country, while a number of scholars have offered their independent aid in the criticism of particular passages. One, for example, has furnished a literal translation of all the passages in which the Burmese versions by Dr. Judson differs from the common English text; while others have applied the test of an elaborate scrutiny to the Siamese, Bengali, and Sanscrit versions. This comparative analysis has been extended to the Spanish and to the Italian; the most rare and costly books have been purchased, in whatever language, that seemed to promise any aid to the translators, and every conceivable care has been taken to secure the complete collation of the ancient Codices.

We have before us three versions of the *Book of Job*, from the fourteenth to the twenty-ninth chapters—the Hebrew Text, the Authorized, and the Proposed Version. Leaving the Hebrew to the reference of the critical reader, we may point attention to a few of the "revisions" of the American Union. Some of these are remarkable, as substitutions of one form of expression for another, others as positive alterations of the meaning. In

the first example, the intention of the new, as of the original translator, seems vague:—

Are the consolations of God small with thee? is there any secret thing with thee?

Are the consolations of God too little for thee; and the word that gently deals with thee?

In the next, there is a palpable discrepancy between the two versions. The leading idea, in fact, is changed:—

The wicked man travaileth with pain all his days, and the number of years is hidden to the oppressor.

All the days of the wicked man, he is in pain, and the number of years that are laid up for the oppressor.

For "He wandereth abroad for bread, saying where is it?" The new translator proposes "He wanders about for bread; where is it?" "Saying" is an obvious interpolation, the question being whether it was omitted by mere ellipsis, or whether the altered sense suggested by the revised form is the right one. The following is one of a large class of corrections:—

Let not him that is deceived trust in vanity: for vanity shall be his recompense.

Let him not trust in evil; he is deceived, for evil shall be his reward.

"Vanity" in the old version is "evil" in the new. In the same manner "hell" and "the grave" are rendered indifferently "the under-world," and for "the hypocrites" we read "the impure":—

For the congregation of hypocrites shall be desolate. For the household of the impure is desolate.

Some of the more remarkable revisions of the text may be quoted successively:—

Shall vain words have an end? They shall go down to the bars of the pit, when our rest together is in the dust.

Is there any end to words of wind? It will go down to the bars of the under-world, so soon as there is rest in the dust.

His strength shall be hunger-bitten. "Hunger-bitten" is infinitely preferable to "famished."

His strength becomes famished.

He shall neither have son nor nephew among his people.

He has no offspring and no progeny among his people.

I have heard the check of my reproach, and the spirit of my understanding causeth me to answer.

My shameful chastisement must I hear; and the spirit, from my understanding, will answer for me.

His children shall seek to please the poor.

His sons the weak shall oppress.

He shall not see the rivers, the floods, the brooks of honey and butter. They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave.

He shall not look on the water-courses, the flowing streams of honey and milk. In prosperity they spend their days, and in a moment go down to the under-world.

One dieth in his full strength, being wholly at ease and quiet. His breasts are full of milk.

One dies in his full prosperity; he is wholly at ease, and secure. His sides are full of fat.

They are exalted for a little while, but are gone and brought low; they are taken out of the way as all others, and cut off as the tops of the ears of corn.

They rise high; a little while, and they are gone! they are brought low; like all are they gathered, and are cut off like the topmost ears of corn.

How different "the topmost ears of corn" from "the tops of the ears of corn," and how much more perfect the comparison.

Dead things are formed from under the waters, and the inhabitants thereof.

The shades tremble, beneath the waters and their inhabitants!

He hath compassed the waters with bounds, until the day and night come to an end.

A circling bound he drew on the face of the waters, unto the limit of light with darkness.

This is very noticeable.

He divideth the sea with his power. The flood breaketh out from the inhabitants; even the waters forgotten of the foot: they are dried up, they are gone, away from men.

By his power he quells the sea. He drives a shaft away from man's abode; forgotten of the foot, they swing suspended, far from men!

He bindeth the floods from overflowing.

He binds up streams, that they drip not.

For "pearls" we read "crystal," for "saints" "holy ones" or "angels," for "archers" "strong ones," for "corrupt" "consumed," and so forth through a long succession of passages. The three texts are printed in parallel columns, with a minute running commentary beneath them.

THE MYTH OF HIAWATHA.

The Myth of Hiawatha, &c., &c. By Henry R. Schoolcraft, LL.D.

Trübner and Co.

NATIONS in their infancy differ but little from individual children. They can form no idea of abstract notions. Effects must always be produced by visible and tangible causes. In all ages and in all parts of the earth primitive tribes agree in personifying the spiritual agencies. It is dangerous to allude to Hebrew lore, but the legends of Greece and Rome may be safely quoted to corroborate this trite remark:—

The lively Grecian, in a land of hills,
Rivers, and fertile plains, and sounding shores,
Under a cope of variegated sky,
Could find commodious place for every god.

Full of the same humiliating weakness is the mythology of the East, and now we learn that the Western World is not exempt from this universal imbecility of reason. But how came it that the Eastern nations were able to cast aside their superstition? Is it really to Palestine that we must look for this clearing away of the dense vapours that obscured their mental vision? Is it to the ancestors of the despised dealer in "old clo's" that the world is indebted for freedom from childish fables? For long centuries, despite of philosophy, despite of exact science, despite of a noble literature, puerile and ignoble fancies formed the religion of refined and civilized peoples. In like manner, in the then unknown regions of the far West, the uncon-

verted Indian even now clothes in mysterious garb the terrestrial phenomena he beholds but cannot understand.

Birds and quadrupeds must be made to talk. Weeng is the spirit of somnolency in the lodge stories. He is provided with a class of little invisible emissaries, who ascend the forehead, armed with tiny war clubs, with which they strike the temples, producing sleep. Panguk is the personification of death. He is armed with a bow and arrows to execute his mortal functions. Hosts of a small fairy-like creation, called Ininees, little men, or Pukwudj Ininees, vanishing little men, inhabit cliffs and picturesque and romantic scenes. Another class of marine or water spirits, called Nebunabaigs, occupy the rivers and lakes. There is an articulate voice in all the varied sounds of the forest—the groaning of its branches and the whispering of its leaves. Local Manitos, or fetiches, inhabit every grove; and hence he is never alone.

It may be said that all this evinces imagination; it is, at least, a prurient one. And yet this imagination, such as it is, alone distinguishes savage tribes from the mere animal creation in the midst of which they exist. Instinct might almost suffice to teach them to hunt and fish, and the kindling of fire was probably such an imitation of an accident as a monkey might be capable of. The reflection is little flattering to human reason. However, our present task is not to moralize, but to notice the salient points in Mr. Schoolcraft's key to the Indian legends illustrated in *Hiawatha*.

In the first place, then, the Introduction is altogether too ambitious, too full of big-sounding words and phrases. The same blemish disfigures many of the simple tales, the principal charm of which might have laid in the artlessness of their delivery. Thus, we read that Hiawatha's grandmother was very careful in instructing her daughter from early infancy "to beware of the west wind, and never, in stooping, to expose herself to its influence. In some unguarded moment this precaution was neglected. In an instant, the gale accomplished its Tarquinic purpose." Nor is it pleasing to English ears to be told that such an animal "dove under the water," or that "the flesh had burst out under their finger nails," or even that the word "luxuriant" should be used synonymously with "luxurious." These, however, are minor defects, easily capable of removal should a second edition ever be called for: our chief surprise is excited by the fact that a first edition should ever have been deemed necessary. Mr. Schoolcraft himself acknowledges that no publisher could be induced to attempt the adventure until after the appearance of Mr. Longfellow's poem. We do not wonder at it. The stories are too childish to interest grown persons, and too insipid and monotonous to amuse children. Hiawatha, too, is cruelly treated. In the legend more especially assigned to him, he is described as a cheat, a liar, a braggart, and a bully. And the charming little episodes interwoven with the poem appear to have no reference to him whatsoever. For this enlightenment we tender no thanks. We cared not to know that our idol was made of clay. Should we ever fall in love, we trust Mr. Schoolcraft may not be nigh,—he would certainly expose our false teeth, and pull our wig awry.

"The cheap defence of nations" appears to be duly appreciated by the Indians. Medals, and such like decorations, are frequently mentioned. Hiawatha, or Manabozho, having obtained some valuable information from the Kingfisher, desires the bird to approach that he may put a medal round its neck, as a reward for the information it had given.

The bird unsuspectingly came near, and received a white medal, which can be seen to this day. While bestowing the medal, he attempted slyly to wring the bird's head off, but it escaped him with only a disturbance of the crown feathers of its head, which are rumpled backward. He had found out all he wanted to know, and then desired to conceal the knowledge of his purposes by killing his informant.

Clearly, Manabozho ought to have been an emperor. He was more loyal in recompensing the woodpecker for a similar service. He took the blood of his conquered foe "and rubbed it on the woodpecker's head, the feathers of which are red to this day."

The belief in a deluge prevails among these primitive tribes, and is associated with a victory over the Prince of Serpents. The attendant snakes gave chase to avenge their prince. Manabozho fled with incredible speed over hill and valley, covering a mile at every stride. Nevertheless, his pursuers gained ground upon him, for they too were spirits. He ascended a very lofty mountain, and climbed to the top of the highest tree, when, looking down, he saw the whole country submerged, and the waters still rapidly rising.

He saw it reach the foot of the mountain, and at length it came up to the foot of the tree, but there was no abatement. The flood rose steadily and perceptibly. He soon felt the lower part of his body to be immersed in it. He addressed the tree! "Grandfather, stretch yourself." The tree did so. But the waters still rose. He repeated his request, and was again obeyed. He asked a third time, and was again obeyed; but the tree replied, "It is the last time; I cannot get any higher." The waters continued to rise till they reached up to his chin, at which point they stood, and soon began to abate. Hope revived in his heart. He then cast his eyes around the illimitable expanse, and spied a loon. "Dive down my brother," he said to him, "and fetch up some earth, so that I can make a new earth." The bird obeyed, but rose up to the surface a lifeless form. He then saw a musk-rat. "Dive!" said he, "and if you succeed, you may hereafter live either on land or water, as you please; or I will give you a chain of beautiful little lakes, surrounded with rushes, to inhabit." He dove down, but he floated up senseless. He took the body and breathed in his nostrils, which restored him to life. "Try again," said he. The musk-rat did so. He came up senseless the second time, but clutched a little earth in one of his paws, from which, together with the carcase of the dead loon, he created a new earth as large as the former had been, with all living animals, fowls, and plants.

The metamorphosis of a boy into a wolf establishes an affinity of thought between the North American Indians, the natives of Southern Africa, and the old fabulists of Europe. In the legend concerning the origin of Indian corn there is a curious point of resemblance to the story of Jacob wrestling with the angel. One having the semblance of a young man gaily apparelled descends from heaven, and wrestles till the sun goes down with the future benefactor of the Indian race. Armorial bearings were so far known that most families adopted a particular bird, beast, or fish as their "totem," or ancestral mark. And hence, no doubt, arose many of the fables respecting the achievements of the War Eagle, or the wonderful doings of the Beaver &c. &c. As a general rule it may be understood that to bear the name of any particular animal is equivalent to possessing its disposition, habits, or attributes. But was it worth while to load our shelves with another book on this subject?

The Arts.

THE MONDAY EVENING CONCERTS.

It was for a long time debated whether the English people had or had not any taste for music; and until very recently scepticism counted the greatest number of adherents. In spite of the multitude of barrel organs, pianoforte organs, brass bands, ballad-singers, and other 'discourers of music,' thronging the streets of London and other large towns, it was loudly affirmed that the Anglo-Saxon had no harmony in his soul. Popular music in those times, no doubt, was had enough in quality; but its wide diffusion ought to have shown observers—and did show some few—that the capacity and tendency to be moved by the musician's art existed in the hearts of the humblest of our countrymen. In earlier days, England was the most conspicuous musical nation in Europe; and, when SHAKESPEARE and MILTON lived and wrote, the virginal and voice were often heard in quiet, rush-strewn chambers, and the working man plied his craft to songs of mirth or gentle sadness.

Several experiments of late years have again developed the partly dormant love of music. Mr. HULLAH has done much to instruct the popular mind in the science of harmony; and EXETER HALL has had its crowds of enthusiastic shilling listeners. Therefore we conceive the projectors of the MONDAY EVENING CONCERTS FOR THE PEOPLE did rightly in appealing to the masses on a still more liberal ground—their scale of admission being threepence, sixpence, and a shilling. The undertaking has met with the high sanction and approval of such men as Sir EDWARD LYTTON BULWER, CHARLES DICKENS, DOUGLAS JERROLD, LEIGH HUNT, Sir JOSEPH PAXTON, &c.; and we believe the general public have responded heartily to the appeal made to them. But on Monday evening the directors thought they would take a further step in the direction of educating the popular mind in a love of beauty and art. They therefore determined on giving, between the two acts of the concert, a lecture on the cultivation of the beautiful, and they induced Mr. LEIGH HUNT not only to write this essay (for which assuredly no living author is so fit), but to take the chair. Those who know Mr. HUNT's studious and scholastic habits will be able duly to appreciate the kindness and deep interest in the success of the undertaking which must have moved him in thus coming out of his honoured retirement, and, for the first time in his long life, presiding over a public meeting. However, there, on Monday evening, was the friend of SHELLEY and LAMB, the literary father of KEATS, the embodied spirit of the *Examiner* in its early days, of the *Indicator*, the *Companion*, and a hundred other brilliant scintillations of the periodical press. There, in the great Hall called of St. MARTIN, was the literary teacher of half a century, surrounded by several of his younger brethren, among whom were Mr. HENRY MAYHEW and Mr. STOCQUER; and there also was gathered a large audience, intent on harmony. The singers and other performers consisted of Miss BIRCH, Miss AUGUSTA MANNING, Mr. BODDA, Mr. DONALD KING, &c.; and the music was of all sorts, ranging from a scena in WEBER's *Freischütz* to "Tom Bowling" and the "Death of Nelson."

Upon the conclusion of the first part of the concert (we quote from the *Morning Post*), Mr. Stocquer advanced and informed the audience that, although it was not his intention, as announced in the bills, to give a selection from the old poets on that occasion, he would, with their permission, read the address prepared by Mr. Hunt. This he proceeded to do, after a short preface, expressing the honour and pleasure he felt in reading anything by such an author, although he had not time to look it over. Before, however, Mr. Stocquer had gone very far in the reading of the paper, he found that his voice was not strong enough to fill the hall, and the audience became so restless and impatient, that he resigned the task to Mr. Henry Mayhew. This gentleman recommenced the paper, and, thanks to his distinct utterance, every word of it was heard. The subject of Mr. Hunt's address was on the perception of the beautiful, and the advocacy of its more general cultivation, so as to place within the reach of every one those cheaply-earned pleasures the artist can

extract from the contemplation of the commonest objects. It related to the unnatural strife between the beautiful and the useful, each being necessary to the other as completing their respective perfection. These primary subjects treated of by the author were varied by amusing anecdotes and illustrations, and the paper was in every way worthy of its distinguished author.

The essay closed with a quotation from the garden scene in the fifth act of the *Merchant of Venice*, where there is a well-known passage on music, written in the highest style of Platonism and mystical analogy. This was a flight above the audience; for Englishmen, though rapidly advancing in their comprehension of music, are as yet lamentably behindhand with respect to poetry. In plain terms, they loudly signified their disapproval. At this, Mr. MAYHEW gallantly turned upon the malcontents, and said they must pardon him if he told them that the impatience they had exhibited was ungracious on their part towards Mr. HUNT:—

He reminded the audience that it was not, in former days, so easy a matter as it is now to be an advocate of the popular cause; and that Mr. Hunt in his time had suffered incarceration for their sake. (A Voice: "God bless him!") He had now left his study and retirement, to take, for the first time in his life, the chair at a public meeting. He had come to assist in the promotion of these entertainments, because it was thought that they would have the effect of placing luxuries and refinements which had hitherto been the enjoyment of the few within the reach of the many. Mr. Mayhew concluded his address by informing the audience that Mr. Hunt was about to leave the chair.

One of the objectors here had the candour to say that it was SHAKESPEARE they complained of, not LEIGH HUNT; and the whole assemblage ratified this by giving three cheers for the prince of living essayists, who made his acknowledgments with much emotion, and retired. The second part of the concert then proceeded.

This insensibility to poetry was exhibited in a similar way last week. Miss VANDENHOFF—a lady who played *Antigone* about eleven years ago with singular grace and power—gave a reading, at the new Music Hall in the SURREY GARDENS, from *Midsummer Night's Dream*, with MENDELSSOHN's music, sung by Miss POOLE and others. The music was liked, but Miss VANDENHOFF met with considerable impatience from some of the auditors, who were at length put to shame by the singular pertinence of the following passages in the quarrel scene between *Helena*, *Hermia*, *Lysander*, and *Demetrius*—passages delivered with peculiar point and relish by the fair reader:—

If you were men, as men you are in show,
You would not use a gentle lady so.

And, further on:—

If you have any pity, grace, or manners,
You would not make me such an argument.
But, fare ye well: 'tis partly mine own fault;
Which death, or absence, soon shall remedy.

Let us not, however, be disheartened. A people which can learn to love music may in time be taught to appreciate poetry.

THE WEEK AT THE THEATRES.

Mr. BUCKSTONE has revived *The Inconstant* at the HAYMARKET, for the purpose of introducing to the London stage an American actor, a Mr. MURDOCH, who plays *Young Mirabel* in a manner which has won for him the loud applause of his audience. He was supported by Mr. CHIPPENDALE, Mr. W. FARREN, and Miss TALBOT.—DRURY LANE has been amusing its frequenters with a *travestie* of *Pizarro* as produced at the PRINCESS'S—Mr. KEELEY performing the Spanish hero, Mrs. KEELEY *Rolla*, and Mrs. FRANK MATTHEWS *Cora*: a humorous combination, which is certain to be crowned with success.

Our promised notice of *Perdita* at the LYCEUM must unavoidably stand over till next week.

A HUNGARIAN REFUGEE at Hull has been starved to death. His name was Adolphe de Werdinsky, and he had been a medical man in the army of Kossuth. At the close of the Hungarian struggle, he came to London, where he received about 2000*l.* from a relative in Russia; 1500*l.* of this he invested in the iron business, but he was swindled by a Jew partner, and ruined. He afterwards resided at Southampton, in Holland, and at Hull, where he endeavoured to teach languages under the name of Dr. Beck. He lived in a respectable house, and struggled to keep up an appearance of being in good circumstances, when he was in fact in the sharpest extremity of want. Since he came to England, he has married, and his wife and one child remain. After his death, his corpse was found lying on a miserable bed-tick, covered with a single scanty blanket, laid on an old door; and this, with the exception of two or three old chairs, was literally the only furniture the house contained. A decent appearance had been maintained by a couple of clean window-blinds; but beyond this nothing but desolation and the most abject poverty was visible. Of clothes the unfortunate inmates were comparatively destitute, although the most persevering efforts have been made to keep their poverty from the public eye. Amidst all their deprivation, the child was apportioned more than its share of their scanty meal, yet the ravages of hunger are now detected in its behaviour while playing, which were previously only attributed to childish whim.

MR. W. J. FOX AT OLDHAM.—A political speech was delivered at Oldham on Wednesday by Mr. W. J. Fox, who met a party of his constituents. The veteran politician spoke of the last session as "a session of nonentities;" ridiculed the Conservatives as being split into factions and devoid of any intelligible policy; approved of Lord Palmerston making peace, though he felt disappointed that the war had not been "a crusade against despotism universally," and anticipated the time when such a war would be fought; and demanded that the Premier should put forth some domestic policy. "Are we to go on blindfold from session to session?" asked Mr. Fox. "Is there to be no adjustment of war taxation? Is there to be no extension of the representative principle? Is there to be no check on the sordidness and domination of ecclesiastical authorities? Are there to be no

means of carrying on that great progress throughout the country which has been begun by the people themselves, and which only needs the Government to give it free course in order to establish the most glorious results? I hear nothing of all this. Lord Palmerston is said to have summoned the members of his Cabinet to meet together in November, in order to propound the bills which they wish to prepare for the next session; and I suppose after that we shall know something; and so we still remain in the state which I described at the beginning—of waiters upon Providence and upon Palmerston." Mr. Fox concluded by denouncing aristocratic government.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM UPON AGRICULTURE.—The annual exhibition of stock and implements in connexion with the East Cumberland Agricultural Society was held upon the Castle-green, Carlisle, beneath the walls of the old border fortress, on Saturday last. A large party subsequently sat down to dinner at the Bush Hotel, Mr. Henry Howard, of Greystoke Castle, occupying the chair. In answer to the toast of "The members for the city," Sir James Graham made a long speech, in which, though promising to observe the rule of not introducing any political allusions, he reviewed his parliamentary life, and said that he had no cause to regret any of the measures he had supported. Alluding to agricultural matters, he said:—"Sir John Maxwell (one of the guests) hopes that the Emperor of Russia may reign over a free and loyal people. That he will reign over a loyal people, a cordial people, I fully hope and believe. That he will reign over a free people I do not expect, and as an agriculturist I do not much desire it, for, if there be danger to a foreigner, one thing is obvious—namely, that that danger must arise from freedom on the part of the cultivators of the soil. Excuse me if I record a sentiment which I read the other day—a sentiment which denoted great and profound wisdom. Montesquieu, in visiting England nearly a century ago, was struck with the superior produce of this country in comparison with that of France, and he wondered at that superiority on perceiving our climate so very inferior. He saw at once that our soil was not nearly so good as that of France, and he makes this reflection, 'That the produce of land depends less on the fertility of the soil than on the freedom of the cultivator.' A

profound observation, general as conceived by him, true to the letter in its application. I shall never entertain the slightest apprehension of foreign rivalry till I see that all Europe exhibits the freedom of the tenant." Sir James Graham recommended Cumberland farmers to cultivate corn less, and to introduce the growth of flax by way of rotation. He thought, also, they grazed too little, and he warned them against their tendency to grow potatoes. "It is a tender plant; it has become an uncertain plant. If you grow potatoes, relying upon the railroads for facility of exporting them, you will make the most fertile land perfectly sterile. It is a gambling transaction. If you plant upon good land, the crop is always doubtful, and the loss severe. If it is a good crop, it impoverishes the land to an extent which no ultimate advantage can compensate. I am therefore extremely anxious to discourage the growth of potatoes on a large scale." After the delivery of several other speeches, the meeting broke up.

CHARGE OF POISONING.—A charge of administering a poisonous draught to a young woman, named Catherine Massey, has been brought at Worship-street, against John Reid, a beer-shop keeper in the Bethnal Green-road. According to the girl's statement, a glass containing some frothy liquor like ginger-beer was handed to her by the landlord, after drinking which, she became alarmingly ill. Reid's defence is that the girl herself caught up the tumbler and drank off the contents, which consisted of twopennyworth of turpentine and the same quantity of liquid ammonia, to be used for removing grease stains. He was bound over on his own recognizances to appear again next week.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—The hearing of petitions with respect to this bank took place before Vice-Chancellor Kindersley at the Angel Hotel, Bury St. Edmund's, on Wednesday afternoon. The petitions of Mr. Adolphus Sherman, Mr. Robert Mee, General Achison, and Mr. Jeremiah Harridge having been received, and Mr. Hetherington having stated on behalf of the corporation and directors that they desire the winding-up, but wish it to be as cheaply managed as possible, the Vice-Chancellor said he had no doubt the Winding-up Act ought to be adopted in this case. He should make an order on all four petitions, the costs to be allowed out of the estate.

THE OLDHAM LYCEUM.—The opening of the Oldham Lyceum took place on Monday. A procession and lunch signalized the morning, followed by a *soirée*. Among the guests invited and who attended the ceremony were Lord Stanley, M.P., Sir J. K. Shuttleworth, Mr. William Brown, M.P., Mr. James Heywood, M.P., Mr. W. J. Fox, M.P., Mr. J. M. Cobbett, M.P., Col. and Lieut.-Col. Burns (sons of the Scotch poet), the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, and the Mayors of Manchester and Ashton-under-Lyne. A meeting took place in the evening in the Working Men's Hall, where about 2500 people were present, and were addressed by Lord Stanley, the chairman (who urged on the audience the necessity of attending to their own mental improvement), Sir James Kay Shuttleworth (who spoke approvingly of the efforts made by Government for popular education), Mr. Heywood, M.P., and Mr. W. J. Fox, M.P., the last of whom expressed his dissent from the remarks made by Sir J. K. Shuttleworth, and advocated the introduction by the State of secular education. In the course of his speech, Lord Stanley observed:—"I hold that a wide latitude should be given to individual taste. What a man wishes to learn he will learn better, more quickly, and with more profit to himself, than what he undertakes to study merely upon the recommendation of others, even though the latter may be more generally useful. I see in a prospectus which has been issued mention of French classes, and others for the teaching of languages. I am far from depreciating such studies; their interest is great, their use is great, even for those who stay at home, much more than those who travel: but, where time and opportunity are limited, and where no special inducement exists, I doubt whether the acquiring of languages is the most necessary or profitable branch of knowledge. Words, after all, are only vehicles of thought; the stores of thought accumulated in our own tongue are already immense; and, if much of life be passed in that which is rather preparation for study than study itself, little time may remain to complete the building for which such wide and ample foundations have been laid." Later in the evening, Sir J. K. Shuttleworth answered the observations of Mr. Fox, and denied that he had become "one of the mummies of the Circumlocution Office." He agreed with all Mr. Fox had said, but thought that the difficulties Government has to contend against should be recollected.

DISCOVERY OF COPPER IN NEW ZEALAND.—The discovery of the lode of copper ore on the Dun Mountain has been fully confirmed, and the result of the experiments made upon the samples forwarded to this country are unusually favourable. A few feet lower down, a most valuable vein has been struck. This, together with the reported discovery of gold, if the latter be confirmed, will be of the greatest advantage to this province and to the whole of New Zealand.—*Australian and New Zealand Gazette.*

A SIGNIFICANT FACT.—At the annual exhibition of modern paintings in the Brera Palace, there was a picture by Paris representing the return of Pius IX. from Gaeta in 1850, surrounded by Cardinals and Ministers. This had lately been painted for the Duke Scotti for the sum of 25,000 francs, and the other day it was discovered completely burnt to ashes.—*Times Turin Correspondent.*

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, September 23.

BANKRUPT.—WILLIAM STUART FINDLATER, Plymouth, coal merchant.

Friday, September 26.

BANKRUPTS.—GEORGE HENRY STANLEY, Cannon-street-road, St. George's-in-the-East, builder—WILLIAM HARTZIG, Stafford, manufacturing chemist—THOMAS HOOPER BROOK, Wolverhampton, draper—HENRY MERTENS and JOHN SUTCLIFFE, Apperley-bridge, Yorkshire, dyers—HENRY WARNE, 8, Mill-street, Hanover-square, 68, New Bond-street, and 22, Maddox-street, carpenter, &c.—JOHN WHITE, JOSEPH EXLEY, and JOSEPH DARLINGTON, Mexborough, York, coal proprietors—ISAAC JAMES HAWDEN, and JAMES LAMONT M'GREGOR, Liverpool, merchants—HENRY ALFRED WARD, Birmingham, grease manufacturer—WILLIAM JAMES BEAMAN and ROBERT PEARCE LEWIS, Bath, hide dealers—SIMON HORSMAN, Westgate, Bradford, grocer—SAMUEL PARKINSON MUFF, Westgate-hill, Bradford, currier—ROBERT INGHAM, Hammer Bottoms, Rochdale, cotton manufacturer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—JAMES M'INTOSH, Dundee, cabinet maker—WM. CARRUTHERS, Tynron, Dumfriesshire, deceased.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

HAMILTON.—On the 23rd inst., at 19, Eaton-square, Lady Claud Hamilton: a son.

PICKERING.—On the 9th inst., at Moscow, Russia, the wife of Henry Pickersgill, late of London: a daughter.

SHAKESPEAR.—On the 15th inst., at Corfu, the wife of Major Shakespear, Royal Artillery: a daughter.

WINCHESTER.—On the 17th inst., the Marchioness of Winchester: a daughter, stillborn.

MARRIAGES.

CHADS-DU CUNROU.—On the 25th ult. by special license, at the British Consulate, Dardanelles, William John Chads, Brevet-Major 64th Regiment, second son of Rear-Admiral Sir H. D. Chads, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief on the Irish Station, to Louise Du Cunrou, eldest daughter of the late C. A. Lander, Esq., late H.B.M.'s Consul, Dardanelles.

FLETCHER-BROWN.—On the 20th inst., at the Abbey Church, Tewkesbury, John Wells Fletcher, Esq., of Upton-upon-Severn, to Caroline Chambers, only daughter of Humphrey Brown, Esq., M.P.

HIRSCHHORN-STRAUSS.—On the 15th inst., at Frankfurt-on-Maine, Charles Hirschhorn, Esq., of 22, Dorset Villas, Douglas-road, Canonbury, to Harriet, daughter of Dr. Strauss, of Frankfurt-on-Maine.

DEATHS.

GANDION.—On the 21st inst., at Queen's-terrace, Guernsey, John Gandion, Esq., for twenty years Judge of the island of Alderney, deeply regretted.

HANSON.—On the 19th inst., at Milton, Gravesend, Ada, youngest daughter of Mrs. Julia Hanson, of Richmond, and the late Charles Hanson, Esq.

HUNTER.—On Monday, the 22nd inst., at his residence, 13, Westbourne-terrace, Hyde-park, in the 75th year of his age, William Hunter, Esq., one of the Aldermen of the City of London, and a Magistrate for the county of Middlesex.

JONES.—On the 22nd inst., in Jermyn-street, St. James's, aged 74, Major-General James Jones, K.H., and K. of the Order of Charles III. of Spain, fourth son of Michael Jones, Esq., formerly of Caton, in the county of Lancaster.

MACHELL.—On the 3rd inst., in his 76th year, Thomas Machell, Esq., M.R.C.S., formerly of Wolsingham, and Berners-street, author of several scientific inventions.

MOUBRAY.—On the morning of the 20th inst., at Greenwich Hospital, George Moubray, Esq., a Post Captain, of the 12th of August, 1812, in his 84th year, deeply lamented by all who knew him.

ROSS.—On the 6th inst., at Funchal, Madeira, of cholera, Archibald C. Ross, Esq., M.D., aged 47.

SYMES.—On Tuesday, the 23rd inst., at Bridport, to the inexpressible grief of her family and friends, killed by accidentally falling from the cliffs east of the harbour, Ada, eldest surviving daughter of George Symes, M.D., in the 18th year of her age.

VAUGHAN.—On the 20th inst., at 3, Clifton-terrace, Notting-hill, after a very long and painful illness, Jane Vaughan, youngest daughter of the late Francis Pinkney, Esq., of Whitehall, and Swansea, Glamorgan, authoress of several works of fiction.

WRIGHTSON.—On the 20th inst., at his residence, 36, Lorn-road, Brixton-road, after a long and painful illness, in the 60th year of his age, Mr. Joseph Wrightson, for upwards of eighteen years Editor of the "Weekly Dispatch."

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, September 26, 1856.

CONSOLS, which closed on Saturday at 94½ for Money, and 94½ for 8th October Account, have exhibited considerable heaviness during the week, the pressure having been occasioned by severe speculative sales, added to a general impression of the instability of the market. Considering, however, the unfavourable influences which have been brought to bear upon the funds, great firmness and good quotations have been maintained. Rumours of an adverse nature have been rife, and more weight has been attached to political events than their nature warranted.

The railway share market has generally held good prices. Yesterday, owing to the confidence occasioned by the Bank directors making no alteration in the rate of discount, Consols obtained a temporary advance of ½ per cent. of the morning's prices, but closed about the same as on the previous evening.

Consols and railways are still continued to be invested in by the public, and the recent speculative operators for a fall having been rendered careful by the firmer appearance of the markets, higher prices are anticipated. Money in the Stock Exchange was in demand, and realized 4½ per cent. Consols opened 93½, and closed 93½.

Aberdeen.—Caledonian, 55, 55½; Chester and Holyhead, 15½, 16½; Eastern Counties, 9, 9½; Great Northern, 93, 94; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 114, 116; Great Western, 63½, 64½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 96, 96½; London and Blackwall, 6½, 7; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 105, 106; London and North-Western, 102, 102½; London and South Western, 104, 104½; Midland, 77½, 77¾; North-Eastern (Berwick), 79½, 80½; South Eastern (Dover), 70, 71; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 7, 7½; Dutch Rhenish, 1½, 2 pm.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 35, 35½; Great Central of France, 5, 5½ pm.; Great Luxembourg, 4, 4½; Northern of France, 37½, 38½; Paris and Lyons, 50½, 51½; Royal Danish, 19, 20; Royal Swedish, 7, 1½; Sambre and Meuse, 11½, 12.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, September 26, 1856.

ARRIVALS this week into London as well as off the Coast have been moderate. The country markets, however, are pretty well supplied, and although business has not been brisk generally, prices have been maintained. The cargoes sold off the Coast are Taganrog (Ghirka 59s. to 59s. 6d., 60s. and 61s. 3d., Berdianski 60s. and 62s. 6d., Polish Odessa 55s. per 480 lb., hard Taganrog 57s. 3d., and 56s., and 58s. 6d., hard 1841 51s., 1841 Maize 31s. 6d. and 32s. now refused. Galatz 33s. and 32s. 3d., and 32s. 6d. now refused. Barley remains unaltered in value. There are very few Oats on sale, and full prices can be obtained for them.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

| | Sat. | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thur. | Frid. |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Bank Stock | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 3 per Cent. Red. | ..... | ..... | 94½ | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 3 per Cent. Con. An. | 94½ | 94 | 94 | 93½ | 94 | 93½ |
| Consols for Account | 94½ | 94½ | 94 | 94 | 94 | 93½ |
| New 3 per Cent. An. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| New 2½ per Cents | ..... | 78 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Long Ans. 1860 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| India Stock | 230 | ..... | ..... | 230 | ..... | ..... |
| Ditto Bonds, £1000 | ..... | ..... | 15 p | ..... | 17 p | ..... |
| Ditto, under £1000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 17 p | 17 p | 13 p |
| Ex. Bills, £1000 | 13 p | 14 p | 17 p | 17 p | 16 p | 16 p |
| Ditto, £600 | ..... | ..... | 17 p | 17 p | 16 p | ..... |
| Ditto, Small | 16 p | 13 p | 17 p | 17 p | 16 p | 17 p |

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|
| Brazilian Bonds | 101 | Portuguese 4 per Cents | 49½ |
| Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents | 81 | Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents | 108 |
| Chilian 6 per Cents | ..... | Russian 4½ per Cents | 97 |
| Chilian 3 per Cents | ..... | Spanish | 43½ |
| Dutch 2½ per Cents | 64 | Spanish Committee Cer. | ..... |
| Dutch 4 per Cent. Cert. | 98 | of Coup. not fun. | ..... |
| Equador Bonds | ..... | Turkish 6 per Cents | 102½ |
| Mexican Account | 22½ | Turkish New, 4 ditto | 102½ |
| Peruvian 4½ per Cents | 70½ | Venezuela, 4½ per Cents | ..... |
| Portuguese 3 per Cents | 44½ | | |

OFFICES in the Best Part of the STRAND.
A FIRST and SECOND FLOOR TO BE LET, together or separately, suitable for a Public Company, or a Solicitor. Immediate possession may be had, and on moderate terms. Apply at 352, Strand.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM,
4, Coventry-street, Leicester-square. Open (for gentlemen only) from Ten till Ten, containing upwards of one thousand models and preparations, illustrating every part of the human frame in health and disease, the race of men &c. Lectures delivered at Twelve, Two, and at Half-past Seven, by Dr. G. Sexton, F.R.G.S.; and a new and highly-interesting Series of Lectures is now in course of delivery by Dr. Kahn, at Four P.M. precisely.—Admission, 1s.

A CLEAR COMPLEXION!

GODFREY'S EXTRACT OF ELDER FLOWER is strongly recommended for Softening, Improving, Beautifying, and Preserving the SKIN, and giving it a blooming and charming appearance. It will completely remove Tan, Sunburn, Redness, &c., and by its Balsamic and Healing qualities, render the skin soft, pliable, and free from dryness, &c., clear it from every humour, pimple, or eruption, and by continuing its use only a short time, the skin will become and continue soft and smooth, and the complexion perfectly clear and beautiful. In the process of shaving it is invaluable, as it allays the irritation and smarting pain, annihilates every pimple and all roughness, and renders the skin smooth and firm.

Sold in Bottles, price 2s. 9d., by all Medicine Vendors and Perfumers.

DR. DE JONGH'S

LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL

Has now, in consequence of its marked superiority over every other variety, secured the confidence and almost universal preference of the most eminent Medical Practitioners in the treatment of CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, DIABETES, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, NEURALGIA, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, and all SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

Its leading distinctive characteristics are:

COMPLETE PRESERVATION OF ACTIVE AND ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES; INVARIABLE PURITY AND UNIFORM STRENGTH; ENTIRE FREEDOM FROM NAUSEOUS FLAVOUR AND AFTER-TASTE; RAPID CURATIVE EFFECTS, AND CONSEQUENT ECONOMY.

OPINION OF C. RADCLIFFE HALL, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P.E., Physician to the Torquay Hospital for Consumption, Author of "Essays on Pulmonary Tubercle," &c. &c. &c.

"I have no hesitation in saying that I generally prefer your Cod Liver Oil for the following reasons:—I HAVE FOUND IT TO AGREE BETTER WITH THE DIGESTIVE ORGANS, ESPECIALLY IN THOSE PATIENTS WHO CONSIDER THEMSELVES TO BE BILIOUS: it seldom causes nausea or eructation; it is more palatable to most patients than the other kinds of Cod Liver Oil: it is stronger, and consequently a smaller dose is sufficient."

Sold ONLY in IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 9s.; capped and labelled with DR. DE JONGH'S Stamp and Signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE, by ANSAR, HARFORD, and CO., sole British Consignees, 77, Strand, London; and by many respectable Chemists and Druggists.

NATURE'S TRUE REMEDY.

DR. TOWNSEND'S SARSAPARILLA.

There are three principal avenues by which Nature expels from the body what is necessary should be expelled therefrom. These three are the Stool, the Urine, and the Pores. These must be kept in a healthy condition, or disease is certain. This is a fixed and positive law; and no human being can safely disregard it.

Now, when the system is diseased, it is the first grand object to set all these functions at work, both to expel Disease, and to restore the Health.

The bowels must be opened, cleansed, soothed, and strengthened; the urine must be made to flow healthfully and naturally, and to throw off the impurities of the blood; the liver and stomach must be regulated; and above all, the pores must be opened, and the skin made healthy. These things done, and Nature will go to her work; and ruddy health will sit smiling upon the cheek; and life will be again a luxury.

We will suppose the case of a person afflicted with a bilious complaint. His head aches, his appetite is poor, his bones and back ache, he is weak and nervous, his complexion is yellow, the skin dry, and his tongue furred. He goes to a doctor for relief, and is given a dose of medicine to purge him freely, and he gets some temporary relief. But he is not cured! In a few days the same symptoms return, and the same old purge is administered; and so on, until the poor man becomes a martyr to heavy, drastic purgatives. Now, what would be the true practice in such a case? What the practice that Nature herself points out? Why, TO SET IN HEALTHY OPERATION ALL THE MEANS THAT NATURE POSSESSES TO THROW OUT OF THE SYSTEM THE CAUSES OF DISEASE. The bowels must of course be evacuated, but the work is but begun AT THIS STAGE OF THE BUSINESS. The kidneys must be prompted to do their work, for they have a most important work to do; the stomach must be cleansed; and, above all, the PORES must be relieved and enabled to throw off the secretions which ought to pass off through them. We repeat, that by the Bowels, the Urine, the Pores, the disease must be expelled from the system, and not by the bowels alone, as is the usual practice.

And to effect all this, resort must be had to a remedy that is congenial to the human system—a remedy that strengthens while it subdues disease. Such is the remedy found in

OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S AMERICAN SARSAPARILLA AND PILLS.—WAREHOUSE, 373, STRAND, LONDON.

Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s.; Small Quarts, 4s. 6d.; Quarts, 7s. 6d.

REGISTERED.—The OUDE WRAPPER.—A long Coat, Cloak, and Sleeved Cape, by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant Tailor, 74, Regent-street, ready made or to order, in Autumn Tweeds and Meltons, 25s.; Winter Tweeds, Meltons, Pilots, and Witneys, 32s.; double milled cloths and beavers, 42s.
N.B.—A desideratum for boys and youths.

GENTLEMEN IN SEARCH of a TAILOR are directed to B. BENJAMIN, Merchant Tailor, 74, Regent-street.

The FORTY-SEVEN SHILLING SUITS, made to order from Scotch, Heather, and Cheviot Tweeds, all wool and thoroughly shrunk.

The PELISSIER SACS, 21s., 25s., and 28s.
The BENJAMIN CLERICAL and PROFESSIONAL OVER or UNDER COAT, from 30s. The ALBERT LONG FROCK or OVER COAT, from 35s. to 55s. The REVERSIBLE WAISTCOAT, buttoning four different sides, 14s. The TWO GUINEA DRESS and FROCK COATS, the GUINEA DRESS TROUSERS, and the HALF-GUINEA WAISTCOATS.—N.B. A perfect fit guaranteed.

THE DESIDERATUM.—It is a singular but notorious fact, that in this age of competition a gentlemanly Dress Coat cannot be obtained without paying an exorbitant price. The advertisers, bona fide West-end Tailors of extensive practice, intend honestly to furnish that desideratum, viz., a DRESS or FROCK COAT, possessing that fine silky appearance, durability, and superior style so peculiar to the high-priced garment worn by the British aristocracy, at the very moderate charge of 2½ guineas, cash. Cash payments and a large trade solely enabling them to do it.

H. HAYES and Co., 149, Cheapside.

DEAFNESS.—Prize Medals 1851, First class 1855.—The newly invented ACOUSTIC INSTRUMENTS, to suit every degree of deafness, however extreme, can only be obtained of F. C. REIN, sole inventor and maker, at his Paradise for the Deaf, 103, Strand, London. Also Rein's celebrated Cork Respirators.

TEETH.—Messrs. GABRIEL supply COMPLETE SETS, without Springs, on the principle of capillary attraction, avoiding the necessity of extracting stumps or causing any pain.—SILICIOUS ENAMELLED AMERICAN MINERAL TEETH, the best in Europe—guaranteed to answer every purpose of mastication or articulation—from 3s. 6d. per Tooth. Sets, 4s. 4s.—Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent have been awarded for the production of a perfectly WHITE ENAMEL, for decayed FRONT TEETH, which can only be obtained at Messrs. Gabriel's Establishments, 33, Ludgate-hill, five doors from the Old Bailey; and at 112, Duke-street, Liverpool. Consultation and every information gratis.

SCHWEPPE'S MALVERN SELTZER WATER. Having leased the Holy Well Spring at Malvern, renowned for its purity, J. S. and Co. can now produce a SELTZER WATER with all the CHEMICAL and MEDICINAL properties which have rendered the Nassau Spring so celebrated. They continue Manufacturing SODA, MAGNESIA, and POTASS WATERS and LEMONADE, at LONDON, LIVERPOOL, BRISTOL, and DERBY.
Every bottle is protected by a Red Label bearing their signature.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS SUPREMELY EFFICACIOUS IN CURING WOUNDS.—Mrs. Elizabeth Belson of Snettisham, near Lynn, had suffered for twenty weeks from a dreadful wound in her leg, occasioned by falling upon an iron scraper. Remedies innumerable and diversified were applied, but all failing, she supposed she would have been a cripple for life, when she was advised to try Holloway's Ointment and Pills. After employing a few boxes of both, the wound assumed a healthy appearance, the leg subsequently became perfectly sound, and she is now quite well.
Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the world; at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishments, 244, Strand, London, and 80, Maiden-lane, New York; by A. Stampa, Constantinople; A. Guidicy, Smyrna; and E. Muir, Malta.

A NEW AND IMPORTANT DISCOVERY IN THE SCIENCE OF MEDICINE.

Patent Office Seal of Great Britain.
Diplôme de l'Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris.
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TRIESEMAR, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, is prepared in the form of a lozenge, devoid of taste or smell, and can be carried in the waistcoat pocket. Sold in tin cases, divided into separate doses, as administered by Valpeau, Lallemand, Roux, Ricord, &c., &c.

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