

Wm. Edmund Waller, 302 Strand.

# The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

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

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## Review of the Week.

ADMIRAL DUNDAS, it is now reported, sailed from Ajaccio on the 14th instant for Naples; and the French Government has put forth a kind of notification in the *Moniteur*. It is to be supposed that this notification has had the assent of our Government; and if so, it decidedly falls back from the position which our Ministers were supposed to take up when they first announced the demonstration against Naples. The *Moniteur* carefully connects the present proceedings with those of the Paris Conference on the 8th of April. It describes Rome and other Italian states, Greece, and Belgium, as having given satisfaction to the Western Powers; while Naples alone has treated their representations with contumely, and has persevered in her repressive form of Government. Hence, it is necessary to withdraw diplomatic relations. But, although it is not less necessary to protect French and English subjects, the war ships for that purpose will not beset into the Bay of Naples, lest they should give encouragement to a rising against the ruling authorities. Such is the substance of the article. If this is a correct view of the course intended by the Western Powers, they are prepared to bully Naples but not to coerce her; lest under coercion she should be called to account by her subjects.

It is well known that, some time back, the Foreign Minister of France was not expected to resume his functions in the Government: he did resume. It was understood that he had better learned to accommodate himself to the views of the Emperor; but here we see exactly the same tone and course of conduct in regard to Naples that we witnessed before Count WALEWSKI went for a time into the country. It was understood that when the Emperor had recovered his health and returned to Paris, there was to be a change of men and administration: there is no change. We are far from assuming that the Emperor has altered his opinions; the conjecture to which we are drawn is, that he does not find himself strong enough to act without those men who are less intent upon building up the greatness of France than building up their own fortunes and rank.

NARVAEZ has scarcely entered Spain, before he is making all, high and low, feel the vehemence and overbearing character of his temper. His rustication in France, and his "study of the archives at Vienna," do not appear to have

softened his disposition. He insults a gentleman who is married into the royal family, even striking the man, and thus he provokes a conspiracy amongst his rivals and opponents. But he swaggers about as if confident in his success; partly, no doubt, because he reckons upon having with him the Queen-Mother and the French party. Yet HUGELMANN, the editor of the French paper in Madrid, is understood to represent vested interests in O'DONNELL, and is said to have been coquetting with the new reforming party. Meanwhile, RAMON NARVAEZ enjoys the favour of the Queen—for the present.

The Russians have been defeated by SEFER PACHA in Circassia, and a wonder is made of the news. It appears, however, to be nothing more than a return to the normal state of things before the late war. The Circassians will probably go on beating the Russians until they exhaust themselves in the process, and Circassia becomes a Russian county.

The French note lauds the complaisance of the POPE, because his Holiness has been pleased to promise "clemency and internal reform." When would PRUS IX. ever refuse such laudable requests? Besides, he has no occasion to be discontented, if he makes concessions he makes conquests; our contemporaries report the wonderful Popish arrangements in the church of Hurst, under the administration of the Rev. Mr. CAMERON. The gentleman's parishioners appealed to Bishop WILBERFORCE, who disapproved of the innovations against the wish of the parish, and appears to have sentenced him to discontinue. Why should the POPE complain? Again, GEORGE ANTHONY DENISON has turned the position of JOHN BIRD, Archbishop of Canterbury; not only has he discovered by his counsel that all the Thirty-nine Articles are not in the statute of ELIZABETH, under which he was prosecuted, but he has appealed from the Archbishop to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, who have to pronounce upon the question of the real presence. Why should the POPE complain?

The extreme anti-Papal party has caused and shared a horrible calamity. One of the lowest of the 'low,' in point of theology, was the Rev. Mr. SPURGEON; a Baptist minister usually described as belonging to the WHITFIELD school. His chapel became so overcrowded that it was necessary to take it down and rebuild it, and he is meanwhile wandering about in concert-rooms or other buildings capable of holding his flock. He

'held forth' on Sunday in the concert-room of the Surrey Gardens, where an immense concourse had collected to hear him. Mr. SPURGEON's method of treating heretics and sin is gladiatorial; it has in it something of the spirit of the prize court; and a place of amusement, no doubt, had its association for the vast numbers who went to hear on Sunday. The concert-room was overfilled, and some one raised a cry of "Fire!" There was instantly a chaotic attempt to escape. Neither SPURGEON, nor his friends, nor the policemen, nor the detectives in plain clothes, nor the commencement of a sermon on the text "And the wicked are in the house of the Lord," could rally the fugitives. They rushed forth, shrieking, hollowing, and trampling on each other; and many were killed or maimed. Such are the effects of preaching by a popular 'low' dissenter. Why should the POPE be displeased?

In the political world all is flatness. The *Observer* announces that there are to be systematic Cabinet Councils, commencing next month; there is also to be a deliberate consultation with the parliamentary heads of departments on the measures to be introduced next session. For Ministers are resolved not to be defeated again.

Meanwhile, members have been parading before their constituents. Mr. DISRAELI, for example, at an agricultural meeting in Buckinghamshire, said—nothing. Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, has appeared before his constituents at Dudley, whom he lectured on affairs in general, foreign and domestic, after the approved fashion of an intellectual, prudent, and rather unpolitical Peelite.

The Commander-in-Chief has followed up his intentions in reorganizing the army on its reduction, and a Memorandum on the subject has issued from the Horse Guards. Besides the reduction of regiments on the new plan, there appear to be various new arrangements with reference to the distribution of duties. On the whole, the effect of the Memorandum may be described as indicating a great increase in the attention required from the senior officers, in diligence and study from the junior officers, in exercise for the men, in the orderly keeping of the barracks, and all military establishments. In short, the Duke of CAMBRIDGE is really following up his plan of a gradual but thorough reform in the army. Great satisfaction has been occasioned by the new arrangement respecting the bands, which have hitherto been a charge upon the officers, without being a corresponding benefit to the men.

The dismissal of Cornet Lord ERNEST VANE TEMPEST, and Cornet BIRT, is an act in the same spirit. The Royal Commander-in-Chief appears resolved to weed the army of its *mauvais sujets*.

One of the most interesting events of the week was the celebration of the Trafalgar-day at North Shields for the two sister towns of North and South Shields. The principal personage in the festival, which was of a peculiar kind, was the Duke of NORTHUMBERLAND, who had earned his right to that conspicuous place in a remarkable manner. He bore testimony to the fact that at Trafalgar the victory was in great part owing not only to the genius of the commander, but to the heroism of the men; and such has been the case in all our great naval victories. A NELSON could never have struck the blows he did unless he could have counted upon every man under him. The Duke also bore testimony to the conduct of the men generally. As a naval commander, he said that he owed a deep debt of gratitude to all who have served under him—a testimony which tells both ways, for undoubtedly the Commander who can give that certificate to his men would have the same from them. It is the good master that makes good servants. A large part of the wealth of England is carried in vessels manned by British seamen, to whose courage and fidelity the wealth of whole classes, and of the nation at large, is due. From the very nature of recruitment in the navy—national or mercantile—it happens that the sailor is, generally speaking, of a class little trained in worldly wisdom, and without education. Life at sea affords no training for land dangers, and the seaman on shore, with his vehemence, his ignorance, and his habit of having everything done for him except to 'hand, reef, and steer,' is the victim of any low sharpers who can pander to his weaknesses or impose upon his credulity. The Duke of NORTHUMBERLAND has instituted the foundation of a great reform in the economy of this class. He has given 8000*l.* or 9000*l.* to build a Home for the sailor; 3000*l.* have been subscribed by the commercial inhabitants of Shields to endow the Home, which is indeed much more than a mere living place. It comprises luxuries, which have hitherto been common only in gentlemen's clubs—also a library, a navigation school, a money-order office, a savings-bank, and a shipping-office, so that the sailors will be able to continue on shore those habits of relying upon others without being obliged to rely upon knaves and profligates. Seldom has so handsome a gift been made in so handsome a spirit as the Home, which was opened yesterday by the Duke of NORTHUMBERLAND and his friends.

Some persons are unconscious of ridicule. The French Emperor has once more been galled into an outcry against the English press. The Alliance may be broken, the peace of the world destroyed—if English journalists do not change their tone! The *Moniteur* is very serious on the subject of attacks that "permit only the reply of contempt."

#### MR. LAING, M.P., ON FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLITICS.

MR. LAING, M.P. for the Northern Burghs, has issued a long address to his constituents, in which he sets forth the policy he is prepared to advocate in Parliament in connexion with foreign and domestic affairs. He commences by referring to the Russian war, and by contending that it was perfectly wise to bring that war to a conclusion when its original objects were attained, on "Russia signifying her readiness to abandon her exclusive pretensions against Turkey, and to re-enter the great family of European nations as an equal member." The rashness of those who would have prolonged hostilities for the sake of notions altogether "visionary and Quixotic" he loudly condemns, and adds that he has "no faith in the melodramatic pictures of Russian power and perfidy." The clamours of the press, more especially of the *Times*, in favour of a continuation of the war, and the desire entertained by some politicians that we should take up the cause of the oppressed nationalities, are unfavourably contrasted with the cooler views of Mr. Bright, Mr. Gladstone, and, after his visit to Vienna, Lord John Russell. Mr. Laing is of opinion that the Government acted unwisely in giving offence to America

in connexion with the enlistment question, but that it deserves great credit for its temper and moderation in bringing the quarrel to a close. This brings him to the consideration of the policy of augmenting our armies in time of war by means of foreign levies. He regrets the vote he gave in favour of the Foreign Enlistment Bill. It appeared to him at the time that that Bill presented the only available means of rescuing our Crimean army from the critical position in which it was then placed; but "subsequent reflection" has convinced him "that the measure was radically wrong in principle, and experience has shown that it was practically useless. Our mercenary legions have been nothing but a source of annoyance and discredit to us." Mr. Laing, however, is disposed to continue his support of the present Government, as long as they maintain such a policy as he considers just.

That policy, as far as foreign affairs are concerned, is based on non-intervention, though he does not use that phrase "in any abstract and impracticable sense." He thinks our "perpetual, petty, fussy interference with continental politics" (constantly supported by the Liberal party, though it was against their scheme on acceding to power in 1830) has done great injury to this country abroad; and he adds:—"I am satisfied, from a pretty extensive acquaintance with leading men on the Continent, that if by any means we could bind over the *Times*, the House of Commons, and the Foreign Office, to hold their tongues for ten years together about foreign matters, the cause of rational liberty abroad would be more advanced than by any other means that could possibly be devised." The contemplated interference in Naples he considers very impolitic, and asks why, if we must interfere, we do not interfere also in France, Russia, and America.

"As regards domestic policy," continues Mr. Laing, "I profess no great measures, for I have no great faith in them. . . . In fact, so much has been done that little remains to do." Of education, he says he is inclined to think that we must educate ourselves. Repeal of the paper duty is "the only possible function of the legislature as regards education," except in the case of pauper and criminal children, with regard to whom the state stands in the place of the parents; "and even in this case the more that can be left to local management the better." The questions of the Established Church, of a further Reform Bill, and of the ballot, he thinks may stand in abeyance for the present, the public not being unanimous in their demands for them. He highly approves of the *vis inertiae* peculiar to the English character, which "opposes itself to all political changes." He deprecates "nothing more than a feverish passion for novelty, which scorns the dulness of common sense."

For my part," he adds, "if you ask me what I think the principal duty of the Legislature at the present day, I say frankly, 'To pass the estimates.'" The military moral he draws from the war "is that we ought not, for forty years, perhaps, to go on spending large sums annually in keeping up excessive fleets and armies which are not wanted, and which in case of need can be created in a few months; but rather apply ourselves to maintaining a moderate numerical force, with all its administrative branches complete and efficient, and so arranged as to admit of ready expansion in case of emergency. With such establishments we shall be able to return to the standard of expenditure which prevailed during the last few years before the war, and to get rid of the best part of 15,000,000*l.* a year of additional war taxation." Though indisposed to organic reform, Mr. Laing thinks that several financial reforms are wanting, especially "the due adjustment between direct and indirect taxation," and the revision and permanent adoption of the income tax. He is also in favour of legal reform, on which subject he makes these remarks:—

"There is a vast deal which is cumbrous, antiquated, and in its practical working oppressive and immoral, in the system of English jurisprudence. Fraud, in too many instances, escapes with impunity; and the scale of punishments for criminal offenders is too often opposed to the moral sense of the community; the trammels on the transfer of land retard improvement and restrict improvement; the multiplication of obscurely-worded statutes causes confusion; no one knows with certainty in any of the ordinary operations of life what the law requires; what, for instance, makes him a partner, or liable as a director or shareholder. There is scarcely a question in the whole range of commercial law applicable to banks, railways, and joint-stock companies, and other great creations of modern enterprise, on which opposite opinions may not be obtained from eminent counsel, and on which an unprofessional man can form even a conjecture of what, after spending years and thousands of pounds in litigation, may turn out to be the law, except from a sort of confused feeling (which, however, experience has shown to be generally correct) that what is most in accordance with common sense is least likely to be in accordance with law."

#### THE IRISH CRIMEAN BANQUET.

THIS hospitable celebration took place on Wednesday. The total number of guests at the banquet, all of them decorated with Crimean medals, were 8000 non-commissioned officers and privates, 50 petty officers, sailors, and marines, 50 enrolled pensioners, 20 Peninsular and

Indian veterans, 50 constabulary, 25 coast-guard, 5 metropolitan police, 1 Land Transport Service. The troops took their places at a quarter to one o'clock, the bands stationed in the gallery striking up during the time "The Roast Beef of Old England." At the head table, besides his Excellency and the Lord Mayor, were the Lord Chancellor, the Commander of the Forces, the admirals in command of the naval stations in Ireland, peers who were members of the committee, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, the Under Secretary for Ireland, the French Consul, &c. A table was provided for the officers in charge of the troops, about 120 in number. A table was also provided for about 60 gentlemen of the press. The gallery accommodated about 1200, the total number present in the Banqueting-hall being about 5000.

The Lord Mayor and company being seated, silence was proclaimed by a flourish of trumpets from six trumpeters placed behind the chair, and grace was said. The banquet then proceeded, and, at its conclusion, after grace had been again said, and the Lord Mayor had proposed the health of the Queen and of the Viceroy,

His Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant said that in the Queen's name he welcomed her fine troops. He was proud to see before him the men who had breasted the steep slopes of Alma, dashed along the fatal field of Balaklava, and held the blood-red heights of Inkerman. He was proud to see the men who had dared and survived so much, and who were all ready to die on the field of battle. The Irish people that day welcomed them with true Irish hospitality. English, Scotch, and Irish he all equally welcomed to that board. "Irish hospitality," said his Excellency, "is not stinted to her own children, since it was not asked, when the cheer rose loudest in your charge, whether it had most of the English, or Scotch, or Irish accent—nor was it asked, when the red blood flowed from the field or from the trench, whether the warm tide gushed from English, or Scotch, or Irish veins. (*Cheers.*) You are here to-day—you are seated side by side at the same board; and you need no other passport than the bright medal which glitters upon your manly breasts. (*Loud and repeated cheering.*) It is, indeed, a deep cause of thankfulness to see you here thus; you who have breasted the steep slopes of the Alma—you who have dashed along the fatal field of Balaklava—you who have held the blood-red heights of Inkerman (*cheers*)—you who have suffered in the midnight trench, the thundering rampart, and the death-filled hospital (*cheers*)—it is matter, I say, of deep gratitude to see you thus under a roof of peace and before a board of plenty." (*Cheers.*)

The other speakers were: Lord Gough; the French Consul; Mr. Butt, a Quartermaster-sergeant of Artillery; Sergeant-major Woodin, of the 17th *Lancers*; Quartermaster-sergeant William Leefong; John Poulton, boatswain's-mate of the *Hogue* (who spoke in the name of the Navy, previously enjoining silence with his whistle); and Henry Fido, Sergeant of the Royal Marines, of the same ship, who represented the body to which he belongs. The banquet passed off with the utmost enthusiasm and success.

#### THE SUBSCRIPTION FOR ITALY.

THE Italian Committee have published the following:—"Two National Subscriptions have been opened in Italy:

"The first is promoted in order to purchase a hundred guns for the protection of Alessandria against the probable attacks of Austria.

"The second is promoted in order to purchase ten thousand muskets, to be given to the first Italian province that shall rise in arms against the common enemy.

"These guns and these muskets will promote, therefore, one and the same result; thus do the National army and the army of Insurrection combine their ranks in the war of Independence.

"The two subscriptions united express the aspirations of Italy, and afford a just idea of what she may accomplish upon a grand scale, and of what is the will and the resolve of the patriotic Piedmontese.

"Having first proposed the National subscription for the ten thousand muskets, we believe ourselves bound to do all that may lie in us for securing the success of that object. Therefore do we appeal to the Italians and to noble-hearted men in every country—to all, indeed, who desire the freedom and independence of Italy—to give us their assistance, their public countenance, and their sympathy. In the day when the oppressed Italians rise and conquer a free country for themselves, they will remember with gratitude those who have helped them to arm.

"GIACOMO MEDICI,  
"ANTONIO MOSTO,  
"ANGELO MANCINI,  
"AGOSTINO GRECCO,  
"ANTONIO CASARETO.

"Genoa, Sept. 1856."

The Belgian *Indépendance* betrays its terror at the rapidity with which this movement advances, and pretends to the possession of certain knowledge, too portentous to be disclosed at present. It has no knowledge, and had better keep the secret.



## FATAL ACCIDENT AT THE SURREY GARDENS.

An appalling catastrophe took place on Sunday evening in the New Music Hall of the Surrey Gardens. The Rev. Mr. Spurgeon, a young Methodist clergyman who has recently attracted great attention by the vehemence of his oratory, had advertised that he would preach on that evening in the building alluded to, the money paid in admission (after the discharge of all expenses) being devoted to the erection of a new building capable of holding 15,000 people, in which Mr. Spurgeon proposes to continue his exhortations. Upwards of 10,000 persons attended on Sunday evening in the Music Hall; and the preacher had not long commenced the service, and was addressing his audience, when an alarm was given which led to most lamentable results. The precise nature of that alarm remains in mystery. According to some accounts, three men rose up in the body of the hall with extended arms, and shouted "Fire!" According to others, there was a cry of "The building! the building!" or "The galleries are falling!" Others again state that there was a slight ringing of a bell, while some say that they heard a noise as of the rumbling of carriages approaching the building. However this might have been, there was a sudden and uncontrollable panic. A frantic rush was made by the people in the first or lowest gallery, and, pouring precipitately and in a dense mass down the circular stone staircase in the north-west tower, many of them fell and were trampled to death. When within six feet of the bottom of the stairs, the balustrades snapped under the strong pressure; but "it is beyond all question," says the *Times*, "that death in every case ensued upon the staircase. It is also an indisputable fact that every one of the persons killed sat or stood during the service until the alarm was given in that first gallery; and, what is perhaps more remarkable than all else—the very individuals who came by this violent end were precisely those nearest the place of exit, and who were the first to run for safety at the earliest manifestation of the panic. A man (Samuel Heard), two young women named Johnson, and three others, named Harriet Barlow, Mrs. Skipper, and Harriet Mathew, all stood immediately within the doorway leading on to the fatal staircase, and were, therefore, one would have thought, in the best possible position for effecting a safe retreat. They were likewise the first to run. But, as the event unhappily proved, it was far otherwise. They were all trodden to death on the stairs, even the strong man, Samuel Heard, of all men the most likely to be able to hold his own in a crowd.

"It is extremely probable that Heard, from his position near the door, as described by his relatives who accompanied him, was the first to make for the door when the alarm was sounded, that in his precipitation he made a false step as he began the descent, was hurled headlong down the stairs, could not recover his feet again, and that the women, Johnson, Barlow, and Skipper, who would from their position be immediately following him, fell over him as he lay, and were with him trampled to death by the crowd from behind. Those who remained quietly in the building until the consternation had passed away, as might have been expected, fared best, and this, with the melancholy fate of those who were the first to run, conveys a practical lesson as to how each man and woman should behave on a similar emergency, in a vast crowd, having regard alike to their own individual safety and to that of every one around them. It is a singular fact that, after the balustrade gave way to the pressure of the crowd, no one appears to have fallen through the breach on to the floor below; but after that casualty happened there was an example of female heroism and the force of maternal love deserving a passing record. Susannah Heard, a young married woman, her husband (the brother of Samuel Heard, who was killed), and their little boy, with many others, were jammed up on the stair and unable to make any progress one way or the other. She stood nearest the balustrade, and to save her little boy from suffocation she held him a considerable time over the hand-rail by the neck above the well of the stairs. At that time, a man—probably George Lane, now in Guy's Hospital with a comminuted fracture of the right arm—was wedged so forcibly against an iron pillar which supported the stairs that she and her husband could distinctly hear the bones of his arm snap several times. When the balustrade gave way her husband put his arm round her and kept her from falling through the gap, she standing while he did so on only one leg, with the other hanging over the edge of the stairs, and still holding her little boy over the gulf. By and by the pressure slackened, and she was relieved from this perilous position. The husband at this moment took hold of a woman standing near him in the crowd to prevent her from falling, and he found she was dead. It is remarkable, as showing how gregarious a crowd is, that though the means of exit from the building are so many, the greater part of the people in the first gallery, where all the mischief was done, appear to have made for one door, there being at least three others equally convenient, and affording equal facilities of escape."

While this was going on in the first gallery, several persons in the other parts of the hall forced their way through the windows at the side of the building, and leapt out on to the roof of the refreshment-room, many sustaining very serious injuries in so doing. A portion

of the balustrade near the bottom of the staircase at the eastern extremity of the edifice also gave way; but nothing serious resulted from that particular casualty.

Mr. Lund, Superintendent of Police, who was seated among the audience together with his wife and daughter, did all he could, in connexion with the constables stationed in the hall, to arrest the flight of the scared multitude by blocking up the entrances; but the officers were soon pushed aside, and the gardens were filled with the crowd, some of whom were seriously hurt, while others, who were only frightened, called loudly for the police and for surgical assistance. Two medical gentlemen, who had formed part of the audience, speedily volunteered their aid; and several wounded persons were attended to on the spot, and then sent in cabs to their own residences or to Guy's Hospital. The dead were conveyed to the workhouse.

This terrible catastrophe only occupied about five or six minutes. On the first rush taking place, Mr. Spurgeon, after a moment's pause, directed that a hymn should be sung; but this was not finished, though the audience joined in it, and he then continued the service by giving out the text of his sermon. For this, he has been greatly blamed; but it has been urged in his favour that he adopted the course indicated in order to allay the excitement and alarm, and to disabuse the people of the idea of danger. Several times did he recommence his discourse, at the request of some among the audience, but was as often compelled to break off, saying that "his brain was in a whirl," and that preaching was impossible. During the delivery of these remarks, several renewals of the panic took place, and fresh rushes were made towards the doors. Finally, another hymn was sung; and Mr. Spurgeon, after beseeching the audience to disperse calmly and deliberately, was led away by his friends, apparently in a fainting state, and was taken in a cab to his own home in the Borough. It must be confessed that the observations of the preacher immediately after the first panic were not of a reassuring nature. They were of the fierce, denunciatory character favoured by Evangelical pastors; and Mr. Spurgeon is reported to have said that the reason why the auditors fled so rapidly on the alarm being given was that they were afraid of what would happen to them after death, and that they would rush fast enough to save their bodies, but did not heed the salvation of their souls. Unless the speaker was too bewildered to comprehend the meaning and effect of his own words, nothing could exceed the cruelty or the frivolous indecorum of this attempt to misread a natural instinct by the lurid light of superstition. Moreover, an allusion which Mr. Spurgeon made to the necessity, as indicated by the accident, of having a larger building for their meetings, such as that which it was proposed to erect, was not in the best state at that precise moment.

According to the daily papers, it appears that the calamity was not lessened by some instructions given by Mr. Spurgeon himself. In order that the people who attended on Sunday evening might not be induced to roam about the gardens, and that they might confine themselves to the purposes for which the gardens were on that evening specially opened, he ordered that all the entrances on the side of the building opposite the principal door should be closed—a circumstance which prevented the people from obtaining egress from that side of the hall, and induced a general rush to the principal door, which was soon blocked up by those who were making such desperate efforts to escape.

It was at first asserted that, after order had been in some measure restored, the money-box was sent round in aid of the funds for the new conventicle; but it has since appeared that this was not done by Mr. Spurgeon's agents. Some unauthorised person, however, collected in this way about 87., which will be devoted to the sufferers.

The number killed was seven, of whom five were women; the other two were a man (Samuel Heard, a Bermondsey tanner) and a little boy. The latter was carried away dead by his father. The wounded amounted to thirty, principally women. Some of the cases were slight; others very serious. One of the killed (a Mrs. Barlow) was on the eve of her confinement. Her husband was greatly opposed to her going; but he at length consented on his wife telling him that her nurse would accompany her. The Cæsar operation was resorted to after death, but not until it was too late. The infant, which, in the ordinary course of nature, would have been born the next day, was dead.

The sister of one of the women who lost their lives waited upon the police authorities on Monday, and gave a painful narrative of that part of the catastrophe. She stated that she herself smothered her sister; that, when the rush took place, both being anxious to get out, the deceased, who was in advance of her, fell, and was forced with her face on the stone flags, and she was driven upon her, and felt the last respiration she gave, but, being closely pressed by those from behind, she was unable to get up, or to render the least assistance.

An inquiry into the origin of the disaster was instituted by the proprietors of the gardens, aided by the police. Mr. Lund is of opinion that the alarm was wilfully given for some sinister design; but a fireman employed in the building related a circumstance which seems to throw some light on the subject. He stated that while Mr. Spurgeon was reading the lesson, one of

the deacons came up-stairs and desired his immediate attendance in the third tier of the north-west galleries, where he said some youths had been misconducting themselves by exploding small quantities of gunpowder. The fireman proceeded to the spot, and perceived the smell of exploded gunpowder. No person being able or willing to point out the offending parties, he was in the act of descending to the ground floor of the hall when the cries of "Fire!" first ran through the building. The first suggestion, that the alarm was purposely given by thieves, is discredited by Mr. Lund, who thinks no thieves were present, and who believes that some rival body of Methodists desired to create a disturbance in order to injure Mr. Spurgeon; but a more probable explanation would seem to be contained in the statement, made before the coroner on the first day's inquest (Tuesday), by Louisa Johnson, sister of Harriet Johnson, who was killed. This witness said:—"I was fifteen last May. On Sunday evening, I accompanied my sister, Harriet Johnson, to the Surrey Gardens. We went into the first gallery of the hall. We stood close to the door at the top of the stairs. After we had been there three-quarters of an hour, my sister said, 'The house is falling!' and we ran down the stairs. I had not seen or heard anything to lead to such an impression. I fell, and a number of people fell upon me. I and my sister were the first that got into the staircase. I took hold of the banisters and fell, the staircase being narrow. I then lost my recollection. I was afterwards raised up and taken out. I did not hear any alarm given besides what my sister said. As soon as she told me the place was falling, I rushed out. She did not speak loudly, but she might have been heard by a few people around us. When we ran out, she was behind me, and when I fell she fell upon me. I do not believe my sister had any motive in calling out that the place was falling." A jurymen: "As you rushed out of the door did you meet any persons coming down the other stairs?" Witness: "No, I did not. The staircase was free. As soon as I heard what my sister said, I ran out, screaming. Other persons followed. I fell, and they fell upon me."

The damage done to the Music Hall by the accident is not very considerable. It consists principally of broken windows, and 50*l.* will cover it all. An investigation into the state of the building has shown that there was no cause for alarm with respect to its stability in any part.

At a meeting held at the chapel in Park-street on Monday night, Mr. Moore, a deacon, made the following statement with reference to the accident:—"Had it not been for an overwhelming sense of duty, I never could have come here to-night. I am more fit to be in bed. I never passed through a more miserable and distressing day than this has been. With reference to the origin of the alarm last night, there is no doubt that it originated from wicked, designing men. If ever Satan was permitted to take human appearance and walk the earth, it was on last night. Oh, that dreadful scene! But you are anxious to hear about our poor pastor. He is very bad. Very bad I say, not from any injuries or bruises he has received, but from the extreme tension on his nerves, and his great anxiety. So bad is he that we were fearful for his mind this morning. Under these circumstances, only one thing could be done, that is, to send him into the country away from the scene. As we knew that a great number of persons would call at his house during the day, we sent him early this morning; so that none of his engagements can be entered into this week. From information I have just received, I am enabled to tell you that to-night he is a little better, but still very prostrate. Mr. Olney (another deacon) is ill in bed."

## OTHER ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

THE recovery of the bodies of the thirteen workmen has been delayed by another accident to the machinery employed in raising the water from the pit. One of the iron wire-ropes used in the process of lifting water by means of the cage gave way on Friday week, and not only did considerable damage to the engine-house, but also caused a second rope of the same description to fall to the bottom of the pit, together with the cage to which it was attached. This accident happily occasioned no loss of life; but since its occurrence the men have been unable to descend into the mine, and they have made much less progress than had been expected in the operation of extracting the water, the pump only having been available for that purpose during the last two days.

An inquest has been opened at Manchester, on the body of Thomas Hitchen, aged thirteen, the son of a mechanic at Pendleton, whose death resulted from a practical joke. He was employed at the mill of Sir Elkannah Armitage and Sons, Pendleton, and on Friday week was playing with three companions at a cloth-press, when one of them asked the boy to lay his head within the press. He did so, and one of the lads then turned the screw till arrested by a shriek from Hitchen. They released him in great alarm, and found blood flowing from his ears. The unfortunate boy only survived until the following evening.

A train from London, on Monday afternoon, ran into an engine and a coke waggon at Northam, near Southampton, on the South-Western line. The engine-driver of the passenger train had as usual just shut off the

steam, but could not prevent his engine from coming in violent contact with the waggon of coke, which it smashed literally to atoms, the concussion throwing the driver violently to the ground. The man, however, in charge of the engine of the coke train, immediately upon seeing his danger, jumped off without even shutting off the steam, and the locomotive, being entirely without control, proceeded at a rapid speed until it reached Southampton station, where its progress was stopped by being brought in contact with a line of empty carriages, five of which, consisting of two first-class and three second, were materially damaged. A newly-erected shed, at the end of the platform, and supported by stone pillars, was partially destroyed, the concussion causing one of the pillars to fall, which was immediately succeeded by the displacement of the roof. Although several men were engaged at their daily duties in various parts of the station, no bodily hurt was given to any of them. It is also fortunate that the passengers in the down train escaped with a few slight bruises only. The driver sustained a few severe bruises, and the engine was very much damaged.

An unusually large number of accidents occurred at Liverpool towards the end of last week. Margaret Priestley, a little girl, was burned to death on Thursday week, her clothes having caught fire during the temporary absence of her mother.—Mary Morrison, aged two years, the daughter of a watchmaker, died the same day from the effects of scalding, caused by a kettle of boiling water falling upon her.—Another little girl, named Catherine Dowling, was killed on Friday week by falling down stairs.—On the same day, James Stevens, aged three years, was killed at the workhouse by a gate falling upon him.—Joseph Duley, a sea captain, who fell into the hold of the ship *Sir Charles Napier*, and fractured both legs, died from the effects; and on the same day, a man named Thomas Hughes died from injuries done to the spine by falling against a table in a public-house.

The premises of Mr. Warren, toy-maker, 191, Bishopsgate-street, suddenly fell to the ground last Saturday morning. The house was undergoing repair in consequence of having been almost destroyed by fire about two months previously, and, in order to support the third floor, fresh girders were used for that story. Accordingly, one end of one of them was fixed in the side wall, the other end being shored up to support it until the wall on which it was to rest was secured by new work. While the workmen were engaged on the building on Saturday morning, the girder gave way, and completely crushed all the floors beneath, down to the cellar, burying twelve men, some of whom were in the cellar at the time mixing mortar. An alarm was raised, and several policemen were speedily on the spot, who, with other men, began clearing away the ruins. The workmen were all extricated, and, although five of them were taken to the hospital, none were seriously injured, owing to the walls of the house having given way on one side, and therefore fallen in a slanting direction.

A man named James Salls, of Hales, was assisting with a steam threshing-machine, at Earsham-park, and, in attempting to jump into the feeding-box, mistook his distance, and jumped into the engine. The works were stopped as soon as possible, but on the poor fellow being removed it was found that he was dreadfully lacerated. He lies in a hopeless state.

A train was being made ready on the main line for Hampton Court, yesterday (Friday) forenoon, and several passengers were seated, when another train was being taken upon the Windsor line. The last train was going at its usual speed, and the pointsmen, by some accident, turned the points so as to send the Windsor train upon the main line; the consequence was, that the Windsor train came into collision with the one for Hampton Court. Mr. Parker, one of the chief inspectors, seeing the great danger that existed, rushed off the platform, entered one of the break carriages, and, applying the break, was enabled to skid the wheels, and thereby stop to a great extent the momentum of the carriages, but not until the train had been forced almost to the extremity of the platform. By the sudden concussion several persons were hurt; one lady had an eye severely injured; another was seriously cut on both legs, and three or four more sustained bruises, &c.

While the flat *Patent*, of Chester, was going down the Mersey on Wednesday evening, she ran against a ship, the weather being foggy at the time, when the mast of the flat was struck, and fell upon the master, John Hughes, killing him on the spot. The flat was towed by the Queen, steam-tug, into George's Basin, and the body was brought ashore, and deposited in the dead-house.

By the fall of some scaffolding used in the erection of the Art-Treasures Palace, Manchester, five or six men were more or less injured on Thursday evening, but none of them fatally.

#### AMERICA.

THE approaching Presidential contest is causing great excitement in the various parts of the Union. It is anticipated that Mr. Buchanan will not be able to carry Pennsylvania; though a letter from Philadelphia charges his partisans with resorting to dishonourable means to secure the return of their candidate. It is asserted by the writer of this communication (which is

addressed to the *New York Times*) that more than 15,000 "wild men have been placed upon the assessors' list as voters." This statement, coming from a declared political enemy of Mr. Buchanan, must of course be received with caution; but it is also put forth by the *New York Tribune*, which adds:—"These facts, together with the significant circumstance that the commissioners have determined not to publish the names and residences as is usually done, assigning the preconcerted reason that no appropriation had been made for such publication by the Democratic Councils, have excited much feeling, showing as they do a manifest design to carry the election by fraud. The colonization process has been managed principally by recruits from New Jersey. We are informed that, if the attempt is made to carry it out on any such wholesale scale as is threatened, collisions at the polls cannot be prevented." The same paper states that Mr. Buchanan recently offered Mr. Fillmore the embassy to England as an inducement to withdraw from the Presidential contest; but this was declined. From Washington we learn that the Assistant-Secretary to the Treasury has levied a tax upon all the clerks in his department to meet the expenses of the Buchanan club of that city. Upwards of 3000 dollars were paid in.

Mr. John M. Botts, a slaveholder in Virginia, has made a sensible speech on the question of slavery extension. He said:—"Muzzles were made for dogs, and not for men, and no press and no party can put a muzzle on my mouth so long as I value my freedom. I make bold, then, to proclaim that I am no slavery propagandist. I will resort to all proper remedies to protect and defend slavery where it exists, but I will neither assist in nor encourage any attempt to force it upon a reluctant people anywhere, and still less will I justify the use of the military power of the country to establish it in any of the territories. If it finds its way there by legitimate means, it is all well; but never by force, through any instrumentality of mine. I am myself a slaveholder, and all the property my children have in the world is slave property, inherited from their mother; and he who undertakes to connect my name or my opinions with abolitionism is either a knave or a fool, and sometimes both. And this is the only answer I have to make to them. I have not connected myself with any sectional party or sectional question; and, so help me God, I never will. That is the only answer I have to make you upon the position I occupy on the slavery question." (*Cheers.*) He then taxed the slavery-extension men with desiring to acquire an undue influence in the Federation; and he said that the northern men oppose their southern brethren simply in order to prevent this extension of political power, and not with a view to abrogating slavery where it already exists. He doubted if Fremont would attempt to disturb the institution of slavery, and he thought he and his party would be more likely to behave well in power than out of it.—The son of the Mr. Botts who made this speech left Richmond, Virginia, to fight a duel with the son of the editor of the *Richmond Enquirer*, on account of a political quarrel between their fathers; but the police prevented the meeting by arresting all the parties.

Several election riots have taken place at Baltimore; and a fight occurred at Louisville, Kentucky, between some Fremontites and Fillmoreites, during a political meeting. Mr. Preston S. Brooks received a great ovation from his constituents on the 3rd inst. The people turned out in vast numbers, and strong dis-Union speeches were made by Brooks, Butler, and others. Two goblets, one gold and one silver, and two canes, were presented to Mr. Brooks, whose victim, Mr. Sumner, is still under medical treatment, and forbidden to take part in political discussions.

In some of the States, the municipal elections have taken place. In Connecticut, Fremont has gained twenty-three towns, and the Democrats 14. In the Southern State of Florida, the Buchanan party has been equally beaten. In Santa Rosa country, the American party has gained a majority, the extent of which is not yet known. At Baltimore, Maryland, during the election for Mayor, several riots have occurred, and the streets were covered with blood. The opposition parties came into collision, and made use of their fire-arms, by which four persons were killed, and upwards of fifty wounded. Several personal rencontres took place on the 10th inst., in one of which a man was shot dead.

Captain Onkes, with a detachment of the 2nd Cavalry and 1st Artillery, has succeeded in reaching the mouth of the Rio Pecos, and driving the hostile Indians across the river into Mexico. The Rio Pecos is a point never before reached by any troops or surveying parties, and has hitherto been considered inaccessible.

Kansas remains quiet. Warrants have been issued for the arrest of Stringfellow, Sheriff Jones, and other pro-slavery leaders.

Mr. Dowe, another member of the Executive body of the San Francisco Vigilance Committee, has been arrested in New York at the instance of Charles P. Duane, one of the expatriated. The drivers upon the New York and Erie Railroad struck in a body on the 4th in consequence of the refusal of the directors to modify the rule making them responsible for running off at a switch where their train was to stop. Their places were filled promptly, and the trains are running as usual.

Yellow fever, cholera, and small-pox, are very prevalent at Guayama and Bermuda. At the former place, a

drought has spoilt the canes.—The steam-chest of the passenger boat *Isaac P. Smith* (between New York and Albany) exploded on the 7th near Haverstraw, killing the engineer and two firemen. A portable steam-engine has exploded at an agricultural fair in Cincinnati, and killed fourteen persons, besides wounding several others.

The Tennessee left New York on the 6th for Nicaragua, carrying out one hundred and fifty new recruits to aid in the support of General Walker's Government. There was an unusually large crowd at the wharf, and great cheering at the departure of the steamer. The parties leaving were mainly of the better class of emigrants. Some took their families with them, besides a large supply of agricultural and other implements. The situation of General Walker is said to be greatly improved, and his government is now looked on as established, his enemies having received several discomfures. The Hon. Pierre Soulé has left Granada for New Orleans.

General Vidaurri in Mexico is preparing to resist the Government forces sent against him. He demands the dismissal of Comonfort from the position of President Substitute, and accuses him of a desire to subject all the states to central rule.

Some officers of the United States corvette *Cyane* have been grossly insulted while passing through the streets of Halifax, Canada, by a crowd of disorderly persons, who advised them to "go to Greytown," and who gave vent to various opprobrious epithets.

In reference to the treaty entered into between Paraguay and the Brazils, for opening the Upper Paraguay River to navigation and commerce, the *New York Herald* observes:—"By this treaty is opened an outlet for the gold, silver, precious stones, and valuable woods of a region hitherto almost unknown to commerce, but with which the reports of Lieutenants Herndon and Gibbon, of our navy, have made our readers somewhat familiar. When we state that the Brazilian province of Malto Grosso—a sparsely populated territory, where the inhabitants scarcely possess sufficient mechanical skill to enable them to construct a wheelbarrow—has exported upwards of 15,000,000 dollars' worth of diamonds, not to mention gold and other valuable products, some idea may be formed of the advantages gained for the commerce and manufactures of the world by the treaty alluded to."

"It is now ascertained beyond reasonable doubt," says the *New York Tribune*, "that the burning of the Niagara steamer on Lake Michigan, by which some seventy-five lives were lost, was the work of an incendiary."

The Panama 'difficulty' would seem not to be at an end, as we read in the *New York Herald* "that, if a second bloody riot has not already taken place there, it may be expected at any day. It seems that parties are divided on grounds of colour; that the whites outnumber and consequently outvote the blacks; and that the latter, like the border ruffians of Kansas, appeal from the ballot-box to the *machete* and the revolver. On the 15th instant, there would have been a riot and much bloodshed but for the United States Marines, who pulled to the water line and lay there in their boats, ready to interfere in case of disturbance. We have no positive account of any subsequent riot; but, at the time the steamer left Navy Bay, a rumour was current that blood had begun to flow at Panama. We have every reason to believe that a settled purpose exists among the half-breeds and negroes of Panama to inflict some severe injury on our people in revenge for supposed wrongs, and also to plunder the specie express on the first convenient opportunity. There is no ground for hoping that the deed will be attempted in an awkward, or foolish, or helpless manner. On the contrary, it is likely that it will be performed with cunning and executed with bloodthirsty daring. The train will not be attacked under the guns of the frigates; but a few rails will be torn up at some twenty miles from the sea, and in the confusion created by the sudden stoppage of the train the specie car may be robbed, and an indiscriminate massacre at least commenced."

#### THE CASE OF ARCHDEACON DENISON.

THE Court constituted to try the suit promoted by the Rev. J. Ditcher, vicar of South Brent, Somerset, against the Ven. G. A. Denison, Archdeacon of Taunton, for preaching and publishing doctrines relating to the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper alleged to be repugnant to the Thirty-nine Articles, sat on Tuesday in the Guildhall, Bath, by adjournment from the 12th of August last. At the last sitting, Dr. Lushington, on behalf of the Archbishop of Canterbury, read a declaration containing the conclusions of his Grace and his assessors on the questions at issue. His Grace therein pronounced the doctrines of the Archdeacon to be contrary to the 28th and 29th articles of the Church, and called upon him to revoke his errors before the 1st inst. on pain of deprivation. The Archdeacon having allowed the period of grace extended to him to expire without lodging the required retraction in the registry of Bath and Wells, the Court reassembled to deliver judgment. After much legal and ecclesiastical argument, the court adjourned till the following morning.

The arguments were resumed on Wednesday morning, when Dr. Phillimore, who appeared for the Archdeacon, said, with reference to the question of the sacrament, that his venerable client had never intended to say *sim-pliciter* that the wicked eat the body and blood of Christ;



what he had stated was, that they received the body and blood of Christ to their damnation. It was rather hard that he should be represented as stating *simpliciter* that the wicked received the body and blood of Christ. He had stated that he was quite ready to deny that the wicked received the body and blood of Christ *simpliciter*, but he was not prepared to deny that they received it to their damnation. The Court would perceive the difference.—Dr. Lushington said the question was not whether they received it to their damnation, but whether they received it at all. The other proposition was: "It is true that worship is due to the real, though invisible and supernatural, presence of the body and blood of Christ in the holy eucharist under the form of bread and wine."—Dr. Phillimore asked whether the words in the homily were objected to?—Dr. Lushington said the whole of what he had stated was objected to as not being consistent with the doctrine contained in the articles.—Dr. Phillimore then said he would confer with his client upon the subject.

On his return to the court, he read a declaration by the Archdeacon, in which he repeated the explanation given above of his interpretation of the sacrament, as received by the wicked, and, with respect to the question of worship, added:—"My proposition is,—It is true that worship is due to the real, though invisible and supernatural, presence of the body and blood of Christ in the holy eucharist under the form of bread and wine. I have in the only two places in which I have spoken of the worship due expressly denied that worship is due to the consecrated elements. I am unable to deny that Christ himself, the thing signified of the sacrament, is to be worshipped in and with the sacrament. I say that, apart from and without the sacrament, wheresoever he is he is to be worshipped. I disclaim any other worship."

Dr. Lushington considered this, not a retraction, but a reiteration, of what had been said before. He then proceeded to deliver judgment, which he did at great length, concluding by saying that it became the duty of the Court to pronounce the sentence of deprivation.

Mr. Bathurst, the proctor for Archdeacon Denison, having in the usual form prayed justice, Mr. F. H. Dyke, the Registrar, read the sentence, which, like every other part of the proceedings, was of a most wearisome length and full of technical diffuseness, but the upshot of which was, that the Archdeacon was deprived of his Archdeaconry, of the vicarage and parish church of East Brent, Somersetshire, and of all profits and benefits accruing therefrom.

Dr. Bayford said that he had been particularly instructed by his client, the Rev. Joseph Ditcher (the prosecutor), not to pray for costs; consequently no mention of them had been made in the sentence. Dr. Lushington: "Then you waive the costs?" Dr. Bayford assented. Mr. Bathurst said that it now became his duty to assert an appeal. Mr. G. Burchett, on behalf of Mr. Ditcher, prayed his Grace to assign Mr. Bathurst a time to prosecute the appeal. Dr. Lushington: "To the 5th of December. The Registrar then declared that the Court had adjourned *sine die*."

#### THE NEAPOLITAN QUESTION.

The following important note appears in the *Moniteur* of Monday:—

"Peace having been concluded, the first care of the Congress of Paris was to insure the duration of it.

"With this object, the Plenipotentiaries investigated the elements of disturbance that still existed in Europe; and they especially directed their attention to the condition of Italy, Greece, and Belgium.

"The court of Naples alone has haughtily rejected the advice of France and England, though offered in the most friendly manner. The measures of rigour and coercion adopted for a long time past, as the means of administration, by the Government of the Two Sicilies, agitate Italy and compromise the continuance of order in Europe. Under a conviction of the dangers of such a state of things, France and England had hoped to obviate them by prudent advice given at an opportune time. This advice was misunderstood; and the Government of the Two Sicilies, closing its eyes to all evidence, resolved to persist in its fatal course.

"The ill reception accorded to legitimate observations—an insulting doubt thrown over the purity of our intentions—offensive language opposed to salutary counsels, and finally an obstinate refusal—could not allow the longer continuance of amicable relations.

"This suspension of official intercourse in no sense constitutes any intervention in internal affairs, and still less any act of hostility. Nevertheless, the security of the subjects of the two Governments being possibly compromised, the latter, to provide against such a contingency, have combined their squadrons; but they forbear to send their ships into the Neapolitan waters, in order not to give room for erroneous interpretations. This simple measure of eventual protection, which has no character of menace, cannot, moreover, be considered as any support or encouragement offered to those who seek to shake the throne of the King of the Two Sicilies."

#### CONTINENTAL NOTES.

##### FRANCE.

THE Emperor and Empress have left Paris for Compiègne, where they will stay for three weeks, and after that, it is said, will proceed to Fontainebleau. Some grand fêtes and hunting parties are to be given at Compiègne.

It is rumoured that a good deal of agitation has recently occurred in the department of the Deux-Sèvres, of which Niort is the chief town. Indeed, it is said to have lasted the whole of September. The arrest of a *repris de justice* led to the discovery of the existence of a new society, the objects of which are said to be the burning of the crops and the extermination of the rich and of the priests. The society is connected with the "Marianne." Sixty persons have been arrested near the canton of Thouars. The gendarmes who captured them were so vigorously attacked by the peasantry that for a time they were forced to let them go. The prisoners have been tried and sentenced to various penalties by the tribunals. Fresh arrests have been made in the Faubourg St. Antoine within the last few days. They are said to have nothing to do with politics, but to be attributable to the strike which has taken place in an establishment of that quarter, and which threatens to extend to others.

The *Moniteur* of Wednesday publishes the text of an additional convention to that of November 22nd, 1834, concluded between France and Belgium for the extradition of criminals. It consists of the following single article:—"Shall not be considered as a political offence, nor act connected with such offence (*délit*), an attempt against the person of a foreign sovereign, or against the person of members of his family, when such attempt shall constitute the fact either of murder, assassination, or poisoning."

##### ITALY.

Central and Northern Italy is in a very disturbed state, owing to repeated acts of brigandage, robbery, and murder, which the various despotic Governments, active and vigorous as they are in suppressing free action and free thought on the part of honest men, are unable or unwilling to check. An incident has also occurred at Meldola, in the Papal States, which may perhaps lead to another occupation by Austrian troops. "On Sunday, the 5th inst.," says the *Times* Turin correspondent, "a disturbance took place in that town in consequence of the gendarmes stationed there having taken the law into their own hands and inflicted summary punishment on two young men who had smoked in front of the gendarme barracks contrary to the regulations, and contrary to the commands of the gendarmes, who saw them doing so; or, rather, they beat one for smoking and the other for remonstrating, and ended by imprisoning them both. The mayor of the town having been appealed to by the people, interceded with the police for the release of the young men, but without other effect than receiving an impertinent answer from the commander of the gendarmes. This irritated the people, who threw themselves upon the gendarmes and drove them into a tavern, together with some soldiers who had joined them, and in the struggle which ensued, in breaking open the door of the tavern, which they had barricaded, one of the gendarmes was killed and the soldiers were disarmed."

On the fête day of the Hereditary Prince of Naples, the English and French Embassies illuminated; not so the Sardinian.

"The Cabinet," says a letter from Vienna in a German paper, "has examined a petition from the provincial council of Brescia setting forth the exorbitant taxes with which that district was charged, and has decided that the complaint was not without foundation. The representations of the council will be laid before the Emperor, but measures will be taken to prevent similar petitions being addressed to the Government in future."

A case has been opened by the Neapolitan Procureur-General against the two individuals arrested for having expressed their approbation of the decision of the judges in the late political cause; but the judges, on retiring to consider whether there was sufficient ground for a prosecution, decided in the negative, and the accused were therefore liberated, after ten days' confinement. One of the political prisoners (Amodio) has been liberated, having gone mad from the effects of confinement and ill-usage.

##### SPAIN.

In connexion with the new Government, we read that General Pezuela is appointed Director of Cavalry; the Duke de Ahumada, Inspector-General of the Civil Guard; General Sanz, Captain-General of Madrid; the Brigadier Monsa de Zuniga, Under-Secretary-for-War; and M. Zaragoza, Civil Governor of Madrid. The Government also intends to make use of the services of the Vicalvarist Generals Ros de Olano and Messina. General Cordova is mentioned as likely to fill the post of Director of Infantry. General Dulce has been ordered to reside at Santander. General O'Donnell is to leave for France.

It has been reported that a serious misunderstanding which took place between General Narvaez and General Francisco Armero is the reason why the latter does not join the Cabinet. However, at the last ball given at the

Palace, it was remarked that the two Generals conversed together most amicably for some time.

On the 8th inst., the Duchess de Montpensier was safely delivered, at Seville, of an Infanta.

The creation of a department for commerce and the colonies appeared to be finally decided upon.

Marshal Serrano, the Spanish Ambassador at Paris, has transmitted his resignation to Madrid.

General Don Manuel Concha has resigned all the appointments he held in the Junta of the Colonies and Council of War. He has also asked for leave to go to Granada, which has been granted.

At a Council of Ministers on the evening of the 13th inst., it was decided that the additional act of the Constitution of 1845 should be annulled, that the old Royal Council should be re-established with all its former members, that the state of siege should be no longer maintained, and that all the former Senators should be reinstated. A royal decree also restores to the Bishops the power of conferring holy orders, conformably to the Concordat, and authorizes novices to profess in convents.

Senor Guell y Rente has been set at liberty.

With respect to the outrage committed by Narvaez on Señor Guell y Rente, of which we gave an account last week, a Madrid letter, emanating from a person who was, until lately, a warm admirer of Narvaez, contains the following:—"General Narvaez has now become an object of hatred with all, and of contempt with many, in consequence of the late extraordinary occurrence, of which no doubt you have long since heard, and which is unparalleled in our modern history. His most intimate friends condemn him, or the few who hesitate to censure him in public endeavour to explain his conduct by an attack of mental alienation, of which they say symptoms appear now and then. They declare that when General Narvaez sees not me, one of his political adversaries, but even any of the Moderado party who happen to dissent from his opinions, he says to those who are in his company, 'Hold me back! I am getting beside myself!' (*Detenedme! que me voi a perder!*); and in truth the change that takes place in his countenance, the swelling of his veins, and the wild expression of his eyes, which all at once become suffused with blood, show that at such a moment he is labouring under a terrible crisis." The writer then proceeds to give an account of the outrage at Madame Aleson's, which he says was accompanied with language, on the part of Narvaez, of the grossest and most indecent character, and with many oaths.

Various accounts are still received from Spain with reference to the affair of Guell y Rente, and to the change of ministry. The latter would seem to be owing to O'Donnell not falling in with the Queen's desire to annul the law of *desamortizacion*. At the ball given on the birthday of the Queen, her Majesty showed such favour to Narvaez and such coldness to O'Donnell, that the latter abruptly withdrew on the plea that his wife was unwell. On the 11th inst., the ex-Minister (according to a letter from Madrid) said he had heard some rumours about the formation of a new Ministry, and he wished to know whether the Queen had resolved anything new on that subject. The Queen answered, that she could not possibly separate from him—that she wanted him most particularly—and that he deserved all her confidence. A day or two afterwards, however, the Ministers resigned in a body. "While the Ministers were at the council of the 11th, held in the night, they observed that there were some persons behind the curtains listening to them; one of them was discovered by a violent fit of coughing which he was unable to restrain. On the Ministers presenting their resignations, tears rolled down the cheeks of the Queen; but, while she was putting her handkerchief to her eyes, they saw clearly she was laughing."

The accouchement of the Infanta Duchess of Montpensier is officially declared to have taken place sooner than was anticipated, and, in consequence, a host of grandees and representatives of foreign Courts who had been ordered, or invited, to be present, were unable to get to Seville in time. The Queen, in a decree published on the 18th, conferred on the young Infanta the Grand Cordon of the Noble Ladies of Maria Luisa.

##### PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Cabinet is stated by the *Daily News* Berlin correspondent to entertain the idea of trying to induce the Emperor of Morocco to cede to Prussia the territory occupied by the Riff pirates, for the establishment of a long contemplated penal colony, which would also have the beneficial effect of preventing for the future any further insults to foreign flags by these gentry on the coast of Africa. It is in contemplation to send a special ambassador to Morocco to negotiate the terms of a treaty with the Emperor.

##### RUSSIA.

By an Imperial ukase the Protestant and Roman Catholic chaplains attached to the Russian army are henceforth placed on an equal footing as regards state pay &c., with those of the Greek Church.

The Czar re-entered St. Petersburg on the 14th inst. The coronation fêtes, therefore, are now at an end.

##### TURKEY.

The *Prussian Correspondence* announces that the commission appointed to establish the new line of frontier

common to Russia and Moldavia has dissolved itself, without having accomplished that task.

Ismael Pacha, commander of the army of Anatolia, taken prisoner at Kars, has received (says a letter from St. Petersburg) as a special mark of the Emperor Alexander's good-will, the Order of the White Eagle. This is the first distinction which a Turk has received since the re-establishment of peace.

The *Journal de Constantinople* of the 9th inst. confirms the news of the victory gained by the Circassians near the Laba. The Russians advanced to enforce the execution of the treaty in virtue of which they were to take possession of the country, when Sefer Pasha opposed them with 35,000 men, and after three hours' fighting routed them, as already stated. Another affair has since taken place near the Kuban, where the Russians lost five pieces of artillery. The *Presse d'Orient* announces positively the speedy return to the Bosphorus of a French squadron. Contracts had been entered into for supplying them with provisions. The Sultan demands, as one of the conditions of the new bank, a loan of 25,000,000*fr.* The Porte intends to disarm the Albanians. The expedition against Montenegro is abandoned.

#### DENMARK.

The Ministerial crisis appears to be at an end. All the Ministers, with the exception of M. Bang, remain in office. M. Andrae is named President of the Council, and M. Unsgaard Minister of the Interior. M. Krieger is charged with the affairs of the Duchy of Schleswig.

During the late military manoeuvres held at Copenhagen in honour of the Crown Prince of Sweden, several severe accidents occurred, as the Danish and German soldiers fired at each other with their ramrods. It so happened that one of these cases was brought under the notice of the King, who commanded in person the Danish division, whilst the opposing party, consisting of Germans (Holsteiners and Lauenburgers), were under the order of Prince Christian. The King of Prussia has demanded explanations of the King of Denmark.

#### POLAND.

A sad accident, bearing a great resemblance to the catastrophe at the Surrey Gardens, lately happened at Lublin (Poland). It was the first day of the Jewish year, and a great crowd of persons had assembled in the synagogue, an old and dilapidated building, to celebrate the event. During the service, a waxlight fell on the ground, and one of the men charged with the lighting of the place gave an alarm of fire: but it was generally thought that the house was about to fall. The crowd, composed of several thousand persons, made a rush to the doors and windows to escape, and in the crush upwards of fifty were thrown down and trampled to death.

#### MONTENEGRO.

The new Russian consul at Ragusa has visited the Prince of Montenegro at Cetigne, taking with him the arrears of the prince's pension, which during the war have accumulated to a total of 40,000 florins.

#### STATE OF TRADE.

EVIDENCE continues to be received from the manufacturing towns that the trade of the country is upon a basis not to be disturbed by the perturbations of the money and stock markets. At Manchester, during the week ending last Saturday, although the transactions have been on a moderate scale, there has been an improved tone, and the home demand is said to be better than for many years past. The Birmingham advices describe no change in the iron-market. The general manufactures of the place are well sustained, and in some particular branches there is great activity. At Nottingham, the tendency has been towards a further advance in prices, consequent upon an increasing demand for the United States and also for home consumption. Both in the hosiery and lace trades there is a scarcity of hands. In the woollen districts there has been no variation, and business is carried on with caution, pending the approaching sales in London. The Irish linen-markets are slightly less firm.—*Times*.

The general business of the port of London during the same week has been active, although the arrivals have been less numerous. The number of vessels reported inward was 195; being 93 less than in the previous week. These included four cargoes of sugar, three of tea, seven of fruit, and a large number of grain and flour. The number of vessels cleared outward was 116, showing a decrease of 7; those clearing in ballast amounting to 17. The number of ships on the berth loading for the Australian colonies is 52, being 10 less than the last account. Of those now loading 4 are for Adelaide, 1 for Auckland, 4 for Geelong, 3 for Hobart Town, 5 for Launceston, 1 for Melbourne, 2 for Moreton Bay, 7 for New Zealand, 8 for Port Phillip, 1 for Portland Bay, 1 for Port Fairy, 12 for Sydney, 2 for Swan River; and 1 for Warrnambool.—*Idem*.

We read in the daily papers that "a considerable amount of discussion has arisen among the Shields ship-owners with regard to the method adopted by the Income-tax Commissioners, who have been sitting in the Town-hall of that town, to increase the assessable value of their ships' earnings. In all the north-east ports the shipping property is insured in mutual insurance-office or clubs,

the rate of insurance paid by the vessels so insured depending upon the amount of losses sustained by the offices in which they are insured. The calls made by the insurance-offices are known as 'averages,' and, of course, are paid out of the freight earned by the vessel, but in some years the losses are so severe, and the earnings of the vessels so small, that the balances of them have to be advanced out of capital, which, however, may be considered a very exceptional occurrence. Those 'averages' have always been considered by the shipowners as proper deductions to be made from the earnings of their vessels, and, as far as we can learn, have been allowed by the commissioners as such, but this year they have refused to do so, and have charged all the 'averages' to income to be taxed. As some owners of vessels in the Tyne have 60,000*l.* worth of property afloat, and pay during the course of the year in all probability five per cent. insurance upon them, this decision of the commissioners will cause a considerable loss to them, and, so far as it goes, is a discouragement to small owners in protecting themselves and creditors from the dangers of the ocean."

The petition, made by four of the Directors of the Royal British Bank, for annulling the adjudication of bankruptcy upon certain technical grounds, was on Wednesday dismissed by Mr. Commissioner Holroyd, the directors not having fulfilled those conditions for the entire satisfaction of the claims of the creditors, nor taken those other legal steps necessary to set aside the adjudication.

#### DISCHARGED PRISONERS.

A GREAT meeting was held at Birmingham on the evening of Friday week, in support of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society. The object of the institution is thus set forth in the report of the society:—"To aid prisoners on their discharge from gaol, by procuring lodgings for such of them as may be selected by the Committee of Recommendation, furnishing temporary maintenance, in case of need, to individuals seeking employment, assisting them in obtaining work or in returning to their homes, and subsequently exercising a friendly superintendence over them."

The Recorder of Birmingham (Mr. M. D. Hill) first addressed the meeting, and observed that a vast proportion of convicted criminals fall back into guilty courses almost directly after leaving prison. "How many thus fall back, I cannot tell you. It has been ascertained by careful observation that at least thirty-three per cent. of those who have been convicted come again to the criminal bar; but, although we know that thirty-three per cent. come again, yet when we recollect that there are many who conceal the fact of previous conviction, and who when they go to places where they are unknown are not discovered, we may well believe that probabilities point to a still more lamentable proportion. (*Hear, hear.*) Well, then, what is to be done? I do not wonder that the masters of the manufactories of this town express their astonishment that no such society as the one I now stand forth to advocate has been before founded in Birmingham, because we all know that the moment of departure from the gaol is the most dangerous crisis in the life of a criminal. (*Cheers.*) It is then, if ever, that the friendly hand should be stretched forth, for the criminal is then recommencing his career. If the only home which he had was that prison appointed for his punishment—if the only friends who were not dangerous to his future prospects were those prison officers who were appointed to correct him—if he recollected that when his character was unquestionable he could not keep his place in society, but had forfeited his honour—what despair must fall upon their poor wretched fellow-being when the door closed behind him of that miserable abode (to him his only refuge), and when he found himself shut from the only true friends he ever had in the world!" (*Cheers.*) The speaker then alluded to a noble characteristic in the Birmingham people—the frequency of prosecutors begging with tears in their eyes that convicted thieves should not be punished, and consenting to take them back into their service. In the course of his seventeen years' Recordership, Mr. Hill had acceded to this request in 483 cases; and, after a strict watch had been kept upon those criminals, it had been found that no more than 78 have again appeared at the bar of any court. "And to what classes of the community do we owe this good? Why, to the artisan, to the small employer, who has two or three in his service, and to the small shopkeeper. These are the classes, I should say, speaking from seventeen years' experience, to whom are mainly due those great services which have been rendered to criminals and to society. Let it not be supposed for one moment that I speak lightly of those who are higher in the social scale. It so happens that masters who have under their government a large number of workpeople have felt—probably rightly felt—that they were not in a position themselves to undertake the responsibility of that constant watchfulness which was necessary to preserve him that had once fallen from falling again. (*Hear, hear.*) I therefore am far from making any invidious comparisons; yet the fact still remains that it is to the least wealthy portion of the middle classes of this town that the reclamation of that large number of their fellow-creatures is due." Mr. Hill concluded by exhorting his auditors to do their best to

assist the convict on his release from prison, and more especially to meet him at the very gate of the gaol, and save him from the abandoned characters who notoriously lie in wait for him there with a view to seducing him once more into vice.

The Recorder of London followed in the same strain, observing:—"How many of these poor creatures have no homes, or, if they have any, have bad relations who corrupt them! At one of the largest establishments near London—I mean the Brixton House of Correction—the officers stated that they could manage well enough those who have no friends (by friends he meant relatives), but that those who had any, and were visited by them, were constantly corrupted."

After a speech from Sir John Pakington, in support of the same views, the proceedings of the evening were brought to a close.

The sore trials of ticket-of-leave men were illustrated on Tuesday before the Birmingham Recorder, by some remarks of Owen Owens, a man brought up for judgment on a charge of picking pockets. He said:—"I was sentenced in April, 1853, to seven years' transportation. I was first taken to the Borough Gaol at Leicester, where I was detained eleven months. I was then sent to the Defence hulk, Woolwich, where I was kept for two years and one month. Then I received a ticket of leave, and was sent back to Birmingham. I found my father a cripple, and unable to support me; but I felt determined and resolved to lead a new life and seek for employment. This I succeeded in doing, but I had only been at work a day when it became known that I was a ticket-of-leave man, and I was discharged immediately. Afterwards, I procured work in two other places, but directly it was discovered I was a ticket-of-leave man I was discharged from my employment. What could I do then? I could not starve, and so I was compelled to steal to get my living. I hope your Honour will take these circumstances into consideration, and have mercy upon me." The Recorder, in passing sentence, said:—"Owen Owens, you have committed manifold crimes; but, as you are what the law considers a great offender, you can be permitted to work yourself out of gaol by good conduct, a privilege the Legislature does not concede to the minor offender. If I were to sentence you to penal servitude, you would not be allowed this privilege; therefore in mercy I sentence you to be transported for fourteen years."

In connexion with the subject of tickets of leave, Mr. Hill on Monday made some observations to the grand jury assembled at the commencement of the Birmingham Quarter Sessions. He remarked:—"Gentlemen, it was to the confusion between convicts discharged on tickets of leave, the period of whose sentences had not terminated, and convicts who had been free absolutely, or, if liberated with tickets of leave, had been out of prison so long that their sentences had expired,—it was the confounding, I say, of these descriptions of convicts, and considering them as ticket-of-leave men, which produced what I may freely call the panic of the last winter, throwing the good people of this country into a state of mind which placed in extreme danger the permanence of a measure having most assuredly the soundest foundation, whatever defects might weaken its superstructure. Our advance towards the rational treatment of criminals, however, has happily been secured, and a peril has been averted, the magnitude of which we can scarcely over-estimate. Nevertheless, it cannot be denied that the public had very reasonable grounds for complaint and misgivings. The responsibility of the convict discharged on ticket of leave has been in practice little better than nominal. The rule was to send him to the town or district in which his offence had been committed, but no intimation of his return was conveyed to the police, and consequently they had no means of ascertaining whether he had come out of prison on a ticket of leave, or whether he had received an unconditional discharge. In the latter event, he was subject to no control until he committed a fresh offence. In the former, his ticket was liable to recall at the direction of the Secretary of State." He concluded by advocating reformatory movements, which he thought can only be wrought out by allowing to the prisoner a small amount of free action to test the sincerity of his amendment.

#### IRELAND.

THE TIPPERARY BANK APPEALS.—The several appeals to the Lord Chancellor from the decision of the Master of the Rolls, with respect to the Tipperary Joint-Stock Bank, which were specially fixed for hearing on Monday, were, by consent of all parties, postponed to the end of the ensuing Michaelmas term, or until after the 25th of November. The grounds of this postponement were, that the English shareholders had made an offer of compromise in reply to the circular of the official manager, and that there was a fair prospect of an amicable settlement being come to, which would prevent the assets of the bank being squandered in fruitless litigation. The appeals applied to the cases of the fifty-three English shareholders, Mr. Vincent Scully, M.P., Mr. Wilson Kennedy, Mr. J. B. Kennedy, and Mr. Starling. MANY A SLIP 'TWIXT THE CUP AND THE LIP.—A statement having gone abroad that the massive gold cup which was presented to Mr. Smith O'Brien by the Irish



and others in Australia, and which is now in Belgium, whither it was transmitted to him after his return to Europe, has been suffered to remain there because he declined to pay a duty chargeable upon it on its removal from the Belgian territory. Mr. O'Brien has written an explanation of the circumstance to the *Nation*. He says that, as nearly as he can compute, above 180*l.* was demanded from him in the shape of duty. The cup, therefore, now remains in Belgium, in the hands of Mr. Corr Vander Maeren; but the reshipping from the London Custom-house to Brussels cost Mr. O'Brien 8*z.*

**IRISH PROGRESS.**—The annual exhibition of the Mackrae (county of Sligo) Farming Society took place at the end of last week, and the proceedings closed with a substantial dinner. The president of the society is a gentleman not less known by his high social position as the leading Conservative and Protestant landlord of the district than he is by his scientific acquirements and his general reputation as a scholar. Some idea of Mr. E. J. Cooper's popularity in the capacity of landlord may be gathered from the fact that, at the dinner in question, the duty of proposing the chairman's health devolved upon the Roman Catholic parish priest, the Rev. Mr. O'Rorke. At the conclusion of his speech, the band in attendance struck up (hear it not, all bigots!) the air of "Protestant boys."—*Times*.

## OUR CIVILIZATION.

### ATTEMPTED MURDER AND ROBBERY.

An audacious and murderous attack, with a view to robbery, was made on Monday night on the assistant of Mr. Berry, a jeweller in Parliament-street. This person, whose name is Cope, conducts the business at that shop, where Mr. Berry himself rarely appears, as he has another shop in Pimlico, which he conducts personally. The house in Parliament-street is closed at half-past nine o'clock, after which it has been the practice of Cope to take away to Mr. Berry the more valuable contents of the place.

About a quarter of an hour before the time of closing on Monday night, a man entered the shop in Parliament-street; but what transpired between him and the assistant remains for the present unknown. Cope, however, was soon murderously assailed by the intruder, who used a heavy weapon. Two or three passers-by saw the assault, and one of them gave the alarm. This person states that the man was violently striking Cope on the head. The latter crouched down behind the counter, overcome by the repeated attacks of his assailant, who, on being interrupted, walked forth very coolly with a cigar in his mouth, pushed by the man who had come to the rescue, and, finding himself pursued, fled into Palace-yard, where he was seized by a man belonging to the cab-stand at that spot, after knocking down a boy who attempted to stay his progress. His right hand was then observed to be bloody.

In the meanwhile, Cope was attended to. He was found to be insensible, bleeding profusely from several injuries on the head; and the wall behind the counter was splashed with blood. On being conveyed to the Westminster Hospital, it was discovered that his skull was fractured; and he now lies in a very doubtful state, paralysis of one side having supervened. The prisoner, on being taken to the station-house, said his name was Joseph Jenkins. He was flashily dressed, seemed to be about thirty-four years of age, and from his accent appeared to be Irish. On first issuing from the shop, he had with him a parcel; but this had disappeared when he was captured. He had snatched it up in the shop, under the impression, probably, that it contained the jewels, &c., usually removed at night. However, it appears to have been a 'dummy' which Mr. Berry always has sent to his house at the close of the day, to divert suspicion, the real stock being taken elsewhere. When being examined before the magistrate on Tuesday, Mr. Berry declined to mention the place to which the property is removed, as the thing is done secretly.

Previously to giving the alarm, the milliner's porter who first of all pursued the ruffian had been attracted by hearing a moaning as he passed the shop, and by seeing some persons standing near the door. In answer to his inquiries, he was told that a man was quarrelling with his wife, and for a moment he passed on, but soon returned, and perceived the murderous nature of the assault. It is supposed by the police that the men who gave the false information as to the cause of the disturbance were in league with Jenkins. The weapon employed by the man has not been discovered.

Jenkins is now under remand at Bow-street, to await the result of Cope's injuries.

### FORGERIES BY A CORN-MERCHANT.

A young man of the name of Octavius King, carrying on business as a corn-factor, at Dullingham, near Newmarket, was charged at the Mansion House with forging three bills of exchange, amounting altogether to 4500*l.*, two on Messrs. Bovil and Co., and one on Messrs. Coventry Shoppard, and Co., corn-factors, in Mark-lane.

On the 16th of last August, the National Discount Company, a new society lately established in London,

received a letter from King at Newmarket, stating that, being largely engaged in mercantile transactions in Mark-lane, he had a great deal of discounting, and therefore wished the firm to transact business with him in that line, adding that he could give first-rate references in town, and, if necessary, furnish title-deeds as a proof of his respectability. The manager of the firm wrote an answer to this letter, saying that, if King would favour them with a letter of introduction or a reference to some firm in London with whom they were acquainted, they should be happy to see whatever bills he wished them to discount. After this, the National Discount Company heard nothing more of King until the 20th September, when he again wrote to them from Newmarket, enclosing a bill for discount, and a letter from his bankers, the latter being a testimonial as to his respectability. Reference was made by the acceptor of the bill to Messrs. Mason and Sons, King William-street, City; but, as the company did not consider the bill perfectly satisfactory, they declined to discount it, and sent it back to Newmarket by post. Shortly afterwards, they received another letter from King, enclosing for discount a bill of 1450*l.*, drawn and endorsed by O. and A. King, purporting to be accepted by Messrs. Bovil and Co., and made payable at their bankers, Messrs. Twinings, in the Strand. This was immediately followed by another letter from the same source, which enclosed two bills of exchange of 1500*l.* each, and was directed to the manager of the London Discount Company—a new metropolitan society now in course of formation, but not yet opened. Although the suspicions of the manager of the National Discount Company were aroused by this last communication, he discounted the bill for 1450*l.*, requesting Messrs. Eaton, Hammond, and Co., King's bankers, to hand over the proceeds to Messrs. O. and A. King, upon application, while, at the same time, he gave information of the circumstance to Daniel Forrester. That officer went to Newmarket, saw King at his bankers, and, obtaining a private interview with him, showed him the letter which he had sent to the National Discount Company with the bill for 1450*l.* After a little while, he made a full confession to the officer, adding, that he had not acted with any intention to defraud. Forrester then took him into custody.

These facts having been proved in evidence at the Mansion House, a gentleman in court, who was weeping throughout the whole proceedings, and who said that he was the prisoner's brother (probably his partner in business), prayed that he might be mercifully dealt with for the sake of his family. King, who appeared to be ill and very much affected, and who was seated during the examination, was remanded, and bail was refused. He is not above twenty-one years of age, and is said to have married a young lady of fortune only a few weeks ago.

An adjudication of bankruptcy was on Thursday made in the Bankruptcy Court in connexion with this case, when Octavius King was brought up in a very depressed state of mind. The debts are supposed to be not less than 30,000*l.*; but the exact amount cannot as yet be ascertained.

**BEWARE OF SAUSAGES!**—A butcher, living in Grange-road, Bermondsey, was charged before Mr. Burcham, at the Southwark police-court, with having exposed for sale in his shop a quantity of diseased sausages and other putrid meat. Dr. Challice, medical officer to the Board of Works for the Bermondsey district, stated that he saw hanging in the shop a leg of pork which appeared to him to be bad. He afterwards found it to be quite fetid on one side. He then inspected the premises at the back of the shop, where he saw, in a sort of pigsty, about a hundredweight of sausages and some pieces of beef, all of which were in a most filthy and corrupt state, and altogether unfit for human food. For the defence, it was alleged that the accused did not know that the leg of pork was bad; and, as for the beef and sausages, they were not exposed for sale, and therefore could not come within the meaning of the Act of Parliament. Mr. Burcham considered that the charge against the butcher was fully proved, and he therefore fined him 2*l.*, and ordered that the bad meat should be destroyed.

**MURDER IN JERSEY.**—An inhabitant of the village of St. Owen, Jersey, named Josué Le Gresley, has been apprehended on a charge of having murdered his wife, Henriette Le Feuvre, dite Fiellastre. The man was one day engaged digging potatoes, and, a few minutes after ten in the forenoon, his wife took a digging-fork and proceeded to where her husband was at work, probably with the intention of assisting him. Madame Le Feuvre was not seen alive after this. Her children returned from school at twelve o'clock, and, finding their mother absent from home, they went in search of her, and found her lying dead in a field. It was afterwards discovered that she had been killed by one of the prongs of the fork being thrust through the back part of her skull, whence it had subsequently pierced her brain, and thus caused instant death. Suspicion having fallen on her husband he was taken into custody, but, during the whole of the remainder of the day he maintained a sullen silence. It appears that the supposed murderer has been greatly addicted to drinking, in consequence of which he was confined in his kitchen for eighteen months; and it is conjectured that he must have com-

mitted the crime with which he is charged under the influence of some sudden gust of passionate madness.

**BOY IMPOSTORS.**—With reference to the case of the two Irish boys, who complained last week before the Thames magistrate of having been refused relief by the parish authorities of St. George's-in-the-East, some statements exculpatory of those authorities have been made at the police-office by the overseer and guardians, who said that they had examined the boys, and discovered that they were impostors, and that they had told a great many falsehoods. When first they applied at the work-house, they stated that they had last slept in Limehouse parish, and they were therefore referred to that parish, with directions when and where to apply. As regards the old man, who was also alleged to have been neglected, he had since admitted that he had been treated by the porter with perfect civility. He is now being taken care of by the parish. Mr. Selfe, on hearing these facts, expressed his regret at having censured the parish officers, and at not being able to punish the Irish boys.

**A PROFLIGATE MOTHER.**—A shocking case of female profligacy has been brought under the notice of Mr. Norton, the Lambeth magistrate, before whom Mrs. Fanny Mary Russell, a fashionably dressed, middle-aged woman, was charged with creating a disturbance at the house of her brother, who is a very respectable man. She had been enraged by this brother refusing to represent her as a respectable person to a tradesman from whom she was about to rent a house. The brother being too ill to appear in court, a gentleman attended for him, and related the history of Mrs. Russell. Her husband (now dead) was Dr. Russell, a medical gentleman in excellent practice in Bermondsey; but the woman's dissipation was so great that her husband was obliged to leave her and to emigrate to Australia, where he died. Mrs. Russell's brother and his family behaved with great kindness to her, notwithstanding her irregularities, and a sum of 200*l.*, for which Dr. Russell had insured his life, was obtained for her. This sum she is now spending in profligacy; and she is also bringing up her daughter, a girl of sixteen, in the same vicious habits. On hearing the latter statement, Mrs. Russell denied its truth; but the gentleman confidently asserted its accuracy, adding that the daughter was to be seen walking about the streets with her mother, or drinking at public-houses, at all hours of the night. Mr. Norton, who recollected Mrs. Russell having been brought before him some five years previously, in connexion with her differences with her husband, ordered her to find bail for keeping the peace towards her brother for three months.

**BURGLARIES IN STAFFORDSHIRE.**—Several burglaries have recently taken place in Staffordshire, and a few days ago two of the offenders were taken into custody at a public-house in the village of Ellastone, having been traced by means of an accordion taken from one of the plundered houses, and sold to a young man for 2*s.* 6*d.* The burglars have been committed for trial. One of them is a ticket-of-leave man.—A great many burglaries have also been committed lately at Bristol.

**HIGHWAY ROBBERY.**—A farmer and cattle-dealer, named Whitaker, while returning from York fair to his residence at Thryberg, near Rotherham, was attacked by four men in a lonely part of the road near Masborough, where he had in vain endeavoured to get a bed at an inn. He had 180*l.* in his pocket; and it was with a view to obtain this booty that the murderous assault was committed. Whitaker resisted with great gallantry, but he was overpowered, and cruelly beaten. He said to the men, "If you murder me you will have to account for it another time." He caught fast hold of the leg of one man, and found it trembled very much; but the villain struck him savagely on the head several times until he became nearly senseless. The fellows then rifled his pockets, and left him. Having crawled to a neighbouring house, he roused the inmates, and was taken in; and he has since died. The weapons used were two bludgeons, one loaded with lead, the other pointed with a square piece of iron with sharp edges. Mr. Whitaker, in a statement written a little before his death, says that one of the ruffians hacked him "in the same way as a butcher would an ox. A cowardly fellow! he did not appear to like the moon." The men issued out of the back of a blacksmith's shop; and Mr. Whitaker, hearing them behind him, and suspecting mischief, turned round and confronted them, with the intention of going back to the inn, when he was set upon. The murderers are not yet in custody.

**INCENDIARISM NEAR NOTTINGHAM.**—Mr. John Morton, a person possessed of considerable household property, has been brought before the county magistrates at the Shire-hall, Nottingham, to answer a charge of incendiarism. He was seen by several witnesses to set fire to a stack belonging to a Mr. Davison, with whom he had had a quarrel. The facts having been fully proved, Morton was committed for trial.

**CRUELTY TO A CAT.**—James Marrin, a costermonger, was charged at Bow-street with ill-treating a cat. He was in a coffee-shop, very drunk, and was drinking some coffee by the fire, when, the landlady having said something to offend him, he stamped several times with great violence on a cat which was lying asleep on the rug. The animal was so stunned that it lay apparently dead.

till night, when it partially recovered, but still remained in a very wretched state. The man made the ordinary excuse of drunkenness; but Mr. Jardine very properly said that a person who would do such a thing when drunk would be very likely to do so when sober likewise. He was committed for a month.

**BURGLARY.**—Philibert Fish, a young man well known to the police, has been apprehended under suspicion of being concerned in a burglary committed on the night of the 17th inst. on the premises of Mr. Edminston, a waterproof manufacturer in the Strand. Inspector Checkley went on Sunday night in private clothes to Fox-court, Gray's-inn-lane, which is near Fish's lodgings in Holborn-court, and waited till he came that way. The officer then stopped him, and said, "Phil, I want you for the robbery in the Strand." Fish protested with a fearful oath that he knew nothing about it. The inspector replied, "That won't do for me, Phil; I must search your lodgings." Fish then led the way to his lodgings, which they entered, accompanied by Sergeant Chown, who had been posted there to watch the house. The room door was locked, and there was no key; but Chown forced the door and searched the room, where he found two railway rugs and a strap, identified by Mr. Edminston. On reaching the street again, Fish made a desperate attempt to escape, in which he was aided by a crowd of his companions assembled from the neighbouring alleys. Chown, however, mastered him, and Inspector Checkley overawed the mob by producing a pistol from his pocket. They ultimately got him into a cab and drove to the station. On being brought before the Bow-street magistrate, the accused was remanded.

**ASSAULTS ON WOMEN.**—A savage attack was made last Saturday evening, and again the following morning, on Eliza Lloyd, by a shoemaker named Samuel Lane, with whom she had lived for six years. This woman had discovered that Lane was a married man, and that his family were in the workhouse. Having taxed him with the fact, and told him that under the circumstances she could not think of remaining with him, he struck her two violent blows on the eyes, and on the morning of the next day renewed the attack, kicked her till she was insensible, and cut her severely about the hands and arms with some sharp instrument. He was charged with these offences at Worship-street, and was remanded.—Thomas Neale was sentenced by the Lambeth magistrate to six weeks' hard labour for a murderous attack on his wife, followed by an attempt to cut his own throat. The outrages were committed on the very day on which a term of five months, during which he was bound over to keep the peace towards his wife, expired. At the police court, the husband said he was perfectly heartbroken, as his wife had left him to live with another man.—Charles Paillack, a costermonger, has been sentenced to six months' hard labour for beating his wife about the head with one of his heavy nailed shoes, having previously outraged her by bringing a loose woman home with him, and misconducting himself in her very presence.

**A REVELATION OF WHITECROSS-STREET PRISON.**—A Mr. Sutherland, who had been shut up for about a month for debt in Whitecross-street prison, has applied at Guildhall for a warrant against two of the prisoners, who had violently assaulted him as he was leaving the gaol, because he refused to submit to an exorbitant charge for the use of some sheets. It seems it is the custom among certain disreputable inmates of the prison to levy various taxes upon new comers, and to annoy them very seriously if they do not acquiesce. Aldermen Laurie and Copeland said they had understood that the Whitecross-street prison is one of the worst of debtors' prisons. The latter Alderman observed:—"It is a notorious fact that there are fellows in the prison who neglect to file their schedule, though having ample means to obtain their discharge, and that they live upon the money extorted from the other prisoners, in defiance of Mr. Burdon, the Governor." The Aldermen were of opinion that it would be useless to grant a warrant against the offenders; and Mr. Burdon said that, in the case of any complaint being made to him, he had power to punish the evil-doers by confining them in the strong-room upon the prison diet, bread and water. The warrant was therefore refused.

**DEATH FROM DESTITUTION.**—Mr. Wakley has held an investigation, at the board-room of the Strand Union Workhouse, respecting the death of Louisa Regan, aged twenty-five. She was found in the streets at nine o'clock in the morning, in a very feeble state. It was raining hard, and a policeman, seeing that she was very ill, took her to King's College Hospital. She was carried into the surgery, and placed upon a table, and about ten o'clock was seen by Mr. Way, the house physician, and another medical gentleman, who decided that she was suffering under consumption, and could not be admitted into the hospital, as there was no accommodation for consumptive patients. Accordingly, she was removed from the hospital in a cab to the Strand Union Workhouse, where she received very little attention, and died the same afternoon. The *post mortem* examination showed that the lungs were much diseased, but there was no appearance sufficient to account for death. The verdict of the jury was that the woman died from disease and destitution, and that they were unanimously of opinion that a great deal of blame attached to the au-

thorities of the Strand Union Workhouse and King's College Hospital for not showing that attention to the deceased of which she stood in need.

**A FIGHT WITH A BURGLAR.**—Robert Bertram, a returned convict, with a ticket of leave, was charged on Tuesday, at Bradford Court-house, with having committed a burglary at an early hour that morning. Mr. William Ingham, a shopkeeper in Caledonia-street, Bowling, Bradford, locked up his premises, and retired to rest at eleven o'clock on Monday night. At a quarter past two on Tuesday morning, a policeman named Holmes was on duty in the vicinity, and heard the tinkling of the shop bell. Bertram then came out of the shop, and was followed by Holmes and another officer (Riley) to his brother's house in Bloomfields. The police demanded admittance, and after some delay the door was opened. They charged Bertram with the robbery, and attempted to effect his apprehension. Bertram seized Holmes by the throat with his left hand, took up a butcher's knife in the other, and was in the act of making a murderous onslaught, when Riley, by a well-directed blow with his stick (for the Bradford police are allowed to carry a weapon of this kind) knocked the knife from his hand. Bertram caught up a second knife, but it was wrested from his grasp by Riley. A desperate struggle for the mastery then ensued, and, with great difficulty the burglar was conveyed to the police-office. He has been committed for trial.

**EMBEZZLEMENT.**—Charles Ashton, ex-clerk to a Copper Miners' Company, was charged at the Mansion House with having defrauded his late employers of the sum of 95*l*. Mr. Frewen, secretary to the company, stated that the accused was book-keeper to their firm in January last, and was in the habit of receiving money daily, for which it was his duty to account to his principals. In April, he left his situation, at which time he was deficient in his accounts to some extent. Nevertheless, he paid 20*l*. to the company; but they did not then know that he had received 95*l*. from Messrs. Thomasset and Co., merchants in Great St. Helen's—a sum which was due from that house to the Copper Miners' Company. This last fraud was not discovered until several months afterwards. One of the partners in the firm of Thomasset and Co. said that last January he paid the sum of 95*l*. by a draft upon the Bank of England, in exchange for a receipt which was given him for the money. He believed Ashton to have been the person who presented the receipt, but he could not say positively. One of his clerks, however, swore that Ashton was the man to whom the cheque was paid. The draft was in course of time returned to Messrs. Thomasset through the Bank, as having been duly paid. After hearing some further evidence in support of the charge, the Lord Mayor committed the accused for trial.—William Rose, who had been remanded but admitted to bail, appeared again on Tuesday before Mr. Alderman Wire, upon a charge of embezzling several hundred pounds belonging to Mr. Hunt, a miller residing at Stanstead, in Hertfordshire, to whom he had for the last eight years acted in the capacity of traveller and collecting clerk. He was committed for trial; but bail was again accepted.—Edward Williams, a commission agent, and member of the Society of Friends, who for years has resided in the Bristol-road, Birmingham, has been charged before the Mayor and the stipendiary magistrate of that borough with embezzling 438*l*. the moneys of Messrs. Johnson, soap-boilers, of Runcorn, Cheshire. He was engaged between eight and nine months ago as a commission agent for the Runcorn house, in Birmingham and the district, and during that period had embezzled various sums of money. The investigation terminated in the committal of Williams for trial.

**A CANDID THIEF.**—John Freeman, late a private in the Tower Hamlets Militia, was charged at Worship-street with robbery. At two o'clock in the morning, a tradesman named Simmons was on his way home through the Whitechapel-road, when he saw Freeman advancing towards him with a very large bundle. He thought it suspicious, and was looking at the bundle, when the man walked boldly up to him and offered to sell him the contents. These turned out to be a bolster, pillow, and bedstead furniture; and, feeling now convinced they formed the produce of some robbery, he immediately seized the stranger, and, in spite of a stout resistance, firmly held him till a constable came up, who took him into custody, and was conveying him to the station, when, while passing the shop of Mr. Harris, a furniture broker in Goulston-street, he saw a large piece cut out of the corner shutter, so as to admit of the introduction of an arm to draw back the bolts. He therefore handed the prisoner over again to Mr. Simmons while he knocked at the door and alarmed the inmates, at the same time observing to Mr. Simmons that a burglary had been committed there apparently, to which Freeman, who had given no account of himself before, said, "Why, yes, of course there has; that's where I got in." On the appearance of Mr. Harris, the thief again acknowledged his guilt, and said he had taken the things because he was sorely in want of clothes. He was committed for trial.

**THE CASE OF DEATH FROM PROCURING ABORTION.**—The adjourned inquest on the body of Elizabeth Gaylor, who died from taking a large quantity of sulphate of potass, administered by her husband with a view to procuring abortion, terminated on Tuesday,

when the foreman said that the jury had unanimously agreed to a verdict of Wilful Murder against William Gaylor, and also a verdict of *Felo-de-se* against Elizabeth Gaylor. The Coroner then issued a warrant for the committal of the accused to Newgate, to take his trial at the ensuing sessions of the Central Criminal Court; and a similar document was placed in the hands of the summoning officer of Hackney for the midnight burial of the body of the wife, which was performed without the funeral service. Dr. Letheby, in the course of his evidence with respect to the *post mortem* examination, said:—"Sulphate of potass is not much used as medicine in this country, except for the preparation of a composition called Dover's powders; but on the Continent it is a very popular medicine for producing abortion, and has often been the subject of legal investigation."

**A FALSE CHARACTER.**—A young man, named William Wheeler, has undergone examination at the Westminster police-office on a charge of obtaining a situation by means of a false recommendation. Mr. Johnson, the prosecutor, a gentleman living in Wilton-place, admitted that he had no fault to find with the man during the time he retained him in his service. Wheeler now appeared on remand. On the previous examination, it was shown that the letter of recommendation, purporting to be written by a Mr. Austwich, bore the Croydon post-mark, and Mr. Arnold, the magistrate, ordered that inquiries should be made into the matter; but it now appeared that two letters directed to Mr. Austwich had been intercepted at the Croydon post-office, and taken away by a young man to whom the postmaster delivered them up. Mr. Arnold said this was highly reprehensible. Wheeler was convicted in the penalty of 20*l*.; but, being of course unable to pay this, he was committed for three months with hard labour. He then asked what was to be done about his wages for the time he was with Mr. Johnson. The magistrate said he must refer him to the County Court, where he had no doubt the Judge would hold that, as he entered the service by fraud, he was not entitled to anything. Wheeler then turned to Mr. Johnson and said, "You'll find I shall trouble you as you have troubled me. I am much obliged to you."

**THEFT UPON THEFT.**—Eliza Taylor, a woman well known to the police as a notorious thief, has been tried at the Middlesex Sessions for stealing a purse from the pocket of a Mrs. Wilson, as that lady was coming out of the Adelphi Theatre at the close of the performances. A policeman observed Taylor moving about among the crowd, and, suspecting she had robbed the lady, he followed her as she was walking off. Perceiving that the officer was on her track, she threw the purse into the gutter; but it was picked up by the constable, who took the woman to the station-house. Mr. Gent, who appeared for the prosecution, said, in opening the case, that it was rather an extraordinary one, inasmuch as he should be unable to produce the purse, which had been stolen from the policeman who had charge of it after it had been produced and identified by Mrs. Wilson. The prisoner had been defended by a person, known in that court and also at the Old Bailey, who acted as an attorney, although he was not one; and he obtained an order on the police, who had charge of some money belonging to the prisoner, directing that it should be given up for the purpose of her defence; and this was done. In a few minutes afterwards, the police sergeant who had charge of the purse missed it from a desk at the station-house where it had been placed, and, as he would swear that it was safe a few minutes before he was waited upon by the prisoner's friends, there could be no doubt that it had been stolen from him, so that it should not be produced in court. Evidence having been adduced in support of the facts, the woman was found guilty, and sentenced to penal servitude for four years; and the Judge directed that inquiries should be made with respect to the persons who are supposed to have abstracted the purse.

**FLOGGING YOUNG MEN AT ETON.**—In the *Coventry Herald* of the 17th October (says a correspondent of the *Daily News*), is a letter from Mr. Morgan Thomas, describing the dismissal of his son, a young man of eighteen, from Eton, because he refused to be flogged for the offence of smoking, alleging at the time that his father had forbidden him to submit. It appears, too, that there was no proof of the fact but his own confession, forced from him by his tutor, Mr. Day; and that the tutor, perceiving a scent of smoke about the young man, deemed it necessary first to extort the confession by questions, and then to reveal the fact to the judicial executive authority, Dr. Goodford. The Provost has since written to the father of the young man, stating that the flogging is a part of the 'system' at the school, and cannot be abandoned, and that his second son (aged fourteen) can only be retained on that condition. The writer in the *Daily News* is justly indignant at this wretched and degrading tyranny.

**STATE OF CRIME IN NORFOLK.**—The Rev. J. L. Brown, Chaplain of Norwich Castle, the county gaol for Norfolk, has just presented his annual report to the magistrates. He observes:—"I have again much pleasure in being able to notice a decrease in the number of prisoners committed, the numbers for the years 1855 and 1856 being respectively 519 and 477. I doubt not but that the discipline of your gaol, very distasteful to those subjected to it, is one cause of this decrease, as the



number of recommitments shows. Last year these were not quite one in five, and this year not quite one in six. Another cause of the decrease also is a large amount of work in many places, owing to high prices and the drawing off of many hands for purposes connected with the late war. . . . I had an opportunity lately of visiting the Buxton Reformatory for juvenile offenders, under the able superintendence of Mr. John Wright, and was much pleased with the appearance of the boys and the general arrangements of the institution. The following fact with which I have lately become acquainted shows that a change also has taken place in their dispositions and habits. A labourer on the farm lost a tobacco-box; the boys were determined to discover where it was, and, having found it upon a boy lately received into the institution, were proceeding to inflict severe punishment on the offender when he was rescued by the master. No one would speak to him, and so uncomfortable was his position that he ran away. The boys said that, whatever they had been, they were not thieves now, nor would they have a thief among them."

**HIGHWAY OUTRAGE.**—A labouring man, named Jonathan Ellis, was returning home from York to Heslington last Saturday night, when he met three men going towards the city, and wished them "Good night," but they made no reply. Soon afterwards, two of them turned back and commenced a violent attack upon him, one of them striking him on the head with a 'life-preserver.' He fell to the ground, and they then beat him unmercifully. Ellis cried out, "Take all I have, but spare my life—oh, do spare my life!" They continued, however, to strike the poor fellow on the head and face, and he then shouted "Murder!" Fortunately, his cries were heard by three men, who hastened to his assistance, and on their approach the ruffians made off. Chase, however, was given, and, after a long run and a desperate struggle, both the miscreants were captured and eventually lodged in Heslington lock-up, whence they were conveyed to York Castle on Sunday. Ellis remains in a very precarious state.

**AFFRAY WITH POACHERS.**—A violent struggle has taken place between some poachers and two of the gamekeepers on Lord Londesborough's Seamer Estate, near Scarborough. One of the latter has been so severely injured that it is doubtful whether he will survive.

**A HORRIBLE CASE.**—William Morris, aged forty, who was described on the charge sheet as a jeweller, residing at 94, Snowfields, Bermondsey, was charged with a criminal assault on Mary Ann Morris, his own daughter, under fourteen years of age, also with violently assaulting Caroline Morris, his wife. The first offence comes under the jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Courts, and the magistrate had no power to deal with it. On the second charge, Morris was convicted and sentenced to six months' hard labour.

**THE ATTEMPTED WITNESS POISONING.**—We mentioned last week that an attempt had been made to poison some witnesses, subpoenaed on a trial at the Worcestershire quarter sessions, the parties to be tried being a private and sergeant in the 23rd Regiment, and a cabman, named Tipper. The witnesses having sufficiently recovered to give their evidence, the trial of the soldiers and cabman took place, and ended in a verdict of Not Guilty. Tipper and the other man (Bury) were then taken into custody on the charge of being concerned in the attempt to poison the witnesses. The inquiry before the magistrates at Worcester has occupied two days. Bury was committed for trial, and Tipper was discharged.

### VANE TEMPEST DRAWS AND DEFENDS HIMSELF.

THE following letter has been addressed to the Editor of the Times:—

"Sir,—My name having appeared in your paper in connexion with a 'practical joke' at Brighton, I must request you to be impartial enough to allow my version of the circumstances of the case to come before the public in your columns.

"Cornet Ames dined on the night in question a mess, when nothing that could be construed into an insult was addressed by me to him, although his peculiar English and his reckless misplacement of the letter 'H' produced some remarks in joke, and caused a good deal of laughter. A civilian who sat on his right hand, and with whom I was very slightly acquainted, will corroborate this; while Mr. Ames is unable to produce any one who can confirm his story of having been insulted out of a party of 15, among whom were the major of the regiment, the senior officer of the Preston Barracks, and two or three civilians. After dinner I asked him to come to my room to smoke, to which he consented; when there, he sat down on a sofa smoking. I remarked that 'his whisker wanted trimming,' and, a pair of scissors being brought, I cut off a part of one whisker. Far from showing the resistance that a man of his height (six feet) might have done, or even protesting energetically, he laughed, and actually cut off a little of the other side, 'to make them alike,' to use his own words. I may here mention that when General Lawrenson arrived, two or three days after, he requested to know whether any had been taken off, as he still possessed a large pair.

"Cornet Ames has brought three separate charges against me, none of which he owns to being able to

prove, except by his own evidence, while I can bring evidence to refute each. All the stories of feeding him with pap, hanging him in effigy in the barracks, and pumping upon him, have no foundation; and, so far from being the butt of the regiment, he was treated with great kindness by every one in it.

"My reason for not having stated these circumstances before was, that I thought it probable they might be matters for a court-martial; but, after being placed under arrest for more than a fortnight, the colonel of my regiment read me a letter from the Horse Guards, requesting me to send in my papers. This I did, but heard nothing more till to-day, when I am informed that they will take time to consider.

"Three weeks have nearly elapsed, and the Horse Guards have had plenty of time to do anything they wanted; but I do protest at keeping a man under close arrest, after he has acted up to their own wishes, for such a length of time, without any exercise, and I cannot but feel that liberty is worth having at any risk.

"Apologizing, sir, for taking so much space in your columns, I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"ERNEST VANE TEMPEST.

"Brighton Barracks, Oct. 17.

"P.S.—A paragraph in one of the morning papers states that the officers under arrest are allowed to receive professional advice. So far from this, a case which has just occurred will give the public an idea that this is not so. The father of one of the officers under arrest being very ill, sent his own confidential friend and legal adviser to see his son. This gentleman was refused admittance. Is this fair or right?"

### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

**THE DEPARTURE OF THE ONEIDA.**—The screw steamship Oneida, Captain Hyde, the pioneer of the new line of steamers belonging to the European and Australian Company, for the conveyance of the mails between England and the Australian colonies, sailed at noon on Sunday from Southampton for Melbourne and Sydney. The Oneida has about sixty passengers, among whom are Sir Henry Barkly (the newly-appointed Governor of Victoria), Lady, and suite.

**THE OFFICER PRIVATE.**—The case of Ensign George P. Cobbe, of the 46th Regiment, which has attracted much attention from the military authorities, in consequence of his having absented himself without leave from his regiment while stationed in the Crimea, and afterwards enlisted into the depot of the 8th Regiment at Chatham, has been finally disposed of by the Duke of Cambridge, the result being that he is dismissed from his regiment. Great efforts were made by the friends of that young officer, whose father is a major-general in the Royal Artillery, to obtain a favourable view of his conduct. Mr. Cobbe still does duty with his regiment at Chatham, but it is expected that his friends will purchase his discharge from the service.

**ARMY ARRANGEMENTS.**—A circular memorandum, dated October 13th, has been issued from the Horse Guards to the whole of the infantry regiments and their respective depôts at home and abroad. The first five articles are as follow; the rest have reference to matters of technical arrangement:—"1. The system which has hitherto prevailed for the formation of regiments of infantry into service and depot companies will cease, and the following be substituted, regiments at home being also formed into two portions, like those abroad.—2. Each regiment of infantry, except regiments serving in the East Indies and local corps, is to be divided as follows:—

	Lieutenant-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Staff.	Sergeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.
8 Service Comp.	1	2	8	10	6	6	45	17	800
4 Depot Comp.	1	1	4	4	4	1	10	4	200
	1	2	12	14	10	6	55	21	1000

3. The former will, when the regiment is at home, and remains over its strength, as now in many instances, bear fifty supernumerary rank and file until they are absorbed in the regular establishment, and until which recruiting will cease. In cases where a regiment, the service companies of which are abroad, has supernumeraries, they are to be borne by the depot until absorbed.

—4. The following regiments will, however, be expected at present, and, until relieved from foreign service, will remain as they are now divided—viz., the 12th, 26th, 36th, 37th, 45th, 58th, 59th, 65th, 67th, 69th, and 91st Foot.—5. The men composing the service companies must be carefully selected, and none but those in every respect fit for immediate service be retained with them. Further down, it is remarked that, "on the degree of attention paid to their instructions [by young officers] will depend their future advancement."

**SCENE IN COLCHESTER CAMP.**—Lieutenant Saunders, an English cavalry officer in the German Legion, has been dismissed from her Majesty's service under rather singular circumstances. He had tendered his resignation to General Stutterheim, who refused to accept it. After this, Lieutenant Saunders not only neglected to perform his usual duties, but uttered some gross and disrespectful language to his senior officer, who therefore placed

him under arrest, in order that he might be tried by court-martial. When the men were sent to arrest him, Lieutenant Saunders mounted his horse, and attempted to escape from the camp, but was prevented by the sentries stationed at the different gateways, who went down on their knees and presented fixed bayonets. The lieutenant was then surrounded, and secured. Information of this affair was forwarded to the Duke of Cambridge, who considered that, as the legion was about to be disbanded, it would not be worth while to try Lieutenant Saunders by court-martial. He desired, however, that Major-General Gascoigne, commander of the camp, would assemble all the officers and some of the men belonging to the various regiments, and publicly reprove the lieutenant for his mutinous and unsoldierly behaviour, and then dismiss him from the army.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

**THE DEAN OF THE CHAPELS ROYAL.**—The office of Dean of the Chapels Royal, which is generally conferred on the Bishops of London, will, it is said, remain in the hands of Bishop Blomfield, by the Queen's express desire.

**AUSTRALIA.**—Another important mineral discovery has been made in Australia, as the following letter to Mr. Clark, gold-brokers of Melbourne, will show:—"Gentlemen,—The mineral associated with the sample of Taradale gold-dust is stream tin. It differs in aspect from that of the Ovens district in being less waterworn; indeed in many of the pieces the crystalline form is distinct, and some of the facets retain a high reflective brilliancy. It may be observed that the site of this deposit is in proximity to the granite. Should further inquiry show that our granites are mostly tin-bearing, and that such deposits are prevalent throughout the country, such a discovery would prove of the greatest importance to the colony.—I am, &c., GEORGE FOORD."

**THE CITY GAS WORKS.**—The report of Dr. Taylor, Dr. Hoffman, Mr. Brandt, and Mr. Warrington, on the City Gas Works, has been published, and thus concludes:—"The result of our inspection is, that the City Gas Company cannot be charged with the neglect of any precaution known to science for preventing a nuisance to the neighbourhood; and, if a nuisance is really occasioned, it is one which arises from causes that cannot be avoided by the means which are at present at the disposal of the gas manufacturers." The evidence of the witnesses in favour of the company was received by the Commissioners of Sewers on Friday week.

**SUICIDES.**—A Dane, named Meldall, who acted as a Norwegian interpreter at Queenstown, Ireland, has committed suicide at that place. He went into an hotel, and asked for a glass of wine, saying, in rather a jocose manner, that he was going to poison himself. He then poured something from a phial into the glass, but said it was too thick, and told the barmaid to throw it away, and give him a glass of sherry. This being done, he again poured part of the contents of the phial into it, drank it, and expired shortly after. Meldall was a married man, and was much respected and liked at Queenstown, where he had resided many years. No motive is assigned for the act.—Much pain has been caused at Manchester by the death of Mr. William Henry Hodgson, of Clare Villa, Burlington-street, a young gentleman only twenty-three years of age, who destroyed himself on Saturday evening by discharging the contents of a pistol into his forehead. Mr. Hodgson was one of the younger sons of a deceased magistrate, and is supposed to have been labouring under aberration of mind, caused by disappointment in a love affair.—A violent lunatic pauper in St. Pancras Workhouse has hung himself from an iron bar near the ceiling of the padded room in which he was confined. He had been entrusted with a handkerchief, and with this he accomplished his purpose.—Joseph Insole, a sergeant-major of the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, stationed at Shorncliffe, attended morning stables on Friday week, at six o'clock, and was missed at the parade afterwards. Search was made for him, and about half-past ten the riding master of the regiment accidentally found his body in a field near the arch of the South Eastern Railway, close to the White Lion Inn. He was lying on his back, with a discharged pistol close to his feet. He was dressed in his uniform, and had his cloak on. It is said he must have placed the pistol in his mouth, and discharged it. He had been in the Crimea, and was much respected; but he was in arrears with his captain to the amount of 150*l.*, and this seems to have induced him to kill himself. He was to have been married this week.

**"BIG BEN" OF WESTMINSTER.**—The Wave was on Tuesday morning safely delivered of the monster bell alongside Messrs. Maudslays' wharf, near Westminster-bridge, those gentlemen having granted the use of their crane, &c., to Mr. Jabez James, of Broadwall, for that purpose. The great bell, which was founded by Messrs. Warner and Sons, was afterwards conveyed on a low truck, drawn by sixteen horses, over Westminster-bridge, and safely deposited in Palace-yard, in the midst of a large crowd. It is christened after Sir Benjamin Hall, the President of the Board of Works.

**LORD PALMERSTON AND PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.**—It is believed in the best informed political circles that Viscount Palmerston is availing himself of the leisure afforded by the recess to mature and perfect a scheme of

representative reform. The Premier may not go so far as Lord John Russell, who in his Reform Bill of 1852 proposed to reduce the borough franchise from a rating of 10*l.* to 5*l.*, and to abolish the property qualification; but Lord Palmerston's Government will, it is hoped, introduce early in the next session a reform bill which will satisfy the just expectations of the country, and be supported by the united and energetic action of the Liberal party. If the bill should be thrown out, Lord Palmerston can then appeal to the country.—*Manchester Guardian*. ["The best informed political circles!" Who believes it out of the said circles?]

**THE NEW AUSTRALIAN MAIL SERVICE.**—Mr. Richard Andrews, the Mayor of Southampton, gave a banquet at the Dolphin Hotel on the evening of Friday week to the directors of the European and Australian Steam Navigation Company, to inaugurate the commencement of the new mail service to the Australian colonies, and to celebrate the selection of Southampton as the headquarters of the company. The Mayor occupied the chair, and many of the inhabitants, merchants, and landowners of the neighbourhood were present. The principal officers of the United States steam-frigate *Merrimac*, in full dress uniform, also attended, as well as several gentlemen connected with the steam-packet companies.

**A STENCH MANUFACTORY.**—Mr. William Squires, the proprietor of a bone-boiling establishment in Westmoreland-row, Walworth-common, has been fined 5*l.* and expenses by the Lambeth magistrate for causing a nuisance in the neighbourhood of his business.

**THE CRYSTAL PALACE FORGERIES.**—A meeting in connexion with the bankruptcy of William James Robson, now awaiting his trial on a charge of fraud on the Crystal Palace Company, took place in the Bankruptcy Court on Thursday, when a trade assignee was appointed, and proofs of debts, to a trifling amount, were made. It was stated, in the course of the proceedings, that Mr. E. T. Smith, of Drury Lane, who had taken possession of the bankrupt's property at Kilburn Lodge, and sold it immediately on his absconding, had handed the proceeds, 1135*l.*, to Mr. Johnson, the official assignee. Mr. Smith was induced to interfere in the matter in consequence of a pressing application from Robson, written on the night before he absconded, and which was in the following terms:—"My dear Smith,—You once said that if I were in trouble you would save me. I am in that trouble. I am lost unless you aid me. Come to me directly. Yours, W. J. ROBSON." The police were in error in supposing that Robson was concealed for any time in London. It is now stated that he left by the boat for Boulogne on the morning after the discovery of the frauds, his wife and sister following.

**BOOK ADULTERATIONS.**—The *Athenæum* of last week has the following:—"Another 'Publisher' has addressed the *Leader* on 'Book Adulterations,' a subject which, as our readers know, was reopened in that journal some weeks ago. The *animus* of this second letter is, that the public should hold not the advertizing columns of a journal, but the 'back parlour' were advertisements are concocted, responsible for the mystifications of which readers are victims. The lowest form of these, as the Publisher addressing the *Leader* remarks, may perhaps be found on the railway platform, where an innocent traveller may be deluded into giving a couple of shillings for *Rosa Green*, conceiving it a new novel, and little aware that the year before at Brighton he paid one shilling for reading the said *Rosa*, in its thirty-shilling dress, as *Woman's Infallibility*. We are glad to see a publisher taking up the matter, and calling attention to proceedings unhappily too current, as every week's experience points out. But it may be feared that the end of delusive advertisements, against which the *Athenæum* has waged war from its earliest years, is not yet come, or coming."

**THE SUNDAY LEAGUE AT YORK.**—The Sunday League has held a meeting at the Lecture-hall, Good-rangate, York; Mr. John Brown, stationer, Colliergate, in the chair. Mr. William Loaden, the chairman of the central committee of the Sunday League, was the chief speaker in favour of the objects of the association, and Mr. Alderman Rowntree the main opposer of them; but there were several slight skirmishes on both sides. The meeting was very uproarious, the speakers for and against being constantly interrupted; but finally it was declared by the chairman that a motion in favour of opening the public museums, galleries, and libraries, and the performance of music on Sundays, was carried. Three cheers were then given for the League, and the people dispersed.

**FEMALE DOCTORS.**—A hospital is to be established in New York for women and children, with a view to enabling lady doctors to study their profession 'from the life,'—or the death, as the case may be. The ordinary hospitals are closed to them. Contributions to this end are being received not only in America but in England.

**FLUISING OF SEWERS, &c., IN THE CITY.**—Mr. Heywood, engineer of the City Commission of Sewers, read to that body on Tuesday a long report on the water supply for public purposes, having reference to a demand made by the New River Company, which is considered exorbitant. "Briefly," says the report, "the facts are these:—That for many years the New River Company has afforded water gratuitously for public purposes; that in the belief that it would continue to be gra-

tuitously given, the commission have arranged the means of cleansing their sewers, &c., and that this was done with the full knowledge of, and with the co-operation of, the company; that with regard to the public urinals a supply was many years since undertaken to be given at a nominal payment of 5*s.* per urinal per annum; that from time to time this has been repeated until sixty-nine places of accommodation have been erected, which are almost wholly dependent upon water for being maintained in a wholesome and decent condition; and that now the New River Company give notice of their intention to be paid in future years at the rate of 6*d.* a thousand gallons for all the water that might be required for public purposes, that rate of charge being the very highest which by their act they can make, and the same as they charge to brewers and large consumers, who it may be assumed make profit by the use of the water they buy." The supply of water to these places being unceasing, it is calculated that the annual amount passing through them is 36,266,400 gallons, which, at the rate of 6*d.* per thousand gallons, would create a total charge of 906*l.* per annum. Supposing the water to be shut off for eight hours out of the twenty-four, the yearly expense would be 604*l.* The question was referred to the General Purposes Committee.

**REPRESENTATION OF MALDON.**—Mr. Mechi, the new Sheriff of London, will stand at the next election for Maldon, in Essex, upon Liberal principles. He owns considerable property in the neighbourhood. Maldon returns two members, and has a constituency of 845 registered electors. It is to be hoped that the eight hundred and forty-five will recognize Mr. Mechi's claims as a Liberal and a Reformer.

**THE DEANERY OF CARLISLE** has been given to the Rev. Francis Close, incumbent of Cheltenham.

**POLITICAL MEETING.**—Sir Stafford Northcote, on Tuesday evening, attended a public meeting of the inhabitants of Dudley, pursuant to public notice, "to confer on the business of last session," and "to explain his views on the present state of affairs." The meeting was held at the Old Town-hall, a building of small dimensions in the centre of the town. The room was filled to suffocation. The chair was taken by the Mayor who opened the proceedings with a few observations, after which Sir Stafford Northcote addressed the meeting at considerable length. At the conclusion of his remarks, a motion expressive of confidence in the speaker was put and carried, but not before a Mr. Warkworth had endeavoured (though ineffectually) to pledge Sir Stafford to vote for a trial of the Maine Liquor Law in this country.

**DISHONEST TRADING.**—Mr. John Grainger Mills, a farmer of North Weald, near Epping, appeared to a summons before Mr. Hammill, the Worship-street magistrate, in which he was charged with having unlawfully caused to be made up and sold in open market several trusses of meadow hay, containing in the inside a quantity of inferior hay and other rubbish, which was not in correspondence with the outside appearance of the trusses. The defence was that Mr. Mills was ignorant of the fraud, and that his servants were the parties to blame. He was fined in the mitigated penalty of one shilling for each offence, and costs.

**REPORTED DEATH OF GENERAL GUYON.**—The French papers of Wednesday evening announce the decease of General Guyon. The hero's death was caused by cholera.

**HARRISON, THE LEEDS 'WIZARD.'**—Henry Harrison, the Leeds 'Wizard,' who obtained so unenviable a notoriety in connexion with the murderer William Dove, was on Thursday morning brought up before the Leeds magistrates, charged with obtaining money by false pretences from Elizabeth Croft. The girl went to him to obtain his assistance in 'charming' back her sweetheart, who had latterly proved faithless to her. Harrison, upon this, coolly proposed an improper familiarity with himself as the only means of regaining her lover's affections. She indignantly refused compliance, and left the house. Nevertheless, she went again, when the scoundrel renewed his proposals, and attempted a criminal assault. She broke from him, however, but asked what money he wanted, and paid him five shillings, half of which she borrowed. She was imprudent enough to go a third time, when the man forcibly effected his purpose, and then threatened to bewitch her if she told any one of what had taken place—a threat which appears to have frightened her very much; but Harrison, with astonishing recklessness, boasted in a public-house that he had been familiar with her. This reached the ears of the girl's mistress, who took her to task, and then she told all. The 'wizard' is now under remand.

**SIGNOR AURELIO SAFFI** has consented to deliver some lectures in England on Italian politics, in aid of the "Emancipation of Italy Fund." In a letter to Mr. Stansfield, Signor Saffi says of these lectures:—"I shall show where the problem of Italian nationality actually lies, namely, in the necessity of independence—that being the first condition, the foundation of all improvement in the civil life of the country. I shall try to demonstrate that any true, efficient, and lasting development of civilization in Italy is utterly unattainable without a general and solid guarantee of freedom and order for the whole country, and that this guarantee will ever be impossible without a complete emancipation from foreign rule."

## Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, October 25.  
THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT AND THE  
ENGLISH PRESS.

THE *Moniteur* has the following important communication relative to the British press:—

"For some time past, various organs of the English press have been occupied in circulating calumnies upon the French Government—calumnies the more odious that they are advanced under the shelter of the anonymous, and permit no other reply than contempt. We know the respect which surrounds the liberty of the press in England, and therefore in pointing out its errors we confine ourselves to making an appeal to the good sense and loyalty of the English people, and to forewarning them against the dangers of a system which destroys confidence between the two Governments, and tends to disunite two nations whose alliance is the best guarantee for the peace of the world."

### NEUFCHATEL.

As the result of diplomatic efforts, the prisoners have been set at liberty.

The Federal Council declares itself ready to propose to the Federal Assembly a full amnesty, on condition that Prussia shall recognize the independence of the canton.

The Federal Council is using its exertions to be represented at the Conferences of Paris.

Warlike preparations are being made.

### THE LATE CAPTAIN THOMPSON.

A Committee has been formed to pay some tribute of respect to the memory of Captain Thompson, who was so conspicuous in the defence of Kars, who shared the captivity of Williams in Russia, and who was cut off by death just as he had returned to receive the welcome and applause of his countrymen. The idea seems to be to collect enough to erect a monument to Thompson, and to purchase the regimental steps of a younger brother. Subscriptions will be received in London by Messrs. Hernes and Farquhar, Messrs. Childs, Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., Messrs. Ommaney and Co.; in Bristol, by Messrs. Miles, Saville, and Miles; in Manchester and Liverpool, by Messrs. Heywood; and in Hull, by Messrs. Raikes and Co.

### THE INQUEST ON THE SUFFERERS BY THE SURREY GARDENS ACCIDENT.

#### THE VERDICT.

The inquest was resumed yesterday (Friday), and terminated in a verdict of Accidental Death. One or two points of interest came out. Mr. Elledge, one of Mr. Spurgeon's deacons, spoke of the bell-tinkling already alluded to in another column. He saw several persons shouting through their doubled fists "Fire!" and "The galleries are falling!" A rush had taken place before this. He was certain the noise he had heard was not caused by the falling of a chandelier drop. Another witness believed that that was the cause of the noise; and he discredited the particular kind of shouting deposited to by Mr. Elledge.

At the close of his testimony, Mr. Lund said:—"My first impression was that the confusion arose from opponents of Mr. Spurgeon, and I so reported to the Secretary of State; but I do not think so now." The Coroner: "Do you think there was preconcertion?" Witness: "Yes, certainly a preconcertion, but certainly not by thieves." He added that he was still prosecuting an inquiry into the cause of the panic, but it would not be prudent publicly to state the course he was adopting. He heard no tinkling of a bell or glass, but he did not say that it was not so. On the following morning, he went with a friend to the hall. His friend went up into the gallery and shook the chandeliers, and they had just the sound of bells.

Thomas Fullager, sen., house-decorator, Doctors'-commons, said:—"I was at the Surrey Gardens on Sunday evening last. I was standing at the entrance door when I saw two men enter and whisper together, as if bent on mischief; one came out and laughed, and went in again, and soon after there was a mob of people; there was no rush inwards. Two men forced their way into the hall, and I heard one say, 'Jack has played his cards well, and has won his bottle of brandy. I wish he had put the gas out.'"

**MURDER.**—William Jackson, a paperhanger at Leeds, and a notoriously bad character, has murdered two of his children—a boy six years of age, and a girl about eight—by cutting their throats near Chester. He is in custody; but the inquest has not yet been held.

**CRYSTAL PALACE.**—Return of admissions for six days ending Friday, October 24th, 1856, including season ticket holders, 17,805.

**ACCIDENT IN A MILL.**—The adjourned inquest on the body of Thomas Hitchen, whose death is mentioned in another part of this day's paper, seems to show that the catastrophe did not result from a practical joke. The cause being mysterious, an open verdict was returned.

**MR. RYAN,** the "low, hirceling slanderer" of Lord Cardigan in connexion with the Balaklava charge, has intimated that he means to bring an action for libel against his Lordship for those words.



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

# The Leader.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 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 CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF SPURGEON.

THE exhibition which led to the disaster in the Surrey Gardens did not spring from altogether bad motives. At a time when the national Church falls into anarchy, sectarianism, and indifferentism, it is natural that preachers should arise appealing to the broad instincts of their fellow-creatures. When the national Church becomes formalist and technical in its teaching, it is natural that the popular preacher should be a man addressing himself to his congregation in the homely language which speaks direct to their hearts. If the appointed preachers of the national Establishment cannot fill their churches, it is natural that the popular preacher should take a pride in filling something larger than a church; nay, he may think that it is his duty to address the people wherever he can assemble them; and since the owner of the field would warn him off if he were to address the people in the church of the blue vault, since the Chief Commissioner of Works has warned him out of the public parks, nothing was left him but a hired field, a temple which he might share with the publican and sinner.

Have we been doing anything but describe the actual circumstances of the day? Take the latest facts, the latest appointments in the Church. The Bishop of CARLISLE is a fashionable preacher, one whose language does not rise above the apprehension of a mixed audience; he is an accomplished man, an Honourable, and brother to a distinguished statesman, a Right Honourable high in office. It would have been possible to appoint to the see of Gloucester one of the most accomplished, pious, and spiritual men in the Church of England; but it was thought necessary to appoint a BABING. The great see of Durham is given to a Bishop for whose selection every friend apologizes, with the plea that the new Bishop translated from Ripon is a very worthy, hard-working man; as though a Bishop and a clerk in a bank were to be measured by the same qualities! The Bishop of LONDON, says the evangelical *Morning Herald*, "promises" well! Bishop JACKSON has performed well, and everybody expected him to be translated to the metropolitan see; but some of these personal arrangements dictated the shifting of Dr. TAIT from a quiet parish and school-mastership to be the diocesan of the great metropolis. The Deanery of Westminster has been given to CHENEVIX TRENCH; the only objection to whose appointment is, that he ought to have had one of the bishoprics. And the Deanery of Carlisle is given to Mr. CLOSE, who distinguished himself lately by thundering an anathema against the Gloucester musical festival, while he stands immortalized in the history of the English Church, figuring in the last prosecution for Atheism.

It will not be supposed that we in any degree share the opinions of the Atheist, who appears to us to hazard the most untenable proposition which the human mind can frame. But dogmatists who have adulterated religion with propositions quite as untenable, and more shocking, have naturally suggested that extreme reaction. Upon them we charge the real institution of Atheism. We have always held that, although human reason is absolutely incapable of determining many ideas and influences which the human mind is capable of perceiving, but not of compassing, it can never perform its destined office unless it be free, subject only to the laws of logic, the dictates of conscience, and the infallible decree of instinct. The *Leader* has always asserted the right of every conscientious opinion to its own free utterance; partly on the ground that it is better to know what is in the heads and hearts of men than to be ignorant of it; partly that no opinion is yet so perfect that we should rest content with it, and forbid contention or discussion of its opposite. We claim free utterance, then, for the Atheist, and even for the Methodist; although the latter appears to us to stand in horrid oppugnance to the very spirit of religion. What has been the effect of our advocacy? We do not claim for the *Leader* a higher position than it deserves when we say simply that we established, by practical evidence, the possibility of conducting discussions upon the highest subjects of religion, politics, and morals, not only with safety for ourselves under the existing laws, but also without irreverence for any existing opinions, and without descending into any low controversy. We at once triumphed, and suffered by the fact that our example was instantly followed by many of our contemporaries; for we challenge attention to the fact that after the establishment of the *Leader* a marked change took place in the discussion of all those classes of subjects; the discussion becoming at once more direct, more free, and more complete. One effect we fully anticipated: it was, that, with that freer treatment of religious questions, with that more confiding reliance in the inherent power of the religious idea, dogmatic scepticism would be at least as much rebuked as dogmatic sectarianism; and again we point to the far more liberal tone amongst the ultra-deniers of religious discussion. The assertion of Atheism has nearly disappeared, "Secularism" is little more than the avowal of a preference for material subjects. It is in religious discussion something like the avowal of a preference for engineering or trade, rather than art or philosophy, in the pursuits of practical life.

But the heads of our Church have not advanced so far as the press, or society, or their own congregations. They are still promoting that bigot of Cheltenham who supposed that the true counteractive to religion was to render religion odious by identifying it with tyranny, and exhibiting it as incompatible with reason.

Yet we do not charge HER MAJESTY'S Ministers, still less HER MAJESTY'S Prime Minister, with bigotry. On the contrary, in these appointments we seem to discern much impartiality, without much care from what quarter of the Church the dignitaries might be selected; as if the opinions of a Bishop, or the spirit of his episcopation, did not matter. It is not bigotry that appears to us the fault indicated by the selection, but indifference.

With an established indifferentism, the natural consequence is the rising of a popular preacher to address the people in the language of the true faith. Such a preacher will be alien to the Establishment and to the

higher classes which people it. He will speak in the language of the people whom he is to address. Sir BENJAMIN HALL has forbidden preaching on the open ground which has been spared for the people, in the rent-free church of the blue vault. It followed, then, that the preacher must preach in a rented church to a rent-paying congregation, but not a high congregation. What is this but a middle-class and shopkeeping congregation? Wanted, then, a pilgrim for the shopocracy of the metropolis—a PETER THE HERMIT for the trading part of the London Directory; and if we discover the man, can we wonder that he possesses such qualities as that particular PETER might possess. It is not the building that makes the sacredness of the church, but the religion that makes the temple. Your Nonconformist is accustomed to see his Church supported by small subscriptions, payments, in fact, for admission; and what more suitable for such an entrance-money than a great concert-room? What more in conformity with the mission of the preacher of this day who is carrying the truth to the publican and singer? The bad style of the preacher, his rodomontade about "hell," his association with deacons who look sharp after the pence of admission, are but circumstances inherent in the case. Mr. SPURGEON's continuance of his sermon after the horrible disaster had happened has been mentioned as a proof of his presumption: it only proved a well-meant incapacity for doing the best under the circumstances. He tried to draw back those who were flying in horror at the scene of anarchy, by preaching to them a sermon on the text, "And the wicked are in the house of the Lord," while his deacons were jingling the cash-box to prevent the retribution from falling on themselves in the shape of 'the expenses.'

An immense concourse was assembled without any efficient control. In lieu of a congregation obedient to officers and pastor, there was a mixed assemblage, amongst whom were scoffers and enemies. The belligerent preaching was met by defiance and stratagem, and the denunciator was defeated by a 'row,' which he had neither the power nor the influence to quell. The braving of public opinion ended in an event which was at once a farce and a tragedy. Many who had abstained from condemning the bigotry of the preacher, will be shocked and disgusted by the bloodshed in which the play ended. He was exposed in a position to which he was quite unequal, and disgust at his obtrusion is mitigated only by pity for the weakness which he betrayed. But pity for weakness is not a sentiment calculated to enlarge the influence of a preacher. Mr. SPURGEON was an embodiment of reviving Methodism in its lowest form, and the indiscretion into which he has been betrayed will meet that revival of Methodism with a popular revulsion. If there can be any consolation for the painful sacrifice of life and limb, it will be found in the fact that the sacrifice will be the price, probably, of saving the country from some part of the mischief which would have been drawn upon it by the new spread of a dark and vulgar Sectarianism.

### THE WALEWSKI MANIFESTO.

THE French Government endeavours to represent its Neapolitan policy as a sequel to its interference in Belgium. Following the announcement of suspended relations with Naples, the text of a new Belgian Treaty appears in the *Moniteur* by which attempts against the Emperor's person—for that, in this case, is the only 'person' in danger—are excluded from the category of political offences. Thus, whenever the French police

get up against an obnoxious individual a charge of complicity in some unfulfilled act of assassination, they are empowered in future to drag him from his asylum across the frontier. No mention is made of a previous trial, or even preliminary examination, in the Belgian courts. Nothing less was to be expected from the sinister propositions of Count WALEWSKI at the Conferences of Paris. But the French Government insolently endeavours to make it appear that Great Britain joined with it in concerting plans for the consolidation of order in Europe, the stifling of the Belgian press being counted among political necessities upon a level with the restoration of an independent initiative to the Cabinet of Greece, and the release of Naples from a reign of terror. It is true that Lord CLARENDON faintly repelled the project for intervening in favour of a censorship in Belgium; it is true that he almost apologized for the powerlessness of the British Government to suppress the liberty of unlicensed printing; but neither he nor Lord PALMERSTON ever publicly adopted the sentiment expressed in Count WALEWSKI's speech at the Conferences of Paris. There is reason to believe that, since those Conferences took place, the Western States have been checking one another; France endeavouring to minimise the action of England, and England awakening to a knowledge of the conspiracies that work in France. If the perfect accord existed upon which the *Moniteur* pretends to congratulate itself, would not England undertake on its own part that which it is so ready to press upon Belgium? Yet we hear of no new treaties of extradition between the powers of Paris and London. The people of Italy seem to have arrived, by instinct, at a true appreciation of Western policy, when they affirm that, whatever may have been the lapses of English liberality, they trust in England infinitely more than they trust in France.

The *Moniteur* has startled some of the sympathizers, who are inclined to abandon the affairs of Italy, because, while the intervention is officially justified in London upon liberal grounds, it is justified in Paris upon the plea of protecting the interests of the Imperial system of order; that is to say, despotism, limitations imposed on the press, the extension of police authority. This is only another proof that any liberal action in alliance with LOUIS NAPOLEON is impossible. But no politician has been taken by surprise. It was well known what the declaration of the Emperor would be; it was well known, also, that its soothing phrases would be valued as mere reserves, intended to cover any policy that may ultimately be adopted. Though the *Siècle* may be too eager in predicting a European war, to result immediately from the hostile demonstration against Naples—a hostile demonstration it is, or nothing—it may strike very near prophecy when it speaks of a crisis which commenced on the banks of the Pruth, and may be destined to receive its solution in Italy. No one will omit to observe M. HAVIN's implied discrimination between "the permanent policy of France" and the policy of LOUIS NAPOLEON. Nor will many persons be deceived by the assurance that the King of NAPLES, understanding the WALEWSKI Manifesto in its literal sense as a mere breach of official friendship, constituting neither a menace nor an act of intervention, will yield through a simple "appreciation of the sentiments which actuate the Governments of France and England." If he understands their policy in this sense he will defy and ridicule it; he may ridicule and defy it, indeed, in any case; if so, it will be because he has pledged of support and protection from avowed or concealed auxiliaries.

We undertake to say that the liberal party in Italy will not read with surprise a single sentence in the declaration of the *Moniteur*: and we may say this for the liberal party in England, not less than for that which "does not sulk, but collects itself" in France. Here we have a sufficient answer to those who imagine that, upon the perusal of this document, English liberals will reconsider their policy, and cease to encourage the movement of the Italian people. The help that comes is not from the French or from the English Cabinets; their activity only proves that forces are in motion which compel even the leading Governments of Europe to take precautions against an agitation which is foreseen to be inevitable. Of these Governments that of England imagines it can meet the crisis by a policy of theatrical pretence, insincerity, and double-dealing, while that of France is purely and almost professedly Austrian.

From every province of Italy intelligence is received which confirms this view. The National Party has gained a new European recognition. It is only in combination with the Italian people, say even the friends of Count CAVOUR, that Piedmont can fulfil her part against the Stranger.

#### THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE IN THE AUGÆAN STABLE.

THE Duke of CAMBRIDGE has turned Lord ERNEST VANE TEMPEST out of the army with Cornet BIRT. The manner in which these officers were expelled is remarkable. A commission of inquiry was held with closed doors, and the officers were then deprived of their commissions. The course is not entirely unprecedented, although, we believe, it has usually been carried out in a different manner. It sometimes happens that matters are investigated which it is thought better to veil from the public eye; and in those cases the inquiry is secret. The commissioners are, in fact, no more than servants seeking information for their master, the Crown; complete power to dispose of the commission residing in the Crown by the very nature of the case. In the instances that we remember, the commission has not been simply revoked, but the officer has been required to sell it at the regulation price, or to resign his command. In the present instance, if the published accounts are correct, the commissions have been taken away.

The story cannot be said to have begun only with the attacks upon Cornet AMES, or to have concluded with the arrest of the offenders. As we stated last week, Lord ERNEST VANE TEMPEST had been conspicuous in previous affairs; after his arrest he, as he all but confesses in his letter, was seen at large; and subsequently in violent contest with his companion in adversity—Cornet BIRT. Of course, any such proceedings as this latter came before the commission of inquiry, but other evidence was brought before them which has not been laid before the public. The decision of the Commander-in-Chief appears to have rested upon the ground that Lord ERNEST VANE TEMPEST and Cornet BIRT are not persons of a proper character to hold commissions in the army; that they are not suitable for the service, and as servants they are discharged.

For many years past the Duke of CAMBRIDGE has been exerting himself to obtain a complete knowledge of the army, from the lowest ranks to the highest. He has not concealed an ambition to win the post of Commander-in-Chief, by showing the proper qualifications for it. One, at least, he has—it is zeal. Within the last few years he must have acquired a great amount of practical knowledge. He has studied the manner in

which the men pass their lives in barrack and in camp. He has paid very diligent attention to every subject that can come under the observation of the officers, from the Commander of a division down to the Ensign, or even to the non-commissioned officer. The Duke of CAMBRIDGE has never had the reputation for being that disagreeable person, a saint. On the contrary, it is generally understood that the Duke has a fair amount of the knowledge which falls to a man of the world. He is acquainted with the state of the army, and with the social state of the officers in it. He has studied the forces not only in the barrack and camp at home, but in the siege and in the battle-field; and throughout it has been well known that his ambition was to become a thoroughly efficient soldier. Here, then, we have zeal, ambition, and practical knowledge; and these, undoubtedly, are high qualities for such a post as the Duke of CAMBRIDGE has attained. Whether or not he has by nature other qualities which are necessary to make up a full capacity, we can only ascertain from experience. We are not disposed to presume a negative, for already we find that he has two other qualities of considerable value. He can clearly perceive a duty to be performed, and he has the moral courage to put his hand to its execution.

He has arranged a plan for the reorganization of the army during peace. Some of its leading characteristics have already been described. In the first place, the so-called reduction consisted principally in casting out those soldiers who were invalided, discontented, ill-conducted, or disqualified by nature from being soldiers. In the hurry of the war many were recruited who ought never to have been in the ranks, being physically or morally diseased, and in many respects below the proper standard: of these the army will be weeded. The reduced regiments will consist, speaking generally, of 1000 men—800 in 8 service companies, and 200 divided into 4 dépôt companies. The dépôt companies are the reserves in which the processes of drill, recruiting, &c., proceed. It is generally considered that these dépôt companies are too small; the Duke himself is understood to think so; but the plan is upon the whole well designed. The Commander-in-chief has also resolved to apply more stringent rules to the promotion and appointment of officers. He has distinctly announced that officers who are not zealous in the exercise of their duties, or even those who prove that they have not a natural capacity for their work, will not be retained, but they will not be replaced by others.

He has likewise stated, in the recently issued Memorandum, that "regimental peculiarities" will be discountenanced. These regimental peculiarities are of many kinds, and we do not yet perfectly understand to what extent the Duke's remark applies. Certain of the peculiarities consist in the character of the officers. Some regiments are very strict and quiet, others are singularly free and riotous; and officers have hitherto had opportunities of exchanging backwards and forwards according to their own disposition. The result has been that some regiments have become schools for horse-play, like that to which Ensign PENNY and Cornet AMES have been subjected; and while we may doubt whether the most disgusting tricks played off upon those young men were stated in any of the published accounts, we may affirm that the Forty-sixth and the Fourth Light Dragoons are by no means singular exceptions in the behaviour of officers. Not only does decency prevent us from relating the practical jokes that have been performed in regiments, but those jokes have in many cases gone to an



extent of debasement, if not of crime, which would scarcely be credible. There is no doubt that amongst the regimental peculiarities, that of sorting officers by encouraging exchanges has been most productive in bad results. It has made preposterously expensive regiments and preposterously riotous regiments. We remember the case of a young officer who was told that he could not enter a particular regiment unless he could have three or four hundred a year from his father, besides his pay. The Colonel of the regiment plainly informed him that he could not come in; and that instance, again we say, is not an immoderate example. Lord CARDIGAN, who thinks that gentlemen of condition will not go into the army if they are to be bothered with troublesome duties, or prevented from retiring to their yacht; and the officers of the Fourth Light Dragoons, who thought that they could emulate the most disgusting frolics of the most debauched classes, are specimens of the varieties of 'gentlemen' which the present regimental system has tried to make into 'officers' without success.

The Duke of CAMBRIDGE appears to be resolved to change the course of an officer's ambition. Henceforward, we might hope, it will not be to get into the Tenth Hussars, which "never dance," but only give expensive entertainments—into the Eleventh, with its extravagant uniform—or into some other regiment, the mere dress of which would beggar a rising young man; but to get where the officer can obtain distinction by personal efficiency, and by promotion to the regiments where the duty is the severest. If the Duke is resolved upon introducing that new spirit, we shall only have aided his labours when we urge the necessity of thoroughly cleansing the army from the creatures that infest it, and we can assure the Duke—though probably he knows the fact already—that there are numbers of tormentors, and of victims too, who are made what they are by the school of the army, and who render some mess-rooms a school for animals.

#### THE WHISPERS OF PARIS.

ALL real political discussion in Paris has been carried on in whispers, since December, 1851. But, besides political discussion, there has been a perpetual current of anecdotes, epigrams, and rumours, passing from *salon* to *salon*, and, of course, hostile to LOUIS NAPOLEON. Within the last few weeks, however, this kind of warfare has been carried on more bitterly and more universally than at any period since the *coup d'état*. Much that is said may be invented simply to multiply "the pins that prick the Empire." But the floating talk of Paris represents a body of public feeling which the Government, at least, does not ignore, and so many hard truths are indicated by the reports of the EMPEROR's madness, illness, and melancholy, by the stories of attempted assassinations, secret executions, kidnappings, and by the sarcasms of the epigrammatists, that not a little may be learned from a collection of the Whispers of Paris.

A favourite process is to select a passage from the Emperor's works, and to append to this a commentary supplied by the events of the day. A happily-chosen fragment was handed about last week. It was composed, not by NAPOLEON III., but by LOUIS NAPOLEON, in the prison of Ham:—

Taxation will become unendurable:  
If it be devoted to the creation of useless offices,  
To the erection of barren monuments,  
To the maintenance, in time of peace, of a military force more costly than that which conquered at Austerlitz.

This text leads off a catalogue of public

works, constructed at an enormous expenditure, of state lacqueys profligately overpaid, of military establishments kept up in numerous districts of France, merely to perpetuate the victory of Louis Napoleon over the French people. It may be supposed that this allusion to the French as conquered, and held in subjection, which is literally the truth, tells upon a national sentiment which is something better than vanity.

Then, the degradation of the civil orders of the people in the presence of the military power is keenly felt, by the working-classes especially. One of the new sayings is, "A Zouave can do no wrong." At theatres, casinos, singing-café, in omnibuses, diligences, railway carriages, the soldier is a privileged being. Notoriously, the garrison of Paris is constantly treated with largesses, feasts, supplies of tobacco and cigars, so that the men, conscious that they are the props of the Empire, and will be favoured, even should they offend, with the indulgence extended to spoiled children, treat the citizens *en véritables pékins*.

Some of the French journals have reproduced, with particular solemnity, the report of a police case at Liverpool, where an individual named GORE, a butcher by trade, was condemned to a fine or twenty days' imprisonment for wrenching off the tail of a live sheep. The journalists congratulate themselves on the circumstance that France, too, has her humane laws for the prevention of cruelty to animals. Of course, the private supplement to a paragraph of this nature is to the effect that LOUIS NAPOLEON violated these laws when he 'assisted' at the disembowelling of horses, and the laceration of bulls at Bayonne. But the Emperor must have his campaigns. He sent home no bulletins from the Crimea; he conquered the bull (or saw it conquered, for he is more gentlemanly than Commodus), on the Spanish frontier; and now there are nine days' campaign on the banks of the Oise, in the forest of Compiègne—three days' stag-hunting, three days' shooting, and three days' theatricals. The Imperial party carries on its Chevy Chase in "soft morocco boots, plumes, and habits of sylvan green;" even the Empress, who rides with two officers carrying guns behind her, condescending, from time to time, to take a shot at a bird. These pleasantries occupy his Majesty in the intervals of that "affliction" which M. MAGNE declares has been caused in the Imperial heart by the ominous condition of the public funds. There are those who, without putting too much faith in M. MAGNE, corroborate his statement, and affirm that LOUIS NAPOLEON is afflicted—by epilepsy; the climax of rheumatism, whisper some; by morbid terrors, others say; by insanity, according to a third class of authorities; while rumours equally positive attribute the Emperor's continual absence from Paris to the necessity of hiding his wounds! It is needless to say how much exaggeration is introduced into these reports, which cannot all be true. True or not, however, they indicate the popular feeling. The Emperor has a meagre form and a weary face—he mounts his horse with difficulty—he takes a cordial before, and a bath after every hunt and review—he employs now GRASSOT, now HYACINTHE, and now a matador, to amuse his melancholy. These are among the secretly circulated bulletins not issued from St. Cloud. But at St. Cloud it is found necessary to make war upon rumour, so that the *Moniteur* adduces proofs of the Emperor's sanity, announces his enjoyment of complete health, and publishes the text of a special treaty to increase the securities against his assassination. In one day are posted up six condemnations to death for "attacks against the

person of the Emperor." Meanwhile, Marshal CASTELLANE arrives at Court, to confer with LOUIS NAPOLEON, it is said, on the means of suppressing the formidable secret societies of Lyons and the south. The police, with discriminating clairvoyance, detect disaffection in private houses, and hurry abbés and others to prison. And an eclipse of the moon takes place, and a poor poet is arrested for writing in a prophetic spirit an allegory on the subject of eclipses in general!

#### FEDERAL UNION OF TRADES.

THE project of a Federal Union of the Industrious Classes is about to be put into operation in Scotland. Last week the delegates of ten important trades met at Glasgow, for the purpose of agreeing upon an organization. The trades represented were:—masons, cotton-spinners, rope-spinners, bakers, miners, joiners, cabinet chairmakers, handloom weavers, labourers, and harbourmen, already incorporated in societies, but now resolved upon carrying out the plan of Federation, on which we have so long insisted. It is gratifying, of course, to see a suggestion of this character adopted, even after years of delay. When we last called attention to the movement, it had been determined by the Scottish trades to appoint a committee to draw up a set of rules for the government of the Federal Union. Some time was occupied in this way. The scheme, however, is now complete, though we have not yet examined it with sufficient minuteness to judge of its provisions in detail. Generally, it seems to deserve the confidence of the classes appealed to.

The object of the Federation, as declared in the preamble, is to promote by organized action, always within legal and constitutional limits, the interests of the industrious classes throughout Scotland. Strikes are not to be encouraged, but prevented by all possible means, though when men are actually 'out,' they will be sustained and supported as far as practicable. Mr. PROUDFOOT, speaking in behalf of the committee, explained to his hearers certain clauses of the Combination or Intimidation Act, which prove how narrow is the way left for the poor when endeavouring to make good their most undeniable claims. To these clauses the courts have given an interpretation of the most rigorous and overreaching character. Thus, in the case of the Wolverhampton tinplate workers, it was laid down, that if, during a strike, any workmen met a friend in the street and said to him, "You are wrong in remaining in that person's employment; you should come out with the rest," though no menace should be used, they would be guilty of intimidation, and liable to three or six months' imprisonment. A mere utterance of sentiment, in such a case, is construed into a threat. Now, such an act of Parliament is open, during times of political excitement, to the grossest misconstruction; and it is clearly for the interest of the industrious orders to procure its repeal, or simplification. With such a law to hold *in terrorem* over the heads of their workpeople, it is not surprising that the masters count the prison and the crank among their means of illegitimate coercion.

To break the force of legislation like this, it is necessary that the trades should combine; and we are glad to see that the objection to the admission of unskilled labourers has been set aside. Certainly, in all matters relating to the broad interests of industry, are skilled have no better claim to protection than the unskilled. As Mr. BUCHANAN aptly suggested, would that be a federalization of workmen which admitted the stone-cutter and excluded the hodman, which ad-

mitted the jeweller and excluded the handloom weaver? It may be true that, in the event of a strike, unskilled labour would be so easily supplied, that the attempt to support the men who were 'out' would be a serious undertaking; but the attempt to ground a resolution on this contingent difficulty fell through, for want of a seconder. The delegates at Glasgow accepted it as a sufficing reason against any such monopoly, "that the fact of his place being so easily filled up was the very reason why an unskilled labourer should be supported in his struggle. They might not be able to get him so far up the hill as would be desirable; but they might be able to get him over the boulders and rough stones at the bottom." Why, this would be practical chivalry, were we not well assured that chivalry is the virtue whence CARDIGAN and TEMPEST take their titles of nobility. When we know the difference between being a 'fine high-spirited fellow' and a ferocious idiot, between 'his lordship' and the unfortunate navy lieutenant who was condemned to death for cowardice, we shall be able to say more distinctly whether the PROUDFOOT maxim exhibited magnanimity, or only that 'rough good nature' conceded to working men by their patrons.

When the work of federalization has been completed, employers will be inclined to hesitate a little longer before they drive their men to a conflict in which they will be supported, if necessary, by the general levies of the working population throughout Scotland. If the success of the union be what is anticipated, one class will not be forced to succumb within a few weeks merely because the other possesses the resources essential to the prolongation of human life. But it is unmistakably set forth, among the declared objects of the Federal Society, that strikes are, if possible, to be prevented, and means of conciliation sought between masters and workmen in the several trades.

An attempt will be made next session to base some practical measure, of an enabling character, upon the result of Mr. MACKINNON's committee on courts of industrial arbitration. The evidence elicited was of the most satisfactory kind. Not only did it prove that the working classes throughout the United Kingdom are, as a body, disposed to accept a fair adjustment of their claims but that many employers are willing to second them, and to resist the despotic cupidity of other large capitalists. But, while the experiments are in progress, it would be gratifying to hear that the trades of England had been really federalized, and placed in correspondence with the Scottish trades.

#### IN THE PROVINCES.

LATELY, the metropolis being dull, with only Naples, Mr. SPURGEON, and smaller topics, such as W. J. ROBSON and E. V. TEMPEST on hand, certain correspondents, not long returned from Moscow, fled into the provinces. There they wandered, from town to town, to fashionable places and manufacturing places, to trading ports, and to bays where only pleasure-boats and yachts are known; but a deplorable absence of excitement they found everywhere. Strange to 'our own' who has written in vermilion language an account of ALEXANDER's coronation, to find himself at Leeds, without a matter going on that could justify the slightest pictorial tinting! In the course of a week he was enabled, upon the best information, to report that Mr. WRIGHT, of Sand Hutton, near Thirsk, had 'plucked a pea' from his garden which had forty-three pods containing four hundred peas: that ONSLOW had lectured at the Town Hall; that Bingley cattle fair had been

held; that Mr. FARNALL had offered some explanations with reference to something he said to Mr. CROSSLEY, and that Mr. JOHN FROST had made a very foolish speech at the Music Hall. Clearly, this correspondent could hardly expect to be 'kept on.' Manchester has not been so utterly dull. The Free Trade Hall and the Mechanics' Institute have been opened, and the Duke of WELLINGTON's statue inaugurated. The Bishop has been busy. The Half-holiday League has been at work. The Poor Law Guardians have been considering the Pigsties of Swinton. Mr. ROBSON has been playing at the Theatre Royal. The Municipal Elections have been going forward. There is a perpetual gossip, too, concerning the Art-Treasures. Sheffield is engaged (that is to say, ten gentlemen at a square table), as usual, in deploring the limitation of the Royal prerogative; and Newcastle-upon-Tyne (that is to say, five gentlemen at a round table) in censuring certain gentlemen for omitting to say, at a public meeting what they did say, unmistakably.

In Belfast, PICCOLOMINI has been singing, and the lost correspondent transmitted to London a critical article upon that event, which would have done credit to his taste, had it not been pirated from the *Northern Whig*. Then, the Right Honourable Sir JAMES MONCRIEFF, M.P., has been lecturing on Social Reform, Mr. HENRY NICHOLS has been trying to play the part of *Hamlet*, a cow has been stolen, and several Irish gentlemen have furnished puns on the eclipse. Away in Scotland the correspondents were in a bitter mood, complaining that they are too late for Balmoral and Mrs. STOWE, well aware how fervid is the interest inspired by the VICTORIA and SUTHERLAND circulars. The thrilling introduction that had been composed to the "Execution of JOHN M'MANUS" was compulsorily set aside, because JOHN M'MANUS had been respited. Nor was the reopening of Glasgow Cathedral a very inspiring affair. But a NAPOLEON has turned up in Dumbarton—a NAPOLEON verily; or, in other words, the Sheriff Substitute, who 'interdicts' the *Dumbarton Herald* from publishing a report of certain evidence in a libel case in which that journal is concerned with a Mr. DUNBAR. Accordingly, the *Herald* appears with a long blank column, marked, "This is where the report ought to have appeared." Who is the Sheriff Substitute, and where is Dumbarton? We should like to have the interdicted report in MS., that is to say, unless the DUNBAR interdict be a far-resounding thunder reaching to the Thames. At all events, next to the dreary DONALD ROSS picture of the depopulated 'lands of Sutherland,' where there has been a Norman sort of piracy, it would seem, this example of bureaucratic austerity is one of the most lively things just now talked of in Scotland. Thither have ticket-of-leave men betaken themselves in serious numbers; there, municipal elections approach, in one city and another; there, JOHN MACGREGOR, M.P., is talked of as being M.P. for the last time; there, the price of boots and shoes is raised, owing to the scarcity of leather; there, the desperation of bewildered well-meaners drives them to the infliction of 10*l.* fines in the interest of morality, which puts the money in its pocket, and is so far benefited. There, also, in Edinburgh especially, the law falls like a NASMYTH hammer upon crippled beggars and destitute orphans, upon the principle which actuated a worthy English justice lately, when he committed two men to prison for being able-bodied and penniless.

At Rochester, 'our own' went disconsolately to the Town Hall and heard a squabble about the Mayor. At Exeter he was favoured by a policeman with particulars of the bur-

glary at EVANS's. To Tewkesbury he carried a letter of introduction to the Town Clerk; but that functionary had run away with funds for the exercise of a safer hospitality at Copenhagen. In Bath he found the Corporation perplexed what to do with Mrs. Colonel GODFREY's stuffed birds. At Basingstoke he was slighted by the 'highly respectable' classes for going to hear a lecture by HENRY VINCENT; but redeemed himself by avowing that a lady from London who holds forth in that Town Hall periodically is a genius. At Brighton he heard the townspeople calling Lord ERNEST VANE TEMPEST a puppy, though the visitors were awe-struck by the apparition of that majestic young man, braving out his dismissal along the cliff on the box-seat of a drag. At Dover three gentlemen were encountered, who had been forty years abroad, and who contemplated coming up to London to start a morning paper on Conservative principles. Upon receipt of this intelligence the correspondents returned to town.

#### IT IS A LONG LAING THAT HAS NO TURNING.

WHAT is the great test of the country's welfare? Who is the greatest patriot of the day? We find an answer to this question in the exposition of political history and wisdom which Mr. LAING has laid before his constituents of the Scotch Northern Burghs. If we remember rightly, Mr. LAING entered the House of Commons as a philosophical Radical, or something very like it, but not as an impracticable. He also accommodated his views on many points to the opinions of his constituents, and was rather an Agnewite than otherwise. On the whole, he might be considered as intending to be a regular House of Commons man of the Liberal party. How greatly he has increased his wisdom since those days! He tells us, that when he last saw his constituents, he mistrusted Lord PALMERSTON's Government because they appeared to be coquetting with the war clamour in order to keep themselves in power.

"A few leading statesmen and orators, such as Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Bright, and, after his visit to Vienna, Lord John Russell—one solitary organ of the press supposed to represent the opinions of Mr. Disraeli—and here and there a stray independent member like myself, who happened to have some practical acquaintance with the state of opinion in Europe, were then the only advocates of principles which now are embodied in treaties and assumed as axioms."

This is a wonderful version of history! If we remember rightly, Mr. LAING was amongst those independent members who were rather rousing the Government to the war than damping its ardour. At that time, too, if we do not misrepresent him, he was for measures; now "I profess no great measures," he says, "for I have no faith in them." He is only for getting rid of fleets and armies, so that he may abolish the tax on 'knowledge,' (paper), 'providence' (insurance), on 'commerce with France' (wine), and on tobacco. He does not state what virtue tobacco represents. All this is to be done by getting rid of the war taxation and rendering the income-tax permanent. Then, he would make law language less cumbrous, improve the precautions against fraud, with a variety of other measures, all tending, however, to the one end.

With respect to foreign policy, he has a very simple measure, and modestly as he disclaims great ones, this invention appears to us quite to deserve the epithet:—

"I am satisfied, from a pretty extensive acquaintance with leading men on the Continent, that if by any means we could bind over the *Times*, the House of Commons, and the Foreign-office, to hold their tongues for ten years together about foreign matters, the cause of rational liberty abroad would be more advanced than by any other means that could possibly be devised."

Look after the shop at home, make journals, let members hold their tongues for ten



years on foreign affairs, and then we are likely to see that true test of national prosperity!—

"The ablest note of Lord Clarendon speaks with a feeble force compared with a *Stock Exchange List* or *Price Current*, which tells the people of a civilized country, by breakfast-time next morning, that their property is depreciated ten per cent. because their Government has committed a folly overnight."

Mr. LAING is, or was, Chairman of the Brighton Railway Company, Chairman of the Crystal Palace Company; he is, or he will be, Director, or something else, of Austrian railways. The progress of the world, he thinks, has superseded politics, and is leaving 'private enterprise to carry on the work of progress and civilization.' Your shareholder is the true patriot, and LAING is the Moses to lead us back from Egyptian darkness into the land of commercial wisdom. In short, the new LAING patriotism goes back to the Old Jewry.

## Open Council.

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

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

## ASSURANCE FOR ASSURERS.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—As it is considered that the article on "Assurance for Assurers," published in your last number, is calculated to somewhat mislead the public on this subject, may it be permitted to offer a few remarks in reply. The questions to be answered are—Of what does the population consist? what is the number of insurable lives out of the eighteen millions? how many are in such a position of life that they cannot afford to assure? how many are in poverty and distress? how many are just above the condition of paupers? how many are females, whose lives are rarely assured? how many are infants, or not at an insurable age? how many are in that condition of life not wishing to assure? how many whose lives are uninsurable? how many whose means are above the requirements of assurance? how many who never will assure? and how many who avail themselves of the benefits of Friendly Societies?

After making these several deductions, it will be found that the number of offices in existence is more than sufficient to transact all the business of assurance that will be effected for the next half century. Mr. Scratchley must well know, as a practical economist, that the lower the rate of annual expenditure in an assurance office the more profit to the assured. Could the established offices return the large bonuses in the shape of profits if the expenditure were not a small ratio of the receipts? Of what does the profit of life assurance principally consist? Why, a less rate of mortality with a higher rate of compound interest received than estimated in the tables, and lapsed policies combined with small expenditure. There cannot be monopoly in assurance on the mutual system.

The subdivision of the contributions of the public to so many offices inevitably increases enormously the rate of annual expenditure. For instance, by a recently published tabular analysis of the transactions of fifty-four life assurance companies, established within the last twelve years, it appears they received in capital, paid up, 548,869*l.*; in premiums and interest, 1,664,187*l.*; and expended in preliminary expenses, interest, dividends, commission to agents, and expenses of management, 1,017,100*l.* The expenditure and claims together averaging, on the net premium receipts, 85 per cent., including capital, 64 per cent. The expenditure alone averaging nearly 50 per cent. of capital, premiums, and interest received. Out of the fifty-four companies thirteen had ceased to exist, and at the present moment many

are negotiating for amalgamation,\* as well as several winding up in Chancery.

It certainly cannot be proved by experience that "there is room for three times as many assurance societies as now exist," for even several of the present established associations do not average two hundred policies per annum; they could transact ten times the business actually effected with very little additional annual expenditure.

If there be room for so many assurance societies, let it be asked what is the market value of the shares of many of the companies established within the last ten years? and, how many shareholders would be too glad to dispose of them at any sacrifice?

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

INVESTIGATOR.

**EAST LONDON SHOEBLACK SOCIETY.**—A meeting of the friends and promoters of ragged schools, and of the boys belonging to those schools, was held last Saturday evening in the Whitechapel Society's room. Tea having been partaken of, the report was read, from which it appeared that the liabilities had been paid off, and that the new Refuge, at 81, High-street, Whitechapel, had been opened for the reception of twenty-one homeless and vagrant boys, who were clothed, fed, lodged, educated, and taught tailoring, shoemaking, and shoeblicking, partly by their own earnings, and partly at the expense of the society. The practical workings of the society since its foundation were shown by a table, which exhibited that, out of three hundred and twenty-two boys admitted, one hundred and sixty-nine had left, forty-seven been dismissed as incorrigible, and one hundred and six reclaimed. Each of these latter boys had been effectually put into the way of obtaining his own living for the small sum of—excluding the Refuge operations—about 1*l.* The balance-sheet showed that the society had been nearly self-supporting during the past six months. In moving the adoption of the report, Dr. Tripe said, the receipts had been one-third more during the last half-year than they had been the six months before; and that, of the 754*l.* received, 616*l.* had been earned by the boys themselves—a statement which was greeted with applause. Mr. John Macgregor, barrister at law, then read a lecture, illustrated by diagrams and specimens of curiosities, on the history and antiquities of Egypt, with a view to showing that the prophecies of Scripture are verified by the facts which he was then describing. Vocal and instrumental music, poetical declamation by Mr. Payne (the chairman), and the singing by the boys of a sort of hymn descriptive of their past and present condition, formed other features of the evening's entertainment. Above a thousand persons were present, and the lady visitors numerically predominated.

**SHADE-TREES IN CITIES.**—A suggestion has been made in the *Building News* which is worthy of attention. The writer proposes that trees should be planted at proper intervals along some of our London thoroughfares, as in many of the American cities, both for the sake of an agreeable shadow in summer, and for picturesque and cheerfulness. Such a proceeding would indeed be merely a return to our old practice, for London was at one time a very leafy place, and is even now more so than some cities. The Cockney is notoriously fond of 'greenery'; and, if the trees would not be killed by the gas or the smoke, or by the ill-usage of the nomadic tribes of boys (whose hatred of anything beautiful seems to be instinctive and ineradicable), we do not see why something of a sylvan character should not be given to our dull brick-and-mortar avenues.—In connexion with this subject, a letter has appeared in the *Times* from a correspondent who signs himself "Sub Tegmine Fagi," and who states that householders at Brixton (where he lives) have been ordered by the parish vestry, in virtue of an act of William IV., relating to highways, to cut down, or prune and lop, all wayside trees and hedges, "in such manner that the road shall not be prejudiced by the shade thereof, and that the sun and wind may not be excluded from such road, to the damage thereof." The writer is greatly disgusted at this order, and not without reason. As long as there is power to enforce such regulations, farewell to all hope of "shade trees" for our cities!

**THE CHOLERA IN MADEIRA.**—The Board of Health at Funchal has officially certified the entire cessation of the terrible epidemic which has recently devastated the island of Madeira.

\* Had the above amount of 1,664,187*l.* been received by some of the older established institutions, the additional expenditure would not have exceeded one per cent., by which a million sterling would have been saved, accumulating at compound interest for future bonuses, now utterly lost to assurers.

The fact of the excessively high rates of commission paid to obtain business is known to be a growing evil in the reckless race of competition, as well as an enormous loss to policy-holders, and undoubted evidence that there are at present too many companies for the business to be transacted. In one society, where receipts are nearly half a million sterling per annum, the expenditure does not exceed 1½ per cent.; divide this amount between one hundred new schemes, and there is inevitably an enormous increase of expenditure, which the above figures testify.

**AGRICULTURAL MEETINGS.**—The annual meeting of the Herefordshire Agricultural Society took place last Saturday, Mr. Elias Chadwick, chairman for the year, being the president. One of the chief speakers was the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who congratulated the meeting on the improved state of agriculture, and the increased prosperity of agriculturists, since the repeal of the corn laws. These remarks were met with approval. Mr. Booker Blakemore alluded to the propriety of celebrating harvest home, and attending to the domestic deficiencies and comforts of the labourers. At the close of the harvest, he thought rich and poor should meet for religious thanksgiving, in the first place, and, after that, for the cultivation of good feeling by manly sports and pastimes. All the speakers alluded to the question of agricultural statistics, and the general opinion seemed to be that they would be very useful, but that they ought not to be enforced tyrannically or inquisitorially.—At the annual dinner of the Loughborough Agricultural Association, held on Friday week, Mr. Packe, M.P., who was in the chair, made some remarks on the same topic, contending that the publication of the exact state of their business, their stock in hand, &c., would be very prejudicial to farmers. He also asserted that Lord Palmerston and the Chancellor of the Exchequer are opposed to the measure on this subject introduced by their party last session, and withdrawn.

**THE SOCIOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.**—A society has been formed in London, under the name of the Sociological Institute. The prospectus says:—"The general objects of the Institute may be declared to be the promotion of the knowledge and practice of equitable human relations, in all the departments of life; or, in other words, to afford the means by which a true theory and a scientific system of society may be elucidated and enunciated, ultimately to be applied in practice by at least a portion of mankind—those who believe that social life comprehends a science which man must himself discover and apply if he would attain therein to the power now exercised by him in respect of the physical sciences, namely, the power of calculating effects by understanding and controlling causes."

**NORTH AUSTRALIAN EXPEDITION.**—Information has just reached this country from the North Australian expedition, under Mr. Surveyor Gregory, which, it will be remembered, was organized by the Royal Geographical Society, and undertaken by the Colonial-office. The expedition started from Sydney for Moreton-bay, and thence to the mouth of Stokes' Victoria River. On landing, the party were so unfortunate as to lose fourteen horses and one hundred and fifty sheep. Nothing daunted, however, a camp was established on the Victoria River, and, in the beginning of January, Mr. Gregory left with a party of nine officers and men to ascend the river, and ultimately arrived at its sources on sandstone ranges, 1400 feet above the level of the sea. These ranges run east and west, so that the opposite fall of water is consequently to the south. Crossing this water-parting, Mr. Gregory struck on a creek that led him three hundred miles further, to latitude 20 deg. 15 min. south, and longitude 127 deg. 45 min. west, where he discovered a salt lake in a sandy desert, correctly prognosticated by our great Australian explorer, Captain Sturt. From this point the party retraced their steps in safety, and Mr. Gregory was preparing for a second start from his depôt across the country to the east, as far as the Albert River, where he expects to find more fertile land.

**EARTHQUAKE AT MALTA.**—Some particulars of two severe shocks of earthquake recently felt at Malta are given by the *Times* Maltese correspondent, who writes:—"The steeple of Queen Adelaide's Church, from its height and tenuity, was naturally an object likely to be most seriously affected by undulations, and, in fact, five or six of the courses of stones from the point of the spire downwards have been so shaken and wrenched that they will probably have to be removed to be properly relaid. The stone cross and ball which crown the steeple are thrown out of their perpendicular, the former leaning to the westward and the latter to the eastward; while the pomegranate which formed the knob of the vase on Ponsonby's monument has been thrown to the ground. The dome of the Cathedral at Civita Vecchia, in the interior of the island, is rent, so as to admit the light, and the belfry is much shaken. The expenses necessary to repair the injuries done to the Cathedral alone are estimated at several thousands of pounds. A small room in Civita Vecchia, built of stone without mortar, fell in altogether. From all parts of the country we hear of buildings having been more or less damaged; among others, the new church at Musta, which is still unfinished, and the new church at Sliema, as also the church at Nasclarro. At Casal Siggreni, the belfry and a part of the roof of a small church called Tal Ghalia fell in; the dome of the parochial church was also seriously affected. Happily, we have heard of no loss of life."

**A NEW MODE OF PREACHING.**—The clergy of St. George's in the East have adopted the plan of preaching from the steps of the parish church, and large congregations have been collected, consisting of persons who it is supposed would not enter the building itself. The people who thus assemble pay marked attention to the sermons, and it is in contemplation to build for their use an iron church, with schools for the education of their children.

## 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 *Quarterly* is always agreeable reading, and generally contrives to give one striking article to furnish diners-out with a topic; the last number contains much facile reading, but no one remarkable paper. BACON'S *Essays* as annotated by WHATELY is touched in an anecdotic manner. Here is a passage on the suppression of the indications of poverty:—

A gentleman in narrow circumstances quoted the common saying, "Poverty is no crime," and was answered, "Yes, but it is worse." Many prove that they are seriously of this opinion by the dishonest arts which they practise to get money. Others look down upon the indigent as though the things external to a man, and not the man himself, were the proper objects of regard. All such people earn the stern rebuke of Gray that their poverty is in their mind. Archbishop Whately, however, dwells upon the just distinction that though poverty is not disgraceful, the exhibition of it is felt to be indecent. "A man of sense is not ashamed of confessing it; but he keeps the marks of it out of sight." He mentions that a person, who disputed the assertion, observed in refutation of it, "Why this coat that I now have on I have had turned because I could not well afford a new one, and I care not who knows it." His instance, as the Archbishop acutely remarks, proved the point he was controverting, or he would have worn the coat without turning. "He might have had it scoured, if needful; but though clean, it would still have looked threadbare; and he did not like to make this display of poverty." If his principle had been correct he would have been content in weather, when he did not require it for warmth, to walk the streets, or call upon his friends, without any coat at all, and might have alleged the same reason, that he could not well afford to wear one every day. Ignorance of this difference between shame of poverty itself, and shame of being compelled to expose it in ways which are a violation of the established proprieties of life, has given rise to many erroneous judgments. Among the companions of Reynolds, when he was studying his art at Rome, was a fellow-pupil of the name of Astley. They made an excursion, with some others, on a sultry day, and all except Astley took off their coats. After several taunts he was persuaded to do the same, and displayed on the back of his waistcoat a foaming waterfall. Distress had compelled him to patch his clothes with one of his own landscapes. His reluctance to exhibit his expedient is imputed by one biographer to "a proud heart." It was more likely to be due to a sense of decorum.

And here is another on professions of disinterestedness:—

La Rochefoucauld has said that self-interest speaks all sorts of languages and personates all kinds of parts, even that of disinterestedness. There is none which the greedy petitioners for place personate so often. The transparent and disgusting hypocrisy of desiring preferment purely for the good of the country and from a sense of public duty, is stated by Lord Brougham to be incessant. Once, on his remarking to Lord Melbourne that nobody could tell till he came into office how base men were, the latter humorously replied, "On the contrary, I never before had such an opinion of human virtue, for I now find that self-denial is the sole motive in seeking advancement, and personal gain the only thing that is never dreamt of."

This might have been extended by reference to those modest authors who assure us in their speeches and prefaces that "Truth is their only object"—pence, position, reputation, of course, never entering into their motives. Dr. CARPENTER is so enamoured of this formula that in a new edition of one of his books "the Author refers with satisfaction to the following passage in the preface to his former edition: *Truth is his only object, &c., &c.*" M. CHEVREUL told the Académie Française that his chemical investigations had been prompted from first to last by but one motive—Truth. Of course the assembled savans received this statement with entire confidence. For the sake of variety we should be glad to hear some man avow his real objects besides Truth.

Another amusing paper in the *Quarterly* is one on "French Algeria," which picturesquely describes the present appearance and the past history of that colony. Those who meditate a visit to Algiers, either for curiosity, health, or the desire "to kill one lion which has eaten a man," should read this paper. "New biographies of Montaigne" is a pleasant, biographical sketch of the old Gascon moralist; and "Ancient Rome" an elaborate topographical essay. A capital subject, "The Physiognomy of the Human Form," has been spoiled by the meagre and heavy treatment of the reviewer, whose paper has, however, the one unintentional merit of thoroughly warning the intelligent reader against CARUS's works on that subject.

Those who have read the article on "Botanical Geography" in the last *Edinburgh*, will be interested in the far abler and more entertaining treatment of the same topic in *La Revue des Deux Mondes*, by M. CHARLES MARTINS, the translator of GOETHE's works on Botany and Zoology. He says that without any exaggeration one may reckon the number of species already described in books, or existing in collections, at 120,000; and if we reckon the number of species which probably exist on the entire surface of the globe, we must agree with M. DE CANDOLLE in estimating it at from 400,000 to 500,000. A pleasant exercise for the botanical memory!

M. REMUSAT continues his exposition of the state of Religious Controversy in England with an estimate of COLERIDGE and ARNOLD. He contradicts the opinion current in France that only political liberty is permitted in England, and refers to the labours of Mr. HOLYOAKE, especially to his public discussions, as evidence that the utmost freedom of opinion is possible even on religious matters. He says: "M. Holyoake est un gentleman qui s'est donné la triste tâche non seulement de signaler les abus et les fautes de toutes les églises, mais encore d'établir sinon que Dieu n'existe pas, au moins qu'il est impossible et inutile de savoir s'il existe." We know not whether the word "gentleman" is meant as a sarcasm pointing to the "triste tâche," but if perfect integrity, and undeviating courtesy accompanying unflinching firmness, are the attributes of a gentleman, all who know Mr. HOLYOAKE

will, even when differing most widely from him, declare that the title is his without any sarcasm. M. REMUSAT's estimate of COLERIDGE will offend the admirers of that singularly overrated man who fancied himself a Platonist on the slenderest acquaintance with PLATO, and who persuaded many that he was an original thinker by audacious plagiarisms from German philosophers. That COLERIDGE exercised a very powerful influence on his age, by influencing many remarkable minds, is unquestionable; but to those who were never within the sphere of his personal fascination, and who can not, in imagination, place themselves in that intellectual condition when German thought first began to stir in English minds, it will ever remain a surprising example of personal faith, for which no published documents give any reasonable grounds.

## SEA ANEMONES.

*A Manual of the Sea Anemones commonly found on the English Coast.* By the Rev. George Tugwell.

Van Voorst.

A WRITER in *Blackwood* the other day spoke of "the Rev. George Tugwell, so well and so honorably known to the Anemones of Ilfracombe," and this little volume assures us that the Anemones may be proud of their acquaintance, the more so as he will certainly increase the thronging crowds of their admirers by this *Manual*, the illustrations to which are triumphs of colour-printing, and almost equal in beauty the delicate creatures they portray. The diagrams and woodcuts with which books on Natural History endeavour to convey images of these lovely marine animals are better than nothing—but that is all we can say for them. No one would recognize an *Actinia Bellis*, or a *Gem*, or a *Snipe feather*, or a *Frog*, or an *Aurora*, from a woodcut. He might gather a rude rudimentary approximative notion of what an Anemone was, as distinguished from a *Sertularia*, or a *Tubularia*; but without colour no illustration could guide him to more specific knowledge. In this *Manual* we have large and admirably drawn figures of the animals in their natural aspects, as they expand under overhanging boulders and bloom in dark crevices, not as they appear in spirits of wine. No one having seen these illustrations will be at a loss to identify the animals when he comes upon them on the coast.

But what is an Anemone? The first chapter of this *Manual* is devoted to an explanation. Books of reference, Mr. Tugwell finds, are not quite so explanatory as initial ignorance could wish:—

"A sea-anemone," I find it said, "is a radiate animal—an actiniform polyp. Body single, fleshy, conoid, fixed by its base. Locomotive. Mouth in centre of upper disc, surrounded by one or more series of conical, tubular, retractile tentacula."

There—what do you think of that? Supposing you had never seen a sea-anemone, do you believe you could go down instantly to the rocks, and bring back a specimen or two without any difficulty?

Certainly not. Accordingly he takes us a pleasant circuit of the animal kingdom, for which most readers will be grateful; and at the end of the promenade the reader finds that he has got a tolerable idea of what the animal is, and the pictures will tell him what it is like. The question then presents itself, Where is the Anemone to be found? and the second chapter is devoted to it. How charmingly Mr. Tugwell writes of his favourites and their chase may be gathered from these extracts:—

Let us go down to the rock together. It is a glorious afternoon in the early summer time. A cool sea-wind is blowing from the westward; and the vertical sun-blaze is quenched from time to time by solitary masses of soft white cloud majestically rolling in from Lundy, or dimmed by those delicately-barred and fringed troops of cirri which are sailing in the upper current of air from the far-off line of the Welsh Mountains. Yesterday a heavy ground-sea was surging in from the Atlantic, but now a scarcely perceptible rise and fall of the waveless tide is swirling among the distant peaks of rock, and playing with the sea-weed tangles, as a strong man with the glistening tresses of the wife of his heart.

The tides are at their "spring," with a fall of two-and-thirty feet, and another hour will bring us to the flood—what more, then, can a naturalist desire? Let us go. Suppose we leave the Promenade and the Tunnels to our friends—especially him of the "practical" mind—and climb yonder range of hills, where seven Torrs, like seven fair jewels in a king's crown, sun-embellished, beautiful, girdle this pleasant valley, and hush the din of the shore-breakers on stormy winter nights. Across the fern-hidden, wandering, many-voiced Wilder. Past the hazles and the hawthorns, and the meadow-grass, where the corn-crake shrills in the land, day and night, his dry and carking ditty. Under the furze copse, where the heavy-scented glories of its golden blossoms are gleaming, where the crisp purple heather and the climbing scarlet tangles of the dodder and the fresh green volutes of the young fern-leaves, yield a home and a happy "pleasance" to the insects, and the birds, and the countless, restless troops of the rabbits, who, among the well-known mazes, hold perpetual holiday. Another step, and we stand on the verge of a precipice, and look down upon the grey rocks, a hundred feet beneath us, and faintly hear the quiet breathings of the sunlit sea. We will follow this sheep-track, which winds round the edge of the cliff—a dangerous path enough on winter evenings when a heavy gale is blowing from the westward, and the long Atlantic rollers are breaking in foam-clouds on the shore. But there is no hazard on this quiet afternoon, so onwards, rapidly and fearlessly; and now we descend the triangular slope of Torr Point, carpeted with the slippery, shining grass of the sea-thrift, and fringed with the white campion blossoms and the salt foliage of the samphire.

They come upon a large and shallow pool:—

It is very beautiful, perfectly clear and transparent, mirroring every cloud-shadow, and reflecting the glare of the sun, so that at first we can see little but its wind-ruffled surface. The dense, pink-hued coralline-tufts line its margin, then the delicately-lobed, waving foliage of the green laver, and beyond the dark crisp thickets of the Carrageen moss, whose every branch hurls back a changeful, many-tinted rainbow of light. Here at the verge of the pool we find a noble prey, "the waxen-armed Anthea," *Anthea cereus*, or, as he is unpolitely surnamed in these parts, "Legs;" his body is of an olive-green hue, and thence depend a forest of long, waving, snake-like green tentacles, with bright purple tips. Next to him is another variety, slate-coloured throughout, and some day we may be fortunate enough to meet with a specimen which shall be white as the fallen snow. This *Anthea* is generally found in shallow, sunny pools, and quite close to the water's edge, so that he too is fond of air though not as much so as his neighbour, the "common" anemone.

Still lower, here under the shadow of an overhanging rock, is a sheltered corner, and a bed of fine shingle just covered with water, and a sight which you will not forget for many a day. What a magnificent "bloom!" it is too large for a "show"



Chrysanthemum, and too gorgeously arrayed; it is a good four inches across, pearly-white in the centre, then a broad ring of translucent lake, and then the petals!—row after row of transparent tentacles ringed with lake and delicate brown, and pearly white. Does not this come up to your "heart's desire?" If not, you must be very hard to please. Ah! you have touched it, and it has vanished entirely; we can see nothing but gravel, and a little crab, which is scuttling away sideways, in a state of pugnacious amazement. Now, if you put your hand down upon the place where you last saw the flower, you will feel a round lump of gravel; scrape away all the loose stones round it, and then with the knife detach it very gently from its resting-place, or, if the rock be soft, chisel it away as patiently as you can. This is *Actinia coriacea* (the "thick-skinned" anemone), and he puts on this coat of stones to conceal and defend himself, and every stone is attached by means of minute suckers, with which his body is covered. Recollect that the least injury done to this anemone is generally fatal, and also remember that you may frequently discover him when he is not expanded, by feeling diligently in shingly nooks and corners just covered by the water, or even at the bottom of deep pools. There are innumerable varieties of this kind; the body is generally marbled with red and orange, and always studded with large white or opal tubercles or warts, but the colour of the disk and tentacles—i. e. of the expanded bloom,—is infinite in its changes: russet-green, crimson and white, red and orange, heather-tinted, dove-colour and lake,—every possible gradation of these and every other colour, though I can't say I ever saw a blue sea-anemone, which is as great a desideratum as a blue dahlia.

Having arrived at the extremity of the point, and at the lowest level of the lowest tide, we will set our crowbar to work. Here is a large rock, well sheltered from the Atlantic swell, well covered with coralline and sea-weed, and well situated in the midst of a large pool, so that its base is always under water in all weathers. Now, heave and with a will! Over it rolls! Away rush half a dozen bull-heads, and a young conger, viciously writhing, and lashing his tail as though he would do us a mischief if he could; and only look at the crabs! Let us pick up that flat, hairy, dingy little rascal: he is a curiosity, by name *platycheles*, or "the broad-clawed," and very broad his claws are, for the pair of them side by side would more than cover his whole body: he is of a rather sulky disposition,—a little crabbed, we should say, if it wasn't for the apparent pun,—but he will lie harmlessly enough with our anemones when we get him home. Here is a pink button sticking to the stone, streaked with vertical lines of small opal dots or tubercles, six or more of these lines being very distinctly composed of larger tubercles of an opaque white colour. This is *Actinia gemmacea*, "the gem," or, in the vernacular, "buttons." He will disclose about fifty snaky, barred and spotted tentacles, and his mouth is of a brilliant green, and there are half a dozen other colours you will discover in him when he is well opened to-morrow. This is a treasure; it is common enough on the North Devon coast, but almost peculiar to that locality.

The third chapter—"What is its name?"—is devoted to a classification of the Anemones such as will enable the amateur to identify the treasures he has found. We observe, among the varieties of *Mesembryanthemum*, Mr. Tugwell has omitted to notice the Invisible Green—in the pools it appears jet black. We believe the variety is uncommon, but we found it on the rocks of Waterwynch, near Tenby, and its colour is sufficiently marked for a variety.

Chapter IV. is "How shall I keep it Alive," and contains excellent practical suggestions on the subject of Aquaria. Chapter V. is on the habits of the Animal, and Chapter VI. is on the distinctions of Genera and Species. Thus are all the questions which a popular Manual can pretend to answer answered in this work, which the naturalist will read with interest, and the amateur earnestly desire to possess. When the reader goes to the sea-side, let him place this little volume in his carpet-bag.

### THE HISTORY OF THE SARACENS.

*The History and Conquests of the Saracens.* By Edward A. Freeman, M.A.

J. H. and J. Parker.

THIS volume has grown out of a course of Lectures delivered by Mr. Freeman before the Philosophical Institution of Edinburgh. It contains a neat summary of the principal facts of Saracenic, or, rather, Mohammedan history, beginning with the birth of the Prophet, and ending with the fall of the Indian Moguls. We are glad to receive such a book from the hands of a competent scholar, because it will supersede a variety of illiterate compilations that are circulated merely on account of their popular form and strong pretensions. Mr. Freeman is not an Oriental scholar; we do not even find that he is acquainted, to any extent, with the writings of English and French Orientalists on the military and social annals of El-Islam; in treating of the Mogul dynasty, he makes not a single allusion (except an evasion in the preface) to Erskine's great work, a study of which is absolutely essential to a comprehension of the characters both of Timour and his successor; but with these, and with other obvious shortcomings, the work is nevertheless a sound one, and, though small, deserving of a place in historical collections. The distribution of the narrative into sections, though arbitrary, has been carried out upon an intelligible plan. To comprehend the chronicles of the Mohammedan empire and conquest, it is essential to take a survey of the condition of the known world at the date of the prophet's birth. The first period naturally includes the story of his personal career, and the analysis of the religion he established. The second, less necessarily, though appropriately enough, is confined to the romantic history of his earlier successors, the subjugation of Persia, Syria, and Egypt, the origin of the great schism between the adherents and the foes of Ali, the Caliphates of Damascus, and the erection of the dynasty of Abbas. In the third period the Abbassides decline; the Saracen power is weakened and divided; rival Caliphates spring up in Egypt and Spain; various Turkish families rise to sovereignty in the East; the crusades are commenced; the vast Saracenic Empire crumbles away. A separate, though partly parallel narration takes in the progress of the Mohammedans in Western Europe—the Spanish Caliphate and its offspring of minor states, with the Saracenic settlements of France, Italy, Sicily, and Crete. Finally, in the remoter East, Islamism assumes several distinct and curious shapes—in the Persian line of the Sophis, the Tartar line of the Moguls, the wars of Ishmael and Baber, the trophies of Abbas, the virtues of Akbar, the disasters that befel the Mohammedan dynasty in Hindostan after the death of Aurungzebe.

Two conspicuous empires divided the rule of the civilized world, when Mohammed appeared. On the Western throne sat Justin II., on the Eastern, Khosru, surnamed Nurshivan. The edicts of Justin were still obeyed from

the Atlantic to the Euphrates, almost round the Mediterranean Sea, far through Europe, through Asia Minor, Syria, and part of Armenia. His rival, a prince of the Sassanidæ, was perhaps as powerful, and far more illustrious. Thus, the sovereign governments of the epoch were not idolatrous, for the Persians were not idolaters. Mr. Freeman does well in insisting upon this point. He is perhaps wrong in calling them heathens, unless the Mohammedans themselves are heathenish; for surely the faith of the Prophet is far less spiritual, far less exalted than that of the supremely pure and subtle creed of the Magi. We think Mr. Freeman is not altogether right in describing the Persian deity as scarcely a personal being, but a dim and shadowy abstraction. The Oracles call him Father; to his Mind is attributed the creation of all things; he is the Unbegotten Dispenser of all Good, Self-taught, Wise, and the Only Inventor of the Sacred Philosophy. However, it is true that popular superstition had corrupted the doctrines of Zoroaster by introducing visible, though at the same time natural, types and objects of adoration; it is true, also, that mysticism had worked its way deeply among the Magian priesthood. But the precepts of their faith were sublime; they stood at an immeasurable elevation above the pagan races of the more distant East, and it will ever remain doubtful whether Mohammedanism did not disseminate coarser and less ennobling principles, at least in the Persian Empire. But in Arabia, in the deserts in the midst of which it sprang, the patriarchal monotheism had been to a great extent supplanted by the adoration of subordinate powers; national, local, and family idols were worshipped; first-fruits and oblations were offered idolatrously; the antique Kaaba of Mecca was crowded with graven and molten images: hither Mohammed came as a real reformer. To the Sabæans his teaching was purification; by the Magi it was scarcely needed. But beyond the Sabæan and Magian boundaries stood the gloomy state edifices of India, far away in Central Asia mouldered the relics of the Bactrian rule, the Gothic monarchy flourished in Spain, the Merovingian dynasty survived in Gaul. In Northern Europe pagan doctrine still possessed the minds of the uncultured nations, though the mission of Augustine to England had taken place. From Northern Asia the Turkish and Mongolian hordes were pouring still further northwards beyond the Caspian and Euxine seas; the Roman frontier on the Danube was menaced by Huns, Avars, and Chazars, who had traversed regions, now known as Russian and Turkish, but then unsettled and unsubdued. Everywhere beyond the limits of the empires of Justin and Khosru nations were migrating, barbarians were ruling, and unintellectual tyrannies were preparing the way for war and revolution.

At this period, the career of Mohammed was an apparition, surprising and troubling the world. With reference to its effects, Mr. Freeman's views are sufficiently liberal; but he does not adopt the extravagant idea that a Mohammedan state upon the borders of Christian Europe is a political necessity. Mohammed himself he respects as a civil and religious reformer in Arabia, as a man who could gather the scattered tribes of his people into one united nation, and sweep away the idolatry of the Kaaba. But, in his own day, he has an antipathy to the Turk, and a sympathy with the Arab, illustrating his opinions on this point by a reference to those of Sir Arthur Elton, who admitted some of Mr. Freeman's contributions among his well-known *Tracts for the Times*.

Persia, Syria, Africa, Spain, the countries beyond the Oxus, saw the lurid light of the Crescent flash across and far beyond their borders. But the early Saracens were not the cruel conquerors that their successors in power, the Ottomans, proved themselves to be. In the record of their Government, we find no parallel to the massacres of Chios or the devastation of Crete; even the bloody Abbassides were less ferocious than the successors of Othman. Among these Abbassides it is remarkable that Haroun-al-Rashid, the contemporary and correspondent of Charlemagne, the most celebrated of his lineage, was by no means the most estimable. He has been made an Alfred, an Arthur, a Solomon; yet even the mythical history of his reign depicts him as a capricious despot, who could be as merciless as any Suleiman, and who never acted with a magnanimity analogous to that of Khosru. Upon this topic Mr. Freeman has some very apt remarks. Haroun threatens the grand vizier of the Caliphate and all his relations with death because a corpse is found in the Tigris; he then forgives them because they tell him an extraordinary story. He assassinates his minister Jaffier, and slaughters the Barmecides, without the least justification; he drinks wine in defiance of his vows, and of the national religion; he is a slave-hunter and an adorer of vanities. The reason of his historical elevation, however, is to be found in the circumstance that, like another Louis XIV., he gave his reign a meretricious aspect of glory. Under his successor was witnessed the contrast of a declining empire.

Mr. Freeman assigns no sufficient reason for refusing to Timour the glory of founding in India the great dynasty of the Moguls. He overthrew the existing dynasty, broke up the old empire, assumed the dominion of the vast peninsula, and left it to his successors. Baber was his descendant, and Baber established the Turki line at Delhi, by virtue of the triumphs of arms and polity accomplished by Timour. Humayun, Akbar, Jehanghir, Shah Jehan, Aurungzebe, close this magnificent succession of princes, who created in Hindostan an empire of fitful glory, which passed away, leaving little more than a multitude of vain monuments to commemorate its existence. The reader interested in these fascinating episodes of history will find them treated concisely, with refinement yet with vigour, by Mr. Freeman.

### THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

*The Eighteenth Century; or, Illustrations of the Manners and Customs of our Grandfathers.* By Alexander Andrews.

Chapman and Hall.

ACCORDING to the expectations formed by the reader, and his knowledge of the subject, this book will receive two very different verdicts. Those who want a philosophical or well-informed guide through the winding ways of the eighteenth century, had better not open Mr. Andrews's volume; they will find in it neither literature nor learning above the standard of a second-rate magazine. But to a large class of readers—persons who like light gossip books, and are altogether uncritical—Mr. Andrews offers a succes-

sion of chapters on Fashionable Life—Costume—Marriage Customs—Public Amusements—Street Fairs—Trade and Commerce—Servants—Literature—Newspapers—the Drama—Gambling—Duelling—State of the Roads—Public Conveyances—and so forth, which contain details piquant enough, and suggest strange reflections. As a writer, Mr. Andrews, never excellent, is sometimes facetious, and then he is hilarious with puns of this quality:—

The fashionable world will have to take refuge in the Arctic regions, where it will certainly be *ice-elated* enough, and whence it can send its fashions in "furs and other novelties of the winter season," by the returning whale-ships.

Or this:—

"Merrie Islington" presented all the appearance of a fair throughout the year; it might, in fact, be said to be a complete *fair-y* land."

Describing the "Rake's Progress," Mr. Andrews says:—

Here the man of fashion, in his *deshabillé*, is surrounded by professors—the dancing-master, the French teacher of the small-sword, the English master of quarterstaff, the landscape-gardener, anxious to get the *rake* in his hands.

In each case the italics are the author's, and they kindly point out to us that a joke is meant. There are several such facetiæ in the volume. They did not greatly amuse us.

Mr. Andrews not unfrequently falls into a laxity of language peculiar to those who write much and think little, but at no time agreeable to read, which would in France be severely criticized, because in France writers are jealous of the purity of their language. What a sentence is this, for example:—

An anecdote is told of Garrick's visit to the fair, when we should opine that David's vanity must have sustained a little mortification.

Pascal admirably says there are *des mots déterminants, et qui font juger de l'esprit d'un homme*; there are also determining sentences, which gauge the style of a writer; the sentence just quoted is one: it is not the worst in Mr. Andrews's volume, but it is typical of the laxity into which he occasionally sinks.

To readers of fine culture, therefore, we cannot commend this *Eighteenth Century*; nor to readers desirous of accurate and exhaustive information. Much of the material has been picked up from very common places; Mr. Harrison Ainsworth is actually cited as an authority in one case! and where the information is derived from less accessible sources, we do not feel that confidence in the ample knowledge of the writer which would assure us that the matter was thoroughly trustworthy. But, we repeat, the mass of readers being both ignorant and uncritical, will probably find in this volume much that is both novel and interesting; at any rate "there's no offence in't." We will select a passage or two:—

#### MUFFS.

The large muffs which were in vogue about the middle of the century, must, one would think, have given the gentlemen somewhat of an effeminate appearance, and were in ludicrous contrast to the warlike sword that was girt about their waists. In two of Hogarth's pictures we have examples from which to judge of the effect of these appendages of winter dress, namely, in "Taste in High Life," and in the "Arrest for Debt" scene of the "Rake's Progress."

They appear to have been most in fashion about 1760-70, and only exceptional at other periods of the century. The sporting Earl of March writes thus in 1766, to George Selwyn, at Paris: "The muff you sent me by the Duke of Richmond I like prodigiously; vastly better than if it had been of tigré, or of any glaring colour—several are now making after it." And again: "Pray bring me two or three bottles of perfume to put amongst powder, and some patterns for velvets that are new and pretty." Might we not fancy it was a lady's letter, instead of a young nobleman's?—in after-years the infamous "Old Q." of Piccadilly.

"Might we not fancy?" asks Mr. Andrews. Fancy has wide latitude, indeed, but its privileges scarcely extend to such complete emancipation from syntax as this of a lady's letter becoming in after-years the infamous "Old Q."

#### FLEET MARRIAGES.

Idlers about Fleet Market were often amused by the sight of a carriage, surrounded by the parsons and their "touters," as coaches near the theatres are besieged by vendors of play-bills, while the cries rang round of "A parson, sir?" "I am the clerk and registrar of the Fleet." "This way, madam, that fellow will carry you to a little puddling alehouse." "Come with me! he will take you to a brandy-shop!" &c. Here we must again quote Mr. Knight for a graphic account of the marriage ceremony which ensued:—"As the party ascend the prison stairs, and pass along the gallery, they receive various invitations to stop. A coal-heaver is especially pressing: 'This,' says he, 'is the famous Lord Mayor's chapel; you will get married cheaper here than in any other part of the Fleet!' The parson who has got the job looks daggers at him, but receives a horse-laugh in reply; and, by-the-by, the pair are fortunate—their worthy conductor is sober to-day. They enter his rooms. There is a hint about brandy and wine, which the excellent priest deals in, as well as wedlock, and both are called for; and the ceremony now proceeds, and is performed, on the whole, decently enough." "But," says Mr. Knight, with great significance, "woe betide the bridegroom if he has not made up his mind to pay handsomely, even according to the Fleet standard, otherwise he will not soon forget the Fleet parson's lesson in 'Billingsgate.'"

Mr. Andrews quotes from the *Grub Street Journal* the following:—

"Since Midsummer last, a young lady of birth and fortune was deluded and forced from her friends, and, by the assistance of a wry-necked swearing parson, married to an atheistical wretch, whose life is a constant practice of vice and debauchery. And, since the ruin of my relation, another lady of my acquaintance had like to have been trepanned in the following manner: The lady had appointed to meet a gentlewoman at the old playhouse in Drury-lane, but extraordinary business prevented her coming. Being alone, when the play was over, she bade a boy call a coach for the City. One dressed like a gentleman helps her into it and jumps in after her. 'Madam,' says he, 'this coach was called for me, and since the weather is so bad, and there is no other, I beg leave to bear you company. I am going into the City, and will set you down wherever you please.' The lady begged to be excused, but he bade the coachman drive on. Being come to Ludgate-hill, he told her his sister, who waited his coming five doors up the court, would go with her in two minutes. He went and returned with his pretended sister, who asked her to step in but one minute, and she would wait upon her in the coach. The poor lady foolishly followed her into the house, when instantly the sister vanished, and a tawny fellow in a black coat and a black wig appeared. 'Madam, you are come in good time: the doctor was just a-going.' 'The doctor!' says she, horribly frightened, fearing it was a madhouse; 'what has the doctor to do with me?' 'To marry you to that gentleman; the doctor has waited

for you these three hours, and will be paid by you or that gentleman before you go.' 'That gentleman,' says she, recovering herself, 'is worthy a better fortune than mine,' and begged hard to be gone. But Doctor Wryneck swore she should be married, or if she would not he would still have his fee, and register the marriage from that night. The lady finding she could not escape without money or a pledge, told them she liked the gentleman so well she would certainly meet him to-morrow night, and gave them a ring as a pledge, 'which,' says she, 'was my mother's gift on her deathbed, enjoining that, if ever I married, it should be my wedding-ring.' By which cunning contrivance she was delivered from the black doctor and his tawny crew."

The lady who gives this account of the hazardous adventure of her friend, was curious to see something of these Fleet marriages. "So," she says, "some time after this I went with this lady and her brother, in a coach, to Ludgate-hill in the daytime, to see the manner of their picking up people to be married. As soon as our coach stopped near Fleet-bridge, up comes one of the myrmidons. 'Madam,' says he, 'you want a parson?' 'Who are you?' says I. 'I am the clerk and registrar of the Fleet.' 'Show me the chapel.' At which comes a second, desiring me to go along with him. Says he, 'That fellow will carry you to a puddling alehouse.' Says a third, 'Go with me—he will carry you to a brandy-shop.' In the interim comes the doctor: 'Madam,' says he, 'I'll do your job for you presently.' 'Well, gentlemen,' says I, 'since you can't agree, and I can't be married quietly, I'll put it off till another time;' so drove away."

The open manner in which these things were done, as well as the competition existing among the several parsons, are shown in the following advertisement, of which scores of a similar kind appeared in the newspapers:

"Marriages with a license, certificate, and a crown stamp, at a guinea, at the new chapel, next door to the china-shop, near Fleet-bridge, London, by a regular-bred clergyman, and not by a Fleet parson, as is intimated in the public papers: and, that the town may be freed of mistakes, no clergyman, being a prisoner in the rules of the Fleet, dare marry, and, to obviate all doubts, the chapel is not in the verge of the Fleet, but kept by a gentleman who was lately chaplain on board one of his Majesty's men-of-war, and likewise who had gloriously distinguished himself in defence of his king and country, and is above committing those little mean actions that some men impose on people, being determined to have everything conducted with the utmost decency and regularity, such as shall all be supported in law and equity."

This worthy, while he indignantly repels the insinuation that he was a Fleet parson, was, by his own confession at least, a chaplain in the fleet.

With the flavour of this last joke in their mouths our readers may part from the *Eighteenth Century*.

### THE CAMEL IN PEACE AND WAR.

*The Camel: his Organization, Habits and Uses, considered with reference to his Introduction into the United States.* By George P. Marsh. Trübner.

A GRANT of thirty thousand dollars was made last year by the Government of the United States, for the introduction of a camel train into the American army. For a long period the practicability of this scheme had been considered—by Mr. G. P. Marsh especially, who during a protracted residence in the Turkish territories, entered into a series of investigations in connexion with his favourite idea. He journeyed in Egypt, Nubia, Arabia Petræa, and Syria, saw the Turcoman camels, and others of northern breeds, employed in Asia Minor, and at Constantinople, consulted the works of naturalists and travellers, and convinced himself that camels might advantageously be introduced into the United States, not for military purposes only. It was unnecessary, perhaps, in support of this conclusion, to begin so vigorously *ab ovo* as to urge that the first command addressed to the human species by the Creator, enjoined it to have dominion over all other orders of living things. Some writers, American writers particularly, will have a solemn exordium; but we are talking about camels, and it is afflicting to struggle with an introductory chapter which might have been composed by Lord Kaime or Goguet, or by young Rousseau, in an eccentric mood.

With respect to camels, he is, perhaps, not unjustifiably prolix. Sir Gardner Wilkinson, in his bold book on Egypt, denies that the Orientals call this animal the Ship of the Desert, and Ritter confirms his assertion. Mr. Marsh is well read upon that point. One after another he hurls at Sir Gardner and Ritter, Sir William Jones, Langlès, Daumas, an anonymous Arab poet, and Hammer-Purgstall, so that we consider Wilkinson and Ritter confuted. But, not to idle among the generalities of the subject, where Mr. Marsh is pleased too long to linger, it may be interesting to survey the grounds upon which it is held that the camel may be successfully introduced into the United States. The regions to the west of the Mississippi are principally kept in view in this discussion. So far as mere extremes of temperature are concerned they present none more violent than are to be found in the oldest homes of the camel, no fiercer or more continuous heats or withered deserts than those in which the Arabian species thrives in perfection, no colder latitudes than those in which the Bactrian species has been perfectly naturalized. It is true that the western continent has, generally, a moister climate, subject to more frequent rains, than the eastern; and the camel thrives principally in countries which, during a long season at least, are dry. Yet they are found in the valley of the lower Danube, and in several Northern Asiatic districts subject to very similar climatic conditions. In the cold and damp provinces of Russia they are less liable to disease, and attain greater longevity than in any other parts of the world. In the Crimea they are not used during the hot months, their services being most valuable during the bleak winters of that peninsula.

Moreover, those portions of the North American continent in which it is proposed to naturalize the camel are exceptions to the generally moist influence of the climate. They comprise the driest and least fertile surfaces;—the Great Plain which forms the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains, and the Great Basin of the interior. The first division includes nearly the entire valley of the Rio Grande, and stretches to the northernmost boundary of the Union. Throughout this vast space, which has an area considerably greater than that of all the American states east of the Alleghanies, the total annual precipitation nowhere exceeds twenty-five inches, and only in a limited district attains that average. In the Great Basin the precipitation is less. Large tracts, indeed, closely resemble the deserts of Arabia, though they are less sandy, pasturage being afforded in adequate quantities, though the supplies of water are rare. There is, however, says Mr. Marsh, no



evidence of the existence of any American desert where water cannot be obtained as often as the animal economy of the camel requires it. None of the passes of the Rocky Mountains are more rugged or precipitous than those of Arabia or Tartary, and it is to be believed that, other circumstances being favourable, all the known routes between the Pacific and the Mississippi would prove entirely practicable for the transport of military or commercial stores by camel trains. On alluvial and other soft soils, the caravans would, no doubt, be compelled during rains to halt and wait for the drying up of the ground; but this is an interruption to which even the emigrant waggon drivers are accustomed.

So far, then, as climate and soil are concerned, it may be regarded as quite certain that the Bactrian camel can sustain any exposure to which he would be subjected in our trans-Mississippian territory; and there is no reason to doubt that the mezquit-acacia, and other shrubs, and the saline plants, known to exist in many of those regions, would furnish him an appropriate and acceptable nutriment.

It is not impossible that some of our desert plants attractive to the palate of the camel may prove injurious to him; but in this event, that mysterious law of nature, whereby even animal instincts accommodate themselves to new conditions, will soon teach him to avoid them. It is observed in the sheep-growing states of New England, that sheep, brought from localities where the laurel (*Kalmia*) is unknown, to those where it abounds, often feed upon its foliage and are poisoned by it, while those which are bred in pastures half-covered by this shrub very seldom touch it.

Of the Arabian camel, Mr. Marsh does not write with equal confidence. He leaves them, in their high-bred perfection, to deserts, in which they are at home, and turns to the uses to which the less delicate Bactrian may be applied. In Persia, Bokhara, and Tartary, camels are employed for the conveyance of light artillery; they frequently stand while guns are fired from their backs; they have been used by the French in Egypt and Algeria, by Mohammed Ali in Syria. In Algeria, military men resisted their introduction from an antipathy to their uncouth forms and eccentric motions; but, observes Mr. Marsh, with a hint at an American military object:—

There are few more imposing spectacles than a body of armed men, advancing under the quick pace of the trained dromedary; and this sight, with the ability of the animal to climb ascents impracticable to horses, and thus to transport mountain howitzers, light artillery, stores, and other military material into the heart of the mountains, would strike with a salutary terror the Comanches, Lipans, and other savage tribes upon our borders.

A proper appendix to this argument may be supplied from General Marey Monge's mock objections to the use of cavalry in war, very similar in their purport to the difficulties raised concerning the employment of the camel. "If," says General Marey Monge, "cavalry had been unknown in France, and we, seeing the great advantages derived from it by the Arabs, had now for the first time attempted to introduce it into our military service, we should have had a thousand difficulties to overcome. Objections would have been made on the score of kicks and bites, errors would have been committed in the choice of saddles and bridles, the horses would have met with accidents, or contracted ailments from our want of experience and ignorance of farriery; in the first engagements, our mounted men would have been thrown or run away with, they would have been clumsy in managing their arms on horseback, and probably been roughly handled by the superior skill of the Arab horsemen. A party would have been formed against the innovators, who would themselves have become disgusted, and the attempt to introduce mounted corps would perhaps have been abandoned; but if, in spite of accidents, mistakes and losses, we had persevered, we should have ended by forming what we have now, an efficient and excellent cavalry." The camel, indeed, exists and thrives through a wide range of climates, and under a great variety of conditions. No temperature appears too high for the one-humped species, which attains a remarkable perfection in Southern Africa, and seems never to seek the shade in preference to the most scorching sun. In the Libyan desert he sleeps often with the temperature below freezing point, when water-skins are frozen, and the pools are covered with ice. Beyond Nubia, on the Nile, caravans have been detained three days by the intensity of the cold; in the basin of the Caspian and the Sea of Azof, on the Lower Volga, the shores of Lake Baikal, among the Siberian pines, on the plains of the Irtysh, across the Chinese borders at Maimachen, between the Ural Mountains and the peninsula of Kamtschatka, on the desert of Gobi, among the Tartar wildernesses, and even in the North near the zone inhabited by the reindeer, they thrive and assist the labours of men. They were once introduced unsuccessfully into Peru, but successfully into Venezuela; they have been bred in Tuscany for two hundred years, and, suggests Mr. Marsh, with many of his scientific countrymen, why not in the United States of America?

### THE MODERN GREEKS.

*Modern Greece: a Narrative of Residence and Travels in that Country, &c.* By Henry M. Baird, M. A. Low and Co.

No one will gain an idea from the body of critical remarks bestowed by the writer of this volume on the frieze of the Parthenon, the Cryselephantine sculpture of Phidias, the Carian statues, or the three Grecian orders. Nor can Mr. Baird allege a single "new way of looking at it" to justify his long gossip on Marathon, Cheronæa, Phyle, or Plataea. The result is Platitude. The statements are as common as the sentences in a Dialectus, the reflections as well-worn as the first line of the "Iliad." When a traveller studies to fit himself for travel, he is under no obligation to force his reader through a similar preparatory course. Of the Pnyx, of the Choragic monument of Lysicrates, and of the Thesæum, we desire to hear no more, unless from a critic who can throw Ruskin colours upon those pale remains. By the rapid tourist they have been overdone. They have been described, sketched, measured, apostrophized to satiety. We cannot, six or seven times each season, descend into Smith's ecstasy concerning the heroism of Thrasybulus, the Acropolis marbles, or the Demosthenic orations. Those chapters, then, which Mr. Baird obviously values as the noble parts of his book, are its excrescences, since they treat of trite topics in a trite way. What is really acceptable is his sketchy account of modern Greek manners, which assists us to appreciate the social condition of the little state. On

these subjects he discourses lightly, without formality or assumption, but at times with a perceptible tendency to optimism. It is always more tolerable, however, to flatter than to disparage, and as there are abundant facilities for checking Mr. Baird, we are content with his enthusiastic report upon "the unexampled progress of the Greek race in civilization and intelligence." He has been provoked to this display by that which he justly describes as the unfair neglect into which Greece has fallen, most persons considering themselves privileged to satirize the aspirations of that unfortunate people, and to slander them as hereditary brigands or embezzlers. It is impossible to stroll an hour in Athens without recognizing the presence of considerable culture, or to examine the capital more closely without acknowledging that learning is prized, and that free political institutions are still held in reverence by the youth of Greece. Certain Orientalisms have crept in, to degrade the relations of women with men, but these do not operate universally. We are surprised to find Mr. Baird, whose portrait of an Athenian student is almost ideal, drawing a picture of marriage among the modern Greeks which is almost sarcastic. It is true that, among certain classes, the birth of a daughter is reckoned a disappointing event—that feeling not being confined to imperial palaces—but Mr. Baird does well to say that the story about a man who hid himself for three days in the grove of the Cephissus, to conceal his chagrin at the birth of a girl, "may be somewhat exaggerated." Reading his paragraphs on this subject we might almost mistake him for M. Hue, writing of China:—

This remarkable preference of the male sex is somewhat accounted for by the prevalence of the custom of giving a large dowry with a daughter at marriage. In Maina alone the reverse is true: the husband purchases his bride at a heavy cost. Elsewhere a portion of the family estate must be sacrificed at the marriage of each daughter; and he who is able or willing to give most, is generally sure of seeing his daughters first established in life. Such is the mercenary light in which the marriage relation is regarded. Qualities of mind are but little taken into account. Nor is it considered an objection of any moment that the parties to the contract be totally unacquainted with each other's characters and tastes. Since the lady's consent is altogether unessential, her preferences are not necessarily consulted. The father's great concern is to marry off his daughter at as small a loss as possible; that of the suitor, to obtain the most advantageous match. Money being the chief object on either side, the unfortunate maiden is apt to fare badly between the two. Hence the frequency of ill-sorted marriages—a fruitful source of domestic misery. The wife who has been forced into so unfortunate a union, is not free even from abuse and corporal chastisement; of the prevalence of which we need no stronger proof than is afforded by the frequent allusions to it in the proverbs most current among the people.

This is an ill-considered passage. Were the light allusions to marriage, current in certain classes of English society, to be taken as indicative of the moral status of English women, the Japanese might esteem us barbaric. We have hinted however at Mr. Baird's tendency to optimism. This is strongly developed in his chapter on student life in Athens. No doubt there were circumstances connected with the collegiate system of modern Greece well calculated to make an impression on the mind of an American writer. That the university of Othio at Athens should contain at least as many students, and twice as large a corps of professors, as the most important college in the United States, is indeed surprising. But the professors are extremely ill-paid, and the students in general very poor. These young men, according to Mr. Baird, always take their meals at eating-houses, their fare being simple and wholesome. Unless at Easter, which is a season of universal festivity, their only recreations consist in visits to friends, or quiet walks on the public promenade. After the promenade, they invariably go to the cafés to eat Turkish sweetmeats. Either the Athenian students are veritable innocents, or Mr. Baird is one. We suspect that his "invariable" admits of a good many exceptions. We are willing to accept his report upon the primary schools of Greece, in which upwards of forty thousand children receive a competent education, in addition to the ten thousand attached to the demotic schools and gymnasia. Considering the ignorance that prevailed thirty years ago, the advance made by Greece in this respect is indeed surprising.

There is an interesting chapter on marriage customs. Those of the richer classes assimilate, in a great degree, to the ordinary Frankish ritual, but in the secluded districts, many a pagan form survives. In Maina, whoever should marry a young girl, without having previously obtained the consent of her relations, would draw upon himself a mortal feud. One of the local *marologia*—generally the ballad record of a real incident—alludes to a man who, forty years after such a marriage, and when surrounded by grown-up sons and daughters, was discovered by his wife's family, and put to death. In other respects, ancient customs are practised. The young men invited to the wedding bring wood for fuel; the young women bring flour for bread. Some cleanse, some grind the corn; only maidens are employed in the preparation of the cakes, which are made to contain certain coins, thrown in while traditional and unintelligible ditties are sung. Singing, indeed, goes on during the whole time of festivity. Meanwhile, the bridegroom sends not less than three rams or sheep to the house of the bride, with as many loaves of bread as there are sheep, and three times as many measures of wine as there are loaves. Following these gifts comes a complete suit of clothes for the bride, and then upon Sunday morning, at dawn of day, the wedding party assembles. The crown is placed upon the head of the bride and bridegroom; the benediction is bestowed; and the lady is carried to her new home amid triumph and rejoicing, and sallies of repartee and laughter.

At Athens, Mr. Baird was introduced at court—an opportunity which he has 'improved' into a discourse upon the political affairs of Greece. The Government, he remarks, is theoretically, perhaps, the most liberal in Europe. All citizens are equal in the eye of the law; the creation of titles of nobility is strictly prohibited; there is no room for an hereditary aristocracy; every known religion is tolerated; the press is nominally free. But the elections are in the hands of the king's agents, and practically the liberality of the constitution is completely set aside:—

An instance of the determination of the ministry to carry its plans at any cost was seen in the passage of a certain law in the summer of 1851. Its object was the creation of a large number of *ephori*, or officers for the collection of the revenue. Its in-

roduction was the signal for opposition from those who were not attached to the courtly party, and saw no necessity for so considerable an increase of the places in the gift of the throne. It passed the Lower House, however; but on being brought up in the Senate, although the king had, in anticipation, created three or four new members, that body refused to concur in the proposed act. Thereupon the king prorogued both Houses for the space of some forty days. In the meanwhile ten or more additional senators were appointed, for the most part from the officers of the king's own household, or from the ministry, and all of them persons devoted to himself. The party thus reinforced was now enabled to reconsider the bill in the Senate, and it was passed in accordance with the desires of the ministry.

Mr. Baird's enthusiasm concerning the "unexampled progress" of modern Greece does not deter him from describing the utter neglect by the Government of all public improvements. No country in the world stands more in need of good roads; in no country, perhaps, are they more difficult of construction. Successive ranges of mountains, with their branching spurs, divide the cultivable ground into an infinite number of narrow valleys, each cut off from its neighbours. Between the various townships none but sure-footed horses and mules can grass. The only carriage-roads in Greece are those in the neighbourhood of Athens, which are few and insignificant; one, twelve or fifteen miles long, near Lamia; and others at Corinth and Chalcis. The Government, extorting from a population of one million a revenue of twenty-two million drachms, will not expend a million annually upon 'the most indispensable improvements.' This statement, we believe, is reliable.

There are interesting notices in Mr. Baird's volume of the modern Greek press, and the progress of the literature which may almost be said to have been founded by Coray. The book, with the exception of its classical chapters, is lively, and contains some interesting information.

## The Arts.

### THE LONDON SATURDAY CONCERTS.

THE first of a series of Concerts for the People, under the title of "The London Saturday Concerts," will be given this evening at St. MARTIN'S HALL, Long Acre. The promoters of the undertaking are of opinion that the love of good music is sufficiently diffused among the English people, both of the middle and the working classes, to render a set of performances, at low prices of admission, popular among the London public and profitable to the capitalists who risk their money in the scheme. It is not many weeks since we showed that Englishmen have an hereditary tendency to love and appreciate music, and that this has been reawakened within the last few years. We therefore fear nothing for the success of the undertaking, provided it be conducted with intelligence as well as zeal; and we are fully impressed with the refining and ennobling influence which the extension of musical tastes and musical knowledge may exercise over the habits and ideas of the masses. A speaker at a recent anti-Sabbatarian meeting at York attributed the superior manners and morals of the upper classes, as compared with the state of things only half a century ago, to the extended love of art and science, including music under the former term—influences from which the artizan is shut out by his work on all days but Sunday, and by an undue strictness on the Sabbath. The promoters of the Saturday Evening Concerts seek in some measure to reduce this evil by falling in with the Satur-

day half-holiday movement. The idea is excellent; an evening spent in hearing choice works of great composers will form a fine, harmonious, and truly religious prelude to the day of rest. The father of MONTAIGNE, the French essayist, used always to wake his son, when a child, by playing softly at his ears some calm melody on a flute, because he thought it put his mind in a placid and benign frame for the work of the day. MILTON was in the habit of composing his spirit with the strains of an organ played by his own hands; and many other great men have found in music a delight, a comfort, and an aid to moral and spiritual development. Therefore may the Saturday Evening Concerts, rightly conducted, be of some service in drawing off the devotees of the bar parlour to more ennobling pleasures.

The series will consist of twelve Concerts: should these succeed, we suppose there will be others. The single admissions are to be—Platforms, 6d.; Area, 1s.; Balconies, 1s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 2s.; Stalls, 3s. To this tariff are added various charges for Family Tickets and Subscriptions.

We read in the Preliminary Prospectus:—

The recital, by eminent elocutionists of the pulpit, the bar, or the stage, of one or more *Detached Poems*, or Selections from Great Works, which are not written for or adapted to dramatic representation, and are, consequently, seldom heard and little known to, or appreciated by, 'the many,' will form a *special feature peculiar to the Concerts*. In the selection of works the greatest care will be taken to avoid those of a frivolous, or inelegant character, and, while similar caution will be taken to avoid works that are heavy, or of a character likely to be unattractive to a general audience, none will be given that are not of sterling merit in their class. — *The Programmes* will include the best works of the best musicians, rendered by the best available artistes, and will include composers of all nations, but *the words will in all cases be rendered in English*, except when the artistes cannot speak the language.

With a recent failure before our eyes, we think it was injudicious to introduce any such feature as recitations. The English public seems to dissent from the opinion of SHAKESPEARE—

If music and sweet poetry agree,

As they must needs, the sister and the brother, &c.;

and, judging from a sentence in the Prospectus before us, in which Dr. MACKAY is called "our great ballad poet," we are not disposed to trust the judgment of the projectors in matters of verse. We are sorry, also, to see them adopting the cant of talking about 'artistes.' However, we decline to prejudge the mode in which the scheme is to be carried out, while giving our warmest encouragement to the scheme itself.

### THEATRICAL NOTES.

O'KEEFE's comedy of *Wild Oats* was revived at the HAYMARKET on Monday evening, the new American actor, Mr. MURDOCH, performing the character of *Rover*, Mr. BUCKSTONE *Sim*, Mr. COMPTON *Ephraim Smooth*, Mr. CHIPPENDALE *Sir George Thunder*, and Miss TALBOT *Lady Amaranth*—a brilliant display of humour and effective stage skill, which insured complete success, and no little enjoyment to the audience.

Mrs. SROWE's *Dred* has been dramatized at the SURREY, where Mr. CRESWICK glooms upon the audience as the pious 'nigger,' and Mr. SHEPHERD tyrannizes, threatens, talks Yankee slang, and enjoys himself and his villany after roaring Yankee fashion, in the person of *Tom Gordon*, the slaveholder, with full gust and relish, till *Dred* (converted by the dramatist into a sort of "poetical justice" Nemesis) puts a period to his career by despatching him.

THE GOLDEN LECTURESHIP.—Mr. Melvill having resigned this appointment, on his nomination to a canonry in St. Paul's Cathedral, the Court of Assistants of the Haberdashers' Company, in whose gift it is, have given notice that applications and testimonials must be sent to their clerk's office by Monday, the 17th of November; that they will meet on Monday, the 24th of November, to take the same into consideration, on which occasion the candidates must attend; and that the election will take place on Saturday, the 29th of November.

THE MAIN DRAINAGE SCHEME was again brought forward at the meeting, on Wednesday, of the Metropolitan Board of Works, when, after much discussion, the following resolution, proposed by Mr. Deputy Harrison, was carried by 24 to 7:—"That the engineer's plan, marked B in his report dated the 26th of September, 1856, be adopted, and presented to the Commissioners of her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings; and that it be intimated to them that this board have also had under consideration other plans for discharging the sewage into the river below Gravesend, but that, it appearing that such extension would add between 1,000,000l. and 2,000,000l. to the outlay, and that this sum would be spent not to benefit the inhabitants of the metropolis, but to meet the wishes of the people of Kent and Essex who reside on the banks of the river, this board has declined to entertain any such scheme; nevertheless, if it shall be the opinion of her Majesty's Government that such an extension is desirable, this board will readily undertake the work, the Government providing such additional outlay out of the national revenue."

A BERKSHIRE PUSEYITE.—The *Standard* mentions with great horror some doings of the Rev. A. A. Cameron, perpetual curate of the parish of Hurst, in Berkshire, who has lately altered the church at his own expense and for his own ends. In December, 1855, Hurst church was reopened for divine service, in the presence of the Bishop of Oxford, with a full choral service and other attributes peculiar to Puseyism, and great was the dismay of the parishioners at beholding for the first time the alterations and innovations that had been effected in their peaceable parish church. The chancel had been completely altered, and there had been introduced small darkened windows, a surpliced choir, a lectern, a highly painted screen, gaudy altar cloth and curtain, and other semblances of Popish ritual, the appearance presented being that of a Roman Catholic

chapel." The bishop supports the curate; but the inhabitants, on being polled, have declared by a large majority against him.

A SPECIMEN OF THE CIVIC LITERATURE OF GLASGOW.—We direct the attention of our readers to the following documents:—"Fourteenth Municipal Ward.—Glasgow, October 10, 1856.—Thos. Boyd, Esq., Merchant, Glasgow.—Sir, we, the undersigned, Electors in the Fourteenth Ward, assured of your attention to its general interests, and satisfied with your attachment to the principles on which you were first elected, respectfully request that you will allow us again to nominate you as a representative for the ward in the City Council at the ensuing election." [Numerously and influentially signed.] "To the electors of the Fourteenth Ward.—Gentlemen,—in responding to your very respectful requisition to allow myself to be again put forward as a candidate to represent you at the municipal board, permit me to state, that when I was requested this time two years to do the same (and had the honour to be returned), I did so on the consideration that it is the duty of every citizen, when he is respectfully called upon, as I then was, to take his share in the duties of the council board; but as the term of my services has been necessarily limited, I think it fair and respectful to you that, at your renewed request, I should again agree to return, especially considering that it can only be after some experience and familiarity with the duties of the council that our assistance can be of any real practical value. I therefore willingly accede to this your respectful requisition.—I am, gentlemen, most respectfully yours, THOS. BOYD."

THE UNITED KINGDOM ALLIANCE.—The Maine Liquor Law advocates held two meetings at Manchester on Wednesday—one, the general meeting of the Council of the Alliance in the morning and afternoon, to consider the policy to be adopted during the coming year in carrying on the agitation; the other, the annual public meeting of the members and friends of the United Kingdom Alliance at Manchester. The meeting of the general council commenced at about a quarter-past ten in the morning in the Assembly-room at the Free Trade Hall, and succeeded a breakfast at which about sixty persons were present. About one hundred and fifty persons were present at the meeting, Sir W. Trevelyan in the chair, and among the principal were—Mr. L. Heyworth, M.P.; Dr. Lees, the Hon. the Judge-Marshal of Cape Breton; Dr. McCulloch, of Dumfries; Hon. and Rev. L. Noel, Exton; Mr. R. Allen, Dublin; Mr. S. Elliott, Liskeard; Mr. J. Priestman, Bradford; Rev. Dr.

M'Kerrow, and Mr. Alderman Harvey, Manchester, &c. The chief speakers were Sir W. Trevelyan and Mr. S. Pope, the secretary of the Alliance, who recently had a correspondence on the subject with Lord Stanley. Resolutions in favour of a Maine law having been carried, the subscription commenced, and three subscriptions of 200l. each, five of 100l., six of 50l., and smaller sums were given. It was also mentioned that fifty temperance societies had sent in their adhesion to this movement with a subscription of a guinea each.

MR. DISRAELI ON AGRICULTURE.—The first anniversary of the "Amersham, Chesham, and the Adjacent Parishes Agricultural Association" was held at Chesham, Buckinghamshire, on Tuesday. There was a ploughing match in the morning, followed by a show of roots and garden produce, after which about two hundred persons sat down to dinner in the Town-hall, under the presidency of the Hon. C. Cavendish. The healths of the county members having been proposed by Mr. W. Lowndes, Mr. Disraeli rose to acknowledge the honour, and while doing so, made some reference to agricultural statistics. He said:—"The deduction I draw is, that we can only obtain general results to guide legislation, and that there exist in this country the means of obtaining such results which are not open to the Minister of any other country in the world. I do not say this to encourage a blind and bigoted opposition to any measures which may be passed on this subject. I only say that we are living in an age of statistical imposture (*cheers*), and that many returns in reference to agriculture are made by men who are not acquainted with rural life. We have a great basis, and on that we may build; but let us not encourage the cry—which is the cry of ignorance—that in this country the Minister has no means by which he can obtain a general estimate of the agriculture of England." At a subsequent part of the evening, Mr. Disraeli, in proposing "Success to the Association," remarked on the utility of such societies, and defended them from the attacks that had been made by their opponents.

A TUSCAN PRINCE AT WOOLWICH.—His Imperial Highness the Prince (Hereditary Grand Duke) of Tuscany a few days ago paid a visit to Woolwich under the title of his Excellency Count Albarese, and so strictly was his desire to remain *incognito* observed, that in his inspection of the departments of the Royal Arsenal, where he spent several hours, attended by the Marquis Tanay de Nerli and suite, no official reception was given to him.



**AN EXCITED BANKRUPT.**—The affairs of Lyon Samuel, a jeweller, have been examined in the Court of Bankruptcy, before Mr. Commissioner Goulburn, three successive days during the present week. He has been in prison fifteen months, the Court discrediting a story that he told in respect to his having entrusted diamonds and other property to the value of upwards 3000*l.* to a Mr. Diamond. On Tuesday, he addressed the Court in a manner so excited as to occasion doubts of his sanity. He said that he had been treated by this Court worse than Palmer had been treated in another court, and he appealed to the press to do him justice. He also charged Mr. Norton, the solicitor for the opposing creditor, with having regard only to costs, and with having incorrectly represented what passed before Mr. Commissioner Holroyd. He said that Mr. Norton's clients were Jews (the bankrupt also is one), and that he was a most persecuted person. The Commissioner ordered an adjournment, and said he would ask Mr. Commissioner Holroyd what really occurred at the proceedings before him. On Wednesday, his Honour said that Mr. Holroyd declined to give any version of the proceedings—proceedings which had taken place some time since. The bankrupt then entered into several statements in a very wild manner, mixed with a good deal of disrespect to the Court. Another adjournment took place till Thursday, when the bankrupt was again very irrelevant and rambling. He said:—"Give him his discharge, and, poor as he was, he would not leave the country for 20,000*l.* He expected to see his hon. friend Mr. Holroyd to assist him—(great laughter)—but all were against him. He would give his Honour leave to be his counsel and to read his brief, and he would then find he was right. 'Samuel a thief! Samuel a villain! Samuel a perjurer!' No; but whatever he said they would so have it. Why did he not say at the first what had become of the bracelet? Because Diamond had told him that, if he did so, he would get him into trouble, and, if he did not, right would be done. There was an act of Parliament; but a coach and six horses might be driven through an act of Parliament. He had been before Mr. Commissioner Evans, who had said:—'Samuel is going to abscond—he has made a purse and is sure to cut—he must give bail.' He (Mr. Commissioner Evans) was a very kind commissioner and a just commissioner, and he wished he had not been sent to his Honour." (Laughter.)—After a great deal more in the same style, interrupted several times by the Commissioner, the bankrupt burst into tears, and fell on the floor in a fit, when he was carried out. His Honour, who believed he had been acting a scene, said he must stand committed.

**THE ROCHESTER REGISTRATION RIOTS.**—A large public meeting was held at Rochester on Monday evening, for the purpose of denouncing the conduct of the Mayor and the Town Clerk in connexion with the registrations. The chair was taken by Mr. J. Foord, one of the borough magistrates, who read a letter he had received from Mr. Sergeant Kinglake, in which that gentleman stated that the Mayor had done the burgesses of Rochester a great wrong, and that the Court of Queen's Bench would set the matter right for them. He also expressed his intention to do all in his power to bring the conduct of the Mayor before the proper tribunals. Resolutions were passed, severely censuring the conduct of the Mayor and Town Clerk, and a committee was appointed to commence proceedings against those individuals.

## FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, October 21.

**BANKRUPTS.**—**GEORGE KNIGHT**, Poole, licensed victualler—**THOMAS NASH**, Leather-lane, and Kirby-street, Hatton-garden, carpenter—**JOSEPH ARON JOSEPH**, Bishopsgate-street-within, mining agent—**JOSEPH CORBEN COOKE**, Princes-street, Soho, carver and gilder—**RICHARD BELL**, Gracechurch-street, contractor—**EDWARD MEACHER DAVIS**, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, licensed victualler—**ROBERT WREFOED**, Exeter, attorney—**ALEXANDER SMITH PARKER**, Plymouth, draper—**JOSEPH REDFERN**, Thornhill, Yorkshire, manufacturer—**JOHN BOURNE** and **THOMAS ROWSON**, Macclesfield, silk manufacturers—**MICHAEL HUNTER BROWN** and **CHARLES STONLEY**, Bishopswearmouth, builders.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—**G. SMITH**, Glasgow, watchmaker—**A. P. REID**, Glasgow, power-loom cloth manufacturer.

Friday, October 24.

**BANKRUPTS.**—**THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK**, South Sea House, Threadneedle-street—**CHARLES AUGUSTUS TOWSE**, Henley-upon-Thames, wine merchant—**THOMAS RAW**, Tyson-street, Kingsland-road, iron dealer—**THOMAS FOXLEY**, Birmingham, grocer—**GEORGE HENRY SELLERS**, Westbourne Park-road, Paddington, merchant—**JOHN VERNON**, Low Walker, Northumberland, iron ship builder—**WALTER LODGE**, Fennay-bridge, near Huddersfield, cloth manufacturer—**JOSEPH FRANCIS KING**, Belle Vue Villas, Seven Sisters-road, Holloway, builder—**OCTAVIUS KING** and **ALFRED KING**, Dullingham, Cambridge, corn merchants—**THOMAS SPEEDING**, Sunderland, rope manufacturer.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

## BIRTHS.

**DIXON.**—On the 19th inst., the wife of Henry Dixon, Esq., Frankham, Thunbridge wells: a daughter.  
**HAMILTON.**—On the 12th inst., at Baden-Baden, the wife of Frederick Hamilton, Esq., (Her Majesty's Secretary of Legation at Stuttgart): a daughter.  
**OTWAY.**—On the 20th inst., at Richmond, the wife of Arthur Otway, M.P.: a daughter.  
**UPTON.**—On the 18th inst., at Bath-place, Cheltenham, the wife of Mr. William Upton, civil engineer, late of Sebastopol: a son.  
**WILLIAMS.**—On the 20th inst., at 19, Dorchester-place,

Blandford-square, (for the fourth time of twins) the wife of E. M. Williams, Esq.: twin daughters.

## MARRIAGES.

**CLARK—HORNEMAN.**—On the 19th of February, at St. Thomas's Church, Motueka, New Zealand, Henry Gostling Clark, Esq., of the Monterey, youngest son of Chas. C. Clark, Esq., of Twickenham, Middlesex, to Emma Caroline, eldest daughter of Captain Horneman, H.M.'s Artillery Corps of Motueka, and granddaughter of the late Hon. F. H. Horneman, Consul and Commissary-General of H.M. the King of Denmark.

**COLVILLE—NOBLE.**—On the 4th of September, at Bangalore, Madras, Captain Fiennes, Middleton Colville, 43rd Light Infantry, youngest son of Frederick Colville, Esq., of Barton House, Warwickshire, to Mary Grier, eldest daughter of the late Major Horatio Nelson Noble, Madras Army, and granddaughter of the late Admiral Nelson.

**SHAKESPEAR—FRASER.**—On the 15th inst., at Hamble, Captain Charles Maxton Shakespear, E.I.C.S., to Maria Bell, daughter of Lieut.-General Y. S. Fraser, of Hamble Cliff.

## DEATHS.

**HASSALL.**—On the 19th inst., at Richmond, after a long and painful illness, Mary Ann, wife of Richard Hassall, M.D.

**HOLM.**—On the 24th ult., at Highgate, J. D. Holm, Esq., aged 84, the friend and executor of Spurzheim, and a most distinguished phrenologist.

**HOTHAM.**—On the 19th inst., at 3, Royal-crescent, Bath, Rear-Admiral the Hon. George Frederick Hotham, aged 57.  
**ERDINSKY.**—On the 22nd ult., at Hull, of disease of the heart, the Count Adolph de Werdinsky, of Worden Castle, Galicia, aged 53.

## Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, October 24, 1856.

THE funds have advanced in price since last week—the public have money and will invest. The stock that has been supplied to the dealers has been lent, not sold; if the pressure for money be removed, a prospective improvement of the Funds must take place. Money is, however, very much in demand, and for any period high rates are given. It is understood generally, that the Bank returns to morrow will be better, and that the export of bullion, has, in some measure decreased.

Foreign Stocks have been dealt in more freely, and have sympathized with Consols. Turkish Six per Cent. are  $\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. higher than at the settling last week. Turkish guaranteed Four per Cent. stock, is slightly improved.

In Railways there is greater firmness, and purchasers are increasing. French Railway shares are a little better, but the state of money in Paris is so unsatisfactory, that speculators are very cautious in buying foreign shares. Great Western of Canada are improving, and there has been a considerable advance in Luxembourgs. Ceylons are  $\frac{1}{4}$  premium, and East Indian shares are generally firmer.

The Joint-Stock Bank shares are without change, and business limited. Crystal Palace shares are hardly negotiable, and capitalists are about to decline dealing in them, owing to the recent frauds in the transfers of shares. General Omnibus Company shares are flatter; the traffic returns, which are most encouraging, do not lead one to suppose it is want of confidence in the undertaking. Mining shares are more inquired after. Mariquita and Cobre, South Australian, do, Lady Bertha, South Wheel Tolgus, Great Wheel Alfred, and the Bassetts, are in favour.

At four o'clock Consols close flatter at 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Turkish 6 per cent., 89 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Ditto, 4 per cent., 99 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 100; Russian 5 per cent., 206 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 107; Chilean 6 per cent., 104, 105; Dutch 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., 64 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 65; Buenos Ayres, 86, 87; Peruvians, 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 71.

Aberdeen, —; Caledonian, 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Chester and Holyhead, 32, 34; Eastern Counties, 9, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Great Northern, 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 93 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 113, 115; Great Western, 64 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 64 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 94 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 95; London and Blackwall, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 7; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 105, 107; London and North-Western, 102 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 103; London and South Western, 104 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 105 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Midland, 73, 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; North-Eastern (Berwick), 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; South Eastern (Dover), 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 65, 7; Dutch Rhenish, 11, 11 pm.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Great Central of France, 34, 4 pm.; Great Luxembourg, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 5; Northern of France, 37, 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Paris and Lyons, 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Royal Danish, 19, 20; Royal Swedish, 7, 14; Sambre and Meuse, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 11.

## CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, October 24, 1856.

THERE was only a moderate supply of English Wheat on offer in to-day's market; nevertheless, the demand for most kinds ruled heavy. Over 14,000 quarters of Foreign Wheat have come to hand this week. The business doing in most descriptions was limited. In prices, however, no change took place.

The show of barley was only moderate, yet the trade ruled heavy, at barely late rates. Malt was firm, but not dearer.

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

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	210	213	211	213	213	213
3 per Cent. Red. An.	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	91	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per Cent. Cons. An.	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	92	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$
Consols for Account	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$
New 3 per Cent. An.	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$
New 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. An.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1800	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 1-10	.....	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock.....	.....	228	.....	.....	228	226
Ditto Bonds, £1000	.....	5 p	8 p	.....	.....	.....
Ditto, under £1000	8 p	.....	.....	8 p	8 p	6 p
Ex. Bills, £1000	5 p	3 p	6 p	4 p	5 p	3 p
Ditto, £500	5 p	.....	.....	3 p	2 p	2 p
Ditto, Small.....	3 p	7 p	6 p	3 p	7 p	7 p

## FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds.....	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	Portuguese 4 per Cents. ....	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cents. ....	85	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents.....	107 $\frac{1}{2}$
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	105	.....	.....
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	74	Russian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents....	90 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dutch 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents.....	64 $\frac{1}{2}$	Spanish.....	41 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certf.	95	Spanish Committee Cer.	.....
Equador Bonds.....	.....	of Coup. not fun. ....	.....
Mexican Account.....	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	89 $\frac{1}{2}$
Peruvian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents.....	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	Turkish Nav. 4 ditto....	90 $\frac{1}{2}$
Portuguese 3 per Cents. ....	44	Venezuela 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents. ....	.....

**NOTICE.**—All PUBLIC SCHOOLS for the INSTRUCTION of the POORER CLASSES may obtain an allowance towards providing Examples, &c., for teaching Elementary and Mechanical Drawing, by applying by letter to the Secretary of the Department of Science and Art, Cromwell-road, Kensington, London, W.  
NORMAN MACLEOD, Registrar.

**THE CENTRAL SCHOOL of ART for TRAINING TEACHERS and for the PUBLIC, will OPEN at the New Premises at Cromwell-road, Kensington Gore South, on MONDAY, the 3rd of November. Prospectuses may be obtained on application, personally or by letter.**  
NORMAN MACLEOD, Registrar.

## ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN.

Monday, and during the week  
**TIT FOR TAT.**  
Characters by Messrs. A. Wigan, F. Robson, G. Cooke, Rogers, Coney, and Franks; Misses Maskell, Bromley, and Marston.

A MODEL OF A WIFE.

Pygmalion Bonnefoi, Mr. A. Wigan.  
**MEDEA.**  
Creon, Mr. Addison; Jason, Miss Thirlwall; Orpheus, Miss Maskell; Creusa, Miss Bromley; Medea, Mr. F. Robson. Commence at Half-past Seven.

## 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.

## "THE LANCET"

ON DR. DE JONGH'S

## LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.

The most speedy and effectual remedy for CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, DIABETES, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, NEURALGIA, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, and all SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

"Dr. DE JONGH gives the preference to the Light-Brown Oil over the Pale Oil, which contains scarcely any volatile fatty acid, a smaller quantity of iodine, phosphoric acid, and the elements of bile, and upon which ingredients the efficacy of Cod Liver Oil, no doubt, partly depends. Some of the deficiencies of the Pale Oil are attributable to the method of its preparation, and especially to its filtration through charcoal. In the preference of the Light-Brown over the Pale Oil we fully concur. We have carefully tested a specimen of Dr. DE JONGH'S Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil. We find it to be genuine, and rich in iodine and the elements of bile."

Sold ONLY in IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 9s.; capsuled 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.

## BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.

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

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

Price 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

## 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.

**HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO.,** Wine and Spirit Merchants, 54, PALL MALL, LONDON, offer to the public Old and Superior WINES, pure, and of the finest quality, at prices not exceeding those charged for ordinary Wines.

HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO. would call special attention to their PALE and GOLDEN DINNER SHERRIES, as under: Imperial Pints, 27s. to 34s. per dozen; or bottled in Reputed Quarts, 36s. to 45s. per dozen.

Agents for Allsopp's Pale and India Ale.

**SPANISH and WESTPHALIA HAMS, 8d.** per lb. Good Cheshire Cheese, 5d., 6d., and 7d. per lb. Rich Blue Mould Stilton, 8d., 10d., and 12d. per lb.; matchless do., 14d. per lb. Osborne's famed best Smoked Breakfast Bacon is now in excellent cure. York Hams, large and small, in abundance, and Butters in perfection at reasonable rates. A saving of 15 per cent. to the purchaser of all provisions. Packages gratis.

OSBORNE'S Cheese Warehouse, 30, Ludgate-hill, St. Paul's.

**FLOUR, warranted Free from Adulteration, and delivered to any part of London (not less than one peck) carriage free.** Whites, for pastry, at per bushel, (56lbs.), 12s. 4d.; fine households, recommended for bread-making, 11s. 8d.; seconds, 11s.; wheat meal, for brown bread, 11s.; best coarse and fine Scotch oatmeal, rice flour, &c. Address HORSNAILL and CATCHPOOL, Bullford-mill, Witham, Essex; or Caledonian-road, Islington. Directions for making bread supplied gratis. Terms cash.

**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.

**TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, AND FAMILIES.**—By her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent (the only patent for these preparations). Strongly recommended by the Medical Profession. ADNAM'S IMPROVED PATENT GROATS and BARLEY are manufactured by a process which entirely removes the acidity and unpleasant flavour, so universally found in similar preparations. They produce Gruel and Barley Water in the highest perfection, and being manufactured perfectly pure, yield food of the most light and nourishing quality for the Infant, the Invalid, and the Aged. The Barley also makes a delicious Custard Pudding, and is an excellent ingredient for thickening Soups, &c. The Patentees publish one only of the numerous testimonials they have received from eminent medical professors, relying more confidently on the intrinsic quality of the articles, of which one trial will not fail to convince the most fastidious of their purity and excellence.

(Copy.)  
"Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital,  
February 19, 1855.

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

(Signed)

"A. S. TAYLOR.

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30	1000	25 13 4	8 1 8	17 11 8
40	1000	33 18 4	10 13 8	23 4 8
50	1000	48 16 8	15 7 8	33 9 0
60	1000	75 17 6	23 18 0	51 19 6

14, Waterloo-place, London,  
June 2, 1856.

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